

### **Chapter 941: Obsession And Half A Statue**

Lu Yin pressed both of his hands against the door and pushed with a great deal of strength. However, he still wasn't able to open it. Refusing to believe it, Lu Yin suddenly erupted with Seventy Stacks as he pressed both of his hands against the door. However, despite using his full power, there still wasn't any indication of the door budging.

This door was able to withstand a level of strength that was still beyond Lu Yin's capabilities.

Since he could not open the door, Lu Yin tried to make his way in through the surrounding walls. After so many years had passed, perhaps the walls had weakened.

However, reality proved him wrong, as the surrounding walls similarly could not be breached.

Just as Lu Yin was pondering how he could enter the building, he suddenly turned around and looked into the distance; two clusters of rune lines were approaching him. They were both Hunters.

Lu Yin immediately hid himself.

Soon, the two figures landed and searched through the area. "Strange, we clearly felt some energy over here," one of the two spoke.

The other gloomily answered, "Someone was definitely here, as that blade was taken."

"The energy vanished, which means that this person is trying to hide themselves. Thus, he must have discovered us. Immediately contact the patriarch! This place cannot be exposed."

Just as he finished uttering those words, a black shadow flashed before him. After that, the light left his eyes, and he collapsed onto the ground.

The other Hunter was overwhelmed by what had just happened, and he whirled around. However, before he could even process anything, his neck was tightly grabbed by a hand.

"Who are you guys?" Lu Yin said. He had already masked his appearance.

The Hunter's face flushed red, and he grabbed Lu Yin's hand as he attempted to break free, causing Lu Yin to frown. "I'll ask you once more—who are you guys?"

"We- we are from the Great Eastern Alliance, under Alliance Leader Lu. If you dare move against us, then you'll die miserably!" The Hunter struggled as he glared at Lu Yin.

The youth was amused. It seemed that people in the Outerverse now threatened others by saying that they were from the Great Eastern Alliance. Lu Yin did not know if he should feel honored or angry, but he fiercely slammed the Hunter into the ground. The powerhouse's mouth fell open, and fresh blood sprayed out as he wailed in agony.

Lu Yin kicked the man as he ordered, "Last chance. Tell me where you're from, or I'll kill you. I can still just ask him." As he spoke, he glanced at the Hunter who had fallen unconscious.

The Hunter was terrified. "We- we really are under Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin raised a hand and prepared to slap down.

“I’ll talk! I’ll talk!” the Hunter quickly spoke up. “We’re from Amethyst Exchange! We were given orders to protect this place and kill anyone who entered.”

Lu Yin’s palm stopped just a centimeter away from the man’s forehead, and his eyes flashed as he withdrew his hand.

The situation turned out to be exactly what he had guessed. Since Zi Tianchuan had discovered these ruins, then how could he not have sent some guards? Although not many people could find this place, there was no shortage of risk-takers in the universe, and that wasn’t even mentioning people who were trying to hide from their enemies. Those kinds of people had a relatively decent chance of stumbling upon this place.

“Is it just you two here?” Lu Yin asked.

That person fearfully replied, “There’s five of us, all Hunters.”

This was a sizable protective detail. It had to be acknowledged that, back when Undying Yushan had ruled the Great Yu Empire, the empire had not held more than five Hunters at once even when the emperor himself was factored in. Additionally, the empire had been the strongest force in Frostwave Weave at that time. The guiding powers of the other weaves did not have many Hunters either, but Zi Tianchuan had actually sent five of them to protect this place. This showed just how greatly he valued these ruins.

Also, Lu Yin suddenly thought of something; Skylush Planet was located fairly close to this place, and it was in an ideal position to dispatch reinforcements at any moment.

In the Outerverse, this amount of strength could be considered absolute.

Lu Yin knocked the Hunter unconscious and then combed through the small city in search of the three remaining Hunters. He knocked them all unconscious and then tied them up. He was not cold-blooded. There was no need to kill them, but he had to restrain them at the very least.

Having taken care of the Zi family’s guards, Lu Yin returned to the strange building and felt a headache develop since he still had not thought of a way for him to enter. The secrets of this city were likely contained inside this place.

Lu Yin tried several more times, but he really could not enter the building. He began considering all his options, and he even wondered if he should borrow Yuan Shi’s strength.

Strangely, as he continued to stare at the large door and at the pair of eyes carved atop it, a bulb seemed to light up in his brain. His pupils transformed into runes as he stared into the door’s eyes. At that moment, time seemed to start flowing in reverse. The door remained the same, but the surroundings started changing. The other buildings were steadily restored, and at one point, two figures could be seen having an intense battle in the sky.

Lu Yin was not able to see the fight clearly, but he could tell that one of the figures had a deranged smile. That person opened their hands, causing a knife to gradually form, manifesting from nothing.

Then, the opposing figure fiercely charged out. The intensity of their battle was something rarely seen, and everything in sight was sliced apart.

As the scene of their battle grew blurry, Lu Yin saw one of them create a knife several times. Then, the sky regained its light, and the city had completely changed by now. The scenery became vibrant, and there were many people leading normal lives. However, time continued to flow backwards.

The scenery changed once again, and Lu Yin's body trembled as everything that he had seen so far vanished. At that moment, the large door slowly opened.

At this point, Lu Yin's eyes began to ache with pain, and he rubbed at them vigorously. However, the pain persisted. He decided to just ignore it as he slowly entered the building.

The contents of the building left Lu Yin disappointed. He had assumed that there would be something related to Rune Technology inside, such as a secret related to their battle style or the cultivation technique for Truesight. Instead, this building was simply the location where the masses had prayed. There was a statue at the very front, but the upper half had disappeared; only the lower half remained, towering high.

Lu Yin slowly walked through the room, passing by rows of large seats. After a bit, he turned around and squinted.

The seats were filled with skeletons that were still in a position of prayer.

He hastened his steps forward and quickly rose into the air before looking back again. Within the building, there were skeletons in all of the seats. Some were adults, some children, and there were even some infants. All of these skeletons were in a posture of prayer, and they had clearly maintained this posture for an unknown amount of time before eventually all dying here.

Lu Yin could not imagine how firm one's willpower had to be to do such a thing. Could these people have known that they were going to die, chosen to not escape, and purposefully continued praying in such a fashion?

He then looked at the statue. Did just one statue possess so much strength that it had caused all these people to continue praying even when they were about to die?

Lu Yin descended back to the ground and slowly approached the statue. Whose statue was this? Had it been a statue of the city's ruler? Or could it have been—the Rune Progenitor?

To the Rune Civilization, their universal god had been the Rune Progenitor. This statue had most likely been of the Rune Progenitor, as only the Rune Progenitor would have been viewed in such a godly image that these people would pray to that person's image until the moment of their deaths.

Lu Yin stood in front of the statue and looked at it silently. The glory of a person's life determined how complicated their historical records would be. However, history had not even dared to leave a record of the Rune Progenitor; that person's mere existence had been rejected by time.

If Lu Yin had not cultivated Truesight, then he would not have been able to fathom the existence of such a person. This person had been capable of creating objects from nothing, their mere existence had

caused an entire era to be erased. This person had even been the reason why so many people had prayed until the moment of their deaths. Such a person should have never existed.

Lu Yin stood there silently for a long time, his thoughts a mess. He did not even know what he was thinking about.

In the end, he shook his head and let out a breath. There was no need to think too much; after all, the Rune Progenitor was a figure of ancient history. Their remnant spiritual force had also been dispersed by the Sixth Mainland's Progenitor of Combat, and Lu Yin was fated to never meet this person. Still, the Truesight ability that had been left behind by the Progenitor had greatly aided Lu Yin, and the ancient powerhouse could be considered as half a mentor to Lu Yin. It did not matter if this statue had or had not been of the Rune Progenitor; Lu Yin would simply treat it as such.

As he thought about it, Lu Yin took several steps back and slowly bowed. "Junior Lu Yin pays his respects and offers his gratitude to senior."

As Lu Yin uttered those words, the large door to the building suddenly slammed shut, and his expression completely changed. When he looked up, the void distorted as the skeletons in the building were swept away by an invisible gale and pulverized into a pile of dust that flew about the room before twisting within the void to form different scenes. Some of the scenes portrayed a leisurely life in the city, but others showed shocking displays of conquests. These scenes were possible what these dead people had seen during their lives.

Suddenly, a crazed laugh was heard. "Sixth Mainland, Sixth Mainland! Hahaha, you bunch of fools! You've all been fooled, fooled! Those monsters have fooled you, you bunch of fools. Hahaha..."

Soon after, the dust vanished, and Lu Yin's vision returned to normal.

The door across the room slowly opened once again. Lu Yin did not know if this was an illusion, but the inside of the building seemed a bit brighter than before, no longer quite as dim.

Lu Yin turned around and looked at the statue once again, only to discover that it had also vanished into dust and completely disappeared.

Was this a lingering obsession that had been left behind by these ancient people? Lu Yin was not sure.

When he swept his domain across the area, he saw that there was nothing else inside the building. Perhaps the only thing that this building had preserved was that one phrase.

The Sixth Mainland had been fooled, and... by monsters?

When Lu Yin stepped out of the building and closed the door, he noticed that the ache in his eyes had suddenly disappeared and that they felt normal once again.

After looking around again, he suddenly thought of something and scanned his surroundings. Lu Yin's eyes lit up, and he pressed a hand against the large door and pushed with his full strength. However, it was of no use, as the door could not be pushed open.

Then, his pupils turned into runes, and he stared at that pair of eyes again. Unfortunately, the scene from before did not resurface, though the massive door still opened.

When he entered the building, he found that he could open the door from the inside. After testing this repeatedly, Lu Yin became ecstatic. It seemed that even the heavens were on his side.

In the Great Eastern Alliance's Bard Weave, within Evenground Palace and beneath a pavilion at the base of a waterfall, Evenground Palace's leader, Mu Nichang, was sitting with her chin propped in a hand. She was staring at the distant waterfall with a very bored expression on her face. For a long time now, she had been stuck at the peak Hunter realm, and she did not know when she would be able to break through and become an Enlighter.

There were too few Enlighters within the Great Eastern Alliance, and if she broke through, she would gain a bit more authority and have a louder voice.

Currently, Lu Yin singlehandedly controlled the Great Eastern Alliance, and the words of those below the Enlighter realm did not carry much weight.

At that moment, Doro arrived. "Master, what are you thinking about?" She had broken through to the Explorer realm a year ago, and her strength had soared.

Mu Nichang glanced at her disciple. "Nothing much."

The two women often sat in this pavilion together as they let their minds wander about. One thought of all the ways she could give up the position of Palace Master while the other racked her brain to not be forced into the position. If others knew what was going through these ladies' minds, they would have thought that something was wrong with both of them.

Suddenly, Elder Meiya arrived, moving in a rush, which caused the two women to quickly sit up straight.

"Master, we've obtained some information! Gu Yue's ruins have been discovered!" Elder Meiya shouted anxiously.

Mu Nichang and Doro were both puzzled. "What Gu Yue?"

Elder Meiya immediately activated her gadget and shared a bit of information on Gu Yue's history. The introduction was not very detailed, as most people did not even know Gu Yue's name. However, the information highlighted that he had been the person most likely to become a Progenitor, and his battle technique, Moonstar, was also specifically mentioned.

"In the heavens filled with moons, the stars fell, and only dust was left behind." Moonstar was a battle technique that had cowed an entire generation.

Battle techniques were as numerous as the stars, but those that were able to suppress an entire era were extremely rare. Most such battle techniques had been lost in the river of time. For example, Zhuo Daynight had been the only person in the Daynight clan who had successfully cultivated Night's End, Daybreak, and that technique was also being hidden. The Daynight clan's Nightking Zhenwu was an absolute genius, but even he had not been able to cultivate Night's End, Daybreak. A battle technique that could intimidate an era was clearly something that was extremely hard to cultivate. However, the

more difficult it was to cultivate something, the greater its power would be once it was successfully cultivated.

### **Chapter 942: Attraction**

The description of the Moonstar battle technique was very detailed, and Mu Nichang was intrigued.

Doro's eyes were fervent as well. "Elder, is this real?"

Elder Meiya replied, "There are multiple records about Gu Yue, and Moonstar was truly a battle technique that intimidated an era. However, I'm not sure if these ruins are actually related to Gu Yue."

Mu Nichang's expression grew grim. "Who released the information about Gu Yue's ruins?"

Elder Meiya shook her head. "I don't know."

"Master, do you think that this is fake?" Doro asked.

Mu Nichang's eyes gleamed. "We still have to go even if it is fake. This news must have already spread throughout the entire Outerverse, and countless experts will head over there. Even if it's fake, we'll just have been tricked. Nobody has the ability to defeat all of the Outerverse's experts."

Elder Meiya agreed. "That's right, you have to go. If you can obtain Moonstar, then Evenground Palace's position would drastically improve."

Mu Nichang glanced at Elder Meiya. The Palace Master was not as optimistic as the elder. Even if the Moonstar battle technique was actually in those ruins, she might not be the one to ultimately obtain the technique. After all, there was still Lu Yin. Mu Nichang simply wanted to go and take a look to see if there were any other battle techniques within the ruins.

Gu Yue was a legendary figure whose power level had exceeded a million. Obtaining any of his belongings would greatly improve Mu Nichang's strength.

"Let's go. Other people are most likely already on their way." Mu Nichang stood up.

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The head of the Suna Weave's Moke Sword Sect, Ke Yun, stood up and tore through the void to enter his spacecraft. He was also heading towards Gu Yue's ruins. People at his level were not stupid, and most of them were aware that this information was most likely false. However, they would make this trip even if everything was fake—they would bring forth their full effort for a chance to obtain anything related to Gu Yue, even if those chances were miniscule.

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Gui Wuzong from the Shadowsword Sect, an elder from the Umbral Butterfly Tribe, Qiong Shanhai and Zhu Jie of Millions City: anyone who was confident in their strength made their way towards the ruins.

On Skylush Planet, Zi Tianchuan stared at his screen in confusion. How was the supposed location of Gu Yue's ruins the same place as the Rune Technology ruins that the Zi family had discovered? That place was clearly a Rune Technology ruin. How had it become Gu Yue's ruins? And who discovered that place?

He didn't believe that someone could find that place through sheer coincidence. Moreover, he had even dispatched five Hunters to stand guard over the ruins, and one of them should have been able to inform Zi Tianchuan even if an Enlighter had stumbled across that place. However, he had not received any news, which meant that the intruder had been well prepared.

Zi Tianchuan suddenly thought of something. He immediately went to his secret room and stared at the ground in front of the room. Although no one else would be able to detect anything different, he could see that someone had recently entered the hidden room.

Zi Tianchuan clenched his fists, and many people flashed through his mind. Then, he finally switched on his gadget. "Zi Fang, come to the ancestral home."

Zi Fang soon arrived, and he forced himself to be calm when he saw the fury in Zi Tianchuan's eyes. He bowed. "Father, you called?"

Zi Tianchuan glared at Zi Fang with rage in his eyes. "Why did you go into the secret room?"

Zi Fang asked, "What secret room?"

Zi Tianchuan was furious, and he shattered a table. "How dare you lie to me! Why did you go into the secret room? Who asked you to go in there, and who did you tell? Answer me!"

Zi Fang intended to deny everything to the very end, but Zi Tianchuan's next words left the younger man terrified. "If you refuse to admit it, then I'll strike your name from the family records. Don't think that you will definitely become the Zi family patriarch just because you are my only son."

Zi Fang's body turned cold. "Father, why are you accusing me?"

Zi Tianchuan shook his head. "I have my own ways. I just want to know why you entered the secret room and who you told about the information in there. Don't tell me that you haven't seen the information about Gu Yue's ruins on the network."

Zi Fang lowered his head and considered many things.

Zi Tianchuan sighed. "That secret room contains the greatest secret of our Zi family. If anyone else knows about it, it could create terrible trouble for our family."

"Gods' Origin isn't the Neohuman Alliance," Zi Fang refuted softly.

Zi Tianchuan furiously retorted, "But they are still a major force that can compete with the Hall of Honor! The Hall of Honor controls both the Inverse and Outerverse. Thus, telling the Hall of Honor would be the same as making the Zi family their enemy."

"I didn't tell the Hall of Honor. I only told Lu Yin," Zi Fang immediately defended himself, but his heart fell the moment he finished speaking.

Zi Tianchuan closed his eyes. "So it really was Lu Yin."

Zi Fang's face went pale. He had not wanted to say anything, but Zi Tianchuan had threatened him with preventing him from becoming the next patriarch. Zi Fang's only hope now was Lu Yin. However, the Zi family heir no longer knew how he would be able to face Lu Yin.

Zi Tianchuan felt exhausted. "Aside from Lu Yin, who else could force you to listen to them? What did he promise you?"

Zi Fang stayed quiet.

Zi Tianchuan sneered. "He promised to make you the next patriarch, didn't he?"

Zi Fang did not respond.

Zi Tianchuan looked out the window. He was able to guess what Lu Yin had promised Zi Fang, and although Zi Tianchuan wanted to sneer and say that Lu Yin had no right to decide who led the Zi family, he was unable to say that out loud. Was there anything that Lu Yin was incapable of achieving in the Outerverse? So what if he asked Elder Li to come out? Lu Yin had the Hall of Honor's support. He could expose the Zi family's secrets, and even if the Hall of Honor did not move against the Zi family and deal with them like they did with the Neohuman Alliance, the family still would not have a good time.

Zi Tianchuan had to admit that Zi Fang had found an excellent supporter. Lu Yin indeed had the right to interfere in the selection of the Zi family patriarch.

"Leave." Zi Tianchuan was very tired, and he wearily waved a hand.

Zi Fang slowly left. He was thinking about how he could convince Lu Yin to wholeheartedly support him. Thus, Zi Fang was completely unconcerned with what was currently going through Zi Tianchuan's mind.

The Zi family was one of the Outerverse's four great conglomerates. Even if they had declined, they were still extremely powerful, and the family's internal power struggle was even crueler than what occurred in royal families. This generation was much better off, as Zi Fang and Zi Xianxian were the family's only heirs. Zi Tianchuan's generation had had more than ten siblings fighting for control, and Zi Tianchuan's journey to the position of the Zi family patriarch had not been smooth.

The more powerful the family was, the more intense their power struggle. Zi Fang was used to such behavior, but Zi Tianchuan understood it even better.

Zi Tianchuan's eyes narrowed as he read the description of Gu Yue's ruins. Why would Lu Yin spread a rumor that this place was Gu Yue's ruins? What was that person trying to do? This news would lure out most of the Outerverse's experts; could Lu Yin be attempting something surprising at this time?

Zi Tianchuan pondered over the matter and quickly called Zi Fang back. Zi Tianchuan ordered his son to remain quiet about this incident and forbade him from leaving the ancestral home. For this, the older man even confiscated his son's gadget.

No matter what Lu Yin was planning, Zi Tianchuan intended to not interfere in any way. If he did anything, then there was a large chance that he would end up in trouble. Thus, the Zi family would simply pretend that nothing was happening.

The Outerverse became more and more frantic as countless people gossiped about Gu Yue's ruins. Gu Yue suddenly became the most popular topic in the entire Outerverse.

However, this only lasted for half a day, as the news concerning Gu Yue's ruins was quickly removed.



Although the information had been taken down, countless spacecraft were already headed towards the ruins. People from the Great Eastern Alliance, central regions, western weaves, and members of the border defense who had requested permission to head to the ruins.

Yuan Shi had also received this news. His expression was complex, as Gu Yue had lived in a similar era as Yuan Shi, and he could even be considered the ancient powerhouse's senior. Yuan Shi had respected Gu Yue's talent and morals. Nobody knew how the man had ultimately died, and his death had become one of the universe's mysteries. However, his ruins had apparently appeared now.

"Yuan Shi, a number of people are requesting to leave the border's defenses to go to Gu Yue's ruins," Elder Daggs respectfully informed Yuan Shi.

Yuan Shi answered, "Let them go."

Elder Daggs hesitated.

Yuan Shi glanced at the man. "You want to go too?"

Elder Daggs bowed low. "I would be able to serve the Hall of Honor better if I could obtain Moonstar."

Yuan Shi answered, "Go, if that is what you wish to do."

Elder Daggs was elated. "Thank you, Yuan Shi."

It was possible that not even Lu Yin had expected so many people to be attracted to Gu Yue's ruins. However, this effect was precisely what he wanted. The more people that made the journey, the greater his odds of success.

He did not dare to reveal the truth concerning these ruins. If the truth that this was a Rune Technology ruin was exposed, then it was possible that even powerhouses like Yuan Shi would be interested. At that point, even Lu Yin would be unable to do anything.

Lan Si also received the news. He similarly headed towards the ruins, as he was also interested in Moonstar. People like him would also never allow others to learn such a technique if they were unable to obtain it themselves. Lan Si was particularly mindful of Lu Yin.

With the vast influence that Lu Yin wielded from controlling a third of the Outerverse, there was a high chance that he would obtain the battle technique, which Lan Si definitely could not allow to happen.

Most people believed that Lu Yin would be their greatest obstacle in obtaining the legendary battle technique. Thus, when the information was released, most people specifically made it a point to find out more about Gu Yue before checking the recent news about Lu Yin.

Fortunately, the Great Yu Empire had stated that Lu Yin was busy with training and that he would remain in seclusion for another month. Nobody dared to disturb him, which caused everyone to feel relieved.

The ruins quickly became a bustling area when the first batch of people started arriving, which were the experts of the nearby Armament Weave as well as some people from the Wei family.

Numerous spacecraft stopped in outer space near the cosmic phenomenon as countless silhouettes appeared within the city.

Sounds of battle soon followed.

With such a large number of people arriving all at once, conflicts soon broke out. The city had not seen this much activity in a very long time, and a rowdy atmosphere soon replaced the previously creepy one.

Hundreds of people arrived within a single day, and more yet were on their way.

At this time, Lu Yin was hiding inside the building, and the building's door had grown slightly larger. There were clear burn signs in certain parts, but the flames had not been able to cause the slightest bit of damage to the door. These were actually intentionally left behind by Lu Yin, and he had left his Skyblaze Stone just inside the door afterwards.

There was only one reason why he had lured all these people here. He wanted to use the strength of the Outerverse to restore his Skyblaze Stone so that he could use it to cultivate again.

It was very difficult to find high temperature flames even with the Great Eastern Alliance's influence. Even if someone within the Great Eastern Alliance had such flames, they might not be willing to hand them over. Thus, Lu Yin's desperation had birthed this scheme.

Lu Yin knew himself very well. The only thing greater than influence was personal power. This was the way of the universe. If Lu Yin did not have his impressive strength as his foundation, then he would have been nothing more than a second Wei Rong, someone destined to eventually be eliminated.

### **Chapter 943: Firewood Gathered By A Crowd Makes a Bigger Fire**

Lu Yin slowly closed both of his eyes, as the commotion in the city ruins was just getting started. He needed to wait a bit longer for more people to arrive.

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Ten days later, the city could no longer be considered a ruin anymore. It had become a normal city, as tens of thousands of people had settled down within it. These people were mostly experts from various great powers, and the number of powers that had gathered here was not much less than what had been forcefully gathered to defend the border from the Sixth Mainland's invasion.

Xuan Jiu had also arrived, and when he did, he unfurled his large flag in an ostentatious manner. Whenever he met anyone, he would proclaim that they were Gu Yue's heir, which caused many people to chase him around. He felt wronged by their reaction, as in his mind, he was obviously sharing kind words. Xuan Jiu did not know who had ruined his reputation, but it was now common knowledge that everything he said was wrong.

Xi Qi had also arrived. She had been roaming the Outerverse during this period, searching for more sourceboxes to unlock, which was a rather decent way to live.

Any location with a ruin was a potential source of sourceboxes, and she was greatly anticipating finding some at this place.

Atop her head, the fish looked about in a contemptuous manner as it raised its fins, mocking every person it encountered.

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Another ten days passed like this in the city ruins. During this time, the experts from the Great Eastern Alliance had fought against the experts from the central region's various forces for several rounds already. Mu Nichang, Meng Tianlong, and the others had all taken action, and if Yuehua Mavis and some other neutral experts had not stopped them, then the battles might have gotten out of control and affected the entire city.

Even though the two sides temporarily stopped, there were still two clearly distinct sides.

Surprisingly, nobody from the Great Yu Empire arrived, which left many people quite puzzled. However, nobody thought much of it, as they all simply assumed that this was because Lu Yin was in seclusion and that none of his subordinates dared to make a move without his express permission.

Lan Si indifferently watched the situation develop from the sidelines. Although some people from the central weaves wanted to enlist his help to deal with the Great Eastern Alliance, he did not agree.

He was competing with Lu Yin for the position of an Honor Chosen, but Lan Si did not actually have any grudges with Lu Yin himself. Moreover, Lu Yin was a major factor in why so many people had been able to escape from the Innerverse, and Lan Si still felt slightly guilty towards Lu Yin for it.

However, the path of cultivation was an emotionless one, and this was simply the way of the universe. Lu Yin could not keep the position of an Honor Chosen from him.

Qiong Shanhai did not intervene either. The ruins had become a maelstrom of tension, and it would be difficult to emerge once one entered.

Elder Daggs also made the trip to the ruins, along with a number of other experts from the border, which intimidated many others. The revelation of Yuan Shi's existence had reinforced the power of the Hall of Honor, and it was even more intimidating than before the Outerverse had been cut off from the Innerverse. Nobody dared to underestimate the Hall of Honor any longer.

Expert after expert arrived at the place that was reportedly Gu Yue's ruins, and they all searched through the city alone. Five Enlighters had already been spotted, and some people had even seen Elder Lohar moving about.

These people were merely the almighty experts who could be seen. Considering the fact that this place was supposed to be Gu Yue's historic ruins, it would not be a surprise if even Envoy-level powerhouses appeared.

The five Hunters whom Lu Yin had knocked unconscious also finally awakened at this time. They had all been thrown onto nearby planets, and they immediately reported back to Zi Tianchuan as soon as they woke up. However, he ordered them to not reveal themselves, and they were absolutely forbidden from contacting anyone else. If the others learned that the Zi family had sent five Hunters to guard over these ruins, then the Zi family would be in serious trouble. Zi Tianchuan did not know what Lu Yin's goal was, and the Zi family patriarch was simply scared that he would be forced to pay back this debt to Lu Yin in the future.

The city had already been thoroughly searched, and at this time, only the building that had been constructed in a different style remained untouched. Everyone had gathered at that place, each person trying their own methods to break through the door.

Qiong Shanhai made an attempt, and he could not open it.

Lan Si tried, and he also could not open it.

Elder Daggs acted, but he similarly failed.

Even Yuehua Mavis tried, but the door remained closed.

The large door was very sturdy, abnormally so.

Finally, Yu Mu secretly tried to open the door, but even he could not open it. Even when the gathered powerhouses united and acted together, they still could not open the door. It was only then that the crowd finally realized that this door could not be opened unless an Envoy-level powerhouse acted. However, once such a powerhouse appeared, they themselves would have nothing to do with whatever was inside the building.

Countless people stared at the large door with fervent eyes; Gu Yue's inheritance was definitely inside.

"Move aside! Let Lord Fish try." The fish atop Xi Qi's head was very arrogant. "A toy like this requires a Lockbreaker. If there is something disobedient, it needs to be unlocked."

Under the eyes of countless experts, Xi Qi forced herself to move forward. She softly mumbled, "I've never seen a sourcebox like this before. Is this really a sourcebox?"

The fish raised its fin and said with absolute confidence, "Listen to Lord Fish! Nothing will go wrong."

Xi Qi acted, only to be stumped as the door was actually just a door. There were absolutely no solidified energies to lockbreak, so how could she unlock this thing? What was this? She could not even find a palace to begin.

The fish incessantly slapped Xi Qi with a fin. "Stupid! You're stupid! You're actually trying to unlock it! Lord Fish merely came up with a way for you to come to the very front so that whenever some fool opens this door, you'd be in the best position to charge in. Really stupid!"

The crowd was furious, as this damned fish's words were just too demeaning.

"Steam, steam steam..."

Someone else in the crowd shouted, "Add some chilli powder!"

The fish looked back and glared at the person. "It's that bastard! The one surnamed Ku—you still dare appear before Lord Fish?"

Xi Qi felt sullen, and her face was also flushed a deep red. She turned around, looked at the crowd in a pitiful manner, and shouted, "Just stop talking!" After that, she quickly slipped away.

Ku Wei had also come to the city ruins, as he would absolutely visit a place that was rumored to be Gu Yue's ruins. Additionally, he could not hold himself back from speaking up when he saw that damned fish.

After Xi Qi left, Xuan Jiu walked up. "Cough, cough. That- I have a way to open the door, but it's too precious, and a disaster will spread once this building is opened. If-

Before he could even finish speaking, the furious crowd shouted at him, "Scram, stupid liar!"

"Stupid liar, go away..."

Xuan Jiu was infuriated. "A bunch of rotten goods! Idiots! I am the heir of Heaven's Enigma! What do you guys know?!"

"Scram!"

"Scram, liar!"

"Stupid blind old man."

...

Xuan Jiu cursed, "When did I become blind? Stop starting rumors!"

...

Off in the distance, Yuehua Mavis felt a headache developing. She did not know where this bunch of idiots had emerged from.

At this point, Yu Mu walked over to her. "Do you really think that this place is Gu Yue's ruins?"

Yuehua Mavis shook her head. "The style doesn't seem like it."

"That's also what I was thinking. The style of these structures is even more ancient than Gu Yue's era," Yu Mu replied.

Yuehua Mavis stared at the large door of the building, focusing her attention on the pair of eyes with rune-shaped pupils. After some time, her eyes flickered. As someone from the Mavis family, she was privy to many secrets that the other people present did not have access to, which included Rune Technology. She was certain this city was a ruin of the Rune Civilization, but she was uncertain why someone had falsely called this place Gu Yue's ruins.

The civilization that had sprung out of Rune Technology was considered taboo even within the Mavis family's historical records. It was the most resplendent, but it was also the most short-lived and mysterious civilization; countless people were curious about it. Yuehua Mavis was naturally no exception, and she also wanted to know what this building contained.

Too many powerhouses had gathered in the city, both openly and secretly. This group could represent almost the entire Outerverse. Even people such as Black Mask and the Nalan family's old woman had arrived. Everyone was present, and they were all waiting for the moment the door opened. However, only a portion of the experts had shown their faces thus far.

Lan Si stood at the back of the crowd, accompanied by Elder Tie.

“Shall we make them leave?” Elder Tie asked.

Lan Si shook his head. “It’s fine.”

Currently, Lan Si was the most concerned about Lu Yin. He was in seclusion? With the appearance of Gu Yue’s ruins, would that person really remain in peaceful seclusion? Lan Si did not believe that story for a single moment.

After half a day of commotion, someone suddenly cried out, “Look! Hasn’t this door been burned before?”

The others started to seriously observe the marks on the door.

“It wasn’t burnt. These are just the marks from the other experts’ attacks just now.”

“That’s not true. None of them were able to leave any sort of mark. These are clearly old burn marks.”

“We’ll know if we try.”

Behind the door, Lu Yin’s eyes opened wide when he heard these words. Someone had finally noticed the clues that he had painstakingly placed down. He had started wondering if anybody would notice anything, and he had even considered setting a fire himself, but fortunately, someone had seen the burn marks in the end.

Before long, multiple people took action, and their star energy formed flames that engulfed the large door.

But the large door did not react.

More experts appeared, and their numbers soon reached the hundreds, some of them even had innate gifts related to fire.

Finally, the door opened slightly. It only moved a hair, and ordinary people would not have noticed anything. However, the gathered crowd mostly consisted of powerful cultivators, and they were all able to sense it.

Meng Tianlong, Mu Nichang, Gui Wuzong, Ke Yun, and the other experts all tore through the void and appeared at the front of the crowd, looking at the large door with fervent eyes.

“It’s the fire! Only a powerful fire can open this door. Burn it!” Ke Yun barked, and he was the first to act. At this moment, all grievances were set aside; everything could be settled after the door was opened. However, many people made secret preparations so that they could launch a fatal attack at their opponents at any moment.

Behind the door, Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief. They had finally started following his plan. Soon, the fire started.

A human-created blaze was insufficient to restore the Skyblaze Stone, even if an Enlightener like Ke Yun was the one producing it. Next, Yu Mu, Elder Daggs, Yuehua Mavis, and the other experts all joined in, and the temperature of the entire city instantly soared to a sweltering blaze. The crowd continuously retreated from the door since they could not endure the intense heat.

Lu Yin's eyes lit up, as the Skyblaze Stone was showing signs of being restored by the blaze. However, the fire was not hot enough, and it was actually horribly insufficient.

The blaze continued on for several days, and during that time, the door opened slightly, giving everyone there hope. Each of them continued to valiantly feed the flames, but the door did not ever open by more than just a crack.

"The temperature of this fire isn't enough. We have to find something with an even higher temperature," someone commented.

Quite a few people threw out some items that caused the inferno to grow even more intense. All sorts of things were tossed out, and one person even threw out a pile of firewood.

"Throw that fish out there, I'm hungry," Ku Wei slyly suggested.

Quite a few people actually felt that this was a good idea.

Xi Qi was frightened by their thoughts, and she quickly slipped away.

"And that broken flag." Someone pointed over at Xuan Jiu.

Xuan Jiu glared furiously at that person, but then he also fled from the scene.

Everyone was thinking of ways to increase the fire's temperature, but the door only opened slightly more. Currently, not even a worm could pass through the opening, let alone a human.

Elder Daggs raised a hand, looking quite thoughtful as he contemplated something. "Everyone, when I was younger, I obtained a tinder with an extremely high temperature, and I can use it. However, I will only do so under the premise that once the door opens, I'm allowed to enter first. Whoever dares to fight me for that position will become enemies with my Hall of Honor."

Yu Mu frowned. "Elder Daggs, you dare to use the Hall of Honor to suppress us?"

Elder Daggs seriously answered, "If I am the one who pays the price, then I must naturally be the one to reap the harvest."

Yu Mu replied, "I can also provide a source of extreme heat."

At this moment, more people spoke up in turn, each one sharing that they could provide a source of extreme heat.

In the end, although most of the cultivators did not know what was agreed upon, a wave of high temperature suddenly washed over the city. The sky over the city changed, and many of the experts gathered in front of the building felt an unbearable heat wave sweep out towards them, forcing them to step back. Those who took a little longer to retreat were nearly cooked alive.

Nobody reminded anyone of anything, as a price had to be paid if one wished to compete for an inheritance, and these people deserved it if they died. This was a natural part of cultivation.

Behind the door, Lu Yin's eyes grew brighter. This was the right way; this was what he wanted to see. As he thought about it, he opened the door slightly more, and then another sliver. He wanted to suck these people dry, as there were definitely some people who were still holding back.

#### **Chapter 944: Explorer And Cruiser**

The heat of the Skyblaze Stone was steadily being replenished. As Elder Daggs and the other powerhouses continued to take out all sorts of priceless treasures to stoke the blaze even more, the entire city's temperature climbed higher and higher. The various cultivators who had not become space-exploring powerhouses yet were unable to endure and were forced to retreat.

The walls of the buildings in the city were touched by the flames, and it had already caused quite a few of them to vanish.

A few of the people present realized that the buildings that vanished had not crumbled into ashes; they had actually vanished.

The Skyblaze Stone had been the Skyblaze Dojo's fiery dragon's source of strength. That dragon had been able to delay Madam Hong's attack, and it had also been able to complement the Skyblaze Dojo Master's power, allowing him to contest powerful Imprinters. The heat that the stone carried within it was something that could not even be imagined by ordinary people. As such, the heat energy that the powerhouses in the ruins had provided so far was not enough to replenish the heat of the stone, not by a long shot.

Lu Yin could only tempt the gathered experts by opening the door little by little. If he had not come up with this sort of method, he would have never been able to find such heat anywhere.

Within the crowd, Meng Tianlong, Mu Nichang, and the other experts from the Great Eastern Alliance all pulled out items that could increase the flame's temperature. The Great Eastern Alliance had constantly been searching for sources of extreme flames, which everyone was aware of. However, these people had not revealed that they had found anything.

Lu Yin did not blame these people, as they were not his subordinates, but merely allies that had come together to take what each of them needed. They also had not joined the alliance completely voluntarily, so it was perfectly normal for them to not fully cooperate with him.

Ten days later, the door had still only opened by a tiny crack. Although the gap was very small, it gave the crowd a glimmer of hope.

"This is the door to an ancient inheritance, and it must be Ancestor Gu Yue's test. The high temperature that we have been using thus far is not enough, so if anyone still has anything else, then now's not the time to remain selfish," Elder Daggs shouted.

As Elder Daggs spoke, Elder Lohar suddenly appeared. In fact, he had arrived long ago, but he had simply not shown himself.



Elder Daggs was not surprised to see Elder Lohar here, as they were both elders from the Hall of Honor. Even if their power levels were higher than 300,000, their rankings within the Hall of Honor were quite low. Otherwise, they would not have been stationed in the Outerverse. They both had to increase their strength if they wanted to return to the Neoverse.

Elder Lohar raised a hand, and he was holding something that looked like white powder. He then casually scattered it, causing an intense, white heat to bubble forth. This white heat suppressed all the other sources of extreme heat, and it even caused the nearby void to quiver slightly.

Even powerhouses with a power level of 400,000 had to be cautious of this heat.

Nearby, Yuehua Mavis stepped up, and pulled out a sealed sourcebox from her cosmic ring, and threw it towards the large door. While the sourcebox was still in midair, a gale swept out and shattered its surface, causing an overwhelming heat wave to surge up like a waterfall flowing in reverse. Its intense heat even scorched the sky, and those watching in the distance started to panic. In fact, even the stronger experts like Elder Daggs were forced to move backwards.

“A high temperature that can even threaten Envoy-level powerhouses. The Mavis family is certainly wealthy,” Yu Mu remarked with an envious sigh.

Yuehua Mavis looked over at the man. “Shamrock Enterprises is not weak either.”

Yu Mu smiled as he pulled out a fiery-red fruit. It looked quite normal except for the imprint of flames on its surface. This was an extraordinary fruit that Shamrock Enterprises had discovered on a certain planet. Specifically, the fruit contained an extremely high temperature that not even Yu Mu dared to consume it. He had originally planned on researching this fruit’s medicinal value, but nothing was more important than Gu Yue’s inheritance that was currently right in front of them.

Qiong Shanhai also acted, and he threw out a dozen treasures that unleashed high temperature blazes, and there were even a few power vessels among the items that he threw out. This caught many people off guard, and his act let them finally understand just how wealthy Millions City truly was.

Behind the door, Lu Yin became ecstatic, as the temperature outside of the building had suddenly spiked. In just a short amount of time, the large door was roasted, and the Skyblaze Stone started to emit some light.

Lu Yin knew that this light was caused by the replenishment of the stone’s high temperature, but the people outside thought that this light was a sign that the door was about to open.

“Soon, just a little more.” Elder Daggs was getting anxious.

Lan Si walked out forward, pulled out two round stones, and then banged them together. When they struck one another, they unleashed a bolt of lightning, and a blaze that even burned the void appeared. The temperature of this flame even surpassed the powder that Elder Lohar had brought out, and it had nearly reached the level of Yu Mu’s fruit.

Xuan Jiu also ambled over towards the door. Anyone who did not know him would assume that he was not even a space-exploring powerhouse, and thus, they would wonder how he was able to approach the extraordinary blaze. It had to be said his dressing style was a bit intimidating, and he gave off the feeling of some alien highlord from a game world.

Even Elder Daggs was also caught off guard. Currently, the entire crowd was looking at Xuan Jiu.

Xuan Jiu stared at the door for a while, but then he shook his head. He seemed to mumble something to himself as he simply turned to leave.

Right after Xuan Jiu left, a black Undying Bird dove down from the sky, aimed straight at the large door. The Dark Phoenix family had arrived, and they were all experts with fire, so their entrance bolstered the confidence of many people who were present.

Someone sighed. "If the Dark Phoenix family's ancestor hadn't died, then this door would have already opened by now."

This sentence caused the faces of the Dark Phoenix family's experts to turn dark.

As one of the three unprovokable powers in the Outerverse, the Dark Phoenix family had forcibly killed their way out of the Innerverse by relying on their ancestor's reputation. They had been unafraid of everything, but during the border defense, their ancestor had ultimately perished. Since then, the family had become much more subdued, and their general behavior had greatly changed. This was something that had caused all of them to mourn.

They, more than anyone else, wished that their ancestor was still alive.

As more time passed, one group of experts arrived after the next, and all sorts of powerful flames and tinders were tossed towards the door. It was as if the people here were offering sacrifices.

Twenty days later, Lu Yin stretched his arms. It was time to cultivate.

The door had opened a little more during this time, but this opening was so miniscule that it could barely be seen by the naked eye. What happened next was none of his business, but it would be even better for him if these people had more sources of high temperature. If they did not, then he would wait until after he finished cultivating to decide what to do.

After thinking about it, he waved a hand and threw a pile of star essence onto the floor. Lu Yin then touched the Skyblaze Stone with one hand, and an intense pain burned his hand as a line of ferocious heat was transmitted from the Skyblaze Stone into Lu Yin's body. His expression became resolute, and he began to absorb the star energy.

Not many people throughout the entire universe had a cheat-like method like Lu Yin's for absorbing star energy, but once anyone used such a method even once, they would never be able to give it up. Who would willingly absorb star energy slowly like normal?

In the past, Lu Yin had used the Skyblaze Stone to complete his fourth cultivation cycle. This time, he intended to completely break through to the Cruiser realm, and as long as those outside did their part, Lu Yin might even be able to reach a higher realm.

Nobody could have imagined that the majority of the Outerverse's experts were racking their brains and throwing out all their hidden fire treasures just to provide for Lu Yin's cultivation. It was likely that everyone would remain ignorant of this for their entire lives.

For space-exploring powerhouses, when an Explorer completed four cultivation cycles of star energy, they would stand at the peak of the Explorer realm. Five successful cycles meant that they would become a Cruiser.

There didn't seem to be much of a difference between four and five cycles besides the amount of star energy. However, the truth was that the human body had an intrinsic limit. Each cultivation cycle expanded the limits of the human body, and in some ancient writings, some powerhouses had compared the human body to a balloon. It was easy for it to explode if it was filled with too much energy at once. Instead, the balloon had to be filled to the limit, have its toughness reinforced, and only then could it be filled even further.

This analogy represented one cultivation cycle of star energy. It allowed a cultivator's body to adapt to the universe, resist the exhaustion phase, and also increase their strength. The cycling of star energy was the second most precious cultivation method that stood right behind an ancient inheritance, and it was a cultivation method that belonged solely to humans.

Astral beasts were different. Their potential meant that they were fated to reach a certain level, and they did not need to slowly proceed by cycling their star energy.

The human body was very miraculous, and four cultivation cycles would gradually reinforce the body's endurance. Once five cycles were completed, there would be a subtle change, and whether it was one's physical strength, reaction time, senses, or even their comprehension, all of these aspects would be improved. This was the reason why there was a dividing line between the Explorer and Cruiser realms.

A Cruiser refined star energy in a slightly different manner than an Explorer after completing their fifth cycle.

Otherwise, one would simply continue cycling star energy, and there would be no need to specially designate the Cruiser realm.

Given the differences between each individual cultivator, the upgrade for completing the fifth cycle of star energy was also different for each person. Some cultivators did not improve by much, and there would generally be a limit to how much stronger they became. Some would improve greatly, and their strength might even double in extreme cases. This naturally included the improvement in their comprehension, which was related to their understanding of battle techniques, arts, and even innate gifts.

Lu Yin was now speeding towards the completion of his fifth cycle.

Each cycle that his body completed required 200 times the amount of star energy that others needed. However, this also indicated that the limits of his endurance were 200 times that of normal cultivators. This was the reason why Lu Yin was a Realmbreaker who could fight against powerhouses; his physical body was fundamentally different from others'.

He could even be seen as another lifeform. The Ten Arbiters were the same, as they had also surpassed the limits of ordinary people by a great deal.

A month later, Lu Yin was still cultivating, and he had no spare attention to pay to the door. Thus, the thin opening remained the exact same throughout this entire month; it had not changed by even the slightest amount.

This made those outside feel frustrated. They had already wasted so many treasures that they would suffer severe losses if they could not open this door.

“Eh? Can you guys sense that, the closer we get to that door, the more star energy there is?” An Enlighter felt puzzled.

The others all noticed the difference once it was mentioned. This entire time, their full attention had been focused on the massive door. Thus, nobody had bothered paying any attention to the ambient star energy.

With the Enlighter’s words, the crowd suddenly noticed the star energy difference.

“Quickly, turn up the heat! There has to be something good behind that door,” someone exclaimed excitedly.

The rest of the crowd also grew excited; a star energy gradient implied that there was some great treasure behind the door.

Even Lan Si felt a bit of anticipation, as the mystery of what might be lying behind the door was just too tantalizing.

Lu Yin used the Skyblaze Stone to continuously vaporize star essence, and this caused concentrated star energy to leak out between the gap in the door and spread outside. This had then led to the misunderstanding among the people outside. Even though the door had not moved any further, was this enough to motivate these people?

Suddenly, quite a few people coughed up more treasures that unleashed high temperatures in another attempt to open the door.

Elder He also arrived. As an Envoy-level expert who was second only to Yuan Shi in the Outerverse, his appearance was unnoticed. He observed the scene for a while and quickly determined that this place was not Gu Yue’s inheritance. The style of these buildings was far too different from that of Gu Yue’s era. Although the universe was vast with a nearly endless amount of unique architectural styles, Elder He was able to recognize this style. He knew that it belonged to the Rune Civilization.

The rune-shaped pupils engraved upon the door had been instantly recognized by the Envoy.

After he realized that this city was a ruin of the Rune Civilization, Elder He did not give the place another thought and simply left. His understanding of the Rune Civilization was the reason why he had left without a word; they had been a brilliant but absolutely terrifying civilization. If one made contact with that civilization, they wouldn’t even know when they might suddenly vanish.

Even he himself, an Envoy, was unwilling to interact with a civilization like that.

It was impossible to know how many people had left after arriving or returned after leaving, as people were moving around both openly and secretly.

Soon enough, another month had passed by.

The crowd had maintained the intense blaze for two entire months, but the door had not budged in the slightest during this time. Many felt their hearts fall. They had indeed put forth their full efforts to open this door, and various sources of incredible heat had been used up, some of which could even attract the attention of Envoy-level powerhouses. However, they still had not been able to open the door.

Although they were discouraged, people's expectations of what lay behind the large door became even greater. The harder something was to open, the more that was proof that there was something amazing behind it. This was common sense.

Two months ago, it could have been said that 90% of the crowd had been suspicious of whether or not this place was Gu Yue's ancient ruins. But now, those doubts had dropped to 40%. Only a powerhouse like Gu Yue could construct such a sturdy door. If it was this hard to open the door, then it could only be imagined how precious the inheritance inside must be.

### **Chapter 945: Breakthrough**

People always had the mentality that, the more difficult something was to obtain, the more precious it was.

Lan Si was no different. He had waited outside this large door for two months, even delaying his own cultivation in the process. This was a surprising boon for Lu Yin!

Elder Tie walked over to Lan Si, and the old man shook his head. "He still doesn't want to meet you."

Lan Si's expression turned grim. He had asked Elder Tie to look for Elder Daggs, as he had hoped to meet with Yuan Shi and make a request of him. However, Yuan Shi had no interest in meeting with the Arbiter.

The Ten Arbiters enjoyed a high position among the younger generation, but their influence could, at best, affect Enlighteners whose power levels were around 200,000. Yuan Shi, in comparison, was a powerhouse whose power level was close to a million. If not for Lan Si's status as an Arbiter under the Hall of Honor, the youth would not have even qualified to ask to meet with Yuan Shi.

"Did you tell him that the meeting won't be about the earlier incident?" Lan Si asked in a low voice. This news had put him in a bad mood.

In the past, he had requested to meet Yuan Shi over the Honor Chosen position, but Yuan Shi had already given that seat to Lu Yin. This was also why Lan Si had challenged Lu Yin to a duel. However, the Arbiter wanted to meet with Yuan Shi regarding another problem at this time.

Elder Tie answered, "I made sure to pass that message along, but Yuan Shi refuses to meet with anyone."

Lan Si felt helpless. He wanted to meet Yuan Shi to ask about a futon. The Ten Arbiters had each been given a futon for them to enter the ruins of the Fifth Mainland's Daosource Sect. This was one of the main benefits that the Ten Arbiters enjoyed, as it gave them the chance to search for ancient inheritances, and the ruins were similar to the Neoverse's Astral Tower.

There was always an intense competition for the opportunity to visit the Astral Tower while they similarly had to compete with the youths of the Sixth Mainland in the Daosource Sect's ruins, which made things relatively fair.

However, Lan Si had... lost his futon.

Chills ran down Lan Si's spine whenever he thought of this. The futon had been his most precious possession, and it was an inheritance that had to be left for his successor. However, he had somehow lost it. He had thoroughly searched through his cosmic ring, but he still had not been able to find it.

He did not even know when it had disappeared, as it had randomly disappeared. He had not yet dared to tell anyone about this, even after several years.

Lan Si actually suspected that some powerhouse must have knocked him unconscious and then used his blood to steal the futon. Otherwise, how else could the futon have simply disappeared from inside his cosmic ring?

Who could steal something from within a cosmic ring? That was impossible.

Lan Si did not believe that the Human Domain only had ten futons, and he wanted to ask Yuan Shi if he had an extra futon. Even if Lan Si could only borrow it for a period of time, he still wanted to return to the ruins of the Daosource Sect and look for inheritances while the war was raging in the Innerverse.

However, Lan Si was not even allowed to meet Yuan Shi at this time.

The Arbiter was still clueless as to how he had lost his futon. It was truly a mystery.

Meanwhile, behind the door, the pile of star essence had been nearly exhausted. Lu Yin had wanted to complete five cultivation cycles, which would take up around 300,000 star essence. As such, he had dumped nearly 400,000 star essence on the floor, and some of it had been vaporized by the intense heat while the rest had been absorbed by Lu Yin, going towards his fifth cycle.

As the pile of star essence fully disappeared, Lu Yin's body released a cracking sound. His eyes slowly opened as he let out a breath of air so hot that the space in front of him distorted.

He had completed his fifth cultivation cycle; he was now a Cruiser.

Lu Yin slowly raised a hand. His physical body had improved, and although the improvement was not as drastic as the one he had received within the space with the golden sea, it was still an upgrade. In fact, even his five senses had become more sensitive.

Before he reached the Cruiser realm, he had been able to fight against peak Hunters, and with his secret technique and Truesight, Enlighters with power levels of around 200,000. Thus, at this moment, Lu Yin was confident that he could battle with Enlighters with a power level of more than 200,000.

At this time, Lu Yin felt that his strength had likely surpassed both Aden and Cai Jianqiang's.

Aden had an impenetrable defence, and the combination of his Thunder Mountain Breach and his nine lined battle force allowed him to fight against Enlighters.

On the other hand, Cai Jianqiang possessed a peerlessly aggressive attack and was invincible within his generation. However, there hadn't been any Arbiters in his generation, and he had basically been the strongest youth in the Inniverse during his time. His status had been comparable to the Ten Arbiters of the current era, but the times had changed.

Zi Rong had also been peerless during his youth, but he had still lost to the Ten Arbiters.

The Ten Arbiters were extremely powerful, but Lu Yin had already broken some of the Ten Arbiters' records. His talent was definitely comparable to the Ten Arbiters, but they were already able to easily defeat Enlighters, which showed just how strong they were.

The Ten Arbiters symbolized the zeitgeist of the current era. Lu Yin was slowly approaching their level, and he had gotten very close to them now. However, Lu Yin was aware that while he was closing the gap between him and Lan Si, it still was not time for their confrontation. Also, Lu Yin still was not fully confident in being able to defeat Lan Si, as Lan Si was also improving during this time. The other Ten Arbiters were also constantly making great improvements, so he had to constantly strive to strengthen himself even more.

He suddenly realized that he had been cultivating for ten years, which meant that some of the Ten Arbiters must be nearly forty years old! Once they exceeded forty years of age, they would no longer be considered a part of the younger generation. At that point, they would have to give up their positions and leave empty seats among the Ten Arbiters.

Lu Yin wondered how old Lan Si was.

Despite that, Lu Yin did not want to wait for the Arbiters to abdicate their positions. He preferred to chase after them, particularly the mastermind behind the loss of those seventy two lives. Lu Yin would definitely eliminate that person himself.

The lines of heat on his body soon felt like nothing. No matter how high the temperature became, the heat would eventually dissipate as time passed.

After such a long period of cultivation, most of the high temperature sources in the Outerverse had to have been exhausted!

Lu Yin thought that it was time to leave; the Outerverse had a limited amount of resources.

If he was in the Inniverse, then there would likely be numerous Envoy realm powerhouses, and their flames might allow him to train for an entire year. That amount of time might even be enough for him to cultivate to the Hunter realm.

However, cultivating too fast was not a good thing, as one's body needed to steadily adjust to the increase in star energy, and that required time.

Becoming a Cruiser was just a small milestone, and the upgrade was negligible. Only by breaking into the Hunter realm would Lu Yin experience a true upgrade in realm.

He would have to use his formcast model at that time. Lu Yin's expression turned grim when that thought came up; when he attempted to reach the Hunter realm, he would have to deal with the seal restricting his cultivation that had appeared in the past.

After finishing his thoughts, Lu Yin stood up and stretched his body.

He then looked at the door. There were still many people waiting outside, and if he did not open the door, they would never leave.

He did not want anyone to see him opening the door, as if that happened, he would never be able to use this method again in the future.

Thus, Lu Yin raised his hand and prepared to use his die. He was going to upgrade some items so that he could reward these people for their efforts.

He carefully placed his cosmic ring aside and then tapped the die. It slowly spun around before finally landing on Gift Copy. Lu Yin was annoyed at this outcome, as there were many people near him, including even Arbiter Lan Si, but he was unable to go out.

Hang on. He suddenly thought of an important detail: did Lan Si even have an innate gift?

People were born with innate gifts, but a person would only realize whether or not they possessed an innate gift after they began cultivating. He had always seen Lan Si fight with the Overlaying Stacks Path, but had never seen the Arbiter use an innate gift. Was it possible that Lan Si did not have an innate gift?

Lu Yin didn't know for sure, but he had assumed that all of the Ten Arbiters had an innate gift. It was possible for one to be giftless, but the odds were miniscule.

So if Lan Si did have an innate gift, then what was it?

Lu Yin then recalled what he had read about Lan Si in the information that he had received from Zi Xianxian and the Zi family; Lan Si was working on a battle technique. Lu Yin had been intrigued by that mention of an unknown battle technique, and he suddenly realized that he had forgotten about the Arbiter's innate gift.

The importance of an innate gift was monumental, as Lu Yin would not have been able to achieve everything that he had without his die. Many experts in the universe similarly relied on their innate gifts, and it was typically their true trump card.

Lu Yin sighed, as he had almost forgotten about this excruciatingly important detail, which would have been a fatal mistake. Lan Si was very secretive and had never exposed his innate gift, but that did not mean that the Arbiter did not have one.

Lu Yin could not afford to be too arrogant since he did not know what the Arbiter's trump card was. Had White Knight truly used her full power during her battle against Blood Looney? Lu Yin did not know. Perhaps she had, but perhaps she had not.

Lu Yin felt that he should further delay his battle with Lan Si just to play it safe.

If Lan Si was willing to let Lu Yin use his various external items, then Lu Yin felt that he was practically guaranteed to defeat the Arbiter right away. Lu Yin did not believe that anyone could defeat him if it was a contest of comparing external items. Just the walnut that he had received from Yuan Shi was able to instantly kill an Envoy.



Lu Yin continued rolling his die.

His second roll was Timestop.

Lu Yin quickly grabbed his cosmic ring and entered the Timestop Space.

Lu Yin added six months to the timer, but that only cost him about 400 star essence.

He wanted to get accustomed to his increased strength during these six months, practice his old battle techniques, and also recite the Stonewall Scriptures. There were so many things that he wanted to do.

...

In a flash, Lu Yin returned to the building. Only a second had passed in the outside world, but he had stayed in the Timestop Space for half a year.

Staying in that place any longer would not allow him to improve much further, so he had chosen to return.

He then continued rolling his die.

This time, it landed on Enhance.

He was not overly concerned about whether he could roll Enhance this time around, as he could simply leave some random items behind if he didn't. However, the people outside were quite lucky that he had.

Lu Yin immediately thought of his cosmic ring.

He had wanted to upgrade his cosmic ring back on Zenyu Star, but he had ended up Pilfering a piece of paper which had led to him recovering a strange memory that made nostalgic. That had ended up delaying his attempt to upgrade his cosmic ring until this moment.

Lu Yin placed his cosmic ring on the light screen, but nothing happened.

Lu Yin took out all of the items that he had stored in the cosmic ring, but still, nothing happened.

After thinking about it, he realized that it was probably related to space.

One could not create space from nothing, and the space within a cosmic ring would have to be enlarged when the ring was upgraded. However, where would that extra space come from? It could not appear from nothing.

It was a shame that he could not upgrade a cosmic ring, as that would have been a truly lucrative business.

Since he was unable to upgrade his ring, Lu Yin browsed through the random items that he had returned to his cosmic ring, and he finally decided to upgrade some ancient pills.

He had obtained twelve pills previously, and he had upgraded three of them already. Each pill had cost him 20,000 star essence to upgrade, and he still had two of the upgraded pills.

His decision made, Lu Yin upgraded the remaining nine, using 180,000 star essence in total. He also upgraded three of the pills to the point where the rune lines matched a power level of about 300,000,

which meant that they would be able to heal the injuries of an Enlighter with a power level of around 300,000. After he finished, he placed one of the pills in front of the statue, as that would be these people's reward.

He did not want to give them any more of the pills.

That pill had cost him 50,000 star essence to upgrade, which was a fairly large amount.

Lu Yin paused and then realized that a single pill would be too boring. Next, he took out a drop of gemspring water and placed it next to the pill. He was about to leave, but then realized that he really could not be stingy in this situation. Otherwise, no one would be excited to discover ruins in the future. He had no desire to extinguish these people's passion.

Finally, Lu Yin gritted his teeth and scattered 10,000 star essence on the floor of the building.

How many people could throw away 10,000 star essence like he had just done? Even if the Mavis Bank scattered money about, they only ever scattered universal currency. 10,000 star essence was the equivalent of one billion star crystals. Just how much universal currency was that? He couldn't even calculate the number, and Lu Yin felt that he was being extremely generous.

#### **Chapter 946: Surprise Reinforcements**

Lu Yin turned to look at Enhance's two light screens that were still visible and thought that it would be wasteful to not take advantage of them while he could. He glanced through what was stored in his ring and then took out his formcast model.

He had been using formcast models from the first moment he had started cultivating, and this was the method that most cultivators used if they could. Cultivators who did not use formcast models were considered independent cultivators.

Most formcast models could only be used thrice, which would last one until the Melder stage. Some of the better models could be used until the Limiteer realm, but only a small handful of heirs from major forces had the opportunity to use five-stage formcast models, which allowed them to far surpass their peers. Meanwhile, six-stage formcast models were legendary, and not even the major organizations were guaranteed to have any.

Only Envoy powerhouses were able to create six-stage formcast models, and there were not many such powerhouses in the universe.

Currently, Lu Yin was using a six-stage formcast model that he had upgraded back in Ironblood Weave. He had spent around 8,000 star essence to upgrade it, which was a very small sum in comparison to his current assets. He wanted to try upgrading it to a seven-stage formcast model now.

He had never even heard of a seven-stage formcast model before.

Lu Yin carefully placed the formcast model on the upper light screen and threw out tens of thousands of star essence at once. Lu Yin looked at the screen in excitement as the formcast model dropped down slightly.

He was thrilled. Since the formcast model had dropped down, it meant that it could still be upgraded. His formcast model could actually be upgraded to a seven-stage formcast model!

Lu Yin had never even heard of a seven-stage formcast model before, but apparently, they existed.

There was a huge difference between using a formcast model and not using one. Before the existence of formcast models, the heirs of major forces had used a similar method to upgrade their power called torrential overflow. However, only the heirs of major forces were able to use this method whereas formcast models, the equivalent to torrential overflow, were widely used.

If a six-stage formcast model was equivalent an Envoy's torrential overflow, then what would a seven-stage formcast model represent?

Hai Qiqi had once said that she had never even heard of a seven-stage formcast model before and that not even the Sea King possessed the ability to create a seven-stage formcast model. Could it be that only World Imprinters or possibly even Cosmic Imprinters were able to create such a thing?

However, Lu Yin did not care about any of that at this moment. He had glimpsed a glimmer of hope of obtaining his own seven-stage formcast model.

A six-stage formcast model could be used until the Hunter realm while a seven-stage formcast model could theoretically be used until the Enlighter realm.

However, Lu Yin quickly became concerned. He had thrown out more than 10,000 star essence, but the formcast model had only dipped down a tiny bit. He would probably need more than a million star essence to fully upgrade it. He had enough money, but there was no need to upgrade his formcast model at this moment since he was still quite a ways away from becoming a Hunter. He decided to finish upgrading it when he was about to breakthrough to the Hunter realm.

After storing his formcast model away, Lu Yin was in a good mood. If nobody had a seven-stage formcast model while he did, then he would be able to surpass all other people. Despite that, he could not allow himself to become too arrogant, as the existence of a seven-stage formcast model meant that there was someone out there who was also capable of making one. Thus, it was even possible that some of the Ten Arbiters might have also obtained one. However, he was certain that Lan Si did not have one, as the Divine Fist's father was not even able to defeat the Sea King.

There was nothing else for him to upgrade for the moment, and Lu Yin was left with 2.73 million star essence. He decided to further upgrade his universal armor when he found the proper materials. For his future planned expenditures, this amount of star essence would most likely not be enough. Thus, he needed to continue earning money.

When Lu Yin looked at the layer of star essence on the ground, he felt his heart bleed. However, he still needed to spend this money.

It was time to let those people in.

The flames were still burning bright outside the door, but the temperature had fallen a great deal since most of the high-quality fuels had been exhausted. The people outside were disappointed, as the high temperature was not enough to damage the door, and it would only become harder and harder to succeed as the temperature continued to drop.

Yuehua Mavis and the others were all disappointed, as they had paid a significant price in their attempt. It seemed that they would have to wait for the Outerverse to reconnect with the Innerverse before they could open this door.

Suddenly, just when everyone was about to give up, the door opened.

Everyone stared on in confusion as the flames rushed in through the doorway the moment the door opened.

Yu Mu and the rest immediately extinguished the flames to prevent them from destroying anything within the building.

Black Mask and the other powerhouses rushed towards the door, but before they could enter, an enormous tree sprouted from the ground that blocked their path. Yuehua Mavis then said, "Everyone, please follow the previous agreement. Otherwise I won't mind causing the rule breakers to disappear."

Black Mask hesitated. Yuehua Mavis had battled against an Imprinter from the Sixth Mainland on even ground, which was a powerhouse on the same level as an Envoy. This was not someone who he could afford to offend, as she was almost the same as an Envoy herself.

Yu Mu, Elder Lohar, Elder Daggs, and Lan Si were among the first people to enter the building.

Lu Yin tightly held the cloakstone in his fist as he hid inside the building. The first person to pass through the door was Yuehua Mavis, and she was followed by Yu Mu, Sall Phoenix from the Dark Phoenix family, Qiong Shanhai, and many others. However, nobody discovered Lu Yin.

He was completely unconcerned about what would happen next, and he left the building while various people slowly passed through the open door.

Lu Yin was just about to leave when he overheard a conversation. His eyes flashed, and he quickly hid himself again.

Apart from the items that Lu Yin had left behind, there was nothing else inside the building. Many people had entered the building with high hopes only to leave in disappointment. In their search, the building was almost torn down.

This was especially true for Yu Mu and the other powerhouses, as they had used many different precious treasures to open the door, but there was basically nothing inside the building. The pills and star essence that they found were worthless to them, and they were outraged as they left with dark expressions.

Some of the smarter people among the crowd discovered traces of Lu Yin's presence, and they shared that someone had already been in the building before, which caused Elder Daggs to feel helpless.

Yuehua Mavis left. There was nothing that she wanted in this place. She had hoped to learn more about the Rune Civilization, but there were no such records in this place.

Everyone else left as well.

Ku Wei was annoyed. He had heard of Gu Yue before, as the man had been renowned even in the Neoverse. Naturally, he had been looking forward to seeing Moonstar, but there had been nothing in this place.

In the end, he left as well.

Xuan Jiu walked around the building before leaving with a strange expression.

Xi Qi also glanced around. "There's nothing here. Let's go."

The fish on her head mused aloud, "What a familiar smell. I've smelled this before, but where? Let me think."

Lan Si wasn't disappointed. He had never planned on learning Moonstar to begin with, so he was simply happy that nobody else had obtained it.

Mu Nichang, Meng Tianlong, and the others all left helplessly as well. They headed in the same direction, as they were all returning to the east.

Moments after the group left the ruins, they were ambushed by a group of experts that included people from the Shadowsword Sect, the Ayker clan, and other forces from the central weaves. For this ambush, even Ke Yun from the Moke Sword Sect joined in on attacking the Great Eastern Alliance's experts after hiding his identity.

The Great Eastern Alliance was the greatest enemy of the central weaves' Central Coalition, particularly after Lu Yin had given the orders to assassinate 300 of their top-ranking officers in a single night. This bloody campaign had both shocked the Outerverse and angered the members of the Central Coalition. In response, they had decided to kill Meng Tianlong and the others while Lu Yin was in seclusion in a bid to weaken the Great Eastern Alliance.

They were not afraid of Lu Yin learning about their actions as they were already enemies.

The experts from the Great Eastern Alliance included the Neo-Vestige Sect's Gong Chou, Lü Ran from Greenpeak Gorge, and many more. They were not able to withstand this coordinated attack from the central weaves' coalition, especially because there were two Enlighters among the attackers. Meng Tianlong was heavily injured the moment he retaliated, and Mu Nichang was soon injured as well.

They were attacked on the eastern side of the ruins, but most of the experts who had come to the ruins had headed west. Even if there were a few experts who saw the ambush, they simply ignored it.

This ambush would end in just a few minutes.

Mu Nichang and the rest had already given up hope. Lü Ran had surrendered, but Ke Yun had still sliced the man's head off. Ke Yun had once been threatened by the Great Eastern Alliance because of Lan Zhong, and he had even been forced to invite the banished man back to the sect. Ke Yun felt that this was a terrible humiliation, and he had thus joined this ambush attempt to get revenge.

Meng Tianlong unleashed the Desolate Palm, but Gui Wuzong's sword pierced through the palm before slicing into Meng Tianlong's shoulder. "Your death was fated the moment you joined the Great Eastern Alliance."

An arrow shot towards Gui Wuzong, but he simply sneered and flicked the arrow away. His cold eyes landed on Gong Chou. "Young man, this is the day of your death."

Nearby, Mu Nichang was doing her best to endure Ke Yun's attacks. Although the Moke Sword Sect's skills weren't as mysterious as the Shadowsword Sect's, they were straightforward and true; they could not be blocked.

Ke Yun's sword trembled as he dispelled Mu Nichang's star energy. He swung his blade, and Mu Nichang gritted her teeth. Multiple wooden figures suddenly appeared around Ke Yun, trapping him. These wooden figures were a treasure of Evenground Palace, and there were a total of ninety nine of them. According to the rumors, when all ninety nine figures were activated at once, they could even trap an Enlighter.

Ke Yun was trapped, but this trap would not be able to last for long.

Mu Nichang was unlucky, as the appearance of her wooden figures drew the attention of another Enlighter from the central weaves. It was an old lady, and she stretched out her dry hands towards Mu Nichang. "Little girl, you're quite pretty. Give me your face."

Mu Nichang's eyes narrowed. She knew that was dead.

Doro became desperate.

Suddenly, a figure flashed past Doro and appeared in front of Mu Nichang. This person suddenly attacked, and a palm clashed with the old woman's palm, causing an indescribable force to erupt as powerful shockwaves burst forth that tore space apart. Mu Nichang was flung away, and the old lady's palm was shattered into pieces.

The old lady screamed as her body was blasted away by an invisible force. Her skin tore apart, and she even vomited blood.

The sudden appearance of someone who could injure the old lady immediately drew everyone's attention.

Ke Yun, who was still trapped by the wooden figures, was stunned. Was that Arbiter Lan Si?

Nobody had expected Lan Si to suddenly take action, especially since he had not been traveling in this direction.

On top of that, Lan Si had even publicly challenged Lu Yin to a duel, so the two parties clearly were not on good terms. Nobody had expected the Arbiter to suddenly appear.

Mu Nichang stared at Lan Si's silhouette in awe. This young man was so tall and dashing, and he had just saved her life.

Lan Si looked down at everyone present. He had erected an invincible forcefield, and he casually waved a hand, forcing everyone back with an invisible force. They all finally experienced the power of one of the Ten Arbiters.

### **Chapter 947: Returning A Favor**

Everyone in the Outerverse had heard of the Ten Arbiters, but nobody knew just how strong these youths actually were.

Ke Yun and the others initially believed that the Ten Arbiters were only able to intimidate the younger generation, but they soon realized that the Ten Arbiters' power level was absolutely terrifying. Lan Si was a Hunter who could overpower Enlighters.

The old lady was a good example. She had been severely injured by a single attack from Lan Si. She did not dare to attack the Arbiter again, as she could tell that his strength was invincible.

"Arbiter Lan Si, why are you helping these people from the Great Eastern Alliance?" Gui Wuzong asked.

Lan Si's gaze swept across the various Enlighters. "I owe Lu Yin a favor, so I'm repaying it now."

Gui Wuzong bellowed, "You're Lu Yin's enemy! If we defeat the Great Eastern Alliance, then Lu Yin will have no backing. You can easily defeat him at that point!"

Lan Si sneered as he replied, "What a narrow point of view."

Gui Wuzong was infuriated, but he did not dare continue speaking with Lan Si.

Ke Yun warily glanced over at Lan Si. Lan Si was very strong, and although Ke Yun was also capable of defeating that old lady, he was not able to do so as quickly as Lan Si had even though he was an Enlighter. Ke Yun's power level was a few thousand units lower than the old lady's, but despite that, Lan Si had heavily injured her in just one move. This was proof of just how powerful the youth was.

Lan Si turned around to look back at Mu Nichang. "Tell Lu Yin that I have returned the favor from before."

Mu Nichang and the rest looked at the youth in a daze, but suddenly, a voice rang out, "It's not that easy to return the favor."

Everyone's expression changed when they heard that voice. Mu Nichang, Meng Tianlong, and the rest of the powerhouses from the Great Eastern Alliance were elated whereas Gui Wuzong's group was left in disbelief; it was Lu Yin's voice.

Lu Yin had arrived quite some time earlier, but he had realized that Lan Si was also present. Thus, he had remained hidden.

Lan Si had been able to escape to the Outerverse with Lu Yin's help, but Lu Yin had been under the impression that Lan Si was not concerned with that favor. Lu Yin had not expected the Arbiter to still remember it.

Additionally, this timing meant that Lan Si must have rushed over after hearing about the Central Coalition's plans with the intention of repaying the favor he owed Lu Yin.

The battle between Lu Yin and Lan Si would be a fight over the position of an Honor Chosen as well as one of the Ten Arbiters. The two young men had no bad feelings towards each other, and they had clearly separated their favors and rivalry.

However, Lu Yin could not allow Lan Si to return such a large favor so easily.

Lan Si turned around to look at Lu Yin in shock. He had not noticed Lu Yin's arrival, and not many people could hide their auras to the degree where they could hide from Lan Si's senses.

Lu Yin ignored the others and calmly looked at Lan Si. "You want to return my favor so easily?"

Lan Si calmly answered, "Of course."

Lu Yin smirked and glanced over at Gui Wuzong's group. "You want to compete for numbers?"

Lan Si's eyes narrowed. "Whoever I get is mine. There were 403 people from Mt. Stacks Dojo, so I'll give you 403 people."

"There are more than 400 people here, so you can certainly try," Lu Yin calmly replied.

There were nearly a thousand people present from both the Great Eastern Alliance and the Central Coalition. All of these people quickly understood that Lan Si intended to capture 403 people from the Central Coalition in order to return Lu Yin's favor. It was also clear that Lu Yin would participate in this fight as well.

They were the numbers that Lu Yin and Lan Si were talking about.

Gui Wuzong's group felt humiliated, but they were also terrified. "Run!"

The troops from the Central Coalition scattered in all directions, and around thirty Explorers, who were in a spacecraft, prepared to leave the area immediately.

Lan Si's figure flashed, and his body rammed through a spacecraft, causing it to malfunction and stop in place. He then reached out and grabbed a hold of the Explorer who had been inside the spacecraft.

Meanwhile, Lu Yin focused his attention on the injured old woman. Although she had been injured, she could still quickly escape given the opportunity since she was an Enlighter.

However, Lu Yin was even faster due to his extraordinary physique. He instantly caught up to the old woman and attacked her.

The old lady was furious, but she did not believe that she would lose to Lu Yin in a one-on-one exchange. Thus, she raised a hand and slapped at Lu Yin. "Die!"

Lan Si turned to look at their exchange while still holding the Explorer that he had just captured.

Everyone turned to watch Lu Yin.

Lu Yin met the Enlighter's palm with his own that had the Overlaying Stacks Path. After reaching the Cruiser realm, he had managed to comprehend one hundred stacks. Like her clash with Lan Si, the old lady's palm was shattered as the power from the Overlaying Stacks attack caused her skin's crack to worsen. She spat out a mouthful of blood as she was blasted away.



She had been seriously injured by this second palm attack and no longer had any energy to even attempt an escape.

Everyone was stunned. That old woman was an Enlighter, which was a rare powerhouse in the Outerverse's seventy-two weaves. How could such an expert be injured by just one attack?

The Ten Arbiters had an impressive reputation, and Lan Si was also a Hunter. Thus, him injuring the old woman was still acceptable to most people.

But what about Lu Yin? Didn't people say that this youth had to rely on various external items to defeat Enlighters? Where were his items?

Lan Si's eyes narrowed. Lu Yin's attack was comparable to the Arbiter's own, which was proof of how strong Lu Yin was at this time.

Meanwhile, Lu Yin was feeling incomparably excited, as he had finally managed to defeat an Enlighter with his own strength. He bellowed fiercely at the sky, and his strength erupted as he moved out to compete with Lan Si over who could capture the most people.

Lan Si had lost his advantage the moment Lu Yin had become a Cruiser. Previously, Lu Yin had predicted that he would only be able to fight against the Ten Arbiters once he became a Cruiser, and that prediction now turned out to be correct. However, Lu Yin was only able to fight against them. The more he looked into Lan Si, the more wary he became, especially when Lu Yin considered the Arbiter's unknown battle technique and possible innate gift.

Lu Yin was able to compete with Lan Si over who could capture the most people here, but there was no way he could defeat the Arbiter at this time.

Lan Si definitely would not reveal his full strength in this sort of situation.

Lu Yin was able to realize this, but the others were not. To them, Lu Yin looked like he was someone who was just as strong as the Divine Fist of the Ten Arbiters. They looked like they were on the same level.

Meng Tianlong became rather emotional; how long had Lu Yin been cultivating for? It had only been about ten years, but the youth had already reached the level of the Ten Arbiters. His own son, Meng Yue, had entered the Astral Combat Academy at the same time as Lu Yin, but Meng Yue had only recently managed to become an Explorer while Lu Yin could already compare to one of the Ten Arbiters. Lu Yin's talent was remarkable, and nobody had ever achieved such results before!

Gui Wuzong fled for his life, but the Enlighter was quickly sandwiched on either side by Lan Si and Lu Yin.

Gui Wuzong was the only person remaining aside from Ke Yun, and both Lan Si and Lu Yin were fighting to capture the Enlighter.

Gui Wuzong despaired. He used the Shadowghost Sword, but he couldn't hide anything from the two youths; they were able to see through all of the Enlighter's moves.

Lu Yin and Lan Si caught up to Gui Wuzong at the same time. They did not bother dodging any of the man's attacks, and instead, they attacked the older man at the same time, shattering his sword in the

process. Each of the two youths then grabbed one of Gui Wuzong's arms and used a Hundred Stacks on him.

Gui Wuzong screamed as the veins in both of his arms shattered while powerful shockwaves reverberated through his body. The two Overlaying Stacks Path attacks allowed Lu Yin and Lan Si to feel the other's strength with the Enlighter's body as a medium.

Lu Yin suddenly took a step back as Gui Wuzong would certainly die if they both attacked again. Lan Si didn't care, but Lu Yin still intended to keep Gui Wuzong alive.

Lan Si grabbed Gui Wuzong. "I'll give you 300 people," he said as he threw Gui Wuzong at Lu Yin. The Arbiter had captured exactly 300 people.

Lu Yin had only captured 200 people due to the spacecraft. The two youths' speed had been comparable, but one of the spacecraft that Lu Yin destroyed only had a few people within it, which led to him having a lower score than Lan Si.

In the end, they both turned to look at Ke Yun, who was still trapped by the wooden figures.

Ke Yun turned pale; he was dead. Although he was an Enlighter, he knew that he would not be able to withstand these two freaks.

Seeing Gui Wuzong's battle had sent chills running down Ke Yun's spine, and he had no plans of fighting back. He changed back to his original appearance. "Alliance Leader Lu, it's been a long time."

Lu Yin had already known that this person was Ke Yun. The Enlighter clearly wanted to get revenge against the Great Eastern Alliance in secret. Lu Yin could understand why the leader of a major sect would want to get revenge after being threatened, but that also meant that this sect leader would have to deal with the consequences of attempting to get revenge.

Lan Si was no longer interested in what was happening, and he turned to leave. "Lu Yin, don't forget our battle. I hope that we'll have it soon."

Lu Yin's eyes gleamed—soon? It seemed that Lan Si was growing anxious. Perhaps Lu Yin was improving too quickly since even an Arbiter was feeling threatened.

"Oh right, how old are you?" Lu Yin asked.

Lan Si paused, but he did not even turn around. "That's a pointless question. Do you really think that we'll just stand down once we turn forty?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "I don't expect anyone to retire. It's just a casual question."

Lan Si then left. His battle prowess had impressed everyone here, and Mu Nichang's eyes contained a strange heat as she watched the young man leave.

Some of the people from the Central Coalition had died during this ambush attempt, but most of them had been captured. The two people who were the worst off were Gui Wuzong and the old Enlighter woman.

At this time, Ke Yun was the only one left.

Lu Yin stood outside the cage of wooden figures and looked at Ke Yun with a calm expression. “Master Ke, is there anything that you want to say?”

Ke Yun bitterly replied, “I’m the loser, so there’s nothing to say. It’s up to you to decide what to do with me.”

Lu Yin sighed. “Actually, everyone already knows what I want. The Outerverse is larger than the Innaverse, and it actually has a tremendous amount of resources. However, we remain weaker due to how the seventy two weaves are split up. If we could pool all our resources together, we could definitely groom experts comparable to the Innaverse’s. Plus, the Sixth Mainland might invade us again at any moment. In this situation, don't you think that a united Outerverse would be better than a divided one?”

Ke Yun shook his head. “Alliance Leader Lu, you started uniting the Outerverse even before the Sixth Mainland’s invasion. I’m already your prisoner, and you don’t have to say anything else. Once I die, Lan Zhong will return to the Moke Sword Sect, and he will become the next leader, as there is nobody else who can compete against him. The Moke Sword Sect is already yours, Alliance Leader Lu.”

“In that case, why would you want to sacrifice yourself so unnecessarily?” Lu Yin retorted.

Ke Yun was shocked. “Alliance Leader Lu, you’re willing to spare my life?”

Lu Yin raised his head. “I’ve already said that I want to gather the Outerverse’s resources together. Powerhouses are a form of resources, and I want to preserve as many of them as possible since you experts will be our strength to deal with the Sixth Mainland. As for the Moke Sword Sect, if you are willing to join the Great Eastern Alliance, then there’s no need for me to stir up any extra trouble. I’m not that petty.”

Ke Yun was grateful, and he nodded. “Thank you, Alliance Leader Lu. The Moke Sword Sect is willing to join the Great Eastern Alliance.”

Ke Yun was a smart person, as otherwise, Wei Rong would not have been able to threaten the sect leader. Since he had disguised himself in this attempt to get revenge on the Great Eastern Alliance, it also meant that Ke Yun was not some righteous person and that he had a hypocritical side to him.

#### **Chapter 948: Half-King Lu**

Lu Yin liked hypocritical people, as they were more likely to know how to behave.

Lu Yin had his own methods for dealing with men of honor, but it was much simpler to deal with hypocrites, as such people were usually afraid of death.

After he settled the situation with the Moke Sword Sect, the Shadowsword Sect was simple. If they were unwilling, then Lu Yin could simply cause the Shadowsword Sect to vanish from the universe. Gui Wuzong’s greatest desire right now was to be healed, to the point where he had no other thoughts. Thus, he agreed without even thinking any further.

All of the people who had been captured quickly agreed to Lu Yin’s conditions. Most of these powerhouses were the masters of various guiding powers of the central weaves. After all, these people were all capable of competing for Gu Yue’s inheritance, so everyone who had come to the ruins were all

outstanding characters. Their surrenders also came with the surrender of the allegiance of the powers that they led.

After all, humans only had one life, and not many people would rather die than surrender. Moreover, they were only joining an alliance, not offering their complete and total allegiance to Lu Yin. These people had originally refused the idea of an alliance because they did not want there to be anyone above them who could order them about. However, when their lives were on the line, who would care about such things?

The wooden figures were stored away, and Ke Yun was very self-conscious as he bowed to Lu Yin.

That old Enlightener woman had also surrendered. In truth, she was an independent cultivator, and the fact that she had been able to reach the Enlightener realm as one showed that her talent was extraordinary. This time, she had been employed by the Central Coalition, which was the same situation as the three Enlighteners who had attempted to assassinate Lu Yin in the past. The old woman did not personally care about the Great Eastern Alliance or the Central Coalition; and she simply had no opinion on the matter.

As the curtains of the ambush slowly drew to a close, under the supervision of Wang Wen, Wei Rong, and En Ya, the news of this incident sent shockwaves throughout the entire Outerverse.

Half a month later, nine of the weaves in the Outerverse's central area announced that they were joining the Great Eastern Alliance and that they would cooperate with the alliance to create a peaceful environment for the universe.

When this news was released, it astounded many, their scalps going numb. Nobody could understand how the Great Eastern Alliance had suddenly coerced nine weaves to join them. And that wasn't even mentioning how they were all weaves that had previously been some of the Great Eastern Alliance's most ardent opposition members, such as the Suna Weave and the Umbral Butterfly Weave.

No matter what the others thought, after the Great Eastern Alliance accepted those nine weaves from the central region into the fold, the number of weaves in the alliance had reached thirty one. The Outerverse had seventy two weaves in total, and thirty one was nearly half of the entire Outerverse.

It was also at this time that Lu Yin received a new nickname: Half-King Lu. This title had been given in recognition that he was essentially king of half of the Outerverse.

The Outerverse seemed vast and boundless, with each and every weave containing countless large and small powers as well as the more powerful guiding powers. While it might be difficult to subdue all of these powers, it was not completely impossible.

It was basically the same as running a business. Some people only looked at the products, but the most successful businessmen looked at the humans. Since business was conducted by humans, as long as one addressed that aspect, everything else could be negotiated.

Wang Wen and Wei Rong were both experts at toying with the human hearts. Their abilities combined with the support of Aegis, Amethyst Exchange, and Thousand Eyes' intelligence network, not to mention Lu Yin and the Hall of Honor's influence as their foundation, meant that it was not at all surprising that the alliance had reached such a step.

In the past, when Lu Yin had first unified a third of the Outerverse, the alliance had caused some powers to become rather apprehensive, and that nervousness had led to the Central Coalition's establishment. During this time, even the forces from the western weaves had lent the Central Coalition a hand by sending them money, resources, and manpower. At this time, Lu Yin had unified nearly half of the Outerverse, and the remaining half started to panic even more.

Lu Yin had never concealed his ambition of uniting the Outerverse, and it could even be said that everyone was aware of his goal. The day that nine weaves announced that they had joined the Great Eastern Alliance was the day that Lu Yin's goal had nearly reached the halfway mark. However, this did not indicate that Lu Yin was only 50% of the way towards completing his goal. Even though he only controlled about half of the Outerverse's territory, his odds of success had soared to as high as 90%.

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Southside Weave had become a bit unstable due to Lu Yin's actions, as quite a few experts at the border who were from the western weaves wanted to leave.

Elder Daggs had a headache, as he was currently experiencing the full scope of Lu Yin's influence. Even if the youth was not waging any wars, he still had the ability to leave everyone helpless.

Quite a few experts from the western region sought out Elder Daggs, requesting for the Hall of Honor to restrict Lu Yin's actions.

The patriarch of the Dark Phoenix family, Tanno Phoenix, also went to find Elder Daggs. He requested the Hall of Honor to step forward, as they could not allow Lu Yin to unite the Outerverse.

The Dark Phoenix family had slaughtered their way out of the Innerverse, and although the family had lived in the Outerverse for many years now, they still had an arrogant bearing towards the people of the Outerverse, especially since they were one of the three unprovoked powers. When the Dark Phoenix family members faced anyone from the Outerverse, they demonstrated a certain arrogance, and they could not accept being ruled by Lu Yin.

Southside Weave did not only have people who were opposed to Lu Yin's actions; there were also many people still stationed at the border who supported Lu Yin. Their weaves had joined the Great Eastern Alliance, and so, these experts naturally sided with Lu Yin.

A battle broke out within Southside Weave, but it was quickly suppressed by the Hall of Honor.

Helpless, Elder Daggs went to look for Yuan Shi to seek his guidance on the current situation.

Yuan Shi opened his eyes. Although he was very old, and his eyes were a bit murky, they remained quite bright. At this moment, they were filled with admiration. "The Outerverse's seventy two weaves cover an extensive territory, but the powers and resources within it are completely scattered. These are old issues that are common knowledge. In the past, there were some who hoped to incorporate the Adventurers' Guild, as they were eyeing the various undiscovered routes that the guild had discovered. Those people's goal was to use those routes to connect the Outerverse and shorten the traveling time. However, all of their efforts were rejected by the Adventurers' Guild.

"But now, Lu Yin is working to unite the Outerverse, and he has already established an express military transit network, which is the same as condensing the Outerverse and reducing the travel distance

between humans. This is very good—a unified Outerverse can erupt with a power that cannot be estimated. Da Gu, you must help him a bit more, and put some pressure on the Adventurers' Guild, as those secret routes will be very useful to the Outerverse.”

Elder Daggs was left speechless. He knew that Yuan Shi would side with Lu Yin, but this attitude was simply too blatant. Elder Daggs had approached Yuan Shi with the intention of asking if the Hall of Honor should restrict Lu Yin, but Yuan Shi had instead ordered the elder to help Lu Yin. This was simply too unreasonable. If anyone in the outside world learned of this conversation, then they would probably lose all hope.

“Yes, Yuan Shi.” Elder Daggs bowed deeply, as he had no choice in this matter. His status was too far below Yuan Shi’s, and just a single sentence from Yuan Shi was enough to cause the elder to commit suicide, let alone assist Lu Yin. Besides, if helping Lu Yin was Yuan Shi’s will, then Elder Daggs could only do as he was told.

The Adventurers' Guild? They had long since changed names and become Endless Borders.

Elder Daggs did not deliver any good news to the remaining fractured half of the Outerverse. Not only would the Hall of Honor not intervene, but between the lines, he also suggested that the protesting people should support Lu Yin.

These people were not fools, and they had long since suspected that Lu Yin’s foundation was the Hall of Honor. With Elder Daggs’ attitude, everyone felt their hearts grow cold, and they all silently decided to not ask the Hall of Honor for help anymore.

At this time, the organizations in the western region no longer acted from the dark, but rather openly. On one hand, they contacted En Ya to determine Lu Yin’s base line, and on the other, they actively gathered together, similar to the Central Coalition of the past. They also pulled in different assassination organizations, intelligence networks, and other groups. In fact, any power that could help them resist the Great Eastern Alliance was happily accepted.

The remainder of the Outerverse was determined to resist Lu Yin to the very end.

Nobody held any desire for there to be someone above them, giving them orders. Although the Great Eastern Alliance was just an alliance and joining it was not true submission, none of the various forces of the western region could accept such a thing.

Lu Yin knew that he likely would not be able to move against the remaining half of the Outerverse any time in the near future. The people leading these powers were all quite intelligent, and they were aware of the methods that Lu Yin had used against the powers of the central region and how he had subdued places like Suna Weave. The western weaves were determined to not make the same mistakes. Even if Lu Yin ended up being severely injured, these people would most likely not attempt to seize any initiative.

The various forces were determined to not provoke the Great Eastern Alliance. In the past, they had held lofty aspirations of destroying the Great Eastern Alliance, but now, those goals had completely disappeared.

Lu Yin did not plan on moving against any other powers at this time. Since he had united half of the Outerverse, the alliance needed some time to adjust themselves. They needed to establish the military expressway, reorganize their resources, arrange the Allied Forces, and much more. All of these details required time to handle, but Lu Yin did not need to do anything himself. Wang Wen, En Ya, Wei Rong, and Huan Sha would take care of all this for him, and all Lu Yin needed to do was cultivate.

No matter what, cultivation was still Lu Yin's highest priority. He could not allow himself to forget the essence of the universe, which was that the strong preyed on the weak.

A few months passed, and it was soon time for him to return to the Daosource Sect's ruins.

The outside world had entered a frenzy, and the entire Outerverse was excited. Lu Yin calmly returned to the secret room in King Zishan's palace, took out his futon, and sat down on it. As the scenery changed before his eyes, he arrived in the Daosource Sect's ruins' futon plaza once again.

There seemed to be a bit more people this time compared to when he had last visited the ruins, but it was still quite deserted compared to when he had first visited the Daosource Sect's ruins.

Lu Yin quickly walked past the First Divine Gate and entered the Budding Terrace before heading straight for the space with the Nine Cauldrons.

As soon as he entered the region, Lu Yin was surprised to discover that there were two groups of people confronting each other, and his sudden appearance drew a bit of attention.

"Which realm are you from?" someone loudly questioned him.

Lu Yin reflexively replied, "The Bloodburn Realm."

"Over here," someone else called out gleefully.

Lu Yin blinked, headed over to the person who had called to him, and stood in the middle of a group of people.

"You guys can't possibly think that Mojiang Xiao will really be able to do anything. He might be an heir of a World Imprinter's family, but their ancestor is dead. He can't go against two heirs of Cosmic Imprinters families. Even a fool knows what the outcome will be," someone in the opposing crowd said in a taunting tone.

Someone in Lu Yin's crowd spoke up. "Di Luo will arrive soon. Not only is he the heir of a Cosmic Imprinter's family, but he's also the younger brother of Realmling Di Fa."

"So what? Can he alone go against our Tong Zhan and White Silkworm?"

"Mojiang Xiao is not weak either."

"He doesn't even have an imprint anymore!"

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Lu Yin nudged a person next to him. "Bro, what's going on?"

That person impatiently answered, “Tong Zhan and White Silkworm have sealed the space with the Nine Cauldrons, and they are not allowing anyone else to enter. Thus, we are currently trying to negotiate with them.”

“Who’s White Silkworm?” Lu Yin automatically asked. He also felt a bit puzzled; wasn’t Tong Zhan in the Starfall Sea? Where had he found the time to enter the Daosource Sect's ruins?

That person was astonished, and he looked at Lu Yin with a strange expression. “You don’t know about White Silkworm?”

Lu Yin forced a smile. “I just came out from seclusion, which lasted for a long time.”

That person put on a look of understanding. “It looks like you were in cryostasis. You must not have been unsealed too long ago. White Silkworm is the heir of the Sightless Clan from the Blackblood Realm. You should at least know of the Sightless Clan—they’re a Cosmic Imprinter's family.”

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgement. “So he’s from the Sightless Clan.”

That person stopped paying any attention to Lu Yin.

When Lu Yin glanced into the inner region of the space with the Nine Cauldrons, he could see that the first cauldron had shattered. Thus, Tong Zhan, White Silkworm, and Mojiang Xiao should all be in the second cauldron. That was troublesome, as it looked like he would have to wait even longer before he could come back and absorb more cauldron energy.

He wanted to leave this area, but he was also curious about why Tong Zhan had entered the Daosource Sect's ruins at this time. After thinking about it, Lu Yin finally decided to stay behind.

The two sides did not stand there for long, and an intense battle quickly broke out within the second cauldron, causing the crowd to look over. In that place, they could see that Mojiang Xiao had been beaten out of the cauldron.

“Scram! If you come back and disturb us again, you’ll die without any question,” a stern voice called out.

Mojiang Xiao’s entire body was flung out of the cauldron, and he crashed to the ground as he was forced to retreat a dozen steps. Blood dripped down from his lips, and his expression was fierce. “Tong Zhan, don’t assume that my Blackblood Realm can be bullied that easily!”

### **Chapter 949: Alarming News**

Upon hearing Mojiang Xiao’s words, Tong Zhan laughed maniacally. “Such arrogance from someone who failed to conquer even the Outerverse! Many of your Bloodburn Realm’s masters perished, and even Ancestor Mo Jiang died. What a pity, if Di Luo had died as well, then it would have been the perfect ending, hahaha.”

After hearing Tong Zhan’s words, many people’s faces turned solemn.

Just at that moment, someone entered the area and leaped into the sky. “Tong Zhan, come out and meet your end!”

“It’s Di Luo! He’s finally here!” the man beside Lu Yin exclaimed excitedly.



Di Luo? Lu Yin looked over as he arched a brow. When the Bloodburn Realm had attacked the Outerverse, Lu Yin had never seen this person. Di Luo had either not participated in that invasion or he had been fighting in one of the other lavazones. Regardless, Lu Yin had never seen Di Luo before.

Unsurprisingly, this man was someone on the same level as Autumnfrost Qing. However, this man's imprint was from a Cosmic Imprinter whereas Autumnfrost Qing's imprint was from a World Imprinter. This clearly showed the difference between the two.

Di Luo's appearance had lured out both Tong Zhan and White Silkworm. The two men stood atop the cauldron; one had an arrogant look in his eyes while the other had no eyes at all.

Lu Yin's eyes went wide when he saw the man standing next to Tong Zhan; he truly had no eyes! This was not the same as being blind, as the person actually did not have any eyes. Also, the sides of the man's nose were completely flat. What sort of being was this?

The man next to Lu Yin had said that this person was from the Sightless Clan, and as the name suggested, he really was sightless. Could this be because of the clan's bloodline?

"Tong Zhan, you dare mock me, Di Luo? Prepare to die!" And with those words, Di Luo suddenly sprouted wings and charged at Tong Zhan. When Di Luo's imprint appeared behind the youth, a boundless might descended that encompassed everyone and caused them to feel a terrible sense of impending doom.

Tong Zhan stood there, looking icily arrogant as the imprint of Elder Tong appeared behind him. He then similarly leaped up and fearlessly charged towards Di Luo.

Instantly, the two men had started a terrible fight.

With both men being heirs of Imprinter families, they had enjoyed similar levels of resources and had imprints of similar strength. However, one was an expert from the Progenitor of Bloodlines' territory, while the other was from the Progenitor of Combat's territory. The two territories had very different battle styles, but comparable power.

The cultivators from the Progenitor of Bloodlines' territory specialized in raising their strength with bloodlines while the cultivators from the Progenitor of Combat's territory used martial prints.

The battle between the two youths left everyone watching completely dumbfounded. Apart from other Realmings, no one else would be able to match up to these two young men.

White Silkworm remained above the cauldron, and although he did not have any eyes, he seemed to always be facing the battle between Tong Zhan and Di Luo. It was as if he could see what was happening.

In another place, Mojiang Xiao wiped away the blood from the corner of his mouth before suddenly charging back towards the second cauldron.

White Silkworm's eyebrows quirked up slightly, and he twisted his body horizontally to block Mojiang Xiao. "Retreat."

Mojiang Xiao let out an angry yell, and the imprint of an elder appeared behind him. Following Ancestor Mojiang's death, Mojiang Xiao had managed to receive an imprint from another powerful figure. However, this figure was only a regular Imprinter, not a World Imprinter like before.

Thrusting his spear forward, Mojiang Xiao swept his weapon towards his opponent. "Get lost."

White Silkworm raised an arm and easily grabbed hold of Mojiang Xiao's spear. He then released some force through his palm, causing the spear to start visibly cracking under the pressure before shattering apart. White Silkworm then used his hand to grab a fragment of the spear that he stabbed towards Mojiang Xiao's abdomen, sending Mojiang Xiao flying once more.

In the distance, Lu Yin's expression became rather apprehensive. This eyeless man was very powerful; he was far stronger than Autumnfrost Qing. The two were on completely different levels. According to Lu Yin's estimate, the attack that had destroyed the spear had been even more powerful than what Tong Zhan and Di Luo were unleashing; it had approached the level of a Realmling.

Was White Silkworm a tremendously talented person from the Sightless Clan? Lu Yin felt that he needed to learn more about this Sightless Clan.

Tong Zhan and Di Luo continued to fight for hours without a victor being determined. Even though both of the two men were exhausted, they continued to fiercely glare at each other.

At that moment, White Silkworm jumped down and landed next to Tong Zhan.

Di Luo's eyes narrowed. "Two against one, eh? Then bring it on! Let me see how powerful the Sightless Clan's legendary White Silkworm really is, since you dare to challenge a Realmling."

White Silkworm turned to face Di Luo. "I heard that there is a highly skilled individual in the Fifth Mainland's Outerverse who goes by the name of Yuan Shi. I heard that he is as skilled in battle as Venerable Di. Was there truly such a person?"

Di Luo knitted his brows. "Why does that matter to you?"

White Silkworm nonchalantly answered, "My Sightless Clan is about to join forces with the Tong family. We will tear through the Fifth Mainland's Astral River to attack the Outerverse, so I want to find out more."

In the distance, Lu Yin's state of mind was sent into chaos when he heard these words. His pupils shrank; how was this possible? The Innverse was currently under the influence of a cosmic phenomenon that prevented even Cosmic Imprinters from displaying power levels above 200,000. Crossing the Astral River would require a power level of at least that much.

Di Luo was shocked. "There are indeed rumors floating about claiming such a thing. So the two clans are really going to gang up to attack the Fifth Mainland's Outerverse?"

Tong Zhan sneered. "We will achieve what the Bloodburn Realm was unable to accomplish."

Di Luo clenched his fists tightly. "You've already attacked the Fifth Mainland's Innverse, but now, you also want to get a piece of the Outerverse? You're really too greedy! The Blood Homage Realm and Rock Realm have attacked the Fifth Mainland's Astral Beast Domain, and the War Martial Realm, Grand Martial Realm, and Blackblood Realm are attacking the Fifth Mainland's Innverse. Our Bloodburn

Realm attacked the Fifth Mainland's Outerverse. And don't forget—the East Realm, Brahman Realm, and Sage Martial Realm have yet to make any moves. Your ambition may lead to you being eliminated by them.”

“You don't have to worry about any of that. You still haven't answered my question yet,” White Silkworm responded in a cold voice.

Di Luo arrogantly retorted, “Why should I answer you?”

White Silkworm frowned. Tong Zhan was standing next to White Silkworm, and he readied himself to attack Di Luo, but White Silkworm placed a hand on Tong Zhan's shoulder before he took a step forward by himself. He suddenly vanished, only to reappear right in front of Di Luo.

Di Luo ferociously shouted, “It's good that you came!”

After shouting, feathers slowly spread across the youth's body, as his bloodline was that of a migratory bird. With the imprint of Ancestor Di at his back, Di Luo stretched a hand forward, trying to grab White Silkworm.

Against an opponent like Di Luo, White Silkworm would not be able to easily defeat him as he had been done with Mojiang Xiao, not unless White Silkworm was an actual Realmling. Having said that, defeating Di Luo would not take too much of White Silkworm's effort either. After all, Di Luo and Tong Zhan had fought for some time already, so Di Luo was not at his peak condition. Against White Silkworm's attacks, Di Luo could only do his best to defend.

Mojiang Xiao was sprawled across the ground in the distance, unwilling to accept his situation.

Further away, the two people fighting struck each other. The region with the Nine Cauldrons had become a battlezone.

Lu Yin avoided the attacks as his figure flickered through the crowd, and he headed straight for Tong Zhan.

At this moment, Tong Zhan was resting as he watched White Silkworm suppress Di Luo. Given Tong Zhan's strength, he had assumed that no one would dare to attack him. However, when he looked over and saw Lu Yin approaching him, shock appeared in the man's eyes. Tong Zhan felt that Lu Yin was quite bold to dare to challenge him.

Tong Zhan raised his hands, and his martial print increased in size several times over as he attempted to suppress Lu Yin. Given Tong Zhan's abilities, even Mojiang Xiao would have to avoid a direct attack from Tong Zhan's martial print. However, Lu Yin disappeared so quickly that Tong Zhan did not even have a chance to react. Tong Zhan was taken aback by Lu Yin's speed, and he realized that he was facing a highly skilled individual.

Before he could react, he felt a searing pain spread out from his abdomen. Lu Yin had appeared right in front of Tong Zhan and punched the man's stomach, nearly forcing his organs out of his body. Tong Zhan tried to retaliate, but to Lu Yin, whose physical body was so hardy that he could fight against someone like Lan Si, this blow was practically the struggles of a baby.

Tong Zhan was a bit more powerful than Autumnfrost Qing. Back when the Bloodburn Realm attacked the Outerverse, Lu Yin had already possessed enough strength to defeat Autumnfrost Qing. Currently, his strength had undergone a massive increase after he broke through to the Cruiser realm, and he had also developed a greater degree of mastery over the Overlaying Stacks Path, Truesight, and more. Even if Lu Yin could not quite match up with the Ten Arbiters yet, it was no problem for him to deal with someone like Tong Zhan.

Tong Zhan was currently experiencing something that had never ever happened to him in the Daosource Sect's ruins before. The only people who were able to defeat him were either Realmings or the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters. Tong Zhan simply did not believe that there was someone else who was also able to defeat him. If he had seen one of those few people who could defeat him, then he would have fled long ago, not even making an attempt to fight. Just who the hell was this man? Was he one of the Ten Arbiters? Even though Tong Zhan was aware that the Ten Arbiters were from Fifth Mainland, he had not seen all of them.

Lu Yin grabbed a hold of Tong Zhan and threw him far away from the Nine Cauldrons.

While White Silkworm was fighting against Di Luo, the other people in the region were also locked in fierce life and death battles. Thus, Mojiang Xiao was the only person who saw Lu Yin toss Tong Zhan away. Mojiang Xiao even questioned whether or not his eyes were playing tricks on him, as Tong Zhan was not someone who could be thrown about that casually.

After grabbing Tong Zhan, Lu Yin dragged him out of the space with the Nine Cauldrons and headed to some unknown region. Tong Zhan was powerless to resist as he was dragged along. The pair ran into a few cultivators along the way who saw what Lu Yin was doing to Tong Zhan. However, they were all easily knocked out by Lu Yin, and he had also changed his appearance before attacking Tong Zhan. Thus, no one would recognize him anyways. Lu Yin had killed Tong Tong in the past, so if he had not changed his appearance, Tong Zhan would have instantly recognized his attacker.

After travelling for a short while, they arrived at an unfamiliar hill. Lu Yin violently threw Tong Zhan onto the ground, and Tong Zhan spat out some blood. He then glared at Lu Yin with bloodshot eyes.

"I only want you to tell me one thing after dragging you out here: how are the Tong family's ancestor and the Sightless Clan's ancestor planning on passing through the Astral River despite the cosmic suppression? When and where are they going to pass through the Astral River?" Lu Yin asked.

Tong Zhan stared at Lu Yin. "Who the hell are you?"

Lu Yin stomped hard on Tong Zhan's arm, shattering it. "I'm the one asking the questions, not you."

Tong Zhan grimaced in pain, and he gritted his teeth. He continued to stare at Lu Yin. "You're one of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters, aren't you?"

Lu Yin was astonished. "You're really quite stubborn."

Tong Zhan sneered. "I reached my current position not only because of my family's resources, but also because of my willpower. Those weaklings who have no willpower are not worthy of inheriting the

family's patriarch position. You can torture me all you want, but you won't get any information out of me, so just give up on interrogating me."

Lu Yin was annoyed by Tong Zhan's response, as such people were the hardest to deal with. If one had only managed to reach a high level because of their family's resources, then it was indeed true that such a person would not amount to much. For a massive clan like the Tong family, there were bound to be countless descendants. The fact that Tong Zhan had been able to rise above the rest and become the family's heir was definitely not only because of his identity. For their reputation and status, heirs of families often had to fight even harder than outsiders who climbed up the ranks of an organization. This man had both willpower and resolve, and he was not afraid to die.

"You've gone through so much to become the Tong family's heir, and you might even inherit the position of the Tong family's ancestor and become one of the Daosource Sect's Ten Venerables. Do you really not value your life?" Lu Yin asked his captive, urging the man to change his mind.

Tong Zhan proudly replied, "If I yield even this once, then I will never be able to reach the heights of my ancestor! Kill me if you must!"

"Just because you won't tell me anything doesn't mean that no one else from your family will tell me," Lu Yin commented.

Tong Zhan sneered. "I don't even know the answer to your question, so no one else will either."

"I'll make you a deal: if you tell me what I want to know, then I'll let you go, alright?" Lu Yin offered.

Tong Zhan looked at Lu Yin with a mocking expression. "Even if I do tell you, would you believe me?"

Lu Yin was shocked, as what Tong Zhan had just said was true. Lu Yin would have no way of confirming if any of the information was true or false.

Tong Zhan's attitude was of being completely undaunted by his predicament. Lu Yin was frustrated by the man's attitude, and he instantly lashed out at him in frustration. The attack was not enough to kill the man, but it left him crippled to the point where he would no longer be able to cultivate. Lu Yin did not like killing people who were unable to defend themselves.

Tong Zhan was indeed strong-willed, and he did not even utter a single plea for mercy.

Lu Yin actually found himself starting to admire the man's resolution. "I hope that you can escape before your enemies discover you here, so don't blame me if you get killed." He left the moment he was done speaking.

"Hold up! Just who the hell are you?" Tong Zhan yelled, his eyes flaring with hatred.

Lu Yin muttered to himself, "Take a guess."

And with that, he immediately left. He was no fool; even though Tong Zhan had lost his ability to fight, it was impossible to predict the future. Lu Yin did not want to face any disastrous repercussions in the future for his current actions, and giving Tong Zhan a fake name would also be easy to trace. Furthermore, Lu Yin had killed Tong Tong in the past, so if the Tong family discovered that he had also crippled Tong Zhan, Lu Yin would become the Tong family's hated enemy. He did not want to deal with any more trouble that he had to.

Tong Zhan gritted his teeth so hard that his gums started bleeding. "I swear that I'll find you and kill you!"

### **Chapter 950: Reimbursement**

The battle in the space with the Nine Cauldrons quickly came to an end with White Silkworm beating Di Luo up quite badly. Then, when they realized that Tong Zhan had disappeared, White Silkworm left to look for Tong Zhan.

When he found Tong Zhan and saw his miserable condition, White Silkworm coldly asked, "Who did this?"

In the distance, the cultivators from the Tong family were seething with anger.

"I don't know his name, but he should have been one of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters. He wanted to know the location where the two Venerables would tear through the Astral River, but I didn't tell him," Tong Zhan said.

White Silkworm coldly replied, "It wouldn't have mattered even if you had told him—the Outerverse cannot withstand our invasion forces. They only have one Yuan Shi, and resistance is meaningless."

Tong Zhan coldly declared, "I must find him and get revenge."

White Silkworm stretched out a hand, pressed it against Tong Zhan's body, and then muttered, "There's signs of the Overlaying Stacks Path being used. Although the person who attacked you didn't actually use that technique, he wasn't able to completely hide that he uses it, which means that he must be quite skilled at the Overlaying Stacks Path."

Tong Zhan's eyes went wide. "The Overlaying Stacks Path... Ten Arbiters... I know who that person was! Lan Si."

"You were in the Starfall Sea, but you didn't recognize Lan Si here?"

"He altered his appearance, probably because he was afraid of the Daosource Three Skies. It has to be him—aside from Arbiter Lan Si, no one else would have been able to defeat me so easily," Tong Zhan said with hatred.

White Silkworm did not say anything else. Regardless of whether or not Tong Zhan's attacker was actually Lan Si, they were still enemies. Thus, there was no meaning in making any sort of distinction.

In another place, Lu Yin found someone to lead him along, and he soon arrived outside of the Platform of Inception once again. This was the place that he found most attractive in the Daosource Sect's ruins, aside from the space that held the Nine Cauldrons.

He felt rather expectant; maybe he would bump into Xin Nü again!

Lu Yin rather enjoyed spending time with her. Although the girl did not speak much, Lu Yin felt very comfortable around her, though it was a different kind of comfort than what he felt around Ming Yan. Xin Nü's sense of comfort came from the fact that she was genuinely concerned about him and was investing her time into him. It was quite strange, but that was essentially what he felt from her.

However, Xin Nü did not appear during this visit, and Lu Yin simply relied on his greatly improved strength to force his way through the white fog. Without any trouble, he arrived at the Platform of Inception.

Whenever he emerged from the white fog and reached the platform, he would feel worried that there would be other people on the Platform of Inception.

Those who could break through the white fog and use the Platform of Inception were all experts with the strength of a Realmmling, and he would be in trouble if he bumped into anyone on that level.

Fortunately, his luck was pretty good this time.

Lu Yin took several deep breaths and cleared his mind of all distractions. He then began reciting the Stonewall Scriptures. He still had more than twenty days left in the Daosource Sect's ruins, and there was no reason to waste time thinking about other things.

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Lu Yin opened his eyes when he reappeared in the secure room within King Zishan's palace.

During this trip to the Platform of Inception, he had managed to absorb two more strands of grey fog, and he believed that his lockbreaking abilities had increased by quite a bit. However, he was still quite far from reaching the Boundless Advanced level.

Afterwards, he stepped out of the room, called Elder Daggs, and requested an audience with Yuan Shi.

Elder Daggs made a point of speaking with Lu Yin for a bit, sharing his hopes that Lu Yin would not start a war if possible, but the elder did not mention anything about suggesting that Lu Yin restrain himself. This gave Lu Yin even more confidence, and he knew that the Hall of Honor did not have any problem with him unifying the Outerverse, and that they might even support him in doing so.

"Elder, my request to speak with Yuan Shi has nothing to do with the unification of the Outerverse," Lu Yin said.

Yuan Shi had a gadget, but he did not use it at all. What's more, he was sometimes in locations where there were no signals at all. This was why Lu Yin could not directly contact the old man and had to go through Elder Daggs.

Elder Daggs nodded, and he immediately headed for Yuan Shi's location. The elder was one of the few individuals who was aware that Lu Yin could enter the Daosource Sect's ruins, and he had realized that Lu Yin might have some vitally important information to share.

Soon, Yuan Shi's image appeared on Lu Yin's screen.

Lu Yin adjusted his expression and then informed Yuan Shi of what had happened in the space with the Nine Cauldrons.

Yuan Shi's eyes grew sharp. "If two Cosmic Imprinters act with their full strength, then they may indeed be able to tear through the Astral River. As for the cosmic phenomenon's suppression, the Astral River is not within its scope."

“Are you saying that they can go straight into the Astral River?” Lu Yin was astonished.

Yuan Shi did not respond, as this was the only possibility.

After thinking about it, Lu Yin also realized that what the old powerhouse had said was accurate. The Astral River’s energy might have surged, but that did not mean that it could not be withstood. The tributaries that wove throughout the Inniverse had also experienced surges in their star energy, isolating the various flowzones. However, those tributaries had been torn apart, so there was no reason why the Astral River would be any different. With how powerful Cosmic Imprinters were, they would definitely be able to forge deep into the Astral River and then tear it apart.

“Do you know the exact location?” Yuan Shi asked.

Lu Yin shook his head. “I could not find that out, but I did not kill Tong Zhan. I intend for him to tell the Tong family’s ancestor that our Outerverse knows about their invasion. The Sixth Mainland would rather wipe out all of the Outerverse’s resistance in one fell swoop than deal with a situation like the Inniverse’s, where they have to deal with small pockets of resistance from all sides. Such a situation is of no benefit to them.

“Their objective is to gather resources and destroy our civilization whereas our existence is simply a hindrance to those two goals. Since both sides now know about this invasion, Junior believes that they will choose a location that is known by both sides as the site of their invasion, such as the astral cemetery.”

Yuan Shi looked up as he muttered to himself, “There is no border at the Technocracy’s border, but war is about to break out along the Astral River. Just how long will this war continue for?”

Lu Yin did not reply; there was only one answer to that question, but it was just too cruel. To the Sixth Mainland, this war would only end once all the Fifth Mainland’s resisting forces were completely eradicated. They did not make any moves against commoners, and it initially seemed as if the standpoints of the two sides were merely different. However, this was not the case. Once the Fifth Mainland’s rebellious forces were dealt with, they would be forced to forever endure the suppression of the Sixth Mainland. What’s more, the Fifth Mainland’s skies might even be changed again, which would revert the universe to how it had been before the Sea King had broken through the Upper Three Gates.

It was impossible to drive the Sixth Mainland out given the current situation, and the only hope lay with the Neoverse, which was a place that Lu Yin did not understand. The Yu Elder had once mentioned that the Fifth Mainland was not as simple as it appeared, and his statement should have been referring to the Neoverse.

“Send out orders to gather all the remaining forces of the Outerverse and station them in the astral cemetery. Prepare for an imminent war,” Yuan Shi spoke gravely.

Regardless of whether or not Lu Yin’s news was real or fake, Yuan Shi still had to take the appropriate measures. Furthermore, he trusted that Lu Yin would not be audacious enough to lie about such monumental news. At this moment, Yuan Shi merely hoped that the two Cosmic Imprinters from the invading families would not join forces against the Outerverse and that they would somehow be delayed elsewhere. Yuan Shi was not confident that he could fend off two Cosmic Imprinters.



Yuan Shi's orders were the same as the Hall of Honor's orders. Thus, the entire Outerverse was issued another compulsory conscription calling for both powerful cultivators and battleships. Any military constructs with enough power were also gathered in the astral cemetery.

Four of the captains from the Great Yu Empire's Thirteen Imperial Squadrons were drafted, and the leaders of the Great Eastern Alliance's guiding powers, such as Meng Tianlong and Mu Nichang, were also called out. No Enlighter could escape, and everyone who had revealed themselves was drafted, such as Endless Borders' Windflower Crew, Captain Shi, and even Aegis' assassins, Black Mask and the child-like killer.

The Sea King's Dome's Elder He was similarly drafted as well as the Mt. Stacks Dojo's Elder Tie and Lan Si. There were no exceptions, and everyone was ordered to gather in the astral cemetery.

The Great Eastern Alliance's Rapid Response Team was also conscripted.

Ever since the Great Eastern Alliance had grown to cover half of the Outerverse, the Rapid Response Team's numbers had also increased. The number of Hunters had grown to twelve, and there were also forty Cruisers and 800 Explorers among them. The strength of this force, when combined with Lu Yin and the Enlighter named Ye Gui, was able to rival the group from the Mt. Stacks Dojo.

This was just the strength of the Rapid Response Team. The Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces also had another six Hunters as well as more than 500,000 Sentinels, nine million Seekers, and 1,500 battleships. It was a truly terrifying force.

Fortunately, the Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces had not been conscripted, but there was one other group that had absolutely no luck at all: the Central Coalition's military.

In order to defend against the Great Eastern Alliance, the Central Coalition had formed a joint military. These forces included more than 10,000 battleships, and even though the Suna Weave, Umbral Butterfly Tribe, Sourcepeak Weave, and others had all joined the Great Eastern Alliance, causing the Central Coalition's numbers to fall precipitously, the support of the western weaves had allowed the military to maintain its strength. In fact, it had even grown stronger than its past state. At this time, the Central Coalition had 12,000 battleships and more than twenty five Hunters, which shocked the Outerverse.

This strength had originally been intended to be used to intimidate Lu Yin and make him wary enough to not act aggressively. But instead, it had drawn the Hall of Honor's attention and been drafted as a single unit.

The Central Coalition's military included people from the western region, and quite a few people went to Elder Daggs to ask for the joint military force to be exempted from the draft, but they were summarily rejected. According to Elder Daggs's words, if the Outerverse was destroyed, then there was no point in preserving such a force.

However, in order to placate the western region, Elder Daggs also sent out a conscription notice to the Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces, and they were also sent to the astral cemetery.

The people from the Great Eastern Alliance were dejected.

However, Lu Yin did not mind, as he had initially wanted to unite the Outerverse specifically to fight off a common external enemy, no matter if that enemy was the Sixth Mainland, the Astral Beast Domain, or the Technocracy. They were all foreign threats. At this moment, everyone was on the same side, resisting the outsiders, which was perfectly in line with his original intentions.

When it was necessary to defend against a common enemy, internal strife became less important, and this was an important point to Lu Yin.

He did not know when the Sixth Mainland's two Cosmic Imprinters would act, but the Hall of Honor had drafted everyone immediately and sent them all to the astral cemetery as fast as possible.

Their battleships were not radiant-grade Auroras, and they did not move nearly as quickly as high-level cultivators. The Outerverse's united military could not afford to all use Auroras, and even at top speed, it still took about a month for the various forces' battleships to arrive at the astral cemetery, and this was even when they used military expressways.

This was also thanks to Lu Yin. The weaves in the western and central regions had begun to secretly construct their own military expressways, or else it would have taken them twice as long to gather in the astral cemetery.

The Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces had the furthest to travel to arrive in the astral cemetery, but they arrived at about the same time as the others since the Great Eastern Alliance's expressways were more complete. After exiting the Great Eastern Alliance, they had then borrowed the express routes of the Central Coalition and the western region at the Hall of Honor's orders, which sickened both organizations.

This had basically exposed their military routes to the enemy.

However, they could not refuse the Hall of Honor's orders. Instead, they could only make mental notes to tear down the exposed routes after the external threat passed and rebuild them later on. This meant that exorbitant sums of money had been wasted.

Someone suggested that they seek Lu Yin out for reimbursement, but this suggestion was laughable and was immediately vetoed by others.

The full strength of the Outerverse had been brought to bear, and it was truly powerful. Lu Yin was also able to see this for himself.

He stared at the endless armada of battleships, countless space-exploring powerhouses, and all sorts of war weapons. This force covered such a large region of space that they existed as far as the eye could see, and they had enough power to shatter the space in the entire region.

Although the offensive might of this group was not exceptionally powerful, it was still enough to make some bit of deterrence.