

Alchemy 1791

Chapter 1791: Indecisive

Pearl's sudden authoritative voice surprised the group of Saint Transformation beasts that were gathered in the room. However, it did not surprise them nearly as much as the information that came with it did.

Qing Tianchui. That was not a name that was commonly known amongst the beasts. However, the ones that were gathered here were of the strongest and knew very well who that name belonged to.

The Azure Dragon.

They looked at Pearl with shock clear on their face.

"Young one, what did you just say? Say that name again," the Lizard demanded.

Pearl stood upright with his head held high. "You heard me correctly," he said. "I did not wish to have to resort to this, but if I must then I will."

"My mother, as you know, is Shi Meiyong, daughter of the late Shi Guyong. My father... is Qing Tianchui, ruler of the Eastern Continent, the Azure Dragon."

"How is that possible?" the Elephant asked.

"Your mother was a cat, like you, wasn't she?" the Swan asked.

The Lion was plenty surprised by this revelation as well. "Pearl, what are you saying?" he asked.

"My mother was a cat with the blood of a White Tiger, which I now have," Pearl said. "My Father was Qing Tianchui, Azure Dragon. I cannot tell you how I was conceived, but I was, and I am here. In the absence of my father, I am this Continent's ruler, and I will demand that you listen to me."

"This is nonsense," the Elephant said. "If you wanted to lie, you should have made it a better lie."

"It is not a lie," Pearl said. "My father is the Azure Dragon. He and my mother were killed by the Dragon Emperor because he wanted to kill me. I have come back to avenge their deaths, but I cannot do it alone. I need your help."

"Pearl, are you being truthful right now?" the Lion asked. "Are you... are you really the son of the Azure Dragon."

"I am," Pearl said. He saw the doubtful faces of the beasts gathered and continued, "I swear by the heavens that I am speaking the truth. My father is Qing Tianchui."

The beasts froze in their place when Pearl spoke the oath and nothing happened to him.

"How... how is this possible?"

"A cat, even if she was a tiger, should not be compatible with a dragon. This doesn't make sense," the Elephant said.

"But he just swore, so it is true. Unless it is only he that believes it, but I do not believe that to be the case," the Swan said.

"In the first place, why did the Emperor come to kill his grandparents? We never figured that out," the Eagle said from next to Pearl. She quickly turned toward Pearl and asked, "Did you say that the emperor attacked your mother because of you?"

Pearl nodded. "He was there that day to kill me. I do not know why as of yet, but he feared my existence for some reason. My father tried his best to protect me, but he couldn't do it as he was bound by the oaths and his status in this world. He died protecting me, and so did my mother. Now I have come seeking revenge along with my brother, but I cannot do this alone. I need all of your help."

The beasts looked at each other, and they could see that the other beasts were starting to believe Pearl's words.

"Do you have any guess why the emperor might have been after you?" the beasts asked.

"I do not know," Pearl said. "But... seeing as he not only went after me and my mother but also my grandmother, I would say he is after the beasts that hold the White Tiger's bloodline."

The beasts gave a slight nod as it made sense. "So you not only are the son of an Azure Dragon but also carry the bloodline of the White Tiger?" the Lizard asked.

"I don't just carry it," Pearl said. "I am a White Tiger."

"What are you talking about? You're clearly not—"The Ox was only halfway through speaking when his eyes widened in shock. He was only now noticing Pearl's physique.

The other beasts noticed what they had so easily disregarded as well.

Without the stripes, Pearl who was introduced as the son of a White cat, appeared a White cat to everyone. However, upon seeing him with the newly revealed bit of information, they could finally see that despite the black stripes, they were in fact looking at a White Tiger.

"My god!" the Swan was fully wide-eyed. "It's true."

The Eagle quickly stepped away from Pearl and looked at him in wide-eyed horror. "My lord, please forgive me," she said, quickly bowing to Pearl as she moved back.

"You do not have to treat me differently just because I'm a White Tiger," Pearl said.

"No, no," the Eagle shook her head. "You're not just a White Tiger, you are the son of the Azure Dragon as well. Please forgive us for any disrespect we may have shown you today."

Pearl sighed a little and looked at everyone in the room who gazed at him with fear and reverence on their faces.

"I'm sorry for not telling this to you sooner, Uncle," Pearl spoke to the Lion. "I only just learned about my father half a year ago."

"No, no, it's alright..." the Lion said. He was pretty shaken about the entire thing as well.

The Existence of a beast born from both with the bloodline of two heavenly beasts was an impossibility to everyone's eyes. And Pearl had ended up evolving into one as well.

This was truly something incredible that everyone got to witness.

"Now that it has come to this, I hope you will accept my request or my command, and start gathering your beasts so we can leave right away," Pearl said. "Uncle, you should return quickly."

"Yes, right away," the Lion said and started moving. However, even before he had reached the door, the Lizard spoke.

"I'm afraid that is still not possible, my lord." The Lizard has his head down in a bow, and his words were one of respect, but his actions were not. "I still believe that going to this war is a suicide. Even if it is you who commands us, I cannot accept this."

"Neither can I, my lord," the Ox spoke. "I do not wish to see my beasts dead."

"What are you saying?" the Deer suddenly spoke. "The young lord has asked us to help, and this is the best chance for us to help him. Sure there will be some deaths, but that is the price we must pay for revenge. That is the price we must pay for freedom."

"I'm with Sister Lu on this one," the Swan said. "I say that we fight."

"We absolutely must fight," the Elephant said.

The Eagle grimaced a little. "My beasts are weak. I cannot accept this command, my lord. Please forgive me."

Pearl stared at the beasts with absolutely no idea what to do at all.

After all that he had done to convince them, the beasts still didn't come to a decision to help him at all.

Chapter 1792: Special Mark

The Lizard, the Ox, and the Eagle were the three leaders who did not wish to fight.

The Swan, the Elephant, and the Deer absolutely wanted to fight to get revenge on the person who killed their ruler.

It was needless to say the Lion wanted to fight as well.

4 out of the 7 leaders of the beast colonies wanted to go kill the Dragon Emperor. However, all decisions from the leaders must be unanimous or else the beasts couldn't act.

Each of the beasts sat back down and started talking amongst themselves to try and convince each other why they had to do the same as them.

"He was our ruler. We have a requirement to avenge him," the Deer said. "How can you just stay by and give up on such an opportunity to kill him?"

"It is useless," the Lizard said. "We have no clue how strong the Southern continent's army is, but we know for a fact how strong the Azure Empire's army is. The Dragon Emperor will have prepared for the army long ago. And he had nearly a hundred thousand different soldiers.

"He won't have that many," Pearl quickly said. "The Dragon Emperor doesn't know that an army is coming. He isn't prepared for whatever is happening right now."

"Listen to him," the Deer said. "We have a chance."

"Sister Lu, even if we have a chance, we can't possibly have enough beasts to fight against the Dragon Emperor. If he chooses to run away, how are we going to keep him trapped? We would have no choice but to let him go. Then, he will come back a day later after gathering his army of a hundred thousand strong soldiers and then we will just die."

The ox turned around toward Pearl. "Young lord, we wish to help you, but you can see just how bad an idea this is. Beating the Dragon Emperor is difficult."

"If he runs, we can follow him. How difficult would that be?" Pearl asked.

"That's not so easy. That man killed both your grandmother and grandfather the day he was injured by your father, the Azure Dragon. And they were both just as strong as us right now," the Ox said. "He's strong. It is better to not act at all."

"I will be honest," the Eagle spoke, turning to the Lizard and the Ox. "I would join the young lord if I or any of my beasts were capable. But we are weak, so going there for us would be suicide."

"It would be suicide for us too," the Lizard said. "I don't think you guys understand just how dangerous fighting the Emperor is, even with all the help we would get."

"But you don't have to fight the Emperor yourself," Pearl quickly said. "You will be fighting regular soldiers, who should be all weaker than you at the current time. The Emperor himself, we have people who can handle him."

A wave of nods and looks passed throughout the room as the beasts nodded toward each other as they heard Pearl speak.

"Does the Southern Continent have strong fighters?" the Lion asked. "Should we move quickly to help them?"

"Yes!" Pearl shouted in an exasperated tone. "We wasted so long with just me coming here, and then waiting for all the leaders to arrive. I thought that would be all, but you guys are wasting even more time."

"What is there to think about? If you are worried about the soldiers behind the Dragon Emperor, don't be. They too will be in the same situation as you. They will have found out about my father's death and will be making their choice to turn against the Emperor."

"Even if not all of them choose to defect from the empire's army, enough will so that the Emperor's army will be too weak to do anything."

"And we can make it stronger by you joining them," Pearl said. "And if you are worried about the Emperor running away, don't be. There is no place in this world that the Emperor can run off to that my brother won't find him."

"And if he dares to run out of the Eastern Continent, he will only be putting himself into my grandfather's maw. So, the best course of action for you all right now, no matter if you are weak or strong, is to help my brother."

"This is both a request and command on my part."

The Lizard and Ox hesitated a little.

"I... I accept," the Ox said after a little while. "I will help you, young lord."

Pearl nodded and turned toward the lizard. "What about you?" he asked.

"No," the Lizard said. "I still believe this is a bad idea. We are already doing fine. The Emperor won't come for us as long as we don't do anything reckless. But if we attack him and we somehow fail, the entire beast paradise will be in danger. I cannot allow that to happen."

The Eagle took a deep breath and said, "I shall help you. My colony will not be of much use to you, young master, but I alone shall help you."

"Thank you," Pearl said.

The Lizard looked toward the Eagle with wide eyes. He then looked toward all the other beasts.

"You guys have lost your mind. Why are you choosing to throw away peace for nothing?" the Lizard asked.

Pearl's eyes sharpened.

"Nothing?" he asked. He couldn't believe just how easily the lizard was treating his and his family's life to be. Anger filled Pearl that very instant.

It was very rare for him to get angry, but today he was. He was so angry that he ignored the warning Bai Jingshen gave him that day.

He took a step forward. "Are you saying the life of my grandparents is nothing?" he asked, fire burning behind his golden eyes.

The Lizard hesitated. He wanted to say something but something caught his eyes. He looked at it for a moment, wondering if he was seeing it correctly.

"Are you saying the life of my parents is nothing?" Pearl asked, coming even closer. As he moved, the lizard felt a rather oppressive aura all of a sudden, and the thing he had noticed had become stronger and more noticeable now.

Pearl stepped forward again, arriving next to the Lizard.

"Are you saying that my life and the life of my brother and his people is nothing? That all the hardship we go through, all the pain and sadness, it is nothing? Our tears are of no value to you, is that what you mean?"

The oppressive aura in the room had grown to a strong enough level that all the Leaders showed grimaces on their faces as well as looks of surprise at the thing that they saw.

On Pearl's forehead, where it had previously been empty, a small golden mark had appeared. The mark looked like some sort of word, but no one in that room could read it at all.

"Speak!" Pearl said, sending shivers through the Lizard.

"I..." he stared at the mark on Pearl's forehead and the oppressive aura that surrounded him as though he was in front of someone who could kill him with a single glance.

"I..." the lizard saw no choice anymore. "I will do it. I will gather beasts to help you, my lord."

Pearl stared into the eyes of the Lizard for a long second before withdrawing his aura. The glowing mark on his forehead vanished just as suddenly as it had appeared.

Pearl could imagine how angry his great-grandfather would be if he found out that he had used the mark. He had been scolded before when he had nearly used it inside Alex's mind in the presence of his family.

Bai Jingshen had told him what it was and had taught him to control it. but just because he could control it didn't mean it was something he could use as easily as he had done just now.

'That was necessary,' Pearl told himself. He had to use the mark for intimidation, even though that was not its primary purpose.

Once the mark vanished, Pearl's head snapped back toward the Lizard. "Good," he said and looked to everyone. "Go and gather your beasts. We will be leaving as soon as possible. The way back is long as well. We cannot waste any more time."

The beasts nodded and quickly ran out to go back to their Colony. Since they were already in the Lion colony, the Lion could take things slowly.

Pearl went to talk to the jaguar, but before he could, the Eagle came to talk to him.

"Senior Ying," Pearl said with a small bow.

"Young Lord," she gave a small bow in greeting as well."

"Why have you come to see me? Do you truly not have any beasts that can help me?" Pearl asked.

"I have a few, but I've already told them to gather through my talisman. they should be preparing to leave as we speak," the Eagle said.

"I see. Then go on ahead. Why did you come to seek me?" Pearl asked.

"You mentioned something at the end there about how we would be late and the journey ahead is long," the Eagle said.

"I did," Pearl said. "Why? Did I say something wrong?"

"You said what you know to be true, so I came to add my piece of knowledge to yourself," the Eagle said.

"What knowledge?" Pearl asked.

"Our journey ahead doesn't necessarily have to be long," the Eagle said. "There is a way to make it short."

Pearl's eyes flashed with intrigue. "Go on. I'm listening."

Tan Yang, one of the remaining 9 council elders of the Southern Continent died from a sword slash to the back while he was overwhelmed from two other sides.

Alex saw it happen with his peripheral vision and saw the moment of death through his spiritual senses. The moment the elder died, Alex felt something else break inside of his heart.

First, it had been Yao Ning, and now Tan Yang.

He looked to the side and saw Gong Liuxian struggling with another battalion leader who was empowered by a strong array behind her.

Far away, Lei Zhong was being beaten badly, unable to muster enough strength to keep protecting himself.

Alex looked for more, but someone attacked him at that very moment, forcing him to focus his attention back on the battle.

The man before him fought with no weapon but just an artifact that carried an open flame. The flame burned hot, but merely hot enough to be trouble for a regular cultivator.

To Alex, it was no different from ordinary flames.

Still, the flames carried with them the power of a cultivator that was beyond Saint Transformation 9th realm at the moment.

Alex was strong too, thanks to the array, but he had unfortunately come to find out that he could only be so strong beyond a certain level. It was almost as if there was some sort of bottleneck on how strong one could get in the world with borrowed powers.

Beyond the 9th realm, the improvement diminished rapidly such that it mattered little.

Alex could see nearly 400 strong Saints powering this one person. Had this person been capable of handling more power, they might have given him more, but perhaps that might have been useless to begin with.

There were very few people as strong as him on the battlefield, and they were focused on the four strongest people fighting on behalf of the Southern Continent's armies.

The four being Alex, Hannah, Zhou Linfan, and Yan Yating.

Alex didn't know where the other three were yet. He could search, but that would take away from his focus.

A blazing ball of yellow flame released from the man's hands, flying toward Alex while leaving behind trails of swirling hot air that twisted the world seen through it.

Alex immediately employed his True Fire Dao and caught onto the fireball before it even got too close. Using the Dao, he had more authority toward fire and could steal control of the ball from the other person.

Alex would have to fight his opponent mentally to do so, but in a battle of Intent, he doubted he could lose.

As Alex thought that, his eyes narrowed slightly when he felt the tremendous Intent behind the attack. He tried to wrench away the fire, but he came empty-handed and with a slight headache.

He looked toward the opponent and found him not even breaking a sweat at all.

Alex could not believe that there was someone with such a stronger Intent than him. However, when he really thought about it, that seemed a bit impossible.

Even if the man did have a stronger Intent, he would not be standing so freely. Which meant, that the Intent wasn't coming from that man at all.

It belonged to the flat chalice-like artifact where the yellow flame perpetually burned.

Looking at the treasure, Alex could tell that it was the treasure that gave away the Intent. Was it an Immortal treasure?

Alex let go of the struggle and simply struck the ball of fire with his sword, destroying it. He was pushed back with a significant force but jumped right back into battle.

He fought against the man, dodging and preparing at every instance for what may be his final attack. Meanwhile, the man seemed to tease Alex into using his strongest technique to defend against potential Immortal Qi attacks, which he used very sparingly.

Taking too long here would lead to Alex's loss and subsequently his death. So, Alex decided to fight harder without caring for his spare Qi at all.

The man fighting Alex was strong, but he was also nothing more than a person with a single trick. All he could do in the battle was use his artifact, which was clearly very strong but pretty much useless against Alex once he knew what to do with it.

Alex dashed forward as assuredly as he possibly could and swung his sword through the midsection of the man's torso.

The man created a barrier of flames using Immortal Qi, just as Alex had hoped.

Alex teleported, but that was old news to these people by now.

The man located him nearly instantaneously, using the Immortal Qi in his body to empower the artifact once again and shoot out massive flames at Alex.

Alex teleported at the last second again, saving himself from the attack.

The blast of yellow fire caught empty air and the man felt an attack from behind him. Without even turning around, he sent a flame attack toward Alex, only to be shot at by one at the same time.

The two balls of fire exploded into a large array of colors, sending the man back in a disorientation. When he tried to orient himself, he realized that it had been too late.

Alex swung just once and the man's body was cleaved in half completely, the artifact that burned with the yellow fire being destroyed with it.

Alex rejoiced in the death of his opponent for a split second before it was time for him to fall back and see how he could help. Any person he could help was a person he could save.

He moved back from the battlefield of the war and took a good look at the situation and who he could help.

He saw Hannah and Zhou Linfan who weren't having as much trouble as he was worried for them. They were much stronger in general than everyone else, so they had survived easily.

Alex was about to look for others when Liang Shufen walked past him with an arm that was cut off and a leg that was as though it had been crushed completely.

"Elder Liang, are you alright?" Alex asked.

"I'm... I'll be fine once I go to the ship," she said and sighed as she turned around. "We can't do this alone. Even with all those that had been added, we're still getting overwhelmed."

Alex nodded. "As we increase in number, the enemy increases too," he said. "I will help who I can see, not that I can see many people from here."

"Brother Kang is dead," Liang Shufen said. "I saw him get punctured with many roots at once. He had very dead."

Alex remained silent, although his face trembled with emotions as memories passed him.

"Elder Tan is dead as well. I saw him get cut down by her," Alex said, pointing to a woman who had started attacking the weaker people on the battlefield.

Alex intended to go for her, but Huang Chen made it there first. Alex, instead, focused on finding everyone important to him.

As he did, he realized something troubling.

Graham was missing from the battlefield entirely.

Chapter 1794: Twilight

"The battle seems to be going poorly," Hao Ya said as she and Liz made their way to the final of the 8 consoles.

Liz looked to the sky, a worried look clear on her face. She had seen people dying above her, a lot of them soldiers from the Southern Continent. She had seen Hannah and Alex go fight who she now understood to be the Dragon Emperor and then get caught within a group of strong opponents, seemingly unable to find a way out.

Multiple times throughout the day her heart sank in her chest and a cold tingle passed through her spine, but thankfully the kids were still alive.

But for how long would that be? She didn't know.

Minute after minute, more and more soldiers were arriving to aid the Dragon Emperor, while the people who came to aid Alex were few and far in-between.

They needed help.

They needed her and Hao Ya to do their job quickly.

"Finally, there," Hao Ya spoke as they came across the final console. Within seconds, Hao Ya was kneeling before the console, working on it as fast as she could.

There was nobody who was free enough to search for them, but Liz still kept hold of the three talismans in her hand and looked to the sky where the battle continued.

The terrible battle rained upon the world blood and death that anyone had rarely ever seen before, if not never for the past 5 thousand years.

Death was on both sides of the war as well as the cries of the survivors. Some lost their hands, some their leg. Some were missing eyes and ears, and some had a hole through the side of their torso that they tried to fix by eating a pill.

It was terrible all around.

All except for the Dragon Emperor. That man stood in the sky, watching over the entire battle without actually taking part in it.

Why would he? If things continued like this, he was definitely going to win.

Liz cursed the man with all her heart.

Time was slow for her at the moment, both her and Hao Ya. She had been constantly keeping a field of slowed time around her using her Dao, which no one was able to sense at all.

Using the slowed time to their advantage, Hao Ya had been working a lot faster than what it would have normally taken her to complete this whole thing.

What felt like a few minutes passed for Liz while the battle above them continued all the same.

She could see her daughter fighting an older woman who attacked with frost arrows from far away. She saw Alex fighting someone who used some sort of fire artifact.

Her brother fought off to the side against someone as well and seemed to be somewhat struggling with it. There were wounds on his body, but he managed it for now.

Even the young man, who she was starting to come around to as being her Son-in-law, was busy fighting some weaker fighters far away.

"How much longer?" Liz asked.

"A few more minutes," Hao Yao said without breaking focus. "I'm right about done with this."

Liz continued waiting.

Just as Hao Ya requested, a few more minutes passed, with each minute getting them closer and closer to completing the entire thing.

As she did that, Liz suddenly sensed a strong energy up above her and turned to look.

In the sky, an explosion of some sort was sending ripples toward them.

Hao Ya had to force herself to stop as well and looked up to see the source of the ripple. There were many clashes that caused explosions and sent shockwaves, but this one was very close to them.

And this one was made by Immortal attacks.

When the shockwaves reached Liz and Hao Ya, they were forced to instantly put up everything they could to protect themselves.

As neither of the two were in the Saint Transformation realm yet, the force that rained down on them was strong enough that if they weren't careful, they would die.

Liz could only put up the most basic of defenses, but Hao Ya was different. A small palm-sized flat ring appeared on her hand which she quickly threw out before them.

The ring suddenly expanded as it moved away from them and the four quarters of the ring moved in four different directions, creating a beautiful golden barrier at the center.

The force of the shockwave hit the artifact and suddenly vanished as though completely made inert by the artifact.

The two girls were safe, but in protecting themselves, they had revealed themselves completely to anyone who was paying attention.

There were quite a few people who were mostly free in the battle. All they were doing was staying next to someone in an array to empower just one person.

One of them noticed their treasure and his senses came down toward them.

Hao Ya and Liz were still, but this time the person was looking for them. In a teleportation field that was supposed to be completely empty, they stood out like a sore thumb.

The man pointed toward them and shouted something that was completely drowned by the various explosions. Within moments, several other people noticed them as well and a group of people split off from the array, coming down for them.

"They found us," Liz said urgently to Hao Ya.

Hao Ya looked up with a frown. "I'm so close," she said.

"I'll handle those who I can," Liz said, putting away the talismans. There was no point in holding to that anymore. "Make sure to keep yourself safe."

Hao Ya nodded.

Liz stopped the Time Dao she was using on Hao Ya and fully focused on herself.

She took a deep breath and pulled out her sword. It was a thin blade, similar to her daughter's, but the handle of the sword was slightly different as it was carved to look like a curved hourglass.

Twilight.

Liz activated her Time Dao to speed up time for herself such that everything else appeared very slow.

Then, she took off.

The Dao of Temporal Stagnation was the first Dao she had ever learned of the three Time Daos and was the one she was most proficient with.

As such, she liked using it much more than any of the other ones.

Time seemed to come to a relative stop for everyone but her as Liz flew through the sky at what the others perceived to be near instantaneous movement.

Liz arrived right in front of the first person, and even as he pulled up his sword, hers was already upon him.

She carved through the man's chest, leaving a large gash behind. The man screamed out in pain from the wound, and as Liz moved away, his voice grew distant and slow.

Unfortunately, she was a little too weak to kill him in one strike.

Fortunately, she wasn't done just yet.

Liz quickly turned back around and drove her sword through the back of the man, forcing the blade into the man's heart as his screams came into sound once again.

The man coughed a mouth full of blood, and as Liz pulled the sword back out, he slid away from her, falling down slowly as Liz moved away from him and went for the others.

Chapter 1795: Temporal Daos

The Dao of Temporal Stagnation and the Dao of Temporal Swiftiness were two sides of the same coin. As time was relative, slowing down time for one thing meant increasing it for something else. As such, the Daos were named after the effect they created, rather than what they did.

The Dao of Temporal Stagnation in fact sped up someone's time, and in doing so, it slowed down the world around them.

Liz employed this very Dao to move as quickly as she could to try and kill all the soldiers that came flying down toward her.

There was a problem with using her Dao, however. It was a problem with most Time dao in general. Time Dao in general heavily relied on Space to apply their effect.

Whether it be the Dao of Temporal Stagnation or the Dao of Temporal Swiftiness, the user needed to specify a certain area of space where said dao would be applied.

It was a simple thing to deal with when doing some regular task like cultivation or something stationary. However, when the user started moving with the Dao active, they had a whole heap of problems to deal with suddenly.

As Time Dao was based on space, one had to constantly move the entire space around with them so they could keep the effect of the Dao on them.

Or else, they would end up leaving the field where the Time Dao was active.

While it all sounded complicated, it was in fact much simpler in use. As the Heavens helped someone when they employed a Dao, Liz could simply just Intend for the Dao to be used in the way she wanted, and it would.

The problem that came along with that was that she would have to constantly use a lot of Intent to keep it going. The Intent she had to use generated an enormous amount of mental pain that simply could not be generated by anything that was still.

So, when fighting with her Dao actively, Liz had to make sure she finished it quickly, or else she would be in a world of pain very soon.

Another problem that came with using her Dao, not related to the Dao itself, was physical resistance from the world around her.

While she moved quickly, the world moved at the same pace. So to move through something as fast as she was moving, she had to introduce a layer of space around her where the air could enter her area of Dao and not introduce a lot of resistance for her.

Liz did have the Fluctuating Friction dance that she had received from Alex quite some time ago, and while she could use it on air, the air wasn't the only thing that she had to worry about.

Human bodies became as sturdy as a rock when she hit them while slowing down the time around her. Similarly, attacks and barriers became much more problematic to deal with as well.

To overcome this problem, Liz needed to extend the area of her Dao more than just herself by a fair amount. In doing so, however, she allowed her enemies to enter her Dao and start moving at the same rate as her.

While that worked quite well for catching people off guard, if they had fast reflexes, her Dao became quite useless.

Liz needed to fight at close range as any attack she threw out would escape the range of her Dao and return to normal time. So, she flew right next to the other person who had flown down to attack her.

Liz could see the eyes of the woman on her long before she was close. Time may have slowed down for her enemies from her perspective, but they were still cultivators.

The reflex and reaction speed these people had were simply unimaginable.

As Liz arrived close, the female soldier, who was already beginning her attack, moved quickly as if with new life and stabbed her Metal-Qi-infused spear forward to attack Liz. Twilight moved in a sinuous line, moving past the stab and digging into the woman's chest only to be met with a harsh clang.

The woman wore some sort of metal armor underneath her robes that completely negated Liz's attacks.

'Shit!' Liz thought as she quickly moved back away from the woman who returned to stagnation once again. She then flew back toward the woman and aimed for her head.

As she arrived, the woman returned to speed once more. However, that was only for a split second as the woman's spear slowed down to a crawl.

Liz felt her head burn with pain as if being split right open as she employed the Dao of Temporal Swiftness on the woman while still within the Dao of Temporal Stagnation.

Liz put all her energy into Twilight, which glowed with bright white light thanks to her Sword Qi, as she plunged it deep into the woman's head.

As she did, she let go of the Dao of Temporal Swiftness on the woman so that her sword did not suddenly slow down when it came into contact with the woman.

As she did, the woman returned to speed, only to see a sword going straight into her head.

Twilight exploded with energy as it ripped apart the woman's head while making its way back out. As the woman died, a blue illusory soul appeared back out, which Liz dispatched with haste.

She took the woman's body and stored it into her storage for her nephew, and went on to fight the other people that had come down to fight her.

The rest of the people were similarly strong as the other two she fought, so after a few moments of battle, they all died as well.

Having killed everyone, Liz moved back down toward Hao Ya to help her, only to notice more people flying toward them.

Only, these ones were in the Saint Transformation realm and much stronger than the ones she fought before.

The first group was sent to deal with annoyances on the battlefield. The second group was being sent to deal with a problem.

Liz's cultivation base was stronger than most people here at Saint Soul 7th realm. With her battle prowess, she could fight someone in Saint Transformation 1st realm. Using her Dao, she could even push that up to Saint Transformation 2nd or 3rd realm.

However, of the people coming down, she could see that one of them was in the Saint Transformation 5th realm. He was a complete monster when compared to anyone else she could fight with, and there were people behind him as well.

The man came barreling down through the sky, slowed down only to Liz and Hao Ya thanks to Liz's dao.

"There are more coming, and they're strong. What do we do?" Liz asked.

"I'm so close," Hao Ya said. "I just need a couple of minutes at best."

Liz felt troubled and quickly slowed down time as slowly as she possibly could. This would help Hao Ya gain enough time to finish her thing for certain.

As for what happened once they finished, Liz had no idea at all. She could only hope that Hao Ya had some ways to save her.

Chapter 1796: Done

As Liz focused her all on the temporal manipulations to give Hao Ya more time, Hao Ya did all she could to make the final changes to the console.

She had realized what was happening long ago and was doing her best to finish in time what she had started.

She worked as quickly as she could, manipulating the basic formations into multiple sections that were created into the array of formations that was the console.

Time passed, second after second as Hao Ya worked the hardest she had ever in a long time. She completely forgot about the danger she was in, focusing only on the work at hand.

Liz kept an eye outside, with her mind burdened and in pain due to her using her Dao at the rate she was. She saw the Saint Transformation realm enemies were moving at a pace where they would be atop them in minutes.

But of course, they wouldn't come all the way down there. Instead, they would attack them from far away, which was exactly what they did a minute later.

Bright colorful lights slowly gathered around the fist of the man at the front as he punched down toward Liz and Hao Ya.

Liz could feel the force of the attack that flew toward her, burning bright with Fire Qi, and with heat enough to melt rocks.

The strength behind the attack was such that anything it touched would be dead within seconds.

Liz looked at Hao Ya with her peripheral vision and saw her still working. She couldn't leave at all. She had to stay and protect her as what she was doing was very important.

Liz prepared her sword and sent out a Heavenly Static Slash flying through the air. The crescent blade of lightning flew past the bubble of sped-up time, going beyond into the normal world where everything felt slowed down to Liz.

Her attack slowly moved up while the fiery punch made its way down. It took a long time for them to come into contact. When it did, it created an explosion of energy, of which the majority was Fire that still came toward Liz.

No matter how much she had tried, the attack was still coming toward her.

"Done!" Hao Ya spoke suddenly and got up from where she was. She turned around and quickly assessed the situation they were in. Without missing a beat, she once again brought out the flat ring from her storage and tossed it forward.

As soon as the ring flew outside their bubble of slowed time, it expanded once more to create a barrier to protect them.

"It's alright. You don't have to struggle anymore," Hao Ya said. "Put down the bubble."

Liz looked back in surprise. "Are you serious?" she asked.

"Yes," Hao Ya said, staring intently at the barrier before them.

Liz could feel herself getting closer to losing consciousness, so she decided to agree with Hao Ya. The bubble of slowed time around them disappeared and the world around them returned to sound and movement.

The explosive sound reached them immediately, followed by the fiery explosion. Just as it was about to hit them, however, the barrier in front of them stopped the power, and slowly shrank back to its normal size, now glowing much more brightly than before.

Hao Ya looked toward the sky at the man who had remained flying in a bit of surprise and activated the ring once more.

This time, however, the ring didn't expand at all. Instead, the bright glow of the ring slowly moved away from the metal and concentrated on the center area.

All the force from before had been absorbed by that artifact, and now it was releasing the collected force toward whoever Hao Ya desired it to go to.

In this instance, her target was the man at the front.

A blinding light shot out from the artifact, blazing its way up toward the man.

The man realized what was happening and quickly created an illusory shield made out of fire to defend himself.

The attack struck the man's shield and exploded into a bright mass that covered a large area around the man.

When the light diminished and the smoke cleared, the shield was still active with the man not facing a single bit of damage from the attack.

Hao Ya smiled.

He wasn't meant to.

That attack had only been a distraction. The real attack was what she used right afterward using a necklace that hung around her neck.

A spray of water Qi burst out of her necklace at a blinding speed, arriving in front of the fiery shield at once, destroying it before anyone even realized what was happening.

The water Qi struck the man, killing him in body and soul at once, leaving not a single shred of his existence behind.

That had been a powerful attack, something that was capable of killing any regular human in the world were she able to catch them off guard. She could have perhaps even been able to kill the Dragon Emperor with it, but desperation had called for her to use it here.

Not that she was confident the artifact could hurt someone with as high a body cultivation as the Dragon Emperor.

The necklace that Hao Ya held corroded away after she used it, leaving behind only the single large blue jewel that would have to be repurposed into another necklace later on.

She didn't know why that was the case, only that it was. After all, it was something that her Master had made for her personally.

The soldiers in the sky looked at Hao Ya and Liz in absolute awe and despair as they came to the misunderstanding that the people below were more powerful than them.

As such, even the early Saint Transformation realm soldiers stopped and quickly called for someone else's attention.

A man with a solid blue beard and hair flew down from the sky, his cultivation base flaring at Saint Transformation 9th realm, if the girls weren't mistaken.

In fact, for some reason, they believed that the man that came down was much stronger than just Saint Transformation 9th realm.

Liz blinked, her purple eyes glowing bright as she saw the colors in the sky. Multicolored aura followed the man, all of which came from a small group of people that flew in the sky.

There was an array behind the man and his strength.

Hao Ya started hesitating as the man approached. She had a few artifacts on her still, but she wasn't sure if it would be useful at all.

She had a single artifact to protect her and teleport her back to her master were she to ever come across an Immortal, and she did not want to use that at all.

The other soldiers that had called for the newcomer were now floating behind the newcomer, waiting for his command.

"Young ladies, for whatever reason could you be here at this time of the day," the man asked as he slowly pulled out a large, two-handed ax, ready to fight.

However, before he could proceed to question the girls, his eyes moved behind him from where Graham barreled down toward him from the sky.

Chapter 1797: Ethereal

Graham had noticed the sudden reappearance of his sister and Hao Ya below on the teleportation formation and had thus fought his opponent as hard as he could to defeat him.

As soon as he was done with that fight, he rushed down to protect them regardless of the fact that the person who was making his way down was quite strong himself.

One of the people beside the ax-wielding man noticed Graham and quickly pulled out a spear to kill him.

He moved forward, charging his attack as he shot out a large illusory spear formed out of water Qi toward Graham.

Graham held the giant Darksteel, which glowed with the faintest white outline, as he used his Sword Intent to give his all in the attack.

Graham swung Darksteel as the water spear arrived right in front of him, giving no sense of threat to his attack at all. And yet, when the attack landed, he destroyed the Water spear so very easily and made his way beyond toward the man who attacked him.

The man quickly pulled out a talisman to protect himself and created a barrier using it.

Graham swung his sword once again and smashed the barrier in, destroying it in a single swing while also cleaving the man in half with a single attack.

With a person who was only in the early Saint Transformation realm, he did not have to worry about the fact that they would have Immortal Qi at all.

As the cleaved corpse of the man fell from the sky, the various other soldiers slowly brought their weapons, worried, but ready to fight.

The man wielding the ax quickly put out a hand to stop them all.

Then, he moved forward a little, clearly vigilant, and stared at Graham for a long moment. He wondered what treasure Graham was using to hide his aura. The man believed that Graham was playing at being weak so as to catch others off guard.

After a long moment, the man smiled. "You guys go deal with the women. If you can't beat them, try to just keep them from leaving. I'll handle him and be right there," the man said.

"Yes, leader," the few soldiers said.

"Leader?" Graham asked. "A battalion leader? No wonder you are so strong."

"I am Yu Ha--"

"I don't care," Graham said. "I do not need to know who you are to fight you."

"Oh, but won't you want to know who will kill you?" the man asked as his large double-handed ax glowed with soft golden energy.

Graham prepared his Darksteel with a soft glowing white outline and prepared as well. "I've been through a fate worse than death already. I will gladly welcome it when it comes for me," he said. "But that day will not be today."

The man smiled with a wicked smile. "We'll see about that."

The two attacked at the same time and started fighting.

* * * * *

Down at the large platform for the teleportation formation, both Liz and Hao Ya were somewhat glad that someone had come to save them from the person who was so obviously going to overpower them.

At the same time, they were both worried for Graham as he wasn't very fit to fight someone at the peak of the Saint Transformation realm and perhaps a little beyond in terms of strength.

Not to mention the Immortal Qi such a person would have was not something Graham could so easily ignore.

But, this was not the time for them to get distracted.

Despite the fact that the stronger of the people had been stopped, the others were still coming down for them, and these were people who were going to be hard to handle, let alone kill.

"We need to let Alex know what is happening," Liz said quickly and looked up to search for him, but his battle had led him somewhere she could not immediately find amidst the tens of thousands of people.

And she didn't have the time to search. The people were right upon them.

"I'll try to save you if they use Immortal Qi. Other than that, I won't be of much help," Hao Ya said as she brought out a brilliant green sword with an emerald sheen that looked as though it came right out of an Immortal's treasure.

It was a treasure that her master had given her when she had successfully evolved her physique from a Divine rank physique to a Celestial rank physique a long time ago.

She had been handed this very sword that day and had been told about its origin: a treasure created by one of the many that had held the name of the Artifact God.

This one was a little special in that it was one of the final few swords the Artifact God had made before he had vanished from the world.

There were some texts that suggested that the 'Artifact God' could even have been the Sage of Ten Thousand Treasures himself.

The name it was given by that god was Jade Fang, and today was the first time Hao Ya was using it in a serious battle.

As the people from the sky came down close enough to target them, Hao Ya moved.

She activated her short-range movement technique, the Seven Misty steps, teleporting 7 times in a short burst to arrive right before the man as she swung her thin sword.

A verdant green energy appeared from her sword at the same time as she swung it. The energy from her sword was weak, but when the energy from the attack came into contact with the energy of her enemy who had used a technique to protect himself, a burst of vines suddenly appeared around him, capturing him with the vines.

The vines were rather weak in terms of strength, as they were formed primarily by Hao Ya's Qi, which was quite weak. As such, they were easily destroyed by the man.

Realizing that he had no reason to worry, the man stabbed forward with his spear at Hao Ya.

At the same time, the woman that was next to the man came to attack Hao Ya as well, throwing a sword slash formed of fiery energy.

Both attacks came for Hao Ya, but she remained still, not moving at all. Instead, her body suddenly glowed a soft green light, slowly becoming see-through as both of those attacks came for her.

Hao Ya was not just see-through at all. Her entire body had become ethereal at that very moment, and all attacks that came for her simply passed through her without hurting her in the slightest.

The two soldiers looked at Hao Ya with absolute shock as they tried to see what sort of treasures she was using to do such a thing.

But of course, there was no treasure that Hao Ya was doing. This was something she had been capable of doing long ago since she began her cultivation journey.

She could make her body illusory so that no attacks could hurt her at all. No weapon or physical attacks could touch her at all.

That was the boon she received when she was born with the Spiritborne Ethereal Physique.

Chapter 1798: Danger

The Dragon Emperor remained aloft in the sky, overseeing the battle. For the past many minutes, he hadn't had to fight, so he freely watched the battle with the complete understanding that he was going to become the victor in this war.

He had absolute confidence.

After all, short of an Immortal himself coming to kill him, there was no chance for anyone in this war that could potentially kill him at all.

He watched Alex, Hannah, and Zhou Linfan fight in the distance, and slowly his eyes moved toward the battlefield below where a new fight was being fought.

He noticed Graham, Hao Ya, and Liz.

He watched Liz fight with swift movement, attacking and surviving the soldiers who were clearly stronger than her by a long shot. That was an incredible feat that she showed, but her strength made it so that she couldn't come out victorious in this battle.

His eyes then moved to Graham, who struggled in his fight against the ax-wielding leader.

The Dragon Emperor watched with amusement as that fight was more close combat than what would be expected of a cultivator.

'That man cannot use Qi properly, can he?' he thought. 'Is he a body cultivator?'

The thought made the Dragon Emperor even more curious about Graham. Given how the battle was going, Graham was bound to die within a couple of minutes.

He would have to remember to retrieve the treasures from this person's body later once the war was over. He needed to figure out how he was possibly cultivating his body to such a degree.

The Dragon Emperor wanted to find out if there was a cheap option he didn't know about. He wanted to learn about it if he could.

That was the most Graham was able to make the Dragon Emperor think about him.

Graham and Liz were nobody in his eyes, but Hao Ya was someone he very clearly remembered. He would never forget someone like her at all.

After all, she was the disciple of the Immortal who lived in the Central continent and was in charge of managing the teleportation formation back then.

So, the moment he laid his eyes on her, the Emperor's heart grew cold with fear. He saw where they were and remembered what she was capable of. Putting the two thoughts together, the Dragon Emperor was only able to think of the worst-case scenario.

Was that young girl trying to set the formation so she could teleport that very Immortal here?

"No..." he said softly. He couldn't let something like that happen at all. If the Immortal came and killed him, that would be the worst of all situations.

Before he knew he was doing it, the Dragon Emperor brought out a spear and flew toward them to fight.

* * * * *

Graham struggled in his battle against the man with the ax. Not only was the man stronger than him physically due to his Qi, but he was also very fast, making Graham unable to hit him most of the time.

The man swung his ax, sending a cleaving attack down toward Graham. Graham moved back just in time to dodge and activated his shoes to arrive next to the man to slash at him.

Darksteel glowed suddenly and grew large to become a towering sword as it came down on the man.

The man twisted his ax and swung upward quickly, clashing metal with metal. A loud ringing sound filled the battlefield before an explosion of light filled it suddenly as the man used an attack through the ax.

Graham was sent flying backward with his body littered with cuts from Dao of Cutting that came with the explosion of energy.

He stopped himself from flying too back and quickly focused his attention back on the man who was attacking him again.

Graham moved away from the attack and went around to attack the man from the side. However, the man wasn't caught off guard at all and sent his attack flying directly toward Graham.

Graham quickly put all he could into his sword and slashed down on the attack as hard as he could.

Another eruption of energy sent Graham flying backward with more wounds on his body. And this time, he felt a sharp pain in his chest as though a bone of his had broken.

It had been a long time since he had felt such pain.

As Graham tried to stop himself from flying too far, he heard a cry from behind him.

"Brother, dodge!"

It was Liz's voice.

Even as Graham spun through the air, his Demon Eyes saw two of the soldiers Liz was fighting turn around to attack him while he was unsuspecting.

The two attacks came for Graham, and even as he tried to protect himself, the attacks landed on him. Another explosion covered him completely and the soldiers rejoiced.

As they did, Graham flew out of the explosion, his body covered in no new wounds at all. His sudden arrival caused the soldiers to panic and prepare more attacks, and as they did, Liz moved from behind, attacking one of them.

They were strong enough that her attack did nothing to them, but it caused that one person to be slow to protect himself.

The massive Darksteel fell on the man, killing him at once. As for the attack that the other man used, Graham took it to the chest and scoffed it as though it was nothing.

The man stared in panic but was relieved as his leader came flying down toward Graham and Liz.

Liz immediately created a large bubble of slowed time as the man who was coming toward them seemed to slow down considerably.

"Kill him," Liz said, and Graham nodded.

The last of the two men that were attacking Liz died just as simply.

"Thank god!" Liz said as she breathed loudly. "You saved me, brother."

"Are you okay?" Graham looked at his sister, and Liz nodded.

"Focus on him," Liz pointed toward the incoming man and used the opportunity of slowed time to search for Alex in the sky.

Thankfully, she found him standing alone, looking down toward them. He seemed to have noticed what was happening down here.

"We have completed the formation," Liz sent him the message. "Hao Ya says the medallion to activate this formation lies with the Dragon Emperor, so I don't know what happens next."

While she sent the message, it would only be received by him a while later due to the time difference.

After that, Liz turned her head toward the battle ahead. As she did, off in the distance, she saw the Emperor who flew toward Hao Ya who was still in the middle of fighting her two enemies.

"Hao Ya!" Liz cried out. "She'll die."

Graham's eyes moved to look at Hao Ya in the distance, but they swiftly returned toward the man before him as he tightly gripped onto the Darksteel with his own two hands.

As scummy as it was, he had to protect himself and his sister here first. Hao Ya would have to protect herself.

"I wish her luck," Graham said and turned toward the ax-

wielding man.

His battle was here.

Chapter 1799: Defenses All Around

Graham dashed out of the bubble of slowed time, an attack already in motion as he did so. Fake weight added into his fist through the Dragonheart Gauntlets added so much force to the swing that Graham couldn't believe it.

The moment he arrived outside the bubble, he met with a bit of resistance in the air, but not enough that it could stop him.

The man that moved so very slowly outside the bubble suddenly came to life and moved incredibly fast as well, swinging down his giant ax as he did so.

The two metal weapons clashed and the world shuddered from the force of their impact.

Graham felt the attack rebound throughout his body, the force seemingly wanting to break all of his bones.

The other man felt the rebound as well, as though he had suddenly struck something so hard that his attack was meaningless.

He quickly pulled back and checked his ax and was thankful that there were no chinks from the ax that had been torn off.

Quickly orienting himself from the clash, the man went back into battle with Graham.

* * * * *

The Dragon Emperor arrived directly on top of the two soldiers who were fighting Hao Ya and attacked Hao Ya.

Hao Ya noticed the attack coming for her and quickly turned her body illusory once more as the lightning bolt from the Dragon Emperor passed through her body.

The Dragon Emperor's eyes narrowed for a moment, seeing how easily Hao Ya was dealing with their attacks by simply becoming ghost-like. Several thoughts passed through his head at once and he struck out once again.

The wind whipped toward Hao Ya, nothing dangerous, but extremely forceful.

Hao Ya remained where she was, the wind doing nothing to her.

At the same time, the Emperor made a soft ringing sound that floated toward Hao Ya.

A hairpin that hung on her head, holding the flowing locks of hair glowed softly and Hao Ya realized what was happening.

The Dragon Emperor realized as well.

Mental attacks were something that could hurt Hao Ya.

Instantly, the Dragon Emperor used his Immortal Qi as well as all the Intent he could muster to create a musical note that carried with it his Mental attack, which hit Hao Ya before she could make any move.

Hao Ya's hairpin glowed, but there was only so much it could handle. When the hairpin reached the limit of how much it could handle, the attack instead hit Hao Ya.

When it did, Hao Ya simply lost consciousness and fell from the sky. As her body fell, her concentration on keeping her body illusory was gone as well, and her body returned to a solid form that could take damage.

"As I thought so," the Dragon Emperor said softly and raised his spear toward the falling Hao Ya. "Die!"

A massive bolt of lightning hit her instantly, striking her in the chest. It was no ordinary lightning attack either that had hit her, but rather an attack that used Immortal Qi.

The Dragon Emperor had no time to spend on taking things slowly. The worst-case scenario of the situation was too grim for him to do so.

He was going to kill the girl before she could do any shenanigans to bring the Immortal here.

Suddenly, light burst from Hao Ya, coming from deep inside her, a light so bright that it seemed to darken the world around her.

"You who dare to harm my disciple, be ready to face my wrath," a low voice spoke from within the light that came from Hao Ya.

The Dragon Emperor listened to the voice, wondering if that was the voice of the Immortal who lived in the Central continent.

Just then, something shot out from inside her.

Instantly, the Dragon Emperor employed the dao of Space Expansion to put as much space in between him and the attack and quickly pulled out a life-saving treasure from within his storage ring.

An image of an Azure Dragon appeared from a talisman, roaring as it did so, and sent out an attack toward the incoming light.

The two Saint Transformation realm soldiers that were standing nearby were instantly vaporized with not a soul of theirs remaining.

The two attacks struck each other, and the light won, reaching forward until it landed on the Azure Dragon's head and destroyed both the head and itself in the clash, scattering green motes of light in every direction.

The Dragon Emperor remained and breathed heavily, watching in horror as the attack that was coming for him disappeared within those motes of light.

He took deep breaths, trying to calm himself, but the fear remained within him as the glowing light still shined from within Hao Ya.

Suddenly, the light seemed to float out of her, turning into what looked like a sun. Dark and white clouds appeared around the sun, and the world seemed to turn blue in the process.

As if what they were looking at was the sky itself.

The sun's glow vanished, turning into nothing more than a golden illusory orb that swiftly fell down toward Hao Ya. As it fell, it grew, becoming larger and larger, until it was much larger than Hao Ya herself.

It passed through her, putting her inside of it. Once she was safely inside, the golden orb glowed brightly, to the point that no one could stare at it anymore.

Then, just as quickly, the light disappeared and Hao Ya was no longer there on the ground.

The world returned to light and color. Sound returned as well, but the sound of fighting had long since stopped. People stared down at what had happened and were too surprised to do anything.

The Dragon Emperor quickly got a hold of himself and turned around to look at the others. He saw the leader with the ax and gave him an order.

"Kill that man!" he shouted and turned his head toward Liz who had stopped to stare at what had happened to Hao Ya as well. Without waiting even a second, the Dragon Emperor poured Immortal Qi into his spear and sent out another massive bolt of lightning flying toward Liz.

Liz reacted quickly, slowing down time as soon as she could. But no matter how slow time was, lightning still moved too quickly for her to get out of the way.

She was all but certain that she was going to die.

Graham noticed the attack barely before the lightning shot out and could do nothing.

As he was distracted by the lightning, the leader with the ax raised his ax up high, pouring all of his Immortal Qi, Intent, and whatever else he could into this single attack.

Even as Graham turned his head around to try and react to what was happening, the man came down with the ax, going for Graham's head.

Neither the brother nor the sister were in a situation where they could protect each other or themselves.

Both attacks landed on Liz and Graham, respectively. And at the same time, two massive illusory beasts appeared on both of them.

A White Tiger's illusory head appeared from Liz and roared, instantly destroying the lightning bolt.

At the same time, phoenix wings appeared from Graham's back, covering him and protecting him from the attack.

Both the leader and the Dragon Emperor watched with furious gazes as their attacks that were meant to kill the two ended up being for naught.

Chapter 1800: Key

Liz and Graham were saved at the last moment by defensive techniques they had received from both Bai Jingshen and Scarlet.

The appearance of the images of two Immortal figures sent waves of awe-inspiring sensations throughout the crowd. The behemoth of the face of the White Tiger and the fabulous wings of the Immortal Phoenix made the people temporarily forget that they had just seen another such image right before even.

The Dragon Emperor saw the two images, and completely ignored the wings of the Phoenix and instead looked at the White Tiger's face.

Both fear and anger roiled his face as the last thing he wanted to see in this war was the face of the one who would fulfill the prophecy.

Even before anyone had come back from their shock, the Dragon Emperor poured more Immortal Qi into the Noble Dragon Spear and sent out another bolt of lightning toward Liz.

As an Immortal, there was only so much help one could provide in the lower realms before the Heavens of the lower realm decided that you were meddling in the business of those that did not concern you.

As such, neither Bai Jingshen nor Scarlet was capable of providing too much help even just defensively. Bai Jingshen had been able to provide 3 such defensive measures, and Scarlet had been able to provide just 2.

As for who those 5 were going to be, it was unanimously chosen to be people who simply could not die. As Alex's father and aunt, neither Graham nor Liz could die.

Only, Liz felt that she was going to die now as the Emperor sent out his lightning attack once again.

Graham turned around, using the opportunity to fly toward his sister, but there was no speed he could produce that could get him there in time.

As he started turning, the man he fought quickly strengthened his arms and readied his ax once again to bring it down on Graham.

Liz slowed down time as much as she could to give herself time to escape, regardless of the fact that she knew that was impossible. As she did, she saw something flash before her in a silvery light.

She looked beyond the bubble of her slowed time and saw a flat rectangular object appear before her. A mirror, which stood before the oncoming lightning strike.

And it was already activated.

The lightning bolt struck the mirror and was instantly reflected as it flew crashing back toward the Dragon Emperor.

At the same time, the man who was ready to kill Graham felt some sort of motion to his right that his senses could not see.

As he turned his head to look, a sword appeared from invisibility and slashed. The man couldn't even react in time as the nameless technique cut through his body, and the attack flew toward the Dragon Emperor in the distance.

The Dragon Emperor quickly pulled out the Golden Dragon Shield and activated it using his Immortal Qi to create a thick barrier to stop his own attack that was reflected.

He bore the full force of the attack with his shield and also felt something crash onto the barrier from the right that he could not see.

It had been strong, not as strong as the lightning bolt that was reflected, but enough to give him some concern that he would have to check later on.

Once the attack was fully stopped, the Dragon Emperor put down his shield and quickly took an assessment of the situation.

The very first thing he noticed was his own lack of Immortal Qi. At the realm he was, half of all of his Qi was Immortal Qi. Once spent, he would only gain it back through a long stretch of cultivation.

Just standing around gave him nothing more than Saint Qi, which while strong, was not what he could rely on in this battle.

He would have to cultivate properly later on.

The second thing, and perhaps what was more important, that he noticed was that both Liz and Graham were gone from the battlefield, and the only one that was standing there was Alex.

The Dragon Emperor got ready to kill him while keeping in mind the shenanigans that Alex could still pull. He quickly looked around for Hao Ya and was starting to become certain that she was nowhere in the vicinity at all.

Alex seemed poised and ready to fight him as well.

"So you know you cannot kill me," the Dragon Emperor said. "Is that why you decided to try and call the Immortal over? To help you with your war?"

Alex gave a small grin. "Do you believe I would have to call the Immortal to defeat you?" he asked.

The Dragon Emperor frowned slightly. Something was wrong with Alex that the Emperor could not tell. It was as though the person he was looking at currently did not exist.

'Am I being played with again?' the Dragon Emperor thought. He was almost sure that the Alex he was talking to did not exist. After all, where there should have been Alex in his spiritual sense was instead a massive void.

'Where is he?' the Dragon Emperor thought and looked around down below around the consoles of the formation. He wasn't there either.

"What is it that you plan to do?" the Dragon Emperor asked. "I know you had the girl do something with the formation. I don't know what, but she was trying something."

"She was indeed doing something alright," Alex said as he slowly floated down from the sky. "She was helping me fix the formation so that it was ready for use."

The Dragon Emperor scoffed. "Even if she completed in fixing it or whatever, how do you plan on using it?" he asked. "The key to activating this formation is with me, and will forever be with me."

As he finished speaking, he searched the surrounding area carefully with his senses to see if Alex was hiding elsewhere. However, no matter how much he checked, he couldn't find any signs of anyone being present below him.

Alex landed on top of the formation and answered. "That is true," Alex said. "You do have the key to activate it. But sadly for you, there is more than one way to activate a formation."

The Dragon Emperor's eyes narrowed a little.

Alex blazed with Yang Qi as he poured all he could into the stone platform below him. The ground buzzed softly.

"What... what are you doing?" the Dragon Emperor demanded. He was starting to realize that he had been talking to the real Alex the entire time.

"I would've been in trouble if there was a seal on the formation," Alex said. "But a lack of a simple activation key cannot stop me."

"No, stop!" the Dragon Emperor shouted and prepared to attack. Even as he did, he felt the space around him twist and turn as he realized that he was standing in the teleportation formation that was about to activate.

As quickly as he could, the Dragon Emperor flew out of the range of the teleportation formation and watched as the entire formation came alive.

Alex alone stood at the center as he stared up at the Dragon Emperor and gave a smirk as the lights swallowed him.

"See you in a bit."