

Chapter 681: Felynn

In the crowd, there were some people who were incessantly sending out messages. Anyone who could become a Lockbreaker was a genius whom the various great powers would want to rope in. The Outerverse was vast, and it held countless powers; even if there were 630,000 Lockbreakers evenly spread out throughout the weaves, there still wouldn't be enough of them. Moreover, there weren't even 20,000 Lockbreakers in the Outerverse at the moment, so every organization would want access to another Lockbreaker.

The young lady's appearance was quickly spread to the various powers of the Outerverse.

"Everyone leads a different life, ha. Some people are pretty, come from a good background, and are even gifted at lockbreaking. They're entirely unlike us, who had great difficulties coming here from the Innerverse and were barely able to reach the realm of infinite control before arriving. Now, we aren't even confident in our chances of becoming Lockbreakers, how unlucky," one man sighed.

Behind him, another average-looking man with long sideburns asked, "How can you tell that she comes from a good background?"

The man replied, "All of her clothing is from famous brands. The Outerverse has seventy two weaves, and any company whose label is known throughout the Outerverse is clearly very famous. Those who can afford that kind of clothing can only belong to the ultra-wealthy. Even the richest person from a random galaxy might not be able to buy a single set. So tell me, do you think that her background is pretty good?"

"Also, that examiner's expression completely changed as soon as he verified her identity. If her identity was able to surprise even that Lockbreaker, then her family background is probably even more impressive than what we can imagine."

"Bro, your observations are really detailed." The man with long sideburns was surprised.

The man was pleased with the compliment. "Yes, without these observation skills, I would have died in the Innerverse long ago."

"Seventh Bro, that chick from before is really cute! This Monkey likes!" the Ghost Monkey exclaimed.

"Why is a monkey like you taking an interest in human women?"

The man was stumped, and he turned back around. "Bro, did you just say 'monkey?'"

"What monkey? I didn't say anything." The man with the long sideburns shook his head.

The man felt that something was strange, and he scratched his head, but he didn't ask any additional questions.

The man with the sideburns was naturally Lu Yin. He had followed along with Tong Mi'er's suggestions and disguised himself before arriving at Sourcepeak Planet. However, all of Sourcepeak Planet was being monitored by Saul. Thus, in order to avoid revealing his identity and inciting trouble, Lu Yin had chosen

to enter as a student looking to be evaluated. Anyway, anyone who passed this examination was allowed to meet Felynn.

The waiting area grew very noisy, as everyone waiting in line was discussing the girl who had just left.

Before long, the middle-aged man returned to continue the evaluations.

One person after another failed the examination, but the middle-aged man's expression remained as calm as before. He had long since become accustomed to such low passing rates, or rather, he had become numb to it.

The queue finally reached the man in front of Lu Yin, and as Lu Yin watched on, he noticed that the man's star energy control had reached the realm of infinite changes. Unfortunately, it took him thirteen seconds to calm the berserk energy in the starburst orb, and despite him repeatedly pleading to try again, the examiner did not relent.

"Ten seconds is the lowest possible baseline, and many Lockbreakers who take the full ten seconds to complete the task ultimately proceed no further than holding a title and aren't even able to become a one star Lockbreaker. Only those who can calm the orb within seven seconds have a chance of becoming a one star Lockbreaker. Those three seconds are actually nothing more than a bit of hope given by the Society. You aren't even able to complete it within ten seconds, so even if we allow you to become a Lockbreaker, you'll never be able to succeed in lockbreaking, and you might even end up losing your life," the middle-aged man explained loudly.

The crowd had been quiet, but now, it descended into absolute silence.

A Lockbreaker was a profession that was not easy to attain. Anyone who could become a Lockbreaker would become an important figure throughout the entire universe, and they would forever enjoy a lofty status as well as flattery from countless powers. Becoming a Lockbreaker was the same as becoming a human lord who had climbed above other humans in a single step. They would be able to live the rest of their lives without worry. Such a status naturally could not be easily achieved.

The man's face soured, but he still withdrew.

It was then Lu Yin's turn, and he walked forward and raised his hand. The star energy transformed above his palm: wind, rain, and lightning flashed about.

The crowd was shocked—such exquisite mastery!

The middle-aged man's eyes lit up. "Not bad, try settling the berserk star energy."

Lu Yin acknowledged his instructions. Tong Mi'er had told Lu Yin that, as long as he was able to complete the task within three seconds, there would be no need to verify his identity and that he would be able to meet Felynn straight away. His appearance was nothing more than a disguise, so he naturally wouldn't be able to pass any sort of verification process. Thus, he had to resolve the orb's energy within three seconds. Back at Astral-10's space station, his first try had taken four seconds, and the second had taken three seconds. Now, he could effortlessly resolve the starburst orb within three seconds as he could settle the energy instantly if he truly wanted to. However, that sort of accomplishment wouldn't just alert Felynn, but also the entire Lockbreaker Society.

He peeled away the metal membrane and placed a hand on the orb. Then one, two, three seconds passed. "Done."

The crowd fell deathly silent as everyone stared dumbfoundedly at Lu Yin. Do- done?

The middle-aged man rubbed his eyes. Three seconds—this youth had actually used only three seconds to complete the task. The examiner looked at Lu Yin with absolute delight. This person was a genius! A true genius.

The crowd erupted in a hubbub, and everyone stared at Lu Yin. They incessantly took pictures and videos of him, and there were also people shouting all kinds of things at him, sounding as though they were reporting the names of their own powers to him.

Lu Yin smiled faintly; was three seconds actually very fast?

The middle-aged man walked over to Lu Yin and sized him up and down. "Little brother, have you had any experience in lockbreaking before?"

Lu Yin thought about it and then shook his head. "No."

"Then how did you calm that berserk star energy in only three seconds?" the middle-aged man asked, but then, he suddenly felt that such a question was too pointed, and he quickly apologized. "I'm sorry, this question might be connected to your battle techniques, so it's alright if you don't want to answer."

Lu Yin shrugged. "It's nothing that complicated. I just had a feeling that I could calm it, and then it was calm."

The man exclaimed in admiration, "Genius! Truly a genius! Even those elite geniuses born into Innerverses Lockbreaker families require years, if not decades, of training to be able to calm that berserk energy within three seconds, but you were able to do it without any training. Genius. Follow me, I'll take you to Lady Felynn."

Lu Yin nodded and followed behind the man.

The crowd continuously sent messages to the outside universe, reporting that a genius had appeared who had passed the evaluation in just three seconds. This sort of Lockbreaker would definitely be able to reach higher levels, and he was someone who had a truly amazing future before him.

Quite a few of the Outerverses powers began making inquiries about Lu Yin's identity the moment they received this news, but they were destined to be disappointed as Lu Yin's appearance was completely falsified.

In the hall behind the exam area, Wei Xin'er curiously looked around while she was waiting for Lady Felynn.

At this moment, the middle-aged examiner brought Lu Yin in.

Wei Xin'er was surprised by his appearance; had someone else passed the evaluation? That was rare, as it was normal and almost expected for an entire year to pass without anyone passing the evaluation, especially in the Outerverses.

The middle-aged man appeared to be treating Lu Yin very warmly. "I'll go and inform Lady Felynn, so little brother, please wait here for a while." He then merely nodded towards Wei Xin'er and left.

Wei Xin'er looked at Lu Yin in curiosity. "Hey, you passed too?"

Lu Yin nodded. His long sideburns looked quite wild, and he subconsciously reached up to touch them. "Yes, I passed."

"How many seconds?" Wei Xin'er asked.

Lu Yin raised three fingers and smiled. "Three."

Wei Xin'er was stunned, and her eyes went wide. "Three seconds? Really? You cleared it in three seconds?"

"Of course. I remember that it took you five seconds."

Wei Xin'er nodded and carefully studied Lu Yin. "I wouldn't have guessed that someone who looks like you could do something as meticulous as lockbreaking."

Lu Yin pursed his lips. What about my looks? Is she saying that I'm ugly?

"Seventh Bro, this Monkey likes this girl!" The Ghost Monkey was delighted.

"Do you have prior experience with lockbreaking? Don't lie! I'll know if you lie!" Wei Xin'er stared intensely at Lu Yin's eyes.

Lu Yin smiled. "I don't want to answer."

Wei Xin'er choked, and she wanted to say something else, but then a voice rang out. "Two actually passed—not bad." The voice was gentle and naturally put people at ease.

Lu Yin and Wei Xin'er turned around and saw a beautiful woman with a gentle look slowly walking towards them. She looked to be about thirty, and she wore simple clothing. Her expression was soft, and she was beaming at the two youths.

They hurriedly replied. "Greetings, Mentor Felynn."

This person was one of the three executive members of the Outerverse's Lockbreaker Society, Felynn.

Lu Yin had thought that she would be a scheming old woman, and had never expected her to look like a gentle older sister character. If not for Felynn seeking out Lu Yin earlier, he would not have believed that this woman was someone who coveted the position of the vice president and was willing to ally with him to deal with Saul.

Felynn's gaze paused on Lu Yin, and she then looked towards Wei Xin'er. "You're the little princess from Armament Weave, right?"

Wei Xin'er smiled sweetly. "Yes, Mentor Felynn."

Felynn nodded, "You two passed the evaluation, and you were actually brought here to select a tutor. Lockbreaking is a profound path, and it's difficult to tread furth along it without the guidance of a mentor. Xin'er, follow me first and let me evaluate your natural lockbreaking talent so that we can select the right tutor for you."

Wei Xin'er acknowledged her and then glanced over at Lu Yin in a provocative fashion. She followed Felynn into a specialized lockbreaking room. This was a room that had been built with numerous expensive resources. In fact, Spiritual Thread had been incorporated into the walls specifically to prevent any formless danger from leaking out of sourceboxes. There were fewer than ten of these hidden rooms on the entirety of Sourcepeak Planet.

Lu Yin casually sat down. After about half an hour, the two women walked out. Wei Xin'er's face showed her dejection as she unhappily sat down across from Lu Yin.

Lu Yin curiously looked over at Felynn.

Felynn smiled bitterly. "The tutor she wishes to choose is not in the Outerverse at this time, which is a pity." She then looked at Lu Yin. "You can come with me now."

Lu Yin followed Felynn.

Wei Xin'er unhappily shook her leg.

The training room was massive, and there was an enormous sourcebox in the center of the room. Lu Yin looked around, and his brows rose up when he saw a boundless amount of rune lines. Although they could not compare to the sourcebox that he had used to delay the mummy, they approached that amount, which meant that this was a four or five star Perceptive Intermediate sourcebox.

The room was empty all around the sourcebox, and there was nothing else to take note of.

Although the room looked empty, Lu Yin could see the many rune lines emitted by the sourcebox, which filled the room up to a radius of a hundred meters from the sourcebox. These rune lines represented the sourcebox's danger zone.

"Don't you want to give it a try?" Felynn's voice rang out in the room as she followed Lu Yin's gaze over to the sourcebox.

Lu Yin laughed. "I don't want to die yet."

Felynn's gaze turned a bit strange. "Others would die, but you won't. Even Enlighters can't do much to you. Just that sourcebox's formless danger shouldn't be very dangerous to you."

Lu Yin looked at Felynn and returned to his original appearance. "You wanted to meet me, and here I am."

Felynn looked at Lu Yin and sighed in admiration. "I heard about Frostwave Weave's peerless Limiteer who's even killed multiple Enlighters long ago. You truly do have a well-deserved reputation."

"Well-deserved? You actually believe that I can still deal with Enlighters even now? You should already know that my power vessel was destroyed in the Ironblood Weave," Lu Yin said.

Felynn smiled. "I'm a Lockbreaker, and a Lockbreaker can perceive things differently from the average person. I can perceive a fatal sense of danger on your body."

Lu Yin seriously studied Felynn up and down. "Are you really Felynn?"

"As real as can be." Felynn smiled.

Lu Yin shook his head. "You don't look like it."

"What does Mr. Lu think Felynn should look like?" Felynn was curious.

Lu Yin replied, "Someone who dares to plot against a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker shouldn't look so gentle."

Chapter 682: Secret Plan

Felynn laughed once she heard Lu Yin's opinion. She didn't have Madam Nalan's allure, and instead had the warmth of an older sister. "Thank you for your compliment, Mr. Lu. I'm sorry for asking you to disguise yourself when arriving at Sourcepeak Planet."

"Tell me what you want to do," Lu Yin said.

Felynn's expression turned serious. "Mr. Lu, are you familiar with the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society?"

Lu Yin shook his head.

"The structure of the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society is very simple. President Geoffrey is the most powerful person and can reject any member's proposal. Meanwhile, any proposal made by Vice President Saul has to be approved by the three executives as well as the honorary vice president. Thus, even with the president absent, Saul still isn't able to take control of the society.

"It's precisely because of this rule that I want to cooperate with Mr. Lu to overthrow Saul," Felynn said seriously.

"What are the details of your plan?" Lu Yin asked.

Felynn answered, "Saul is dead set on getting his hands on True Insight, and he's doing his best to stop any Lockbreaker who could possibly threaten Deng Pu's chances of winning the competition from joining. We have concrete evidence of his actions, and so long as someone with authority steps forward to question him before Deng Pu wins the True Insight, I can bring out this evidence and expose his crimes. He won't be able to stay on Sourcepeak Planet after that."

Lu Yin nodded. "It seems like you've made your preparations and that your plan should be able to succeed so long as nothing goes wrong. However..." Lu Yin stared straight into Felynn's eyes as he paused for a moment. "What would I get from all this? If I stand up and question Saul, then I'll end up offending the Lockbreaker Society as well as embarrassing all of the Lockbreakers in the Outerverse."

Felynn smiled. "Mr. Lu, you're overthinking things. I'll clarify the details of this matter, and then you definitely won't have to face the consequences."

Lu Yin laughed. "I won't face any consequences, huh? Saul is a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker! As soon as he escapes, I'll have one more enemy. Executive Felynn, if a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker wanted to get revenge on you, would you be able to sleep soundly?"

Felynn's expression changed. "A lockbreaking tool and a power vessel will be your rewards."

"Are you saying that going up against a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker is only worth a lockbreaking tool and a power vessel?" Lu Yin's tone turned sharp.

Felynn replied, "Mr. Lu, don't forget that Saul tried to assassinate you on your journey here. Even if you don't cooperate with me, Saul still won't let you off."

"He tried to assassinate me because he thinks that I'm a threat to Deng Pu. Once I stop being a threat to him, he won't bother with me anymore," Lu Yin calmly retorted.

Felynn had nothing to say.

Lu Yin wasn't in a rush, and he knew that he would have to negotiate this deal slowly. He was honestly wondering what kind of reward Felynn would give him in exchange for making a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker his enemy. "I'm curious about something—even if you do manage to defeat Saul, why would you become the next president?"

Felynn answered, "The Honorary Vice President, Fiend Li, can't become the president because of the rules put in place by President Geoffrey. Tutor Yi Feng isn't interested in running for president as he just wants to roam around and learn more about sourceboxes. As for Mr. Jun," She turned to look at Lu Yin. "He was one of the people who attacked you, so he won't be able to remain here after we make our move."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "Mr. Jun was one of the Hunters who tried to assassinate me?"

Felynn nodded and showed him her gadget. On it, he saw a short video clip showing Mr. Jun lockbreaking. Initially, he looked very tired and was going very slowly, but his speed increased dramatically after he brought out a lockbreaking tool. The lockbreaking tool in the clip was identical to the one that had been used by the assassin.

No two sourceboxes were ever identical, and it was quite rare for lockbreaking tools to be identical.

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes, as the person who had attacked him turned out to actually be Mr. Jun. Lu Yin had met this person before on Savage Ape Planet, and at that time, Lu Yin had envied the man's lockbreaking skills. Now, the man had tried to kill him.

"Once Saul is defeated, there is nobody who can stop me from becoming the president," Felynn declared.

Lu Yin laughed. "That's why you should increase my reward. I have to offend people while you're the one enjoying the benefits! I don't think that this is a fair deal."

Felynn replied, "Mr. Lu, you are creating the Great Eastern Alliance, right? I can promise to publicly declare that the Lockbreaker Society supports the Great Eastern Alliance once I become the president. Also, I'll also move some lower level Lockbreakers into the Great Eastern Alliance. What do you think?"

“I want True Insight,” Lu Yin said directly.

Felynn frowned. “No, True Insight has to remain on Sourcepeak Planet.”

Lu Yin carefully observed Felynn. “I’ll say this one more time: I want True Insight. This won’t be the only time we collaborate, and we will definitely have more opportunities to work together in the future. You will gain a high position, but that only applies in the Lockbreaking world, and so you won’t wield much power. On the other hand, I will gain true power as I will expand the Great Eastern Alliance in the future. Our partnership will definitely allow us to achieve greater things.”

“Mr. Lu, True Insight is something that is only useful for Boundless Advanced Lockbreakers. You won’t be able to gain anything from it even if you get a hold of it, and you might even end up being targeted by others. Why would you want such a thing?” Felynn asked helplessly.

Lu Yin laughed. “Nobody will even know that I have it.”

Felynn was stunned. “What do you mean?”

Lu Yin smirked. “Deng Pu will win True Insight as the prize for becoming the champion of the competition. However, once your plan succeeds, Saul and Deng Pu will be overthrown, and the True Insight will be returned to the Society. Thus, since you’ll be the president, wouldn’t it be very easy for you to pass it to me in secret?”

“Impossible! You want me to bear the envy of everyone who wants to steal True Insight? Impossible!” Felynn screamed.

Lu Yin shrugged. “I’ll be facing the wrath of a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker while you’ll be bearing the greed of those who want to steal the True Insight. It seems very fair to me.”

“We will make sure that Saul remains here on Sourcepeak Planet so that he won’t be able to threaten you,” Felynn said seriously.

Lu Yin’s eyes flashed. “Fine, if Saul won’t be a threat, then I’ll only ask for one page of True Insight. If he manages to escape, then I want all three pages. How’s that sound?”

Felynn thought about it. “Alright, that’s a deal.”

Felynn felt fully confident that she would be able to keep Saul on Sourcepeak Planet, which also implied that there was someone else helping her. This was because Saul was a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker, which meant that his combat prowess was about equivalent to an Enlighter’s. The executive was so confident about defeating an Enlighter that she had to have other people assisting her.

If everything that Felynn had told Lu Yin was the truth, then he wouldn’t mind helping her. However, now that he was aware that she had other people helping her as well, he might change his mind as he had no intentions of becoming the pawn of some unknown participant.

Over the next ten minutes, Felynn went over the rules of the competition with Lu Yin. She didn’t go into the specifics since the rules changed every year, and only the president and vice president were aware of the details. Since President Geoffrey wasn’t present, the rules for this year’s competition had been set solely by Saul, which was one of his methods to ensure that Deng Pu would win.

Both Saul and Felynn wanted Deng Pu to win. Felynn wanted him to win so that her evidence would be more incriminating with Deng Pu's victory, which would also make Saul face greater blame.

Deng Pu was the frontrunner for this year's competition.

Most people wanted the competition to be fair, but there was no such thing as true fairness in the universe. Things generally moved in the direction of certain people's aims.

Wei Xin'er looked at Lu Yin curiously when he left the room. "Hey, who's your tutor?"

Lu Yin smiled at her and left after saying goodbye to Felynn.

"Hey! You haven't answered me yet!" Wei Xin'er shouted after him.

Felynn told Wei Xin'er, "Have you thought about who you would like as your tutor? The person you wanted isn't available since the Outerverse is still separated from the Innerverse."

Wei Xin'er replied, "I don't know."

Felynn smiled at her. "Well, then I'll be your tutor."

Wei Xin'er was shocked, and she blinked at Felynn and asked, "You... will be my tutor? Are you serious?"

It was normally impossible for someone who had just passed the Lockbreaker examination to gain a tutor like Felynn, who was a four star Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker, unless they had superb talent. The tutor that Wei Xin'er had initially wanted to accept was just a one star Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker.

Felynn nodded. "I like you a lot. So, do you want me to be your tutor?"

"That's great! Thank you, tutor Felynn!" Wei Xin'er exclaimed, completely forgetting all about Lu Yin.

Tong Mi'er was waiting for Lu Yin with Aden, and as soon as Lu Yin came out, Tong Mi'er told him, "Tutor Felynn has asked me to look after your accommodations."

Lu Yin glanced around and pointed towards a small hill in the distance. "I'll stay there. You can only see into the distance when you have a high vantage point."

Tong Mi'er nodded. "Alright then, please follow me."

Once it grew dark, Sourcepeak Planet fell silent. The people who were in line for the Lockbreaker examination sat down and waited patiently for the examination to start again the following day.

Lu Yin sat on the roof of where he was staying and observed Felynn's place. He wanted to know who Felynn was cooperating with. Who could give her so much confidence of being able to defeat Saul? This person had to be at least an Enlighter, which meant that it was someone who could threaten Lu Yin. However, there were very few Enlighters in the Outerverse at this time.

Lu Yin had chosen this location as he could keep watch on who was visiting Felynn more easily. He wasn't sure if this person would actually contact Felynn, so he was just trying his luck.

However, Lu Yin realized that his luck was great when he saw a group of rune lines stealthily sneak into Felynn's quarters after a few hours of waiting. Felynn had been meeting with the other person she was cooperating with.

Lu Yin strained his eyes and watched closely.

Ten minutes later, the rune lines left Felynn's quarters and headed away.

Lu Yin immediately followed the person and stopped them far away from Felynn's quarters.

"Brother, is anything the matter?" The person was a middle aged man with a hoarse voice, and he was looking at Lu Yin warily.

Lu Yin glanced at the man. "Who are you? Who do you work for?"

The middle aged man looked stumped. "Brother, I don't understand what you're saying."

Lu Yin stepped closer to the man. "What did you discuss with Felynn? Who's your master?"

The middle aged man's eyes flashed, and he suddenly attacked Lu Yin. He condensed his star energy and aimed an attack straight at Lu Yin's forehead. The person was a Cruiser, but Lu Yin was able to grab a hold of the man's arm after releasing some pressure from his palm. Fortunately, this person wasn't very strong, and his attack was easily destroyed by Lu Yin.

Chapter 683: Wei Rong

The middle-aged man was shocked. His right arm was being held so tightly by Lu Yin that his bones were being crushed. His face went pale, and he glared at Lu Yin angrily. "I'm warning you, let go of me! Don't go looking for trouble! There are some things that you shouldn't know about."

Lu Yin frowned and exerted a bit more strength. The middle aged man yelped as his arm was twisted by Lu Yin. "I'm from the Wei family of Armament Weave. Our young lady came here to take the exam today, and the Young Master asked me to meet with Lady Felynn to help his sister look for a good tutor."

"Do you think that I'm an idiot?" Lu Yin asked coldly. He tightened his grip on the middle-aged man's arm and snapped it in two with a crack, causing the man to scream. "Keep going, I want to see what else you have to say."

The middle aged man started panting as sweat poured from his forehead. "I'm really from the Wei family, and you should know about how powerful the Wei family of Armament Weave is! I'm telling you the truth, and I can even take you to the Young Master if you don't believe me!"

Lu Yin glared at the middle-aged man. "Felynn is planning to overthrow Saul, and it seems that the Wei family is one of the forces collaborating with her. Well, who else is she working with? I want to know!"

The middle aged man looked at Lu Yin in disbelief, and then realization flooded over his face. "You're Lu Yin!"

Lu Yin smirked. "So it really is you guys."

The middle aged man's eyes flashed, and his expression changed rather abruptly.

Lu Yin sneered, "So tell me. We're on the same line, and we all want to beat Saul. There's no harm in telling me."

The middle aged man lowered his head and remained silent.

Lu Yin exerted even more force through his hand, but the middle-aged man showed no reaction. Lu Yin picked him up, only to realize that the man had already died.

"He committed suicide, Seventh Bro! It looks like there's something more involved going on," the Ghost Monkey said seriously.

Lu Yin's expression turned grim. The man had initially tried to fight back against Lu Yin, before trying to take Lu Yin to meet with his Young Master, all while the man had not known who Lu Yin truly was. However, as soon as the middle-aged man realized what Lu Yin's true identity was, he had immediately committed suicide. He clearly knew that Lu Yin was also involved in the plan and was on their side, but he had still killed himself. This meant that the plan wasn't as simple as what Felynn had shared with Lu Yin. If the man could tell Lu Yin the truth, then there was no way he would have killed himself.

Since the man had committed suicide, the plan was clearly not what it appeared to be.

The Wei family. Lu Yin thought about the situation for a moment and then sent a picture of the middle-aged man to the Limiteer Mistchild, who was on Mafioso Planet, as well as Bach Shamus, the chief of the Six-Fingered Tribe. He remembered that Armament Weave was to the west of Lars Weave as well as an enemy of Lars Weave; perhaps Bach Shamus would know something about them.

The bespectacled Mistchild replied promptly, but she merely said that she didn't know anything about this person or the Wei family. Armament Weave was very far away from Mafioso Planet, and it could even be considered part of the central weaves.

Bach Shamus also contacted Lu Yin soon after receiving the message.

Lu Yin answered the call, and Bach Shamus appeared on his screen with a grim expression. "Your Highness, how did you end up killing someone from the Wei family?"

"You recognize him?" Lu Yin asked.

Bach Shamus nodded. "He's one of the underlings of the Wei family's Young Master, Wei Rong. He was very loyal to the Young Master."

So he really was from the Wei family. Lu Yin continued on with his questions, saying, "Tell me more about Armament Weave and the Wei family."

Bach Shamus was very curious about what Lu Yin was doing that was related to the Wei family, but he refrained from asking any questions of his own. "Armament Weave is on the western side of the Lars Weave, and the people there have been our enemy for centuries. That weave is highly populated with Astral Horses that can easily shatter spacecraft. The Wei family is the leading family in Armament Weave, and they also control the Astral Horses.

"The Wei family has never interacted with the eastern weaves, but they are on good terms with the central weaves. They have a knack for forming alliances, particularly that Young Master, Wei Rong. He has travelled all across the Outerverse to recruit talents for the Wei family. In the past, my Six-Fingered

Tribe was comparable to the Wei family, but because of their Young Master, we have fallen into a disadvantage.”

Lu Yin was shocked, as it seemed like Wei Rong was someone who was similar to Wang Wen, which would be very troublesome for Lu Yin to deal with. Wei Rong was currently at Sourcepeak Planet, so he probably had a big role to play in the upcoming plan to overthrow Saul.

“Your Highness, are you planning to get Armament Weave to join the Great Eastern Alliance?” Bach Shamus probed.

Lu Yin’s eyes lit up. “What would you think about that?”

Bach Shamus shook his head and laughed. “It’s impossible. Armament Weave treats the eastern weaves as their enemy, and the Wei family has never had any interactions with the eastern weaves. Although Wei Rong has travelled throughout half the Outerverse, he has never traveled to the eastern weaves, and that weave will never join the Great Eastern Alliance unless you completely destroy the Wei family.”

Lu Yin nodded. “Alright, I understand. Thank you, Chief Bach.”

“It’s no problem, Your Highness. You’re currently on Sourcepeak Planet, right?” Bach Shamus asked.

Lu Yin nodded. “Yes, I’m participating in the upcoming Lockbreaking Competition.”

Bach Shamus frowned. “The members of the Wei family are good at scheming. Since they’re also there, then you must be careful, Your Highness. There might also be some changes to this year’s competition since many things have changed after the Outerverse was separated from the Innerverse.”

Lu Yin agreed with the recommendation of caution and hung up.

Bach Shamus was certain that there was something off with the events on Sourcepeak Planet as soon as he realized that there was someone from the Wei family present. This meant that he had most likely been intimidated by the Wei family.

Wei Rong was an intelligent person, and Lu Yin wasn’t good at dealing with such people. He wasn’t good at scheming, and so he decided to contact Wang Wen.

“Chesspiece Bro, I wasn’t expecting you to call me. What? You missed me?” Wang Wen’s annoying smile appeared on the screen of Lu Yin’s gadget.

Lu Yin was speechless. “I told you not to call me Chesspiece Bro.”

Wang Wen raised his head up high. “Everyone in this universe is a chesspiece to me, and there are some people who can’t even be considered pawns. You should be honored!” He then leaned closer to the camera and grinned. “I heard that you’ve been getting quite popular recently, and even the Hall of Honor started protecting you. Chesspiece Bro, you’re doing quite well! It seems like you have learned a bit of wisdom from me.”

“Seventh Bro, this guy’s still as annoying as ever!” The monkey was outraged.

Lu Yin pouted. “Alright, I do have something to ask you.”

Wang Wen grunted and leaned casually against a chair. "Go ahead and ask."

This fellow always enjoyed demonstrating his superiority.

Lu Yin paused for a moment before telling Wang Wen about the current situation on Sourcepeak Planet, which actually intrigued Wang Wen. Lu Yin concluded by asking, "What do you think I should do?"

Wang Wen laughed. "That's great! Sourcepeak Planet is about to undergo a tremendous change. I've never liked those Lockbreakers! They hid themselves and defied the draft orders to help out in Ironblood Weave. They're all arrogant pricks, and it'll be good for them to be defeated."

Lu Yin was offended. "I'm a Lockbreaker too!"

Wang Wen waved a hand. "Don't mind me, you're just an amateur."

"I'm a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker," Lu Yin informed him.

Wang Wen blinked. "Why are you at such a high level for an amateur? It's no wonder why Saul sent someone to assassinate you—how can an amateur become a five star Lockbreaker? What's going to happen to other people if you start focusing on it seriously? It's your own fault that they're going after you."

"Fine. What should I do? Tell me," Lu Yin asked.

Wang Wen thought about it for only a moment. "That's simple: just don't do anything."

"Don't do anything?" Lu Yin was lost.

Wang Wen nodded. "That's right, don't do anything. You should know that everything in the universe follows a certain pattern. Sometimes, the final outcome of an incident won't change no matter what you do or don't do. Besides, from what you just told me, neither Felynn nor the Wei family are dumb, and they definitely rely on just you to accuse Saul. In these circumstances, you can just wait and see how things play out before responding accordingly to maximize your benefits."

"If I don't accuse him, then Felynn won't give me True Insight," Lu Yin said.

Wang Wen rolled his eyes. "Brother, after all the chaos they're going to create, the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society will end up on the verge of collapse. Are you still worried that you won't be able to get True Insight in that situation? Don't forget that you've killed an Enlightener before, and they'll be worried that you'll side with Saul instead of them. They absolutely won't dare to offend you, so just sit back and enjoy the show."

Lu Yin realized that Wang Wen was right. He had only been thinking about what he should do to get the most benefits, but he hadn't even considered the option of not doing anything. Since nobody would dare to risk offending him, then they would definitely agree to whatever he wanted, and that way, he wouldn't need to offend Saul either.

"How can you be so sure that they have a backup plan?" Lu Yin asked as he suspected that Wang Wen just wanted to watch a good show.

Wang Wen smirked. "Is Wei Rong the representative of the Wei family?"

“You know him?” Lu Yin was shocked.

Wang Wen sneered, “I’ve met him once. Just listen to me and don’t do anything. Wei Rong is very meticulous, and he’d definitely meet you in person if he actually wanted you to help out. Furthermore, that person from the Wei family committed suicide as soon as he realized who you were, which proves that you’re not important to the Wei family. On the other hand, Felynn met with you personally and even promised to give you the True Insight, which shows that you are very important to her. These two details combined suggests that Felynn is not important to the Wei family. Now do you understand?”

“So are you saying that the Wei family has its own plans?” Lu Yin raised his brows.

Wang Wen nodded. “You’re pretty smart. Wei Rong is the best when it comes to betraying people, so you should just quietly watch the show take place. Sourcepeak Planet is about to get very interesting, so go ahead and contact me anytime. Haha, I’m looking forward to seeing what Wei Rong is going to do!”

Lu Yin hung up. Wang Wen’s analysis of the situation had allowed him to gain a better understanding of his current circumstances, but he still wasn’t sure about what the Wei family’s plans might be or who they were working with. Despite that, since he now had a better grasp of the situation, he could finally make a decision.

Chapter 684: An Old Friend From Umbral

There were two more days before the competition started, and during this time, Lu Yin stopped monitoring Felynn’s quarters. Instead, he roamed about Sourcepeak Planet.

This was a very famous planet, renowned even in the Inniverse for being the Lockbreaker Society’s Outerverse headquarters. Most of the planet was covered in foliage, and its cities were also very beautiful. However, Lu Yin was more curious about a certain business: field raffles.

Most people found sourceboxes out of pure happenstance by lucking upon an area that contained them. Some sourceboxes were buried deep underground and would never be found by blind chance. For those, Lockbreakers naturally had special methods to analyze their surroundings and determine whether or not there were any sourceboxes nearby, though the accuracy of such methods was very low.

The field raffles had started because of this situation.

Field raffles were conducted by dividing up an area that potentially contained sourceboxes. These divisions were distinct, and customers would buy a specific area, and whether or not that area contained a sourcebox depended on the customer’s luck and discernment.

Field raffles were more of an entertainment service rather than a proper business venture since sourceboxes were very rare, and there were very few places that contained sourceboxes. Thus, it could never become a legitimate business; instead, it was more of a game for Lockbreakers or wealthy individuals to play.

Lu Yin had never tried to find a sourcebox within a certain area, so he was very curious about how it went.

Looking at the densely packed figures below him, Lu Yin took to the sky. Along with all the other people in the surroundings, one young man could be seen in the distance who was charging towards the mountain range.

This mountain range was what the field raffles were selling, and there were about a dozen designated regions within the mountain range where sourceboxes could be found. There were mountains, lakes, giant beasts' lairs, and many other bizarre locations. This young man could spend a certain amount of money to buy the rights to a given region. His choices would increase the more he was willing to pay, and needless to say, it was never cheap. The prices of these area rights sometimes even reached levels that were comparable to those of actual sourceboxes.

This was a thrill-seeking adventure that people participated in purely for the experience. Finding a sourcebox was of secondary importance.

There were many Lockbreakers who had never attempted to unlock a sourcebox; instead, they would participate in these field raffles in an attempt to increase their knowledge of sourceboxes. However, in reality, it was not very useful.

Every region that was designated for the field raffles had to have a hidden sourcebox within the region, or else it would be a complete scam.

The young man flew straight into the mountain range and landed atop a tall mountain that had clearly been moved over. He looked in every direction and even got down on all fours to listen to the ground, which caused many of the onlookers to burst out in laughter.

Lu Yin's humor was tickled by this scene as well. Even he could not discern the rune lines of a sourcebox. Before a sourcebox was uncovered, they would look no different from an ordinary object, and discovering one depended entirely on one's ability.

After a long while, the young man pointed to a large, strange looking rock. "I choose this."

The boss of the field raffle lifted the rock and handed it over to the young man, a huge smile spread across his face as he carried the stone.

"Brother, open it to see if there are any sourceboxes inside."

"Yeah! Come on, open it!"

On its surface, the rock had numerous veins running across it that even somewhat looked like a picture. The star energy surrounding the rock also seemed to be slightly more dense than the surroundings. These were all telltale signs of a sourcebox.

The young man shot a glance at a beautiful lady in the crowd and gritted his teeth. He then backed up a little and flicked his finger lightly. His finger created a fierce gale that split the rock apart. Then, in full view of the watching audience, it was revealed that there was nothing inside.

Everyone present broke out in laughter.

The young man was embarrassed. He had failed.

The boss of the local field raffles laughed. "This rock was struck by lightning a dozen times in a row, but it didn't shatter. I personally thought that there would be a sourcebox inside, and so, I brought it back here. You made a good guess, young man, but unfortunately, luck was not on your side."

The young man shot the boss a dirty look and left.

The boss of the field raffle stifled a laugh and looked at the others in the audience. "Is there anyone else who'd like to try?"

"Me." A young man who was full of smiles walked forward, dragging behind him a man who had an extremely grumpy look on his face. The grumpy man had a long strand of black hair protruding from one of his nostrils, giving him a very distinctive look.

The boss of the field raffle extended his hand. "Pay up first, and then you can make your choice."

The young man shot a delighted look at the man with the nosehair, who apathetically responded, "I don't have any more money."

The young man blinked in disbelief, and then asked, "What did you say? I didn't hear you the first time, so please repeat yourself."

The nosehair man repeated himself, "I don't have any more money."

There was a loud boom, and the ground split open. The young man smiled even more widely. "Say that again."

"I said that I have no money! No money! NO MONEY! You can kill me if you like, but all of the wealth that I saved up over all these years has been completely squandered by you, you bastard! Kill me, you despicable creature..." The nosehair man's sudden outburst of abusive language and sinister expression stunned everyone who was present.

The young man rolled his eyes. "It's fine if you don't have any money, but why did you have to resort to scolding me? Some people have no class," he mumbled to himself as he walked away.

The nosehair man continued grumbling heavily as he glared spitefully at the young man who was leaving. He looked completely pitiful.

The boss of the field raffle was stunned for a moment before he spoke up again. "Do you still want to participate in the field raffles?"

"I already said that I don't have any money!" the nosehair man screamed. After that, he also left.

After this incident, an entire half hour passed without anyone participating in the field raffle.

Lu Yin started to feel bored, and just as he was about to leave, a man whose body reflected the light around him with a metallic glint walked forward. He tossed a cosmic ring to the boss of the field raffles and flew straight into the mountain range.

"It's Straight Metallic Man! He also wants to take part!" someone exclaimed in surprise.

Lu Yin looked over. *Straight Metallic Man?* What a strange name.

“Straight Metallic Man is a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, so if anyone can find a sourcebox, then it would be him,” someone else commented.

“That’s right. Or, this field raffle might not have any sourceboxes.”

“Don’t fret, there definitely are sourceboxes here. They wouldn’t organize a field raffle if there weren’t any.”

...

When the boss of the field raffles watched Straight Metallic Man enter, and his expression changed. It would be difficult for anyone in the entire Outerverse to reach the level of a five star Discerning Elementary. The supervisor of this field raffle hadn’t expected such a high leveled character to show up at his humble raffle. He was afraid that Straight Metallic Man would swipe every available sourcebox in this location, which would cost him dearly.

Everyone stared intently at the mountain range.

The boss of the field raffles also appeared to be rather nervous.

However, the imagined outcome of Straight Metallic Man magnificently discovering multiple sourceboxes did not come true. He charged straight into a lake and took out a big piece of metal. And with that, he simply left, and he didn’t even turn around to take a second look.

Everyone stared in astonishment as he left. Thereafter, everyone looked at the supervisor. “Boss, was there a sourcebox inside that piece of metal?”

Everyone was looking at the man in excitement.

The boss gulped. “I don’t actually know. All I can tell all of you is that the fixed sourcebox was not in there.”

There was an uproar in the crowd. Someone exclaimed, “I was waiting for something good to happen with bated breath! It turns out that I got excited for nothing!”

“I was certain that his confidence would bring about something spectacular, and yet, nothing happened.”

“Don’t be too hasty in your judgements. The supervisor simply said that a fixed sourcebox wasn’t in that piece of metal. He never said that there wasn’t a sourcebox inside of it. Straight Metallic Man will only unlock sourceboxes found inside of metal, and seeing how confident he was just now, he must be certain that there’s something inside,” an experienced Lockbreaker spoke up.

Everyone nodded, agreeing with his astute assessment.

Lu Yin looked in the direction that Straight Metallic Man had headed off in. After pondering for a moment, he followed him. Through the movement of various rune lines, he was able to sense that quite a number of other people were also tailing the Lockbreaker, and it was clear that they were up to no good. It seemed like they were trying to take advantage of the man.

Straight Metallic Man held the huge metal object as he flew at top speed through the sky, passing by several mountains and cities. Finally, he stopped at a certain mountain and tossed the metallic object onto the ground. He then stood there in silence.

Three figures descended from the air above him. They landed on the ground and surrounded Straight Metallic Man.

“Straight Metallic Man, hand over that metal object, and we’ll let you leave unharmed,” one of the three people ordered with a solemn expression.

Straight Metallic Man opened his mouth and spoke with a voice that was reminiscent of the unbearable noise of grinding metal, “You three are going to try to stop me?”

“All three of us are Cruisers, and we have team assault techniques. Even if you are a Lockbreaker and a Cruiser like us, you still won’t be able to beat us. I suggest that you leave now, or else you won’t be able to join the competition in two days,” the same man threatened.

Straight Metallic Man tapped the metal object. “It’s right here, so come and take it.”

The three assailants looked at each other before all moving at the same time. They each shot out star energy, but instead of shooting it at Straight Metallic Man, they shot it into the air above him. Their star energy weaved together to form a cage that trapped the Lockbreaker. It looked a great deal like Trapper Qin Chen’s net, as this was another battle technique that could trap someone. The difference was that Qin Chen’s net utilized battle techniques and his domain while these three relied on teamwork.

Straight Metallic Man’s expression turned cold as formless ripples spread out from him, causing the surrounding air to suddenly freeze. Even the cage that the three people had formed suddenly froze in mid air. Following that, traces of metal started pervading the air before ultimately forming a metallic casing that covered the entire region.

The three attackers felt their spines tingle. “Oh no! It’s a forcefield. Retreat!”

Only top level experts were capable of turning their domain into a forcefield, and it was something that a numerical advantage could not compensate for. The three people fled without any hesitation, but Straight Metallic Man did not intend to let them off. The metallic traces in the air continued to spread out, and they quickly covered the mountain valley, the mountain, and soon after that, even the area around the mountain was enveloped in this metal. The three attackers froze, but the metal continued to spread. “Straight Metallic Man, please let us go! We’ll behave in the future!”

With a glacial expression on his face, Straight Metallic Man shouted, “Turn to metal!”

After his shout, the metallic casing spread over the three people’s bodies, and despite their desperate and violent howls, they were turned into metal statues that plummeted into the mountain stream down below.

Off in the distance, Lu Yin’s brows raised high up. That was a very powerful forcefield, and it was of no surprise that the one wielding it was a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker at the Cruiser realm.

Straight Metallic Man was very vicious in his methods. He had killed three powerful Cruisers as if they had been ordinary humans. After disposing of the three attackers, he picked up the piece of metal and left.

Lu Yin did not follow the other man any longer. In the Outerverse, there were only a mere handful of people who were able to reach the Cruiser realm. If a single person could kill three Cruisers that casually, it was likely that, even on Sourcepeak Planet, there were no more than a handful of people who could deal with Straight Metallic Man. It was unclear if Saul would make an appearance, as this Cruiser's presence was a huge threat to Deng Pu.

After spending a day roaming about Sourcepeak Planet, Lu Yin appeared in a city's downtown restaurant the following evening night. He was enjoying some delicacies native to Sourcepeak Planet as he looked out a window.

Sourcepeak Planet contained almost ten thousand Lockbreakers, so Lu Yin would occasionally see a few Lockbreakers pass by and hear their comments mentioned in passing. It had given him a rough idea about who his competitors would be during the competition.

After only a short while, Lu Yin prepared to leave. As he stood up to leave, a group of people arrived at the restaurant, and their leader was someone who Lu Yin had seen before. It was Angie, a student of Astral-7 and an Area Master who had lost to Tu Bo during the Astral Combat Tournament. The reason why Lu Yin remembered her was because, even before the Astral Combat Tournament, he had visited Umbral Butterfly Weave and had met some people from the Umbral Butterfly Tribe, which had given him a bit of an understanding of their race.

He had not expected Angie to not be in the Innaverse.

Angie led a group of people into the restaurant and entered a private room. "Ah Mu, come with me. The rest of you are to wait outside."

Ah Mu? Lu Yin was shocked. He looked at the man behind Angie with an astonished expression on his face. He really was Ah Mu!

When Lu Yin had been in Umbral Butterfly Weave, Ah Mu had helped Lu Yin get to Gigastar Planet, and by doing so, he had helped Lu Yin obtain the Giant Emperor's third eye.

But why was Ah Mu here?

From what Lu Yin could remember, Ah Mu was not a powerful cultivator and was a very timid individual. As far as Lu Yin was concerned, Ah Mu was someone who was not destined for great things. That was why Lu Yin was so surprised to see that Ah Mu had come to Sourcepeak Planet, let alone be following Angie. After all, Angie was the heir to the Umbral Butterfly Tribe.

What shocked Lu Yin even further was the amount of rune lines that he saw on Ah Mu, as they were not much less than what he saw on Angie.

What a difference just a few years could make.

That night, Ah Mu closed a wooden door inside of the Forest Hotel. Exhausted, he stood near the top of a tree and muttered to himself whenever he saw passersby walking along. "I'll show you people what I am made of tomorrow!"

Knock, knock, knock!

Someone knocked at the door. Ah Mu opened the door to his room and saw a stranger. His eyes glowed with a cautious light as he asked, "Who are you?"

The stranger did not respond. Instead, he walked straight into Ah Mu's room. Ah Mu's eyes turned cold, and he mercilessly thrust a dagger at the man's neck. The man raised a finger, and under Ah Mu's astonished eyes, tapped the dagger to deflect it. The immense strength of the finger forced Ah Mu to retreat a few steps while his dagger was sent flying into a wall.

"Why so quick to attack? Do you have that many enemies?" the stranger asked as he closed the door.

Ah Mu retreated to the side of the room by the window as he stared at the man, terrified. He asked, "Who are you? What do you want?"

The man gave a slight smile, and his face suddenly transformed. "Ah Mu, it's been a long time."

Ah Mu stood there, frozen in a daze for a moment before he showed an astonished expression. He cried out in excitement, "Seventh... Seventh Bro?"

That stranger was indeed Lu Yin. "I am glad you still remember me!"

Ah Mu was pleasantly surprised. "Seventh Bro, what are you doing here?"

Lu Yin casually replied, "I'm here for the competition."

"You're a Lockbreaker?" Ah Mu asked, somewhat surprised.

"Oh, I didn't mention it?" Lu Yin asked, puzzled. He had forgotten whether or not he had ever mentioned this during his time with Ah Mu.

Ah Mu replied, "I don't remember. Seventh Bro, how did you find me?"

"I saw you by chance when you were with Angie," Lu Yin answered.

Chapter 685: Hall of Insight

Ah Mu explained, "Angie's the young mistress of the Umbral Butterfly Tribe, and she is also a student of the Astral Combat Academy. Do you know her, Seventh Bro?"

"I know of her but I've never interacted with her. I didn't expect that she would have already become an Explorer, and I also didn't know that she was still in the Outerverse. However, you've given me an even greater surprise." Lu Yin looked at Ah Mu with a serious expression. "You're almost as strong as Angie."

Ah Mu's gaze shifted, and he smiled reluctantly. "Seventh Bro, don't tease me. I was just lucky enough to become an Explorer. Young Mistress Angie can't only bring females along when she travels, which is why I was able to tag along. I'm not powerful at all."

Lu Yin stared at Ah Mu for a while. "Really? Then I guess I might be wrong."

Ah Mu sighed in relief.

The two of them had only spent a few days together in the past, and they weren't very close to each other. However, they had survived several deadly situations together and had formed a certain bond as a result. Lu Yin had actually mainly sought Ah Mu out after seeing him to ask him how he had become so powerful so quickly, but it was clear that Ah Mu was reluctant to say anything. Thus, Lu Yin planned on leaving after catching up for a bit.

"Seventh Bro, are you really going to join the competition?" Ah Mu hesitantly asked Lu Yin before he left. It sounded as though Ah Mu was having some kind of internal struggle.

Lu Yin nodded. "Yes. I'm a Lockbreaker, so what's the problem?"

Ah Mu replied, "If possible, you should leave Sourcepeak Planet."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "What do you mean?"

Ah Mu frowned and slowly answered, "I can't explain everything to you, but this competition isn't as simple as it seems, so you should leave while you still can."

Lu Yin stared at Ah Mu and asked, "Ah Mu, have you heard anything about me recently?"

Ah Mu shook his head. "Umbral Butterfly Weave is very far from the eastern weaves, so I haven't heard much of anything."

Lu Yin smiled and patted Ah Mu on his shoulder before leaving. "Thank you for your advice. I'll remember it."

Ah Mu shut the door, and a complicated expression covered his face. He hadn't expected to meet Lu Yin here.

It was due to Lu Yin that Ah Mu had been able to get a hold of that item and upgrade his strength to his current power level. Although they weren't close, Ah Mu was nonetheless very grateful to Lu Yin, and this was why Ah Mu had given him a warning. However, Lu Yin's reaction had been very strange, and so, Ah Mu switched on his gadget to look up some information about Lu Yin.

Information concerning Lu Yin's achievements soon showed on Ah Mu's gadget, and he lowered his gadget in a daze. He might have created some trouble.

If Lu Yin were nothing more than a normal Lockbreaker, then he wouldn't be able to disrupt their plans, and he wouldn't be able to do anything no matter how much he learned. However, Lu Yin wasn't a normal person; he was the master of Frostwave Weave, the founder of the Great Eastern Alliance, and even a killer of Enlighter realm powerhouses. Even the major forces of the Inniverse didn't dare to provoke such a person. All of these achievements showed that Lu Yin held a very high status that far surpassed Angie's. This person had the power to change the entire situation on Sourcepeak Planet.

Ah Mu laughed bitterly. It was no wonder why Lu Yin's expression had been so weird after he heard Ah Mu's warning. Ah Mu was now in trouble.

Lu Yin was still calm after he left the hotel. It seemed like the Umbral Butterfly Tribe was also working with the Wei family and Felynn to deal with Saul.

Who else might be involved in addition to the forces from Armament Weave and Umbral Butterfly Weave?

Lu Yin guessed that an Enlighter would be needed to deal with Saul, and so, Lu Yin rose into the sky and searched around for a large number of rune lines.

He searched for half an hour, but he couldn't find anything in that time. He wasn't disappointed as he had expected to find nothing.

This was Sourcepeak Planet, and there were Lockbreakers everywhere on the planet. Lockbreakers were very sensitive to star energy, so if an Enlighter did arrive on the planet, they would do their best to hide their presence, and they might even remain off planet to avoid being detected by Saul or any other Lockbreaker.

There was no way for Lu Yin to know how many people were involved, but he also didn't need to know. He and Aden had been able to survive through the turmoil of Ironblood Weave, let alone this place.

Wang Wen's suggestion had been for Lu Yin to do nothing, and that was exactly what he planned on doing.

On the second day, Lu Yin continued his aimless roaming about Sourcepeak Planet.

An increasingly large number of people arrived on Sourcepeak Planet, and the unique Forest Hotel was packed to the brim. Many restaurants had long queues outside, and any place related to lockbreaking or sourceboxes became incredibly crowded. A few conflicts broke out within the crowds, but nobody dared to escalate things.

There were also many deals taking place in dark corners, but everything was being calmly observed by Lu Yin with his domain.

Multiple spacecraft with the same symbol descended from the sky. They were all from Endless Borders, which was one of the Outerverse's four major companies. It was a transport company based out of Endless Weave, and it had monopolized the transportation industry in the Outerverse.

Lu Yin thought of Madam Nalan when he saw the Endless Borders symbol. She was probably here as well, seeing how she had been the one who had told him about the competition.

Just as he was thinking of Madam Nalan, he received a call from her.

Lu Yin picked up. "Madam, you're here at Sourcepeak Planet?"

Madam Nalan smiled. "Your Highness probably arrived some time ago. Was everything ok during your trip?"

Lu Yin raised a brow. "Why would you ask that?"

"Your Highness, the competition this year is not normal, so you must be careful," Madam Nalan warned.

Lu Yin was stunned; why did everybody seem to know about what was happening? How many people was Felynn working with? How could Saul not know that something was about to happen?

"Madam, how did you find out about this?" Lu Yin was curious.

“It seems like Your Highness already knows something. I’m not sure of the details, but I know that there’s going to be a major incident on Sourcepeak Planet. Both Endless Borders and Aegis are a part of what is about to happen, and since the Nalan family is also one of the four major companies, I of course am also privy to certain details concerning their activities,” Madam Nalan answered cheerfully.

Lu Yin looked up, and his heart sank as soon as he saw the countless number of spacecraft belonging to Endless Borders.

Lu Yin could ignore Armament Weave and Umbral Butterfly Weave, but the four major companies were different. These four companies’ businesses spanned the entire Outerverse, so they held a massive influence over everything. At first, Madam Nalan had asked for protection from the Great Yu Empire because the Enlighter who supported the Nalan family had been trapped within Tyranical Weave. If the Nalan family had an Enlighter supporting them, then the other two companies probably had at least one as well.

This was especially true for Aegis, as they were weapons dealers and mercenaries. With their participation, the situation on Sourcepeak Planet was more serious than Lu Yin had previously thought.

It was no wonder why Felynn had been so confident during their meeting. She was collaborating with two major corporations, and thus, she wasn’t afraid of any consequences.

“Thank you for your advice, madam. I now understand the situation,” Lu Yin said.

“You’re welcome. I’m on Your Highness’s side,” Madam Nalan casually replied.

Lu Yin coughed. “Why didn’t the Nalan family participate?”

“Sigh, our elder is trapped in Tyranical Weave, so they wouldn’t even consider us.” Madam Nalan sighed.

Lu Yin didn’t believe her excuse, as all four of the Outerverse’s major companies possessed vast amounts of resources, and nobody would dare to underestimate any one of them. The reason why the Nalan family wouldn’t take part was either because they didn’t want to or because they actually were participating, but in another manner.

“Are you currently on Sourcepeak Planet, madam?” Lu Yin asked.

Madam Nalan smiled. “Your Highness, are you looking to meet me? I just bathed.”

Lu Yin pursed his lips. “I’ll meet with you after the competition.”

“That’s fine. Be careful, Your Highness,” Madam Nalan said.

Lu Yin agreed and hung up.

At this time, Lu Yin knew that Armament Weave, Umbral Butterfly Weave, Endless Borders, Aegis, Felynn, and possibly even more people were involved in the plan, which should be more than enough to deal with Saul.

It also seemed like Saul didn't even know that he was being monitored, as otherwise, Sourcepeak Planet wouldn't be so calm.

This old fellow had been so blinded by his power and ambition that he didn't even realize that people were plotting against him.

After Saul was defeated, the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society would teeter on the edge of collapse. Felynn was truly ruthless, but she also wasn't capable of gathering this many people to her side, which meant that the collaborations had most likely been organized by Wei Rong.

Fortunately, Lu Yin hadn't stuck his neck out for Felynn. She might not even be able to deliver on her promise considering that each of these forces had their own Enlighters and that they wouldn't feel threatened by Lu Yin. Thus, if he had followed her original plan, then he would have ended up offending both the Lockbreaker Society and Saul for nothing.

Still, would Felynn be able to achieve her goal? Were all of these people really working together just to help her become the society president? Lu Yin didn't believe it for a moment, but if that was the case, then just what were these people's goals?

In an estate on Sourcepeak Planet, Wei Xin'er tried to sneak away, but she was stopped by a vague figure. She raised her head, and her face fell. "Brother."

The young man in front of Wei Xin'er was a charming gentleman with a gentle, yet firm expression on his face. He was Wei Rong. "Xin'er, you're too mischievous."

Wei Xin'er bit her lip. "Brother, I want to participate in the competition."

"No," Wei Rong objected.

Wei Xin'er remained stubborn. "Why?"

Wei Rong calmly replied, "You're not even a one star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker yet, so why would you join the competition? Are you trying to embarrass our Wei family?"

"I won't! People will compliment the Wei family for our courage if I dare to compete against Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreakers without being even a one star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. I'm making the Wei family proud!"

"You'll embarrass us."

"I'll make you proud!"

"Embarrassed."

"I'm gonna tell Grandpa that you're bullying me!" Wei Xin'er glared at Wei Rong and turned around with great reluctance.

Wei Rong laughed, his eyes shining with affection.

On the other side of Sourcepeak Planet, Felynn attempted to meet with Fiend Li, but she failed. He merely delivered a simple reply, "The competition is starting soon, so don't attract gossip."

Felynn helplessly left and bowed before leaving. "I hope that you will judge fairly in accordance with the Lockbreaker Society's rules, Senior. Thank you."

After two days, Lu Yin received a notification, prompting him to leave his quarters. He took Aden with him as he made his way towards the Hall of Insight, which was where the competition would take place.

At this moment, there was a huge crowd outside of the Hall of Insight. Multiple screens in the sky displayed projections so that the competition could be seen from all over, even by people in outer space, above the planet.

Lockbreaking was a respected profession, and all lockbreakers would have their actions closely watched by others. Many forces would watch the competition and then later on try to recruit talented Lockbreakers.

Lu Yin was surprised once he reached the outer perimeter of the Hall of Insight. There were way too many people here, and he was surrounded by rune lines. He could even see that there were five Hunters in the audience, and this was not even taking into account any Lockbreakers.

"So that's the Hall of Insight. I've heard a lot of people mention it over the last two days, and it truly is majestic," Aden commented.

Lu Yin looked over and saw four towering trees protecting a hall. The four trees rose high into the sky, and the hall was in the middle of the trees. There were mountains to the north of the hall that started where the Lockbreakers' living quarters were located, rising in three directions.

This was the scenery that common people saw, but Lu Yin saw something completely different. He saw a square shaped rune bordered by the four trees that shot high into the sky. There were no runes outside the trees, but there were countless runes filling the area within the trees, and the Hall of Insight was also covered in runes.

Chapter 686: Treasure Hunt

The legends said that the Hall of Insight's star energy was frozen and that one had to rely on various techniques to overcome it. The four trees were actually sourceboxes that formed an array that had been arranged by an ancient Lockbreaker from the past. Many Lockbreakers studied the layout of Hall of Insight in hopes of gaining some kind of comprehension. If a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker managed to understand the sourcebox array, they would become a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker. This Hall of Insight was a shortcut.

The Hall of Insight was also the core of Sourcepeak Planet.

The location for the Lockbreaker Competition this time around was the mountain range behind the Hall of Insight.

There were more than three hundred Lockbreakers registered to compete, and they entered the mountain range behind the Hall of Insight one after another. Cries could occasionally be heard from members of the audience as well as hoots of laughter.

“He hasn’t managed to successfully unlock a single sourcebox yet, though he actually dared to compete! This season’s Lockbreaker Competition is just too pathetic!” someone in the crowd jeered loudly.

Those around the person roared in laughter.

“The Lockbreaker Competition has no limit for the number of participants, so I should try and join too! Although I’ve never tried to lockbreak before, this’ll be a good way to get a taste of it, and in the future, I can even tell people that I’m someone who participated in the Lockbreaker Competition,” someone shouted, and after that, they leaped up and flew towards the mountain range.

This person’s words moved several others, and a few more novice Lockbreakers entered the mountain range as well, causing more in the audience to laugh.

Saul, Fiend Li, Felynn, Yi Feng, Mr. Jun, and a few other Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreakers were all seated inside the Hall of Insight, and they all had ugly expressions.

“Vice president, should we throw out those who have not succeeded in a lockbreaking session?” one Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker asked.

Saul shook his head. “Forget it. There’s no precedent of Lockbreakers being barred from joining the Lockbreaker Competition. Just let them join, as they won’t even be able to pass through the first stage.”

Felynn smiled. “No more than a hundred will pass through the first stage, so it makes no difference even if they are allowed to participate. There are already more participants than there were registered at the start, and more are constantly joining. I believe, in the end, there might be more than a thousand participants.”

“Hmph, there aren’t even 20,000 Lockbreakers in the entire Outerverse, and those who have been given stars don’t even reach a thousand. If we don’t consider the starless Lockbreakers who are not here to actually compete, then there are at most 300 starred Lockbreakers who are participating in this competition. The bulk of these participants are rookies who have not succeeded even once in lockbreaking. This is simply embarrassing,” Fiend Li said seriously.

The crowd fell silent.

The previous Lockbreaker Competitions had been jointly held by both the Innerverse and the Outerverse, and the number of participating Lockbreakers had similarly exceeded a thousand in those competitions, but those competitors had almost all at least been three star Discerning Elementary Lockbreakers or higher. If anyone was randomly picked from one of those previous competitions and placed in this competition, then they would instantly be placed near the top of the list of potential winners. This current Lockbreaker Competition had caused the Lockbreaker Society to lose some prestige.

“Keke, Senior, there’s no need to be angry. There are still some outstanding people. Look.” Mr. Jun smiled and pointed at a youth below them. Straight Metallic Man had entered the mountain range, and his image appeared on the screen.

Straight Metallic Man was a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, and his arrival aroused a great deal of attention.

After that, the Serpent Queen appeared, and also Tong Mi'er and Xi Qi. Each one of them caused Fiend Li to look happier, for at least their participation was not too embarrassing. There were still people putting up a good front for the Lockbreaker Society, especially Xi Qi, who had reached the Perceptive Intermediate level. She was one of the strongest contenders to become this season's champion.

When he saw Xi Qi appear, Saul's expression briefly changed before quickly returning to normal. Nobody noticed this change other than Felynn.

Felynn stared at the mountain range, as she was looking for Lu Yin.

Lu Yin and Aden exchanged a few words, and then Lu Yin charged into the mountain range.

The moment he passed the towering trees, the star energy within his body was sealed off, and he was unable to circulate or move it at all. It felt as though his entire being had been split in two: an internal and external self.

Back during the contest on Planet Pyrolyte, perhaps those space-exploring powerhouses had felt the same way when they had worn those star essence skins.

He waved his hand about. The ambient star energy in the air was very low, and although it could not be absorbed, it could still be used.

This was the so-called phenomenon of star energy scrambling. Anyone who entered within the range of the Hall of Insight would have their star energy sealed, which ensured the Hall of Insight's safety.

Lu Yin did not stop as he headed straight into the mountain range.

There were many Lockbreakers participating in this competition, but they were all scattered throughout the mountain range, which made their numbers seem negligible. Along his way, Lu Yin saw many Lockbreakers roaming all about, but the majority remained hidden.

In the skies, a youth streaked by, and Lu Yin's eyes flashed. It was Deng Pu. Lu Yin had seen pictures of this person before, and if everything went according to plan, then Deng Pu would be the champion of this competition, which would follow along with the crowd's expectations.

Suddenly, Lu Yin turned around to look behind, and his face changed. Why was there a Hunter here?

10,000 meters away from Lu Yin, a young-looking man with an experienced look in his eyes had just stepped into the mountain range. The man occasionally looked up at the Hall of Insight with a complex look in his eyes.

Lu Yin remained in place high above to watch the youth.

That youth also looked back at Lu Yin, but he didn't bother with Lu Yin and headed in another direction.

Lu Yin was surprised. That person was a Hunter, and he did not seem like an average Hunter either, since he had given Lu Yin a sense of danger. Lu Yin actually felt the same level of danger from this Hunter that he had from Mr. Jun with his lockbreaking tool. This Hunter was very strong.

Outside of the Hall of Insight, images of the Lockbreakers began appearing on the screen. When the young Hunter appeared, someone shouted, "Cai Jianqiang!"

The people around him were confused. “Bro, what are you shouting about?”

That person stared at the screen in astonishment and pointed. “Cai Jianqiang! That’s him, definitely!”

“Who’s Cai Jianqiang?” A woman raised her gadget as she moved over, her eyes filled with curiosity. She was someone who worked with a news company, and she wanted to take note of this competition’s major attractions to raise her company’s viewership.

The person who had shouted stared at the screen and solemnly explained, “There’s a pair of brothers from the Inniverse: the older brother is Cai Jianwen, and the younger is Cai Jianqiang. This pair of brothers are very famous because they are the polar opposite of each other. The older is extremely gifted in lockbreaking and became a five star Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker before reaching a hundred years of age, and he even became a member of the Inniverse Lockbreaker Society who can evaluate others. He’s known as his generation’s most gifted Lockbreaker, and he was even labeled as the Inniverse Lockbreaker Society’s president’s successor. However, his talent for cultivation is too pathetic, and he’s still an Explorer despite becoming a five star Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker, finding it difficult to improve any further.

“The younger brother, Cai Jianqiang, is the exact opposite. His talent for cultivation is astounding, and he became a Hunter in just a short few decades, and that’s not even mentioning the fact that he is an incredible Realmbreaker who can easily fight against those beyond his realm. In the past, he even used his strength to suppress his generation’s Youth Councilors, and he is an absolute expert of his generation. However, his talent for lockbreaking is very poor, and he only became a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker quite recently. In addition, people have evaluated him as being unable to advance any further.

“These two brothers are complete opposites, which is why they’re a topic that’s often discussed among Inniverse Lockbreakers.”

The girl beside the man was surprised. “There’s actually such a strange coincidence. Wait, that’s not right. We have some understanding of the Inniverse’s most powerful Lockbreakers, and for someone to be labeled as the president’s successor as well as the most gifted Lockbreaker of his generation, how could we not have heard about Cai Jianwen?”

“Because he changed his name. You guys must have heard his other name: Wusheng,” the person said solemnly.

“Wusheng?” the crowd cried, and it was evident that they were all rather familiar with this name.

The girl was surprised. “Are you talking about Master Wusheng? The person who can casually decide whether or not someone can join the Lockbreaker Society and is allowed to evaluate anyone at any time as he pleases?”

“That’s right—Wusheng is Cai Jianwen. That person who just entered the mountain range is Wusheng’s younger brother, Cai Jianqiang.”

After the person spoke, the way the crowd looked at the young Hunter changed, and it was no longer calm after discovering that he was an important character.

Inside the Hall of Insight, Saul's gaze trembled as he looked at Cai Jianqiang. "He's actually in the Outerverse too."

Fiend Li and the others also looked over. "That's right. What a pity. If he had just half the lockbreaking talent his brother has, then he wouldn't amount to just this."

Mr. Jun said, "Actually, his future would be very bright if he simply forsook the path of lockbreaking. There are only a few who can rival his talent for cultivation, and he can even be called the strongest of his generation. But despite that, he chooses to pursue lockbreaking."

Although Cai Jianqiang's appearance had surprised the crowd, Saul didn't care about him. This person's talent for lockbreaking was truly too lacking, and Cai Jianqiang was of absolutely no threat to Deng Pu.

After surveying all of the various contestants, Saul could not see Lu Yin, which caused him to nod in satisfaction. There were only a select few people in this season's Lockbreaker Competition who could pose any sort of threat, and he had eliminated all those who had caught his eye. Lu Yin was one of them, and although the operation had failed and had caused him a bit of worry, in the end, Lu Yin was just a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. However, Lu Yin's progress was incredibly fast, and he also had a lockbreaking tool, which made him a worthy opponent for Deng Pu.

Fortunately, Lu Yin had not appeared, and Saul looked over at Mr. Jun with a satisfied expression.

Mr. Jun's face was actually rather confused, as he had not managed to track down Lu Yin despite searching the route that Lu Yin would have taken to get to Planet Taiyun from the Frostwave Weave for two whole days. Mr. Jun believed that Lu Yin had somehow slipped through, so he felt lucky that Lu Yin still had not appeared.

Within the mountain range, Lu Yin watched as Cai Jianqiang left, and his face was serious. This Hunter was not simple, and he might turn out to be his greatest opponent in this Lockbreaker Competition.

As the clock in the sky rang out, the Lockbreaker Competition formally began as the mountain range shook violently. Immediately after that, a voice rang throughout the sky, "Within the mountain range, there are hidden sourceboxes that have been sealed within Spiritual Thread. You have three days' time: during this time, those who find and open more sourceboxes will obtain better results."

Lu Yin was shocked; in the end, this was the Lockbreaker Society. This competition was taking place on a huge scale, and according to Felynn, only a hundred people would be able to pass the first round, which meant that at least a hundred Lockbreakers were capable of unlocking a sourcebox during these three days. That also meant that there were more than a hundred sourceboxes as there were likely to be Lockbreakers who could finish unlocking more than a single sourcebox. This was a scale that Lu Yin had never seen before.

However, the items that were obtained from these lockbreaking attempts would belong to the society, which meant that the society was getting the contestants to lockbreak for them free of charge.

No matter what, to be able to pull out so many sourceboxes in one go showed the unfathomable depths of the Lockbreaker Society.

Lu Yin stood up high and looked around. He could not see any rune lines revealing any sourceboxes. He could only sense things through his star energy, which was similar to the field raffles where everything depended on the contestants' own judgement.

There was a thump, and Lu Yin heard a loud noise from somewhere nearby. Someone had crashed onto the ground from the sky, and they did not bother to look around at all.

Lu Yin looked over and saw that the ground had not shifted a single inch. That indicated that the impact had been made with a Limiteer's power level, as Limiteers could not break through the ground since the mountain range was terrifyingly sturdy. This put an end to any possibility of bombarding the mountain range, as not even a Cruiser would be able to blast a mountain apart given that the already reduced ambient star energy was being fought over by so many people within the mountain range.

Lu Yin crouched down and exerted a growing amount of force until he displayed an amount of strength that could rival a Cruiser. Finally, at that point, he was able to cause the ground to start to split. Using this much strength would take a long time to shatter the ground.

It seemed like Lu Yin would have to search around by chasing after traces of star energy, but unfortunately, he did not know how. Nobody had ever taught him how to search for sourceboxes.

As he thought about it, he activated the Cosmic Art and expanded its scope. Gradually, it enveloped the entire mountain peak, and he was able to see things much more clearly as long as it was within the range of Cosmic Art. The Giant Emperor's third eye appeared in his hand, and he focused his sight downwards to observe both the spatial fluctuations and the flow of star energy in specific areas. He saw that there was an abnormal spatial fluctuation at an area at the base of the mountain. There was a sourcebox in that place.

Chapter 687: Ku Wei And The Fish

Lu Yin's body vanished, and he quickly reappeared at the base of the mountain. He then punched and caused the ground to split apart. This punch had surpassed the power of a Cruiser, and he shattered the base of the mountain, revealing a box made out of Spiritual Thread.

Lu Yin was delighted. Apparently, having a lockbreaking tool was also advantageous when searching for sourceboxes. If he could use these methods to search for abnormal spatial fluctuations, then other people would have their own methods as well: domains, innate gifts, or even battle techniques. This round of the competition was all about evaluating a Lockbreaker's searching abilities.

He thought that that made sense, as the Lockbreaker Society could not completely rely on others unintentionally stumbling upon sourceboxes. They needed to organize specialized Lockbreaker teams to search for sourceboxes, or else they would not have this many stocked up.

Lu Yin retrieved the chest, but before he could open it, he looked behind him and saw two figures charging towards him at top speed. They attacked him without saying a single word, and Lu Yin's gaze trembled. The roaming star energy in the air suddenly froze. The two competitors had used their star energy to display battle techniques, but they only made it halfway to Lu Yin before the star energy went out of control. "No good, it's a domain! Back off."

Lu Yin did not have a habit of taking a beating without retaliating, and his domain directly crushed down upon the area like an evening bell, causing those two Lockbreakers to crash into the ground. They each spat out a mouthful of blood and fainted.

This sort of environment where people had to forcibly take control of the ambient star energy allowed the more powerful individuals to become even stronger while the weak completely lost control of their star energy. They were like ordinary humans.

This was just the first round, but there were only three days to this round. Thus, the Lockbreaker Society would not have brought out sourceboxes that were too advanced for this round. Lu Yin slowly opened the Spiritual Thread case, revealing a leaf-green stone inside that emitted the sound of the tide. He slowly reached forward, and as he approached it, his palm was struck by an unhindered strength. He pulled his hand back, as the strength that he had just felt was the formless danger of this sourcebox. However, it was just at the level of a Limiteer.

He directly reached forward to grab the leaf-green stone with his hand as he endured the bombardment of that tidal strength. After studying the sourcebox, he determined that, with his current lockbreaking ability, it would take him roughly two hours to finish unlocking this stone. It was only a three star Discerning Elementary sourcebox, so it was not too advanced.

Lu Yin placed the stone back inside the chest and stored it in his cosmic ring. He looked up at the Hall of Insight, as those old fogeys were definitely observing him. It was impossible for him to take this sourcebox for himself, but there was no hurry to unlock it either. He should first get a hold of a few more.

While Lu Yin was obtaining his first sourcebox, some distance away from him, in another area of the mountain range, there was a brightly-colored python swimming out of a lake. Its body was wrapped around a spiritual thread case, and it swam to the shore of the lake where the Serpent Queen was standing. She was only partially dressed as the lake water occasionally splashed onto her, which made for an extremely alluring sight. She did not care about the countless audience members who were watching her from outside.

The python placed the chest beside the lake and hissed before sinking back into the lake.

Some distance away, a pair of eyes covetously swept over the Serpent Queen, the person resisting the temptation to rush over to the chest and grab it. Suddenly, a snake's tail stabbed out from underground and entwined around the person. The snake then exerted some force and split the person's body in two. Fresh blood splattered onto the ground beside the lake as a mist of blood pervaded the region.

Anyone who saw this scene went numb, as this was actual murder. Normally, few killings occurred during the Lockbreaker Competitions, as all of the participants had high statuses.

In the Hall of Insight, Mr. Jun sprang to his feet with a gloomy face.

Saul looked at him discontentedly. "What is it?"

Mr. Jun replied, "Vice president, the Lockbreaker Competition is supposed to be a contest of one's lockbreaking ability, but this woman used her beast to kill a Lockbreaker, breaking the rules."

Saul indifferently replied, "A Lockbreaker's experience far exceeds that of other cultivators. Many Lockbreakers perish every year while lockbreaking, and some even die while searching for sourceboxes. Are you going to act just because of this?"

"But this is a competition," Mr. Jun protested.

Fiend Li spoke up. "Although these competitions don't promote killing, they don't prohibit it either. If you intervene, then you will cause the other competing Lockbreakers to feel as though they are being protected, and their actions might become even more unrestrained, which isn't fair to the Lockbreakers who have already found sourceboxes."

"So are we simply going to allow this woman to use her beast to freely kill others?" Felynn could not help herself from speaking up.

Saul calmly replied, "Lockbreakers are not killed that easily. That person died because of his greed, which is not to be pitied. This season's competition did not have a great lineup to begin with, so it's almost a good thing to have some deaths occur. At least this way it will stand out a bit from previous competitions."

These few people and the sentences that they spoke set the tone for this Lockbreaker Competition.

Beside the lake, the Serpent Queen looked up, and her brows rose. Since no one had intervened, it seemed like she could act even more ruthlessly.

Hiss!

The python swam across the lake as its massive head neared the Serpent Queen and then rubbed up against her. Her lips curled up, and she reached out towards the python. "Good job. Let's go."

Half of the python's body rose up, and the Serpent Queen retrieved the case from the serpent's body before moving in another direction.

In another region, Xi Qi had also found a sourcebox, though it was due more to luck than anything else. The sourcebox had actually appeared beneath her feet, and it had almost caused her to trip and fall.

"Hehe, now you must know Lord Fish's power, two-legged beast!" The fish atop Xi Qi's head patted her head with its tail.

Xi Qi was taken aback. "What does it have to do with you?"

"Stupid! If not for Lord Fish's profound fortune, then do you think you would have been able to get this sourcebox that easily? It really is true that two-legged beasts have no vision at times." The fish swatted her with its tail even harder.

Xi Qi pursed her lips, and then rolled her eyes despite not retorting. Her past experiences told her that such a thing was useless, as the fish dwelt in its own fantasy world and could not free itself.

Suddenly, the fish barked, "Don't move! There's someone there."

Xi Qi stared at the wide area in front of her. This person could not be simple if the fish had made a special comment about them.

Quickly, Xi Qi saw who had arrived: it was Ku Wei.

Ku Wei and Xi Qi met by coincidence, and he stared dumbly at the fish atop the girl's head. He slowly raised a hand. "How much for the fish?"

Xi Qi blinked. "I'll give it to you."

Ku Wei was instantly delighted. "Really? Lady, you're wonderful! Since you're so obedient, I'll allow you to call me Brother Wei. From now on, whenever you're outside, just say that Brother Wei is protecting you, and nobody will dare to bully you. Alright, great. Pass that fish to Brother Wei. Brother Wei thinks that it will be delicious regardless of whether it's steamed or simmered."

Xi Qi covered her mouth in surprise and her eyes rolled upwards.

Atop Xi Qi's head, the fish glared at Ku Wei, and it was only a long while later that it reacted. Simmering? Steaming? The fish felt that this fellow was malicious, and it grew exceptionally angry, as though its dignity had been challenged. "Brat, you're making a huge mistake! Lord Fish will explicitly tell you right now that you have made a huge mistake, and Lord Fish will fight you to the death in this life!"

Ku Wei was shocked. "It can speak? There's a fish like that? Lady, where did you buy this thing?"

Xi Qi pursed her lips.

"Brat, Lord Fish is speaking to you! You are in such a huge mess right now! Hurry up and dig up your ancestors' tombs and then kowtow before Lord Fish in apology! After that, you must be a mount for Lord Fish!" the fish shouted angrily.

Ku Wei was shocked, and he rubbed his chin as he fell deep into thought. "It can speak, so it can't be eaten, and it's also pretty rude. It'll probably be a bother to take it along... Forget it, I don't want it anymore."

The fish became even more angered by these words, and it slapped its tail against Xi Qi's head as it demanded, "Two-legged beast, go! Beat him! Help Lord Fish thrash him!"

Xi Qi pondered the fish's orders for a moment. "I'm no good at fighting."

"Lord Fish will teach you! Hurry up and kick him! That brat's about to run!" The fish was growing flustered.

Ku Wei's eyes lit up. "Fish? Right, fishing? Haha, Brother Wei is such a genius that I came up with such a thing! Great, fishing!"

He then pulled out a case and lifted it high into the air before flying away. He made his way through the sky, dragging the case along with him in plain view.

The screens in the outside world coincidentally managed to capture this scene. Xi Qi was one of the most anticipated Lockbreakers in this event, and so, her every action was being observed. Due to this, they were able to watch Ku Wei and the scene of him interacting with the fish.

"What's he doing? That seems to be an empty chest," someone mentioned.

“That brat was screaming like mad just now. Could he have been tricked by that fish? I heard that Xi Qi’s fish is rather crass.”

“No, he’s luring out others to act against him.”

“He’s baiting others.”

In the Hall of Insight, Saul was disappointed, as he had assumed that Ku Wei would act against Xi Qi, and he had not expected him to leave so simply.

“Interesting, to be able to think of such a method to attract others. He’s either a lunatic or extremely confident,” Felynn commented with a smile.

Fiend Li replied, “On the other hand, it proves that he has no confidence in finding sourceboxes on his own.”

“His attackers might not have any sourceboxes themselves. This sort of method won’t be very efficient.”

The crowd in the hall all nodded.

Behind the Hall of Insight, inside the mountain range, Lu Yin happened to see Ku Wei and was slightly caught off guard. What was this fellow doing?

“Seventh Bro, that guy’s gone crazy,” the Ghost Monkey said.

Lu Yin’s eyes flickered, and he then laughed. “He wants to use that method to bait others into trying to rob him, after which he’ll counter-rob them. Interesting.” He had once done something similar, which was why he had figured it out so quickly. But as Fiend Li had already mentioned, Ku Wei was of no threat anymore, as he could not come up with any ways to search for sourceboxes himself, which meant that his lockbreaking ability was not too impressive. Although this method might work once or twice, its efficiency would not be too high, and those who tried to rob him would mostly be others who had not been able to find any sourceboxes, which meant that Ku Wei’s success rate would plummet.

This sort of method had a low chance of success, but it was very effective in drawing people’s attention. In just a few minutes, someone tried to steal Ku Wei’s chest and ended up being counterrobbed. Even the would-be thief’s underwear was peeled off, but despite that, Ku Wei did not find a sourcebox.

“Trash! You don’t even have a sourcebox, and so, you came to snatch Brother Wei’s? Go and find a sourcebox. Then come back and try to snatch Brother Wei’s after you find your own!” Ku Wei threatened.

The few thieves scrambled away.

What followed next was Ku Wei raising the case high above him like he was flying a kite to bait others into trying to rob him. His actions were rather self-confident, and he also believed himself to be a man of principles. Thus, he would not go about blatantly robbing others. However, he had no such qualms about stealing from those who tried to rob him first. It was like the situation with the spacecraft’s captain and that Nosehair Man, as they had all technically willingly helped him.

Xi Qi was scolded by the fish for half a day. She was scolded for not having enough courage, for being useless, and other various things. Its abuse caused Xi Qi to feel very wronged. "I'm not good at fighting."

The fish looked up in the sky at Ku Wei, and muttered, "Strange, there's always a familiar smell on this kid. Who is it? Lord Fish must have met him before."

Off in the distance, Cai Jianqiang did not bother looking at the sky. He minded his own business as he searched for sourceboxes in a very diligent manner without using any cheap tricks. He forcefully spread his star energy across an entire area to search for sourceboxes.

He wanted to tell those old fogeys of the Lockbreaker Society that, with perseverance and hard work, he could also reach the same heights as his brother.

Chapter 688: Lu Yin And Ku Wei

In a marshy valley, Deng Pu casually waved a hand, causing a gale to tear through the marsh and slay a massive beast. He peeled its flesh apart until a case fell out of its belly. This case contained a sourcebox, and it had been accidentally swallowed by the creature.

Deng Pu grabbed the case, and when he looked up, he saw Ku Wei flying about in the sky. "What a joke."

He then leaped up and moved on from the swamp. He hurried away in another direction, seemingly very confident in himself.

Everyone had their own way to search for sourceboxes, and despite Ku Wei's method being very odd, it turned out to be surprisingly effective. After half a day passed, he had managed to get a sourcebox from another lockbreaker. He then lifted the real sourcebox over his head and even opened the case to show people what was inside it, leaving many utterly speechless.

This fellow might as well have been using a loudspeaker to announce to everyone that he had gotten a sourcebox. He was incredibly cocky.

Lu Yin was getting restless, and he was planning to go and rob Ku Wei due to him acting way too arrogantly.

But just as Lu Yin was about to attack, a huge python that was carrying the Serpent Queen darted towards Ku Wei to snatch the sourcebox from him.

Ku Wei grew excited, and he slowly lifted his index finger as he watched the python move towards him. "Finger Tap."

The python paused in the sky as blood suddenly started to flow down its back, painting the sky red. The Serpent Queen was shocked, and she immediately fled along with her python. Ku Wei grinned. "Don't run, miss. Give me your sourcebox!"

No one knew what Ku Wei had done, and not even Saul and the few others inside the Hall of Insight could tell what battle technique the youth had just used to instantly injure the ancient python.

Lu Yin looked at Ku Wei with a grim expression. During Ku Wei's attack, a terrifying amount of rune lines had condensed at his fingertip, so much so that they had almost been comparable to the power of a Hunter. The python and the woman were both Cruisers, and thus, they had been defeated instantly.

This was what Lu Yin had observed from the rune lines. He knew that Ku Wei's attack wasn't as simple as it seemed and that it was comparable to his own Dream Finger. Ku Wei was very powerful.

The Serpent Queen and her python fled in Lu Yin's direction as she glanced back, meeting Ku Wei's taunting eyes.

The Serpent Queen was rattled as she hadn't even been able to defend herself from this Explorer. How could an Explorer be so powerful? Could he be the infamous Lu Yin? It would be troublesome if he really was Lu Yin, as that fellow was rumored to be capable of killing Enlighters.

"Miss, Brother Wei is asking you to stay!" Ku Wei shouted. His eyes sharpened as the star energy around him condensed. He had unleashed his forcefield.

The Serpent Queen was stunned; this guy had even comprehended a forcefield! She crashed down towards the ground along with her python after losing the ability to use star energy, and she was right above Lu Yin as she fell.

Lu Yin saw a huge shadow approaching, and he immediately dodged.

The python and the Serpent Queen fell to the ground with a crash. The python wailed as its enormous eyes locked onto Ku Wei fearfully.

Ku Wei stood in the sky and looked down at the Serpent Queen. "Give it to me, and I'll stop attacking you."

The Serpent Queen laughed bitterly. She had never thought that there would be a time when she would be utterly defeated by a mere Explorer. She helplessly threw a case to the ground. "It's yours."

Ku Wei laughed. This had been a great idea, and he had already gotten his hands on two sourceboxes. He flew towards the case and stored it away. He then turned to look at the man who was watching from nearby. "Brother, it's fate that we have met each other. Show me your cosmic ring."

Lu Yin's brows rose as he looked at Ku Wei. "I have a sourcebox."

Ku Wei's eyes gleamed. "Hahahaha, I'm so lucky! Come on, give me your sourcebox, and I won't attack you."

The Serpent Queen gave Lu Yin a sympathetic look.

The people watching from outside looked at Lu Yin with pity. This poor guy was so unlucky.

Inside the Hall of Insight, Mr Jun shook his head. "Sigh, how did a lockbreaking competition deteriorate into a simple battle?"

"Lockbreakers generally have a higher combat strength compared to their peers within the same power level. How can they guarantee their status without a high battle strength? Your thinking is too narrow-minded," Fiend Li admonished.

Mr Jun promptly agreed with the older man.

Saul carelessly stared at the screen, as neither the Serpent Queen nor Ku Wei would be able to threaten Deng Pu despite both of them having higher power levels. The two of them weren't very good at lockbreaking, and the ultimate focus of this competition was to test the competitors' lockbreaking ability. If one was able to gather a lot of sourceboxes but was unable to unlock them, it would only lead to them ending at a disadvantage.

Felynn watched the scene occurring below them with a weird expression. Lu Yin was about to be robbed by Ku Wei. Was Ku Wei lucky? Maybe.

Lu Yin toyed with his cosmic ring as countless people watched him. He then smiled at Ku Wei. "Come and get it yourself."

The Serpent Queen was astonished at his reaction. Did this fellow actually plan to fight back? He was just an Explorer and was another person she couldn't recognize.

Ku Wei smirked. "Wow, you're confident! Fine, I'll get it myself, but don't blame me if I'm not able to control my attack." His body suddenly disappeared as the star energy in the air condensed to exert a large pressure that crushed down upon Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered, and his forcefield erupted, causing the sky to tremble. The Serpent Queen felt a strong gale blow past her as the star energy in the sky scattered. Ku Wei's forcefield had collapsed.

Ku Wei reappeared right after, and he looked at Lu Yin in shock. He had underestimated this person, as Ku Wei realized that Lu Yin was actually quite powerful. Still, Ku Wei didn't really care since the final result would still end up the same. He pointed his finger at Lu Yin. "Finger Tap."

Lu Yin's expression instantly changed. This attack caused him to feel like everything around him, including his own body, was being rapidly depleted. He felt as though his spirit had been exhausted, making him extremely lethargic. The sky and the ground both lost their color and turned grey in his vision as the entire world around him solidified from just one attack. The most terrifying thing to Lu Yin was that he felt abnormally calm and that he had no intention of fighting back.

This was a battle technique that could affect everything, even the opponent's determination.

Lu Yin had fought many battles since he had first started cultivating, and he had seen numerous battle techniques. He had even fought against Corpse Kings from the Neohuman Alliance. However, this was his first time encountering such a strange and horrifying battle technique. It was able to change an enemy's intentions, which far exceeded anything that a normal battle technique was capable of.

At this moment, Lu Yin had no intent to fight back, but the finger was rapidly approaching him. If he were a normal cultivator, he would definitely be heavily injured by the attack, just like the Serpent Queen. However, Lu Yin's spiritual force was very strong as it had been nurtured by his constant recitation of the Stonewall Scriptures, and he used the last bit of his consciousness to move his Fatesand in front of himself and block the attack.

Space distorted, and a burst of wind exploded, scattering in all directions as Ku Wei's attack landed on the Fatesand in front of Lu Yin's chest. The shockwaves from the collision radiated in all directions and caused the ground to start cracking.

Ku Wei was surprised. "Fatesand?"

Lu Yin snapped back to his senses and tightly grabbed onto Ku Wei's arm. Lu Yin lifted his opponent up and then smashed him fiercely into the ground. Suddenly, a shadow appeared in the sky. It was the Finger Tap once again. Ku Wei had manifested the battle technique through his forcefield.

The mountain was pierced through by the attack, and a gigantic crack spread through the mountains.

Ku Wei finally managed to regain control of his body, and he stared at Lu Yin in disbelief. How had this person escaped from the control of his Finger Tap? He also had Fatesand and a terrifying physical strength. Ku Wei looked at his arm, where the outline of Lu Yin's five fingers was clearly visible. Ku Wei's bones had almost been shattered by Lu Yin's grip. This person was a complete beast.

Lu Yin looked over at Ku Wei. They were both Explorers, but this person was comparable to the top twelve of the Top 100 Rankings. However, Lu Yin had seen the pictures of everyone in the top fifteen of the Top 100 Rankings, and this person wasn't on that list. Could he have changed his appearance as well? It was easy enough to go undetected when using a disguise after comprehending a forcefield, so who could this person be?

They had only fought for a brief moment, and to many people, it looked like the two youths had separated after trading attacks, which they would think was very normal. However, those who knew how sturdy the ground in the mountain range was had realized how powerful both attacks were. The mountain range had actually cracked apart, which was something that not even a Cruiser could easily achieve.

The Serpent Queen stared at Lu Yin in shock, as she hadn't realized that he was another powerful Explorer. Were all Explorers now so terrifying? The huge change in the universe had truly given rise to some geniuses, but those geniuses were already renowned, so where had these two come from?

The Hall of Insight was completely silent. Normal Explorers definitely wouldn't have such a high battle strength.

Felynn was stunned. That young man was actually comparable to Lu Yin. Could he be one of the powerhouses from the Top 100 Rankings who had been stranded in the Outerverse?

Ku Wei rubbed his arm and grinned. "Brother, you're quite strong."

Lu Yin smiled. "You too."

"Ha, not many people can withstand my attack, and you're even in the same realm as me! What's your name? I'm Ku Wei," Ku Wei said.

"Ku Wei? 'Ku?' Seventh Bro, one of the surnames in the Court of Seven Names is 'Ku,'" the Ghost Monkey exclaimed.

Lu Yin's eyes gleamed. "Just call me Seventh Bro."

Ku Wei smirked. "Why? You don't dare to tell me your name?"

Lu Yin slowly replied, "You actually told me your real name?"

Ku Wei raised his brows and laughed. "It's just a name. There are many weird names in the universe. Fine, since I can't rob you, I'll just take my leave. Good luck in the competition!" And with that, he left.

Lu Yin asked the monkey, "Are you sure that 'Ku' is one of the surnames of the Court of Seven Names?"

The monkey solemnly answered, "I'm sure of it. 'Ku' is one of the surnames. I read that before in a powerhouse's journal that I told you about before."

Lu Yin was left wondering: was Ku Wei really someone from the Court of Seven Names? It seemed possible that he belonged to the Seven Courts since he dared to tell everyone his name. Apart from the Three Dark Hands, Lu Yin couldn't think of anyone else who could produce such a powerful Explorer. The Top 100 Rankings didn't include anyone from the Three Dark Hands, so it was quite possible that this guy was truly from the Ku family.

"This guy is so reckless. To the Hall of Honor, anyone with the surname 'Ku' is someone that needs to be eliminated, even if they aren't from the Court of Seven Names. If you hadn't revealed that futon, Shenwu Continent would have been destroyed long ago. That's just how the Hall of Honor works. This guy is really gutsy," the monkey muttered.

Lu Yin nodded in agreement with the monkey as Ku Wei moved past him while carrying his case through the sky once again.

Hiss!

The python glanced at Lu Yin with a friendly glint to its eyes.

The Serpent Queen nodded to Lu Yin and moved to leave.

Lu Yin cleared his throat. "Do you still have any sourceboxes?"

Chapter 689: Jianqiang Takes Action

Serpent Queen was stumped, and she stood there, frozen in place, as her python glared at Lu Yin, furious. However, the serpent immediately lowered its head as soon as Lu Yin glanced over at it.

"None left." Serpent Queen was in a bad mood.

"I don't believe you," Lu Yin said.

In a rage, Serpent Queen poured out everything from inside her cosmic ring, even revealing numerous pieces of her underwear, which caused Lu Yin to feel a little embarrassed. "You're pretty frank. Alright, I believe you. You can leave."

Serpent Queen glared at Lu Yin, as she felt that this brat was even more vile than the bastard from before.

"Monkey, do you think that we should go fishing?" Lu Yin asked.

The Ghost Monkey sniggered. "It's up to you. Anyways, no one here's your opponent. This place belongs to you as soon as you put on that universal armor."

Lu Yin thought about it, but he ultimately decided against it. He recalled the person who he had seen before. That man was a Hunter, and not an average one either. He was definitely scary, and if Lu Yin baited such a person in, it would actually be troublesome, as the competition would not be able to continue after that.

Lu Yin somewhat hoped that Ku Wei would bait the Hunter in.

Battles frequently broke out in the mountain range behind the Hall of Insight, as there would be a battle as long as someone discovered a sourcebox.

As for Ku Wei, nobody created any trouble for him. He had taken care of a few batches of assailants. He had then conveniently placed the three sourceboxes that he had snatched over his head, which made the others envious, but no one dared to act against him.

The first day passed in a cloud of chaotic battles.

When the sky completely darkened, many competitors found places to hide and began lockbreaking. Those who were faster like Deng Pu had already completed lockbreaking their first sourcebox.

Within the Hall of Insight, Saul was satisfied, as Deng Pu had been the first competitor to unlock a sourcebox. The rest either had not done so, or were still in the process.

In the latter half of the night, with a soft thump, a sourcebox vanished, but it left nothing behind. Lu Yin was disappointed, but it was alright, as even if anything came out of these sourceboxes, it would have to be returned to the society and would not belong to him.

He continued to search for more sourceboxes.

In the hollow area of a mountain wall, Xi Qi wiped the sweat on her forehead and said in disappointment, "There's nothing."

"That's better, as anything you obtained would simply belong to others." The fish was happy and continuously flapped its tail.

At this moment, a figure strode by, glanced at Xi Qi, and then looked at the ground where there were traces of sourceboxes having been placed there recently.

"What are you looking at? Keep it up, and your eyeballs will be plucked out to be kicked around as balls, ugly," the fish spoke.

That person's eyes narrowed. "Xi Qi?"

Xi Qi looked at the man. "You're Straight Metallic Man?"

Straight Metallic Man acknowledged her with a grunt. He then simply glanced at the fish and left.

"You're fast enough to run away! You're so ugly, but you still come out late at night to scare others," the fish complained.

Xi Qi spoke in a depressed voice, "Stop scolding others. I already don't have any friends left."

The fish made dismissive sounds. “Who cares about having friends or not? Only weak creatures gather together. Only Lord Fish can guarantee that you will stand at the peak of the universe. Then, that sort of trash from just now won’t even dare to look at you.”

Xi Qi sighed.

Cai Jianqiang sat alone out on the plains. He had searched for an entire day, but he had not found a single sourcebox. Although he was accustomed to being inferior to others in the field of lockbreaking, it still wasn’t a nice feeling. If his elder brother were here, he definitely would have easily uncovered multiple sourceboxes already .

The disparity of talent between individuals was really difficult to overcome.

Deng Pu appeared from the sky and landed a short distance away from Cai Jianqiang. He then spoke in a dull tone, “I’ll trouble you to move aside.”

Cai Jianqiang looked up and recognized the youth as Deng Pu, who was Saul’s disciple, but this person did not seem to recognize Cai Jianqiang.

“I’ll say it again—move over,” Deng Pu’s tone was not very friendly.

Inside the Hall of Insight, Saul straightened in his seat as his expression turned very ugly. This idiot disciple was actually provoking Cai Jianqiang!

Felynn’s expression also changed. Not good! That idiot doesn’t know any better, so he’s provoking Cai Jianqiang. This is problematic.

The others also stared at the exchange.

Cai Jianqiang did not take action against Deng Pu, as he was very curious about what Deng Pu was doing in this place. Was there a sourcebox nearby? He had searched through area after area using star energy, but he had not found a single sourcebox yet.

Deng Pu saw Cai Jianqiang move aside and paid no further heed to the man. He walked over to where Cai Jianqiang had been sitting and pressed a hand against the ground. There was a rumbling sound as the ground shattered, and after consecutive bombardments, a crater a dozen meters in diameter appeared, with a chest finally exposed in its center.

Cai Jianqiang was astonished, as there had actually been a sourcebox right underneath his own butt, but he had not felt anything at all! How had this person discovered it?

Cai Jianqiang was well aware that he had not comprehended a domain and that he had no battle techniques that could help him in lockbreaking. However, he at least had a lockbreaking tool, and his control of star energy was fairly decent. But despite all that, he had not discovered this sourcebox despite its close proximity to him while this person had easily done so. Was the disparity between them so great?

Within the Hall of Insight, Felynn glanced over at Saul, as this sourcebox was definitely not something that Deng Pu was capable of finding on his own since it had been buried too deeply. Even at that close

range, Cai Jianqiang had not discovered anything at all, but Deng Pu had been able to find it in an instant. This was clearly cheating, and Saul was being unscrupulous in his methods to obtain True Insight.

Saul's face remained calm, and he acted as if he did not know anything.

Deng Pu retrieved the sourcebox and prepared to leave, but he was suddenly blocked by Cai Jianqiang.

"You want to steal it?" Deng Pu asked coldly as he looked at Cai Jianqiang. Only now did he take a closer look at the person in front of him, as he had focused only on the location before. Eh, why does this person look so familiar?

"How did you find it?" Cai Jianqiang asked, as he was truly curious. The sourcebox that had been beneath his own butt had been taken by somebody else, and he could not tolerate this even if he did have a good temper.

Deng Pu's response was icy, "That's none of your business. Move aside."

Cai Jianqiang did not budge.

Deng Pu's gaze turned sharp, and it seemed like he was about to do something.

Within the Hall of Insight, Saul leaned forward, and his lips moved imperceptibly. Deng Pu's face suddenly changed as he looked at Cai Jianqiang in apprehension. "I recall now—you are Master Wusheng's younger brother."

"How did you find this sourcebox?" Cai Jianqiang repeated.

Deng Pu's eyes shifted. "It's my ability."

Cai Jianqiang frowned, and he simply stared at Deng Pu, which caused the youth to tremble. Then, Deng Pu set the case down. "You want this? It's for you." He then left without even turning to look back.

Cai Jianqiang was in a daze, as he had not thought that Deng Pu would give up and leave so easily.

Inside the Hall of Insight, Saul released his pent-up breath.

Felynn glanced over at Saul and then looked back at the screen. This Deng Pu was smart, as he would be finished if he fought against Cai Jianqiang. Now that Deng Pu had given the sourcebox away, if Cai Jianqiang decided to take action, Saul would have an excuse to step in.

In the end, Cai Jianqiang did not make any moves against Deng Pu. He merely opened the case and looked inside it to see a long sourcebox. He was delighted to have finally obtained a sourcebox, and so, he immediately began to unlock it. He enjoyed lockbreaking, as the process gave him the pleasure of exploring the universe's secrets.

Cai Jianqiang had been able to become a one-star Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker not by lockbreaking Perceptive Intermediate sourceboxes, but instead he had advanced purely through numbers. He had unlocked many Discerning Elementary sourceboxes, and had then relied on lockbreaking a single Perceptive Intermediate sourcebox to reach the level of a Perceptive Intermediate

Lockbreaker. It had taken him dozens of hours to unlock the Perceptive Intermediate sourcebox, and while the average Lockbreaker would not have been able to manage it, he had relied on the support of his impressive power level.

His aptitude for lockbreaking was truly poor. This Discerning Elementary sourcebox was merely at the two star level, but he still took eight whole hours to successfully unlock it. Although he did not obtain anything, he still felt very satisfied that he had succeeded.

After succeeding, Cai Jianqiang realized that he should not waste any more time looking for sourceboxes. Otherwise, when the time for this first stage of the competition expired, he would likely be eliminated. He would be humiliated all the way back to the Neoverse if he was eliminated in such a fashion while being a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker. Hence, Cai Jianqiang decided to start stealing sourceboxes from others, as he had already tasted the sweetness of theft once.

Cai Jianqiang looked up at where Ku Wei was still leisurely hanging around, trying to use a case to bait others into attacking him. He should have already finished lockbreaking the other two.

Cai Jianqiang leapt up towards Ku Wei, and his berserk star energy swept out in all directions, to the point where even the Hall of Insight quivered almost imperceptibly, which shocked everyone.

Lu Yin looked up and saw the boundless lines of runes crash towards Ku Wei, and he was delighted. You tried to bait more, and finally, that person was lured out.

Ku Wei jumped up in fright as a crisis had suddenly appeared. He saw Cai Jianqiang grab at him, and he responded by tapping out with a single finger. His forcefield formed a giant Finger Tap that ruthlessly crushed down upon the Hunter.

The two sides clashed in the sky and caused the void to warp. A violent gale swept out and even made the four towering trees tremble, leaving countless people in the region numb.

Ku Wei was beaten back by Cai Jianqiang's single attack, and he appeared astonished at this turn of events. "Where did this madman come from?"

Cai Jianqiang's expression was steely. "Hand over the sourcebox."

"Alright, here." Ku Wei threw the sourcebox to Cai Jianqiang without any hesitation before turning and fleeing. He was even more direct about things than Deng Pu.

That exchange had shown Ku Wei just how terrifying this Hunter realm fellow was, as his own Finger Tap had been completely ineffective. That berserk storm had sent a chill running down his spine, and Ku Wei knew that he could not go head-to-head against that man.

Cai Jianqiang retrieved the case and saw that there was a sourcebox inside it. He nodded in satisfaction, but then scanned around as he had decided to grab a hold of a few more.

The people within the Hall of Insight exchanged glances, as they did not know if they should interfere. Cai Jianqiang's strength was high enough that, out of the countless people on all of Sourcepeak Planet, perhaps only Saul and Fiend Li could overpower him, as this person was a freak who had an abnormal cultivation talent and was able to crush everyone within his own generation, including the Youth

Councilors of his time. It was only because he was obsessed with lockbreaking that he had not become too famous. Once this sort of person erupted, the result would be very scary.

In just half an hour's time, Cai Jianqiang had managed to steal seven sourceboxes. He used his overpowering star energy to suppress everything around him, and it was useless to even try to hide. He was significantly more efficient at stealing sourceboxes than Ku Wei, and the final sourcebox that he stole coincidentally happened to be another one from Deng Pu.

This scene angered Saul to the point of being unable to endure any longer, and his voice rang throughout the sky above the mountain range. "Anyone in possession of sourceboxes that have not been successfully unlocked by the end of this stage will be punished by double negative points."

This rule made many change their attention to Cai Jianqiang. Currently, he was the one with the most sourceboxes as he had managed to gather seven, but would he be able to unlock all of them?

Cai Jianqiang was stumped, as no matter how he looked at it, this rule was targeting him. He looked up with an ugly expression on his face.

In another part of the mountain range, Lu Yin laughed. Saul was growing more and more shameless in his methods to help Deng Pu achieve victory. In previous competitions, there had been no such rules, as seizing sourceboxes also depended on a contestant's ability. If a Lockbreaker could not protect their own sourcebox, then lockbreaking was impossible. But now, no matter who it was, it was pointless even if they seized every single last sourcebox on this mountain range.

Unlocking two sourceboxes and having an unlocked one would give a person the same score as someone who had not competed or someone who did not have a single sourcebox. This rule was very shameless.

Inside the Hall of Insight, Fiend Li frowned, but that did not stop Saul from setting this new rule in place. Cai Jianqiang's power was rather excessive compared to the other participants, and so, it was justifiable to restrain him a bit. As for the final results, the Lockbreaker Competition only cared about the champion, and the results of the others did not matter.

Felynn's lips rose. The more Saul leaned towards helping Deng Pu, the more miserable it would be for him in the end.

Chapter 690: Unlucky Deng Pu

Outside the mountain range, some people started to discuss this new development. "I think if I don't do anything, I might actually get a higher ranking."

"There was no such rule before. Why did Vice President Saul suddenly add it?"

"Rumor has it that his disciple was robbed twice by Cai Jianqiang, after which he couldn't take it anymore."

...

Cai Jianqiang's face sank while delight flashed through Deng Pu's eyes. "Give it back to me. If you keep it, it'll only cause your score to drop further."

He did not believe that Cai Jianqiang could unlock seven sourceboxes. In his opinion, Cai Jianqiang's ability was probably far from being able to unlock seven; he might not even be able to complete three or four, and that was also under the premise that nobody disturbed the Hunter.

Cai Jianqiang shifted his gaze past Deng Pu, and he saw the Serpent Queen in the distance. He casually threw one case over towards the Serpent Queen.

She was taken aback. "For me?"

Cai Jianqiang turned around and threw three more cases in different directions so that they were spread throughout the mountain range. Evidently, he would rather toss them away than give them to Deng Pu. Cai Jianqiang was no fool; since this rule had come from Saul, and Deng Pu was Saul's disciple, this rule had obviously been established to help him. Cai Jianqiang could not take further action against Deng Pu without good cause, but he could at least make life a bit more difficult for him.

Deng Pu was indeed disgusted, and he glared furiously at Cai Jianqiang. He then chose a direction and raced away.

In the mountain range, Lu Yin saw a case descending from the skies. Who had thrown this? It nearly crashed into him.

At that moment, Deng Pu caught up to the case, and he unceremoniously greeted Lu Yin with a palm. "Scram!"

Lu Yin frowned and lifted a leg to kick at his attacker. There was a bang as Deng Pu was sent flying by the kick. He had not raised any sort of defenses against Lu Yin since this person was just an Explorer. How could he have known that disaster would come to him so quickly? Deng Pu felt an intense ache within his chest as the scenery flew past his vision at great speed. He then crash landed in a marsh in a pathetic state.

Those in the Hall of Insight were stunned, as Deng Pu had run into a chain of bad luck. They had seen this person fight against Ku Wei, and he had also shown that he could escape from Cai Jianqiang's hands. This was not someone who Deng Pu could compare to, and he just had to provoke such a person.

Felynn felt strange, as it had been Cai Jianqiang first and Lu Yin next. Why was this Deng Pu so unlucky? She hoped that he would smoothly become the champion, or else her plan would not be perfect. Work hard!

Many were cheering for Deng Pu, and he himself was in a daze, as he had been sent flying before he could even react. That kick had been ferocious and precise, which neutered his previous courage to look for any more trouble. Weren't the Inniverse and Outerverse separated? Where had all of these brutish people come from?

"Seventh Bro, that seemed to have been Deng Pu," the Ghost Monkey mentioned to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin picked up the case, but he was taken aback by these words, and he asked in an odd voice, "Are you sure?"

"You didn't look at who you just beat?"

"I forgot to look. He was just some random passerby with a strength in the Cruiser realm. His body was rather sturdy, so that kick shouldn't have done anything to him. Still, since he's Deng Pu, it's best to not make things too difficult for him so that he can become the champion."

"Seventh Bro, if he's taken out of the picture, you can replace him, hehe."

Lu Yin responded grudgingly, "Have you forgotten about that fierce Hunter? Even Ku Wei was frightened off."

"That's right, a Hunter should be at least a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker. He's the most likely person to become champion of this competition," the monkey mumbled.

"Saul won't allow the True Insight to fall into anyone else's hands, so let that Hunter take the brunt of his attention," Lu Yin said.

"Seventh Bro, this monkey feels that you should try and fight for the title. After all, you don't plan to stand out for Felynn. Once Saul is unveiled before Felynn and the others, you can only scramble for the True Insight."

Lu Yin muttered to himself. He was not afraid of fighting for it, but Felynn did actually represent the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society. This organization had only a few people in it, but its influence was impressive. If he offended the entire Lockbreaker Society, then it would not be beneficial for his future.

Now that a Hunter had become a thorn in Saul's side, he would definitely be targeted. Lu Yin himself presented almost no threat to Deng Pu at all, so there was still a chance for him to compete for the title of champion.

Outside the mountain range, there were screens floating all over Sourcepeak Planet, allowing everyone to see the Lockbreaker Competition unfold.

Within a manor that stood beside a mountain and a water body, Wei Xin'er was unhappily eating something even as her eyes were glued to a screen. She occasionally crunched into her food.

Near her, Wei Rong was amused at his sister's behavior. "Xin'er, come to Brother."

"No, I get mad when I look at you," she snorted.

Wei Rong had no other choice. "It's too early for you to compete in this competition since you don't have any lockbreaking experience. Brother promises to let you compete in the next season—it's only ten years away."

Wei Xin'er glared at Wei Rong, completely furious. "Ten years? Do you know what ten years means to a woman?"

"You're still just a little girl."

"You're not allowed to say that I'm little!"

"But you aren't even twenty."

“I’m mature, and I can make my own decisions.”

“Alright, alright. Even if I agreed at this moment, you still wouldn’t be able to compete since the competition already started a day ago.” Wei Rong smiled.

Wei Xin'er gritted her teeth in anger, snorted, and then ran off. She did not want to spend any more time with this horrible person.

When he saw Wei Xin'er leave, Wei Rong’s expression calmed down, and he looked at Deng Pu’s image on the screen. “Stay focused on him. He has to be this season’s champion. True Insight cannot end up in anyone else’s hands.”

Behind him, a cultivator acknowledged his words.

“How are the preparations going?” Wei Rong asked.

“All done. We’re just waiting for the last moment for Lu Yin to make the objection.”

“Lu Yin. This person means trouble. He used external aides to remain undefeated even against Enlighteners. That foolish woman, Felynn, actually wants to use him, and she only told us about it at the last minute. Foolish beyond belief. Send out an order to avoid him as much as possible.”

“What if he blocks us?”

“Let Felynn negotiate, and then as a last resort...” Wei Rong’s gaze frosted over as he finished his sentence. “Take care of it.”

“Yes.”

Inside Forest Hotel, Angie stood atop a tall tree and stared at a screen while Ah Mu stood behind her. She said, “We’ll make out well even if this entire planet fights against us. Send down a word of caution to those under us and remind them to not reveal our identity until our goals are achieved.”

“Yes, Young Mistress,” Ah Mu answered softly. He looked up, and coincidentally Lu Yin’s image appeared on the screen. Since Ah Mu had already seen Lu Yin’s disguised appearance, he immediately recognized Lu Yin, and his friend’s appearance worried Ah Mu. Lu Yin’s presence was a huge variable.

At Sourcepeak Planet’s space station, inside a spacecraft belonging to Endless Borders, there were many cultivators wearing matching battle suits devoid of any symbols. They were all standing in formation. These people were mercenaries from Aegis, and they were all independent cultivators. Although they were not affiliated with any organization, their discipline was strict as a result of Aegis’s training.

Those watching the drama and bustle on Sourcepeak Planet had no idea about the disaster that was waiting just around the corner.

Another day passed, and within the mountain range, Lu Yin had finished unlocking five sourceboxes, taking an average of three hours for each one. Most of his time had been spent searching for more sourceboxes.

Although there were more than a thousand Lockbreakers scattered throughout the mountain range, those who were capable of finding any sourceboxes with their own abilities were very few. Additionally, the presence of those like Ku Wei who snatched sourceboxes from others meant that most of the sourceboxes were concentrated in the hands of the top-notch Lockbreakers. The majority of contestants had not even found a single sourcebox, let alone successfully unlock one. Lu Yin had also gained two sourceboxes by stealing them from others.

Lu Yin did not know if lockbreaking five sourceboxes was a good or bad result.

There was one last day before the first stage's end, and those like Deng Pu and Xi Qi would have hidden themselves before starting their all-out lockbreaking session. With their ability as Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreakers, their speed would not be any slower than Lu Yin's, and they would probably end up with good results. However, Lu Yin's own results were definitely enough to pass the first round, though his ranking was completely unknown.

Cai Jianqiang lethargically walked out from underground, where he had just finished unlocking his second sourcebox after nine grueling hours. It had only been a Discerning Elementary sourcebox, showing that his lockbreaking ability was truly too poor. He was confident that he could unlock many sourceboxes, but he required time for that, which was what he was currently lacking the most.

There were not many people who were slower than Cai Jianqiang, and he frowned as he looked around. He should not have any problem in passing this first round, but his results were too poor to obtain the championship. He muttered to himself for a while and then looked up as determination solidified in his eyes. I'm sorry, everyone. Although it goes against my own morals, I have to do this for True Insight. Everyone can only rely on their own abilities!

Within the Hall of Insight, Saul looked down with satisfaction, as Deng Pu had already finished unlocking seven sourceboxes. Saul's preparation of indicating the locations of various sourceboxes for his disciple had not been done in vain, and if he had not run into Cai Jianqiang partway through the first stage and been disrupted, then his number would have been even higher. Not bad, not bad.

"That kid's lockbreaking speed isn't slow, and he takes an average of about three hours for each sourcebox. Saul, that's even faster than your disciple." Fiend Li who seldom spoke, suddenly broke his silence. He was looking at Lu Yin in the mountain range and sighed in appreciation.

Saul's face sank, but he did not reply.

Felynn appeared astonished, as she had not expected Lu Yin's lockbreaking skills to be so adept. This person had only become a Lockbreaker recently, but he was already a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. Furthermore, despite his level, his lockbreaking speed was not much slower than a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker's. His talent was truly as impressive as rumored.

"Xi Qi's pretty good as well. She's already unlocked four, with an average of 3.5 hours per sourcebox," Yi Feng commented indifferently.

"And that Serpent Queen—her lockbreaking speed is about four hours per sourcebox, and she's similarly completed four sourceboxes."

“That Ku Wei has completed five sourceboxes at an average speed of five hours for each one. But one of the sourceboxes took him less than two hours, which is the fastest out of everyone,” Mr. Jun said.

“With such lockbreaking ability, why can’t he search for sourceboxes himself? All of his sourceboxes were seized from others.” One of the Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreakers was unhappy with Ku Wei since his disciple had been robbed by him.

The others did not speak up, as being able to seize sourceboxes was also a type of one’s capabilities. Deng Pu had also been robbed by Cai Jianqiang twice, and Saul had been left with no choice but to forcefully change the rules.

The crowd only discussed some simple matters, and there was only one day left before the first stage ended. If nothing out of the ordinary happened, then Deng Pu would be the final winner of this stage as he still had three sourceboxes left. He did not need to go out and search for more, which the other competitors would have to do, essentially wasting their time.

As for Cai Jianqiang, nobody even mentioned him. Although he was also a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker, his speed was truly too slow. If not for the fact that he had succeeded in unlocking a Perceptive Intermediate sourcebox, the society definitely would not have allowed him to become a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker. This person was a disgrace to many Lockbreakers.

At this moment, the Hall of Insight suddenly quivered, and the faces of Saul and the others changed as they looked at the screens. “Not good, what does Cai Jianqiang want to do now?”

The crowd had originally assumed that this last day would be very calm, as many contestants had secluded themselves to begin their lockbreaking sessions. Suddenly, surging star energy burst forth that caused the entire mountain range behind the Hall of Insight to tremble. Everyone was puzzled; what was going on?

Cai Jianqiang stood high in the sky and forcefully took control of all the star energy, only to unleash it upon the mountain range behind the Hall of Insight without restraint. With his overbearing strength, it was no different than crushing the other competitors.

Many Lockbreakers were in the midst of their lockbreaking, and they were forcefully interrupted by this explosion of star energy.