

Chapter 801: Blackless God And Mister Mu

Qiong Xi'er stared at Zhu San with a dumbfounded expression. "You actually dodged that?"

Zhu San cried out, "Xi'er, I came to save you!"

"Your Zhu family's gotten something wrong." Qiong Xi'er folded her hands together again, forming another strange shape that then shot towards Zhu San. Shockingly, the power of this strike was even higher than the first. "Let's see how you dodge this."

Zhu San sighed, and his eyes flickered as he observed Qiong Xi'er's strike. He raised a hand, and his fingers impressively bent into the same shape that Qiong had just used before he tapped out as well.

Qiong Xi'er was astonished, and the collision between the two attacks forced Zhu San more than ten steps back. Although his finger was bent in a strange and clearly injured manner, he had still actually managed to block Qiong Xi'er's attack.

"How do you know the Yinyang Trisage Technique?" Qiong Xi'er barked as she stared intently at Zhu San.

Zhu San hurriedly replied, "Xi'er, that monster's coming back, so let's leave this place first. I'll explain everything to you later."

Qiong Xi'er stared at Zhu San, but then her eyes flickered, and she ran off in another direction. "Follow me."

Zhu San hurriedly chased after her.

The Specter Clan expert quickly plundered all of the star essence in the City Master's estate, but when he returned to the underground room, he discovered that Qiong Xi'er had disappeared. He was about to chase after her, but he coincidentally glanced to the side and noticed the mark left behind by Qiong Xi'er's battle technique. It surprised him, and he exclaimed, "This is—"

But before he could complete his thought, a rumbling sound came from even deeper underground. His expression changed. This isn't good—those Enlighters are about to escape!

He had spent so much effort to force them all into the cannon barrel, but now, they had all escaped, and all his efforts had gone down the drain. He could not remain in this place any longer.

There was a thump as the stone wall in front of him suddenly split open. Blaze Engineer stepped out, carrying his screwdriver as he coincidentally moved in front of the Specter Clan expert's path. The Specter Clan expert looked over with his white eyes and exchanged glances with an unprepared Blaze Engineer. The Enlighter from Aurora Enterprises felt his heart tremble as his eyes went slack. Death energy formed a sickle that quickly sliced out at the defenseless Blaze Engineer. Right before the sickle sliced into him, Lu Yin popped out and activated the Yu Secret Art, diverting the sickle and saving Blaze Engineer's life.

The Specter Clan expert did not even consider fighting these people head on, so he quickly changed directions and tried to flee. However, he was blocked by Sall Phoenix, and the man's black Undying Bird crowed as it flew over.

The death energy immediately whooshed forward and entangled the black Undying Bird, rendering Sall Phoenix's attack completely useless.

The void trembled, and Yuehua Mavis suddenly appeared. "Moonkill."

The Specter Clan expert's expression changed. He might be able to disregard the others, but the only one he could not ignore was this woman from the Mavis family. As the Moonkill battle technique fell down upon him, he tried to block it with his death energy, but at the same time, a Lotus Strike entangled him from below.

With the crowd of Enlighteners all attacking the man at the same time, not even a powerhouse from the Specter Clan was able to withstand the assault.

Cai Jianqiang, Saul, and Zhu Tiezhu also joined the efforts to suppress the Specter Clan expert.

His entire body transformed into death energy that then dissipated only to recondense in another area. But when he looked around him, he was already surrounded.

Blaze Engineer had woken up from his daze, and he gratefully thanked Lu Yin. "Thank you, young fellow."

Lu Yin stared at the Specter Clan expert; if this person had been a grey eyed corpse king, this last round of attacks would have suppressed him. However, this Specter Clan expert had managed to somehow withstand everything. It was no wonder why he had sensed death energy, and Lu Yin wondered if his ability to suppress death energy would be effective against this person.

"Do you people really want to become enemies with my Neohuman Alliance?" a sinister voice called out as the Specter Clan expert intently stared at Yuehua Mavis.

Yuehua Mavis looked over at the man, and she actually purposefully exchanged glances with him. Her eyes flashed with a verdant green tone, and the white pupils stared at the green eyes as they each tried to take control of the other, but both were deadlocked in a stalemate. "The universal, ironclad laws state that all members of the Neohuman Alliance must be killed."

The Specter Clan expert sniggered in a strange manner. "The Outerverse has been cut off from the Innerverse, so who can possibly help you? This is the final warning: let me go, or you will all die."

"Where's your confidence coming from?" Zhu Tiezhu growled out. "Where's Qiong Xi'er? What have you done with her?"

The Specter Clan expert's white eyes remained emotionless. "Since you want to die, then I'll fulfill all of your wishes."

The man then closed his eyes as all the death energy returned to his body. He then simply stood there silently, as if his entire body was nothing more than a corpse.

Everyone paused, not wanting to make any reckless moves as the reputation of the Three Dark Hands was too terrifying—the Neohuman Alliance was the greatest darkness that humanity had. Even with the numerous Enlighters present, not a single one of them dared to claim that they would absolutely win.

This person's words made all of them tremble.

"Yuehua Mavis, what did he mean? What other methods does he have?" Sall Phoenix asked.

Yuehua Mavis's expression turned solemn. "I don't know."

The Mavis family boasted an incredibly long history, and they had been around almost as long as humanity itself. Their history even surpassed that of the Neohuman Alliance's, but despite that, they still did not have a clear understanding of the Neohuman Alliance. The origin of this darkness, the methods that it possessed, and even its objectives were all unknown to Yuehua Mavis.

A clan elder might be aware of such details, but she definitely wasn't.

Lu Yin's eye twitched, as the Specter Clan expert's rune lines had completely vanished in an instant. Were they truly gone with him becoming like a commoner, or was he instead preparing to escape? No, that was impossible. Lu Yin had always been observing this person, and there would definitely be rune lines if he was preparing to escape, unless he possessed a method to completely suppress his aura similar to Aegis's assassins.

The crowd was confused, but nobody dared to approach the man. The Specter Clan expert's eyes remained closed, and he seemed like a dead person without any spark of life. However, this strange state was exactly what scared the Enlighters the most.

"Stop messing with us." Cai Jianqiang's voice was low. As he spoke, he tapped out with a finger reinforced with nine lined battle force, and his attack shot towards the Specter Clan expert. This attack had enough power in it to instantly kill an ordinary Cruiser, as it was boosted with nine lined battle force.

However, the attack completely collapsed when it was less than a centimeter away from the Specter Clan expert.

Despite the collapse of Cai Jianqiang's attack, nobody had sensed any aura fluctuations or seen any rune lines appear.

Lu Yin felt apprehensive, as this entire situation was weird.

Suddenly, the Specter Clan expert opened his eyes. However, his eyes were no longer the white eyes that they had seen before, but rather a pair of very normal looking eyes. They were bright and lively, though they were also deep and vast like the heavens, as their depths could not be seen.

Then, the eyes changed yet again. This time, three pitch-black and colorless lines superimposed upon each other to form a star-like diagram within his eyes, giving them a very crafty look.

Everyone warily watched the Specter Clan powerhouse.

"You can't escape," Zhu Tiezhu barked.

The Specter Clan expert released no aura whatsoever, and as far as everyone could tell, he seemed to be a dead person or perhaps a commoner. His eyes moved, and he looked over the crowd, his gaze slightly lingering on Yuehua Mavis. He then moved on and continued to scan through everyone one by one before his eyes finally settled on Zhu Tiezhu's body, at which point he showed blatant amazement. "Someone from the Ce family! Interesting, do you guys also want this mobile fortress?"

Most of the others did not understand what he was talking about. Only Yuehua Mavis's eyes shrank, and she turned to stare at Zhu Tiezhu. The Ce family? Is it that Ce family? Why would they be here?

Zhu Tiezhu frowned. "I don't know what you are talking about."

The Specter Clan expert gave a relaxed smile. "You dare play dumb in front of me? Well, since you are from the Ce family, you have to die as well."

Suddenly, the diagram within his eyes started to spin. Then, seemingly without anything happening, Zhu Tiezhu was dead. He slowly crumpled to the floor, no longer showing any signs of life.

At this moment, everyone was horrified, and they started to back away as one. They stared at the Specter Clan powerhouse in disbelief. Had he really just killed an Enlightener? How had he done it? How had this person acted without making any moves?

Lu Yin was petrified, as he had not seen any rune lines appear. A chill ran down his spine.

The Specter Clan expert gave a slight smile and turned to look at Yuehua Mavis. "There are only a few members of the Mavis family left, and there are likely only one or two of you in the Outerverse. Since you're one of them, I can vent a bit of anger by killing you, even if there's not much meaning to doing so. Do you think that I should kill you?"

Yuehua Mavis asked in a low voice, "Who are you exactly?"

The Specter Clan expert suddenly stared straight at Lu Yin. "Black-less-Spirit."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed, and his scalp went numb. The greatest disaster had just appeared.

Everyone else had no idea who he was, as even Villa Mistress Lian, Sall Phoenix, Saul, and Cai Jianqiang had no knowledge of Blackless God. The Seven Skygods' existence was not known to most people, with the exception of a few old freaks. Typically, only those who were a part of the Three Dark Hands had heard of them. Yuehua Mavis was one of the Mavis family's true members, so she also knew of this name.

"Why are you in the Outerverse?" Yuehua Mavis's expression had completely changed. Even when she had been faced with death within the barrel of the energy cannon, she had not lost her composure. But at this moment, terror and even desperation were easily seen within her eyes.

Blackless God smiled, but he did not answer. Instead, he simply looked at Lu Yin. "This is our third time meeting, so please give me an answer."

Yuehua Mavis looked at Lu Yin in utter confusion. Blackless God was a powerful character who stood at the true pinnacle of the entire universe, but he had seemingly met Lu Yin several times. What did Blackless God see in this youth?

The others did not utter any words, nor did they move, though that was because they were unable to. As soon as Blackless God had appeared, not to mention the Enlighters present, but even a powerhouse with Northgate Taisui's strength would not be able to move. And this was all just from a strand of Blackless God's spiritual force.

In Blackless God's eyes, there was not much difference between someone with a power level of 200,000 and 10,000; they were all ants in his eyes.

Lu Yin was growing anxious; where was Master? Why hadn't he appeared yet? Lu Yin had crushed the jade talisman long ago. Was his master really so unreliable? The being before them was able to casually wipe out an Enlighter, and Lu Yin would feel no sense of safety even if he put his universal armor back on.

The diagram in Blackless God's eyes consisting of the interposed lines started to spin. "Answer me."

Lu Yin swallowed his saliva. "Let me ask you a question: do you know Mister Mu?"

Blackless God's expression did not change in any way. "Are you trying to stall for time? Who are you waiting for? Do you truly believe that there is anybody who can save you? Tell me: who, exactly, can save you?"

"He's waiting for me." Four words suddenly rang out in the underground space, and they seemed to ring right next to everyone's ears without any warning.

Blackless God's expression changed drastically, and he suddenly looked up at the distorting void, from which Mister Mu slowly walked out.

The diagram of lines in Blackless God's eyes suddenly began to spin much quicker. "It's you? What are you-"

Mister Mu raised a hand and pressed down with a single palm that landed on top of Blackless God's head. Millions City and the space around it all slightly trembled at the same moment, and the gathered people only saw a thread of black gas float out from the top of the head that then dissipated.

Everyone stared at this scene, flabbergasted and unsure of what was going on.

"It was residing within this person's body through its spiritual force, and this trace of spiritual force has been erased by Master," Mister Mu calmly explained.

Lu Yin was stumped, as his master had resolved things way too quickly.

Suddenly, Lu Yin shouted, "Master, be careful!"

That Specter Clan expert that Blackless God had possessed suddenly awakened, and he gathered death energy into his hand to slam it towards Mister Mu. The attack squarely hit Mister Mu, but Mister Mu showed no reaction. Instead, there was only the sound of a stifled groan, and when everyone looked, they saw that blood was spilling from the Specter Clan's expert mouth while his face was contorted as

though he was suffering from some indescribable pain. In addition, his white eyes were filled with an endless terror. Then, he fell to the floor, completely devoid of any vitality.

Chapter 802: Ce Secret Art

Mister Mu had killed the elite powerhouse from the Specter Clan without even moving.

The present Enlighters were all shocked to their core. Just what was going on today? Experts were showing up one after another, each more powerful than the next.

Mister Mu waved a hand, causing Yuehua Mavis and the others to fall unconscious, leaving Lu Yin as the only person awake.

Lu Yin practically wanted to worship his master. "Master, you came at the perfect moment!"

Mister Mu calmly answered, "Blackless God should have only had one strand of spiritual force in the Outerverse. Now that it's been destroyed, you probably won't encounter him again."

What was Mister Mu saying? Was he not going to give him another jade talisman? Lu Yin started to grow anxious. "Master, the Neohuman Alliance is planning something big. There are seven Skygods in total, so there might still be another one in the Outerverse."

Mister Mu replied, "The Outerverse is not significant enough to warrant the personal attention of any of the seven Skygods, though there might be some of their other elites lying around." He then passed another jade talisman over to Lu Yin. "You're not allowed to use this unless there is an urgent need. Otherwise, I'll disown you as my disciple."

Lu Yin was extremely grateful. "Thank you, Master."

Mister Mu glanced at the people who were now lying on the floor, and his gaze also lingered on Zhu Tiezhu's corpse for a moment. "I didn't expect to see someone from the Ce family in this place."

Lu Yin was confused. "The Ce family?"

"The Ce family of the Court of Seven Names," Mister Mu explained.

Lu Yin finally remembered now. The Ce family was a part of the Seven Courts. Upon realizing this, Lu Yin looked down at Zhu Tiezhu in shock. "He's from the Ce family of the Seven Courts?"

Mister Mu looked back at Lu Yin. "I previously said that I had been planning on giving you an opportunity, but of your own volition, you gave that opportunity to that girl. Today, I can give you another opportunity, but you'll have to grasp this one with your own ability. It will be up to your own comprehension as to whether or not you are able to receive it."

He lifted a hand, causing Zhu Tiezhu's body to float off of the floor. A droplet of blood emerged from the dead man's forehead that Mister Mu then tossed towards Lu Yin, only for it to enter Lu Yin's body. "This is the Ce family's blood. I can help you traverse the rivers of time to watch the chess match."

Lu Yin's eyes glazed over as his sight went dark. Moments later, he appeared in an enclosed space completely devoid of light. The only visible area was a corner illuminated by a faint beam of moonlight. Within the moonlight, he could see an ancient chessboard. He instinctively walked up to it and carefully

examined it. He didn't know how to play chess, but at that moment, he felt as though he had been integrated into the chessboard.

If someone could see Lu Yin at this moment, they would instantly notice that he was no longer Lu Yin, but rather Zhu Tiezhu. His appearance had completely changed into Zhu Tiezhu's.

The chessboard was ancient, and the chess pieces on the board were all covered in dust.

Lu Yin stared at the board in a daze as scenes of chess games started to whirl through his mind. He saw people laughing, strategizing, and feeling regret. The matches that he saw were very exciting, and he vicariously experienced the tumultuous vicissitudes even though he couldn't understand the games themselves.

Every chess piece was a star while the chessboard was the universe. He was on the chessboard, and he was also in the universe.

Was he a chess piece or a player? Was he being manipulated, or was he manipulating others? Lu Yin lost his sense of self and felt as if he had become a chess piece but also a laughing player at the same time.

"Hahahaha, I, Ce Wangtian, have finally created a secret technique: Astral Chessboard. After playing chess for decades. I'm the only person in the universe who can take back a move! Nobody can rewind their life, but if I want to do so, then only I can take back my move! Ce Secret Art: Astral Chessboard."

A chess piece landed on the chessboard with a bang. The sudden change dispersed the darkness, and Lu Yin was jolted back to reality. His vision was no longer filled with scenes of the ancient chessboard, as he was back in Millions City, and Mister Mu was standing in front of him.

Lu Yin was covered in a cold sweat when he recalled what he had just seen. Ce Wangtian? Taking back his move? The Ce Secret Art: Astral Chessboard? That must be the Ce family's secret technique!

"How was it?" Mister Mu asked calmly.

Lu Yin hesitantly answered, "Master, I'm not sure whether or not I understood what I saw."

Mister Mu nodded. "That'll be up to fate. But even if you don't understand it, it was still an experience."

Lu Yin still wasn't sure whether or not he had comprehended what he had just witnessed. The Ce Secret Art was very different from the Yu Secret Art. He was able to practice the Yu Secret Art, but this Ce Secret Art felt more like a mindset, and it seemed to be some sort of inheritance left behind by Ce Wangtian through the chessboard. "Master, where is that chessboard?"

He wanted to experience what he had seen again, as it would be a waste if he couldn't comprehend the Ce Secret Art. Although he didn't even know what the Ce Secret Art's true power was, the speech he had heard from Ce Wangtian had inspired him. If one could take back a move, then that implied having the power to turn back time and retrying an event that had already occurred. Ce Wangtian had managed to do so, and he was the only person who had succeeded in doing so.

Could the Ce Secret Art help Lu Yin achieve that as well?

He really wanted to learn this Ce Secret Art.

“That chessboard is an ancient inheritance of the Ce family from the Court of Seven Names, and even the true heirs of the Ce family only ever have one chance to see it in their entire lifetime. This person never visited that place, and I only helped you get in by using his blood. You can only go there again if the Ce family agrees to it,” Mister Mu explained.

Lu Yin anxiously asked, “Master, the son and grandchildren of this man are just outside of here, so can their blood take me back to that place?”

Mister Mu looked at Lu Yin with a complicated expression. “Yes, but they will have to die to do so.”

Lu Yin smiled awkwardly. “Never mind then.”

He had no enmity with the Zhu family, and he didn’t want to kill any of them. Mister Mu would probably disown him as a disciple if he truly asked him to kill Zhu San so that he could take another look at the chessboard.

“Oh, right. Master, what should we do with the rest of them?” Lu Yin asked.

Mister Mu suddenly disappeared as Lu Yin heard him say, “Some parts of their memory have been removed.”

Lu Yin sighed in relief, as that was a good thing. He didn’t want them to remember that he had saved them from the cannon’s energy blast. Wait a second, since their memories had been removed, then did that mean that their cosmic rings now belonged to him?

Lu Yin blinked and rubbed his chin in consideration. Would it be too despicable for him to simply keep them? In the end, he felt bad about it as he had already taken all of these people’s star essence, so he should probably return their cosmic rings.

Lu Yin returned everyone’s rings to them, except for Sall Phoenix’s. He was no saint, and Sall Phoenix was his enemy. Thus, Lu Yin felt that he was already being kind by not killing the man.

Actually, should he kill him? Lu Yin was torn.

Suddenly, he thought of something and unleashed his domain. He quickly found Qiong Xi’er and Zhu San nearby, and they had both fallen unconscious as well. Mister Mu had not left anyone awake. However, Qiong Xi’er should have been under that Specter Clan expert’s control.

Lu Yin collected a bit of Qiong Xi’er’s blood for safekeeping as he had heard that Millions City was controlled by the Qiong family’s blood. If that was the case, then he should probably prepare a backup plan. As for Zhu San, Lu Yin had already realized that the young heir wasn’t a normal person back when they first met, though he had never expected this family to be part of the Court of Seven Names.

Lu Yin had already met people from the Yōu, Yu, Ce, and Ku families of the Court of Seven Names. There were now only three families that he had never encountered.

The incidents underground hadn’t affected the situation on the surface at all.

Wei Rong was still cooperating with many others to attack the barrier that had formed around Millions City. Hoffman had also regained consciousness, though he was now planning to escape instead of making his way underground.

When he had first regained consciousness, he had wanted to kill the corpse king. However, he wasn't able to kill the corpse king no matter how fiercely he attacked. The Grey Eyes Transformation meant that the corpse king's power had increased by tenfold, and not even Hoffman was able to defeat this transformed corpse king. Thus, the only thing he wanted to do at this point was to leave.

The corpse king roared, and the Lotus Strike trapping it started cracking. It didn't take long for it to completely shatter.

Hoffman and countless other cultivators were all still attacking the barrier covering the city. But when the corpse king bellowed, its roar shook Millions City to its core.

Hoffman's expression changed, and he turned to look at the ground. The corpse king glared at him in the same moment that he looked down before leaping into the sky. Black lightning then descended upon the city.

Millions City fell into darkness once again as black lightning streaked across the sky, injuring numerous cultivators.

Starfox and the others quickly dropped to the ground.

Qiong Shanhai spat out a mouthful of blood, as his injuries had only started slowly recovering just now. He ignored the corpse king's attack and ran towards the underground entrance, as that was the most important location to him at this moment.

The corpse king used his black lightning to attack everyone in the sky as he dove towards Hoffman.

Hoffman's body suddenly transformed into a humanoid beast that was ten meters tall before he turned to clash with the approaching corpse king.

This was Hoffman's innate gift: Tyrant Bluster.

A shockwave tore through the sky, looking like a black screen that covered all of Millions City, which caused many to scream in terror.

Even though Hoffman had activated his innate gift and transformed, he still couldn't match the corpse king's raw power. His claw attack was pierced through, and the corpse king suddenly appeared above Hoffman's head. The black lightning struck Hoffman head on, and the man screamed in pain as he frantically pushed the corpse king away. He then clenched his clawed fingers and rushed at the corpse king. This time, he used his Overlaying Stacks technique, which reverberated throughout all of Millions City.

In response, the corpse king gathered all of the surrounding lightning and unleashed it all in one powerful attack.

Many people in Millions City died from internal bleeding caused by the aftershocks of the two powerhouses' clash in the sky, and even Wei Rong was bleeding from his mouth. He looked up in shock and saw that the Tyrant Bluster's arm had been broken. The corpse king then flew down in front of the Tyrant Bluster and another round of black lightning sent the Tyrant Bluster tumbling to the ground, where it transformed back to Hoffman's original appearance. His head was completely charred, and his

breathing had also stopped. The corpse king's black lightning had seared the man's brain, instantly killing him.

The corpse king had already possessed a higher power level than Hoffman, and after its Grey Eyes Transformation, there was nobody among the gathered Enlighteners who could defeat the transformed corpse king aside from Yuehua Mavis.

Qiong Shanhai managed to find everyone who had gone underground, and he also saw Hoffman's death on a screen. He immediately removed the protective barrier surrounding Millions City.

The corpse king leaped into the sky and disappeared.

Qiong Shanhai was relieved. When he glanced at the monitors again, he saw that everyone was unconscious. So, he immediately moved to wake Qiong Xi'er up and ask her what had happened.

However, Qiong Xi'er could only remember running into the Specter Clan expert and pretending to be under his control, but she didn't remember anything else after that.

She had forgotten almost ten minutes worth of memories, which corresponded to the time between when the cannon had been activated and when Mister Mu had left. Everyone's memory of this period of time had been removed, with the sole exception of Lu Yin.

Lu Yin pretended to be unconscious like the others, and he was soon "awakened" by Yan Yan.

The rest of the people slowly woke up as well, but nobody could remember anything that had happened during those ten minutes.

Everyone was stunned to discover this, as it wasn't easy to remove the memories of cultivators. Furthermore, Yuehu Mavis was also affected; the Mavis clan members were especially protective of their memories, but her memories had still been altered. This was proof that someone very powerful had come.

Finally, both Zhu Tiezhu and the expert from the Specter Clan were found dead. Zhu Tiezhu's body had even been completely drained of all blood, which was very disturbing.

Everyone present immediately contacted the major forces supporting them before trying to confirm their memories of what had happened with each other.

Ce means strategy in Chinese. Also, many of the names in this story have important meanings to them. Please comment if you would like us to keep sharing the meanings or not.

Chapter 803: Captain Of The Fifth Squadron

Qiong Shanhai's expression turned grim. Fortunately, the Neohuman Alliance had been defeated, so Millions City was still under the Qiong family's control.

"Your Highness, do you remember what happened?" Yan Yan asked. He had been seriously injured during the battle with Sall Phoenix.

Lu Yin shook his head. "I don't remember. It seems like someone's removed our memories. What about you? Did you find anything strange above ground?"

Yan Yan shook his head. "Hoffman was killed by the corpse king, but nothing important happened aside from that."

Everyone was talking to each other to verify their recent memories, but it seemed that, without exception, nobody remembered what had happened in the last ten minutes.

Qiong Xi'er was extremely pale, as she had lost a lot of blood.

Zhu San and Zhu Jie sadly checked Zhu Tiezhu's body.

Lu Yin glanced over at Zhu San. Lu Yin knew that this youth wasn't actually from the Zhu family and that their entire clan belonged to the Ce family. They had stayed in Millions City for so long because they had the same desire as the Neohuman Alliance: they wanted to take over the mobile fortress. However, now that Zhu Tiezhu had died while the Outerverse was still cut off from the Innaverse, the Ce family wouldn't be able to assist them, and they were no longer capable of fighting for control of Millions City. They might even be wiped out by Qiong Shanhai.

Sall Phoenix was also searching for Taylor Phoenix, but he wasn't able to find any sign of the youth since he had been vaporized by the cannon.

The same thing had happened to Mr. Jun as well.

Cai Jianqiang had been seriously injured, and he was looking for a place to recuperate at this time.

Saul had also retreated somewhere else to rest.

Everyone simply wanted to recover from their injuries, and they had all forgotten about True Insight.

Qiong Shanhai arranged accommodations for everyone, and he also gave all of them some star essence out of gratitude for their help.

As soon as the City Master mentioned star essence, everyone felt a strange sense of déjà vu, as if something similar had happened before.

Lu Yin started to get worried. He could only hope that nobody would recall anything!

Yuehua Mavis and the others scanned through their cosmic rings and realized that all of their star essence were missing. Where had it all gone?

"Where's my cosmic ring?" Sall Phoenix asked.

Qiong Shanhai immediately sent some people into the underground regions to search for Sall Phoenix's ring, but they would never be able to find it. After all, the man's ring was still in Lu Yin's possession.

Through this ordeal, Lu Yin had managed to complete his third cycle as well as obtain more than a million star essence. He had also upgraded his universal armor to its maximum potential and learned a bit about the Ce Secret Art. Although he wasn't sure whether or not he had properly understood the Ce Secret Art, he had still experienced it once, which was definitely beneficial for him.

Aside from all of these tangible benefits, another important detail was Millions City.

Lu Yin possessed the blood of someone from the Qiong family, and he was wondering if he could control this mobile fortress by using the blood that he had obtained.

This battle had been started by the Neohuman Alliance. Just the presence of a Grey Eyed corpse king and a powerhouse from the Specter Clan had plunged the various Enlighters who had been present into a desperate struggle. This encounter had forced Lu Yin to reevaluate his opinion of the Neohuman Alliance, as the power of the organization clearly far exceeded his expectations.

Although Qiong Shanhai had prepared accommodations for everyone, most of the people didn't stay in Millions City for long.

Saul was the first one to leave, and although Cai Jianqiang wanted to pursue the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society's Vice President, Lu Yin held him back. "There's no point in you chasing after him. You won't be able to stop him on your own."

Cai Jianqiang was reluctant to let Saul get away, but he still listened to Lu Yin's advice. He wasn't sure why, but he had a feeling that he should be thankful to Lu Yin, and he felt indescribably grateful towards Lu Yin. "Are you ok?"

Lu Yin smiled. "I'm fine. I got lucky, though maybe the Neohuman Alliance just didn't think that I was worth targeting."

Cai Jianqiang laughed. "You're comparable to any one of us when you use your various external items."

Lu Yin smiled but remained quiet. When he looked over, he noticed that Starfox was staring at him with a curious gaze. However, Starfox looked away as soon as Lu Yin glanced over.

During his conversation with Cai Jianqiang, Lu Yin quickly realized that he had forgotten about something. Regardless of whether it was Yuehua Mavis or Villa Mistress Lian, everyone in this place was looking very disheveled, as they had all been subjected to the shockwaves of the cannon. However, Lu Yin looked perfectly fine, and since Cai Jianqiang and Starfox had noticed this detail, the others must have as well.

Lu Yin frowned, as he had completely forgotten about this. Most of the people around him must have already noticed that he looked different from everyone else who had been underground.

Lu Yin immediately bid Qiong Shanhai farewell and prepared to return to the Great Yu Empire.

Qiong Shanhai didn't ask the youth to stay. Instead, he simply gave him 50,000 star essence as an apology, which Lu Yin naturally accepted with delight.

If not for Millions City's barrier, none of the cultivators would have been forced to stay in Millions City and fight against the Neohuman Alliance. The reason why nobody had attacked Qiong Shanhai over this was simply because the enemy that they had faced was the Neohuman Alliance, which was considered the greatest enemy of the universe. Thus, nobody could blame Millions City for taking such actions. However, if the enemy hadn't been the Neohuman Alliance, Qiong Shanhai would have been killed for trying to force these powerhouses to battle against the city's enemy.

No matter how apologetic Qiong Shanhai behaved, everyone still held a grudge against him.

Qiong Shanhai understood this, and so he was polite in sending Lu Yin off.

Everyone also understood that the Neohuman Alliance had stolen True Insight in order to lure them away from Millions City.

Since True Insight had been stolen by the Neohuman Alliance, nobody believed that they would be able to retrieve it.

A mere two elites from the Neohuman Alliance had been enough to defeat an entire group of Enlighters and powerhouses, and none of them wanted to go against the Neohuman Alliance again.

“City Master Qiong, you should consider how you’re going to deal with Shamrock Enterprises,” Lu Yin suggested to Qiong Shanhai before he left with Yan Yan, Cai Jianqiang, and Cool Sis.

He had given Cool Sis a ride to this place, and so, he had naturally asked her to continue traveling with him when he left.

Cool Sis had helped Lu Yin by holding back both Taylor Phoenix and Moore during the chaotic battle, which made Lu Yin very grateful to her.

Qiong Shanhai smiled bitterly, as it wasn’t just Shamrock Enterprises that he had to deal with. He had to address the families of everyone who had died during the battle, which also included the Dark Phoenix clan and the Zhu family.

As soon as he remembered the Zhu family, Qiong Shanhai’s face turned grim. How much did that family know about the mobile fortress that was Millions City’s true form?

Wei Rong left along with Starfox and Angie, though Qiong Shanhai didn’t pay much attention to them. They had barely participated in the battle, and they had even encouraged people to destroy the barrier surrounding the city.

Wei Rong knew that his group hadn’t done much, which was why he chose to leave secretly.

Although Millions City looked desolate after the battle since the entire city had been destroyed, what had the city truly lost? The Qiong family was disgustingly wealthy, and everyone who lived in Millions City was wealthy to some degree, so it wouldn’t be hard for them to rebuild the city. The more important thing was that everyone had realized that the true power of Millions City, the mobile fortress, still hadn’t been fully utilized.

Only people like Lu Yin, who had seen the energy blast inside the cannon barrel, had an idea how powerful this mobile fortress was. Additionally, that cannon might not even be the most powerful aspect of Millions City.

Lu Yin stared back at Millions City with a fervent gaze. He was determined to eventually take control of this mobile fortress.

“Thanks for your help,” Lu Yin mentioned as he passed Cool Sis a glass of fruit juice.

Cool Sis accepted the refreshment. “It actually didn’t mean anything since they wouldn’t have been able to do anything to you.”

Lu Yin smiled. "It was still a nice gesture, and I'm truly grateful. So what are you planning to do now?"

Cool Sis calmly looked at the sky; her plans? She wasn't too sure. She had only been temporarily cultivating in the icy carriage, and there was no reason for her to return to Ironblood Weave since the battle had ended. She wasn't sure where she should go at this moment.

"Have you ever thought of going to the Great Yu Empire?" Lu Yin asked.

Cool Sis looked at him. "Is there any reason for me to go there?"

Lu Yin paused. "You can watch as I increase the gap between me and the rest of you."

Cool Sis arched her brow as she glanced at Lu Yin. "Your words are really obnoxious."

Lu Yin laughed. "But they're the truth. Or would you rather randomly meet me in space one day only to find out that you can't even gauge my strength? Wouldn't that leave you disappointed?"

Cool Sis rarely smiled, but she was smiling at this moment. "Maybe. I have never seen anyone invite a guest like this. You use rather unique methods."

"What if I said that I'm not inviting you as a guest? Since you have nothing to do right now, then why don't you change your cultivation method for a time and join the real world?" Lu Yin suggested.

Most cultivators, especially those who didn't have to worry about resources, spent their entire lives cultivating, and they would never do anything aside from training and fighting. To Lu Yin, cultivators like that would invariably lose to independent cultivators if the two sides were in similar positions. Independent cultivators would use any method available to them when fighting as long as it increased their odds of survival.

However, independent cultivators tended to lack resources, battle technique, power vessels, and basically everything, which was why they were generally weaker. But despite their deficiencies, it didn't mean that all independent cultivators were weak.

Lu Yin had achieved his current status by slowly climbing his way up. He had earned his own money and fought for his own power. He had obtained everything by himself, and to him, this was how cultivation was intended to be.

For the cultivators from influential backgrounds, the separation of the Innerverse and Outerverse was their first introduction to the real world, and it was a new situation where they had to support themselves entirely.

Cool Sis was confused. "What are you planning to do?"

Lu Yin seriously answered, "As the Royal Regent of the Great Yu Empire, I am formally inviting you to become the captain of the Great Yu Empire's Fifth Squadron."

Cool Sis smirked. "If I were willing, then even the Daynight clan would give me a great amount of power as well as a high status. Why would I go to your Great Yu Empire?"

"Because we can make our way up from the bottom."

"I don't need that."

“Don’t you even want to try? Anyways, you have nothing else to do right now,” Lu Yin said.

Cool Sis looked at her fruit juice and swirled it around her glass. Her expression was complicated.

“You’re right, I have nothing to do.” She nodded after thinking for a moment. “Alright, I’ll treat it as training. However, I want to make it clear that I will have absolute freedom and that I can leave whenever I want. Do you agree to this?”

They clinked their glasses, and Lu Yin smiled at her. “Welcome.”

Cool Sis smiled, as she truly wanted to see how this person would widen the gap between them. It had only been seven years, but he had already reached his current level in this short timespan. His talent for cultivation was truly extraordinary. She would treat him as her goal during this period when the Outerverse and Innerverse were separated. Even if he wanted to widen the gap between the two of them, she would still be able to influence that situation. Thus, they would just have to see who would end up winning.

The spacecraft rocketed towards the eastern region of the Outerverse, and Lu Yin was enviously looking at a picture on his gadget. It was a picture of a spacecraft that looked absolutely amazing. Although it was very small, its price tag was unbelievable. The most important thing was that nobody could buy it, as this was the Eonlight-grade Aurora spacecraft from Aurora Enterprises, which was one grade higher than the Blackhole grade and two grades higher than the Radiant grade. The speed of this vehicle was a thousand times faster than a normal spacecraft’s and a hundred times faster than Lu Yin’s Radiant-grade Aurora. If he had been on such a spacecraft, he would have already arrived in the Great Yu Empire by now.

This exact spacecraft had overtaken them just moments ago, and the only passenger on it had been Blaze Engineer.

No man could resist the lure of a high-quality spacecraft, and Lu Yin had immediately contacted Aurora Enterprises to purchase one of these vessels. However, his request had been rejected forthright as the company had stopped selling both Eonlight and Blackhole grade vessels after the Outerverse’s isolation.

He would have to upgrade his spacecraft himself if he wanted a faster one.

Chapter 804: Forceful Slander

Lu Yin had already decided to have the Great Yu Empire fully upgrade his previous small Radiant-grade Aurora. However, upgrading it to the blackhole grade was not a simple task, and it required time.

Such a spacecraft was essentially a strategic military resource.

That was right—East San Dios should also have a Blackhole-grade Aurora in its possession. Wendy Yushan’s vessel had been destroyed in Tempest Flowzone, but there should be some more ships that belonged to the other councilors.

As he thought about it, Lu Yin immediately contacted Barley to inquire about the Blackhole-grade Auroras.

Barley was placed in a difficult position. “I’m sorry, Representative Lu, but East San Dios doesn’t have any other Blackhole-grade Auroras.”

“Where did they go? Shouldn’t there still be five left?” Lu Yin’s void betrayed that his mood wasn’t great at this moment. It had taken him a while to think of this option, but now, he was finding out that it was all for naught.

Barley answered, “Indeed, there were five, one each for each councilor. But three of them vanished when the councilors died, and Councilor Wendy’s vessel was taken by you. Finally, Councilor Puyu’s spacecraft was taken by Councilor Liu.”

“Liu Shaoge left San Dios?” Lu Yin’s gaze trembled.

Barley replied, “He has already returned, but that spacecraft is now missing.”

Lu Yin’s eyes narrowed. “Pay attention to Liu Shaoge, and don’t allow him to leave again. If he does, let me know immediately.”

“Yes,” Barley answered respectfully as he wiped the sweat off his forehead.

For some reason, Lu Yin was extremely wary of Liu Shaoge, and it was quite possibly related to his personal history. He was perfectly aware of how difficult it was to start cultivating from a remote planet like Earth and make one’s way into the rest of the universe, let alone reach his current status. Lu Yin had survived numerous narrow scrapes with death, and he had actually had a much easier time than most because Big Sis and the others had helped him forge a new identity. Otherwise, he would have never even had the chance to reach his current status. But in that case, what about Liu Shaoge? The man was a genuine Earthling who had managed to become a Representative of San Dios, which proved that his abilities were astounding.

He was an Earthling who had entered Arbiter Zhenwu’s eyes and even qualified to borrow his strength, when someone from the Nightking clan might not have the opportunity to do so. Liu Shaoge’s thoughts, methods, and schemes were all completely terrifying.

Wang Wen had said that he only cared about Wei Rong and Qiong Xi'er as he only recognized them as being on the same level of intelligence as himself. However, Lu Yin believed that if these three had all been born on Earth at the same time, they may not have done as well as Liu Shaoge had, who was a truly mysterious person.

Earth was a mysterious planet; not only had it produced Liu Shaoge, but Bai Xue and Zhang Dingtian also hailed from it. The former had joined Amethyst Exchange while the latter was on the Starfall Sea’s Grayweed Continent. There was also another person who had yet to appear, but she still silently existed in Lu Yin’s memory: Bai Qian, who was Bai Xue’s older sister. She had discovered Qingyu, and she had also been the first to step out into the greater universe. She was someone who even Zhang Dingtian could not match up to.

If that woman was still alive, Lu Yin wondered how she was doing for herself. She had been able to suppress Zhang Dingtian, Liu Shaoge, and other such people back on Earth. If she had not died, then she might reappear in the future after obtaining some astounding status.

Beep beep beep!

Lu Yin raised a hand, and the screen of his gadget appeared. Elder Lohar appeared on it, and he looked at Lu Yin with a kindly expression.

“Junior Lu Yin pays his respects to Senior,” Lu Yin respectfully greeted the man.

Elder Lohar hurriedly said, “Alliance Leader Lu has no need to be overly courteous. You can just call me Lohar.”

Ever since the old man had seen Lu Yin’s blood-red bell, Elder Lohar’s attitude towards Lu Yin had taken a complete 180.

Lu Yin smiled. “How would that be acceptable? After all, Senior is Senior.”

Elder Lohar said a few more courteous words, but then he asked Lu Yin about the incident that had occurred at Millions City. Any move that the Neohuman Alliance made was a big deal to the Hall of Honor.

Lu Yin described the event from Millions City to the elder in detail, and he also mentioned that he had lost his memory when they went underground, which was the same as everyone else’s report.

Elder Lohar was disappointed, but he did not ask any further questions. He clearly already knew what had happened to the others, as everyone had reported that they had lost their memories of those ten minutes.

“As long as Alliance Leader Lu is alright, everything is fine. In the future, you must inform me as soon as you encounter anyone from the Neohuman Alliance. I do not wish for anything to happen to Alliance Leader Lu,” Elder Lohar said.

Lu Yin smiled. “Thank you, elder.

“Right, is Senior Akira accustomed to life on Zenyu Star yet?” Lu Yin quickly asked. Akira was the Enlighter who Elder Lohar had sent to protect Zenyu Star at Lu Yin’s request.

Elder Lohar smiled. “There’s nothing for him to grow accustomed to. He’s merely cultivating in a different place. Thank you, Alliance Leader Lu, for your concern.”

Lu Yin made a few courteous comments to maintain the conversation.

“Right, there is something else that I must share with Alliance Leader Lu.” Elder Lohar’s face became more solemn. “Do you have any sort of conflict with the Dark Phoenix family?”

Lu Yin’s eyes flashed. “There was indeed a little conflict during Millions City’s Qiong’s Banquet. What’s the matter?”

Elder Lohar frowned. “Only at the Qiong’s Banquet? Was Taylor Phoenix’s death related to you in any manner?”

Lu Yin shook his head. “Definitely unrelated. Junior only remembers up until when everyone fell underground, but that’s where my memory stops. When we got out, Taylor Phoenix was nowhere to be seen.”

Elder Lohar continued, “According to the information that I received, Sall Phoenix has pushed the blame for Taylor Phoenix’s death onto you. He claims that you were the one who caused Taylor to fall underground, where he died, and that he witnessed this himself.”

Lu Yin grew furious, and he nearly cursed. Taylor had clearly been vaporized by the blast from the energy cannon, but that stupid old bastard actually wanted to slander him, and he was even claiming that he had personally witnessed it. It was nauseating, and it was also forceful slander that was taking advantage of everyone's loss of memory.

"Elder, Junior definitely did not kill Taylor, and the others can bear witness to this matter," Lu Yin said.

Elder Lohar felt helpless. "Everyone lost their memories of that period of time. Sall Phoenix reported that his impression of you killing Taylor is too deep, that he will never forget it, and that it can never be eradicated from his memory. He insists that you are the one who killed Taylor, and today, the Dark Phoenix family put you onto their must-kill list. Taylor was the youngest son of the patriarch of the Dark Phoenix family, so you must be careful."

Lu Yin was left speechless, as this was an unexpected disaster. There was no way for him to explain this slanderous misunderstanding since there was no one who could attest on his behalf. That was, unless of course, everyone's memories were restored. He really wanted to curse.

"Seventh Bro, did you really kill Taylor?" the Ghost Monkey asked. He had also lost his memories of those ten minutes, as Mister Mu's methods were all-inclusive. Even the Ghost Monkey had not been able to escape from it.

Lu Yin remained silent, as it was useless to try and explain himself at this time. The Dark Phoenix family would definitely believe Sall Phoenix, which meant that Lu Yin had gained yet another powerful enemy in the Outerverse in the form of the Dark Phoenix family.

He ended his call with Elder Lohar and then opened the star chart to check the location of the Dark Phoenix family.

Endless Weave was the largest of the Outerverse's seventy two weaves, and it was also the weave with the most experts. The eastern weaves' responsibility was to defend against any invasions from the Astral Beast Domain, and in doing so, support Ironblood Weave. Meanwhile, the western weaves were tasked with withstanding any invasion from the Technocracy. In other words, Endless Weave was the warfront that resisted the Technocracy.

Due to Grand Marshal Shui Chuanxiao's actions, in the past, nearly half of Endless Weave had been occupied by the Technocracy. Even so, there were still a vast number of powerhouses in Endless Weave, and the Dark Phoenix family was often constantly embroiled in wars with other powers, which was different from Neo-Vestige Sect and Millions City's situations.

Since they had become mortal enemies, even if they were based as far away as possible, the Dark Phoenix family would still be a thorn in Lu Yin's side.

Lu Yin had to consider what would happen next. The Dark Phoenix family was no Aegis, and just Smoker would not be able to subdue the clan's formidable nature.

In the same region of space, but aboard a different spacecraft, Wei Rong embraced Angie's waist as he calmly looked at the screen in front of him. There was a skinny middle-aged man on it, who was the Shadowsword Sect's leader, Gui Wuzong.

Twin Daemons' death was a heavy blow to the Shadowsword Sect. Originally from the Suna Weave, the Shadowsword Sect stood at the same level as the Moke Sword Sect, and they could even beat them. However, with Twin Daemons' death, the Shadowsword Sect would definitely be unable to withstand the Moke Sword Sect.

Gui Wuzong spoke in a cold voice. "We will make Cai Jianqiang pay the price, but Wei Rong, you must take responsibility for this matter as well."

Wei Rong held a glass of wine as he replied in a perfectly calm voice, saying, "I already told Twin Daemons that they couldn't be exposed within Millions City, but they were still discovered by Saul and even ended up being ambushed by Cai Jianqiang. Even if I was on the scene at that moment, I wouldn't have been able to save him. Cai Jianqiang is no ordinary Hunter."

"This is not the answer that I'm looking for," Gui Wuzong retorted fiercely.

Wei Rong looked up. "I promise you that I will take care of the Great Eastern Alliance, and Cai Jianqiang will be given to you to handle as you wish."

Gui Wuzong stared at Wei Rong. "You really do think that you can deal with Lu Yin."

"Definitely not by myself, and it's still impossible even with your assistance. However, what if we ally ourselves with the Dark Phoenix family?" Wei Rong continued

Gui Wuzong was stunned. "You've convinced the Dark Phoenix family?"

"My enemy's enemy is my friend. The Dark Phoenix family now views Lu Yin as their mortal enemy, but since their base is too far away, they will need a springboard to invade the Great Eastern Alliance, and my Armament Weave can coincidentally provide that service," Wei Rong said in high spirits as he looked at Gui Wuzong. "With the assistance of the Dark Phoenix Family, the Great Eastern Alliance is no longer a threat to us."

"Lu Yin has the Neo-Vestige Sect."

"Wrong, the Neo-Vestige Sect has not allied with him yet, and I naturally have my ways to prevent him from gaining their support."

Gui Wuzong fell silent for a moment. "Something's happened with the pirates."

Wei Rong's gaze trembled. "What is that supposed to mean?"

"The people that I sent to assist the pirates have all disappeared, and people like Thousand Eyes are still living well," Gui Wuzong explained.

Wei Rong's face grew solemn. "When did this happen?"

"Before you went to Millions City," Gui Wuzong replied.

"Why didn't you tell me sooner?" Wei Rong's expression was ugly.

Gui Wuzong did not reply. Before the events in Millions City, he had still had Twin Daemons, and his cooperation with Wei Rong had not been as important. Thus, this sect leader naturally would not report everything to Wei Rong. However, things had changed, as the Shadowsword Sect's strength had dropped dramatically after Twin Daemons' death. Now, Gui Wuzong's attitude had subsequently shifted, and he had to clearly explain the situation to Wei Rong.

"Are these pirates very important to you?" Angie asked. She hardly ever intruded into Wei Rong's conversations.

Wei Rong nodded and then caressed Angie's cheek. "All pirates are a bunch of maggots, but they are also unassuming and found everywhere in the universe. Thousand Eyes' intelligence network is extremely effective, and if we took control of the eastern weaves' pirates, then they would be able to provide us with countless pairs of eyes to monitor Lu Yin, and they wouldn't be easily discovered either."

"I'll send my clansmen to assist you," Angie offered.

Wei Rong thought about it, but then he shook his head. "With the Shadowsword Sect's strength, they are already able to eliminate the eastern weaves' pirates, but despite that, they still failed. This means that there are other powers interfering. Lu Yin is very smart, and there aren't any movements that can be hidden from him. If the commotion becomes too big, it will naturally draw his attention. We won't be able to use the pirates any longer."

Wei Rong then looked at Gui Wuzong. "Leave those pirates alone and cease all interactions with them. Also, banish all pirates from the central weaves."

Gui Wuzong frowned. "Do we really need to go that far?"

"Follow what I say or else you'll suffer from Lu Yin's counter." Wei Rong's tone was unquestionable.

Gui Wuzong couldn't believe what he was hearing. "Aren't you evaluating this Lu Yin too highly?"

Wei Rong's lips curled upwards. "We must always be cautious when dealing with him, and we can't afford to slip up in the slightest. Otherwise, we'll all become ghosts by his sword."

Wei Rong directly ended the call and then rubbed his forehead to dispel his growing headache.

Chapter 805: Yu Elder

Angie walked behind Wei Rong and started massaging him.

Meanwhile, Ah Mu walked in and silently stood to the side, his expression calm.

"What a bunch of imbeciles. If not for me, then Lu Yin wouldn't even need to exert any effort to capture the central weaves," Wei Rong said in exhaustion.

Angie replied, "Back then, I never thought that an unassuming student from Astral-10 would actually reach the heights that he has now."

Wei Rong laughed. "Everything is variable. Ever since he stepped into the universe, this universe was fated to change. However, nobody could have expected it to happen so fast, and the Outerverse has actually become a battlefield between the two of us."

"You don't seem to care too much about others," Angie commented.

Wei Rong took a deep breath. "Many have stood at the peak, but they were destined only to fall and never climb up again. There is limited space at the top, and there are only a few people who are able to continue climbing upwards. Those who are truly capable of standing at the top are only Lu Yin and me.

"I initially thought that I was the sole trailblazer along this path, but it turns out that he was treading it even earlier than me. This person is very difficult to deal with."

"Has the Dark Phoenix family really agreed to cooperate with you?" Angie asked.

Wei Rong smiled. "They have to work with me. How else can they move against Lu Yin from such a vast distance? Taylor Phoenix was the Dark Phoenix patriarch's favorite son, and he was also ranked fourteenth on the Top 100 Rankings. The hopes of the Dark Phoenix family were all pinned on him, and now that he was killed by Lu Yin's hands, the entire Dark Phoenix family must be going crazy."

"Was Taylor really killed by Lu Yin?" Angie asked.

"Does it even matter anymore? The important thing is that their heir died, which means that someone has to assume responsibility for his death. It's either Sall Phoenix, Millions City, or Lu Yin. So who do you think is the most appropriate scapegoat?" Wei Rong laughed.

Angie nodded. "Lu Yin is just really unlucky then. He'll be unquestionably doomed when the Dark Phoenix family moves."

Wei Rong's eyes flickered. Unquestionably doomed? Not necessarily. He still had the Hall of Honor behind him.

Wei Rong did not know why the Hall of Honor supported Lu Yin so staunchly, but as long as that group intervened, even the Dark Phoenix family would hesitate. Even if the Outerverse was currently isolated from the Innaverse, Wei Rong did not believe that the Hall of Honor would fear the Dark Phoenix family one bit. They had concealed their strength too deeply and for too long.

To gain the upper hand against Lu Yin, Wei Rong would have to make the Hall of Honor abandon him. This would be the most difficult task, but it was not impossible.

In the corner of the room, Ah Mu looked at Angie, who was being embraced by Wei Rong. He then slowly returned to his own room. He activated his gadget, and a voice was heard from it. "Ah Mu?"

Ah Mu respectfully replied, "Seventh Bro, it's me."

Ah Mu was calling Lu Yin, who had not expected Ah Mu to suddenly contact him. They had shared their contact information when they had coincidentally run into each other on Sourcepeak Planet, but this was the first time they had actually talked since then.

"What's the matter?" Lu Yin asked.

Even through the gadget, Ah Mu's voice was tinged with a deep exhaustion and melancholy. "I wish to make a deal with Seventh Bro."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "Continue."

"Wei Rong has contacted the Dark Phoenix family, and they plan to use Armament Weave as a springboard to launch a war to invade the Great Eastern Alliance," Ah Mu said.

Lu Yin was astonished. He had expected Wei Rong to approach the Dark Phoenix family for cooperation, but he had never thought that Wei Rong would move this fast.

"It's not just that. Wei Rong also wanted to use pirates to infiltrate the Great Eastern Alliance and gather information, but recently, some huge changes took place within the pirate community. He gave up on them and even ordered the central weaves' pirates to be driven out..." Ah Mu informed Lu Yin of many matters while Lu Yin silently listened on.

More than ten minutes passed before Ah Mu stopped speaking.

After Ah Mu finished, Lu Yin calmly responded, "I got it. So, what is it that you want for telling me all of this?"

Ah Mu apologetically said, "I'm sorry, Seventh Bro. You helped me out on Gigastar Planet, and you even rescued me. I really shouldn't be trying to make a deal with you. It should be a given that, after all that, I would tell you all this. However, I really don't have a choice."

"You already warned me to leave Sourcepeak Planet before anything happened, and the favor you owed me from Gigastar Planet was repaid in full with that. Tell me, what is it you want?" Lu Yin said gently.

Ah Mu fell silent for a moment and then seriously answered, "Angie."

Lu Yin was astonished. "The Umbral Butterfly Tribe's young mistress? That Angie?"

"Yes, I wish to obtain Angie. Seventh Bro, please help me." Ah Mu emotionally shared his desire with Lu Yin.

Lu Yin was surprised. "You like Angie?"

"Ever since I was young." Ah Mu's voice was downcast. "But now, she's being embraced by Wei Rong, and I can't take it. Seventh Bro, please help me."

Lu Yin nodded. "Alright, I can promise you this: as long as Wei Rong can be dealt with, Angie will be yours."

"Thank you, Seventh Bro." Ah Mu was delighted.

Lu Yin felt puzzled. "Are you so certain that I can help you get Angie? What if I fail?"

Ah Mu answered with conviction, "That's impossible. Wei Rong has never treated anyone as seriously as he does you, and it's actually slightly confusing. Seventh Bro, you'll definitely be able to unite the Outerverse."

Lu Yin smiled at Ah Mu and then ended the call. Ah Mu was extremely confident in Lu Yin's abilities, and there was a saying that the worst enemy was someone who truly understood themselves. Wei Rong's attitude towards Lu Yin had influenced Ah Mu, and Lu Yin had to pay attention to this. He definitely could not allow himself to become confused. Otherwise, not only would Lu Yin himself fall into chaos, but the same fate would befall his followers as well.

Ah Mu had given Lu Yin a great deal of information, as everything that he had said were secrets that Wei Rong had shared with the Umbral Butterfly Tribe. Lu Yin had paid particular attention to the information regarding the pirates, as this showed just how wary Wei Rong was of Lu Yin.

Just because the Shadowsword Sect's people had lost contact, Wei Rong had decisively abandoned the pirates. This person's thinking was too meticulous.

Lu Yin quickly called Thousand Eyes and had the pirate captain order his people to go into hiding. In the near future, the central weaves would put great effort towards driving all of the pirates in their territories out, and the pirates would not have an easy time.

After ending his call with Thousand Eyes, Lu Yin received a message from Wendy Yushan.

Lu Yin leaped to his feet upon seeing this. Wendy Yushan and Ku Wei had vanished for a period of time, and Lu Yin had sent out people to search for them ever since they had disappeared. However, he hadn't expected one of them to suddenly call him.

The message was very simple, as it was just a set of coordinates.

Lu Yin immediately called Wendy, and her clear voice responded from his gadget. "Meet me at that location."

"Where are you?" Lu Yin asked.

"I'm at the coordinates that I sent you," Wendy Yushan replied.

"Where's Ku Wei? Have you guys found any traces of the Yu bloodline?" Lu Yin urgently asked.

Wendy Yushan answered, "You'll understand everything when you get here. The Yu bloodline still exists, but it also doesn't."

She then abruptly ended the call.

Lu Yin stared at his gadget and fell deep into thought. After a moment, he no longer hesitated and input the coordinates that he had received into his spacecraft, heading straight there.

No matter what, Wendy Yushan was there, and he had to take her back. Even if there was some powerhouse from the Yu bloodline in that place, he still had to make the trip.

Truthfully, after facing the energy blast from the cannon in Millions City, Lu Yin's horizons had expanded yet again. More importantly, he had seen Mister Mu extinguish Blackless God's spiritual force with a single palm with his own eyes, which meant that there was likely nobody in the Outerverse who could withstand Mister Mu's power.

The coordinates that Lu Yin received from Wendy Yushan corresponded to a location in Frostwave Weave that was not too distant from Zenyu Star, and it was also in the weave's first filament.

After a few days of travel, a pale, blue planet appeared on the screen. This planet was what Wendy's coordinates had led Lu Yin to, which meant that she was on this planet.

Lu Yin looked over, but there weren't many rune lines to be seen from the planet. Did that imply that the Yu bloodline was located somewhere else?

The native civilization of the pale, blue planet was still in the feudal ages, and they practically didn't even have any technology; the natives had not even invented paper yet. Instead, they wrote on bamboo slips.

Lu Yin asked Cai Jianqiang and Cool Sis to remain aboard the spacecraft, and he only took Yan Yan down with him. He unleashed his domain, and it didn't take him long to find Wendy. She was in a village surrounded by several mountains.

This area had been cut off from the rest of the world, and the civilizations outside the mountains were unable to intrude upon this place.

Lu Yin stood atop a mountain as he looked down at the village. Aside from the rune lines belonging to Wendy Yushan and Ku Wei, there was no other existence that possessed rune lines in this place.

Wendy Yushan and Ku Wei had both sensed Lu Yin's domain, and they appeared in the open.

Lu Yin led Yan Yan over to them.

Wendy Yushan had become a bit thinner, though Ku Wei's smile was still asking for a beating.

"Bro, I have one piece of good news and one piece of bad news. Which do you want to hear first?" This was the first thing that Ku Wei said to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin looked right past Ku Wei and focused on Wendy Yushan. "You don't look too good."

Wendy Yushan's expression was complex. "This is where the descendants of the Yu bloodline are."

Lu Yin was astonished.

Ku Wei again asked, "Bro, which do you want to hear first?"

"The good news."

Ku Wei smiled. "Nobody will try to take the Great Yu Empire from you. The Yu bloodline still exists. The Great Yu Empire really was established and built up by them, and that sourcebox array was even created by them, but their bloodline has grown weak. Now, aside from a half-dead old man, most of the family members have never even left this planet, and the family has completely fallen apart."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "Then what's the bad news?"

Ku Wei's face turned solemn. "You won't be able to obtain any help from your in-laws."

"What do you mean?" Lu Yin was completely lost.

Ku Wei pouted, and then looked over at Wendy Yushan. "When you eventually marry her, won't the Yu bloodline become your in-laws? It's a pity that they won't be able to help you, so isn't that bad news?"

Lu Yin was left speechless, as he had thought that Ku Wei would say something about Undying Yushan.

The fall of the Yu bloodline indeed allowed him to relax, but they could not have completely fallen, right? He looked back at Wendy Yushan.

Wendy Yushan walked back into the village, and they soon arrived outside the centermost thatched cottage. "Elder, Lu Yin is here."

Lu Yin frowned and looked at the cottage. Elder? The person inside should be one of the Yu bloodline's elders, but this person actually had no rune lines.

"Bring him in," an aged voice called out.

Lu Yin followed Wendy Yushan into the cottage, though Ku Wei and Yan Yan waited outside.

It was very musty inside, and the cottage was furnished extremely simply, as there was only a wooden bed and some basic furniture. A wizened elder sat on the bed, and at first glance, Lu Yin even thought he was a dried corpse. The ancient man's eyes were murky but shone with experience. He really looked to be half-dead, and his body even emitted a cold air.

Could the old fellow that Ku Wei had been referring to be this old man?

"Junior Lu Yin pays his respects to the elder," Lu Yin greeted the old man respectfully.

The wizened elder studied Lu Yin and then nodded in satisfaction. "You are very outstanding, and you are also compatible with Wendy."

Wendy Yushan lowered her head, but she did not speak.

Lu Yin glanced at her. "Elder is mistaken. Junior and Wendy are friends and also family."

The elder hoarsely said, "I heard that you've only cultivated for a bit over seven years."

Lu Yin nodded. "Junior has indeed cultivated for just over seven years."

The elder marvelled at this. "In a little over seven years, you have cultivated to such a high realm and have even surpassed those of your generation. Your talent can even compare to the Cosmic Five."

Lu Yin was lost. The Cosmic Five? What is that?

He looked over at Wendy Yushan, but it seemed like this was also her first time hearing this term. "Elder, who are the Cosmic Five?"

Chapter 806: The Cosmic Five

The ancient man let out a deep breath, and his eyes misted over as he started reminiscing about old memories. He then finally slowly said, "This universe is not as simple as it looks. When the Sixth Mainland invades, they will be the ones at a disadvantage. You guys have experienced the Outerverse and Innerverse, but the true strength of this universe lies within the Neoverse."

Lu Yin silently listened to the old man. Just this first part told him that Wendy Yushan must have already told this Yu family elder about them visiting the Daosource Sect and what they had learned from that place. Thus, this old man had to know that Lu Yin had also entered the Daosource Sect's ruins.

"In the ancient Daosource Sect, there once existed nine mountains and eight seas. Some time later, five of the mountains and five of the seas were moved to the Neoverse by senior powerhouses with their unbelievable power. They moved them to the Neoverse to search for proper inheritors. In order to avoid the Sixth Mainland's attention, they named those likely inheritors as the Cosmic Children and the five mountains and seas as the 'Astral Tower.' Those people are known as the Cosmic Five." The elder then looked up at Lu Yin. "One must be a part of the younger generation to become one of the Children of Stars, as they must not have finalized their form of cultivation yet. Only those of the younger generation are able to inherit the Astral Tower, which has been passed down through the generations. They are the Cosmic Five."

Lu Yin was astonished. Cosmic Five. So they are those who have received an inheritance from the mountains and seas.

It seemed that these five youths were the top elites of the Neoverse's younger generation, which indicated that they were the Neoverse's equivalent to the Outerverse's Ten Arbiters and the Sixth Mainland's Realmings and Daosource Three Skies.

"This universe has undergone vast changes, especially with the appearance of the formcast model. In the past, the Cosmic Five towered at the peak, but now, the truth is anyone's guess. I've already heard of the existence of these Ten Arbiters. Your generation is very wondrous." The elder sighed before continuing, saying, "Little fellow, you have a great deal of potential, but not enough fate since you've been trapped in the Outerverse. Even if you are able to enter the Daosource Sect's ruins, so what? The positions of the Cosmic Five have to be competed for. It's possible that the competition for the Cosmic Five of your generation hasn't started yet, but it's a pity that you won't be able to participate."

Lu Yin respectfully asked, "Senior, Junior has always felt confused about something. Why did the Yu bloodline betray the Seven Courts?"

The elder looked puzzled. "Betrayed? When?"

Lu Yin was stumped, and he looked over at Wendy Yushan.

Wendy Yushan explained, "The Yu bloodline never betrayed the Seven Courts. We were told this by Ku Wei, and there was indeed a conflict in the past. The Yu family left the Neoverse with the intention of coming to the Outerverse and shunning the universe, but they ended up being pursued."

Lu Yin looked back at the elder.

The elder sighed. "Shaman God, who is one of the Neohuman Alliance's Seven Skygods, chased after my Yu bloodline and caused our patriarch and many of our descendants to be wounded or killed in the process. Only a few people managed to survive the trip to the Outerverse, and our inheritance was severed. I was heavily injured because of these events, and so, I hastily created that sourcebox array and cryopreserved myself while everything else was done by the other surviving members."

Lu Yin never thought that the truth would be something like this. He had previously believed that the Yu family had been chased out of the Seven Courts, and this situation was actually quite similar to what he had discovered about the Yōu family when he had Possessed that Specter Clan member. The Yōu family had deceived everyone, which was why their true descendants avoided the Seven Courts. In contrast, the Yu family had truly fallen far from grace.

The elder's age was too great, and he went back to sleep after speaking just a few sentences. He then returned to cryostasis and fell back beneath the ground while Lu Yin watched on.

Wendy Yushan quietly said, "The elder held out until now just to see you. Otherwise, he would have long since returned to cryostasis by himself."

"How did you guys find this place?" Lu Yin was curious.

"Ah, that was me! I found it," Ku Wei called out from outside as the youth pushed the door open. "The Seven Courts made their own vows back then, and there's a certain attraction between our bloodlines, so I was naturally able to find this place."

"If you were able to find it, then why hasn't anyone else found them even after looking for so many years?"

Lu Yin did not believe Ku Wei, but the only reply he got was an eye roll. "Nonsense. The attraction between bloodlines requires willingness from both parties. How else do you think your woman became so skinny? It's because she's lost too much blood."

Lu Yin was astonished by this reveal, and he turned to look at Wendy Yushan.

Wendy Yushan nodded. "It's easy to die during the process of initiating attraction if one's cultivation is too low."

Lu Yin finally understood why no one else had been able to find the remnants of the Yu family. Aside from Undying Yushan and Wendy Yushan, no one else from the Yu family would have been able to use the bloodline attraction.

"Right, then what about your father?" Lu Yin asked.

Wendy Yushan shook her head. "I don't know."

Ku Wei sniggered. "Bro, there's another bit of good news and bad news. Which do you want to hear first?"

"The good news," Lu Yin said.

"Let me tell you the bad news first. Undying Yushan went against the Yu ancestors' orders and roamed about the Inniverse, and as a result, the Yu family has long since struck him from the family registry. This also means that the Great Yu Empire has been abandoned by the Yu family," Ku Wei said.

"What's so bad about this?" Lu Yin asked.

Ku Wei replied, "There's no way to prove whether Undying Yushan is dead or alive, so isn't that bad news?"

“Then what about the good news?”

“Since there’s no way to determine Undying Yushan’s status, then that’s the good news.”

Lu Yin clenched a fist, as he wanted to smack someone.

“Seventh Bro, beat him! Beat him to death!” the Ghost Monkey cried out.

Wendy Yushan filled him in on a bit more information. “My father went to the Innerverse by himself back then, but his actions there caused quite a few people from the Starfall Sea to come to Frostwave Weave. It was at that time that the Yu family completely severed its interactions with the Great Yu Empire, as they wanted to prevent the Neohuman Alliance from becoming aware of their existence. After so many years have passed, they haven’t heard any news about Father, and they also never verified his death. According to that elder, Father is most likely dead, simply because the Neohuman Alliance rarely fails at their tasks when they move.”

“Rarely fails? Seventh Bro, the Neohuman Alliance rarely wins when they’re against you, right?” the monkey shouted.

Lu Yin stared off into the distance, as the main evidence supporting the theory that Undying Yushan might still be alive had been the sourcebox array at the imperial palace and the possibility that the emperor might have cultivated the Undying Manual. Now that the sourcebox array was confirmed to have been set up by this Yu family elder, it seemed that Undying Yushan was most likely dead if he had not cultivated the Undying Manual.

But even if he had cultivated that technique, there was still nothing that could be known or proven.

Fortunately, the Yu family would not make things difficult for Lu Yin, and that was definitely good news.

However, he had also inadvertently learned about these Cosmic Five, and he believed that these five youths could definitely rival the Daosource Three Skies. However, then what about the Ten Arbiters? They probably surpassed the Realmings, and thus, their strength likely lay somewhere between that of the Cosmic Five and the Daosource Three Skies, but it was also quite likely that they were hiding secrets of their own.

The Yu elder had mentioned that the universe had been transformed and that the existence of the Ten Arbiters was an accident. As for how far this accident extended, nobody knew.

If things were truly as the elder had mentioned, then the contest for this generation’s Cosmic Five had not begun yet.

The elder had also mentioned that this universe was not as simple as it appeared and that the Sixth Mainland would suffer a disadvantage if they tried to invade the Fifth Mainland. Lu Yin did not understand this comment; the Sixth Mainland had three Progenitors of their own, so why would they fall to a disadvantage?

Unless, could this universe have hidden Progenitors who had not died? In that case, they were most likely hidden in the Neoverse.

“Let’s head back,” Lu Yin said to Wendy Yushan.

Wendy Yushan nodded, but then she looked around the tiny village in sorrow. "This is our arcadia. If the remnants of the Yu bloodline can live here peacefully, then their life must be pretty good."

"Did the elder tell you why they initially left the Neoverse?" Lu Yin asked.

Wendy Yushan shook her head. "No."

Ku Wei moved closer, showing a toothy grin. "Bro, I have a bit of good news, and an even better piece of news. Which do you want to hear first?"

Lu Yin stared at him with cold eyes. "If you continue to talk to me like that, I'll have to teach you how to be a better person."

Ku Wei rolled his eyes. "I can't even crack jokes with you. Forget it, I'll just tell you. The good news is that Brother Wei has gained the Yu family's opportunity to enter Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum."

Lu Yin was stunned. "The Yu family just gave it to you?"

Ku Wei nodded excitedly.

Lu Yin looked over towards Wendy Yushan.

Wendy Yushan quietly explained, "It's fine. Our family has no more connection to the Seven Courts any longer. He's already promised not to reveal this location, and the elder gave our opportunity to him."

Lu Yin nodded. "Congratulations, but you can't get to the Neoverse."

Ku Wei's lips twisted, and he stubbornly said, "There should be a way! Brother Wei doesn't believe that I can't get back there. At worst, I'll just take a detour."

"A detour?" Lu Yin's brows furrowed.

Ku Wei replied, "I can cut through the Technocracy to get into the Starfall Sea, as those two regions border each other. I should be able to get back from there."

Lu Yin shook his head. The Technocracy?

He had heard of this place before, and he only knew that it was rumored that the entire territory was completely monitored. Anyone who entered that place would be discovered, and it was not very realistic to return to the Inniverse through that place.

At regular intervals, there were human powerhouses who would storm into the Technocracy and investigate the situation within this region, but they were all Envoys at the very least. Lu Yin and the others were still too weak.

Furthermore, the Starfall Sea was currently at war, and there were most likely powerhouses from the Sixth Mainland in the Technocracy as well. Taking such a detour would just be asking for death.

Ku Wei moved closer. "Brother Lu, Brother Wei has decided to wait for a decade. If the Astral River's connection has not been restored by then, then I'll take the detour through the Technocracy. However, a decade is very long, and that's a lot of time to kill. Brother Wei will give you a chance to recruit an

expert, so why don't you give Brother Wei a part-time job in the Great Yu Empire? Brother Wei promises not to be corrupted!"

Lu Yin felt strange. "You want a position in the Great Yu Empire?"

Ku Wei nodded helplessly. "I have no choice. There's nothing else to do—there's nowhere else really worth exploring in the Outerverse, and the Astral Wilderness is too dangerous. Thus, I can only cast my lot in with you. Speaking of which, your ambition doesn't seem too small, so this should be fun."

Lu Yin thought about it and then said, "The position of the Tenth Squadron's captain is vacant, so you can fill in there for now."

"Alright!" Ku Wei was very happy with this offer. "I'm an officer now, hahaha."

Lu Yin frowned. Given Ku Wei's strength, he definitely qualified to be a captain. He was just an Explorer, but his strength rivaled a Hunter's. More importantly, Lu Yin wanted to keep an eye on Ku Wei, and he wanted to see exactly what this person was trying to do.

There were definitely still other people from the Ku family hiding in the Outerverse, so if Ku Wei helped Lu Yin, then that would be quite the large helping hand.

Based on his interactions with Ku Wei, Lu Yin could sense that the Court of Seven Names was completely different from the Neohuman Alliance. As Ku Wei had said, they had only united for Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, and they were not actually evil.

This person wanted to join the Great Yu Empire, and it was possible that he was just following the Ku family's arrangements. Even if Lu Yin did not agree to give Ku Wei a government position, the youth would still laze about in the Great Yu Empire, so Lu Yin might as well agree.

Lu Yin did not disturb the remnants of the Yu bloodline anymore, and he led their small group back to the spacecraft as they all returned to Zenyu Star.

During their trip back, he enquired about the matter of Shaman God, but Wendy Yushan did not know anything as the elder had not said much about that. The elder had lived for far too long, and his memories had become a little murky.

This Shaman God must have been terrifyingly powerful if they had massacred the Yu family.

"Since the Yu family did not betray the Seven Courts, and this Shaman God chased after the Yu family, then why wasn't there some sort of retaliation from the Seven Courts?" Lu Yin asked.

Wendy Yushan glanced at him, and duly responded, "Even if you ask me, who should I ask?"

Lu Yin choked on his words, as that was indeed true. Wendy Yushan did not know much more than him.

"Right, why was that elder waiting for me?" Lu Yin was puzzled by this.

Wendy Yushan's expression became a bit awkward, and she turned around. "I don't know."

Lu Yin was confused, but this woman's temper seemed to have become even worse. She didn't seem as detached as before, but she had become a little more eccentric, and it made it even harder to understand her.

Chapter 807: Suppress

Midway through their journey to Zenyu Star, Cai Jianqiang left to head toward Planet Hydrotink. He expressed his gratitude once again to Lu Yin before leaving. Despite not knowing where this overpowering sense of gratitude came from, Cai Jianqiang could not control it.

Lu Yin suddenly thought of pulling this person into the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons as another captain. If he succeeded, then the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons' strength would be completely replenished.

Cool Sis and Ku Wei had both joined, so currently, only the Second and Thirteenth Squadrons were still captainless. Phantom Sting had died and Liuying Zishan had become the Allied Forces Commander, so he needed to seek new people to fill these last holes.

He already had someone in mind to become the Second Squadron's captain: Smoker. However, Lu Yin was not confident in being able to recruit that old assassin.

As soon as he returned to Zenyu Star, the first thing Lu Yin did was visit the Enlighter who had been sent over by the Hall of Honor: Akira.

Akira had been staying within the mountains that lay on the outskirts of Zenyu Star's capital city, and he had sealed off the area with star energy so that nobody could approach.

When Lu Yin arrived, Akira hurriedly greeted the youth while exhibiting an exceptionally respectful attitude. It seemed that Elder Lohar must have informed his disciple about Lu Yin possessing the blood-red bell.

"Has Senior become accustomed to living here yet? Please share any requests if you would like anything, and Junior will get someone to take care of it," Lu Yin offered courteously.

Akira smiled. "There's no need. It's very good here."

The two chatted a while, but Akira hesitated a few times during their conversation.

Lu Yin could tell from the Enlighter's eyes that he wanted to see the blood-red bell. The fact that Elder Lohar had directly sent this person to Zenyu Star indicated that the Hall of Honor elder must have some intentions of verifying whether the bell was true or fake. Although Lu Yin had shaken the bell and countless people had heard it, Elder Lohar must still want a Hall of Honor personnel to check the bell. This was the only way he would feel reassured without seeing the bell for himself.

Lu Yin retrieved the blood-red bell from his cosmic ring. "Senior, do you recognize this?"

Akira looked at the blood-red bell, and his pupils abruptly shrank as his expression became very respectful. "This- this is it, definitely."

Lu Yin was curious. "Senior recognizes this?"

Akira hurriedly said, "I ask that Alliance Leader Lu to please keep it safe."

Lu Yin put it away and then looked at Akira. "Senior, what is it? The person who passed it to me didn't say anything."

Akira replied, "If that person didn't say anything, then that is more than sufficient reason for me not to say anything either." He then looked at Lu Yin with a solemn expression. "Alliance Leader Lu, this bell must be kept safe, as it will definitely be useful in the future."

Lu Yin had already learned from Aden that this bell was the Chief Justice of the Interstellar Supreme Court's emblem. That man was a supremely important figure who stood at the top of the universe, and he was not someone who these Enlighters could contact. In Akira's eyes, Lu Yin's own status was probably through the roof!

"Since Senior Akira is unable to easily tell me, then Junior will head out first. If Senior has any requests, please let me know." Lu Yin smiled.

Akira respectfully saw Lu Yin out before immediately contacting Elder Lohar. "Master, it's real."

Elder Lohar was not surprised. "He shook it once, and everyone within Frostwave Weave felt the Chief Justice's supreme might, so it must be real. But why does he have it?"

Akira took a guess. "Master, this person has only been cultivating for about seven years, yet he is already so powerful. Could it be...?"

Elder Lohar quickly thought of something. "Are you saying...? The Cosmic?"

Akira nodded.

Elder Lohar inhaled deeply as his face grew solemn. "That's possible. Alright, there's no need to keep guessing. No matter what, he has the Chief Justice's emblem, and the Chief Justice must have given it to the youth himself, as no one can possibly take that emblem from the Chief Justice. You must keep his identity secret while also ensuring his safety. We absolutely can not risk being negligent."

Akira respectfully replied, "I understand, Master."

After leaving Akira, Lu Yin looked up at the sky. He was walking along a road that he could not turn back on. Once the Inverse and Outerverse reconnected, this bell could mark the end of his life.

Forget it, he would not think about this matter any longer since he could only leave future matters to the future. He still had Mister Mu behind him, and it was difficult to say when the Inverse and Outerverse would rejoin.

After returning to Zenyu Star, Lu Yin formally appointed Cool Sis and Ku Wei to their new positions before going back to King Zishan's palace, where Gavin and the others were already waiting for him.

Although he had not been away from Zenyu Star for too long, there were still many matters that required his attention.

Lu Yin spent half a day listening to reports from Gavin, Huan Sha, and others. He settled what he could and then finally saw Bei Qing.

Bei Qing handed 50,000 star essence over to Lu Yin, which were the profits from the auction.

Lu Yin took them with a satisfied look on his face. "There weren't any mishaps, right?"

Bei Qing respectfully answered, “No sir, everything went smoothly. Nobody dared to make a scene on Zenyu Star.”

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgement. “How’s the investigation going regarding the pyrolyte seller?”

Bei Qing replied, “This is precisely the matter that I wanted to report to Your Highness. We have determined the origin of the pyrolyte that we received—it was leaked from those Innerverse powers that mined pyrolyte.”

“So it was ill-gotten,” Lu Yin stated.

Bei Qing replied, “Currently, all the great powers are required to transport their mined pyrolyte to Ironblood Weave, after which the Hall of Honor compensates them. However, the great powers are not allowed to build up a stash of their own, and trace amounts of pyrolyte trickle out from time to time. They are generally small amounts that the disciples mining the pyrolyte smuggle out. As the quantities are too small, nobody pays attention. For example, the pyrolyte ore that was auctioned this time would produce a few grams of pyrolyte at most after being refined.”

The true value of pyrolyte was in its ability to endlessly scale its power with its quantity. For example, the explosion of 100 grams of pyrolyte had a power level of 1,000,000. Although the actual power of such an explosion could not compare to a powerhouse who also possessed a power level of 1,000,000, the explosion’s overall power would be at the same level, which made it a strategic military resource that was absolutely terrifying.

Ever since the Outerverse had been isolated from the Innerverse, the great powers of the Innerverse, such as the Daynight clan, the Sword Sect, the First Grade Hall, and so on, had continued mining pyrolyte. However, during the defense of Ironblood Weave, Elder Lohar had discovered the value of pyrolyte and had ordered all pyrolyte to be delivered to Ironblood Weave. None of the great powers of the Innerverse dared to resist the Hall of Honor, they were still helping the Hall of Honor mine the pyrolyte ore even now.

Lu Yin did not know exactly how much pyrolyte Ironblood Weave had stockpiled at the moment, but because of his auction, he had gained close to five grams of it.

“Your Highness, what should we do?” Bei Qing asked.

Lu Yin quietly replied, “There’s no need to release this information. Instead, leak out news that the pyrolyte offered in the previous auction was obtained before the Outerverse’s isolation. It was coincidentally obtained by someone roaming the Astral Wilderness more than two years ago, and it has no connection to the present mining operation in the Astral Wilderness. Go and contact the person who sold the pyrolyte and have someone make a deal with him. I want their entire pyrolyte stash, and we’ll base the price off of how much the pyrolyte sold for in the auction price.”

“Based off of the auctioned price? Then the price will be very excessive,” Bei Qing exclaimed.

Lu Yin waved a hand. “If the money is not enough, then those disciples will desperately continue to hide pyrolyte. This pyrolyte is more important than money.”

“Yes, Your Highness,” Bei Qing acknowledged his orders.

“Remember, do not reveal our identity. We definitely cannot provide the Hall of Honor with any information that could be used against us,” Lu Yin solemnly emphasized. Although he could basically do as he wished with his current status, he still had to maintain a low-profile and could not flagrantly break the rules that had been set in place. Otherwise, if the Hall of Honor’s prestige fell even further, then Lu Yin would actually be the one to suffer despite the Hall of Honor not holding the same status that it had in the past.

“I understand, Your Highness. Also, when should we hold the next auction?” Bei Qing asked.

Lu Yin thought about it. “Hold on for a while. This last auction should have attracted quite a few clients, so I’ll pass you some more treasures in a while.”

Bei Qing was delighted. “Thank you, Your Highness.”

The battle at Millions City was the only notable piece of news in recent days, and aside from that incident, the Outerverse had been very calm.

Lu Yin calculated the time and realized that it had been about six months since he had left the Daosource Sect’s ruins. He decided to first find another escape tool like the Void Thunderbeast’s flesh before his next visit. He had to obtain the battle technique of the Nine Cauldrons. If the Nine Cauldrons’ nine battle techniques could be merged into one, then it would be unrivaled; these thoughts continually pushed him onwards.

He did not know how the war in the Innerverse was proceeding. The Sixth Mainland had said that their Progenitors would act, but the Innerverse couldn’t have fallen already!

The Innerverse was spread throughout the countless flowzones, and each one was separated by the Astral River’s tributaries. When the universe had changed, the Astral River must have also become more volatile, likely isolating each flowzone as well. However, that place was still the Innerverse, and he could not even estimate the strength of the powerhouses living there. They were on a completely different level from the Outerverse.

The Outerverse was not able to break through the Astral River’s berserk energy, but that did not mean the Innerverse could not.

When Lu Yin had previously Possessed Tong Chou’s body, Tong Chou had not had any impression of the Innerverse’s various flowzones being completely isolated. Instead, he had known that the various great powers of the Innerverse had united.

This showed the difference between the Innerverse and Outerverse.

Lu Yin was a little worried about the Innerverse.

If the invasion into the Innerverse did not go smoothly, then the Sixth Mainland would simply go to another battlefield, which was exactly what Lu Yin had heard with regards to their plans to use the Technocracy as a springboard to invade the Outerverse. At this moment, there was nothing abnormal going on with the Technocracy, but did this mean that their invasion into the Innerverse was going smoothly?

Lu Yin hoped that the Yu family's elder was right and that the Sixth Mainland would be at a disadvantage in their invasion. Otherwise, once the Innerverse and Outerverse reconnected, the Outerverse would end up being the one down on its luck.

"Your Highness, Lord Gavin requests an audience," Kayze reported.

"Let him in," Lu Yin responded softly.

Soon, Gavin entered the palace and bowed to Lu Yin, though he had a solemn expression. "Your Highness, there's a situation in the western weaves. Various pharmaceutical companies have significantly lowered their prices in a small amount of time."

Lu Yin's gaze trembled, as someone was taking action against Shamrock Enterprises.

All this time, the prices for medications in the Outerverse had been controlled by Shamrock Enterprises, and their prices set the industry's benchmark. Every pharmaceutical company had been forced to follow Shamrock Enterprises' example, which did not allow prices to fluctuate too greatly, and this safeguarded the stability of the market. But now, the prices of pharmaceuticals in the west had suddenly dropped, which meant that Shamrock Enterprises was no longer able to control the market.

"When did this happen?" Lu Yin asked.

"Not long after you returned," Gavin replied.

Lu Yin activated his gadget and quickly looked up any news concerning Shamrock Enterprises in the western weaves. However, he quickly saw that the various publications there were mainly covering news of Hoffman's death.

Hoffman had been the Western Chairman of Shamrock Enterprises, and his death would have a great impact on the company. Precisely because of his death, there were some people who could not resist testing this financial behemoth.

"Your Highness, aside from this matter, many spacecraft-manufacturing companies in the universe have slashed the prices of their vessels while raising the prices of various materials," Gavin said.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed, as this indicated that not only was Shamrock Enterprises facing difficulties, but also Aurora Enterprises.

Upgrading an Aurora required materials. A surge in price for raw materials implied that the price for an Aurora would fluctuate drastically while the prices of ordinary vessels would drop. This move was obviously meant to disrupt Aurora Enterprises' market power.

Shamrock Enterprises and Aurora Enterprises were both put under great pressure at the same moment, not to mention what had happened to the Mavis Bank not long ago.

There had to be someone pulling the strings behind the scenes. Otherwise, just the organizations of the Outerverse themselves would not be able to do such a thing, let alone gather the courage to make such a move.

Lu Yin suddenly thought of Wei Rong, as he had orchestrated the collapse of Sourcepeak Planet, and he had also been the one who had broken up the Outerverse Lockbreaker Society, initiating a very bad trend. In that case, could the events this time have also been arranged by the youth?

Although Lu Yin had such thoughts, it was not too likely, as Wei Rong did not have such overwhelming capabilities.

Chapter 808: Brave Torrential Progress

Lu Yin lowered his gadget. Regardless of who was actually behind the schemes targeting those three corporate giants, it was none of his business at the moment. Those financial titans were arrogant, and it would also be beneficial for him if they suffered.

He asked Gavin to pay attention to this matter, as he was interested in seeing how Shamrock Enterprises and Aurora Enterprises would retaliate.

He stood up, as it was time for him to head to the mainland of the first ring around Zenyu Star.

Yu Academy was currently recruiting new students, and these prospective students came from not only Frostwave Weave, but also other weaves.

The current Great Yu Empire stood at the peak of the Outerverse, and Yu Academy was the academy that nurtured the Great Yu Empire's young elites. Those who entered Yu Academy could learn how to better cultivate, and they might even get the chance to see Lu Yin, which was a prized opportunity for countless youths in the Outerverse.

Even if there was only a trace opportunity to meet Lu Yin, many people would risk their lives for it. It was just like how Lu Yin had participated in Astral-10's entrance exam in the past, which he had simply considered an opportunity.

The first mainland ring of Zenyu Star was currently very lively with many spacecraft hovering in outer space above it. Many youths excitedly jumped into the sea and swam towards the nearby coast, which was where the entrance exam was being held. The applicants were allowed to use all sorts of methods, and those that survived till the end would be allowed to join Yu Academy. Yu Academy was recruiting a total of 500 students this time.

However, there were 1,000,000 applicants participating in this examination.

Choosing 500 students from 1,000,000 applicants meant that there was a one in 2,000 chance of acceptance, and this was also under the premise that the majority of the applicants had already been eliminated. The number of people who had applied had already shattered the record from several years ago, and it had nearly reached 100 million this cycle. The million applicants here had all been carefully selected from the various great weaves, and each one had to have the qualifications to even register. This showed how arduous Yu Academy's entrance exam had become.

Lu Yin saw the youths who were fighting for their lives on a screen, and he felt rather nostalgic.

Back during Earth's apocalypse, the Seven Sages of China had dominated the sky and had towered far above billions of Earthlings, being known as Sky rank powerhouses. However, such powerhouses might not even qualify to participate in Yu Academy's entrance exam, which just went to show how stringent

the application process was. This academy was the foundation of the Great Yu Empire's future, and its importance had risen countless times higher after the Great Eastern Alliance's establishment, which had led to the present situation.

The Yu Academy's Hall Masters were all Limiteer realm experts, and the hall members were mostly Melders with the rare Sentinel. Those who were qualified to register were practically all Sentinels, and those who had made it to Zenyu Star's first mainland ring had either used formcast models to cultivate or had high power levels. Either way, they had lasted through several elimination rounds to reach this stage.

"Your Highness, we have arranged for almost 100 Yu Academy students from the mainland to join and inconspicuously blend into the applicants. As long as an applicant is able to defeat a Yu Academy member, they will obtain the qualifications to join the Yu Academy in advance. These Yu Academy students are all Melders," Huo Zhong explained as he respectfully stood behind Lu Yin.

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgement and then looked at one of the center screens that was displaying Fu Xiaoshu. He had come from Earth, and Lu Yin had some impression of this young man. He had an innate gift of illusions and his cultivation speed was also quite fast, which had allowed him to rise to the level where he was second only to the Hall Masters in strength within the Yu Academy.

There were dozens of cultivators surrounding Fu Xiaoshu, and there were even three Melders from other weaves. These cultivators all moved against Fu Xiaoshu together, hoping to defeat him.

But Fu Xiaoshu's eyes simply flickered before the people surrounding him all fell to the ground, immersed within his illusion.

The low strength of these applicants meant that their numbers were meaningless against Fu Xiaoshu's abilities.

Lu Yin diverted his attention to another screen, which showed another Yu Academy member being surrounded. Between this student's Skybeast Claw and his star energy control, he easily defeated two Melders who had teamed up before proudly moving on.

The cultivators participating in this entrance exam were all elite disciples from various powers of multiple weaves, and their power levels roughly matched up to the standard Yu Academy student of a few years ago. In fact, some of the applicants even surpassed that old standard, and they would have been able to go against the Hall Masters of that time.

However, the current Yu Academy was a completely different place compared to a few years ago. In the past, there had only been a few Melder realm students, but that had been before Schutz had returned from training in the Innerverse. He had spent several years guiding the Yu Academy students, and with the additions of Yue Xianzi, An Shaohua, Ah Fan, and the others, the overall strength of Yu Academy had increased tremendously. Yu Academy had already surpassed the confines of the Outerverse's standards.

Of course, there were also experts among the examination applicants who were able to compete with the ordinary Yu Academy students.

Lu Yin checked the other screens with interest and saw that Huo Xiaoling was actually among the students. This kid was actually already a Limiteer, but she had still gone there to join in on the fun.

Huo Zhong saw Lu Yin's attention drift towards Huo Xiaoling, and he awkwardly said, "She said that she's been too bored staying at home, so she wanted to go out for a walk."

As he uttered those words, the screen displayed the descent of Huo Xiaoling's fire phoenix, which incinerated the area a thousand meters radius around her and forced countless applicants to silently retreat.

Lu Yin laughed, but he did not stop anything. Luck was also a part of cultivation, and these people were simply unlucky to have met Huo Xiaoling. There was no one they could blame. Back during Earth's trial, Lu Yin had run into the Daynight clan's Nightking Qingyu, but he had still managed to rise to his current position.

"Where's Schutz?" Lu Yin asked.

Huo Zhong replied, "He's close to breaking through and becoming an Explorer."

Lu Yin was surprised to hear that Schutz was about to break through, though it was true that he had been a Limiteer for too long. Since he had trained at Astral-10, he should have broken through long ago. However, after he broke through to the Explorer realm, one of the Yu Academy's Hall Master positions would become vacant.

As he thought about it, Lu Yin looked back at Huo Xiaoling. "After Schutz breaks through to the Explorer realm, let Huo Xiaoling inherit his position of Hall Master."

Huo Zhong was delighted at this news. "Thank you, Your Highness."

Lu Yin was amused by the man's reaction. "Why are you thanking me? This isn't favoritism—she's earned the position based on nothing more than her own strength."

Huo Zhong immediately agreed.

Lu Yin left after a short while. Although the people at the academy were all about the same age as him, and there were even some who were a bit older, their world view was completely different. Lu Yin held no further interest in watching their entrance exam.

Yu Academy had true geniuses among its students, especially the batch of cultivators from Earth. Fu Xiaoshu had comprehended a domain, Song Shi had comprehended battle force, and those like Zhen Tong or Qin Xuan possessed powerful innate gifts. It seemed that Yu Academy would churn out quite a few more experts in the future.

Seeing some people from Earth suddenly reminded Lu Yin of Jupiter, which was a thorn that had been lodged in his heart from start to end. The secrets still hidden within that planet might answer a great deal of his questions, but he could not enter.

Depressing.

In Frostwave Weave, there was a dark-red planet located slightly west of the weave's center. This planet constantly spewed smoke and poisonous gases out into the atmosphere while boiling lava seeped out to the surface. This planet was completely uninhabitable, and no living creature was able to survive here.

But then, suddenly, a spacecraft appeared above the atmosphere. It was jerking oddly as it quickly fell to the ground before finally crashing into the lava and causing a minor surge. Everything within 10,000 meters of the landing site disintegrated.

Black smoke floated out of the spacecraft, and it was clearly damaged.

Many people wearing universal armor walked out of the spacecraft, and they moved towards the damaged section of the vessel. Following them, a middle-aged man emerged from the ship without a set of universal armor. Since he could survive in this harsh environment on his own, the man was clearly at least at the Explorer realm.

The middle-aged man casually waved a hand, unleashing a gale that swept aside all of the surrounding lava, and the shockwave shot into the distance where it eventually decapitated a black mountain.

“Chief, there’s no signs of any life on this planet,” a voice called out from the middle-aged man’s gadget.

“Got it. Repair the spacecraft quickly, as we still have to head out for our mission,” he replied.

“Yes, chief.”

The spacecraft was huge, and it carried more than 1,000 people. They were not upset about the spacecraft being damaged. While the ship was being repaired, everyone simply cultivated, rested, or went to one of the bars inside the vessel to have a good time.

These people were the Ordnance Mercenaries, the most famous mercenaries in the Great Yu Empire. The deputy captain was the captain of the Great Yu Empire’s Eight Squadron, Shalosh. Within the Great Yu Empire, these people could roam about freely and unobstructed.

Within one of the bars, a tall, beautiful woman with a whip danced around a pole with black heels, and all the people in the bar were whistling and shouting excitedly.

Seated at the bar, Ian frowned, as he did not enjoy this sort of environment. He had been with the Ordnance Mercenaries for several years by now, but he had never fully integrated, especially since this particular woman practically went insane at times.

The beautiful lady finished dancing to the song, and the crowd kept cheering. She lashed her whip and danced wildly, hitting quite a few people, but the crowd only grew even more excited.

“Scram, you bunch of wolves!” the woman shouted.

The crowd cheered even more resoundingly.

Not long after, the woman walked over next to Ian, embracing Ian’s shoulders. The heavy smell of alcohol still hung about her lips. “Little Ian, come and have a dance with me.”

Ian was helpless. “Sister Dana, you head on by yourself. I don’t know how.”

The woman was Dana, and she was the daughter of the Ordnance Mercenaries’ leader, Qi Jin. Back on Zenyu Star, this woman was the one who had brought Ian into the Ordnance Mercenaries. Although she

frequently bullied this elite youth, she had also taken good care of him. If not for Dana, Ian would have died during their previous mission.

Although Ian was not comfortable with how Dana interacted with him, he still felt genuinely grateful towards her. Of course, there were also a few other feelings that he could not quite put into words.

Dana rolled her eyes. "It's already been a few years, but you're still the same. Don't worry, Sis will take care of you, hmph!"

She then made her way over towards the dance floor where she proceeded to crazily twist her body about.

Ian felt helpless. He rubbed his head and then walked out of the bar. After thinking for a moment, he donned his universal armor, having decided to head out for a stroll.

There were many planets in this region of the universe that were completely vacant. Without any water or oxygen and often with deadly gases pervading the air, these planets felt more like some kind of strange hell. Ian had seen too many places like this.

Over the span of several years, he had gone from being the top student in the Imperial Military Academy to a seasoned mercenary. Sometimes, he even thought that if he had possessed such battle experience back in that trial on Earth, he wouldn't have lost to the Royal Regent!

He walked across the scorching dark red surface and looked off into the distance. There was a giant, fiery tornado that connected the sky and the ground, and it snarled as it whirled over.

From behind, Qi Jin appeared and casually waved a hand. The tornado was torn apart, and the powerful gale from the captain's hand had already sent the lava on the ground flying away.

"Still not used to this?" Qi Jin asked Ian.

Ian smiled. "Just feel a little stifled."

Qi Jin commented, "Mercenaries and troops are different, with soldiers having scattered combat. Although mercenaries have richer battle experience, they have no discipline, which is the complete opposite of the education that you received."

Ian mentioned, "The discipline of our mercenaries is pretty decent."

Qi Jin patted Ian's shoulder. "I've watched your performance these past few years, and you were a top student in military affairs. It's a waste for you to stay here in a mercenary group. I'll find some time to speak to Shalosh—it's time to send you to the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons."

Ian's eyes lit up, but when he thought of Dana, his emotions became all tangled. He did not want to separate from that splendid big sister of his.

Dana had already become an integral part of his life, and he lowered his head to ponder his situation. Suddenly, his gaze trembled as he stared at the ground in shock. There was a strange mark right where he was staring.

This mark... He bent down and carefully blew the surrounding ash away before studying the mark intensely. After a while, he turned around to check in all directions. It seemed as though he had discovered something.

Qi Jin felt that something was strange, but he did not give it much thought. During Ian's years as a part of the mercenaries, although he hadn't made any great contributions during conflicts and battles, he had provided some pretty good suggestions at times, especially in situations against multiple enemies. Many of his suggestions could lead to extraordinary effects, which amply demonstrated his military talent.

Chapter 809: Enemy Troops

After observing his surroundings for a while, Ian's face turned solemn as he stared off into the distance. "Captain, can you help me look at the nearby area?"

Qijin did not inquire further, and he simply took Ian along as he flew along. Ian had already become a Limiteer and had the power level to destroy an ordinary planet, so if he was asking for company, then it meant that there were probably enemies nearby.

Qijin told his troops to stay alert.

Ian spent over an hour looking around. Finally, with a serious look on his face, he looked at Qijin. "Captain, I would like to talk with deputy captain Shalosh."

In King Zishan's palace, Lu Yin opened his gadget, and Shalosh's image appeared on the screen. "Your Highness, the Ordnance Mercenaries may have discovered other troops hidden within Frostwave Weave."

Lu Yin was shocked.

Without any hesitation, he immediately sent the Rapid Response Team over to the uninhabited planet where the Ordnance Mercenaries had landed for emergency repairs.

The members of the Rapid Response Team had been personally handpicked after the summit talks between Lu Yin and the various heads of the different allied powers in the Great Eastern Alliance. This team travelled around in a radiant-grade Aurora so that they could complete their tasks in the shortest amount of time possible. There were 113 people in the Rapid Response Team, which consisted of one hundred Explorers, ten Cruisers, and three Hunters.

This squadron was the Great Eastern Alliance's special forces, and this was the first time Lu Yin had mobilized them.

The three hunters had all been independent cultivators, and there were only two people who could give them orders: Lu Yin and the commander of the Allied Forces, Luying Zishan.

On the desolate planet, Ian spoke in a low voice. "Captain, it's possible that we're being watched right now, so let's put on a bit of a show to avoid being wiped out."

“Are you certain that there are enemies here?” Qijin asked. Shalosh had already contacted the Royal Regent. If it turned out that there were no enemies, things would become very humiliating, and even worse, it would attract the Royal Regent’s attention.

Ian replied, “I’m not sure if there are any still here, but they were definitely here earlier.”

Qijin’s heart sank. “How long ago?”

Somewhat uncertainly, Ian said, “Around ten days ago.”

Qijin heaved a sigh of relief. It would not look too bad if enemies had indeed been on this planet around ten days ago.

Qijin commanded the Ordnance Mercenaries to act as though they were looking for minerals in the surrounding region, as he intended to use this ruse to confuse any enemies that might still be in the area.

Far away from the mercenaries, deep underground, there was a huge open space. There were a hundred thousand soldiers in this space. Ian was right—there were indeed enemy forces nearby.

“General, shall we destroy them?” In a spacecraft in the subterranean space, a middle-aged man was studying a map while listening to a report from his aide-de-camp.

They had not been monitoring the surface as using any sort of monitoring equipment had a chance of being discovered. Instead, they had used the most primitive observation device: a specially made telescope that specialized in star observation.

The middle-aged man solemnly replied, “Are these the Ordnance Mercenaries from Frostwave Weave?”

“Yes.”

“Then don’t touch them. The deputy captain of the Ordnance Mercenaries is Shalosh, who’s the captain of the Eighth Imperial Squadron. If we wipe out these mercenaries, then Shalosh won’t let the matter rest. He will definitely look into who did it, and that would blow our entire cover,” the middle-aged man said.

The aide-de-camp replied, “Will they discover us?”

The middle-aged man shook his head. “That’s unlikely. Haven’t we already erased all traces of our arrival from the surface? Even people who have received high level military training wouldn’t be able to discover us, much less some mere mercenaries.”

“Indeed.”

Back on the surface, Ian returned to the spacecraft. Dana rushed over and grabbed Ian. She moved closer to him and drunkenly said, “Come on, let’s go and have some fun!”

Ian did not know what to do. “Sister Dana, you’re drunk.”

“I’m not drunk! You won’t be here for much longer anyways. Father said that he’s going to recommend you to the Imperial Thirteen Squadrons. Do you really want to leave?” Dana questioned Ian.

Ian did not know how to respond.

Dana suddenly vomited all over Ian. Ian laughed bitterly, as he was already used to this behavior.

Ian held Dana as he looked out of the spacecraft, occasionally glancing at his personal gadget. He raised his head. Soon, soon.

Even though Frostwave Weave was massive, the incredible speed of a radiant-grade Aurora made the distance seem much smaller.

With the appearance of a spacecraft in the sky, Ian heaved a sigh of relief. They had arrived.

In the underground space, the aide-de-camp's face changed as he received a new report. "General, something is off."

Right as he spoke these words, the ground trembled. A mighty force had surged forth and permeated the entire planet. This was the power of a Hunter.

The middle-aged general was stunned. "Hurry! Board the spacecraft and prepare for battle!"

However, it was already too late. A powerful Hunter tore through the planet and suddenly appeared in front of the soldiers. There were only two powerful Cruisers among these troops, and they had no way to fight off a Hunter. The soldiers were quickly defeated, and the general was captured.

In front of King Zishan's palace, Qijin had a nervous expression on his face. As the captain of the Ordnance Mercenaries, he had overcome many adversities, but the person he was about to meet was an absolute legend. Given the captain's standing, it had been extremely unlikely for him to ever meet such a person, but at this moment, he was really going to meet the Royal Regent, Lu Yin, a legend of the universe.

Ian stood beside Qijin. He had contributed a great service, and Lu Yin had specifically mentioned that he wanted to meet Ian.

Ian was feeling rather torn. Back during the trial on Earth, he had been robbed by Lu Yin. Everyone had ridiculed Ian for that, and he had become a laughing stock. After that, he had gotten drunk in a bar and violated Dana, which had forced him to join the Ordnance Mercenaries. It could be said that his life had completely changed by that single event.

Before the trial on Earth, he had been the top student of the Imperial Military Academy, the cream of the crop, and a definite shoo-in for Yu Academy. He had had a bright future ahead of him.

But after the trial, he had become nothing more than an insignificant mercenary.

In the beginning, Ian had hated Lu Yin. However, as Lu Yin's reputation grew, especially after the Tournament of the Strongest, where Lu Yin had become a household name, Ian's feelings towards the youth had changed. At that time, he had even told Dana that not everyone had the chance to battle against a legend.

He had initially thought that he would never have any more interactions with the man, and he had certainly not expected to meet Lu Yin so soon again. This was the person who had robbed him but was still known as a legend.

“The captain of the Ordnance Mercenaries, Qijin, pays his respects to His Highness, the Royal Regent.” Qijin bowed outside of King Zishan’s palace.

“Ian of the Ordnance Mercenaries pays his respects to His Highness, the Royal Regent.” Ian bowed as well.

Lu Yin smiled at the two men. “There’s no need for the formalities. Have a seat.”

Qijin looked at Ian as he cautiously sat down.

“The Ordnance Mercenaries. I’ve heard that name many times before. Deputy Captain Shalosh is the captain of the Eighth Imperial Squadron, and he’s known as a powerful Cruiser even within the scope of the entire Outerverse. How did he join the Ordnance Mercenaries in the past?” Lu Yin asked out of curiosity.

Qijin respectfully replied, “Shalosh was heavily injured at one point, and the Ordnance Mercenaries were coincidentally in Canopy Weave at the same time. We saved him, and after that, he joined our mercenary group.”

“Ah, I see,” Lu Yin acknowledged with a nod. It had been noted in Shalosh’s personal file that he had come from Canopy Weave. Lu Yin speculated that Shalosh had most likely been recommended by a powerful figure from Canopy Weave. However, the weave had later been destroyed by the Neo-Vestige Sect when it had tried to gain control of two weaves. This was something that had happened very long ago, and Shalosh had only inherited some battle techniques. There really was not much of a connection between him and the former powers of Canopy Weave.

“How did Shalosh join the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons?” Lu Yin asked, as this was not recorded in the captain’s personal file.

Qijin responded, “Shalosh took part in the selection of his own accord and was chosen by the late emperor. He then slowly rose up through the ranks to eventually become the captain of the Eighth Squadron.”

Lu Yin finally gained a clearer understanding of this captain. His focus next shifted over to Ian as he smiled gleefully. “It’s been a long time since I last saw you.”

Ian’s expression changed as he respectfully answered, “Forgive me for offending you in the past, Your Highness.”

Qijin knew that Ian had participated in Earth’s trial in the past and also that the Royal Regent had attended Earth’s trial at that same time. Thus, the two had likely had some sort of interaction at that time.

Lu Yin laughed. “I remembered robbing you, but I don’t remember you offending me. Why? Were you scolding me behind my back?”

Ian felt uncomfortable.

Lu Yin smiled and then gestured for the other youth to sit. He looked at Ian with a sense of astonishment. "Tell me, how did you discover the underground troops? They shouldn't have left any obvious signs."

With the topic on, Ian instantly became much more confident, as this was his forte. "No military movement can be completely traceless. Back in the academy, my learning centered on the anchorage position of spacecraft as well as psychological analysis. These particular courses were rather neglected in the Imperial Military Academy, and almost nobody took them. However, they're actually very useful. Whenever spacecraft land on an unknown planet where the troops are faced with unknown threats, they will always take on a defensive position pointing outwards. Even the captain's mental state is very important at such times, and all of these details can be used to analyze many things..."

Ian spoke for almost five minutes, though Lu Yin did not really understand what the youth was saying. Lu Yin had not received any military training, but he had come to roughly understand a little. Tracking down military troop movements was similar to analyzing a criminal's psychology, and Ian had applied such analysis techniques towards military affairs, particularly towards the captain of the spacecraft.

Lu Yin immediately ordered this academic course to become mandatory for graduation, and at the same time, he ordered all the officers of the empire to review the material as well. No matter how much they absorbed, they all would have to study it, as psychology was very important.

As he looked at Ian, Lu Yin exclaimed, "You're pretty good, and leaving you as a mercenary is too wasteful."

He looked at Qijin. "Captain Qijin, would you mind if I stole a talent from your members?"

Qijin immediately responded, "Being able to receive Your Highness's attention is Ian's fortune." He then hurriedly cast a meaningful glance over at Ian.

Ian stood up. "Thank you, Your Highness."

Lu Yin nodded. "The Thirteen Squadrons are combat oriented, and with your power level, you won't be able to have much of an impact. Since that's the case, you can instead join the Allied Forces of the Great Eastern Alliance and assist Commander Liuying Zishan in handling certain matters. Your status won't be very high, but your future prospects will be decent. It will all depend on you whether or not you can climb upwards."

Ian was delighted, as he did not have a strong desire to join the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons either. They were essentially the empire's butcher knife, and it would not have been too different from being a part of the mercenary group. He looked forward to being in a formal military, which was why he had entered the Imperial Military Academy, and the alliance's Allied Forces were indeed the most suitable place for him. "Thank you, Your Highness. I will not let you down."

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgement and then dismissed the two men before summoning the Foreign Affairs Secretary, Hill Auna.

“We’ve determined the origins of those troops, and they come from Armament Weave’s Wei family. Immediately send out a notice to the Wei family demanding them to hand over the master plans as well as compensate us with 3 million star essence. Otherwise, we will declare war,” Lu Yin said sternly.

Hill Auna was surprised. “3 million star essence? Your Highness, isn’t that a bit too much?” The taxes collected from the entire Great Yu Empire in one year was around 3 million, and that was an astronomical amount. Forget 3 million—30,000 would already be considered a decent sum. This was still the Outerverse, not the Innerverse.

However, Lu Yin remained firm, and he made it clear that there was no room for negotiation. “Three million, and not one essence less.”

Hill Auna instantly understood—the demand for compensation was a farce whereas the declaration of war was the real deal. The Royal Regent wanted to wage war, and so Hill Auna didn’t dare to say another word. He simply acknowledged his orders and withdrew.

Chapter 810: Invasion

When Ah Mu had informed Lu Yin that Wei Rong was cooperating with the Dark Phoenix family, Lu Yin had wanted to declare war immediately. If he did not start fighting against these people soon, it would become much more difficult for him to resist when more of his enemies united. However, he had not been able to find an excuse to declare war, and he could not unilaterally attack other powers of his own accord. Even if the universe was a dog-eat-dog world, one still needed a reasonable excuse to wage war, even if the excuse was false.

However, Lu Yin was not using a fake excuse as the troops that had been discovered were truly from the Wei family. Originally, the Wei family had used these troops to attack Lars Weave’s Six-Fingered Tribe since Frostwave Weave was very close to the Lars Weave. From their position in Frostwave Weave, the military detachment had been able to ambush the Six-Fingered Tribe and inflict heavy damage on them. But after the Great Eastern Alliance was established, this troop had concealed themselves and helped the Wei family to monitor the Great Yu Empire.

When the Great Eastern Alliance had been established, it had become impossible for the Wei family to send troops into Frostwave Weave any longer. The troops that were hiding on that desolate planet had been hiding there even before the alliance had been established. However, they could be treated as Wei family soldiers who had appeared out of nowhere. Fortunately, Ian had discovered this force, and not only had this helped Lu Yin remove the obvious hidden danger, but it had also been a convenient excuse to declare war with. Ian’s contributions this time had been overwhelming, and not even Ian himself was aware of how important his achievement was. Still, due to the education that he had received in the past, he was well qualified to join the Allied Forces and assist Liuying Zishan.

In Armament Weave, all of the direct members of the Wei family had gathered, and the patriarch, Wei Baichuan, had a solemn expression.

There were dozens of direct members of the Wei family, and apart from Wei Baichuan’s line, there were also his younger brothers and their descendants. Dozens of people had converged within the ancestral hall, which was only ever used as a meeting place when something big occurred.

“Patriarch, what happened?” someone asked.

Wei Baichuan solemnly answered, "The Great Yu Empire's Royal Regent Lu Yin has demanded 3 million star essence as compensation from our Wei family."

Everyone erupted in an uproar. "Why?"

"Patriarch, what is he using to demand compensation from us?"

...

Wei Baichuan looked at his younger brother, Wei Dan. "Remember how when we were waging war against the Six-Fingered Tribe ten years ago, there were some ambush troops that you hid within Frostwave Weave?"

Wei Dan's expression changed drastically. "Did the Great Yu Empire find them?"

Wei Baichuan nodded.

"But brother, those ambush troops were intended to be used against the Six-Fingered Tribe, and they are completely unrelated to the Great Yu Empire," Wei Dan hurriedly protested.

Wei Baichuan replied, "Do you think that Lu Yin will believe that? Those soldiers were discovered in Frostwave Weave, and no matter why they were sent there, it's already enough to use as an excuse to declare war. Lu Yin has demanded 3 million star essence from our Wei family as compensation and also for the master scheme to be handed over."

Wei Dan's face turned deathly pale.

Everyone fell silent, as the troops' presence was a piece of undeniable evidence that could not be ignored. Even if they completely denied the existence of those troops, regardless of whether or not they succeeded in averting this crisis, they would lose the trust of their soldiers and military by doing so. Nobody would be willing to serve the Wei family anymore, and their losses would be catastrophic.

Beep beep beep beep!

Wei Baichuan's gadget rang, and when he connected to the incoming call, Wei Rong appeared on the screen with a solemn expression. "Father, did Lu Yin discover those hidden troops?"

Wei Baichuan nodded.

Wei Rong's eyes narrowed as he pondered this development.

"Little Rong, you know Lu Yin, so contact him and find out what his goal is. Paying out 3 million star essence is impossible, and at most, we can do 30,000. He must have some other objective," Wei Baichuan said solemnly.

Wei Rong had a headache, as he had just reached an agreement with the Dark Phoenix family to team up and deal with the Great Eastern Alliance. However, the Great Eastern Alliance had still somehow managed to make the first move. Did Lu Yin know what he had been up to? Otherwise, with just one group of soldiers, there was no reason to demand such an exorbitant price. Lu Yin was obviously trying to start a war.

In Wei Rong's considerations, the Great Eastern Alliance should have only declared war against the central weaves after all of the eastern weaves were gathered into the Great Eastern Alliance. He had thought that he still had sufficient time to prepare, never thinking that Lu Yin would move so fast. There was only one possibility: Lu Yin had realized that Wei Rong had allied with the Dark Phoenix family.

"Little Rong, try getting in touch with Lu Yin." Wei Baichuan was growing anxious.

Wei Rong felt helpless, but no matter what, he had to speak with Lu Yin first. It would be

best if this situation could be somehow stabilized. The Dark Phoenix family needed more time to prepare themselves, and the unity of both sides of the alliance still needed some work.

It didn't take long for Wei Rong to call Lu Yin, and Lu Yin soon appeared on Wei Rong's screen.

Lu Yin had already guessed that Wei Rong would contact him very quickly, and he had actually been waiting!

"Brother Lu, it's only a few days after we parted ways in Millions City, and a misunderstanding has already occurred between us. This is not what I wished to see," Wei Rong said.

Lu Yin looked completely calm. "What is Brother Wei saying? If this was just a misunderstanding, then I would be willing to settle things. But an entire battalion of 100,000 soldiers hiding right in my Frostwave Weave? And not too far from Zenyu Star at that. How is this a misunderstanding?"

Wei Rong sincerely answered, "These troops were originally dispatched to deal with the Six-Fingered Tribe, but once the Great Eastern Alliance was established, the border controls became much more strict, and the soldiers were not able to return home. They were never going to act against the Great Yu Empire, so I must ask Brother Lu to please calm down. My Wei family is willing to compensate you."

Lu Yin's face remained at ease. "Anything can be discussed if the compensation is paid. 3 million star essence and the mastermind behind this plot must also be handed over."

Wei Rong laughed. "Let's not lower ourselves to insinuations. 3 million is honestly too much. Brother Lu visited Millions City earlier, so are you now using Millions City's standards to evaluate the other weaves? My Wei family is willing to hand over 20,000 star essence to resolve this misunderstanding."

Lu Yin laughed. "Is Brother Wei joking? This isn't how haggling is conducted. Here, I'll give Brother Wei some face: there's no need to hand over the mastermind behind this scheme, but you still have to pay out 3 million star essence and not one bit less."

Wei Rong felt helpless. "Looks like Brother Lu is bent on starting a war."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "I don't wish to start a war, but when a war does break out, it will be a battle of resources. It's perfectly fine to discuss how money is spent, but once human lives are lost, they are gone forever. I don't wish to see dead people, and thus, everything depends on the Wei family's sincerity."

Wei Rong adjusted his expression and put on a stern look. "There's no use in talking any further. Since Brother Lu clearly wants to start a war, then I will accompany you. However, I must warn Brother Lu: anything can happen. Although the Great Eastern Alliance is powerful, it's not invincible."

Lu Yin smiled and ended the call. When he next activated his gadget, Liuying Zishan appeared on his screen. "Declare war against Armament Weave."

Liuying Zishan's face looked serene. "When?"

"Now. Fight!" Lu Yin barked.

These words signified the beginning of the war.

The Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces had already been fully assembled, and the entire military force headed towards Armament Weave. 200 battleships and over 1,000 large transport vessels cruised through outer space, creating a rather magnificent sight.

Every single member of the entire Great Eastern Alliance received notice that a war was about to start and that they were fighting against Armament Weave.

In the Vastdearth Sect, Meng Tianlong's face turned solemn. The alliance was reportedly waging war against Armament Weave, but in truth, the Great Eastern Alliance was invading the central weaves, which could easily cause public backlash. Fortunately, the Great Eastern Alliance had a valid reason, so they might be able to avoid retaliation from the rest of the central weaves.

In Evenground Palace, Mu Nichang had not thought that war would come so soon. When Lu Yin had hastened to establish the Allied Forces, he must have been anticipating this day!

"Master, do you think that Armament Weave can withstand this attack?" Doro asked.

Mu Nichang shook her head. "The Armament Weave alone should not be able to defend against the Allied Forces, but the Wei family is different. That kid, Wei Rong, has made his way around everywhere, and his silver tongue is very glib. Thus, he may be able to recruit some reinforcements. This war will all depend on whether or not the Allied Forces can succeed in a blitzkrieg attack."

Doro nodded and then looked back at a star chart.

The Six-Fingered Tribe became very excited, as they had been age-old enemies of Armament Weave for many generations; it would be a compliment to say that the two sides were just enemies. The tribe had always been suppressed by the Wei family, and if not for their hidden foundation running too deep, they would have long since been wiped out. But now, the Allied Forces were about to battle against the Wei family, and the Six-Fingered Tribe were anticipating the imminent destruction of the Wei family, meaning that their feud could finally come to an end.

Part of the Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces were already stationed in Lars Weave, and these troops were the first ones to invade Armament Weave. They simply pulled out of Lars Weave and moved into Armament Weave, which was too rapid a move for Armament Weave to respond.

Armament Weave had not expected a battle to break out so quickly, and the strategists in the Wei family were still in heated discussion when the battle had already broken out.

The borders were thrown into a state of emergency, and 200 battleships let loose with their energy cannons, which caused almost ten Explorers to instantly die as Armament Weave's defenders were squeezed tight like a cork.

One weave alone could not defend against the united strength of the Allied Forces. The Wei family did not have more than a hundred battleships in total, and thirty of them had been stationed at the Lars Weave border, which indicated that they had already placed the Lars Weave border as the highest level of caution. However, 200 battleships quickly annihilated the defense forces, and the Allied Forces tore straight into Armament Weave.

When Wei Baichuan was informed of this development, the Allied Forces had already destroyed Armament Weave's border patrols.

This was a classic example of a rapid battle that was driven by numbers, and the results caused the Six-Fingered Tribe to get fired up. They were eager for the Allied Forces to destroy the Wei family.

A great war in space was a grand thing to witness, and countless light beams swept out through the vacuum of space. Spacecraft occasionally exploded, and more often than not, transport vessels were also destroyed, causing thousands of soldiers to perish each time.

The Allied Forces had sent out ten Explorers, two Cruisers, and one Hunter along with their fleet, and they entered space unaccompanied so that they could destroy the enemy's vessels. The cosmos was lit up with explosions and fires as countless corpses burned, as even more countless corpses floated about through space.

The Allied Forces bulldozed their way across a tenth of Armament Weave in five days before they finally encountered some meaningful resistance.

Wei Rong's campaigning efforts from before finally showed their results at this time, as the Shadowword Sect, the Umbral Butterfly Tribe, and even the Moke Sword Sect, the Ayker Clan, and a dozen other powers joined Armament Weave's defense. They hid themselves among the native defenders of Armament Weave, which allowed the defense to finally block the Allied Forces. An intense battle broke out between the two sides.

Although the troops defending Armament Weave were still being overpowered, they were able to maintain their current position.

The astral warhorses that the Wei family possessed in abundance also appeared in these battles. Although they did not have much offensive power, the impact of their presence was rather strong as each one's strength neared that of an Explorer. A single collision could usually destroy multiple spacecraft, and even the battleships were unable to withstand the impacts.

The Allied Forces were suddenly suffering losses on their end as well.

Liuying Zishan stood within one of the spacecraft, her expression unchanging. Only a third of the Allied Forces' strength had been deployed, and the majority of their strength had not even been used yet. There was even the Rapid Response Team lying in wait, which was their true hidden dagger.

The battle became worrying, as the Allied Forces did not make much progress for ten consecutive days.

Meanwhile, within the Great Yu Empire, Hill Auna sternly criticized the Umbral Butterfly Tribe, the Shadowsword Sect, and the other powers, condemning them for joining the war without good reason and causing this conflict to escalate.

The Umbral Butterfly Tribe and other powers were not about to let themselves be outdone. They also used the media to project their own standpoints to the rest of the universe, blaming the Great Eastern Alliance for starting the invasion.

The two sides were both awfully busy during this media blitz.

The remaining strength of the Allied Forces started to make their way towards Armament Weave, and Wei Rong also constantly roped in reinforcements, causing the war to intensify even further.

This war was having a butterfly effect.

Lu Yin had no way of stopping Wei Rong from lobbying the central weaves, and he also could not possibly make any promises to those weaves. He truly did want to pull them into the Great Eastern Alliance, which was an undeniable truth.