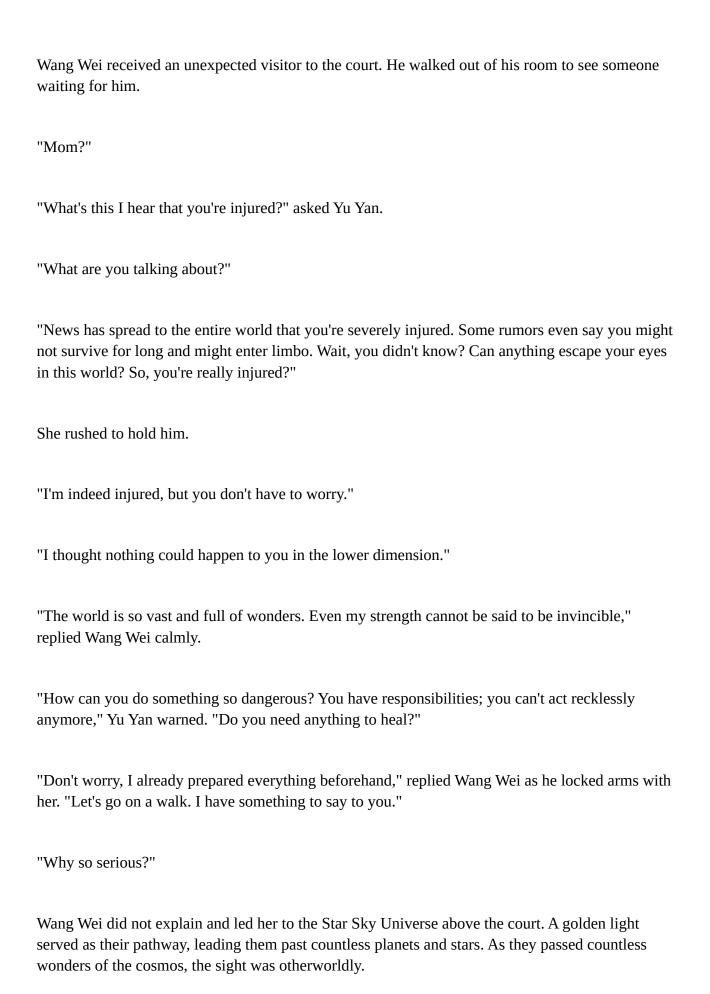
F.D Emperor 1011

Chapter 1011 Rediscover Yourself
"What opportunity? We are already on thin ice with him. Do you want to destroy our race?"
"I'm not telling you to attack him. But we can do something."
ш
"The sea has been our domain since the beginning of time. We stayed outside the affairs of the Earth-dwellers, and they ignored us - that's how things have always been. But now, they have invaded our domain. Can we just accept this?"
"I'm not happy about this situation either. But once again, what can we do? You saw his power."
"Now that he's weakened, isn't it an opportunity?"
"You're not stupid enough not to see this as bait, right?"
"Of course, but this does not change the situation.
We can act in the shadows, preparing a sacrificial pawn if things go wrong."
"I still think we're playing with fire."
"Like I said, we do not need to act directly and use a proxy. As long as we prepare for plausible deniability, we will be fine. Anyway, he won't detect anything for a while in his current state."
"Alright, let's do it."
A few days later:





Yu Yan has been worrying about this, too. Soon, her son will ascend and fight in a terrible war in the upper dimension; she won't be able to see, speak, or know any information about him.

Grandpa will reincarnate, leaving only her and her husband.

Luckily, she would be busy with the affairs of the Heavenly Court to distract her, but there is always the possibility of something going wrong after not seeing everybody at the same table for too long.

"You're a talented cultivator with a brilliant mind.

Don't let titles like mother and wife be the restraints that bind you."

Yu Yan exhaled deeply, "What do you think I should do?"

"That's not something I can tell you. I recommend you walk around the world, self-introspect from when you were a mortal to your current self.

Think about your hobbies, personality, desires, and everything else unique about yourself. Then, dream big - don't be afraid to devise an absurd goal."

"Alright." Yu Yan kissed him on the cheek before leaving. She randomly teleported to somewhere and began walking on her journey of

self-discovery. Wang Wei watched her with a smile. He had wanted to have this talk to his mother for a while and prepared to talk to her either right before or after she proved the Dao.

Now that the situation was dealt with, he felt relieved.

"What happened?" he asked in the empty air.

"The Sea Race released the news. They plan for the still disgruntled devil cultivators to release the information to foreign world communities," replied the clone.

sea race was too strong. Normally, Wang Wei would have left them alone. Sadly, the ocean was a dent of treasure and resources, and he had to manage it.
"They're not the only ones."
"Oh, who else?"
"The"
"Them? Does she know?"
"No."
"Interesting. It seems we have someone else to bleed," smiled Wang Wei with a sense of schadenfreude.
"What do you want to do?"
"Let things play out," he replied calmly. "Anyway, it's about time for our foreign expansion, and it someone catches the bait, their worlds will be a safe and secure place to begin."
"Alright, but there is something else."
"What is it?"
"An opportunity?"
"Where?"
"The Origin Weapon Mountain."

"So, they are the ones who jumped out. I guess I should not be surprised." The Xenophobia of the

"You can proceed as you see fit," said main Wang Wei. He was not feeling well; his current state reminded him of when he was sick back on Earth.

At first, the feeling was interesting because of its novelty. But now, the feeling of constant weakness and aching was annoying. So, he ended the conversation and returned to his healing.

Southern Vermillion Bird Continent:

Yu Yan appeared in a forest and used her Divine Sense to find direction. Soon, she found the nearest mortal civilization and decided first to eat something.

As she looked at the food before her, she realized many things. First, she had not come to the southern continent in a long time; to be precise, she had not left the central continent of her own volition, probably ever since she was pregnant.

She went to the Western Continent because of her son, and she wished to travel to the South when Wang Wei infiltrated the Origin Pill Dao Sect. During that time, she feared for his safety and wanted to see and protect him secretly.

The second major realization was regarding food.

In the past few million years, she was the main cook for her family and only tasted food made by a few people: her husband, son, daughter-in-law, and the last meal before her mother died.

In her youth, before she met Wang Tian and was his competitor, she also enjoyed traveling and tasting the food of different continents. But, after an unknown time, her world shrunk, revolving around a few people.

Yu Yan sighed before eating the food; she found it a little too greasy, but the taste was unique enough to catch her attention. Finally, she tasted the tea but paused after one sip.

She remembered she never liked tea. Her father and mother forced her to learn the tea ceremony since it was a deep part of the world's culture.

She remembered how she had to lie about her favorite tea, how these Heaven Chosen would go to extreme lengths to get her 'favorite" tea as a way to impress her.

After marriage, she would say her favorite was either her husband's or son's favorite or use any random name that popped into her head.

"Server, give me another drink." Yu Yan changed her drink as she observed the surroundings. Once she finished, she continued her journey, going from one restaurant to another, one mortal civilization to the next.

On one of her trips, she ended up in a colosseum to watch a battle between mortal and cultivatorsomething that has become common in the lower tier of the world.

She did not care for the fight but focused on the fact it was a battle between a saberwielder and a swordsman. During her Luck Trial, she learned about Saber Dao to counter Wang Tian. Her talent was decent, but she did not pursue such a path.

'Did I like the saber?' Yu Yan asked herself. The answer is no, but she also could not wonder what her life would have been had she not given up.

'Husband is a supreme swordsman, and the wife is an overlord saberwielder? That would have been interesting.'

She shook her head before continuing her journey.

Chapter 1012 Discovery & Pressure

Yu Yan spent the next few days on a journey of self-discovery. She reexamined her likes, dislikes, goals, ambitions, and life as an individual rather than a mother or wife.

Experiencing mortal lives and civilization was marvelous to her, but she still could not find a grand goal for herself. So, she decided to relax.

Luckily, in the city she was in, there was a chess tournament, and she participated.

Without any suspense, she won, and rumors of a Chess Saint spread in that mortal kingdom. At first, Yu Yan wanted to leave because of all the attention, but she changed her mind and continued to accept challenges.

The process was helpful to her search.

She realized, or rediscovered, her love for chess. At an early age, she displayed an exceptional talent for the game while receiving her aristocratic education. However, given her talent, her father focused more on honing her battle talents, while her sister - who was expected to marry and be more ladylike - focused on things like chess, poetry, and calligraphy.

She did not focus on the art of chess again until her son's method of proving the Dao required it. During that time, she realized how talented she was in the subject, with only her son could keep or rival her. Yu Yan smiled, thinking how the latter would sometimes secretly cheat when he was on a losing streak.

Of course, she would play the mother card and blame him for playing "too hard" when she was on a losing streak.

Yu Yan enjoyed her time as the "Chess Sage" and felt her grand ambitions might be related to chess somehow.

However, she could not think of anything after much deliberation and walked away. Nothing came to fruition until she was in the Western Continent.

In one of the temples, he learned the monks would experience the Trial of Darkness to temper their minds. As the name implies, the monk would close themselves into a room of absolute darkness; their task is to rely on the fortitude of their mind to not succumb to the darkness.

"That seems easy enough," muttered Yu Yan, who wanted to experience this trial. Sadly, it was only for the monks of the temple. So, she had no choice but to reveal her identity. After all, who dared refuse the mother of the Heavenly Emperor? She was not pedantic to the point of not using her identity despite her journey of self-discovery.

Yu Yan started the test with the temple's blessing, beginning with the Mortal Tier Darkness. This part of the test was easy as her mental fortitude was naturally high as a cultivator, so she focused on the part for a cultivator.

She began to have visions of the past on the first level of that darkness. Her clan was lucky in the birth department as her mother gave birth to two children who were relatively close to each other. As such, they were very close in childhood and played together.

One game she loved to play with her older sister was search and find, and she always won. She would hide in the strangest places full of darkness that her sister was very scared of. She would make fun of her afterward for being older and being scared. Sadly, as they grew older, such tactics no longer worked.

'I thought I chose the Dao of Darkness because of its opposite nature of Light. If I could prove the Dao with that law, our clan's foundation would be deeper, but it may not be so simple.

I've always loved darkness.'

After this realization, many things she had long hidden or forgotten about became clearer. When she broke through the Divine Body Realm, the idea or goal she instilled in her Good Fortune Flame was that she would revive the Yu Clan and show people the true beauty and horror of darkness.

Over the years, she worked toward the first part of the goal but did not focus on the second aspect. After her generation learned Heavenly Dao cut off the Path of Supreme and that there would be no Heaven Will in this generation, she shifted all her attention to raising the next generation.

She did not even revive her ambitions toward the Yu Clan until she saw how talented her son was. As for the other, she forgot it until now, thinking about it as the words of her young and inexperienced self.

"So, that's how it is," muttered Yu Yan as she opened her eyes. "The answer was before me long ago. My goal, my grand ambitions, lies in darkness."

Her aura suddenly changed, becoming calmer, wiser, more peaceful, and more complete. Her Dao Heart had with a new youthful vigor. Cultivators' sublimated, and Yu Yan found herself with a new youthful vigor. Cultivators' appearances are dictated by lifespan, choice, and state of mind.

The first two are understandable, while the last one is more rare. Some people suddenly aged in one night after experiencing a terrible ordeal or their Dao Heart breaking. The same individual could

return to their youth after dealing with their issue or fixing their Dao Heart. Such a method of deciding appearance is more applicable to Immortal Tier cultivators.

Previously, Yu Yan was young bychoice, not because of her mindset. As the Sect Madam of the Dao Opening Sect and the mother of one of the most powerful Heaven Chosen, she had to look a certain way - she had to be presentable.

Now, she was young because of her mindset. She felt her spirit return to when the world was vast and full of endless possibilities.

"It's time," muttered Yu Yan before leaving the test room. She thanked the monk for their hospitality before walking out. She took one last look at the temple while muttering, "I should build this Darkness Test for the clan; it's a good way to temper the mind, Dao Heart, and even Willpower."

Yu Yan left, immediately returning to the Heavenly Court.

"Back already?" asked Wang Wei with a smile; he could see and feel the difference in his mother. Her eyes were brighter than usual, an indication of a highly focused spirit.

"Yes, I have found my path."

"Oh, tell me about it."

Yu Yan told him about her discovery and her grand ambition. "A little absurd, isn't it?"

"Maybe, but isn't it the same for my dream of achieving absolute freedom?

It's fine if you're willing to walk steadily toward that goal and not give up no matter what; your life will be fulfilled, and you won't regret it."

"No matter what?" Yu Yan shook her head. "I don't think I can be like you and Hong'er, willing to do EVERYTHING to achieve your goal."

"We,,,, are the extreme. So, it's fine if you're not like this. And maybe it's a good thing not to be too extreme."

"True," nodded Yu Yan. "I think it's time for me to act."

"We should have a little more time."

The last time he checked, their deception worked, or to be precise, True Heavenly Dao allowed it.

However, he still wanted to wait a little longer.

"Now is the perfect time. Since you are fishing, once I begin, they will conclude that you desperately need merit to accelerate your healing. This should place more pressure on them to accelerate their actions."

"That's an excellent idea. However, you should wait a few more weeks. My clone is scheming against the Great Origin Mountain."

The two mother and sons discussed how to play the world for their benefit. Afterward, Yu Yan returned to her clan, preparing for the upcoming event. Soon afterward, auspicious clouds manifested above the court, alarming everybody.

Not even an hour afterward, the Dao Opening Sect released information about a new Innate Refining Technique that used arrays to imitate Heavenly Dao and refined pills, artifacts, and talismans. The world shook as people realized a golden age of profession was happening, and it was just the beginning.

Great Origin Mountain, a meeting of the highest order:

"Oh, what's your plan?"

"Time is running out," said a burly elderly man with long white hair and a waist-length grey beard, clothed in all black and with abnormally large hands for his size. "If he heals, then our action won't mean anything."

"I agree with Great Elder Shi. If our actions cannot gain his favor and are only the cherry on top, then it's pointless."

Everybody looked at Sect Master Chen Ye, a handsome middle-aged man with a white streak on his hair; he did not appear burly like most people in the room but had a more refined or elegant air. His hesitation was not because he was Chen Chen's adopted father but the price he needed to pay.

"Advisor Kang, what do you think?"

Their factions were composed of weapon refiners, so they were usually hot-tempered because of the scripture they cultivated. As such, each generation will have an Advisor position or someone wise and calm to help the sect master.

"Why did the Heavenly Emperor kill Young Master Chen?" asked Advisor Kang, who also had a bookish air emanating from him.

"What do you mean?"

"He had the opportunity to kill others, but besides the people from Di Tian's side, he only killed the Young Master."

"Kang bastard, are you trying to sow conflict?"

"Let me finish talking," replied the Advisor calmly. "Not long ago, we received news he summoned all the former Heaven Chosen. Although we don't know what they discussed, news about a second small-scale Heaven Will Battle spread. If not for the recent news, this should have been the talk of the entire world."

"What are you getting at?"

"The Heavenly Emperor is a person with grand visions. Many of the changes in the world were things he had planned hundreds of thousands of years prior."

"Are you saying he had planned to save or keep the people in his generation alive? However, Chen'er's puppet transformation is why he killed him?" asked Sect Master Chen Ye.

"That's correct."



"What if he believes we still have this method and becomes suspicious of our sect?"

"He should be wiser than this."

"The point is we cannot allow him to have any excuses to intervene in our sect's affairs or, worse, destroy us," he replied calmly. Chen Ye immediately understood the latter's meaning - we must mend our relationship with the Heavenly Emperor, even if it's for peace of mind.

Chapter 1013 Origin Hammer

Sect Master Chen Ye sighed deeply. He knew of the steep decline of their sect ever since the Heaven Will Battle. Things then escalated after the appearance of Talisman Weapons. Their mountain controlled the majority of the Weapon Industry in the world, but now, they've received a major blow as their sales drastically decreased.

On top of everything, the Great Talisman City and many others began to attack their stores, taking control of them by any means necessary. They even suspected the Dao Opening Sect was part of this economic attack.

If he did not do something, the Origin Weapon Mountain might suffer a catastrophe in his hand.

'How can I see my ancestors if I let the sect decline in my hand?' thought Chen Ye, ignoring the room's quietness. 'However, the price to pay might be too much.'

His internal struggle was evident on his face, but no one said anything until a few minutes later as Advisor Kang intervened:

"Sect master, we are only doing the same thing as the Great Talisman City."

Sect Master Chen Yen immediately remembered what had happened to the Great Talisman City.

Their situation was even worse at the beginning of this era because of their leader's betrayal. But soon after, they announced they had mended their relationship with the court.

People did not believe them until rumors about the price they paid "leaked," everyone praised Tong Ruobing and the city for their ruthless move.

"Yes, since that little girl can be so decisive and ruthless, can I be that inferior to her? Prepare everything, I'll see the Heavenly Emperor immediately."

"Sect master is wise," nodded Advisor Kang, and everyone praised the sect master before discussing the logistics. After preparing everything, they sent a communication talisman to the court for a meeting.

Heavenly Court:

Wang Wei looked at the pill before him, surrounded by formations, deep in thought.

'So, the limit is Extreme Tier?'

The first method of refining Innate Pills he created that used the Divine Sea could only refine Pseudo Pills that were on par with

Quasi-Emperor Tier - they could be described as the best amongst that tier. After the revival of the environment and gaining access to Innate Qi, that method could create Innate Pills on par with Fake Immortal Pills, and since then, the Origin Pill Dao Sect has not updated that technique to refine true Immortal Tier Pill.

However, this method of using formation to replicate Heaven and Earth can create true Innate Pills; however, the limit is Extreme Tier, which is on par with First Class Emperors.

'Ultimate Tier Innate Pills should be possible to refine. However, such an act would affect the World's Source, and Heavenly Dao won't allow this to happen. Even normal Innate Pills require too much Innate Qi and will be under strict control; Heavenly Dao should make the Pill Tribulations extremely difficult.'

Wang Wei secretly shook his head. His method was very restrictive because it required someone accomplished in both Alchemy and Arrays to make, preventing too many people from attempting. Now, he knew the pill tribulations for his technique would be harsher than others.

'This technique will not be popular,' he concluded.

'Someone will probably create a way for an Alchemist and Array Master to work together to refine the pill, but before then, this method will not be popular.'

Wang Wei slowly took out a talisman to send the news to the sect to research this cooperative method. Although he did not care too much about this method, it was still a source of merit. He won't receive much if his technique is not spread and used.

Once finished, he looked in the distance and asked, "Is it me, or has Heavenly Dao become stricter?"

"You're right. Since Xu Shi's action and its increase in strength, it has become harsher in some of its rules," replied the clone.

"That can be both good and bad." The world needs order to function and develop, but too much order is a prison and can easily elicit rebellion.

"Have it or Old Man Tianji made any move since they learned about my injury?"

"No. They are both quiet."

Wang Wei nodded. Despite expecting this answer, he needed to ask. Heavenly Dao is an emotional program, so it should know better than to take this obvious bait. As for why it would take action against him? That's because its core programming is to maintain balance, and Wang Wei's power had long broken the scale, so it's in its nature to try to restrict him and tilt it back.

"The Origin Weapon Mountain people are here."

"Oh, so your plan succeeded?" Wang Wei smiled before walking to the throne room. Soon afterward, Sect Master Chen Ye walked in with a delegation. They kowtowed to show their deepest

respect before presenting a gift, saying it was to honor the Heavenly Emperor and creating a deep pond between them.

Wang Wei's eyes lit up when he saw the gift: an ordinary-looking bronze hammer.

"Is that the Origin Hammer?" he asked as he held the hammer. "It was rumored the Weapon Ancestor was a blacksmith when he was a mortal.

As a remembrance of this past, when he created his life's greatest work - the Origin Hammer - he modeled it after his blacksmith hammer. Now, it appears this rumor was true."

"Our founder was a humble man who never forgot his origin."

Wang Wei gave him a side glance. Wu Hong once told him that Talisman and Weapon Ancestors did not become Eternals because of their arrogance and pride. So, he would not believe such words.

As he looked at the hammer, he was truly surprised. This weapon granted a natural 7% Grand Dao Boost; however, this was not its limit.

As the Luck Condensation Artifact of the Origin Weapon Mountain, it can perfectly carry the luck of the sect, which grants another 3% Grand Dao Boost.

In other words, any Emperors of their faction will have a 2-Fold Battle Realm after wielding this weapon.

'This thing is truly a masterpiece. Luckily, this thing had severe restrictions. Otherwise, the Origin Weapon Mountain would have been more powerful than it is.' Wang Wei was sure that probably only one Great Emperor since their mountain's founder could wield all the strength of that hammer.

The only time this weapon would be fully activated would be once the sect faced a terrible catastrophe.

"Are you sure you want to hand this weapon to me?" asked Wang Wei.

"Since the Great Talisman City can hand over their Luck Artifact for the generation, we can do the same," replied Chen Ye with confidence. Wang Wei chuckled as he understood the implications.

Anyways, as long as he can gather the [Civilization Destiny], he has no issue returning these factions'

luck and destiny before ascending. It would be a grave mistake to forcefully leave it to his sect, so he had no problem with those short loans.

"I appreciate this gift-especially since it's very timely," said Wang Wei, his face as pale as ever. "I consider myself generous, so I won't let you suffer."

He closed his eyes before dispatching his divine sense. A few seconds later, he waved his hand to manifest a cauldron in the middle of the room.

The thing immediately caught everyone's attention.

"This cauldron follows the same idea as the Mechanical Cauldron, but it's for weapons instead of pills. As you can see, it's incomplete because of my sect's lack of ability."

Wang Wei paused to allow them to process this information. "My previous plan was to gather everyone worldwide, sharing the merit and destiny for completing this project. I will hand it over to your mountain for your great gift."

Chen Ye felt the world spinning; the excitement was too much. He knew the significance of this project and the blessing their mountain would receive once they completed it.

"After the project is finished, the cauldron will enter the Dream World. However, your mountain will have a share of the profit."

Chen Ye was happy he was a cultivator or would have fainted and humiliated himself. They had a meeting to discuss how profitable the Pill Mechanical Cauldron was. Even if he's only sharing some of the profit, he knows how much their mountain will benefit. More importantly, they will no longer be irrelevant in this upcoming era full of changes.

"Don't be happy too early," said Wang Wei, waking up some of these people from their daydreams.

"You will have a specific amount of time to finish this project. I will take it back if you don't meet my expectations."

"Your Majesty, we swear on our ancestors we will not let you down," hurriedly said Chen Ye as he knelt.

"That's good," nodded Wang Wei before pausing.

"I'm sorry about Chen Chen, but he had to die."

"No need for apologies. The Heaven Will Battle is cruel, and there is a reason it's called the Grave of Geniuses."

Wang Wei looked at him for a moment, "If there is nothing else, you can leave."

The delegation swiftly exited but did not hide the happiness in their strides. Meanwhile, Wang Wei looked at the hammer before him, sensing the new luck and destiny added to his court.

He could not help but smile; he now had the luck of the Origin Rune Mountain, Great Talisman City, Origin Weapon Mountain, and his sect. He only missed the Origin Pill Dao Sect to condense the [Civilization Luck] he planned. And if he could get his hands on the Qi Luck of the Ancient Clan, things would be perfect.

"How did you do it?"

"It was quite easy," replied the clone. "I only use a few of our Fate Shadow Guards to release some murmurs. Then, their advisor-a very wise man- understood my message and made things happen."

"The world would be so much easier if there were as many smart men as that advisor," joked Wang Wei.

"True. Now, the only missing piece is the Origin Pill Dao Sect. Any plans for them?"

"Lou Cheng and the Flame Emperors are still untouchable variables, so let's wait until they reveal their hands first."

"Yes, by then, our opportunity might come."

Wang Wei looked in the distance and muttered, "It's time."

He sent news to his mother to begin.

Chapter 1014 Mortal Art's Way of Balance

Yu Yan was meditating when she received the talisman.

"It's time," she muttered. She left the room and proceeded with the ceremony. She first bathed carefully and changed her robe to an all-white one. She placed incense for her mother and father before walking to a temple in the back of the Yu Clan's mountain.

The temple was odd. It was relatively small and not luxurious. Additionally, it contained many stones or monuments carved out of pure jade.

With a wave of her hand, Yu Yan brought the temple to the sky.

"Heaven and Earth above, today, I, Yu Yan, have created the Mortal Dao of Art and Crafts to bring balance, peace, and prosperity to the world."

Yu Yan's words did not spread far until a few seconds later when an enormous eye appeared above the world, alerting all the factions and powerhouses. Finally, her voice spread worldwide, making even mortals pay attention.

Yu Yan was momentarily nervous before gaining her bearing as she sensed all the powerful gazes looming over her. Luckily, she also had nerves of steel, so her facial expression did not change much.

So, she continued her ceremony without any issue. The first monument in the temple shone brightly before projecting a vision above the sky. A doctor had finished curing patients in a small village before walking to the next place, trying to aid as many people as he wished.

Upon his arrival, he saw the entire village was just slaughtered, and the culprit, an injured cultivator, had just killed its last victim. It was probably using blood technique to heal.

"How dare you!" yelled the doctor, and the cultivator looked at him with disdain before preparing to add this new visitor to his list of victims. However, things did not proceed as expected as the doctor waved his hand, and an enormous acupuncture needle appeared behind him and stabbed the cultivator to death.

Everyone watching this scenery was shocked because they could tell this doctor was an ordinary mortal without martial arts or spiritual power. Meanwhile, the cultivator was in the Divine Body Realm.

Everyone wanted to know what was happening, but no one answered them, and the ceremony had just begun. A second vision manifested in the sky; this time, it showed a blacksmith.

Another cultivator was refining an artifact that required to be nourished with extreme Yang Blood, but instead of hunting demon race, he chose to prey on mortals, focusing on blacksmiths who have spent most of their lives near flames and thus have a lot of positive energy in their bodies.

Amongst all the blacksmiths that were captured, one in particular was extremely calm. He did not struggle, whine, or cry and obediently followed his captors. However, once he reached the cave where the cultivator's refining furnace was, a giant hammer appeared above his head before crushing the latter into meat paste.

Again, The world was baffled as this person was only a mortal, and the Weapon Refiner was in the early stages of the Primordial Spirit Realm. Some people already had an inkling, while others wondered whether this was a weapon.

The next image was that of a farmer. He was tending to his land when he sensed the shockwave. He looked in the distance, and two cultivators were fighting without any regard for the surroundings, destroying and killing everyone and everything in their path. With anger written all over his face, he waved his hand to materialize a large sickle. Then, he sealed these two Primordial Spirit cultivators.

The vision showed how he did not kill them but sealed them in a nearby mountain.

The following vision was of a painter. He had created a masterpiece that was the talk of his city.

However, one day, a cultivator who was passing by noticed this painting could resonate with the laws of Heaven and Earth. He had been stuck in the early stages of the Void Shattering Realm for a long time and thought this was his opportunity for improvement. So, he asked the painter if he could sell it to him.

The latter refused since it was his life's greatest work. After rejection, the cultivators demanded the painting, even threatening its creator's life and family. As expected, after a second rejection, he used force.

The painter manifested a painting the size of a city and effortlessly killed the cultivator.

Yu Yan did not waste time as the next vision appeared immediately afterward. This time around, it was a beautiful woman playing the guqin. The story was that she was a talented musician with a beauty that would make most immortals feel ashamed.

A passing Saint saw her play, became enamored, and desired to possess her. He immediately deployed his Domain to take her by force when she rejected him. But, she manifested a golden guqin and fought with him by playing it. After battling him for more than three days, the Saint ran away with severe injury.

The world was quiet as their gaze locked on these visions. The next one showed a genius calligrapher who killed a Supreme Powerhouse, followed by a Chess Sage who sealed more than Five Supreme Powerhouses. Lastly, a scholar manifested a brush to deal with a Quasi-Emperor.

After the scholar, the temple projected other visions of others. known mortal-basedprofessions, and even revealed these mortals using this new power to deal with injustice in their own society, which indicates that this power was not totally directed at cultivators.

Finally, everything seemed to end as no vision showed. A golden orb manifested in the sky before splitting into two. 90% of it descended on Yu Yan's arms, while the rest went to the Heavenly Court. The Eye of Heaven Dao disappeared along with the temple, and soon afterward, visions enveloped the entire world.

Yu Yan smiled before disappearing from the sky, and the world boiled. The top powerhouses instantly knew some changes had occurred to Heaven and Earth and searched for answers. They had their guesses but needed confirmation.

As expected, they soon realized the Myriad Emperor World had a new addition-[The Enlightening Temple]. The purpose of this temple was as Yu Yan declared: mortals-who have great achievements in their art, crafts, or profession- can summon a Dao Projection proportioned in strength to their accomplishments.

The Dao Projection granted them powers on par with cultivators: this was a form of balance to restrict the rampant behavior of cultivators. The world was in shock, and people were not happy.

The Heavenly Court had already controlled and restricted them, and they remained silent since they knew the concept that might make right.

Then, mortals acquired the power to limit low-level cultivators through the development of their civilization. Now, they had a direct means to be on par with them.

Some people began to complain and cause trouble. Typically, they would not dare, but the recent news that the Heavenly Emperor wasinjured emboldened some individuals, especially after being used by pawns by others.

Meanwhile, the top Emperor Lineages continued to deduce information about this Enlightening Temple: they wanted to know the rules and restrictions. So, using all their means, they began to record the rules and functions to analyze.

Firstly, this thing was only for mortals. Even a cultivator in the first layer of the Body Refining Realm cannot use it.

Secondly, it did not increase the lifespan of mortals. They were still mortals destined to die after a few hundred years.

Thirdly, this power was not something mortals could use at will. It will only be available to them when in danger or when they see injustices or evil. In other words, they cannot use this power to wage war or attain benefits.

Fourthly, a mortal with karmic sins cannot condense their Dao Projection.

Finally, not every mortal can condense projections on par with powerful cultivators. There is a great divide between the Primordial Spirit Realm and the Void Shattering Realm, and it's the same for the projections.

Only genuinely talented mortals or people who dedicated years to their art or craft can condense such powerful Dao Projections. Such news reassured many people, but then they realized the world was so vast and the mortal population so large that it was easy to give birth to countless geniuses.

These people also realized why the Heavenly Emperor wanted the rise of Mortal Civilizations and the creation of the Dream World. Now, education and communication are so accessible that it's easier for mortals to have some achievement in any art or craft.

After summarizing the rules, the world collectively sighed. Cultivators were officially not the absolute ruler of this world. From now on, only geniuses and Immortal Tier powerhouses can act wildly as they wish. However, even they have to worry about the court above their head.

After arriving at this conclusion, people's ambitions and drive did not diminish but increased. Their desire to prove the Dao or become an Immortal Tier powerhouse intensified because it was the only way for them to get real power in this world.

Heavenly Court:

Wang Wei waited for his mother with a smile.

"After so many years, we finally reached this step."

"Yes, but we still had some way to go."

The Enlightening Temple was not enough for her to condense a Heaven Will. Heavenly Dao placed more emphasis or importance on things related to cultivators, and this temple, at its core, was directed at mortals, hence the lack of merit.

As such, they still needed to wait until the court spread to the Lower Realm and create branch temples in a few more worlds.

Chapter 1015 The Great Darkness Terminus Heaven: The cardinals soon appeared in the meeting room, looking at the person who called this meeting. "Time? What is it this time?" asked Fate, not hiding the worry in his face. "The timeline has changed again," replied the feline creature somberly. As a person in control of the River of Time, he did not like how often the river fluctuated or drastically changed. "How great of a change for you to call an official meeting?" asked Chaos. As the person least affected by the current catastrophe, she could always remain calm and composed. "Something called the Great Darkness has appeared," explained the cat, "And its power is enough to affect the balance of the universe." "Darkness? Wait, you don't mean?" asked Fate with an ugly expression. "It's most likely her." "Wasn't she just a vase? At best, she was a decent military strategist," asked Samsara. "Yes, he protected her to a fault, fearing we would use his family against him," nodded Heaven. "Now, you're telling me she could affect our fight? How is that possible?" They had an answer as soon as the question was asked-the timeline was changed.

"He grows more powerful daily while acquiring new allies," summarized Source Qi. "We might have to admit an uncomfortable truth-we are probably not his main opponent."

"Are you suggesting we are nothing but cannon fodder?" asked the Magistrate of Heaven with red eyes.

"No, not cannon fodder, but no kings as well - only generals."

Some people grunted while others remained silent. They have towered over all sentient beings and existence for so long, how could they accept such a fact?

"There is no need to let our pride influence us,"

said Samsara. "We know the timeline can be changed, so as long as we stop him at the correct time, we will be the final victor and restore the previous status quo."

"She's correct," added Time, looking at everybody with his cat eyes that made him more profound.

"This Great Darkness is not a fixed point in time, and its very existence is unstable, meaning we can prevent it from appearing."

Everybody's eyes concentrated:

"So, we should expect a fight with him very soon?"

muttered Heaven. They knew he would never allow them to prevent this Great Darkness from happening.

"Very good."

The Magister of Heaven was indeed excited.

Although they suffered during most of their confrontation, it was not because of their weakness or their opponent's overwhelming power. The main reason was due to the latter's cunningness and ability to hide and attack them when unprepared. If they could force him to face them directly, he would suffer even with her and the other allies on his side.

"Do you have a plan?"

"Yes," replied Time. "But we need to discuss and refine it first before taking action. We don't want any variables or trouble."

Then, these six individuals, to whom the term 'godlike' was a great insult to their powers, began to plan an event that would fundamentally change the Chaos Universe.

Eternal Ascension World, Lower Dimension, Myriad Emperor World, Heavenly Court:

"...some way to go," said Wang Wei.

"When are you beginning the expansion?" asked Yu Yan

"Most likely in the next meeting," replied Wang Wei.

"Have you thought of a date?"

"Not exactly. There are a few things that need to be dealt with beforehand."

"What about your bait plan? It should be coming to fruition soon?"

"Yes. Many people should be dissatisfied with the Enlightening Temple, fueling their motive to do something stupid. So, I should see results soon."

"That's good. I'm always reassured by whatever you do. However, if you need anything, don't forget to ask."

"You know I will."

Yu Yan kissed him on the cheek before floating away. After proving the Dao, she still had to cultivate and train so she could be as powerful as possible. Wang Wei watched her leave before looking in the distance.

He smirked before returning to his healing. With enough pills and some merit, the process should be drastically accelerated.

Emperor Enlightening Academy:

Xu Shi was in a daze ever since she saw the vision of the female musician who fought on par with a Saint using the guqin. An idea flashed in her mind but seemed rapidly fleeting, forcing her to concentrate to catch it.

The Academy's upper echelon came to see her for a meeting but was forced by an Insurgent not to disturb her. Finally, after more than an hour, a brilliant light shone in her eyes before muttering: "I understand," she muttered before rushing to her cultivation retreat after leaving a temporary clone to replace her.

Time passed, and like flowing water, a hundred years flashed by. Normally, such a period would have been the length of a mortal's lifespan and should have produced more than five generations, but it is different now. Mortals could live for at least 200 years.

During these past hundred years, the world seemed very peaceful. Mortals developed arts and crafts, while cultivators used the Dream World to benefit them as much as possible. Everyone seemed in a hurry but could not understand or explain why. It was like everything knew something was about to happen and were preparing.

Bang!

The world trembled lightly, alerting everyone.

People rushed to the Dream World to find news and information. They knew what they were awaiting had come, but nothing seemed to have changed so far. Then, visions suddenly appeared in the sky, confusing people even more.

Wang Wei's eyes opened in the court, exhaling deeply. His strength had returned to Second Class. Although still low and weak, it was a good sign he was recovering so quickly, given the nature of his injury.

"What happened? Did they take the bait?"

"No, but soon," replied the clone.

"Then, what's the matter with the ruckus?"

"The first Innate Lifeforms have been nurtured,"

he replied succinctly before waving his hand to show a projection of six different places. Wang Wei immediately identified three famous creatures: Ancestral Dragon, Empress Phoenix, and Origin Qilin. The other creatures were humanoid species who could be described as titans.

Wang Wei grunted after seeing these six.

"This is not good news for us," commented the clone, and he had to agree. These six creatures were the leaders of the Innate Demon Gods that were returning to the world. He could tell each was a 4-Star Primarch, but their potential allowed them to cultivate to 6-Star, an equivalent of an Eternal Powerhouse.

However, the balance mechanism had just given them some breathing room, and it would aggravate the situation if the Myriad Emperor World suddenly had six new Eternal Powerhouses.

"It's best to seal them and delay their growth and return," suggested the clone. The revival of the Innate Demon God was a major issue that could even influence the upper dimension. However, it was indeed an inappropriate time for them to show up, even if only six of them.

"However, if I take action, it will alert the people who took the bait."

"I'll send an order to the others to take action,"

said Wang Wei calmly. The fact these people did not do anything stupid showed they still respected his reign, so it was no problem to mobilize them. With a wave of his hand, talismans flew to different corners of the world.

A few seconds afterward, powerful auras appeared above the sky. With the exception of Xu Shi, who a First-Class Insurgent replaced, everybody showed up-including the two from the Sea Race.

Without saying much, they rushed to the designated area and sealed the nurturing place of these new Innate Demon Gods. Afterward, they returned to their cultivation as if nothing had happened. Even Huo Fenghuang and Ao Shen acted similarly despite being greedy for these creatures' bloodlines.

The panicked people received no information or announcement, putting many people on edge.

"Go placate Primordial Desolate," said Wang Wei.

"He should be on edge ever since he heard the news about my injury, and with our actions, we don't want him to act out."

"Alright."

Wang Wei wanted to return to his retreat, but the former Insurgent who replaced Xu Shi came to see him. His purpose was simple: to apologize that the Headmistress could not appear since she was in deep seclusion. Wang Wei was understanding and would not fault him or the Academy for such a minor thing. A few minutes later, the clone returned and told him he made a wise move since the Primordial God was indeed on the edge after seeing his kind being sealed.

Twenty more years passed, and the palpitating tension surrounding the world increased daily.

The world's upper echelon deemed such tension a good thing, so they remained silent and encouraged it, forcing their disciples or underlings to train even harder.

Then, when everybody thought the situation was about to explode, a sound echoed throughout the entire world. It only took a moment, but people soon identified it as guqin and immediately searched for its source or origin.

Finally, all eyes rested on the Academy.

Chapter 1016 Ode to The World

"I have dedicated this ode to our beautiful homeland. Please, enjoy."

Xu Shi's angelic voice reverberated throughout the world, followed by the sound of the guqin.

The sound was slow and peaceful initially, but things immediately changed after she finished speaking. The music created a powerful illusion for anyone listening.

As such, all sentient beings saw a story, no, they experienced the evolution of history. They saw the world in its early stages, full of darkness, chaos, and emptiness. After years of development and creation, the first life forms appeared.

These beings were mighty and noble. Born immortal, they roamed the world without a care.

Despite their mighty strength, they were a peaceful group who spent their time contemplating the laws of Heaven and Earth.

Although their society was highly hierarchical, they got along well and rarely fought on a large scale.

Everything was proceeding smoothly until a new race appeared-the human race. It was a weak and insignificant race with no powers and a short lifespan. But their appearance changed everything because such a tiny race was destined to be the protagonist of the world.

After the birth of the human race, the music showed their struggle to survive the world back then. The citizens of the Myriad Emperor World saw how their ancestors first created flame, the first time they hunted in the wild or the sea, the first time they made clothes, the first time someone farmed, the first time they discovered the properties of herbs, the first time words were created and recorded - Xu Shi's music showed them a tale of man against nature, and the protagonist was their ancestor.

Anyone listening could feel the terrible environment of ancient times; they could feel the human race's ignorance but desire for knowledge and innovation, they saw how much their ancestors sacrificed to establish a human society and civilization. And having to experience all these things through a song was a sublimating experience to the soul.

But things were not over; on the contrary, it was just the beginning. The song changed tempo and displayed the brutality of the ancient. The overlords at that time would not allow humans to rise. They immediately began a massacre with the sole purpose of eradicating the human race from the world.

The human race only survived because a few of these creatures became sadistic after experiencing their first act of slaughter. So, they chose to secretly enslave large groups of humans for their own cruel amusement. Of course, a few kind individuals among them also saved people because they disagreed with such cruel actions.

That period was a dark time for the human race.

However, they survived and never gave up hope.

The Innate Demon Gods' action did not break their spirit but awakened a collective consciousness among them. They now all had one goal-to break the shackles of slavery and rise to the top of this world.

The human race spent hundreds of thousands of years in that dark age, maybe even millions. But that did not matter, their desire and ambitions did not waver. Even their short lives did not stop them. Every tribe would pass on the idea of their predecessors to their young, ensuring the initial flame of rebellion remained even after countless millennia.

Then, the human race's opportunity arose-a young man from the Wang Tribe studied these creatures and created a cultivation system for the human race. He spread his work to the scattered tribes, telling them to buy their time and wait for the correct time.

The music immediately showed what the correct time was. On top of a mountain, a young man waited as something descended from the sky before him-a Heaven Will. He absorbed it, proved the Dao, and officially became the first Great Emperor of the world.

The young man then took on the responsibility of leading the human race. The early stages were still dark and full of tragedy. After all, he was the only one fighting with essentially the entire world.

However, with his methodical and careful plans, unwavering willpower, and support from a few other talents, he held on long enough for the human race to grow.

Xu Shi's music then showed everyone an era of prosperity where many Emperors roamed the world. Sadly, such an era was far from peaceful.

The confrontation between humans and the former overlord soon spread throughout the entire lower dimension. The music did not show much of the war, but the scenes it showed people were enough to show how cruel and devastating it was.

And then afterward was soon experienced by everybody. The human race was now the world's master, but their civilization was no more and had to start over. That time period was also turbulent as power was held in the hands of a few individuals.

Meanwhile, the overall strength of the world was at an all-time low. Luckily, another hero with the name Wang showed up and pushed the development of the world forward. The Origin Emperor spread the Dao to the world, suppressed the people in power to give the world another chance, and made the immortals of this world sign the Immortal-Avenue Pact, limiting their influence or intervention in the world.

After the Origin Emperor, the world experienced another era of prosperity. The Sword Dao officially became the supreme Dao of attack, and other types of ancestor-like characters appeared, finally completing the Origin Cultivation System.

Afterward, the human race suffered another catastrophe in the shape of the Golden Ape.

Luckily, they bent together and survived.

The next era was a time when human power led to their demise. The rise of Buddhism and the use of incense showed how cruel humans could be after being the dominant race of the world and having no competitors. Many people who knew the history were surprised that Xu Shi did not hide this part.

The Buddhist monks and other Emperor Lineages did everything possible to acquire Incense and accelerate the cultivation speed of their people.

Then, the final result was retribution at the hand of another human race's hero-the Absolute Beginning Emperor.

The music showed the next era, and it could be strongly argued that it was harsher than ancient times. There were many kind and honorable Innate Demon Gods, but the devil race had no such individuals. Cruelty was their innate nature and the way for them to acquire strength. So, their treatment of the human race or any creature in the Myriad Emperor World was abhorrent.

Luckily, a lonely woman rose up and ended that time of cruelty; she was truly an unparalleled Emperor, unlike anything the world had ever seen.

The time after her disappearance was also a terrible time for the world. People were afraid and thus became extremely conservative as a means of protection. Adding to the fact that the world was recovering, the cultivation world entered a long period of stagnation and regression.

It was only thousands of generations that another young talent appeared; he spread the idea of education to all. This new philosophy brought a new vitality to the Myriad Emperor World and could be argued to save it from a fate of immense decline.

The next era was peaceful and full of life until one of the chosen human heroes turned on his people. The world suffered another catastrophe while dealing with these madmen, and a long time was needed to recuperate. The era after his disappearance was dull and mediocre, but luckily, that era gave birth to the Heavenly Emperor.

The song ended with all the achievements of the Heavenly Emperor and how the world has changed since then. Once the music stopped playing, there was an eerie silence worldwide as people were still fascinated by the lingering sound of the guqin.

Luckily, the appearance of the Heavenly Dao Eye woke these people up. A small golden orb descended from the sky into the Academy.

Heavenly Court:

Wang Wei opened his eyes, his eyes also still lingering on that song. It was truly a sublimation of the soul to experience the history of the human's rise from its barbaric age to the present.

He even felt the speed of his healing was slightly accelerated.

He looked in the distance as Heavenly Dao awarded Xu Shi and said weirdly: "Did she just create a national anthem for the Myriad Emperor World?"

"It seems so."

"Now I'm a little jealous and angry I didn't think of that."

"You can't have all the good ideas for merit."

"True." He was not a musician, so such a thought never indeed passed his mind. "The song should have other benefits. What are they?"

"Let's see," uttered the clone. "It's a unique Source Technique that grants her a 2% Grand Dao Boost.

3-4% if she plays it while in the Myriad Emperor World or represents it in some capacity. Finally, it can give a minimum of 5% boost if she is in the act of protecting the world from some catastrophe."

"A minimum of 5%?" muttered Wang Wei. "Can only she use it?"

"Before she ascends, yes. And even then, the Academy has to give permission."

Wang Wei sighed, "The Academy people were truly lucky they had someone like Xu Shi to replace Lin Fan. I doubt he could do as good of a job as her."

The destiny of creating the world's national anthem would bless them and even make up for losing the Spirit of the Epoch.

"Emperor Kong might be an individual born with a unique destiny like your Wang Clang," commented the clone.

"Maybe, but even if he is, he still has a long way to go to reach our level."

Chapter 1017 Caught Fish

After receiving her award, Xu Shi played the song a second time, but this time, the guqin was accompanied by her beautiful voice. People immediately knew the song had accompanying words, so they listened.

Visions flashed above the sky as her voice echoed throughout Heaven and Earth. Just like the guqin piece, the song's words perfectly encapsulated the history and zeitgeist of the Myriad Emperor World.

Once Xu Shi finished, she received more merit, but the Eye of Heavenly Dao was long gone and did not reappear.

Western Continent:

Feng Heng opened his eyes after experiencing the journey that was this song and its vocals. He looked at the Central Continent, focusing on the Academy:

"A song dedicated to the world? No, it is a song that can perfectly represent its history and people. Donor Xu Shi is truly a talented Empress,"

he muttered before a glint flashed in his eyes.

"Since the world can have its representative song, can it also have a scripture of the same kind?"

As soon as this idea came to mind, he could not remove it. So, he sent his congratulations to Xu Shi before entering a seclusion. He wanted to see if he could write a scripture that could embody the essence of the Myriad Emperor World.

Feng Heng was not the only person with such an idea. After people realized Xu Shi's achievement, people immediately thought about imitating or replicating her success. The top Taoist factions had the same idea as Feng Heng, wishing to write a scripture that perfectly represented the world.

Some people wished to create a painting or piece of calligraphy with the same effect. Such development was not something only cultivators did, but even mortals participated. Over the years, arts and crafts have entered a golden age, birthing many talented mortals. These talents knew the song's appearance was an opportunity and one they had a chance to partake in.

In the Northern Continent, Ao Shen saw the benefits of that song: he knew it was an excellent method to condense the overall cohesion of humanity and the world. So, he wanted his own demon song for the demon race. Sadly, things like art and craft were not things their kind was particularly skilled at. So he needed some help and time to prepare.



"With these people, I have a justification for directly attacking the Commerce Hub." Although he did not need a reason, it would help in the transition period. After all, he understood that order and credibility are two of the most important things for people doing business. "What do you want me to do? Seal or immediately kill them?" "No, fight with them and delay for a while. I want to see how some of these Eternal Powerhouses will react and whether we can draw morebehind-the-scenes individuals." "As you wish." After the clone disappeared, someone else appeared next to Wang Wei- Wang Ju. He had to prepare in case someone saw through his clone and attacked his main body. "Are you sure my injury did not affect your strength?" "No, everything was fine." "Interesting." He realized the version of the Lord Shadow technique that his ancestor gave him was a high-level Source Technique after seeing Wang Ju's situation. He wanted to learn something from it but ended up with nothing. However, he also realized that higher cultivators do have some understanding of [Existence] even without walking the Eternal Path. Otherwise, this technique should not have prevented Wang Ju from being affected whatsoever by his injury. Wang Wei focused on the screen before him, watching everything unfold from a distance. •••

Today was a regular day for the citizens of the Myriad Emperor World, or it should have been.

People thought they could continue their usual routine, a sign of the peaceful time they lived in.

However, something happened that soon reminded them of the world's cruelty.

Nine powerful auras manifested out of nowhere above the sky, and they did not waste time in greetings and immediately attacked the world, most likely trying to deal a devastating attack on the people and the world as a weakening tactic.

Panic ensued before a shield blocked all these nine attacks.

Then, the sound of people praising and praying to the Heavenly Emperor resonated worldwide.

Then, out of nowhere, the people began to sing the world song harmoniously, forming a weird aura around the Myriad Emperor World.

The nine individuals who orchestrated these terrorist attacks began to communicate after their first attack failed.

"Did anyone sense the presence of the target?"

asked a man in the front, who appeared to be the leader.

"No, I didn't sense anything." The others agreed, and one person added, "This shield should be the natural defense of the world he left before his injury."

"So, do we continue the mission?" Everyone looked at the leader-the only true Eternal in the group, and he was not an ordinary one at that.

"I still think we are being too careful," commented one of the Pseudo Eternals. "There is no way someone can be so powerful." He believes the curse resulted from some artifact or unknown power that slipped from the upper dimension.

"You can let pride and arrogance cloud your judgment, but I won't make such a mistake,"

responded the leader. "The plan will continue as normal. Remember, there is still a high chance that the other Eternal Powerhouses will intervene to protect their home."

"What's with that song they're chanting?"

"Don't know, but it's probably a precursor to a Source Technique."

They could see the song was gathering a unique power that resembled the Power of Heaven and Earth but on a much larger scale.

"We need to hurry up to prevent more variables."

Their conversation was fast and brief, and the leader sent his orders. However, before they could act, a projection of empty, vast space manifested before him.

"A Void Battlefield?" His face changed because the information he received was wrong. According to the people organizing this attack, the Dao Opening Sect has been searching for the material to create a Void Battlefield. However, due to their manipulations, they have not acquired the truly important parts. In other words, they should not have one.

The leader wanted to react, but he was forcefully swallowed by the battlefield, where the clone waited for him. After seeing Wang Wei, he remained calm.

Many preparations were made for this battlefield, and after countless analyses, it was determined that the [First Heavenly Emperor] was baiting people to attack him. They still chose to attack because it was determined he was indeed injured and weakened.

As such, the leader expected he might encounter the Heavenly Emperor, but he was satisfied as long as it was an injured or weakened version.

"What an interesting group," commented Wang Wei's clone with some surprise. "A very powerful Anti-Divination Artifact even blessed you."

He knew the Commerce Hub had a deep foundation but did not expect such a level. The artifact almost worked on the clone's limited powers. However, after a brief analysis, it's understandable why the hub would have such an artifact.

They hold records of exchanges with thousands of worlds. Such information is extremely valuable in the right hand, so they need a way to protect their information from leaking into the hands of Diviners.

"So, you're the first Heavenly Emperor," said the leader. "You can call me the Fist Saint Emperor."

"First Heavenly Emperor? Is this what the Endless Void refers to me as? Hum, I must admit, I like the title, but you guys could be a little more creative. I suggest [Superior Heavenly Emperor] or [Supreme Heavenly Emperor]."

"It seems your reputation precedes you," commented the Fist Saint Emperor.

"Reputation? Now, I'm interested in how the rest of the world sees me."

"Carefree, easygoing, unparalleled talent and wisdom, and more importantly, a grand arrogance hidden under a facade of a smile."

"Interesting," uttered Wang Wei. "You guys should have overturned everything I did during Gu Xuan's Trial to get this conclusion. What I did to the Spirit Genesis Sect should also have leaked."

"Yes, so you're very famous in certain circles."

"Is that so? Although I tell myself I don't like fame or fortune, I also know deep down this was a lie.

So, I'm happy people know me," said Wang Wei with a smile. But soon, it faded; he was changing his face as easily as switching one mask for another.

"Enough with the chit-chat," he said with a somber voice. "You little rats have dispersed my peace, and I do not appreciate that. So, don't take offense to what is about to happen."

Chapter 1018 Mistake

Wang Wei sat on his throne in the court with a screen before him. He saw the exchange between his clone and the Fist Saint Emperor. Soon, the battle began, and he paid attention. It was apparent this

group came prepared as the other eight formed a formation that blessed their strength to the Fist Saint Emperor.

The result was the latter's strength almost reached 50% Grand Dao Source, making the clone sweat lightly. A few minutes after the battle, someone intervened.

Huo Fenghuang came flying in the Void Battlefield riding a Phoenix. She did not hesitate to attack the group, and they responded appropriately.

They did not break up the formation, but one of the Immortal Sovereigns used a technique that created a projection with all his strength.

Huo Fenghuang frowned before confronting the projection. A few minutes after her, Xu Shi also appeared on the battlefield, and she faced two projections, one from an Immortal Sovereign and the other from a Pseudo Emperor.

"So, only these two showed up," muttered Wang Wei. "Well, it makes sense. They know the value of these people. Meanwhile, Feng Heng is using an extremely careful approach to expanding Buddhism; he probably wants to follow in my footsteps to reduce the risk.

"Ao Shen knows the foundation of the demon race cannot yet control an entire world, so he is focusing on his transition. I'm curious why the Sword Casting Villa and the Sea Race have not made a move."

"The Sea Race does dare show up after what they've done," said Wang Ju. "A stupid act, in my opinion. They should immediately come to help to show their loyalty; it would have been easier for them to plausible deny their involvement."

"If they did that, I probably would have been more forgiven," nodded Wang Wei. "What about the Sword Casting Villa? Why do you think they did not move."

"A careful and patient approach," said Wang Ju while remaining invisible. "Like these people, they know you're baiting people but that you're also injured. Without your overwhelming power, they want to see how things play out. Plus, they probably do not want to risk the danger of their Immortal Sovereign."



"You cannot possibly understand how we felt,"groaned Primordial Desolate. "As creatures born from Heaven and Earth, we consider Heavenly Dao as our mother. Yet, she cast us away, rejected our existence, and chose humans as the protagonists of the world. Can you fathom such a betrayal? How painful and sad it was? So, we cannot and will not live peacefully with humans."

Wang Wei briefly paused, "Your words made me realize my mistake. I thought the new generation of Innate Demon Gods needed someone like you for guidance, but that's wrong. They don't need ideas from a bygone era- they need a fresh start, one with the weight of history or the mistakes of their ancestors."

Primordial Desolate's eyes turned red. It would be very easy to influence the new era of Innate Lifeforms without knowledge from their ancestors. And even if they read the world's history, it will not be the same as experiencing through him or their bloodline.

"You've proven that I made the right decision today," roared Primordial Desolate before rushing forward. However, he did not move a few meters before countless shadows and tentacles rose from the ground, capturing and sealing him into a black, spherical jewel the size of an eyeball.

Wang Wei looked at Wang Ju, who was holding the seal, and shook his head. Even if Wang Ju was not here, the court was his domain; it was not an easy thing to kill him in this place with all the formations.

"What do you want to do with him?" she asked.

"You're in charge of searching his soul. His knowledge about ancient times should bevaluable. After that, sends his body to Elder Dan to make pills. He should make my body refining make great progress."

"As you wish."

Wang Wei nodded before focusing on the battle, "So, no one else has taken the bait?"

"I sense some prying eyes, but it appears that no one will intervene."

"That's a shame."

Immediately after finishing these words, the battle changed. Xu Shi began to sing, and her aura drastically increased. Then, with one swift motion, she destroyed both the projections fighting her before rushing to one of the Pseudo-Eternals in the formation. She sealed him before leaving the battlefield.

Huo Fenghuang was shocked but acted swiftly; she took the opportunity, given that the array was in disarray, to deal with her projections and capture the second Pseudo Eternal and leave.

The clone shook his head before stopping the unwanted prying eyes. Finally, he used all his power to deal with the group. A few minutes later, he returned to the court with several sealed individuals.

"Hmm?" muttered Wang Wei as he held the seals.

"Where is the Fist Saint Emperor?"

"He dissipated as I sealed him. Apparently, he was careful and used a well-created clone with all his powers."

"Interesting. Did you get which Heaven Will World he originated from?"

"Of course."

"Good. I look forward to fighting him again personally." The Fist Saint Emperor reminded him of one of his favorite characters from his favorite anime- an old man with the moniker of Iron Fist.

"Wang Ju, the next step is all you. Send Fate Shadow Guards to these people's world: set up base, gather information, and remove obstacles.

When we begin to expand to the Endless Void, their worlds will be perfect for the first trials."

The expansion was very important to it, and one of its main components - the Enlightening Temple - had already been established. After expanding throughout this Heaven Will Community, his mother should gather enough merit to prove the Dao. However, the lower dimension has 3799 World Communities remaining, and the merit for creating the temple in these places will all belong to Wang Wei.

However, 99% of worlds do not like when foreigners intrude or have any form of influence on their plane. So, Wang Wei is expecting resistance. He is not prepared to use a pure militaristic approach to spread the Enlightening Temple, so he will use a more business model of sharing profit.

He will use the worlds of these attackers as a template to show others the benefit of allowing him to spread the temple; he's willing to share some benefits with the people who choose to accept a more peaceful cooperation.

Of course, he's also prepared to wage Interplanar War if necessary.

"I will get to it immediately." Wang Ju immediately disappeared into the shadow; it was like she was never here in the first place.

"What happened here?" asked the clone, who sensed something.

"I was just correcting a little mistake I made," he replied indifferently. "Don't worry about it. Let's begin with the cleanup."

"Alright."

The clone disappeared, and soon afterward, the world trembled slightly, focusing primarily on the sea. The people who knew or guessed what was happening secretly sighed.

Not even ten minutes passed before things returned to normal. Wang Wei looked at the two people before him. His eyes were cold as he sat on the throne.

"How many chances did I give you? Most would say I was too lenient."

"Your majesty-"

"You don't have to say any nonsense. None of you will walk out of this room. I'm granting you this audience to see if you can convince me to spare your respective race."

"Your majesty...."

Wang Wei heard them talk, but it was all noise to him. He has been very patient with the Sea Race, but for some reason, these people seemed determined to walk toward the path of destruction.

"Okay, it seems there is nothing you can say to save your race. Do it."

Chapter 1019 Message

The clone waved his hand to manifest a cauldron composed of flame that swallowed these two Immortal Sovereigns. He was not burning or torturing them. Instead, he used the Good Fortune Flame to refine them into resources.

He purified their soul and Immortal Qi into its purest form, thus leaving enough pure energy for the Dao Opening Sect to cultivate one Immortal Sovereign.

Two white and blue orbs floated in the cauldron a few minutes later. The white orb contained pure soul energy, and the second orb contained pure Immortal Qi.

"Still not completely finished," commented the clone.

"The second can finish the rest. Remind them to leave this thing as a foundation instead of using it."

It was unwise for the Dao Opening Sect to have another Eternal Powerhouse in the current situation, so these two things will be left for an emergency.

The clone waved his hand, and the orbs disappeared. Then, he asked: "What are you going to do?"

"I meant what I said," replied Wang Wei. "What?

Are you feeling empathy?"

The reason he teased the clone was that the latter was slightly different from him personality-wise; he had to do so to prevent his injury, which was the result of damage to his [Existence], affecting the clone.

"I just want to ensure we use them in the best way possible."

Wang Wei did not immediately explain and looked in the distance.

"The people of the world considered me a Sage because of how I deal with things. I flaunt my power but do not use it unless necessary.

However, I need to show them I can be a tyrant - that I can be cruel."

"So, the Sea is a message - a warning."

"Alright."

The clone snapped his finger, and the entire world changed. All the members of the Panlong and Sea Lion Race disappeared one by one, sending a chill shiver down the members of the Sea Race who watched the event.

The Immortals and Insurgents of those two races were the last to disappear, so they tried to prevent their fate; they activated their race's formations and artifacts, but it was useless. Their fate was annihilated by a higher power, which rendered their attempt absolutely futile.

As such, the two most powerful races from the Sea disappeared from the world, becoming history.

The worst part is the foundation/resources of these two Emperor Lineages also disappeared with them, and people could guess where they went. The sea race was not the only group of people affected by that snap. All the devil cultivators who were used as pawns to spread the news also disappeared.

However, Wang Wei did not annihilate any factions. The devil cultivators were already drastically weakened, so kicking a sick beast was unnecessary.

A collective, silent, and invisible sigh echoed worldwide as people watched what happened to the Panlong and Sea Lion Race. They understood the message behind this cruel massacre. They

understand the easy-going Heavenly Emperor who prefers to use diplomatic means for solutions can be cruel when needed.

They understood the honor, glory, and praise that comes with the title of [Sage] or [Wise Ruler] could not bind the Heavenly Emperor morally. Of course, the people who truly knew Wang Wei had long understood this idea was only the wish of certain people. How could morality bind a man who pursues absolute freedom?

"It's done," said the clone, and Wang Wei nodded.

"Let's go wait for our visitors outside."

As he walked outside, he saw the incense of the court had drastically increased.

"It seems that fear and the desire for protection is the best way to gather incense."

As the people felt danger coming from the outside, they prayed to Wang Wei and the other Conferred Gods more piously.

"I hope you're not getting any ideas," said the clone.

"I know it's not a cost-effective or lasting business model to use fear to gather incense," he replied nonchalantly. "Well, at least not in my own backyard."

He continued walking as he visited some sites in the court; every time he looked at the design, he praised his creativity and vision. He did not wait long as his first visitor arrived.

"Your majesty, please leave a way out for the sea race."

Wang Wei slowly turned around to see a man kneeling on the ground, face deep on the floor; he was from the Teng She clan.

"I'm not bloodthirsty, hence why I only targeted the two people involved in this matter," said Wang Wei calmly. However, this representative did not get up.

"Please, give us a chance."

"I believe in balance, so I did not remove your God Positions," continued Wang Wei. "However, you should understand the danger of not having an Eternal Powerhouse while possessing all these resources."

"I...understand."

"Good. In that case, you may leave," replied Wang Wei before continuing his affairs.

The representative stood up and bowed politely before disappearing. After returning, he immediately gathered a meeting of the highest order in the sea race. For this meeting, they had one purpose-cultivate an Immortal Sovereign as soon as possible and at all costs.

Star Beast World:

Tong Ruobing was in seclusion before receiving a talisman. She frowned but knew her people would not contact her unless there were a great emergency. She used her Divine Sense to read it: "Damn it," she cursed before immediately activating a talisman that teleported her to the Myriad Emperor World. She appeared in the City Lord Room, where most of the sect's Immortals, Insurgents, and Great Elders were already waiting.

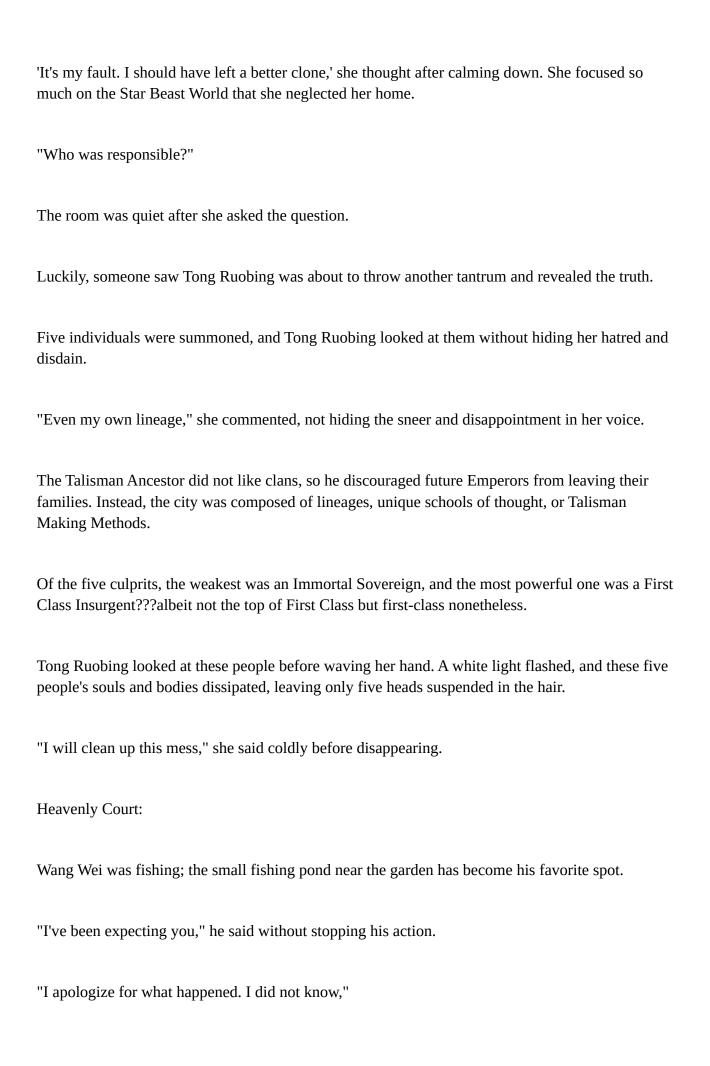
Tong Ruobing released a terrifying aura that made everyone kneel on the ground.

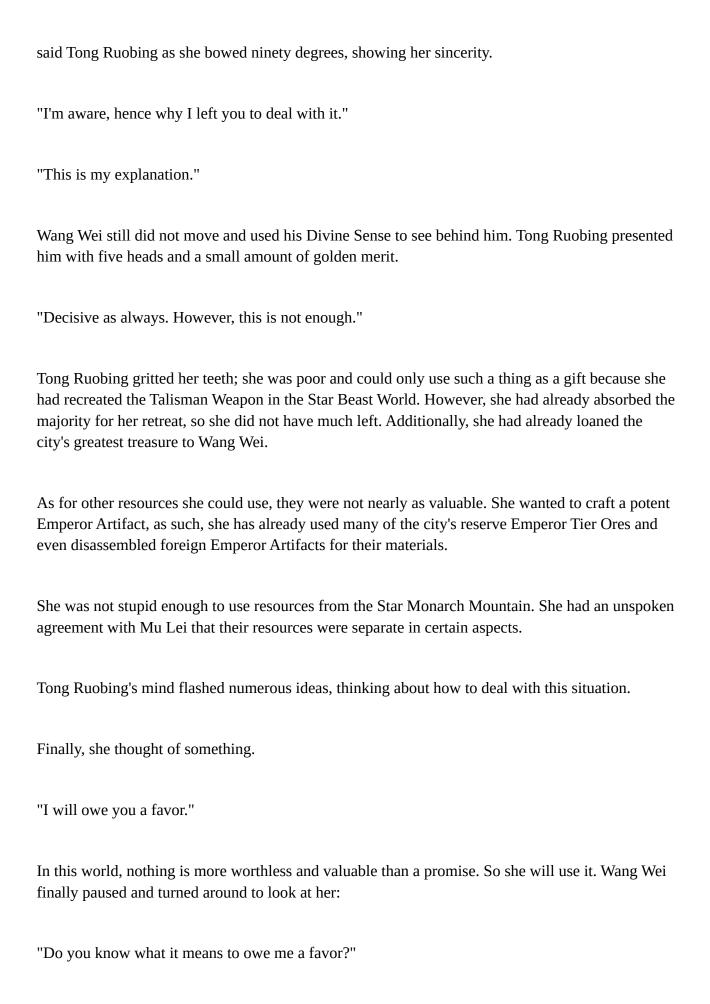
"Are you people stupid?"

Her roar shook the Heavens. Luckily, the room was sealed to prevent anything from leaving, including sound.

"City Lord, we apologize. It was already too late when we realized what had happened."

Tong Ruobing clutched her hand so tight that it began to bleed; she could not help but lose control of her emotions after the stupid things these people had done. Even worse, her clone did not notice in time and stopped it.





"I do, and I still chose this way." Tong Ruobing knew it was one thing to get Wang Wei's

forgiveness for the stupid actions of her people, but more importantly, she needed to re-establish the trust they previously formed after a turbulent relationship.

"Good," nodded Wang Wei. "I know what I want for my favor."

Chapter 1020 Null Era Secrets

"Have you heard of the Abyss Gap?"

Tong Ruobing immediately frowned, "Know a little. It's one of the few Forbidden Lands of the Endless Void." She has read some of the Star Monarch Mountain records and saw the Abyss Gap information. However, no records revealed what secrets lay in that place.

"I need you to enter and get me some useful information," said Wang Wei, who waved his hand to send her a jade talisman. "This talisman will grant you my pinnacle strength. Use it before entering and get me some valuable information about that gap."

Tong Ruobing looked at the talisman, "Can I have some time to prepare?"

"Of course, but don't take too long."

Tong Ruobing bowed before disappearing; she had a lot of work to do. First, she needed to cultivate a decent clone to prevent the same mistake from happening. This process took over a year, and once she finished, she returned to the Star Beast World.

"What happened?" asked Mu Lei, who sensed her early departure and sent a projection to check on her. Tong Ruobing sighed before telling him everything.

"Why are you being so stupid now of all time?"

grunted Mu Lei. "Offer him high-level positions in our court: why take such risk?"



Wang Wei opened his eyes as he felt the talisman's disappearance. His eyes twinkled as he waited with anticipation. When he was about to return to his retreat, he received news from Wang Ju. A moment later, she appeared in the room.

"Finished?"

"Yes," she replied before handing Primordial Desolate's memories and Wang Wei viewed them.

Primordial Desolate was a talented and unique Primordial God for a few reasons. During the war, the Innate Demon Gods realized they needed to change, adapt, and evolve to have an ounce of chance to win or survive this war: they knew their old and consecutive ways were not enough.

This idea resulted in the project to create the Demon Race, a subservient acquired race that could acquire the Heaven Will in worlds that abandoned their kind.

Another creation of that mindset was [Project Evolution]. The Innate Demon Gods knew their strict hierarchical society and civilization were burdens in this war, especially when compared to humans' large population and ability for unlimited growth.

So, they researched ways to purify and evolve their bloodline. The success of that project allowed an Innate Demon God born with the potential of a 1-Star Primarch to break that limitation on their bloodline and ascend to higher levels of power.

Primordial Desolate was born with only 2-star potential but broke his limits and achieved 6-star.

However, this was not what made him special or unique. It's because he was the first limit-breaking creature that rose through the rank and acquired the name, title, or position of [Primordial].

According to the Primordial God Society, only their ancestors, the first Gods born in the world, could use the word Primordial in their name.

Later, the laws changed to include anyone with 6-Star Power, which was also a privilege to a few individuals born early in the Primordial Era.

During the war, despite changing the rules and allowing anyone who achieved 6-Star Powers to get that title, discrimination, and political restraint prevented many people from acquiring the title. For

example, Primordial Desolate was not the first limit breaker individual to reach 6-Star, but he was the first person to get the Primordial name.

From Primordial Desolate's memory, Wang Wei had a deeper insight into the Innate Demon God's society and the brutality of the war. He also learned a few new secrets and confirmed things he had already suspected.

The Innate-Acquired War was not only something that happened in the lower dimension but a massive war that started in the Eternal Ascension World. Both sides in the lower dimension would receive aid or support from the upper dimension.

Furthermore, Wang Wei knew why most Great Emperors in Immortal Powerhouses did not ascend, and it was not mainly because theenvironment supported their cultivation.

The main reason was the war was even harsher in the upper dimension, and no one wanted to ascend and become cannon fodder. They knew in such a massive war, they would be nothing but slightly larger cannon fodder.

Luckily for them, the war in the lower dimension was vital to the one upward. So, they received support in the form of resources, and once the 12 Acquired Supreme used the powerful formation to deal the most significant blow to the opposite side, they won the war and blessed the upper dimension's side with Qi Luck and destiny, which in turn help them also achieve victory later down the line.

Of course, the upper dimension Innate Lives would not easily accept such a defeat. So, they organized a retreat for the remaining survivors while leaving some people to remain and find a way to recondense the luck of the Innate Demon Gods. Primordial Desolate was not the only one; he was not even the only one from the Myriad Emperor World, but he was the only one remaining in this plane.

Once their people left, the upper dimension retaliated. They attacked the history of the lower dimension, removing 99% of all records., thus forcing all cultivation civilizations to die out and have to start over. They also forced the surviving Emperors to ascend, not giving them a chance to rebuild.

As such, only a few worlds were lucky enough to retain some information from before the Null Era.

Wang Wei opened his eyes and exhaled; these memories were valuable as he learned a few secrets. He also understood why it was always fuzzy when navigating the River of Time and seeing what had happened during the Null Era.

'I also understand why not many Great Emperors from that era are still alive,' he thought. After fighting and surviving that war, they were forced to ascend and participate in an even more terrible one. He knew how lucky someone must be to survive a war full of Paragons, Dao Rulers, Immortal Kings, and Heavenly Primarchs. And if the war was indeed about Acquired Life against Innate, Fiendgods may have participated.

After this experience, Wang Wei finally believed his ancestors, the Heaven Opening Emperor, words that he was not as bad as history portrayed him. And that's because the latter should have been a Paragon by the time Qiyuan ascended.

Qiyuan would never have had a chance if a Paragon was after him, especially since he had no foundation in the upper dimension.

"You did a good job," said Wang Wei to Wang Ju.

"As long as I can help you."

Wang Wei nodded, "Is there anything else?"

"I want to know your intentions with the Commerce Hub."

"Are you asking why I did not immediately attack them?"

"Yes. It's not like you," nodded Wang Ju.

"Your words explained why I'm not doing it,"

replied Wang Wei. "People know I don't like to face any loss, so it's obvious what my next step should be after the previous attack-retaliate against it."

Wang Wei smiled after he said these words. As a master of fate, he understood its manifestation is often very simple: a person's fate is the combination of their behavior patterns developed during their life. If someone knows someone well enough, they can predict the latter's fate by knowing how they will act or make decisions.

"Are you worried they will be prepared for an attack?"

"Even if they were prepared, it would not make a difference," explained Wang Wei. "My concern is they make it difficult for me to control the commerce."

The hub was a business, and using brute force to control was useless. Plus, Wang Wei was greedy and needed it perfectly intact when he controlled it.

"So, we are going to let them scott-free?"