

**Chapter 761: Member**

Wei Rong laughed. "I don't have any good shows to share with Brother Lu, so you will be disappointed."

"Brother Wei, don't tell me that you're just going to stay there and watch over just your own territory. With how ruthless Aegis has been acting, Brother Wei will definitely meet some sort of impediment when stepping out of Armament Weave. Since they were willing to make such a move against me, then they will definitely move against Brother Wei as well. I know that you have had some dealings with Aegis, but it is yet to be seen if you've established a strong enough relationship to have reliable benefits," Lu Yin replied.

Wei Rong laughed. "Is Brother Lu trying to incite discord?"

"That's right. I'm stirring up a conflict in Brother Wei's relationship with Aegis. I believe that Brother Wei will put on a show sooner or later, and I don't think it's too far off," Lu Yin said jokingly.

Wei Rong smiled gently. "Then we'll just have to wait and see. But until then, I hope that Brother Lu will stay safe and sound."

"Thanks, Brother Wei, for your kind wishes." Lu Yin smiled and quickly disconnected from the call.

A few days had already passed since Aegis's attack, and there was still no news of Poisonmaster attacking Frostwave Weave, but neither was there any news of Smoker killing Poisonmaster, which made Lu Yin a little uneasy. Poisonmaster presented far too great of a threat. He was also very difficult to track down, which was very unsettling for those he targeted.

Lu Yin had not been able to rest well for several days.

One night, he was standing inside the courtyard of King Zishan's palace while staring into the distance. The three mainland rings cast shadows onto the capital planet, but the shadows of the mainlands were not able to darken the lights of the capital.

That same small tavern was still open, and although the owner had saved up enough money to update the business to a more modern appearance, he didn't. He continued to maintain the same small pub.

Lu Yin suddenly felt a shiver go down his back as an icy wind pierced him to the bone. Lu Yin's gaze trembled, and he saw a terrifying number of rune lines manifest in his vision until they extended to his feet. This was a familiar feeling to Lu Yin as he had felt it once before: Blackless God of the Seven Skygods had arrived.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed, as Ku Wei had told him about the terror of the Seven Skygods, and Lu Yin had learned that these powerhouses were the masters of the Neohuman Alliance. They were terrifyingly powerful experts who had immeasurable strength, and Lu Yin could not understand why this pinnacle expert had appeared in the Outerverse, much less why they would seek out some measly Explorer. Regardless, it was indisputable that Lu Yin was completely petrified, as anyone would be when facing such an absolute powerhouse.

Nobody was fearless in the face of death, and he was no exception.

Mister Mu had Told Lu Yin that the youth had not spoken to Blackless God's true body and that it had actually been nothing more than a strand of spiritual force. Even so, Lu Yin had no ability to mount any resistance at all.

Fortunately, Mister Mu had also given Lu Yin a jade talisman that could protect him.

"Sir Lu Yin, we meet again." He heard a sinister voice that sounded like grating metal. It was a sound that caused people to shudder with fear.

Lu Yin did not move, and he answered in a gloomy tone, "You are not Blackless God. There's no way he would appear in the Outerverse."

"It would appear that Sir Lu Yin tried to learn a bit about the Seven Skygods. I am indeed Blackless God, though I am also not Blackless God. I came here this time to find out if Sir Lu Yin has experienced any changes in your thinking. As long as Sir Lu Yin gives his approval, Aegis will immediately be eliminated, and we can even help Sir Lu Yin easily unite the Outerverse."

Lu Yin ridiculed, "It's still that same piece of bait. If everyone turns into zombies, what will it matter if I unify the Outerverse."

"Then your desperation will continue, Sir Lu Yin. I look forward to meeting you next time." The sinister feeling vanished, and the hubbub of the capital once again filled Lu Yin's ears.

Lu Yin let out a long breath and looked around, but he could not find any trace of Blackless God's rune lines.

Aegis and Blackless God had both let Lu Yin realize that rune lines were not all-powerful and that there were still some people out there who could conceal themselves.

What exactly was it about Lu Yin that the Neohuman Alliance had taken a fancy to? They had even said that they were willing to help him unify the Outerverse and that there was no one in the Outerverse more suited for it than him. This seemed very strange.

The current situation made his head hurt a little. There was Aegis, the Yu bloodline, the Neohuman Alliance, as well as Wei Rong and the central weaves.. Even with the Outerverse cut off from the Innerverses, the situation still was not simple. It could be said that when the Astral River cut off the complexities caused by the Innerverse, it had also liberated the Outerverse.

The Outerverse had never been simple; it had merely been suppressed by the Innerverse.

Right, he was still broke! Lu Yin had suddenly remembered a very serious problem: being broke meant that he could not improve his own strength, which was unacceptable. He had to think of a way to earn some money.

Another ten days quickly passed by, and during this time, various rumors never stopped circulating outside the Great Eastern Alliance, especially in the central weaves. Countless people spread rumors claiming that Lu Yin was afraid of Aegis and that he did not even dare to make a sound after being attacked by Aegis just once.

Lu Yin indeed had not made any appearance at all during this time, and his absence allowed countless rumors to propagate.

Even within the Great Eastern Alliance, there were still many people slandering Lu Yin, and some had even organized protests calling for Lu Yin to abdicate from the position of Alliance Leader. These demonstrations were quickly put down, but just their existence showed that Lu Yin's reputation within the Great Eastern Alliance had fallen quite low.

Aegis intended to use these sorts of methods to demonstrate their power. Each day that Lu Yin did not give in was another day that Aegis would not give up. Lu Yin had unified the Great Eastern Alliance, and that accomplishment had raised his reputation to a high standard throughout the Outerverse, which was exactly the type of individual that Aegis needed at this time. Only by suppressing such a person could they demonstrate Aegis's might to the Outerverse.

The various organizations made no movements during this time, and Amethyst Exchange also did not take any actions. They only silently watched the situation develop.

Lu Yin nervously waited for news from Smoker, but he was also afraid that he would instead receive notice that Poisonmaster had killed many of the Great Yu Empire's citizens.

Then one afternoon, a bit of news rapidly spread throughout the Outerverse that shocked many people: Poisonmaster was dead.

Poisonmaster had been a legend, and even if he had been infamous, he had still set the record for killing the most people in the shortest amount of time, which was a numbing figure in the hundreds of billions. All of them had died at his hands, and it had even led to the Innerverse and Outerverse both sending bounty hunters after him. Even the Hall of Honor had spoken up.

But despite all of that effort, no one had ever found Poisonmaster.

Poisonmaster's strength in a direct fight may not have been as high as some of the other assassins, but his ability to hide and stay alive had been too impressive.

Although the bounty hunters at that time had not managed to take care of Poisonmaster, their efforts had forced Poisonmaster into hiding for decades, with him not making a reappearance until the Outerverse was isolated from the Innerverse. Recently, Poisonmaster had been reemployed by Aegis, and he had wanted to use the Great Yu Empire to set a new record.

Aegis had not merely been trying to scare Lu Yin, as they had truly intended for Poisonmaster to act against the Great Yu Empire. He should have completed his task a few days ago, but he had instead been targeted by Smoker and forced to try to escape through all sorts of methods. But in the end, Poisonmaster had not been able to escape and had died in space.

News and images of Poisonmaster's death shocked the Outerverse, while also allowing countless people to see Poisonmaster's true appearance. He had been a very ordinary-looking short little old man. But despite his unassuming appearance, no one questioned the identity of the corpse because this person had died at the hands of the top ranked assassin: Smoker.

When news of Poisonmaster's death reached Lu Yin's ears, he finally was able to completely relax.

He was not worried about the other assassins, as no matter how powerful they were, there was a limit to how many people they could kill. Poisonmaster had been the only one to possess such massacring abilities of that magnitude, so his death allowed Lu Yin to completely relax.

Poisonmaster's death caused countless to guess who might have hired Smoker. Aegis grew even more furious, and the company tried its best to contact Smoker.

Lu Yin immediately had some people secretly release the rumor that he had been the one to employ Smoker.

This sort of situation of him hiring an assassin to deal with another was quite embarrassing, and Lu Yin was not willing to openly announce it. However, he still needed to let others know his stance, so his only option was to do so in a round-about manner.

It didn't take long for Smoker to contact Lu Yin and demand his payment of natural treasures.

Lu Yin sent Smoker the coordinates of a location where he had preemptively stored twelve natural treasures that had reached the point of evading danger. The price of killing Poisonmaster was five. He had added another five to pay for him to take out the Magistrate, and the final two extra treasures were due to Lu Yin's goodwill. In much the same way that the various major organizations worked to join Aegis's second level management to avoid being targeted by Aegis's assassins, Lu Yin wanted to find a way to dissuade Smoker from accepting assassination jobs on him.

A person who was confident enough to try to assassinate the master of the Blaze Realm was not someone whom Lu Yin wanted hunting him. Who knew what sort of methods Smoker had available.

The fact that one was on the Outerverse Assassin Rankings was proof that they had not reached the Enlighter realm, but Smoker had still been able to successfully escape from the Blaze Realm despite that, which showed that this killer had mysterious methods. Lu Yin had no confidence in being able to protect himself from Smoker, especially since he could not constantly wear his universal armor.

"Too many." White smoke formed two words on Lu Yin's screen.

Lu Yin softly answered, "The next target is the Magistrate, and there are two extra for you."

The white smoke floated across the screen, forming the word, "Membership?"

Lu Yin blinked and then rubbed his eyes. Had he just seen wrong? Membership?

"Membership? What membership?" The Ghost Monkey was astonished.

Lu Yin was puzzled. "What membership?"

The white smoke wafted across the screen, writing out, "For the price of ten natural treasures that have reached the point of evading danger, you can enjoy my top service. Missions issued by you will be given top priority. A member's targets will be prioritized, and if someone posts a bounty on a member in the underworld, I will inform that member and provide the services of a reverse assassination. If a member encounters a threat, then within a certain distance, I will make allowances to help. If..."

This number of benefits made Lu Yin go dizzy, and the white smoke formed so many words that he was stunned. This Smoker had a knack for business and was actually providing membership privileges.

"How many members do you have?" Lu Yin felt like something was still strange.

The white smoke drifted about the screen for a while before finally forming a number. "0."

Lu Yin was completely speechless to discover that Smoker actually didn't have even a single member in his program, though that actually made sense. Not just anyone had such a high number of natural treasures that had reached the point of instinctively avoiding danger. There were very few people who were able to give out ten such natural treasures at the same time. However, this membership service seemed very suitable for Lu Yin. He might not have much, but he certainly had plenty of natural treasures.

"Alright, I'll join. I'll add another ten natural treasures," Lu Yin said generously. He felt like he no longer needed to be so serious when conversing with Smoker, as this person did not seem to be completely inflexible.

"Thank you, Boss." The white smoke spelled out.

"Go and take care of the Magistrate as quickly as possible," Lu Yin said.

"Rest assured. It will be done very quickly."

The screen disappeared, leaving Lu Yin in a good mood. Assassins turned out to not be as inflexible as he had thought, and this Smoker would be very useful for the moment. Who would have thought that the top ranked assassin actually had something like a membership program.

News of Lu Yin hiring Smoker to assassinate Poisonmaster gradually leaked out, and many people looked to Lu Yin for him to verify the information, but Lu Yin would neither admit nor deny anything.

Aegis also contacted Smoker, wanting him to stop taking out their members, but the assassin's reply left Aegis without a choice. Assassins were used to take things from others and to avoid a calamity, which was something that Aegis understood. If possible, the company wanted to either eliminate Smoker or lure him into their ranks, but both of those options were beyond their abilities.

Even while Aegis was considering how to best take care of this new issue, news was released announcing the Magistrate's death. A large number of high quality pictures appeared on the Outerverse's network, and once again, Smoker took credit.

The Magistrate's death created an even larger commotion than Poisonmaster's.

### **Chapter 762: Lu Yin's Conditions**

Even though Poisonmaster had been higher ranked than the Magistrate, that was solely because of his alarmingly high kill count. That disturbing number, coupled with the fact that he had not been active for many years, meant that the large majority of the Outerverse had already forgotten about just how terrifying he was. However, the Magistrate was different; he had always been active in the assassin world with the solid ranking of fourth, a definite heavyweight within the field. He had been known to never miss his intended targets.

The death of such an elite assassin sent chills running down many people's spines. An assassin like the Magistrate, who could kill even the mighty Poisonmaster, was still killed, so just how powerful was this Smoker? Could they be so powerful that anyone who hired them would be able to eliminate whoever they wished?

This question struck true fear into the hearts of many. Additionally, many people found out the price to request Smoker's services. Once they discovered that they would have to pay in natural treasures that could evade danger, they begrudgingly gave up all thoughts of employing his services. Such items were unattainable to most.

Aegis was livid. They once again contacted Smoker, asking them to stop, but Smoker paid them no heed.

Many people then turned their attention to Lu Yin. Had he actually hired Smoker? The price to kill two top level assassins was definitely not as low as just one or two natural treasures, so just how many natural treasures did the Great Yu Empire's Royal Regent have? How many more times could he still use Smoker's services? These questions floated through the minds of many people in the Outerverse, and it was also a question that Aegis wanted the answer to.

The reason why Aegis was so feared throughout the Outerverse was in large part due to the fact that six of the top ten ranked assassins belonged to them. However, Lu Yin had recently taken out two of their ranked assassins, and another two had been taken out by Smoker, leaving them with just two assassins in the top rankings. Their threat level had suddenly been reduced by a considerable degree. If Lu Yin continued to hire Smoker's services to kill more of their assassins, they would end up in deep trouble.

Even a huge number of mercenaries was not as threatening as a single top tier assassin.

Aegis could not afford to lose any more of their top assassins. Thus, left with no other choice, they quickly contacted Lu Yin. It was still the same person calling him, but this time, the voice contained less arrogance.

"Sir Lu Yin, were you the one who hired Smoker?" the sinister voice asked.

Lu Yin had recently heard many voices similar to this one, and they all belonged to people from the underworld. He had become used to them. "So what if it was me?"

"Are you trying to start an all out war with Aegis?"

Lu Yin sneered, "If you want to say it like that, sure. My next target may not be an assassin, but rather you or even Starfox."

"It looks like you know quite a bit about Aegis, though it's a pity that what you know barely scratches the surface. We, Aegis, have survived calamities for tens of thousands of years during which our assassins have been purged. We do not rely on a mere few assassins to preserve our power. I hope that you will reconsider your decision, Sir Lu Yin."

Lu Yin indifferently replied, "From the first moment you dared to threaten me, you incurred my wrath, and you must now bear the consequences. I, Lu Yin, will not tolerate any threats to me. Since I don't even fear the Daynight clan, your Aegis is nothing to me. I hope that the defenses of your headquarters are as tight as the Blaze Realm's security. Otherwise, it won't even be a challenge for Smoker."

After those words, the call immediately terminated. The person from Aegis had hung up, obviously infuriated.

Lu Yin's lips curled up. Evil could only be answered with evil; this was a contest to see who could outlast the other. After thinking about it, Lu Yin contacted Smoker again. His next target was Black Tiger, the tenth ranked individual on the Assassin Ranking, and he was another one of Aegis's assassins.

Over the next few days, a bitter war broke out in the Great Eastern Alliance. Following the deaths of several of its top assassins, Aegis went crazy and sent a large number of assassins and mercenaries to different weaves of the Great Eastern Alliance, all of them ordered to assassinate several key officials. This provocation of war sent many of the large weaves spinning into chaos. However, they had no choice but to grit their teeth and try to fight off Aegis's attackers.

Over the course of just a few days, more than a dozen powerhouses of the Great Eastern Alliance were eliminated. Around a thousand important officials from the various weaves were assassinated, sending the entire Great Eastern Alliance into panic.

There was a never-ending series of messages being sent to En Ya, each one requesting Lu Yin's assistance and for the alliance to send the Allied Forces over as reinforcements. However, when mercenaries and assassins were attacking all over the Great Eastern Alliance, there was no way for the Allied Forces to assist everyone.

Aegis was trying to use these methods to force Lu Yin to yield.

However, after a few more days passed, a picture of Black Tiger being killed by Smoker was spread across the entire network. Powerhouses in the Outerverse were shocked by this latest piece of news, as it had become clear for all to see that this was an all out war between Lu Yin and Aegis.

At this time, Aegis only had one top ranked assassin left. Even though the Great Eastern Alliance had descended into chaos and many people were upset with Lu Yin, Lu Yin had already consolidated his power. Since there were no longer any top ranked assassins left within Aegis, they could not threaten the true decision makers of the alliance. This also meant that, in the near future, nobody would attempt to go after Lu Yin like Aegis had.

Aegis tried to contact Lu Yin again, but this time, Lu Yin did not accept the communication request. It had always been Aegis contacting him while he had remained passive. But this time around, Aegis was the anxious party. If their very last top assassin was killed, then all of their prestige would be gone. Although there were others from Aegis who could fill the void of the eliminated top ranked assassins, Smoker merely had to complete a few more hits or even target Starfox himself in order to deliver a crushing blow to Aegis.

This was also the reason why Lu Yin had not yet instructed Smoker to kill Starfox; he was planning to negotiate.

Not long after, Madam Nalan contacted Lu Yin.

When Lu Yin saw that it was Madam Nalan contacting him, a slight smile spread across his face. This meant that Aegis had admitted defeat.

As he answered the incoming call, Madam Nalan's alluring face appeared. This time, she had a strange glint in her eyes as she smiled at Lu Yin. "Your Highness, hats off to you."

Lu Yin laughed. "What is there to admire?"

Madam Nalan laughed. "Over the years, there have been very few people who could force Aegis into retreating. There are very few people, even in the Innerverse, who are capable of this feat, but you are one of them."

Lu Yin shrugged his shoulders. "There will always be casualties on both sides. Winning is all about who can hold out longer."

Madam Nalan solemnly replied, "To be honest, Aegis could afford to continue the war if they really wished to. In the central weaves, as well as the western and eastern weaves, they have countless training grounds, and these locations are able to churn out about ten thousand mercenary officers and assassins each day. If these people are then scattered throughout various parts of the Great Eastern Alliance, the alliance would be reduced to utter chaos in a matter of months."

Lu Yin nodded. "I believe you. However, I also believe that, when that happens, Aegis will no longer have a top level or a second level of management."

"That is why I wish to act as a peacemaker. I want to mediate this dispute between both sides," Madam Nalan explained with a laugh.

Lu Yin sat down and made a gesture for the temptress to continue. "Go ahead."

Madam Nalan's expression grew serious. "Aegis does not want to remain your enemy. They will not do anything else to the Great Eastern Alliance for as long as you remain the leader. As for the weaves that do not fall under the Great Eastern Alliance's control, both of you are allowed to have a fair competition. In return, you are not to hire Smoker to kill anyone else from Aegis."

Lu Yin contemplated these terms.

Madam Nalan cautioned him, saying, "Your Highness, this is the best deal that you can hope for. Aegis is one of the Outerverse's four great corporations, and they need to maintain their reputation. You cannot truly expect them to apologize to you before the entire universe."

Lu Yin coldly answered, "Am I just supposed to forget about the deaths that they caused on Zenyu Star? Tens of thousands of people died at that time, and a large number of them were citizens of my Zenyu Star. I will not let this matter rest so easily."

Madam Nalan continued her persuasion. "Aegis can offer you compensation and will remove all of their secret bases that are within the Great Eastern Alliance's territory. Actually, this deal is already a show of sincerity from them, and everyone will know."

Lu Yin tapped his fingers on the table.

Madam Nalan stared at Lu Yin through the screen. She had never in her wildest dreams expected that Lu Yin would make it this far. In her opinion, the Great Eastern Alliance should have been on the losing end of this conflict since Aegis was hidden in the shadows with all of its resources and members. The second level managers were all people connected to countless powers from all over the Outerverse, and they naturally had deep pockets and extensive influence. No one would have imagined that a lone Smoker could change all that.

This was how the universe worked: absolute experts were able to change the entire situation.



One question that she still could not find an answer to was, just how had Lu Yin managed to pay Smoker? Even the Nalan family did not have that many natural treasures that had reached the level of avoiding danger, but Smoker had actually killed three top level assassins from Aegis in recent days. The amount needed to pay for all these assassinations could not be any less than ten natural treasures, so where had Lu Yin gotten them? Could the rumors that he was supported by the Hall of Honor actually be true? If so, then why had the Hall of Honor not struck on their own?

With a loud thud, Lu Yin loudly hit the table with one finger and looked towards Madam Nalan as he said, "I have one more condition. If this can be met, I will wipe the slate clean with Aegis."

"Let me hear it," Madam Nalan replied.

Lu Yin's gaze turned deep. "I want to join the second level management of Aegis."

Madam Nalan was shocked. "You want to join Aegis?"

A smile spread across Lu Yin's face. "Yes, I want to be one of the second level managers."

Madam Nalan did not understand Lu Yin's request. "Why do you want to join Aegis? Based solely on the fact that you can hire Smoker, there is no assassin in the Outerverse who can pose a threat to you. There are absolutely no benefits to you joining Aegis, Your Highness. Aegis will not share any portion of their profits with you either."

"I know, but this is my condition. Please ask them if they are amenable to this condition. If not, we will continue to drag things out. If worse comes to worse, then I'll simply dismantle the entire Great Eastern Alliance. I have a wealth of resources and can hire Smoker many more times, at least enough to wipe out Aegis's assassins," Lu Yin said firmly.

Madam Nalan cut off the call and quickly contacted Aegis.

Very soon, an unfamiliar call request came through, which Lu Yin answered promptly. It was once again that certain sinister voice. "Sir Lu Yin, the word is that you want to join Aegis, is that correct?"

"That's right," Lu Yin replied.

"May I ask why? Most of the people who wish to join our second level management do so to avoid being targeted by us, but you do not have such a worry."

Lu Yin replied coldly, "Not only do I want to join the second level managers of Aegis, but I also want to meet Starfox. I want to be able to weigh in on Aegis's decision making."

"On what grounds?" The sinister voice asked.

Lu Yin replied, "Based on the fact that I can hire Smoker at my pleasure. Based on the fact that I am the leader of the Great Eastern Alliance. Based on the fact that I have the Hall of Honor as a backer."

The opposing party paused for a moment before answering, "I am Starfox."

Lu Yin was not surprised by this information. "Alright then, so what is your answer?"

“You may join Aegis and offer us some suggestions. However, I cannot guarantee that your suggestions will be accepted. If Aegis faces problems that we are unable to handle, then I hope that you will step up to help us in any way you can. Are you agreeable to these terms?” Starfox asked.

Lu Yin agreed, “Not a problem.”

He ended the call as soon as he said those words.

Lu Yin had only come up with the thought of joining Aegis a few days ago. He had come to the conclusion that although he could use his power to hire Smoker as a threat, he would never be able to completely eradicate Aegis simply because they had too much hidden power. In fact, he was still uncertain just how much influence Aegis held among the powers that made up the Great Eastern Alliance.

In the past, Wei Rong had joined forces with Aegis when he had attacked Sourcepeak Planet. Lu Yin was worried that Wei Rong might try to slowly gain influence from within Aegis and possibly even lead the company. Since Lu Yin knew that he could not completely eradicate Aegis, this was the best Lu Yin could do to ensure that Aegis would not help Wei Rong work against him.

Lu Yin had correctly assumed that, left with a choice between him and Wei Rong, Aegis would rather let go of Wei Rong than have Lu Yin as their enemy.

During the recent conflict with Aegis, Lu Yin had revealed his power to the entire Outerverse. He had proven that he had the strength to force Aegis out of the Great Eastern Alliance’s territory, shocking many people with his ruthlessness and determination.

### **Chapter 763: Neo-Vestige Sect**

The countless people within the Great Eastern Alliance who had been slandering Lu Yin practically vanished overnight. Now, his praises were being sung everywhere. The great weaves of the alliance also immediately expressed their goodwill and praised Lu Yin to the skies as well.

Lu Yin took this opportunity to purge a few of the powers that had been constantly opposing the Great Eastern Alliance, and he also increased his efforts to integrate the various powers’ resources.

Now that his prestige was at an all time high, nobody would oppose Lu Yin no matter what he did.

This was especially apparent when quite a few powers from Northcastle Weave joined the Great Eastern Alliance, causing Lu Yin’s reputation to rise once again. The Great Eastern Alliance currently had nine weaves as its members, and the remaining eastern weaves were not too far away from joining.

Zenyu Star had been attacked, and the compensation for those deaths had all been delivered. Lu Yin had even added a little more on top before sending all of the compensation out to the affected parties.

The reparations to Amethyst Exchange was similarly taken of by Aegis, as it was just a single mall. Although its scale might not seem small, it was just a drop in the ocean for a behemoth like Aegis.

Goddess Luo Shen really wanted to perform on Zenyu Star again, but she was not able to obtain the required approval from Amethyst Exchange’s upper levels. Her performance schedule was very strict, and she would only be able to return to Zenyu Star some time in the future.

Lu Yin sent off Zi Rong's entourage, and Zi Xue did not acknowledge him, leaving him with no choice in the matter. However, Luo Shen's reluctant expression made him feel a little strange.

"Seventh Bro, this monkey's woman is leaving." The Ghost Monkey sounded depressed, leaving Lu Yin speechless.

In Sourcepeak Weave, in a certain region of space, Wei Rong dismissed everyone in front of him before activating his gadget. Soon, a sinister voice was heard from it, "What's the matter?"

"You guys accepted defeat?" Wei Rong said.

The sinister voice contained an innate chill. "Be careful of your attitude."

Wei Rong sneered, "Since you guys completely pulled out of the Great Eastern Alliance, it seems that you guys are actually afraid of Lu Yin."

"We cannot deal with him for now, but it wouldn't be too difficult for us to eliminate the Wei family."

Wei Rong ignored the comment. "Actually, Lu Yin can hire Smoker, which he can only do by relying on the entire Great Eastern Alliance's support. Otherwise, how would he have the resources to hire Smoker? What about this—if we cooperate, and if you guys provide me with mercenaries, then there'll be no need for your side to act. I'll take care of Lu Yin."

"Just by yourself?"

Wei Rong replied, "Of course not. I can unite the central weaves, just like the Great Eastern Alliance."

"We'll speak again after you unite them then." The other person quickly hung up the call.

Wei Rong let out a breath and stared out at space in amusement. "Even the grand Aegis was actually beaten into fear. Lu Yin, you are certainly ruthless, but I'm curious as to who actually acted against the Mavis Bank. That's the real ruthless person."

Aegis had comprehensively pulled out their troops from the Great Eastern Alliance's territory, and the eastern weaves suddenly became more peaceful.

Lu Yin found some time to hold a court meeting. When he looked at the ministers in the court, he felt a little embarrassed, as he had not participated in any of these meetings for a long time.

There was a steady flow of resources delivered to all departments, though the Technology Department was prioritized since Lu Yin was hoping to increase the numbers of the androids.

He also found some time to visit the three mainlands, where he saw Yue Xianzi, An Shaohua, and the others training the Yu Academy's students.

Bei Qing was nowhere to be found, and Lu Yin did not know where he had run off to.

Li Zimo had always wanted to challenge Kayze, though the latter did not bother with the swordsman at all. Ever since Lu Yin had recruited this Dire Barbarian clan member, Kayze had proven to be extremely dependable. He had changed so much that Lu Yin even wondered if the man had been replaced.

He was the most concerned about Wendy Yushan and Ku Wei at this moment, as neither of these two had reappeared, and no one knew where they had gone.

The bespectacled Mistchild contacted Lu Yin during this time as well, sending some words of admiration. Her call reminded Lu Yin of Topmist, so he quickly called the Enlighter assassin.

“What’s the matter?” Topmist’s voice could be heard.

Lu Yin asked, “Do you know much about Aegis?”

Topmist felt that this question was rather strange. “Didn’t you and Aegis patch things up?”

“I’m just curious. Do you know how strong Aegis’s old assassins are? The ones who’ve always been kept in cryostasis,” Lu Yin asked. This was what he was the most concerned about. Assassins like Poisonmaster or the Magistrate were modern assassins of the current era, but those ancient assassins had founded Aegis, and they posed a much greater threat. In ages past, they had survived a purge targeting all of the assassins in the Outerverse, which proved that they were exceptional people.

Topmist answered in a low voice. “I’m not privy to the details, but there are definitely Enlighters among them.”

Lu Yin’s brow rose. “You’re sure?”

“There’s a time limit to how long one can remain in cryostasis for, and no one can stay like that forever. Only space-exploring powerhouses can be frozen for 10,000 years, Hunters can last for tens of thousands years, and Enlighters even longer. If they came from the era before the calamity that befell the assassins’ world that took place tens of thousands years ago, and are still frozen today, then there must be Enlighter assassins among them. Otherwise, Aegis would not still exist,” Topmist explained.

“How do they compare to you?” Lu Yin asked.

Topmist indifferently replied, “We have never been compared. Although Mafioso Planet and Aegis have had some dealings, there has never been any direct relationship. Our Mafioso Planet’s history is even longer than that of Aegis whereas Aegis is just an integrated conglomerate. They’re not an actual unified power that’s been handed down from one generation to the next.”

“What does it take to hire you?” Lu Yin suddenly asked.

Topmist fell silent for a moment. “Very expensive.”

And with those two words, he instantly ended the call.

Lu Yin had still wanted to ask him about the situation with Granny Chann, and he had even hoped to employ the old assassin to deal with Granny Chan. However, it seemed that the old fart did not want to keep talking with Lu Yin.

That was fine. After all, they had once been enemies, and even if they were no longer enemies, that did not mean that they were friends.

These peaceful days lasted for over half a month, during which the two year anniversary of the Inniverse and Outerverse’s separation came and went. Many weaves that had been isolated from the

rest of the Outerverse gradually reconnected and returned to normal. During this time, Lu Yin asked Madam Nalan more about the Outerverse, and he learned that it would not be much longer before Tyrannical Weave reconnected to the rest of the Outerverse. The Enlighter that the Nalan Family supported would soon appear, which meant that they would not need his protection for much longer.

Many places in the eastern weaves that had once been isolated gradually returned to normal.

One day, Lu Yin was checking his star chart when a message came in that caught him unprepared: Peach had been captured.

Peach was the captain of the Great Yu Empire's Sixth Squadron, and even if Lu Yin had made plans to eventually replace the original captains, he had not done any of that yet; Peach was still a captain and was entitled to the full authority of that position. She was an important figure across all of the eastern weaves, but someone had still dared to make a move against her.

At this time, the blind monk requested an audience with Lu Yin, who allowed the old man to enter.

When the blind monk approached Lu Yin, he bowed respectfully and then quickly said, "Captain Peach has been captured. Please save her."

Lu Yin looked at him. "I just learned of this as well. Who captured her?"

The blind monk's face turned ugly as he solemnly answered, "Neo-Vestige Sect."

Lu Yin's expression changed. "Mordo Weave's Neo-Vestige Sect?"

The blind monk nodded.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. Neo-Vestige Sect was no ordinary power.

When speaking of the Outerverse, although its territory was massive, the region's overall strength was nowhere near as powerful as the Innerverse's. But even then, there were still a few Outerverse powers that even the Innerverse was unwilling to provoke. According to some secret information, some of these powers could even rival the organizations from the Innerverse's eight great flowzones. Neo-Vestige Sect was one of these powers.

On the surface, there were three great powers from the Outerverse that could cause even Innerverse forces to feel apprehension. They were Mordo Weave's Neo-Vestige Sect, Tyrannical Weave's Millions City, and Endless Weave's Dark Phoenix family.

Millions City had gathered a considerable portion of the entire Outerverse's wealth, and their slogan was "as long as you have the ability to enter Millions City, Millions City has the ability to make you rich." Even the four great corporations held their most important meetings solely in the Millions City, as only this so-called "wealthiest city" was able to host them. It was reported that even a beggar in that place could become rich—it all depended on whether or not one had the ability to sneak into the city to become one.

With so much money, what could they not do? That was the Millions City's foundation; their weapon was money.

As for the Dark Phoenix family, they were known as the fallen Undying Bird. They were the Inniverse's Phoenix family's mortal enemy, but they had also been banished from the Inniverse. The members of this clan had the black flames of the fallen Undying Bird.

The Phoenix family was an extremely powerful family in the Inniverse that had a massive foundation, and the fact that they remained low-profile did not mean that they had no strength. Even the Daynight clan rarely provoked them, as there was someone from the Phoenix family among the Ten Arbiters. Being mortal enemies with such a family and still existing showed how terrifying the Dark Phoenix family was.

Neo-Vestige Sect's strength could therefore be estimated since it was considered to be on par with Millions City and the Dark Phoenix family.

The most famous organization in the eastern weaves was Neo-Vestige Sect, but all this time, it had remained sealed, and they had not interacted with any outsiders. The network only said that the members of Neo-Vestige Sect were adept at using bows and arrows. However, nobody knew any concrete details.

When Ironblood Weave had drafted powerhouses from the Outerverse for its defense, Mordo Weave, Canopy Weave, Forested Weave, and various other weaves had been isolated back then, so nobody from those weaves had appeared. If they had, the humans would not have suffered so terribly.

Speaking of Neo-Vestige Sect, this was the only power in all the eastern weaves that had spread across two weaves. Neo-Vestige Sect held control of both Mordo Weave and Canopy Weave.

"Has Mordo Weave reconnected?" Lu Yin asked.

The blind monk quietly answered, "Ten days ago, the energy barrier fell, and the weave became unobstructed."

"Why did they capture Peach?" Lu Yin asked curiously.

The blind monk hesitated.

Lu Yin's gaze trembled. "If I had not looked into your backgrounds, I would have believed that you were all from Frostwave Weave. Peach was originally from Mordo Weave, so is she somehow related to Neo-Vestige Sect? You're the closest one to her, but she's still under my command. Tell me everything about her, or else I won't be able to save her. You should know what Neo-Vestige Sect's strength is like, and they are not the same as Aegis."

The blind monk nodded and then solemnly replied, "Your subject truly doesn't clearly understand the situation. However, Peach once said that, if she disappeared one day, that it would be because of Neo-Vestige Sect."

Lu Yin stared at the older man. "What else?"

The blind monk and Lu Yin faced each other. "I'm really not sure, but Peach once told me that Neo-Vestige Sect would not let her go. Also, there's one more thing—Peach is actually only twenty two years old."

Lu Yin was surprised. "What? Peach is only twenty two?"

The blind monk nodded.

Lu Yin was astonished, as he remembered that someone had once told him that Peach was over 100 years old and that her appearance was because she had eaten some natural treasure. “Doesn’t her background state that she’s over 100?”

The blind monk shook his head. “His Majesty altered that information for Peach. She’s been acting like she’s experienced this whole time to pretend to be older than 100, and this is also why she’s always tried to maintain a large presence: to avoid being captured by Neo-Vestige Sect. I never thought that Neo-Vestige Sect would still be able to find her after all this.”

Lu Yin recalled Peach’s every movement and action and realized that he had indeed been too careless. How had Peach ever seemed like someone who was older than 100? She liked to eat snacks, apologized when she had done something wrong, treated everyone sincerely, and had viewed Lu Yin as a friend. Weren’t all of these a child’s characteristics? But he had actually believed her to be older than 100. What a joke.

Hold on, if Peach was just twenty two now, then that meant that, when they first met, she had only been around fifteen years old. Just how had she cultivated to the Cruiser realm at that young age? Lu Yin stared at the blind monk in disbelief, and the blind monk seemed to understand Lu Yin’s doubt, but he shook his head. “Your subject truly doesn’t know any details. Your Highness, please save Peach. She’s always treated you as her friend.”

Lu Yin decisively summoned Aden as well as the blind monk, bringing them with him into a spacecraft that was headed towards Mordo Weave. No matter the reason, he could not stand by and just allow Peach to be captured without doing anything. Peach was his subordinate and also a friend.

#### **Chapter 764: Intercept**

There was an odd-looking arrow-shaped spacecraft that was flying through the Outerverse towards the east. Peach was inside, and there was blood smeared on her lips. She was tied to a column, and there was a gloomy-looking youth in front of her who was looking at her with cold eyes.

The current Peach was not as diminutive as the person that Lu Yin remembered, as she was currently a 1.6 meter tall young woman. Her face had also changed quite a bit, though she was still easily recognizable. This was her true appearance that she had kept concealed with star energy ever since Undying Yushan had first taken her to the Great Yu Empire. She had constantly maintained the image of a young girl, and since Lu Yin had become accustomed to her appearance, he had never noticed anything peculiar about it.

“Peachy, we haven’t met in a few years, and now, you’ve already grown into a fine lady. Your mind must also have matured during this time, so just hand it over so that we can avoid any hardship,” the youth coldly ordered her.

Peach spat in contempt and glared at the young man. “Shao Zisong, don’t be delusional. There’s no way I could possibly give you guys the arrow, so just give up.”

Shao Zisong suddenly raised a hand and slapped out, leaving a striking red palm mark on Peach’s face. “Stupid brat! Still acting as tough as back then, huh? Do you think anyone will actually save you? Sect

Leader has not come out in decades, and my master has long since become Neo-Vestige Sect's decision maker. If he wants you to live, you will live. If he wants you to die, you will wish you were dead. I'm warning you—you had best be sensible and hand over that arrow. I can allow you to live a little more comfortably that way."

Peach glared resentfully at Shao Zisong, her eyes filled with killing intent.

Shao Zisong sneered at her. "Right, I nearly forgot, you're still that Sixth Squadron or whatever's captain, from some Great Yu Empire. Tell me, if Master sends out some people to destroy that Great Yu Empire, will you feel guilty?"

Peach's eyes went wide. "This is my issue. It has nothing to do with the Great Yu Empire."

"Back then, the Great Yu Empire saved you, and just that one incident is enough. You understand the strength of our Neo-Vestige Sect, and a puny Great Yu Empire is not even worth our attention in the least," Shao Zisong said threateningly.

Peach suddenly smiled and looked at him in a taunting manner. "Neo-Vestige Sect has been isolated all these years, and it has secluded itself from the outside world. Have you guys completely stopped watching the news? Do you really think that you can vanquish the Great Yu Empire? What a joke! Check it for yourself—the Great Yu Empire now is no longer the Great Yu Empire from a few years ago."

Shao Zisong's brow arched up and he turned to look behind himself.

A person stepped forward and activated his gadget, displaying an introduction to the Great Yu Empire and the Great Eastern Alliance.

Shao Zisong was shocked at the recent developments. "Great Eastern Alliance? Lu Yin? Enlighters' Bane?"

Peach sneered. "You better let me go. Otherwise, be prepared to face the wrath of the Great Eastern Alliance."

Shao Zisong stared at the screen for a long time, and his face turned solemn. But in the end, he still turned around and gave Peach a cold smile. "Little Peach, have you forgotten how my Neo-Vestige Sect obtained its current status?"

Peach's expression changed, and she suddenly seemed to be very apprehensive.

A long time ago, Neo-Vestige Sect had faced off against a powerhouse from the Inniverse whose power level was at 300,000. This person had not cared about the Outerverse and wanted to forcefully take over Neo-Vestige Sect. However, they ended up being killed by a single arrow from Neo-Vestige Sect. That incident had also been the moment Neo-Vestige Sect first started enjoying an extraordinary status.

Even a great number of forces from the Inniverse did not have ancient powerhouses with power levels exceeding 300,000. The fact that Neo-Vestige Sect could eliminate such a powerhouse showed its hidden strength.

Peach knew that Neo-Vestige Sect possessed three Enlighters as well as methods to defeat a foe with a power level surpassing 300,000. That was the true strength of Neo-Vestige Sect.



When he saw Peach's expression change, Shao Zisong sneered. He grabbed her hair and stared at her. "If that Lu Yin-whatever's Bane doesn't come, then that will still be alright. But if he does, then my master will instantly take him out. What Great Eastern Alliance? It's just a bunch of fools in the eyes of my Neo-Vestige Sect!"

Peach's face went pale, and she gradually slumped back into despair. Neo-Vestige Sect was comparable to a great power from the Inniverse. Although the Great Yu Empire could withstand one or two Enlighteners, it could not withstand Neo-Vestige Sect's hidden might, much less rescue her. Nobody in this part of the universe could rescue her from the clutches of Neo-Vestige Sect.

In the eastern weaves, an arrow-shaped spacecraft represented Neo-Vestige Sect. Wherever such a vessel traveled, it would be able to charge through without a care as no one would dare to block their way.

But on this day, an arrow-shaped spacecraft from Neo-Vestige Sect was intercepted by people from the Vastdearth Sect.

Shao Zisong instantly became furious. "What's going on?"

A Neo-Vestige Sect disciple gave a report. "Reporting to Senior Song: the Vastdearth Sect's Elder Hua Qiao has intercepted our spacecraft, and he said- said-"

"He said what?" Shao Zisong's tone was glacial.

The disciple had an ugly expression on his face. "He said that he wants to search the vessel."

Shao Zisong shattered the table in front of him with a thump. "How bold of the Vastdearth Sect! They actually dare to search our Neo-Vestige Sect's spacecraft?"

Then he suddenly looked over at Peach and saw that hope had appeared in her eyes, causing his own eyes to narrow. Out of nowhere, he gave her another slap that was so violent that a bit of Peach's mouth tore about. "Stupid brat! You better pray that this Great Whatever Alliance doesn't try to make any trouble for my Neo-Vestige Sect. Otherwise, I'll ask Master to head out and destroy them."

He then snorted and stepped out of the vessel.

Peach stared resentfully at where Shao Zisong's figure had disappeared from, her eyes betraying her complex emotions. The Vastdearth Sect would not have intercepted Neo-Vestige Sect's spacecraft without a good reason. Had His Highness really taken action? Neo-Vestige Sect was not Aegis, and their hidden strength was enough to kill off powerhouses whose power levels exceeded 300,000.

Outside the vessel, the Vastdearth Sect's spacecraft were lined up in a row, blocking the arrow-shaped spacecraft's path. Elder Hua Qiao towered above the ships and looked down at the arrow-shaped spacecraft in front of their fleet with apprehension. Neo-Vestige Sect was a terrifying force that stood far above the rest of the eastern weaves, and it was actually a top power that stood above almost the entire Outerverse. He had never expected that this monster would reconnect to the rest of the Outerverse so quickly.

If Neo-Vestige Sect had reconnected even one step earlier, then the Great Eastern Alliance might not have been established as smoothly.

Fortunately, this power had been disconnected from all the other weaves, and even before that, it had never really participated in the disputes between the other Outerverse powers for countless years. If possible, Elder Hua Qiao did not want to provoke such a power, but he could only put on a brave front and obstruct them since these orders had come from above.

Shao Zisong emerged from the spacecraft and saw Hua Qiao. He sneered, and his figure flashed before he appeared directly in front of Hua Qiao. "Elder Hua Qiao, it's been a long time."

Hua Qiao looked at Shao Zisong, and his brows furrowed. "You are?"

"Shao Zisong, the first disciple of the Neo-Vestige Sect's Training Elder, Master Bei." A loud voice was transmitted through the region of space, striking fear in the hearts of the Vastdearth Sect's disciples.

Elder Hua Qiao recalled this person and solemnly answered, "So you're Master Bei's senior disciple. We did meet once before."

Shao Zisong coldly stared at Hua Qiao. "Elder Hua Qiao, when did our Neo-Vestige Sect offend your Vastdearth Sect for you to actually obstruct us like this?"

Hua Qiao hesitated, and then awkwardly answered, "Truth be told, the Great Yu Empire's Sixth Squadron Captain Peach has gone missing, and Alliance Leader Lu suspects that she was taken by you guys, which is why we intercepted you. Please forgive us if we have caused any offense."

Shao Zisong's eyes turned even colder. "What does this mean? Are you saying that, when the Great Yu Empire's people go missing, they can blame it on our Neo-Vestige Sect? It looks like after just a few years of not appearing, the eastern weaves have already forgotten about our Neo-Vestige Sect. Do they really think that some Great Eastern Alliance can suppress our Neo-Vestige Sect?"

Hua Qiao did not answer, as he had previously heard of the legends attributed to Neo-Vestige Sect, and he had also heard the story of where even an Inniverse powerhouse with a power level of over 300,000 had been instantly killed. This organization's hidden strength surpassed the standards of the Outerverse, which was completely different from Aegis. Against Neo-Vestige Sect, Elder Hua Qiao was rather nervous.

Shao Zisong coldly ordered, "Move aside. I have urgent matters that I must report to Neo-Vestige Sect. If this report is delayed, can your Vastdearth Sect pay the price?"

Elder Hua Qiao apologized, "I'm truly sorry, but please hold on. Alliance Leader Lu will be here shortly."

Shao Zisong indignantly exclaimed, "What a joke! My Neo-Vestige Sect has never faced an obstruction like this when traveling about the universe, but you are actually making us wait for some Lu Yin. How bold of you!"

Elder Hua Qiao's expression did not change, and he allowed Shao Zisong to holler all he wanted. The older man did not even respond. He was merely tasked with stalling Shao Zisong's group and then handing them over to Lu Yin. After that, whatever trouble was incited would naturally be borne by the Great Yu Empire. Of course, the search that Hua Qiao had mentioned at the start was not going to be

conducted. Shao Zisong's identity meant that a Vastdearth Sect elder would not be able to search their vessel, as that would be disrespectful to Master Bei.

Master Bei was one of the Enlighters of Neo-Vestige Sect, and the Vastdearth Sect did not want to offend him.

Shao Zisong indignantly questioned the elder, hoping to intimidate Elder Hua Qiao into moving aside, but Elder Hua Qiao remained aloof. Shao Zisong even thought about taking action himself, but in the end, he held back. After all, this was the Vastdearth Sect's territory, and he could not just charge over all by himself.

"Alright, I'll wait here. Let's see if this Alliance Leader of yours dares to search my Neo-Vestige Sect's spacecraft. You had best think hard about the consequences." Shao Zisong then turned and returned into the spacecraft.

Elder Hua Qiao sighed. Lu Yin incessantly stirred up trouble, just like what the rumors claimed. He had just finished a conflict with Aegis, but now, he was moving to offend Neo-Vestige Sect.

Neo-Vestige Sect was on a completely different level from Aegis, and they could not be frightened into submission by just a single assassin like Smoker. Once this power was annoyed, they would utilize the strength that they had used to kill a powerhouse with a power level of 300,000, and the Great Yu Empire would be finished.

Lu Yin naturally knew of Neo-Vestige Sect's strength, which was why he had tasked the Vastdearth Sect with intercepting Shao Zisong's vehicle. This was all so that he could rescue Peach outside of Mordo Weave. Once they made it inside Mordo Weave, nothing would be certain since they would be within Neo-Vestige Sect's territory.

After a full day passed, Elder Hua Qiao's expression turned expectant. "Lu Yin brought Aden and the blind monk. They have finally arrived."

"Alliance Leader." Elder Hua Qiao bowed to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin looked at the arrow-shaped spacecraft that was floating nearby, and his eyes narrowed. He saw some rune lines, and to search for Peach, he immediately unleashed his domain and had it envelop the ship.

Within the spacecraft, Shao Zisong sensed a domain, and his expression turned cold. "How bold! He even dares to snoop on my Neo-Vestige Sect."

He grabbed a bow and arrow from his cosmic ring and shot a single arrow in Lu Yin's direction.

Shao Zisong had a power level of 130,000 and was already a Hunter. It was reasonable to say that his attacks were not overly powerful, and they were nowhere near the level of the Magistrate or the other assassins', but this arrow still shocked Lu Yin. No complex battle technique or any sort of bizarre innate gift had been used, but as this arrow pierced the void, an absolute offensive power converged upon the arrow. It was to the extent where it almost felt as though the greatest truths could be made simple.

The rune lines contained in this arrow far surpassed a power level of 130,000, and it even looked to be approaching a power level of 180,000.

Aden stepped forth and blocked the arrow with his thunder shield, obliterating the arrow. This sort of attack was not enough to force him back.

Lu Yin was surprised at the intent within Shao Zisong's arrow, but this level of attack was not very threatening. Ever since the Outerverse had been isolated from the Innerverse, he had faced off against quite a few Enlighter realm opponents, and even his weakest opponents had been peak Hunters. Shao Zisong's arrow was not worthy of Lu Yin's attention, despite how extraordinary the aura from the arrow was.

Shao Zisong did not expect his arrow to be defeated so easily. He stepped out of the vessel and coldly looked over at Aden and Lu Yin.

### **Chapter 765: Three Arrows**

During the day that he was held up for, Shao Zisong spent it looking up a great deal of information about Lu Yin, studying the youth. He had to admit that this person was a genius, though his personality was rather reckless. Although Shao Zisong was arrogant and looked down upon these people from the Great Eastern Alliance, he was not foolish, and he would restrain his temper while facing these lawless people with much greater strength.

As he thought about it, Shao Zisong barely managed to squeeze out a smile as he flew towards Lu Yin. After all, he was still within the Great Eastern Alliance's territory, so it would be best to resolve things peacefully. He was still thinking about how he could threaten this Lu Yin into not pursuing the matter with Peach so that he could successfully take her away.

Shao Zisong had gone over the many different ways he could present himself, and he even considered contacting his master and having him speak with Lu Yin instead. However, Shao Zisong had never imagined that what awaited him when he reached Lu Yin was a slap—no, two slaps.

Lu Yin moved very quickly, and Shao Zisong had only just arrived in front of him, ready to speak. There was even a faint smile on the man's face as he approached Lu Yin. But the Royal Regent instantly slapped the Neo-Vestige Sect disciple when he came within range, leaving Shao Zisong stunned. These slaps also shocked Elder Hua Qiao and everyone else who witnessed this scene.

However, before the sound of the first slap could dissipate, another slap quickly followed up and struck Shao Zisong's face, causing both sides of his face to swell up.

Shao Zisong himself was stunned. Someone had actually dared to beat him in such a humiliating manner. He was someone who could speak frankly even with those from the Innerverse's great powers, but at this point, his mind was completely blank.

The blind monk stared at Lu Yin in astonishment. Hadn't His Highness searched and read up on a great deal of information related to Neo-Vestige Sect? Why had he still done such a thing?

Aden's lips bent upwards, as he enjoyed this sort of personality.

Lu Yin shook his wrists and then looked at Shao Zisong. "Does it feel good?"

Shao Zisong came to his senses, and his eyes were completely filled with resentment and rage. "You have a deathwish!"

He moved to attack Lu Yin, but he was easily stopped by Aden. Under the man's nine lined battle force, Shao Zisong could not budge in the slightest, and Aden also punched Shao Zisong in the gut, causing him to curl over like a shrimp and vomit. His misery was plain for anyone to see.

The disciples from Neo-Vestige Sect aboard the arrow-shaped spacecraft flew into a rage, and they moved out in unison. But the blind monk stepped forward as his Hunter realm star energy swept out, preventing the disciples from even mustering up the courage to move.

Neo-Vestige Sect was very powerful, but that did not mean that their disciples were fearless in the face of death. Even the Daynight clan had been beaten by Lu Yin until they were convinced to leave him alone, let alone Neo-Vestige Sect.

Elder Hua Qiao was frightened to the point that his face became deathly pale. "Your Highness, you—"

Lu Yin raised his hand to stop Elder Hua Qiao from speaking. Instead, he looked over at the blind monk. "Go, and bring out Peach."

The blind monk acknowledged his orders, and he immediately flew towards the arrow-shaped vessel.

Shao Zisong stared at Lu Yin with eyes full of resentment. "You've got balls! Do you know who I am? I'm Master Bei's disciple! A disciple from Neo-Vestige Sect."

Lu Yin bent over and looked Shao Zisong in the eyes. "Are you threatening me?"

Shao Zisong's eyes had already gone completely red. "Lu Yin, you've gone insane! You dare to offend my Neo-Vestige Sect? You're finished! Master definitely will not let you off! Your Great Yu Empire is finished. Even your Great Eastern Alliance is finished!"

Lu Yin lashed out with another slap, and a crisp noise rang through the air as the Neo-Vestige Sect disciples on the spacecraft seethed in anger.

"You kidnapped one of my people, but you still dare to threaten me? Even if what you say is true, if I die, you'll die before me. Do you not believe that?" Lu Yin asked coldly.

For a moment, Shao Zisong didn't dare to speak. He had forgotten that the person standing in front of him was a lunatic who had even dared to go against the Daynight clan. The people from the Inverse's Xun family who had been left behind in the Outerverse had also been defeated by him along with the Enlighters from Beast Tamers' Flowzone and the Dire Barbarian Clan.

Lu Yin clearly was not afraid of even the Inverse's great powers, and he acted without any restraint. It remained to be seen whether or not he would be willing to kill Shao Zisong.

As he thought of this, Shao Zisong was scared, and his hatred and resentment were quickly replaced by an endless fear. "Wha- what do you want?"

Aden sneered. This person was just trash.

At this moment, the blind monk brought Peach out of the spacecraft.

When Lu Yin saw Peach, a strange expression appeared on his face. The Peach before him was not a young girl but a young woman. This was her true appearance, as she had maintained the image of a young girl to avoid Neo-Vestige Sect's discovery.

Peach looked at Lu Yin. Her expression was as if someone had offended her, and she started to wail.

Lu Yin was stunned, and he watched on as Peach hugged him while lamenting about her grievances like a child. He did not know what to do, as she was clearly a young woman.

This brat had maintained her childish nature, and it was something that could not be changed.

Lu Yin hurriedly started to console Peach, but it took a while before she was pacified.

Tears continued to drip from Peach's eyes. "Your Highness, you shouldn't have come."

Lu Yin was left speechless. "You've already cried, so why are you saying this now? If I didn't come, who was going to take revenge?"

Peach's face instantly transformed from grief to happiness, though the two palm prints on her face were exceptionally clear.

The blind monk passed over some ointment to her that she applied to her face, and the palm prints quickly vanished.

She looked past Lu Yin, and her eyes grew angry when she looked at Shao Zisong.

Lu Yin pulled her over towards the man. "Take your revenge—beat him."

Shao Zisong looked up. "Didn't you already beat me?"

"That was just because looking at you was unpleasant. This is revenge," Lu Yin explained before turning back to Peach. "Beat him however much you want. There's no need to hold back."

Peach bit her lips tightly. Then, two crisp sounds rang through the air from Shao Zisong getting slapped twice more. The sounds made Hua Qiao's heart tremble, but he was helpless. Forget it, since Shao Zisong had already been beaten, it wasn't a big deal if there were a few more slaps. The enmity had already been set in stone.

Shao Zisong's cheeks were now extremely swollen, and he glared at Lu Yin with both resentment and fear before looking back at Peach.

Aden also slapped him. "What are you looking at?"

Shao Zisong sullenly lowered his head, his eyes filled with discontent.

Lu Yin glanced at Shao Zisong before taking Peach onto his spacecraft. Once it was just the two of them, he started questioning her. "Alright, tell me, what's going on?"

Looking aggrieved, Peach stared at Lu Yin. "Can I not?"

"No." Lu Yin glared at her.

Peach lowered her head and tugged at her clothes.

Lu Yin helplessly prodded her, "If you don't tell me, how can I help you? You've been in the Great Yu Empire for so many years, but Neo-Vestige Sect still refuses to give up, and it's not like they will in the future. There will come a day when we'll clash with Neo-Vestige Sect, and you wouldn't want me to die without even knowing why, right? We're friends after all."

Peach pursed her lips and transformed back into the cute and adorable little Peach that Lu Yin was accustomed to. "This is more comfortable. I'm already used to this."

Lu Yin laughed and pulled out a bag of snacks from his cosmic ring.

Peach's eyes lit up, and she hurriedly grabbed the bag with a sweet smile. "Thank you."

Lu Yin shook his head helplessly. It looked like this naivety would never fade, as this girl had already become used to it.

After grabbing a mouthful of food, Peach looked up into space before slowly explaining things to Lu Yin. "According to an ancient legend, the old ancestors created Neo-Vestige Sect because they obtained three foreign arrows. These three arrows each had a strength that could not be estimated. Neo-Vestige Sect's arrow aura comes from these three arrows, and it eventually evolved into battle techniques for divine arrows as people have sought after the ideal of one arrow piercing through everything.

"For countless years, Neo-Vestige Sect has been studying these three arrows without interacting with the outside world, and its strength rose daily. From the beginning, these three arrows were safeguarded by the three ancestors who founded Neo-Vestige Sect. Now, one arrow is in Sect Leader Gong Ling's hands, one in the Training Elder Master Bei's hands, and the last one..." Peach paused as she looked over at Lu Yin. "Is in my hands."

Lu Yin was astonished. "You have one?"

Peach nodded. "My master was the descendant of this arrow's guardian, so it was naturally passed down to me. Unfortunately, our line has withered, and we ended up attracting trouble for protecting it. Master Bei's line has always coveted after our line's arrow, and they have hatched countless schemes to obtain it. If not for His Majesty, Undying Yushan, I would have died ten years ago."

Lu Yin now understood, and it was no wonder why Neo-Vestige Sect was unwilling to give up on Peach. He wouldn't either if he was in their position, as those arrows were the core foundation of the entire sect.

Peach looked at Lu Yin as her tone became filled with complex emotions. "Your Highness, you came to save me, and I cannot express how much gratitude I have to see that our friendship was not in vain. But things end here, as the Neo-Vestige Sect's background is too obscure, and you cannot imagine its depths. Go back. This is an internal struggle concerning Neo-Vestige Sect, and it's none of your business."

Lu Yin asked, "Is your strength related to that arrow?"

Peach nodded. "I don't know why, but that arrow caused my strength to suddenly spike up to a Cruiser's before limiting my growth. Over these recent years, my strength hasn't really changed."

“If you return to Neo-Vestige Sect, what will happen to you?” Lu Yin asked.

Peach continued to eat the snacks as her legs started to shake. “If I’m lucky, our Sect Leader will come out of seclusion, and I’ll be able to tell him what’s happened. If I’m unlucky, I’ll have no choice.”

“Your Sect Leader is in seclusion?”

“Mm. He has been for decades, and I’ve never seen him.”

“If he comes out, can he guarantee your safety?”

Peach nodded. “Master told me that the Sect Leader is fair. If they wanted to seize our arrow, then they would have done so a long time ago, and it would have never even reached the point where Master Bei would plot against me. It’s just because Sect Leader has gone into seclusion that Master Bei dared to act. Thus, Master instructed me that, no matter what, I have to endure until Sect Leader comes out.”

Lu Yin smiled bitterly. “Since your sect leader went into seclusion, then forget decades—even centuries of seclusion could be possible. You can’t endure for that long, so it’s time to wake him up.”

Peach was astonished. “Wake him?”

Lu Yin pressed a hand against Peach’s head. “You’re one of my people, and I won’t let anything happen to you. Let’s go to Neo-Vestige Sect together.”

Peach widened her mouth into an ecstatic grin. “Really? You’re willing to go back to Neo-Vestige Sect with me?”

Lu Yin smiled. “Naturally. You’re the captain of my Sixth Squadron.”

Peach cheered, but her expression quickly changed. “No, that won’t do. It’s too dangerous. Neo-Vestige Sect once obliterated an old fart with a power level of over 300,000. Your Highness, if you go, it’ll be too dangerous.”

“There’re many situations that are dangerous, and we could even be wiped out by some cosmological phenomenon when flying through space. This is all a part of our destiny as cultivators. Relax, I’m confident,” Lu Yin told her. After all, he still had Mister Mu if it really came down to it. If he was unafraid of the Neohuman Alliance’s Seven Skygods, then what was some Neo-Vestige Sect?

He would not watch on without doing anything as Peach was sent to her death. His determination was not just because they were friends, but also because, if he did not help Peach at this time, who would be willing to follow him in the future? No matter if it was for their friendship or for his future benefits, Lu Yin knew that he had to do his best to save Peach.

Neo-Vestige Sect would not stop pursuing that arrow. Since Peach was willing to give up, she would not suffer, but it also meant that their only choice was to go to Neo-Vestige Sect to face things head on.

Shao Zisong never expected that Lu Yin would actually dare to head to Neo-Vestige Sect, and he could not restrain his excitement, which caused him to receive another slap. This time, it was from the blind monk, as he had the closest friendship with Peach. He had long since wanted to beat this bastard, but he just hadn’t been able to find an excuse. Finally, he had found one; who had allowed this bastard to smile in such a sinister fashion?



Shao Zisong spat out a mouthful of blood and then glared gloomily at Lu Yin and the others. Just wait. As long as you make it to Neo-Vestige Sect, I'll wait for you to beg for death.

## **Chapter 766: Civilization**

Lu Yin did not hurry over to Neo-Vestige Sect. Since he was already in Vastdearth Weave, he naturally had to make a trip to the Vastdearth Sect.

He had first heard of the Vastdearth Sect from Meng Yue, and Lu Yin's deepest impression of the Vastdearth Sect was actually the Desolate Palm. Back then, he had been extremely startled by that technique, and he had even thought that the Desolate Palm allowed one to directly absorb life force, and the rumors that he had heard about the sect were the same. With one palm, all living creatures within a certain scope would wilt. But as his cultivation increased, Lu Yin had gradually realized that this effect was impossible, as life force was not that easy to absorb. The Desolate Palm was not actually absorbing life force, but rather depleting water from the affected creatures' bodies, which was completely different from absorbing life force.

Of course, even if the technique was not absorbing life force, its power still was not to be underestimated.

The Vastdearth Sect was the guiding power of Vastdearth Weave, and it had been established on a mainland. Dozens of planets were floating through space around it, which made for a magnificent sight.

Lu Yin's arrival at the Vastdearth Sect was shocking, and even Sect Leader Meng Tianlong joined the disciples to welcome Lu Yin. This grand reception showed Lu Yin the Vastdearth Sect's respect for him.

Even though the Vastdearth Sect had caused Lu Yin a great deal of trouble at the start, after they joined the Great Eastern Alliance, he had not found any signs of them being involved in any sort of traitorous matters. Aegis had threatened the Great Eastern Alliance, but the Vastdearth Sect had helped him fight Aegis off, and they had not stood by and allowed Lu Yin to be humiliated. He still had a pretty decent impression of the Vastdearth Sect.

There was only one matter related to them that concerned him, which was the fact that Meng Tianlong frequently waited outside of Vastdearth Sect Elder's Meng Qing's training area, waiting for Meng Qing to emerge.

This had caught Lu Yin's attention, as Meng Qing was an Enlighter, though he had not appeared after going into a strict, isolated seclusion. Even if his emergence from seclusion couldn't affect the bigger picture, his presence would still be enough to allow the Vastdearth Sect to break away from the Great Eastern Alliance, and it would also counter Lu Yin himself to some degree.

This was also the main reason why Lu Yin had decided to visit the Vastdearth Sect now, as he wanted to see the situation concerning Meng Qing for himself.

The truth of the matter made his heart fall, as he could see Meng Qing's rune lines. Others might not be able to see them, but Lu Yin could. The rune lines that he saw were not from any sort of explosive power, so they could only belong to an Enlighter. Meng Qing was still alive.

"Alliance Leader Lu, let me take you on a tour," Meng Tianlong courteously offered Lu Yin. This was his first time actually meeting the youth, but since they had already talked through other forms of

communication many times, he was not shocked to meet Lu Yin in person. This youth actually gave him, the sect leader, a sense of danger despite him being a peak Hunter.

It was no wonder why Aegis had ended up giving in and why Lu Yin had no fear of facing off against Neo-Vestige Sect.

Lu Yin smiled and nodded before following Meng Tianlong along on a tour of the Vastdearth Sect. As they proceeded, they coincidentally saw the Vastdearth Sect conducting an entrance test to accept disciples. There were millions of elite cultivators from all parts of Vastdearth Weave who had managed to distinguish themselves on their home planets, so they had come to the Vastdearth Sect to participate in this trial and attempt to join the sect. It was a magnificent sight indeed.

Lu Yin had experienced Astral-10's entrance exam, and he had also been a trial taker himself, but he had never really been an observer. He was now observing millions of youths struggling for their lives and gambling with death to fight for the limited slots, and it filled him with rather complicated emotions.

These youths were all elites on their home planets, and great things were expected of them. The more outstanding ones had reached the Sentinel realm and could fly, just like the Seven Sages back on Earth, though the Earthlings had called them Sky rank powerhouses. Such cultivators were practically gods in the eyes of commoners, but they were only at the very beginning of their cultivation. Even in the eyes of the Great Yu Empire, back when Lu Yin had participated in the trial, Sentinels were not even within consideration for further training; they were just used as cannon fodder or roaming soldiers.

Some of the trial takers had cultivated with formcast models, and they had rather decent talent, so they were able to draw some praise from some of the Vastdearth Sect's older generation. However, when looking at the entire Vastdearth Weave, these people were very ordinary, and it was even worse if one looked at the entire Outerverse, let alone the entire universe. This was not a difference in cultivation, but rather a difference in fundamental levels.

As he thought about it, Lu Yin did not even know how he had managed to reach his current position, especially since he had only been cultivating for seven short years.

This was also a reason why he was viewed as a legend.

"These fellows' experience is too limited, and their cultivation is shallow, so please forgive their poor performance," Meng Tianlong said.

Lu Yin watched some disciples struggle to the death on a screen. It was true—their world view was too narrow, and to them, the Vastdearth Sect was the peak of the universe. However, was Lu Yin himself that much different? The majority of people in this part of the universe wallowed in their ignorance and would never know that they lived in a place formed from the merging of five collapsed Mainlands. They would never know that the Sixth Mainland was still out there, or that the Astral Wilderness was endlessly vast and might even contain civilizations even more powerful and capable of suppressing the entire Human Domain.

Back when Lu Yin had been at Erudite Flowzone's border warfront, he had personally witnessed how a more advanced civilization could look down and observe a more primitive one. Was it guaranteed that they were the highest civilization? Could there be a pair of eyes above him that were constantly observing him?

As he thought of this, the arrogance in his eyes vanished. If he looked down upon others, he himself had to be standing in a higher place, and he had not attained such a lofty position yet.

“Sect Leader Meng, during this trip to Neo-Vestige Sect, do you want to come along with me?” Lu Yin suddenly asked.

Meng Tianlong was surprised. “Alliance Leader, are you asking me to accompany you?”

Lu Yin nodded and looked at the older man. “Paying a formal visit with your identity as the Vastdearth Sect Leader.”

Meng Tianlong was instantly placed in a difficult position, as he truly did not want to go. This incident started as Lu Yin’s conflict with Neo-Vestige Sect, but if he went, it would mean pulling the Vastdearth Sect into the conflict as well. He wanted to refuse, but Lu Yin continued, saying, “Sect Leader Meng, the Great Eastern Alliance is officially paying a visit to Neo-Vestige Sect, and as an ally, heading there together should be a given. If the Alliance Leader visits on his own, then there will be an unavoidable loss to our prestige, and we may even have some people sneering at our Great Eastern Alliance for not being united.”

Meng Tianlong was still ambivalent. “Alliance Leader, Neo-Vestige Sect is not as easy to get along with as most other powers.”

Lu Yin smiled. “Will they dare to attack you or me? Since we will be visiting with the authority of an official visit from the Great Eastern Alliance, the two parties should not behead envoys even during wartime. Furthermore, Neo-Vestige Sect controls two weaves. Then it’s settled. We set off straight away for Mordo Weave.” Lu Yin then turned to leave without even giving Meng Tianlong an opportunity to reply.

Mordo Weave was located to the southwest of Vastdearth Weave, past an asteroid belt and a no-man’s-land that was part of neither weave. After traversing through the uninhabited region, they would formally arrive within the borders of Mordo Weave.

Neo-Vestige Sect had remained isolated from the outside universe for many years, and its members rarely interacted with others. There were some Neo-Vestige Sect disciples standing guard at the borders of Mordo Weave, and no one could enter without Neo-Vestige Sect’s express approval.

Shao Zisong was a living signboard, and as soon he showed himself, the spacecraft smoothly entered Mordo Weave.

In the past, Lu Yin had not understood why Neo-Vestige Sect would not interact with the other powers, but after listening to Peach’s story, he had gleaned several details. With the existence of the three arrows, they did not need to go out and learn battle techniques from other sources. Instead, they could study the arrows and create their own techniques. Additionally, Neo-Vestige Sect was likely afraid of revealing the existence of the three arrows as organizations from the Inniverse might covet them.

No matter how powerful Neo-Vestige Sect might be, it could at best rival the Inniverse powers like the Dire Barbarian Clan or the Frostmoon Sect. It was not at all on par with the Daynight clan or the Sword Sect. Otherwise, they would not have sent out someone who was only at the initial stages of the Hunter realm to seize Peach like Shao Zisong and would have instead sent out an Enlightener instead.

Lu Yin maintained this train of thought all the way until he saw Neo-Vestige Sect. When he did, he was stunned. Perhaps everyone had underestimated Neo-Vestige Sect, as it contained rune lines that were so overwhelming that his eyes experienced a stabbing pain. He had felt this pain only a few times before: in Tempest Flowzone, in the isolated space with the golden ocean, and also at the Sea King's Dome in the Starfall Sea.

Although the rune lines that he observed at Neo-Vestige Sect were not able to match those of the Sea King's Dome, where he could not even look at the mountain, these rune lines still made him feel a stabbing pain. These rune lines did not belong to some expert with only a power level of 300,000, and they were definitely from someone whose power level surpassed 500,000. Only an Envoy or someone even more powerful could have such a terrifying number of rune lines.

It was no wonder why Neo-Vestige Sect had been able to instantly kill a powerhouse with a power level of 300,000 with just one arrow.

Lu Yin solemnly stared at the distant tall mountain that towered high into the sky with a sense of reverence.

Peach stood beside Lu Yin with a complex expression. "I was born here, and I nearly died here."

Lu Yin looked over at her and saw her reminiscing with a rather terrified expression. He placed a hand on her head. "Relax, nothing will happen."

Peach looked at him. "Your Highness, if there is any danger, you should leave first and just ignore me. Got it?"

Lu Yin laughed. "I got it, relax."

Peach murmured in acknowledgement.

Behind them was Shao Zisong, who was tied to a column. He wore a gleeful smile. Now that they had arrived at Neo-Vestige Sect, he would make them all wish for death.

With a meaty splat, a hand crisply slapped Shao Zisong's face. He was furious, and he turned to glare at the blind monk next to him. This bastard had lashed out at him many times during the journey here, and he had even attacked him more times than all the others combined. Shao Zisong would definitely make this worm pay a price.

"Your smile is so sickening. No smiling." Peach turned around to look at Shao Zisong as she threatened him.

Shao Zisong snorted coldly and then looked down as his eyes flickered. He was thinking of how he could mess with this group.

The spacecraft landed at the base of Neo-Vestige Sect's mountain. Before anyone could exit from the vessel, it had already been surrounded by many Neo-Vestige Sect disciples, and countless arrows were aimed at the ship. Each one of them emitted a terrifying killing intent.

Although these disciples were mostly Sentinels, there were also quite a few Melders, Limiteers, and even a handful of Explorers among them. However, Lu Yin paid more attention to the Hunter level rune lines hidden in the distance, and there was not just one. This was the critical moment.

The blind monk grabbed a hold of Shao Zisong's neck and walked out of the spacecraft.

The many Neo-Vestige Sect disciples shouted in indignation.

Lu Yin led Meng Tianlong, Aden, and Peach out as well.

Meng Tianlong's expression turned ugly, and he took several steps forward. "Vastdearth Sect Leader Meng Tianlong pays a visit to Neo-Vestige Sect Sect Leader Gong Ling. Kindly report our arrival."

The surrounding Neo-Vestige Sect disciples revealed eyes that were filled with bloodlust, and one youth in particular stepped forward. He looked rather similar to Shao Zisong, and he stared at Meng Tianlong with gloomy eyes. "Sect Leader Meng, your Vastdearth Sect is truly quite bold. Do you want to wage war with our Neo-Vestige Sect? Release my brother at once!"

Meng Tianlong smiled. "You should be one of Neo-Vestige Sect's Golden Arrow disciples, Shao Ziyu. Although I'm from the Vastdearth Sect, I've heard of your name. You once traveled to the Inverse and challenged experts on the Top 100 Rankings. You are truly a young elite."

Shao Ziyu heard Meng Tianlong's praise, and although his expression warmed a little, his voice remained cold. "Since Sect Leader Meng has heard of me, then you should know that I'm Master Bei's disciple. Currently, everything related to Neo-Vestige Sect is being handled by Master Bei. What are your intentions in kidnapping my elder brother?"

Meng Tianlong helplessly answered, "Your brother kidnapped and blackmailed someone from my Great Eastern Alliance, and although my Vastdearth Sect wanted to dissuade them, we were humiliated by your brother. I had no choice but to come up with such a plan. Please report to Sect Leader Gong Ling that Meng Tianlong is here for a visit. If any offense was made, let me be lectured personally by Sect Leader Gong Ling, and my Vastdearth Sect will offer appropriate compensation."

"You're talking shit! I didn't blackmail anyone!" Shao Zisong hollered.

The blind monk placed a hand on the younger man's waist, and for some reason, Shao Zisong's expression immediately became extremely pained, though he did not utter a single sound.

Shao Ziyu stared at Shao Zisong and then at Meng Tianlong. "Sect Leader Meng, our Sect Leader is in seclusion and is not receiving any visitors. I will report to my master, but first, release my brother."

Meng Tianlong looked over at Lu Yin.

### **Chapter 767: Lu Yin's Single Punch**

Lu Yin stepped forward and glanced at Shao Ziyu before looking up in the direction of Neo-Vestige Sect and shouting, "Great Eastern Alliance Leader Lu Yin requests to see Sect Leader Gong Ling."

"Great Eastern Alliance Leader Lu Yin requests to see Sect Leader Gong Ling."

"Great Eastern Alliance Leader Lu Yin requests to see Sect Leader Gong Ling."

...

The deafening sound reverberated throughout the entirety of Neo-Vestige Sect, and it caused countless Neo-Vestige Sect disciples to look towards the base of the mountain.

Shao Ziyu was infuriated. "Shut up! What gave you the courage to disturb Sect Leader's training? Fellow disciples, kill this person and don't show any mercy."

As his words were spoken, many Neo-Vestige Sect disciples pulled their bowstrings taut in unison before loosing a volley of arrows aimed directly at Lu Yin. They had not left any room for negotiation.

Lu Yin did not move, but Aden suddenly appeared in front of him with his enlarged thunder shield, ready to block the numerous arrows, especially those that had been fired by the Hunters hidden in the darkness. All of the arrows were similarly blocked.

"Your Highness, there are hidden experts," Aden warned in a low voice.

Aden was referring to the two hidden Hunters, but Lu Yin was looking at the sky. An Enlighter's rune lines had appeared; Master Bei had arrived.

An Enlighter possessed the strength to crush everything, and while Master Bei's star energy was not as berserk as Cai Jianqiang's, it radiated a supreme form of dignity and might. A giant arrow appeared in the sky that was aimed at the foot of the mountain.

The arrow was massive, and it looked like a pillar that was holding up the heavens as it plummeted towards the crowd.

Shao Ziyu was panic-stricken, and he hurriedly hid himself.

Lu Yin's expression changed, as this Master Bei clearly did not care about Shao Zisong's life any longer by immediately taking action. Did he not want to get that arrow from Peach either?

Shao Zisong stared up at the descending arrow and shouted in terror, "RUN! Hurry up and run!"

Meng Tianlong's face paled. Just as he had expected, Neo-Vestige Sect was not easy to deal with. They had actually been attacked before they could even meet the Sect Leader, and by an Enlighter at that.

Aden growled as nine lined battle force covered his entire body before he leaped up into the sky with his thunder shield, clashing solidly against the colossal arrow.

There was a bang, and an oppressive pressure descended upon everyone in the area, and even the base of the mountain sank down slightly. The overwhelming pressure stopped the crowd from drawing breath, and Peach nearly lost consciousness.

In the sky above them, Aden bellowed as his thunder shield was continuously forced down. It could not stand up against the arrow.

Countless Neo-Vestige Sect disciples were stunned, but also excited to see that Master Bei had taken action. That arrow was formed from nothing more than star energy, but it was so terrifying that it could sweep everything else away.

This Master Bei's power level was around the same as Lord Egret, but his strength was on a whole different level. Even though they had similar power levels, this person was definitely no weaker than a powerhouse from the great powers of the Inniverse.

The thunder shield broke apart as Aden could not quite withstand it any longer. He could at best block the attacks of ordinary Enlighters from the Outerverse, and he had already found it difficult to face off against Lord Egret, let alone Master Bei.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. He then took out a trumpet from his cosmic ring followed by another, and still another. He combined all of them together, as this was something that he had borrowed from An Shaohua. In the past, An Shaohua had used this item to call for help from inside the Tower of Resonating Light, and although it had not been successful, Lu Yin had noticed the clever use of this toy. Thus, he had brought it along on this trip.

As he watched Aden stubbornly block the arrow, Lu Yin had Meng Tianlong and the blind monk work together. He then positioned himself in front of the trumpet and shouted, "Great Eastern Alliance Leader Lu Yin requests to see Sect Leader Gong Ling!"

The volume of his shout caused many people to jump, as it was simply too loud. When he shouted with his full strength, the force of his voice actually caused the void to ripple as the sound waves swept across the entirety of Neo-Vestige Sect, and everyone was able to hear his words.

In the sky, the arrow suddenly demonstrated its power as the thunder shield shattered. Meng Tianlong and the blind monk acted together, but both of them were overpowered. Master Bei was furious as he had wanted to use one arrow to take care of all these trespassers.

Lu Yin hollered again, which caused some people in Neo-Vestige Sect to jump out of fright again.

Thump thump thump!

There were three consecutive bangs as Aden's trio was forced underground. All the while, the arrow in the sky grew smaller as it flew towards Lu Yin.

Peach's face turned deathly white. "Your Highness, be careful!"

Lu Yin's brows furrowed, and he donned his universal armor as a bracer appeared on his right arm. He then clenched his fist tightly, overlaying it with battle force as he diverted the three grains of Fatesand. He looked up as he pulled his right arm back, staring intently at the falling arrow.

In the distance, countless Neo-Vestige Sect disciples watched on in amazement. This guy couldn't possibly want to take on Master Bei's arrow, could he? Was he crazy? He was just an Explorer!

As he watched the arrow fall, Lu Yin's eyes turned sharp as he punched out. The bracer gleamed as multiple layers of the void rippled and vibrated before completely rupturing. The tremendous force broke away from the crowd's vision and slammed directly against the arrow.

Lu Yin had upgraded this bracer several times, and it was now able to increase his physical strength to the level of an Enlighter whose power level was at 300,000. Lu Yin's physical strength had already surpassed that of a peak Hunter, and when boosted by the twofold reinforcement of the bracer, his attacks had surpassed the Hunter realm and entered the realm of Enlighters. With this one punch that

was supported with the durability of his universal armor, Lu Yin was able to shatter the arrow, which was incomprehensible to many people.

The ground in the entire area dropped down as a berserk shockwave swept out in all directions.

Lu Yin had restrained himself from using this punch for a long time. He had wanted to unleash such an attack back on Zenyu Star during the assassins' sneak attack, but the resulting destruction would have been too great. With this punch, those assassins would have indeed been finished, but so too would have Zenyu Star.

At this moment, he was finally able to erupt with his full strength, and his berserk power was too much for a planet to endure. But surprisingly, the destruction turned out to be not too severe. After all, this was Neo-Vestige Sect.

As the smoke dissipated, everyone stared on, completely dumbfounded. That Explorer had actually shattered Master Bei's arrow with a single punch. This was simply unbelievable.

Aden and the others were also shocked. The physical strength that Lu Yin had just demonstrated was a little too freakish. How could an Explorer withstand such power? His physical body should not be able to support such force.

Shao Ziyu and the others were in an indescribable state of mind, as that attack had been no different than one from a berserk astral beast!

In the sky, Master Bei was also surprised, but then, an even more terrifying killing intent gathered within him. He could not allow this kid to remain alive. Just as he was about to make another move, a youth flew over from the distance, stopped in front of Master Bei, and spoke to the elder in a respectful voice. "Sect Leader calls for Training Elder Master Bei."

Master Bei's eyes flashed. "Has Senior Sect Leader come out of seclusion?"

The youth replied, "Yes, he just came out."

Master Bei was furious. "It must be because of this group of people below, as they have disturbed Senior's cultivation. Let me take care of them first. Then I'll go meet Senior in the main hall."

The youth responded, "Sect Leader has also invited them to the main hall. Please, Elder, head over first."

Master Bei was unsatisfied, and he glanced at Lu Yin and the others below. His eyes lingered especially long on Peach, but then he helplessly said, "Very well, I'll go."

He then vanished in an instant.

The youth watched as Master Bei left. Then, a look of disdain appeared on his face before he descended to the ground.

As the dust cleared, Lu Yin flew up from a hole in the ground with a clenched right fist. Although he had blocked that arrow, doubling his physical strength for a burst attack had been more than what his body could handle, and he had suffered from some torn muscles. Fortunately, this was just a minor injury.



“Your Highness, are you alright?” Peach hurriedly ran over and asked in concern.

Lu Yin shook his head and looked at the sky. Master Bei’s rune lines had vanished. In his place, an Explorer realm youth was approaching him.

Aden and the others rushed over.

The youth descended from the sky and looked at Lu Yin in appreciation. “You must be Great Eastern Alliance Leader Lu Yin. I am Gong Chou.”

Lu Yin nodded, and this name sounded rather familiar.

Gong Chou greeted Lu Yin and then looked at Peach with an apologetic expression. “I’m sorry, Little Peach. You’ve suffered.”

Peach stared at Gong Chou, and her expression became extremely complicated. There was no hatred like when she looked at Shao Zisong, but there did not seem to be any affection either.

Gong Chou sighed as he looked at her. “Father has been in seclusion for decades, and I left to explore the Inniverse back then. We were unable to protect you. I’m sorry.”

Peach lowered her head and remained silent.

Lu Yin looked at the youth. “You and Peach know each other?”

Gong Chou nodded. “Family friends. When she was born, I even held her.”

“Right, and that Shao Zisong should be a family friend as well,” Lu Yin commented.

Gong Chou nodded. “Master Bei is skilled at scheming and using hidden methods. Not protecting Little Peach is our fault, but rest assured. Father has already come out, and he will not tolerate Master Bei’s outrageous behavior.” He then looked at Peach. “Come with me to see Father. He hasn’t seen you yet.”

Peach’s eyes turned red, and she nodded silently.

Lu Yin suddenly remembered that Gong Chou was ranked seventy fourth on the Top 100 Rankings. It was no wonder why his name had sounded familiar—this person was even the child of Neo-Vestige Sect’s Sect Leader Gong Ling. He was a truly powerful second generation heir.

Only a select few of the Outerverse’s younger generation could enter the Top 100 Rankings, and the most dazzling of them was undoubtedly Moore, West San Dios’s Councilor. He had been born in the Outerverse, and his birth had reportedly been accompanied by the deaths of one billion people, making his existence somewhat inauspicious. Next was Puyu, who had been ranked thirteenth, and finally was Taylor Phoenix of the Dark Phoenix Family, who was ranked fourteenth. These three were coincidentally all ranked close together, but this Gong Chou was similarly in the Top 100 Rankings, which showed Neo-Vestige Sect’s power.

“Please, everyone. Father is waiting in the main hall,” Gong Chou courteously said, asking them to move on.

Lu Yin nodded, and the group followed Gong Chou towards the main hall. As for Shao Zisong, he was still being held captive by the blind monk, and Gong Chou did not bother with him at all as this was a form of punishment for him.

At this moment, Master Bei appeared inside Neo-Vestige Sect's main hall, and he saw that someone else was already sitting there. That person was staring at a painting hanging in the main hall that showed three seemingly ordinary arrows. However, these were the three arrows that had led to the establishment of the current Neo-Vestige Sect.

Master Bei entered the main hall and moved behind the person. "Senior, congratulations on emerging from seclusion."

The person turned around, and his face was that of a middle-aged man with a rosy expression and bright eyes. He had a kind expression, and there was also a smile on his face. This was Neo-Vestige Sect's Sect Leader, Gong Ling. "I still wanted to continue slacking off, but I was awakened, keke."

Master Bei said, "I'm sorry, Senior, that I allowed someone to disturb your seclusion."

Gong Ling raised a hand. "It's alright. Sit, Junior."

Master Bei nodded and then sat down to the sect leader's right.

Gong Ling sighed. "After all these decades of seclusion, there must have been a great deal of changes in the outside world."

Master Bei shared the incident of the Outerverse being cut off from the Innerverse with Gong Ling and mentioned a few other matters, but he did not say anything regarding Peach at all.

Gong Ling felt rather saddened. "I never thought that the universe's circumstances could change so quickly. Right, what did that fellow who awakened me say about being the Great Eastern Alliance Leader? What's the deal with this Great Eastern Alliance?"

Master Bei answered in a deep voice, "Speaking of the Great Eastern Alliance... This person must be mentioned first: Lu Yin. He's become a legend... This kid established the Great Eastern Alliance and dreams of unifying the eastern weaves. He has committed countless massacres, and incited disputes between various great powers, and even became enemies with the four great corporations. His ambition is truly excessive, and his methods are ruthless. Senior, we must be wary of this person."

### **Chapter 768: Meeting In Person**

After listening to Master Bei's explanation, Gong Ling exclaimed, "There's actually such a capable youth? I want to meet him. So that's why he has the courage to barge into our Neo-Vestige Sect."

Master Bei's eyes flickered. "Ever since this kid established the Great Eastern Alliance, he has caused millions to die tragic deaths. He's actually terrifying. This disaster should best be taken care of."

Gong Ling smiled and sipped from a cup of tea, though he did not respond to Master Bei. Instead, he said, "Right, I heard Gong Chou mention that only Little Peach is left from that line. How is Little Peach? What happened?"

Master Bei smiled drily. "She'll be arriving soon. Senior will be able to meet with her shortly."

Gong Ling exclaimed, "After being in seclusion for some decades, my old friends are no longer around. Little Peach, keke. It's just like her to pick such a name."

Neo-Vestige Sect was a rather sparse sect. Other than a space station that floated outside the mountain gate to receive incoming spacecraft, the only form of travel within the mountain was walking, as there were no teleportation devices. Fortunately, the speed of the current group was quite fast. If it were commoners, they would not have been able to reach the main hall even after walking for ten years.

"Brother Gong, what is that place?" Lu Yin asked as he pointed to a certain location that he saw on their way to the main hall.

Gong Chou replied, "That's Arrow Mountain. My Neo-Vestige Sect's weapon of choice is the bow and arrow, and over the course of countless years, we have searched far and wide for all sorts of rare materials that can be used to create arrows. Those arrows are then placed on Arrow Mountain. Disciples with contributions can go there and exchange contribution points for them."

"Your Highness, Arrow Mountain's arrows were all created using rare treasures, and even the worst ones are more precious than the arrows that you normally see. They are all very valuable," Peach quietly explained as she moved over to Lu Yin's side.

Lu Yin nodded. He had noticed Arrow Mountain not because of the arrows, but rather because there was a peculiarly boundless amount of rune lines there. Neo-Vestige Sect contained an absolutely terrifying number of rune lines, most of which came from Arrow Mountain. Could the rune lines all be from those arrows? That was impossible. No matter how precious these weapons might be, they could not possess such a terrifying number of rune lines.

Peach was in possession of one of the original three arrows, and it had continued to be passed down since ancient times, but Lu Yin had never seen such terrifying rune lines from her.

"Arrow Mountain's security must be very tight," Lu Yin said casually.

Gong Chou smiled. "There's no security, just an Elder who oversees it year round."

"An elder? Are they an Enlightener as well?" Lu Yin was curious.

Gong Chou smiled. "Perhaps. We are rarely able to see that elder."

"Rumor has it that a single arrow from Neo-Vestige Sect took out a powerhouse from the Inniverse whose power level was over 300,000. It must have been this elder who attacked," Meng Tianlong probed.

Gong Chou nodded. "That's right, Elder rarely makes a move, but once he does, there's no trouble that he cannot take care of." This sentence was said with a tone of arrogance, but nobody could refute such a claim. This crowd knew just how powerful a powerhouse with a power level of over 300,000 was.

Just a few minutes ago, Master Bei had nearly overpowered all of them to the point of exhaustion, so there was no need to mention an expert whose power level exceeded 300,000.

Regarding powerhouses at this level, the only ones that Lu Yin remembered were Northgate Taisui and that elder from the Seven Courts' Yōu family. As for the Sea King, Mister Mu, Blackless God, and other

such experts, Lu Yin did not know how powerful they were at all, though they all definitely surpassed a power level of 500,000.

A power level of 500,000... Lu Yin wondered when he would be able to achieve such strength, and he was looking forward to that day.

Soon, the group arrived at Neo-Vestige Sect's main hall, which was at the top of the mountain.

The main hall was grand and magnificent, but it was not overly impressive to Lu Yin since he had visited the Sea King's Dome in the past.

The rune lines that he saw in the main hall were very majestic, and he could tell that there were two Enlighters here. One of the rune line groups was from Master Bei, who had just attacked them, so the other should belong to Neo-Vestige Sect's Sect Leader Gong Ling.

In the Outerverse, any organization that had an Enlighter could dominate an entire region. Frostwave Weave, Northcastle Weave, and quite a few other weaves did not even have a single Enlighter, but Neo-Vestige Sect had three Enlighters along with an unfathomable elder. This was a great power that possessed multiple hidden trump cards that could make even forces from the Innerverse hesitate.

Lu Yin had visited this place with his status as the Great Eastern Alliance Leader along with the Vastdearth Sect Leader Meng Tianlong, which meant that this trip was a more formal occasion. However, as soon as they entered the main hall, Gong Ling did not bother with anyone and simply stared straight at Peach.

Peach saw Gong Ling as well, and her eyes turned red.

Gong Ling instantly appeared in front of Lu Yin and the others, and he looked at Peach apologetically as he reached out with his hand to lightly touch Peach's hair. "You have suffered, child."

Peach was once again reminded of the pain that she had gone through, but she did not cry like she had been alone with Lu Yin. However, her expression was even more heart-wrenching in this moment.

Gong Ling looked over at Gong Chou. "Back then, which disciples chased after Little Peach? Has this been investigated?"

Gong Chou answered in a deep voice, "The investigation was finished long ago, but Training Elder did not allow us to take action."

Gong Ling looked at Master Bei with cold eyes.

Master Bei stood up. "There might have been a misunderstanding back then. I know those disciples, and they are not bad people by nature. Possibly--"

Gong Ling quickly raised a hand to cut off Master Bei, and he looked at Gong Chou. "No matter what their reason is, anyone who acted against Little Peach back then shall be captured and thrown onto Arrow Mountain as slaves. Return everything that once belonged to Little Peach's line back to their original owner, and anything that is missing will be replaced by those disciples' seniors and mentors."

"Yes, Sect Leader," Gong Chou acknowledged.

Master Bei's face twisted into an ugly expression. He was an Enlighter, but he had just been forcibly interrupted, and the Sect Leader's unspoken meaning was plain for Master Bei to hear.

"Sect Leader, how should we handle Shao Zisong?" Gong Chou asked.

Master Bei looked over at Gong Ling.

Gong Ling's expression trembled. "Throw him onto Arrow Mountain as a slave for ten years. Nobody is to plead for mercy for him."

"Yes."

Shao Zisong's face turned ashen, and he looked pleadingly at Master Bei. Although there would be no threat to his life while he worked as a slave on Arrow Mountain, how would he ever be able to lead Neo-Vestige Sect after enduring such an experience? How would he ever be able to fight for the position of Sect Leader in the future?

Master Bei desperately wanted to plead for mercy, but when he saw Gong Ling's icy expression, he ultimately decided not to speak up.

Lu Yin observed this Neo-Vestige Sect Sect Leader's actions with a calm expression.

Meng Tianlong's expression became even uglier as, after all, he was the Vastdearth Sect Leader. But despite that, he was being shunned to a corner.

"Little Peach, how are you? Come and let Uncle Sect Leader take a look at you," Gong Ling cooed at Peach in a gentle and apologetic tone.

Peach shook her head. "I'm alright. I've been living in the Great Yu Empire all this while, and it's thanks to His Majesty that I was saved."

Gong Ling only noticed Lu Yin and the others at this moment, and he looked at Lu Yin with a smile. "You're the one who awakened me?"

Lu Yin respectfully answered, "I disturbed Senior's seclusion, but I really had no other choice. I ask for Senior's forgiveness in this matter."

Gong Ling smiled. "Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. You are very intelligent and also very daring. It's makes sense how you were able to establish the Great Eastern Alliance. Even Sect Master Meng has been pulled in by you." Finally, at this time, the Sect Leader looked at Meng Tianlong.

Meng Tianlong forced a smile onto his face. "It's been a long time, Sect Leader Gong."

Gong Ling nodded. "You've become so big in just the blink of an eye. Back then, I even drank with your grandfather."

This sentence stifled Meng Tianlong, as how could he respond to that? His grandfather had been brought into the conversation in an instant.

Lu Yin looked at Meng Tianlong with sympathy. From start to end, this Vastdearth Sect Leader had had no presence. Not only had he been ignored by Neo-Vestige Sect, but he was even two generations

younger than their Sect Leader. It was no wonder why he had been so reluctant to travel here with Lu Yin.

“Everyone, come and take a seat while we talk,” Gong Ling said as he invited them to take their seats.

Master Bei said, “Senior, I have something to take care of, so I’ll head out first.”

Gong Ling grunted in acknowledgement, and he did not keep the elder behind.

Master Bei glanced at Lu Yin with a deep emotion in his eyes before leaving.

Gong Ling did not really seem to care about the guests from afar, or rather, he did not care much about Lu Yin or Meng Tianlong. He only bothered to speak with Peach.

Peach was honest and shared everything that happened during her years in the Great Yu Empire, and the two of them talked for half an hour.

Lu Yin was not in any sort of rush, so he merely watched on as the two spoke.

With some difficulty, Gong Ling finally diverted his attention over to Lu Yin and Meng Tianlong.

“Alliance Leader Lu, Sect Leader Meng, I’ve neglected the two of you.” Gong Ling smiled.

Meng Tianlong hurriedly made some courteous remarks.

Gong Ling looked at Lu Yin. “Little Peach has caused a great deal of trouble for your Great Yu Empire these years. As repayment for your kindness in saving her, my Neo-Vestige Sect will naturally offer you some rewards. You may go to Arrow Mountain and choose any five arrows to take with you.”

Lu Yin’s brow arched up. Only five?

“Seventh Bro, this old fart is too stingy! Five arrows? You are the Great Eastern Alliance Leader!” the Ghost Monkey commented.

Behind Lu Yin, Aden’s expression was not too pleased either. They had been looked down upon with contempt ever since they had arrived at Neo-Vestige Sect, and now, the sect leader wanted to send them away with merely five arrows, which was simply too condescending. He was treating them as if they were just some random Outerverse sect.

Peach kept trying to give Lu Yin covert looks, and she nearly squeezed her eyes together, much to Gong Ling’s amusement.

Lu Yin’s heart moved. “In that case, thank you, Sect Leader Gong. Lu Yin will reluctantly accept your gratitude.”

Gong Ling smiled. “How straightforward. If you have any matters in the future, feel free to contact my Neo-Vestige Sect, and we will help you if we are able.”

Lu Yin was delighted at this offer. “Thank you, Sect Leader Gong.”

The few of them stayed there for half a day, but most of the time was taken up by Gong Ling chatting away with Peach.

Lu Yin grew bored, and he had Gong Chou take him on a tour of Neo-Vestige Sect. Meng Tianlong hurriedly followed after the two youths, and Gong Ling did not mind their departure.

That night, Lu Yin and the others rested in Neo-Vestige Sect, and nobody caused any trouble for them.

In another part of Neo-Vestige Sect, Gong Chou gave his father an in depth introduction of the Great Easter Alliance, as Gong Ling was not willing to rely on Master Bei's biased explanation.

However, various parts of the Outerverse held varying opinions of Lu Yin, and when Gong Ling saw the various online reports and news clips, he was rather amused by the whole deal.

"The four great corporations have always remained low key, but then the Outerverse was isolated from the Innaverse. This allowed Aegis to develop an inflated sense of ambition, so they started acting overbearingly. They would have fallen to a disadvantage sooner or later, but I never would have thought that it would be at the hands of a junior. Although Aegis has not been around for a very long time, they still have a hidden foundation. Despite that and their enormous network of second level managers, they still lost. This kid is pretty good," Gong Ling praised as he looked at a screen.

On the screen was an image of Zenyu Star being attacked.

Gong Chou said, "As a Limiteer, Lu Yin was able to challenge experts on the Top 100 Rankings, defeated the Divine Grade Hall's Ze Lin on Planet Pyrolyte, and was even known as an unequalled Limiteer. After he broke through to the Explorer realm, he was able to participate in battles with Hunters without relying on any foreign objects, and he has the strength to rival the top ranked individuals of the Top 100 Rankings. He's a genius, and when he uses his various external tools, he can even join in battles involving Enlighters."

Gong Ling exclaimed, "That's not as simple as being a genius—this kid is a true monster. And he's only cultivated for seven years."

Gong Chou felt ashamed. "Compared to him, everyone else fades in comparison."

Gong Ling smiled. "It would be alright if he was just talented in cultivation, but this kid's ambition goes beyond most cultivators' imagination. It turns out that his abilities match up to his ambition—that is what's most astonishing about him. The establishment of this Great Eastern Alliance shows that this kid is extraordinarily courageous and that there's no limit to his future achievements."

"Is Father that optimistic about him?" Gong Chou asked.

Gong Ling fell deep into thought, but he did not reply.

## **Chapter 769: Agreement**

The next day, Lu Yin was summoned alone to meet with Gong Ling alone.

"Alliance Leader Lu, I neglected you yesterday," Gong Ling courteously apologized to Lu Yin as soon as they met.

Lu Yin respectfully replied, "Where are these words coming from, Senior?"

Gong Ling studied Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu is not even thirty this year, correct?"

Lu Yin nodded.

"How young and promising. When I was as old as Alliance Leader Lu, I could not even dream of competing for a position in the Top 100 Rankings. Alliance Leader Lu has already gained so many accolades, and given ten more years, perhaps all of the eastern weaves will be under the authority of Alliance Leader Lu." Gong Ling smiled.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "Senior is exaggerating your praise. My success stems not from any special abilities that I may have. Rather, it is because I have various friends who have given me help. That, combined with certain external threats, has all contributed to how I developed into the me of today."

Gong Ling was curious. "External threats? Is Alliance Leader Lu referring to the Astral Beast Domain?"

Lu Yin looked at the older man. "Has Sect Leader ever heard of the Sixth Mainland?"

Gong Ling's expression changed, and he blurted out, "How do you know about that?"

Lu Yin's gaze turned deep. "I'm more curious as to how Sect Leader knows about it."

The secret of the Sixth Mainland had long since been concealed by the Hall of Honor, and few powers, even in the Innerverses, were aware of it. He had asked Gong Ling to casually probe the man, as there were a terrifying amount of hidden rune lines at Neo-Vestige Sect. If Gong Ling did not know about the Sixth Mainland, then Lu Yin would have simply avoided the topic. However, since Gong Ling was indeed aware of it, Lu Yin instantly became even more apprehensive towards Neo-Vestige Sect's foundations.

Gong Ling and Lu Yin exchanged looks as each tried to gleam something from the other's eyes. However, it was a pity that Lu Yin's eyes were too deep. Since he had experienced too many things, Gong Ling could not determine anything from them.

"Alliance Leader Lu, I'll get straight to the point. My Neo-Vestige Sect has records concerning the Sixth Mainland. After all, our sect was founded ages ago, and we are also privy to certain secrets regarding the ancient war. Alliance Leader Lu is very young, so where did you learn about the existence of the Sixth Mainland?" Gong Ling asked.

Lu Yin smiled slightly as he said, "The Hall of Honor."

Gong Ling frowned. "In that case, the rumors circulating around outside are not false. So Alliance Leader Lu has long since obtained support from the Hall of Honor?"

Lu Yin did not admit or deny that statement, and he calmly said, "The Sixth Mainland is a great threat to us. Everyone knows about the Astral Beast Domain's attack on Ironblood Weave. Elder Lohar said that their attack stopped because the Sixth Mainland invaded the Astral Beast Domain. However, just the Astral Beast Domain alone may not necessarily be enough to fend off the Sixth Mainland. Thus, the Outerverse must integrate all its forces, as a fragmented Outerverse is too frail."

Gong Ling was in favor of this opinion. "The Outerverse is actually not that weak, but it's simply too scattered."



Lu Yin looked at the older man. "Since Senior agrees with Junior's thoughts, then why not join the Great Eastern Alliance and prepare to defend against the future threat? The other weaves are not clear of the threat that the Sixth Mainland presents, but Senior should know it very well. Senior should also be aware that a divided Outerverse will absolutely not be able to resist the Sixth Mainland."

Gong Ling smiled. "The Sixth Mainland's threat is just your side of the story. I cannot possibly toss aside so many years of Neo-Vestige Sect's traditions just based on a few of your sentences."

"Is Senior talking about the tradition of being isolated?" Lu Yin asked a rhetorical question.

Gong Ling smiled. "Alliance Leader Lu saved Little Peach, and Neo-Vestige Sect is grateful for that. Thus, those five arrows are a gift of thanks from my Neo-Vestige Sect. However, I also have my own gift of thanks."

Lu Yin was unsatisfied with his response. He could use force against other powers and weaves, but that was not possible with Neo-Vestige Sect. What's more, Gong Ling was also aware of the Sixth Mainland, which made Lu Yin feel even less confident. Neo-Vestige Sect might also have more hidden strength than what he had seen so far. "Senior, Neo-Vestige Sect enjoys an amazing reputation in the Outerverse, and the moment it joins the Great Eastern Alliance, it will certainly spur numerous powers observing from the sidelines into joining as well. Integrating the full power of the Outerverse will provide incredible benefits for all of us. Does Senior want to casually watch on as we are swept away by a disaster?"

"Alliance Leader Lu wields great power in the Great Yu Empire, but if I asked you to bring the Great Yu Empire and the entire Great Eastern Alliance under Neo-Vestige Sect in order to defend against the Sixth Mainland's invasion, would Alliance Leader Lu agree to it without hesitation?" Gong Ling retorted with a smile.

Lu Yin was stumped, but then he firmly answered, "If we were facing truly desperate circumstances and it had to be done, I would not hesitate."

"That's exactly it, and you said it well: only when facing truly desperate circumstances. However, the Outerverse is at peace for now, so where's the necessity? I know about the Sixth Mainland, but the others who belong to Neo-Vestige Sect don't. How could I convince them to join the Great Eastern Alliance? And furthermore, what benefits can your alliance offer to Neo-Vestige Sect for us to join? Everything that Neo-Vestige Sect needs can be obtained from Mordo Weave and Canopy Weave, so we simply don't need any sort of support from other weaves," Gong Ling explained.

Lu Yin fell into silence.

Gong Ling smiled and did not speak. He calmly sipped his tea as he watched Lu Yin with interest. This kid had actually wanted to use a few words to rope Neo-Vestige Sect in, but that was far too naive. Although, this kid actually knew about a top secret like the Sixth Mainland, and the Hall of Honor truly did favor him.

Unfortunately, the few weaves that had already joined the Great Eastern Alliance had been practically threatened into doing so by this youth, and Neo-Vestige Sect could not be intimidated by him. With the Outerverse isolated from the Innaverse, not even the Hall of Honor could intimidate Neo-Vestige Sect.

Lu Yin tapped his fingers on the table and looked up at Gong Ling. “Senior, for Neo-Vestige Sect, nothing should be more important than the bow and arrow, right?”

Gong Ling nodded. “That’s right. Our Neo-Vestige Sect seized control of Canopy Weave because they have many minerals there that can’t be found in Mordo Weave, and those minerals are all very suitable for forging bows and arrows.”

Lu Yin lips curled upwards. “If Junior can forge a better bow and arrow than Neo-Vestige Sect, and in huge quantities as well, then will Senior be willing to join the Great Eastern Alliance and cooperate with Junior?”

Gong Ling was stunned. “A better bow and arrow than my Neo-Vestige Sect? Alliance Leader Lu, you are truly underestimating my Neo-Vestige Sect. Ah, that’s right. You still haven’t been to Arrow Mountain. I agreed to give you five arrows, so I’ll take you there now for you to choose.”

The Sect Leader quickly stood up.

Lu Yin asked, “Could Senior be scared?”

Gong Ling was actually amused. “Alliance Leader Lu, my Neo-Vestige Sect’s history in forging bows and arrows is longer than your Great Yu Empire’s entire history. I’m trying to leave you some face and not put you in a bind, so please stop trying to get tangled up in your words.”

“How about this—let’s use the five arrows that Senior is giving Junior as a wager. If Junior can improve those five arrows to a higher level, then that should be enough to prove Junior’s ability,” Lu Yin said.

Gong Ling was intrigued. “Since Alliance Leader Lu is so determined, then fine. For the sake of Peach’s face, twenty weaves. If your Great Eastern Alliance can unite twenty weaves, then my Neo-Vestige Sect will join you.”

Lu Yin’s eyes lit up. “Really?”

Gong Ling nodded and smiled. “Naturally. It looks like Alliance Leader Lu is very confident, but I want to remind you that all the eastern weaves combined total to less than twenty weaves.”

Lu Yin was indeed aware of that fact, and he also could not count Mordo Weave or Canopy Weave among those twenty. This meant that he would have to act against the central weaves in order to rope in Neo-Vestige Sect.

“No matter what, this is still an opportunity. Senior, let’s make an agreement: twenty weaves,” Lu Yin said firmly.

Gong Ling nodded. “Alright.”

They had agreed upon twenty weaves, but to Lu Yin, the more important detail was the bows and arrows. If he could truly forge a bow and arrow that was more powerful than Neo-Vestige Sect, then he would definitely be able to change their perception of him.

Arrow Mountain was the core of Neo-Vestige Sect, and it took up a considerable amount of space. Each arrow was embedded into the dark red soil, and they all emitted a sharp aura. The aura was so pervasive that there were even phantom images of arrows streaking across the sky from unknown locations.

With Gong Chou's guidance, Lu Yin, Peach, Aden, the blind monk, and Meng Tianlong arrived at Arrow Mountain. Lu Yin looked at the rune lines that filled the sky and was astounded. It was obvious that this was the core of Neo-Vestige Sect, as each arrow in this place had been crafted from rare minerals and various treasures. Even if a commoner fired one of these arrows, they would be able to exhibit astounding power.

Nobody noticed that, as they approached Arrow Mountain, all of the arrows there trembled imperceptibly as a pair of murky eyes opened in the depths of the darkness.

As he looked at Arrow Mountain, Aden suddenly exclaimed, "So there's actually a power in the Outerverse that is able to create so many powerful arrows. How impressive!"

Meng Tianlong seemed apprehensive, as this was Neo-Vestige Sect. If the disciples who had confronted them earlier had each taken a single arrow from this place, then their small group would have been in trouble. It also had to be mentioned that some of the arrows in this place contained various additional effects.

Gong Chou was pleased by the group's reaction. When discussing arrows, their Neo-Vestige Sect would not admit inferiority to anyone else, and Arrow Mountain was their pride and joy.

Peach looked at Arrow Mountain with a reminiscent expression before pulling Lu Yin over and quietly telling him, "Let's go inside. The ones on the edges aren't that good."

Lu Yin nodded and then took Peach with him as they walked further in.

Gong Chou's lips twitched, and he felt as if his daughter had married out and left the fold.

On Arrow Mountain, each arrow was separated from the others by at least a thousand meters, and there were some that were even tens or hundreds of thousands of meters away from any other arrow. From Lu Yin's perspective, some of the arrows' rune lines shot up towards the sky, others radiated out in all directions, and still others shot underground.

He was not planning on blindly choosing an arrow. Instead, he was observing the rune lines.

Now, he was torn. If he chose arrows that were too valuable, it might cause Neo-Vestige Sect to become unhappy with him.

A whooshing sound was heard nearby, and an arrow trembled. A phantom image of an arrow shot through the void, and the entire arrow disappeared.

"This arrow has selected its own owner," Gong Chou explained.

Lu Yin was surprised. "They have reached that high a level?"

Gong Chou smiled. "Everyone in my Neo-Vestige Sect can forge arrows, and the arrows can also sense arrow aura while someone is forging. Our cultivation has been passed on for many generations, and some arrows have been merged with specific arrow auras. Arrows that sense people with similar arrow auras may select an owner by themselves."

Lu Yin understood. When a master forged arrows and left them on Arrow Mountain, that arrow might later sense an aura from an arrow from a passing disciple that resembled the arrow's creator's arrow aura. For the disciples, this was also a good way to choose the most suitable arrow, which was rather interesting.

This was the difference in foundations. There were so many arrows scattered across Arrow Mountain, and they represented the many generations of Neo-Vestige Sect disciples.

The group continued to walk towards the depths of Arrow Mountain, and they encountered quite a few disciples who were aimlessly wandering around, seemingly looking for arrows.

They also saw many people in tattered clothes who were walking about in a numb manner. These people were the slaves of Arrow Mountain. They waited on Arrow Mountain for people who were forging arrows to summon them, and then they would hurry over to assist in the forging process.

"Brother Gong, what happens if a disciple unintentionally obtains a powerful arrow?" Lu Yin asked.

Gong Chou replied, "That is something that depends whether or not they have the ability to obtain such an arrow."

Coincidentally, in the distance, a Neo-Vestige Sect disciple cried out as his hands were charred; evidently, he had been burned. In front of him, there was an arrow that was flushed red, and its temperature was so high that it nearly distorted the void.

Peach's eyes lit up. "Your Highness, that arrow isn't bad."

Lu Yin was curious, so he walked over.

### **Chapter 770: Arrow Selection**

The disciple was not reconciled with his failure, and when he saw Lu Yin's group walking over, he thought that they wanted to snatch the arrow that he was after. Without thinking, he grabbed it again. Another wail rang out, and this time, the arrow did not merely burn his hands, and even his hair was scorched by the arrow's scalding temperature.

Peach laughed.

That disciple snorted and stood up. He then moved over to the side and stared at Lu Yin in a provocative manner, as if waiting for Lu Yin to make a fool of himself.

Gong Chou smiled and shook his head. Naturally, Lu Yin could easily grab this arrow with his strength.

Suddenly, the fiery red arrow trembled and flew into the distance, where it landed in the hands of another Neo-Vestige Sect disciple.

The crowd looked over, stunned, as it was actually someone they were familiar with: Shao Ziyu.

Shao Ziyu looked at Lu Yin's group with glee while toying with the arrow in his hands. "Sorry, everyone. This divine arrow selected its owner, and I managed to get it a little quicker."

Gong Chou did not speak.

Peach was furious. "Lucky bastard."

Shao Ziyu sneered, "I heard that the Sect Leader has allowed you guys to select five arrows, so I suggest that you guys select them from the foot of the mountain. Otherwise, you won't be able to make it out alive."

"You dare to threaten us?" Peach was furious.

Gong Chou stepped forward and spoke in a deep voice. "Shao Ziyu, watch your attitude. These people are all distinguished guests of the Sect Leader."

Shao Ziyu sneered and continued playing with the arrow as he had been doing while looking at Lu Yin with a challenge in his eyes.

Lu Yin had been uninterested in that arrow from before, and he had only approached it since he was slightly curious. There were numerous arrows on Arrow Mountain, and that burning arrow could not be ranked highly at all. As Lu Yin thought about it, he looked towards the depths of Arrow Mountain and slowly continued walking over.

Shao Ziyu followed behind them while continuing to play with the arrow in his hands, ready to taunt Lu Yin the moment he chose a lousy arrow. These people had caused his elder brother to become an Arrow Mountain slave, and even if Shao Ziyu wasn't able to get revenge, he still had to find a way to vent his frustrations.

He wasn't content with just watching and mocking Lu Yin himself, as he called up a group of disciples to join him and watch Lu Yin make a fool of himself.

Only people like them, disciples who played with bows and arrows all year round, knew how to select an appropriate arrow. Those that appeared to be powerful may not necessarily be better than one that appeared inferior. Even if Shao Ziyu could not deal with this person, he could still make him miserable.

"That fellow is really revolting," Peach said while seething. Shao Zisong had chased her in the past, and now, she was being stalked by Shao Ziyu, which made her rather upset.

Gong Chou was helpless. "He's Teaching Uncle's disciple, and in our Neo-Vestige Sect, Training Uncle's line holds a rather high status."

Lu Yin was well aware of that. Since one of the three arrows was in Master Bei's hands, it was not as simple as the man having a high status. It would be more accurate to say that he was untouchable.

The crowd headed further into the depths of Arrow Mountain, though none of them noticed that a pair of eyes were focused on them. Eventually, they landed on Lu Yin and grew puzzled.

Lu Yin paused and looked about in all directions, as a chill had just run down his spine. He had experienced this sensation more than once in the past, and he was aware that it meant that a super powerhouse was focusing on him. Could it be that Arrow Mountain Elder?

Lu Yin surveyed his surroundings with a serious expression as the rune lines from that Arrow Mountain Elder filled Arrow Mountain. However, Lu Yin could not pinpoint the expert's location.

“You’re putting on quite a show! Do you really think that you can choose the best arrows?” Shao Ziyu asked with a sneer as he looked at Lu Yin with cold eyes.

The crowd of disciples behind were jeering at them as well.

Peach’s face flushed red.

Gong Chou frowned, as these people were being rather troublesome.

Lu Yin looked over at Shao Ziyu. “Are you saying that I can’t choose a good arrow?”

“Obviously,” Shao Ziyu replied.

Lu Yin smiled. “All of the arrows on Arrow Mountain come from your Neo-Vestige Sect and were forged by your own people. So tell me, which one is inferior?”

This sentence stifled Shao Ziyu, as did he dare to comment on which one was lousy? That would just be offending his own sect.

Peach shouted, “Right, tell us, which one is lousy?”

Gong Chou looked on in amusement, as Shao Ziyu had certainly stuck his foot in his own mouth.

Shao Ziyu coldly answered, “Kid, you have quite a sharp tongue. The Sect Leader has allowed you to pick five arrows, so let’s see what you can get.”

Lu Yin looked up into the sky and sighed, “Out of gratitude towards me for taking care of Peach, he offered me five arrows. At first, I didn’t plan on putting too much effort into selecting them, since taking care of Peach is my responsibility. However, since you’ve said so much, I guess I’ll have to select something better.”

Shao Ziyu sneered while a taller girl behind also mocked Lu Yin. “Just by yourself? Go on, pick one! You’re nothing but talk until you take action.”

“Yeah, just go on and try!” The entire crowd of disciples started jeering at Lu Yin, which attracted more disciples, causing them to trickle towards the commotion one after another.

Peach pulled at Lu Yin’s sleeve. “Your Highness, do you really know how to pick out an arrow? How about this—why don’t I get Uncle Sect Leader to help us out?”

Lu Yin patted Peach on the head and then casually walked over to a boulder that had a very ordinary looking arrow embedded in the ground beside it. This arrow was completely different from the nearby arrows that could cause phantom arrows to appear. This one looked like a piece of scrap that had been left behind.

Lu Yin crouched down and picked it up easily. “I just want this one.”

Shao Ziyu laughed when he saw Lu Yin pick up that particular arrow, and the crowd behind him similarly guffawed and taunted Lu Yin.

Peach was so upset that she stomped her feet.

Aden's trio were more calm, as they knew Lu Yin's personality. How could possibly he allow these people to treat him as if he were a clown?

Gong Chou grew suspicious, as he could not see anything special about that arrow at all. This person was truly difficult to understand.

Lu Yin smiled as he spun the arrow around in his hands. He then looked at Shao Ziyu with a teasing expression on his face. "Would you believe me if I told you that, even if all of you were sold, you still wouldn't amount to the value of this arrow?"

Shao Ziyu laughed. "It's no wonder why you're the Great Eastern Alliance Leader—what an ostentatious way with words you have! You must have developed your ability to create deliberate misconceptions as you suppressed all those other weaves, right?"

Meng Tianlong's face immediately fell.

"Shut up, you foolish spawn!" a voice barked as a rumbling noise descended from the sky.

Everyone looked up to see that Master Bei had appeared suddenly, and his face was incredibly gloomy as he stared closely at the arrow in Lu Yin's hands. "The Arrow of Toughness: it conquers all and can withstand a power level of 300,000. One of the best arrows on Arrow Mountain."

Master Bei's words shocked everyone like a lightning strike. Even Aden and the others had not thought that Lu Yin would choose one of the best arrows on Arrow Mountain as his first choice. They had known that Lu Yin would not allow the other party to mock him without giving a rebuttal, but this counterattack was just too cruel.

Shao Ziyu was stunned; was this actually possible? He had walked through Arrow Mountain multiple times, and he had seen that arrow countless times. However, he had never even considered picking it up. Now, it turned out that it was one of the best arrows!

The disciples from Neo-Vestige Sect were similarly dumbfounded, and they stared fervently at the arrow in Lu Yin's hands.

Peach was delighted, and she bounced over in front of Lu Yin. She took the Arrow of Toughness and exclaimed, "This is one of the best arrows? Really? An old person wouldn't be mistaken, right?"

Master Bei did not let Peach's rudeness bother him, and he instead simply stared at Lu Yin. "Junior, how did you find it?" He did not believe that Lu Yin could have such a deep understanding of arrows that he had spotted the Arrow of Toughness in just a single glance. Sect Leader Gong Ling must have told him, which meant that the man had used his position for personal gain, which was too excessive.

Lu Yin shrugged and pointed at Shao Ziyu. "He told me."

Master Bei glared over at Shao Ziyu.

Shao Ziyu was stunned. "I- I- when did I tell you anything? Stop spouting nonsense! This will be the death of me!"

To Neo-Vestige Sect, arrows were of the utmost importance, and the arrows on Arrow Mountain were even more important. They held a similar position as the inherited techniques that had been passed down within many families and sects, but right now, one of the best arrows in Neo-Vestige Sect had been taken away by Lu Yin. Shao Ziyu would end up being killed if he had actually guided Lu Yin to it. Even if he was Master Bei's disciple, there still would not be anyone who could protect him.

Master Bei glared at Lu Yin once again, as he naturally did not believe that his own disciple had guided this brat to the arrow. His disciple was not crazy, and if he had known about the value of that arrow, he would have taken it away long ago.

Lu Yin commented, "I only wanted to choose five random arrows from the foot of the mountain, but you started annoying me. Thus, I picked one up at random. My luck has always been pretty good, so I managed to select one of the best arrows."

Shao Ziyu's face twisted into an ugly expression.

Master Bei's eyes narrowed before they coldly swept over Shao Ziyu. "You've proven to be unable to accomplish anything, but you can still spoil everything."

There was no need to guess, Shao Ziyu already knew that he was in big trouble. He had only made some comments as a joke. Who could have expected Lu Yin to actually choose the Arrow of Toughness of all things? Shao Ziyu knew that he was destined to shoulder responsibility for this. He was already doomed.

Lu Yin stored the Arrow of Toughness away and looked around. "You kept pissing me off, and mocking me, saying that I don't know a thing about arrows. Fine, I'll seriously choose another."

He walked further into the depths of Arrow Mountain as the crowd followed.

Shao Ziyu watched on, completely depressed. This bastard's luck was just too good.

Master Bei did not leave. Instead, he was determined to observe Lu Yin from start to end while the youth chose his next arrow. The elder also wanted to see how many good arrows Sect Leader Gong Ling had told this kid about.

Lu Yin walked on at a leisurely pace, and before long, he stopped and looked to his right. There was an arrow in that direction that was frozen in the void. At first glance, it seemed pretty strong as it emitted a cold aura that was plain for everyone to see.

This was an arrow that carried a desperate cold with it.

Lu Yin walked over.

Shao Ziyu's eyes narrowed, and he quickly glanced at someone behind him. That disciple hurriedly rushed over and pressed a hand against the arrow with the cold aura, one step ahead of Lu Yin. That person was evidently skilled in battle techniques that were related to ice, so he was able to smoothly recover the arrow.

Shao Ziyu was pleased, and Master Bei's expression improved greatly.

Peach asked in a heated voice, "Your Highness, why did you walk so slowly?"



Lu Yin felt puzzled. "What's the matter?"

Peach pointed back at Shao Ziyu. "Those people stole your arrow! How annoying."

Lu Yin said, "What arrow? Oh, are you talking about the arrow with the cold aura? That's none of my business. I didn't want that one anyway."

After speaking, he continued to casually walk towards the area where that icy arrow had been embedded before bending down. A smile spread across his face as his eyes brightened.

In the sky, Master Bei's eyes narrowed. "Junior, don't mess around!"

Lu Yin did not listen to the elder. Then, he grabbed... the shadow. The crowd felt that something was off, as that icy arrow had clearly already been taken, but its shadow had remained behind. What was going on? Unless, that wasn't actually a shadow, but rather an arrow.

They had guessed correctly, and Lu Yin directly grabbed a hold of that shadowy black arrow. The image of the arrow briefly distorted, causing the surrounding area to become devoid of all light, and everyone was temporarily blinded. Everyone felt as if they had been sucked into a blackhole in space and swallowed.

The blinding effect was just temporary, and when they opened their eyes, the crowd saw that the arrow in Lu Yin's hands still seemed to be distorting, and they were dumbfounded. Even a fool could tell that this was no ordinary arrow.

Lu Yin sneered, "You still want to run after landing in my hand? Now show me your true form."

The shadowy arrow then changed into two arrows: one black, and one white. Suddenly, two identical arrows had appeared before the crowd's eyes.

Shao Ziyu was stunned. Just what was going on?

In the sky, Master Bei suddenly grabbed at Lu Yin. "Junior, release that arrow!"

But then, another power appeared that forced Master Bei back. Sect Leader Gong Ling had appeared, and he looked sullen.

Master Bei saw Sect Leader Gong Ling arrive, and he quickly asked, "Senior, why did you stop me?"