

F.D Emperor 1051

Chapter 1051 Alternative Soul Foundation

Somewhere in Primordial Chaos:

Two titans were clashing nonstop. Then, out of nowhere, Supreme Unity suddenly paused. He immediately realized his mistake and tried to reach it, but it was too late. Maitreya took this opportunity and hit him with a golden palm, drawing a few drops of blood in the corner of his mouth.

"You should know better than to be distracted in this kind of battle," she stated before continuing her nonstop offensive. Meanwhile, Supreme Unity had to take a moment to compose himself and control his emotions. The return of the Soul Path allowed the Eternal Ascension World to fix a missing part of its existence, which in turn increased True Heavenly Dao's power and control while reducing his.

'I cannot rely too much on Heavenly Book,' thought Supreme Unity. 'It's time for me to take action.'

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Many powerhouses in the upper dimension felt the Soul Path's reappearance. They knew that such changes would have worldwide repercussions, but only a few people knew exactly what these were.

Origin Seal Continent:

"Did you feel it?" asked Wu Hong.

"Yes, a new soul path," nodded Yan Hai. "This one seems related to Divinity instead of a Pure Soul Path."

"That's not what I care about. Do you think his influence has been lifted?"

"Probably. I mean, there have been signs," replied Yan Hai. The Soul Path returned in many Chaos Worlds, so it's not surprising.

"I'm just wondering how this will affect the future."

"The Chaos Universe will simply become even more complicated," replied the Sword Empress. Spirit, Essence, Qi, and Dao- only with these four things in perfect balance can the universe be perfect. Once that is achieved, many simple things will become complicated; many things that were once impossible or unauthorized will become common.

"This time, the chaos will truly be impressive," sighed Wu Hong.

"The Third Origin War?" said Yan Hai with great fighting intent.

"I don't think it will be called like this."

"If Qishan's conjecture is correct and the kid will be the one who starts the chaos, why can't he use this name? As his ancestor, the least he could do is let me name the event."

Wu Hong rolled his eyes, "How are your injuries?"

"Great. It won't be long before I won't be a small shrimp of an Emperor," replied Yan Hai. "How about it? Want to fight then?"

"No, I don't want to embarrass you again."

"It will be different this time. I have a powerful body and entered a new Swordsmanship Realm. You're definitely not my opponent."

"And do you think I haven't improved?" Wu Hong rebutted. The memories she received from the unknown clone were helpful in more ways than one. Yan Hai looked at her. Even the slightest improvement is difficult in their current realm but also drastically increases their strength.

"If you're scared, say so."

Wu Hong ignored her and disappeared, making the Sword Empress snort. "No matter what, it won't change the fact you will be my little daughter-in-law."

Chu Divine Dynasty:

Pei Lang felt the changes between Heaven and Earth, and many ideas flashed in his mind. The other paths are the backbone soldiers and middle-level officers of the Revolution, and having a new path will also mean more variety in their troops.

He groaned as he knew he had to attend an official meeting of the dynasty before having the free time to contact Old Ma. Without hesitation, he wore his official clothes and headed to the palace. Midway through the voyage, Pei Lang felt a sudden terror overcome his mind. The feeling of dread was so intense that his body was shaking.

'What's going on?'

He quickly searched for an answer, and his face became ugly - an omen of Death. His intuition was warning him that death was rapidly approaching.

'What happened? Was my identity exposed?' This was unlikely. Pei Lang was not stupid and knew someone was protecting him. Otherwise, he would never be able to hide from certain individuals.

'Calm down,' he repeated over his mind while breathing. 'No matter the situation, as long as I can become a Boundless Paragon, my chances of surviving this catastrophe should improve.'

As Pei Lang attended today's meeting, his facial expression never revealed any anomaly. No one could tell this famous Prime Minister received a terrifying omen of death. Pei Lang returned home after discussing the issue with the new Soul Path and immediately contacted Old Ma.

"Sir, we have good and bad news."

"What happened?"

"We found Old Man Tianji," replied Old Ma.

"I'm assuming that's the good news. What about the bad?"

"Well, we didn't find him per se, but he left a note for you," explained Old Ma before showing him the note, which read:

[The pill is both a great fortune and a disaster.]

Pei Lang's eyes squinted. Diviners always speak in riddles and never direct with their words - a fact that he did not like. However, these words were easy to understand and deduce. The pill itself has no issue, but the process of breaking through will not be simple.

"Sir, what are you thinking?" asked Old Ma.

"Don't know. What do you think I should do?"

"The situation is stable, so I don't think you need to rush," said Old Ma. "We can take our time to ensure that your breakthrough will be smooth."

Pei Lang did not say anything. Typically, such a tactic would be best, but not with death looming over him. He sighed, "Things have changed, and there is no time for a safe approach."

"What do you mean?"

"Don't worry about it. I will enter seclusion to prepare for the breakthrough. I will leave a clone for you to contact."

"Sir, how sure are you?"

"If this were any other time, I would say 80%. But now, I don't know."

Old Ma was silent momentarily, "Take care and be careful."

Pei Lang nodded. They discussed how to best utilize this new path and increase their strength. As soon as the conversation ended, Pei Lang began to act. He had prepared many exits for himself for different situations, including needing a clone to replace his main body and preserve his identity.

Once that was done, he disappeared from the world's view.

Myriad Emperor World:

Wang Wei looked at Liang Shixian in puzzlement. Such an act of returning the Soul Path to the world should have been a far grander event. However, besides the merit, nothing of significant significance occurred. He did notice a powerful destiny protecting the latter, and once Liang Shixian returns home, his race will also be protected. However, he felt the entire thing was underwhelming.

'What could be the cause?' thought Wang Wei, deducing countless possibilities. 'It's either the return of the soul path is not as important as I believe or True Heavenly has reduced the impact of this event as a form of protection for Liang Shixian.'

Wang Wei was leaning on the latter. Just like Heavenly Dao owes Buddhism for what happened with the Absolute Beginning Emperor, the Divine Race also suffered due to that catastrophe. So, it's possible True Heavenly Dao converted all the rewards and benefits of Liang Shixian into destiny and Qi Luck of his race.

Under Liang Shixian's request, Wang Wei teleported the latter's followers from their clan's dimension. Afterward, Wang Wei began to check on the world. Many people are intrigued by this new path.

Most of the God Positions are accompanied by faith, meaning many people already have some level of resources for this path. So, many people who were previously trying to save for a Grand Dao Source Seed opted for this cheaper path instead; they were happy as long as they were not the lowest of Immortal Venerables.

While Wang Wei was waiting and observing, Yan Liling came to see him.

"Little sister, what happened?"

"I have an idea and wanted to run it by you."

"I'm all ears."

"You know I've been trying to understand [Existence] to establish a Nine Extremity Foundation?"

"Indeed. How is your progress?"

"I'm very close. I only need a slight push, and I feel I will succeed," replied Yan Liling.

"That's good news. Is that what you need my help with?" asked Wang Wei. "We could try Lin Fan's approach." If he erased her [Existence] before reviving her through [Existence Reconstruction], she might break through that last barrier.

"Hmm, that's actually a good idea," replied Yan Liling. "But that's not it. I was considering whether I can achieve an alternative Nine Extremity like Jun'er, but instead of the body, through the soul."

"Hmm, normally, that would be impossible." There is a reason that the limit of strength is 7-Leaf, and only through body refining and Nine Extremity can this be overcome. "Are you thinking of taking inspiration from this God King Path?"

"Exactly," nodded Yan Liling.

"Let's see. We can modify the process so that you condense a soul ring with the [Growth Characteristic] of the soul instead of its immortal nature. Then, you can condense a Soul Flame using Pure Soul Energy instead of Incense. The Soul Flame should temper your soul beyond the limit and achieve strength on par with Dao Ancestors, if not higher."

"So, it's possible?" asked Yan Liling with shining eyes. As an Alchemist, the soul is very important to her, so this way is more compatible to her than the Nine Extremity Foundation.

"We can try."

Chapter 1052 Hard Success, Transition & Transaction

Wang Wei frowned as he watched Yan Liling in the simulation trying to condense the [Growth Soul Ring]. Things were not as simple as he imagined; the rules of Heaven and Earth allowed only the body to break the limit of 7-Leaf, meaning it was not easy to break or become the exception.

He began to help or assist her in the process. He showed her the soul's essence and allowed her to experience what it's like to have an Emperor Soul, followed by an Innate Paragon Soul. However, all of these did not help, and she still failed.

Yan Liling, let alone Wang Wei, were not people that easily gave up, especially the latter, who felt like someone was mocking him for trying to become an exception to the rules. So, he went extreme. He instilled Llang Shixing's memories of condensing his soul ring and Divine Flame into her mind. He allowed her to peep at the secrets of reincarnation, watching an infinite number of mortal souls experience life and death and how their souls develop in the process.

He used his sub-soul, Dao, to allow her to experience how every stimulus affected the soul, including negative emotions, positive emotions, trauma, willpower, ambitions, desires, cultivation, law baptism, injuries, healing, etc.

Wang Wei even showed her what it would be like to be a hive-mind creature with direct access to trillions of souls. Then, after years of effort and simulation, she finally succeeded.

"This...was way harder than I expected," commented Yan Liling as she saw the ring above her Primordial Spirit in her Sea of Consciousness. The process could be described as torturous, which would be putting it lightly. The only good news is her understanding of the soul has reached a level she never thought possible.

"That's because you weren't trying to become a God King. Otherwise, the process would not have been so stressful," explained Wang Wei, who felt both relief and anger that the process was so arduous.

"That's worrying."

"Indeed. I'm afraid only people with an extreme talent for the soul have a chance of succeeding in this method."

"So, this foundation is only for people with Professional Dao? And even only the very best of them?" summarized Yan Liling. In other words, only people like her, Tong Ruobing, and the deceased Chen Chen might have a chance. Wu Ming, who is on the same level as them, relies more on his unique physique and might fail. Lou Cheng also relies on his Innate Talent and risks failure as well. After all, Yan Liling used the [Force Control Skill], which is an even better version of his talent, but it was not enough for the procedure.

'The fact that there are three people with the talent for this kind of foundation is a testament to how many unparalleled geniuses this generation has,' observed Yan Liling.

Wang Wei groaned after hearing these words. He still has not given up on his father achieving Ten Supremacy and thought this method might allow him to refine an Innate Emperor Soul, but it appeared this attempt was futile.

'It seems dad might have to wait for a Foundation Re-establishment in the later years of his cultivation journey if he wants a chance at Ten Supremacy,' analyzed Wang Wei.

"Let's proceed to the next part," added Wang Wei, and Yan Liling continued with the simulation. The next part was also difficult but not as extreme as the first. They had ample pure Soul Energy from the Dream World's excellent business model, and Yan Liling now had a deeper understanding of Soul Dao to increase the likelihood of success and accelerate the process.

The combination of pure soul energy and the soul ring and ensuring the Innate Soul Flame (named chosen by Yan Liling) contained the characteristic of [Nurturing] further to aid the growth or development of the Primordial Spirit took significant work between the two before finally succeeding.

"How does it feel?" asked Wang Wei as he saw the final product.

"Excellent. I can feel my soul growing with each passing minute," explained Yan Liling. "It won't be long before I can bear the power of the Grand Dao Source for a short period, meaning I will be able to refine Dao Pills."

"That's great to hear," replied Wang Wei before frowning a little. "I'm starting to think my plan for you guys to prove the Dao is unnecessary. At this point, it would be best to wait for the right generation and participate in the battle."

"No need. I am more than happy to safeguard your era after you leave," replied Yan Liling. "And I know Jun'er feels the same."

"But there is no need."

"We want to, and that's what matters."

Wang Wei sighed, "Alright."

"I just had a great idea: what if I fuse the Origin Pill Flame with the Innate Soul Flame?"

"Hmm, it should increase your soul's potential or higher limits while also increasing your Pill Refining Ability," analyzed Wang Wei. "However, as you know, this thing is very exclusive, so it won't be easy to fuse."

"We have the time."

"That's true. Do you want to condense the soul ring and flame now or continue with the simulation?" asked Wang Wei.

"It's best that I finish everything in one fell swoop."

"As you wish, but things are about to happen on the outside, so I will leave a projection to continue helping you."

"That's alright."

Wang Wei left the Dream World, and a little over five hundred years had passed on the outside. Of course, Yan Liling had spent countless times higher inside the simulation with his help.

With a single thought, he checked the world and muttered, "Things are about to set up in place."

A few days after his exit, visions manifested all over the Myriad Emperor World, followed by a mighty and noble cry of a dragon. All eyes immediately focused on the Northern Continent, and not long afterward, the world knew a new Eternal had appeared: Primal Darkness Dragon Emperor.

The majority of the people were lukewarm about this new change. By this time in the Era, Emperors and Eternals had become too normal. With the advancement of civilization and the Dream World, mortals are more connected and have more knowledge about the cultivation world. So, even with their relatively short lifespan, they have records of things that happened 10,000 years

ago. Wang Wei once prayed for the mortal children that have to learn such a long history. Luckily for them, their spirit is higher than regular individuals.

The only people who genuinely care about Ao Shen's achievement are the top Lineages, as his new power increases the level of threat he poses, and the people who still refuse to acknowledge the rise or even presence of the demon race. Ao Shen and the demon have only become an even greater threat to these people. They even critiqued the Heavenly Emperor for his "passive" or even "encouraging" attitude toward the demon race.

Wang Wei did not care about how the world reacted to these changes. He looked at the Northern Continent, and a smile crept on his mouth as he thought of something, "Mom should be interested in fighting him once she also proves the Dao."

A battle of darkness: this should be a sight to see.

Wang Wei watched the demon race begin to celebrate their chief's ascension. Some of them started discussing making this day an annual celebration for their kind, and many agreed. They had just cultivated their first Eternal, and all future descendants should remember and celebrate such an act.

"There is a guest coming, so let's prepare," muttered Wang Wei before walking to the garden to prepare a table and tea. And as he expected, someone came to see him a few minutes later.

"Come, sit down."

Huo Fenghuang saw the preparation and frowned before sitting down. "Since you've expected my arrival, then you should know why I'm here."

"Not really. I only know you would be coming," replied Wang Wei. "I also deduced why you're here, but I rarely used my powers to know everything."

"I found that hard to believe."

"You could not imagine what it's like to have a conversation and know everything the other person will say or do down to the attoseconds. It's fine occasionally but begins to affect the mind the longer you use it."

"So, fate is a burden?" asked Huo Fenghuang in a tone that suggests Wang Wei she could not believe he would complain about such a powerful Dao.

"At least, to the current me, it is."

"Let's not talk about this." Huo Fenghuang decided to change the topic. "I came here to borrow merit. I promise to return them with extra compensation."

"Ao Shen's transition got to your head?"

"Although I don't want to admit it, it's true," nodded Hua Fenghuang. It irked her that the dragon had transitioned before her.

"Even so, there is no need to hurry. With enough time, you should be able to gather enough merit."

"But I don't want to wait any longer."

Chapter 1053 Negotiations

"I don't have a problem lending you the merit," nodded Wang Wei after pondering for a moment. "However, I don't want merit with interest."

After hearing these words, Huo Fenghuang immediately became on guard. Suddenly, she felt she was making a deal with the devil, and such deals were never worth it.

"What do you want then?"

"I want to borrow your Ancient Clan's Qi Luck Condensing Artifact for the duration of my reign," directly stated Wang Wei, and Huo Fenghuang wanted to reject this idea immediately. But she controlled her urges and thought about the trade for a few minutes.

"It's not impossible to let you borrow it if it's only for this generation," said Huo Fenghuang. "However, the small amount of merit I will borrow is not enough for a deal of such a caliber." She had already amassed a large quantity of merit but was short. The early stages of the expansion are

over, so gathering merit is no longer as fast and efficient as it used to be. Nevertheless, they were still gathering merit, just at a turtle crawling space compared to before.

Huo Fenghuang will gather the merit needed for the transition as long as she waits. After seeing Ao Shen's success, she only asked for a loan because of her competitive nature.

"That's a fair point. What do you think is a fair exchange?"

"Let me think. Besides the merit I need, I want a few World Communities for the Ancient Clan when the court further expands," said Huo Fenghuang. "Additionally, I want the position of Regent for ten generations."

Wang Wei shook his head.

"Do you feel it's not worth it?" asked Huo Fenghuang. "I know you've been trying to gather the Qi Luck Artifact of the world that has contributed to the cultivation of civilization. I can tell you all the others cannot compare to our Ancient Clan-including the Dao Opening Sect."

She was not boasting, as their clan contained the unique blessing of all the others: Daofather Qi Luck, Alchemy Ancestor Qi Luck, Talisman Ancestor, Array Ancestor, and Weapon Ancestor. Their clan's Qi Luck is not as potent as the others because they are from an old Era Cycle, but it's still significant since these destinies have been blessed for the fact they were the first. And that's not to mention the countless other types of Qi Lucks fused in the mix.

As such, the price she asked for was more than worth it.

"Let me explain a misunderstanding you might have," countered Wang Wei. "The expansion will not be a conquest where we take over other world communities, including establishing a court and taking over God Positions."

"It's not?" Many people assumed that was the next step and prepared for the upcoming World/Planar War.

"I will use a less aggressive approach," replied Wang Wei. "Our expansion will be the Mortal Civilizations, Dream World, and Enlightening Temple."

Overaggression and conquering will be detrimental to the longevity of his era. So, he will use a more peaceful approach. Of course, Wang Wei also knows his method will also garner him a lot of enemies. These worlds will not be kind to foreigners for changing or influencing their history, and Wang Wei is prepared to use any means necessary to spread these things and gather merit. He's also prepared for the consequences.

Huo Fenghuang frowned after hearing this news.

"I know what you're thinking," continued Wang Wei. "This time around, 95% of the merit for the mortal civilizations will go to you, and I will only take 5%."

"That will indeed make up for the Divine Positions and other benefits," nodded Huo Fenghuang, who also felt extremely jealous thinking about the benefit for everything else that Wang Wei and the Dao Opening Sect will receive.

"Are we allowed to establish our own court in other World Communities?" asked Huo Fenghuang

"Yes, but you must reduce your power in this court, just like the Great Talisman City."

Huo Fenghuang's eyes narrowed. Despite the increase to 95% of the merit, the expansion will not be as simple as it seems because confrontation and war will be involved. In other words, the risk will increase, and many people will begin to wonder whether the benefits are worth it.

"Forget the benefit of the expansion," she said. "If you want our luck artifact, the Regent Position is non-negotiable."

"I have no problem with granting it to you, but ten generations is too long," argued Wang Wei.

"It's really not if you consider the instability of the position itself. With the effect of all you've accomplished, how difficult do you think it will be for a Second Class Emperor to appear and not be eligible to sit on the throne?" persuaded Huo Fenghuang.

"Everyone knows that in the next hundred generations, the Myriad Emperor World will usher in an Era of countless geniuses and top-tier Emperors. So, who knows when our Ancient Clan will have the opportunity to use this Regent Position."

"Good argument, but also very flawed," replied Wang Wei calmly. "I already stated that I will leave tests to determine who can inherit my legacy. So, even if someone meets the strength requirement, they can't become Heavenly Emperor if they don't meet my other requirements."

Wang Wei looked her in the eyes, "The Regent Position will be used more often than people believe. So, I can only give you one generation. After all, I'm the only one using the artifact, and it's only for a short period."

"No, that's too little," countered Huo Fenghuang. "A Regent Position with probably powerful Emperors who failed is dangerous and not conducive to business."

"You cannot just want the benefit and not the trouble that comes with the job."

"Since I'm negotiating benefits, of course, I can," argued Huo Fenghuang. "If the Ancient Clan has to worry about a potent enemy while using the Regent Position, then the position's value has depreciated."

"Do you have any idea how much the position will be worth by the time I leave?" asked Wang Wei.

"Don't use this useless trick on me," countered Huo Fenghuang. "You and I both know many people or worlds will instantly reverse some of the things you've accomplished the moment you leave."

Wang Wei's eyes secretly twitched as he had long predicted this outcome. Sadly, this was the price for using force to forcibly make these people and worlds develop, for the rapid development without preparation, and the backwater and conservative mindset of the cultivation world.

His Dream World will be fine as most people will find it helpful and want to protect it. Furthermore, True Heavenly Dao won't want such a thing to be removed from the lower dimension after seeing its positive effect. The courts will also be okay as they have been the trend of Heaven and Earth for a long time.

The progress he brought to mortals is the one he knows will be dismantled. Cultivators have always despised and looked down on mortals despite once being one. So, they will never accept such people have equal rights as them; even worse, many won't even accept the fact that mortals are no longer the dirty and ignorant individuals they were and should be.

Luckily, the mortals will have the Enlightening Temples to protect them and give them a fighting chance. And if some world might create a miracle where a mortal's art could reach the level of an Immortal, these worlds will be saved.

"Things will not crumble as fast as you say," replied Wang Wei calmly. The fear his strength will bring to the world will prevent those people from actively acting on his legacy for at least a few dozen generations. Furthermore, he will also leave a fighting chance for the mortals.

The [Sage] Statues in the temples are the first step. At the right moment, they can manifest a spirit and bear the destiny, karma, and luck of their people, who worshiped them as sages and protected them. With these Sages, the mortals will have a fighting chance of survival even if a Great Emperor is the one trying to erase their civilization.

"Under the fear of my power, no one will touch my things for the next few hundred generations," Wang Wei calmly stated.

"Still over exaggerating,"

"No, you're simply underestimating me," countered Wang Wei. "None of you know how powerful I will be before leaving and to what length I'm willing to go to protect my legacy."

Huo Fenghuang felt a chill run down her spine. However, she quickly regained her bearing and continued this negotiation. They talked for more than an hour before agreeing. In the end, Wang Wei was not willing to give the Regent Position for more than one generation; there were too many benefits to being a Regent, and he only had to use the Ancient Clan's luck until his ascension.

So, Huo Fenghuang had to settle for other benefits like keeping all hundred percent merit in a few of the worlds during the community-wide expansion. After her departure, Wang Wei summoned Ao Shen to have an official chat with him.

Chapter 1054 Dragon Gate

Ao Shen walked into the throne room and saluted as usual. With his [Awakening], Dao Will, Will Manifestation, and a Bloodline Ability that turned into a Source Technique, he has achieved 3-Peak Battle Fold, and that will increase after refining his unique Proving Dao Artifact and using the remaining merit he has to increase his cultivation. However, he knew such strength was useless before this man.

"What can I do for you, your majesty?"

"I call you here for two reasons," stated Wang Wei. "Firstly, I need to know whether the demon race will stay in the Myriad Emperor World or if you plan to leave to set up your own rule somewhere else."

"Do you want us to leave?" asked Ao Shen instead of answering.

"I don't care what choice you make, I just need to know which one it is so I can prepare beforehand."

Ao Shen frowned, wondering whether these words were a threat. By his deduction, Wang Wei had no need to do such a thing, but he could not help thinking of the worse. He observed for a few seconds but could not find any information from the latter's bland and calm expression.

"The Myriad Emperor World is as much our home as any humans," replied the Primal Darkness Dragon Emperor. "We have fought and contributed to this world despite how humans repay us every time. So, no, we do not plan to leave our home."

Ao Shen never thought of leaving; otherwise, he would have done so long ago. He considered this place as much his home as the human race despite all the misfortunes and mistreatments they've suffered. Additionally, Ao Shen's greatest wish is one day, his kind will become the protagonist of this world, so leaving was never an option.

"That's good to hear," nodded Wang Wei, who chose not to comment on the latter's passionate speech about the demon race's plight. Was the human race wrong? Of course. It has been so long since the Golden Ape Emperor's appearance, and to this day, many people still use that excuse to justify their cruelty toward the demon race.

After knowing that the Golden Ape Emperor was nothing but a pawn of the Human Emperor, the human race's actions were more than just cruel and excessive. Unfortunately, he was still a human and needed to see many things from this point of view. In the cultivation world where individual power is outrageous, and the importance of resources can determine a species's existence, things like peaceful co-existence between two different races - especially those of opposing cultures, views, and diets - are nothing but a pipedream.

So far, his reign has achieved a great balance between the human and demon races. He never belittled them, raised them from the ground, treated them relatively fairly, or tried to oppress them. But this cannot be said for his successor.

"The second topic is I wonder if you'll be interested in being an Ambassador to the sealed Innate Lifeforms," asked Wang Wei.

"Them?"

"Yes. It should be about time that I released them, and I thought you might be the person to introduce them to the world and help them acclimate."

Ao Shen did not immediately give an answer. Although he was an Innate Demon, he never truly considered himself one of them. He was a bloodline miracle of the demon race, so he identified with them and considered them his kin. But that did not change the fact that his bloodline was no longer a demon.

'I need only consider the benefits, not the personal aspect of this move,' thought Ao Shen. 'It's impossible to convince these creatures to join the side of the demon race.'

He knew how arrogant his kind were just because they were born from Heaven and Earth. So, even if these new ones aren't as arrogant because of the era, some things are innate, and for the Innate Demons, arrogance was one of these traits.

'Being the Ambassador is an opportunity to form an alliance with the returned Innate Demons.' Whether the alliance was military or economic, the demon race would benefit.

"I accept the position," replied Ao Shen.

"That's good to hear," nodded Wang Wei. "I will lower the restrictions in their seal; they should regain their consciousness and mobility but still cannot leave their Small World."

He waved his hand to give him a talisman.

"This should allow you to enter their sealed area. However, I recommend you communicate with them through Divine Sense first and only enter after they give you permission."

Ao Shen nodded as he would do the same even without these words; he understood the need for respect of his kind, so he would never barge in, even if he could.

"Well, I know you should be busy after your transition, so I won't keep you."

Your majesty, I have something I would like to ask."

"Go ahead," replied Wang Wei.

"Will the Demon School continue to expand?"

"Yes, but you won't be the only one sharing the merit."

Ao Shen's brow furrowed. He had already tasted the sweetness of being in charge of this project, so it was not a good feeling knowing everybody would have a share now.

"I understand," replied Ao Shen while secretly sighing. The demon race needs a patent-worthy invention. Sadly, such a thing is rarer than how Eternal Emperors used to be. After borrowing, he left the throne room before disappearing from the court.

Above the sky in the Northern Continent, he looked at the moon as he sensed a tribulation similar to his.

'She already has the merit?' he thought before sneering as he guessed what she did to amass them so swiftly. After returning home, Ao Shen immediately began to work. Now that he had changed to the most supreme of all cultivation paths, it was time to bless his people truly.

The first step was modifying the spirit/Innate Qi Veins scattered throughout the Northern Continent. He fused his Dragon Aura into the veins, turning them into a unique Innate Dragon Vein that releases Innate Dragon Qi. As soon as he succeeded, all the demon races felt the difference.

Innate Qi was already very helpful or useful in helping them purify their bloodline. But now, with the added Dragon Aura, the Qi was specially designed for the growth and development of the demon race. From now on, the Northern Continent was truly their territory and theirs alone.

Ao Shen looked at his work and nodded in satisfaction. He then added the last finishing touch: protection. He did not want people to destroy his work after his departure, so he left his strength in these veins to protect them. Although he prepared a potent Race Protecting Array to protect the Northern Continent, Ao Shen wanted to be extra cautious.

Ao Shen teleported to a very well-hidden dimension of the demon race. He stared at a towering white gate with dragon designs. Without hesitation, he plunged his right hand into his chest to pull out his beating heart; his face paled, indicating this was a serious injury for someone of his kind. Ao Shen did not care as he swallowed a pill to stabilize his injury.

Under his control, the heart flew to the gate before fusing into it, turning it red while releasing intense lights. After a few seconds, the gate moved on its own as it flew exactly 99,999 kilometers in the air before opening its door to release water and forming what resembled a waterfall.

"A fish leaping the dragon gate to become a true dragon," muttered Ao Shen with a wide grin. This Dragon Gate is the ultimate foundation he will leave behind to the demon race.

Every generation, the most talented demons can come here to purify their blood by swimming up the water. The ones who successfully reach the gate will even have the opportunity to revert to Innate and become like him or elevate their bloodline to be on par with Innate Demon Gods. He had this idea after seeing the captured Wang Clan member. Although he only saw the kid briefly, he guessed some of the essence of his bloodline.

Ao Shen walked to the waterfall and tasted it.

"Still needs a lot of work," he commented. He used many resources, including many different bloodlines, to build this gate, but it was still incomplete. Firstly, he would love to get more Innate Demon God Bloodline to fuse with the gate, so that's another reason he accepted the Heavenly Emperor's proposal.

Secondly, he needs to further nourish the gate with bloodline, but that will have to wait until his body reaches a higher level in the True Power Dao Realm.

Lastly, he needs a very potent Thunder Resource to add to the gate. According to Ao Shen's vision, this artifact would also assist his kind in their tribulation. He knows how terrifying the tribulation is for changing the bloodline or any other type of tribulation, and this thing will be of great use.

Ao Shen left this place to participate in the festivities. He still had a few more things to accomplish before he could visit the Innate Demon Gods.

Chapter 1055 Seed of Distrust

Heavenly Court:

Wang Wei observed the talisman with the characters [Ancient Clan] in his hand. The Ancient Clan was not a monolith, so their Qi Luck Artifact was many and took different shapes. However, the overall condense luck of everybody manifested in the talisman in his hand.

'I thought it would be much harder for Huo Fenghuang to get her hands on this thing. It seems her control of the clan is greater than I gave her credit for,' thought Wang Wei before looking at the moon. He saw her tribulation, and it was something to scoff at. True Heavenly Dao was ruthless in the tribulation, most likely as a way to deter people from walking the path of transition. This is probably why, despite the Ancient Clan giving birth to a few four and 5-Star Primarchs, no one has actually transitioned.

Of course, this kind of tribulation is child's play compared to his Immeasurable Tribulation, but it's not something ordinary Heaven Chosen can handle.

After observing for a while, Wang Wei put away the talisman before visiting Xu Shi. After she made the court her residence, they talked often and further developed their friendship.

Innate Demon God Race Small World:

"This world is wrong," said Primordial Life, a giant woman with four spike horns and small celestial bodies orbiting around them.

"Yes, there seems to be some incongruity with our birth," agreed Primordial Death, a gendered neutral colossal being with all black eyes, no pupil, and six arms.

"Primordial Might, why don't you say anything?" the others asked, looking at another titan with significant muscle, blue skin, and four eyes.

"If you check the history of this world, you would understand why," replied Primordial Might. The others followed his lead and used their Divine Sense to scan the books of small Supreme Lands.

"So, we used to rule this land?" asked Primordial Death. The three looked at each other. They had no memories of their "ancestors" and did not inherit any of their legacies. However, the previous history has made their situation more complex to navigate.

"So, what should we do?" asked Primordial Life.

"We do not have any connections to our ancestors. Our focus should be integrating into this world," replied Primordial Might.

"Just accept things like this?" rebutted Primordial Life.

"Did you not sense that gaze after we were unsealed?" Primordial Might asked, and everyone shivered at the mention of these words. They remembered that fear and warning.

"This is not our world, and the sooner we accept this, the better chance we have at surviving and eventually thriving," warned Primordial Might. He was the embodiment of the Power Law and also the idea that Might is right. Since the human race hunted their predecessors to extinction, he believed they had the right to rule this world.

"Ok. In that case, let's discuss with the Demons to see what they think," nodded Primordial Life, so they contacted the Ancestral Dragon, Empress Phoenix, and Origin Qilin. The conversation went alright initially until Ao Shen showed up, telling them he was the ambassador of the court to introduce and initiate them into the world.

The Primordial Gods noticed Ao Shen's identity and became suspicious of his motives towards the Innate Demons. Luckily, the latter did not act rashly, and his actions showed nothing suspicious during the short meeting. However, the Primordial Gods realized their counterpart might have a direct ally in the form of the Acquired Demon Race while they had nothing. So, they prepared for the possible break.

'Ao Shen, Ao Shen, you've become too predictable,' thought Wang Wei as he watched these interactions. He knew the dragon would want allies for his demon race and counted on him to act on it. Now, the seed of suspicions has been planted on the Primordial Gods, which would lead to the separation of these two groups and eventually weaken them.

'The demon race can have the Innate Demons, and we will take the Primordial Gods,' thought Wang Wei. He had already severed the connection between the current and former Innate Demon Gods to prevent their history from affecting these creatures, but that was not enough. It does not change the fact they had such a glorious history, so Wang Wei needed to prepare in case one of them, maybe in the future, had the idea of reclaiming the glory of their ancestors.

So, he decided to weaken them at the earliest inception; he would not give them time to form any bond or trust as he immediately planted a seed of doubt in their mind on the first day they regained consciousness and interacted with the world.

The next step is to completely separate them, even until they have completely different cultures and ideologies. That way, in the future, even if one of them has some ideas, it will become a hundred times more difficult to execute them without the support of the other.

Wang Wei calmly watched everything before continuing to wait and observe. He received news that the Totem Warrior Path had finally been perfected without any issues. Wu Ming had done an excellent job training the court's Divine Generals and Soldiers.

These positions involved many benefits, so many cultivators volunteered to become court members in this capacity. So, the Totem Warrior Legion and Devil Legion received countless daily applications.

The cycle of the seasons rotated, and it was three years later that Huo Fenghuang finally passed. The world celebrated the birth of the Sacred Beast Empress. Sadly, just like Ao Shen, people were now too used to the appearance of Eternal Emperors and did not care as much. They respected her as they should to a powerhouse of this caliber, but it was not the same.

The only ones who truly celebrated were the Ancient Clan, as Huo Fenghuang was their first Eternals in a very long time. Despite their arrogance, they have been afraid of their clan's decline, and the appearance of an Eternal is proof of their revival; so, they all looked forward to the future.

A little over a month after the Sacred Beast Empress's appearance, golden lights enveloped the Western White Tiger Continent, followed by visions of gilded lotus and Buddhist Chants. An intense amount of Buddhist Dao Rhymes then enveloped the entire continent.

"Did he succeed?" muttered Wang Wei as he watched the show. "No, not succeed, but something else."

As expected, Feng Heng, the Tao-Zen Buddha Emperor, appeared to announce the appearance of a new scripture. However, this scripture is not for the entire Myriad Emperor World but for Buddhism in general; it is the perfect manifestation of all its ideals and philosophy.

Feng Heng received much merit for his efforts, probably even more than he would have for the perfect scripture for his home world. Over the past 10,000 years, Buddhism has spread to every corner of this world community, overshadowing Taoism or other religions, cults, or schools of thought. And that's despite Wang Wei's restrictions not to shove religion on people and Feng Heng's desire not to repeat the old mistakes.

In other communities, the seed of Buddhism already planted by Wang Wei and Feng Heng has not improved much, but they have preserved their strength, waiting for the opportune time.

"Many things at home are about to be settled," muttered Wang Wei. "That's a good thing for the upcoming outward expansion."

He looked in the distance; his eyes focused on a tiny Small Thousand Worlds. His mother was finishing the last few Enlightening Temples before her ascension to immortality.

'Nothing should go wrong, but I cannot help but worry,' thought Wang Wei. As he waited patiently for the day, he received news from Miscellaneous One and returned to the sect.

"Which one did you finish?" asked Wang Wei.

"The Immortal Qi Array," replied Miscellaneous One as he showed him the final result of his hard work. "Like you wanted: Immortal Venerables can link their Mansions to the array, and it will help them cultivate. I also added tiers as you recommended."

Wang Wei nodded. Since he instructed the creation of these things, the situation has changed, so he needed a different approach. The Dao Opening Sect was too powerful, so they did not need the appearance of any Immortal Sovereigns. That's why, even if they have enough Qi to cultivate one, they never use it and leave it for future emergencies.

"This thing came at the perfect time," commented Wang Wei. He knew there might be a backlash because he would not expand his court into other world communities; many of these people were

already preparing for war, wanting to fight for their benefit. However, the array is the perfect incentive to replace the court positions these people would have acquired for the expansion.

"You did a great job," praised Wang Wei before leaving the sect with the array. He first secretly set up the main array in the Myriad Emperor World before establishing interconnected branches in all worlds in the community. His Array Dao, which had now reached over 10%, made it easier to do so, and this approach drastically strengthened the overall power of this formation.

Once Wang Wei finished, he did not announce the news to anyone as he waited for the next court meeting to give the news.

Chapter 1056 Family Celebration

Wang Wei did not have to wait long as a few months later, his mother secretly visited him. Her time was ready, and she was stressed about the upcoming event. Wang Wei reassured her by preaching [Existence] to her, and this approach immensely helped Yu Yan feel more confident.

Then, the day finally arrived. While Yu Yan prepared in the Yu Clan, Wang Wei, Wang Tian, and Wang Chang watched everything from a screen in the court.

"Do you think she will be okay?" asked Wang Tian, walking back and forth to the point his father became annoyed and smacked him in the back of his head to stop. According to the old man, his jittering made him more nervous, so he had to stop.

Wang Wei, who was trying to keep himself from laughing, said with difficulty, "She's fine. After all, don't you know who she gave birth to?"

"Are you praising her or yourself?" asked Wang Tian, rolling his eyes.

"Of course, her." Wang Wei was not lying, as he was born with an immense destiny and the tremendous karmic weight that comes with it. The fact she survived his birth is a miracle, and also due to the support of the Dao Opening Sect's Luck and Destiny. But her survival is a testament to her talent, ability, and potential.

Wang Tian exhaled. The atmosphere in the room allowed him to calm down. He knew his wife's capabilities, especially after finding herself and her ambitions. So, he decided there was no need to panic, and he only needed to trust her.

The time for the ceremony arrived, and Yu Yan began. She called upon Heaven and Earth respectfully before summarizing her accomplishment of bringing balance between mortals and cultivators; she emphasized how peaceful the world has become because of her actions.

The Eye of Heavenly Dao manifested and judged her actions. Then, after she offered the required merit, the latter lowered a Heaven Will to her.

Hmm?" muttered Wang Wei.

"What is it? Is something wrong?" asked Wang Tian, but his son did not answer. Instead, a powerful and mysterious aura emanated from his body.

"Nothing?" said Wang Wei. "No, I would not have this weird feeling if it were nothing." He no longer hesitated and swallowed an Illusionary Pill, raising his strength to the Empyrean Tier.

"Found you, little rat," said Wang Wei with a sneer before making a crabbing motion. In his palm were two potent souls condensed into crystals.

"Intruders?" asked Wang Chang.

"Yes."

"Do you know who?"

"He Shiyi," replied Wang Wei, who recognized the strange power that was protecting these people from his detection. "He waited for the perfect time to strike," he sneered with a terrifying killing intent that made the room freeze.

"What are you going to do?"

Wang Wei crushed these souls after getting the information he wanted. "I already planned to attack him and the Commerce Hub after the expansion to the Martial Hegemony World. The plan won't change."

Despite his anger, he knew not to act out of emotions, so he soon calmed down. However, if the Spirit Genesis Sect had a small chance of surviving his wrath before, they no longer had this opportunity.

Wang Wei focused on his mother. As soon as she absorbed the Heaven Will, he felt relieved as she knew she was now under True Heavenly Dao's protection. Now, he only had to wait for the final result.

He watched with bated breath as the first flower appeared around his mother, indicating she met the first requirement of 20% Grand Dao Source. Soon afterward, she condensed her Dao Will, and the second flower materialized.

"Come on, honey. We're more than halfway done," commented Wang Tian as he looked with excitement. He knew the last one was the real hurdle and the one that mattered the most. Then, after what felt like an eternity, the four of them watched the third flower condense, followed by a grand vision surrounding the entire world.

Wang Wei sighed in relief. His eyes saw the truth. If he had not put up that stupid play for True Heavenly Dao, his mother's chances of becoming an Eternal would have been drastically lowered.

'Life is truly like a game, and you must know the rules and play if you want to reach the top,' thought Wang Wei. There were many things in the cultivation world he was not happy with, for example, the raising Gu method of the Emperor Path. However, he lives by the philosophy that he has to play the game and follow the rules until he can become a rule-maker. Otherwise, if he tries to be special and break the rules while weak, the only fate awaiting him is one worse than death.

"Let's go see her," said Wang Tian, not hiding his excitement.

"No, it's not over yet," said Wang Wei, and he was correct.

"I am Yu Yan, daughter of Yu Yong and Yun Zhaojun. Today, I have proven the Dao and taken on the title of Eternal Darkness Empress. I am also the first Sage of Merit of this blessed Era."

As soon as she finished these words, something anomalous occurred. Her vision began to spread throughout the Lower Realm, and her voice echoed throughout most of the lower dimension.

A golden figure of Yu Yan appeared above Heaven and Earth, and most people in the entire dimension saw the figure. All cultivators instantly knew that a [Sage of Merit] was born; this was her golden body of merit.

The body was pure, noble, and exuded awe and status. Sounds of Sages and profound scholars chanting echoed from it. No matter their cultivation, anyone with an abnormal amount of negative karma could not directly look at the golden figure. After a few minutes, the golden figure fused with Yu Yan's body, granting her many of its attributes.

"That's one of the best Tier 1 Golden Body. A little more merit and she can condense a second tier," commented Wang Wei with praise.

"That's my wife," praised Wang Tian.

"That's my mother," countered Wang Wei.

"And that's my daughter-in-law, what's your point?" added Wang Chang, making the other two speechless. "Instead of wasting time, let's go see her."

The charade of "deceiving" True Heavenly Dao had to remain for a while, so Wang Wei and the group had to visit Yu Yan in her clan instead of her returning to the Dao Opening Sect. They had a short party for everyone, including Yu Yan's clan, sister, and Wang Wei's cousins.

Finally, it was the four of them.

"Again, congratulations, mom," said Wang Wei as he hugged her.

"Thanks, honey."

"Haha, my wife is an Eternal Emperor. How many men can brag about such a thing?"

"Stop saying that. Aren't you embarrassed?" said Yu Yan.

"What? I can't be proud," replied Wang Tian before taking a large sip of his wine. He looked at his son, "Jealous, aren't you?"

"Don't talk nonsense."

"Honey, the boy is not so fragile. Plus, didn't she basically promise to give him a chance?" Wang Tian laughed before continuing to drink.

"Old man, I won't forget today," said Wang Wei with gritted teeth. Instead, he received his father's laughter, followed by his grandfather, who joined in his misery.

Yu Yan was speechless; these people seemed happier than her. The family had a small dinner while drinking, and Wang Wei cooked.

"How does it feel to be a sage?" asked Wang Wei after serving the food.

"Great. Everything feels like it will work out."

"Will that not affect you?" asked Wang Wei; having such a mindset might be dangerous in the long run.

"No, as it's more of a passive afterthought," replied Yu Yan. "Plus, the fusion has strengthened my Willpower, Dao Heart, and state of mind."

"That's good."

"Can you use it in battle?" asked Wang Tian.

"Yes. I can summon it as a defensive technique, and it's quite powerful," explained Yu Yan. "But it lacks any attack abilities. I can burn the golden body to increase strength, but that's not recommended."

"I'm guessing the healing time for that golden body is a nightmare?" added Wang Tian.

"Yes, even worse than the lower class of Emperors." Yu Yan shook her head. The amount of time she would need to heal her golden body if she used that secret technique is astronomical.

"Any other restrictions?" continued Wang Tian, slightly intrigued.

"I can't amass too many karmic sins, or I will lose it, but despite that, there are no other limits."

"That's fair," nodded Wang Tian. "Wei'er, you said your mother was close to a tier 2 Golden Body. Do you want to give her the merit for it?"

"I was about to bring that up," nodded Wang Wei. "What do you think?"

"No need," replied Yu Yan. "I have a plan."

"Do tell."

"I've been thinking about how to make our turn in the Heavenly Court after Wei'er, and I think I have an idea," said Yu Yan before explaining her plan.

"I had a similar idea, just for swordsmen," added Wang Tian with shining eyes. He looked at his son, "What do you think?"

"Both those ideas are worthy of patents," replied Wang Wei. "However, Mom, you should do everything possible to prepare the Yu Clan to hold this patent."

"I will."

Chapter 1057 Battle of Darkness (I)

The Dao Opening Sect will not allow anything to happen to the Yu Clan, but they still need to be able to hold their weight. Additionally, after their departure, something like this patent was enough to cause a fallout between these two factions, so Wang Wei wanted to be prepared.

"Now I feel left out," said Wang Chang; these people were planning their reign as Heavenly Emperor, which made him realize he might be the only non-Heavenly Emperor in the family. And even if he becomes one, who knows how long in the future.

Wang Tian placed his hands on his father's shoulder and gave him more drinks. "Drown your sorrow with the wine." Wang Chang wanted to beat his son; what kind of weird method of reassurance was this?

"What? Can't hold your liquor, old man?"

Wang Chang saw the veins popping on his forehead. "Okay, let's see who can't drink."

"That's more like it," said Wang Tian. "Come on, son. Let's compete."

"I'm good," replied Wang Wei while giving him hints with his eyes. Today was about his mother. If these idiots get too drunk, who knows what they will do and say and possibly ruin things? Sadly, they were already too drunk to notice or realize.

"You're boring," said Wang Tian before drinking with his father. Wang Wei looked at his mother, "I will stop them in time."

"Don't worry about it; let them enjoy themselves. After all, you will only share your secret staff without reservation on such rare occasions." Yu Yan did not mind as she also enjoyed her drinks at a more moderate pace.

"It's been a while since we got together and truly relaxed," she continued. "We have been so busy with our lives and goals. I missed the old days."

"I do, too," nodded Wang Wei.

"When do you think we will truly have peace and tranquility?" asked Yu Yan.

"Probably after truly reaching beyond the pinnacle of this universe," replied Wang Wei. "But even then, we might have different troubles."

"A sad truth, but a truth nonetheless," sighed Yu Yan.

"I sense you're a little sad. Is it because we can't go back to the past?"

"That's not it," replied Yu Yan. "I missed my mother and father. I always dreamt they would see the day I became an Emperor. It's unfortunate."

"I can help you see them," said Wang Wei. "I can summon a projection from the River of Time, a projection from the time before their death. Or better yet, I can find their reincarnation and help them recuperate their past self memories."

Yu Yan thought for a few seconds, "Forget it. Life is never perfect, so I'll accept the fact they will never see the current me."

"Well, it's your choice," replied Wang Wei, who was slightly glad he would not have to see that bastard Yu Yong. No matter how long has passed, he will never forget him for taking away his grandmother.

"It's been so long, haven't you forgotten and forgiven?" asked Yu Yan.

"Never," replied Wang Wei calmly.

"I've never seen this petty side of you."

"It's there but rarely comes out," replied Wang Wei, and Yu Yan could only shake her head. They changed the topic until a few minutes later, Wang Chang stumbled in their direction.

"Boy...how...is the preparation...for my battle...going?"

"I found the Nine Suns Emperor, but that's all I know so far," replied Wang Wei. The talisman he gave Yang Guowei indicated he had found his father, but no more information could be sent, given the distance between them. Until the next exchange with the Rebellion, he won't know much.

"So, it's near," slurred Wang Chang. "It seems I need to step up my training." He walked away to continue drinking. The party continued for a few days, and Wang Tian and Wang Chang drank so much that they lost their vision for more than a week afterward.

When the party finished, Yu Yan sent a challenge to Ao Shen, even before preaching to the world.

Void Battlefield:

The proud dragon appeared in this empty, all-white space. He looked at the woman opposite him and said, "Your majesty, and I'm giving you that level of respect simply because of your son - do you want to use me as a stepping stone?"

"You're overthinking things," Yu Yan replied calmly. "We have the same Dao, so I thought our first battle would be best against each other. I think it would be a great learning experience, don't you think so?"

Ao Shen looked intently at her before his brow finally relaxed. "You have a point. Then, let's begin." He immediately activated his [Awakening], which took the form of black dragon-theme armor around his body. His strength increased by 3%, followed by 2% of his Dao Will, 5% for Will Manifestation, 2% for his flesh, and 3% for a source technique for his Chaos Bloodline. His Proving Dao Artifact had not been refined yet, and his soul was still ordinary, so this was the extent of his power.

Yu Yan followed in his footsteps. Her [Awakening] manifested as two pairs of dark wings floating behind her. However, the boost she received was only 2%, and her Dao Will was also 2%, Will Manifestation was 3%, the fleshly body was another 3%, and 5% for Proving Dao Artifact (her son gave her all the resources needed for an Ultimate Artifact).

As Yu Yan felt the power coursing through her veins, she was satisfied-especially knowing she still had tremendous room for growth. She must still refine a Darkness Emperor Soul and cultivate the [Force Control Skill] to the highest level. Once she accomplishes these two things, her strength will rise another 2-fold. Not to mention the growth of her fleshy body, Dao Will, and Will manifestation.

"Let's begin," said Yu Yan:

[World of Darkness]

A pure, raw, and untainted blackness soon replaced the power of void in this infinite battlefield.

"Affecting my senses with darkness? Aren't you underestimating me too much?" sneered Ao Shen as he used his power to see through this darkness.

"Little dragon," said a voice that echoed through the darkness; it seemed to originate simultaneously everywhere and at one specific point. "The darkness is merely a passing point in your life; your true passion and desire is chaos. So, how could you deal with someone who was raised by it, molded by it, and reveled in all its intricacies?"

"Molded by darkness? You were a housewife all your life, but you dare make such a bold claim?" Ao Shen opened his mouth to fire a powerful beam that would collapse this world of darkness.

Unfortunately, his effort was futile. A powerful force hit him in the face, bending the armor on his face before sending him flying away, and before he reached far, he received thousands of attacks.

[Assimilation]

Ao Shen reacted swiftly as he used his own Darkness Grand Dao Source to assimilate with his opponent, trying to use her power for his.

"My analysis of you was correct, little dragon," Yu Yan's voice echoed. "Don't you know there are different kinds of darkness?"

Ao Shen soon knew the meaning of these words. As he assimilated with her darkness, his soul was immediately assaulted by what he could only describe as the darkness of darkness. Darkness, at its essence, is only the absence of light, but other things are associated with it: sins, negative emotions, fears, and myriad other things.

He then realized his opponent's darkness was divided into two parts: the purest part was used to isolate all his senses, while the other aspect served as a trap for when he tried to assimilate.

'She completely read me,' thought Ao Shen as he used his Dao Will and Will Manifestation to protect his soul and spirit. 'She immediately saw how my usage of Darkness was not as pure as her because of my Chaos Bloodline and used that against me.'

[Darkness Swallow]

Ao Shen's chest emanated a powerful devouring power, allowing him to swallow or devour his opponent's World of Darkness swiftly.

"It seems I have to take this battle more seriously," he commented, looking her in the eyes.

"That is the bare minimum respect you should have shown me as an opponent. Sadly, you only saw the mother of the Heavenly Emperor before you."

"You're right, and I apologize for that." Ao Shen directly acknowledged his mistake. He had been so caught up in the world's politics that he had made such an obvious blunder. Since she's an opponent of equal strength, he should not have any reservations and go all out.

Without hesitation, he transformed into a colossal dragon covered in black armor.

"Now, I can use all my strength," he declared boldly.

"You're not the only one with a noble bloodline," rebutted Yu Yan before activating her Pseudo Human Fiendgod Bloodline(still needs to reach 11th revolution), and her body grew to the same size as Ao Shen, along with tattoos on her right arms that resembled tribal markings.

"This fight might be more interesting than I originally thought," commented Ao Shen.

"I feel the same."

Chapter 1058 Battle of Darkness (II)

Ao Shen's eyes turned blood-red as he used a technique to absorb all the negative emotions of his kind since ancient times. The demon has suffered immensely under the oppression of the human race, so the amount of negative emotions they produced over countless eras could not be described in simple words, and it brought the prideful dragon a significant boost in strength.

'This technique,' thought Yu Yan, who realized this was a Source Technique that gave him another 2% Boost. Additionally, she could tell this thing had much more potential for growth and development.

Bang!

Ao Shen's tail whipped her like she was an unproductive slave, breaking both sets of radius and ulna as she crossed her arms to block. Yu Yan immediately decided to distance herself from her opponent because she noticed the attack contained negative attacks that acted like corrosion, burning her skin, muscles, and flesh. In other words, her bones cracked due to the attack's force while she had to worry about the passive corrosion.

Luckily, she was not so battle-deficient and prevented her opponent's Dao Will and Will Manifestation from entering her body.

Ao Shen would not give her the distance she wanted, so he increased the speed of his tail attacks and used darkness to condense even more tails. Yu Yan evaded hundreds of them in less than a second, but she knew it was only a matter of time before she was overwhelmed.

She acted decisively by detaching her two limbs from her body, forcing them to act like missiles. They rushed out of their sockets and flew toward two of Ao Shen's tails at unspeakable speed.

Boom!

[Gravity Repulsion Bomb]

Yu Yan's arms turned into black holes as soon they touched the tails before releasing a potent gravitational wave that pushed her opponent away. This act granted the breathing room she needed to regenerate her limbs while also getting away from his direct attack range.

[The Soul's Light After Darkness]

A terrifying darkness enveloped Yu Yan's Sea of Consciousness. Such darkness should have withered the soul or spirit with its power derived from fear of the unknown, but it had another purpose: strengthening it. By resisting the power of darkness, her soul reached a level of purity unlike anything before, manifested by the immense light released to block the darkness.

Then, Yu Yan used a soul attack on her opponent.

This technique was quite efficient on Ao Shen for a few reasons. One of his weaknesses is his ordinary soul, which Yu Yan knew and targeted. Secondly, she used her incomplete [Force Control Skill] to acquire an additional 2% Grand Dao Boost, thus elevating her power to the same level as the dragon.

Blood dripped from Ao Shen's nose as this attack bypassed his soul defense.

[Darkside of the Moon]

A strange moon manifested in his Sea of Consciousness, releasing a significant amount of Yin Energy that protected and healed his soul's injuries. Then, the moon hung above his Primordial Spirit, serving as its eternal guardian.

Ao Shen waved his claw, and black ink appeared. He used them to write the character [Suppression] in the void. Yu Yan immediately felt an unknown power that resembled gravity weighing on him to prevent her mobility.

'The power of ink? It should be a technique using Yang Guowei's Chrome Dao,' she swiftly analyzed. Countless thoughts flashed in her mind, thinking how to respond. She could use a similar technique with her understanding of Darkness Dao and how she once learned her son's technique, [Emperor Words Are Law]. However, it's not the best move to counter this technique with a similar technique in this situation. If Ao Shen were a much weaker opponent, this choice would be wise because it would also affect him psychologically, but now was not the best choice.

While her mind was in overdrive trying to find a solution, Ao Shen had already gone on the offensive. A jet-black sword materialized before his opened mouth and rushed toward Yu Yan with breakneck speed.

'The power of destruction? No, the darkness after the destruction of a world, hence the hint of destruction,' she analyzed.

[Cosmos of Infinite Void]

The universe was infinitely vast, and most was dark and empty space. Yu Yan took advantage of this fact to use Darkness Dao to control Space-Time Dao. She created an infinite cosmos before, so this sword of destruction would have to navigate the infinite space before it could reach her. She also applied this technique to [Suppression Ink Technique]; in other words, the power of suppression must pass through an infinite void before reaching her.

Yu Yan protected herself and regained her freedom. Alas, Ao Shen reacted even faster than normal. With a thought, he removed the [darkness] in this void, making it shrink faster than it can infinitely expand. A sneer appeared on the corner of the dragon's mouth.

He had seen Wang Wei and Di Tian's fight in the Dream World and fought against him. One of his defensive techniques was the same but using Space Dao. Ao Shen had prepared how to deal with it, so Yu Yan did not stand a chance.

[Blind Spot]

The human retina has a spot where the optic nerves connect, and this area contains no light-sensitive cells, meaning no one can see. This area is called a blind spot, and humans do not see a black spot in their vision because of the brain's ability to guess or make up what is there.

Ao Shen's attack was based on this fact. Once he uses this technique, even extra senses (i.e., divine sense) will be useful.

Push!

Three black spheres appeared out of nowhere and impaled Yu Yan; she never saw them coming. Her battle instinct made her body move independently, evading more of them.

'Her battle experience is higher than I originally gave her credit for,' thought Ao Shen, knowing that her movement cannot be learned or acquired without years of battle experience. He knew his opponent was smart by the intricate plan of her first attack, but intelligence was different from Battle IQ and experience.

Ao Shen continued his attack, but it did not do as much damage as he had anticipated. His technique was not so easily dealt with, even if his opponent was a master of darkness. He included Soul/Spirit Dao from his Chaos Bloodline in it.

Two more spears penetrated Yu Yan's defense before she realized using pure darkness was not enough to break this technique.

[Illumination]

She raised her hand to manifest an intense light that dispersed any darkness-based technique in her surroundings.

"A Light Sub-Dao? Given your family, I should have expected as such," commented Ao Shen.
"However, I'm still surprised. I thought you would be the kind that focuses on the purity of Darkness and would never be associated with Light Dao."

"How can I understand the essence of Darkness without profound knowledge of its antithesis," replied Yu Yan. She was not one of those swordsmen enamored with the idea of purity. So, light has always been one of her sub-dao - especially since her goal has always been to combine Light and Darkness Dao to establish the best foundation for the Yu Clan.

"The essence of darkness, huh? How about we see which of our darkness is the best."

"Fine by me."

Ao Shen immediately acted. A wave of darkness materialized around him: an old, even ancient, kind of darkness. One could describe this darkness as primal because it is the first form of darkness between Heaven and Earth. When Primordial Chaos had first formed and was slowly transitioning from a state of nothingness to a state of matter and energy, this was the form of darkness that existed; it could be argued as the first 'color' that ever existed in the universe.

Yu Yan did not want to be outdone as she released her darkness. It was not as ancient as her opponent, but it had its characteristics: eternal or everlasting. Before the universe materialized, darkness was prescient, and when it eventually ends, darkness will still exist - darkness is eternal.

The two different types of darkness clashed, turning the Void Battlefield into a black-and-white world. If this battle had occurred outside, the Myriad Emperor World would have been plunged into an incomprehensible darkness, scaring all sentient beings.

The clash ended with Ao Shen returning to his human shape and Yu Yan floating in the void with a pale face.

"You won," she said.

"That may be so, but your darkness still trumps mine," replied Ao Shen. He was the final victor because of his strength, but the essence of his darkness was not on par with hers. It's understandable since, as she said, his heart was in his Chaos Bloodline.

"A win is a win," said Yu Yan with a smile. She thanked him for the fight before disappearing.

Heavenly Court:

"What do you think?" asked Yu Yan.

"It was a great fight," replied Wang Wei.

"No need to sugarcoat it. Tell me the truth."

"Your battle experience is shoddy compared to the top genius of my generation," replied Wang Wei directly, not mincing his words.

Chapter 1059 Next Batch

"Is it that bad?" asked Yu Yan.

"You didn't see it because this was not a life and death-battle," continued Wang Wei. "Otherwise, Ao Shen would have mistreated you even with the same strength. Of course, you wouldn't die with the Golden Body, but it would be a different story without it."

Yu Yan was silent. She expected she would not be on par with the geniuses of this extraordinary generation. After all, she never participated in her Heaven Will Battle and spent most of her time as a non-combatant. But she never thought the difference would be so vast.

"How do you feel?" asked Wang Wei.

"Sad, despite expecting this outcome," replied Yu Yan. "I never expected how much my role as a mother and housewife would affect me." She had a wry smile as she repeated Ao Shen's derivative comment.

"Regret it?"

"No. I never regretted loving my family. And If I had the chance, I would still make the same choice."

"But you wouldn't have given up your warrior side," added Wang Wei.

"Exactly. I could have been all three: a mother, wife, and pinnacle warrior," nodded Yu Yan before sighing. Wang Wei agreed with her, "It's not too late."

"True, so what advice do you have?"

"First, you must know your potential exceeds Ao Shen's."

"Yes, but only because I'm your mother."

"And what's wrong with that?" rebutted Wang Wei. "Without the Dao Opening Sect and the memories from my past life, I would never have today's accomplishments. As sad as it is, sometimes, birth is truly the determining factor for success."

"You...have a point."

Wang Wei glanced at her and saw she had accepted this truth, at least enough not to let it bother her.

"With the Human Fiendgod Bloodline, your body refining path will be smooth," he continued. Ao Shen trumped you in Willpower Manifestation because he had to fight against countless Emperor Imprints during his Heaven Path Tribulation. I can recreate the same environment for you to temper your Willpower.

"You can slowly train your Dao Will until the 5% boost level, but the process is slow and tedious. It's best to wait until you re-established your foundation to Nine Extremity, and you will naturally reach that level.

"You have the blueprint for the best possible Darkness Emperor Soul and only need a rare material to speed up the process and ensure no issue."

"Lastly, it's the issue of Battle IQ and experience."

Wang Wei paused briefly, "You can use Li Jun's Battle Dream Technique; It will be like you were using the Battle Tower every day without stopping. This should be enough to raise your battle experience to a higher level, but that's not enough. You also need the drive, ambition, and killing instinct of a top Heaven Chosen. I will also create a world for you to train."

"A world like your father? I'm intrigued. Tell me more."

"It will be designed for you to constantly fight and kill, starting from a mortal and through every cultivation stage. I will create top talents for you to fight. However, be warned that your memories will be modified to instill a sense of urgency. Knowing this is a training world and cannot die will affect the training process."

"I'm fine with that," nodded Yu Yan. "Will I have to restart cultivating or slowly awakening the strength I have now?"

"Re-awakening," replied Wang Wei. "The objective is for you to be able to utilize your current strength beyond its limits, like a top Heaven Chosen."

"That makes sense." Yu Yan's eyes twinkled, "Do you want to start now, or are you busy?"

"I will start immediately. However, I recommend raising your battle experience before using this world. Otherwise, I doubt you will survive the later stages."

Yu Yan accepted his advice. She chatted briefly before leaving. Her husband saw the fight and wanted to reassure her that one defeat meant nothing. She appreciated the sentiment but was not affected after the chat with her son.

Wang Tian felt relieved his wife was not bothered, so he asked her to spend a few years of romance together. Yu Yan's mind was on her training, so she only agreed to a week, much to Wang Tian's chagrin.

Meanwhile, Wang Wei did not waste time and immediately started creating the world for his mother. He designed the thing like a video game with difficulty. With all the Emperor Imprints he

gathered for the Battle Tower, it was relatively easy to recreate the young version of many Great Emperors throughout history.

So, in the most difficult setting of this world, his mother will have to fight against talents on the level of The Absolute Beginning Emperor, Wu Hong, his father, himself, and many geniuses of his generation. Of course, he limited the power ceiling as the purpose was to train his mother's battle experience and IQ.

The process took a few days because he wanted to be as meticulous as possible. Then, with a wave of his hand, the new world - inside a shining orb - teleported to his mother.

"Next, let's get busy," muttered Wang Wei. His next destination was the Swallowing Zone to check on the Genesis Fruit. After nourishing it with the Dream Power gathered from an entire World Community, the changes to the fruit were visible to the naked eye. Wang Wei was now convinced that once he spread the Dream World to all 3800 World Communities, he should be able to gather enough energy to almost ripen this fruit. And if he considered the few Immortal Sovereigns he would feed it, there should be no problem to ripen it.

His next destination was the Nether Hell. Wang Wei would often check on Old Man Nether and reinforce the seal; he did not want any trouble with his forbidden place until he was ready.

After returning to the court, he sent invitations to different places across the Endless Void. Soon after, a portal opened before him, and a projection of Wrath walked with many Neo-Devils behind her, including Gluttony and a few members of the Seven Sins that survived the Clean-up. Wang Wei was surprised as he thought she would not want these close friends/brothers and sisters to be entangled in such dangerous affairs.

"Are you sure our identity won't be an issue?" asked Wrath.

"Don't worry. If they don't want to accept you, I have already planned a backup to reimburse you."

Wrath looked at him in the eyes, "I'm trusting you with my family. Do you understand this?"

"I do, and I won't let you down."

"Good." Wrath soon left after a few more words, and Wang Wei put these people away. A few minutes later, more Great Emperor projections appeared, with people following them. Soon, Tong

Ruobing and Mu Lei, Ji Lanfang, Shi Qian, Xi Shangyan, and the Demon Suppression Emperor appeared.

They had a long meeting to introduce everybody since they were in an alliance. They discussed many things, including trading between their worlds and communities, and set up rules for their military alliance. Once the meeting ended, most people dispersed.

Ji Lanfang stayed because he wanted to see his friend, Wang Tian. It also helped his decision after Wang Wei told him his father had a special world that he would appreciate, and he was more correct than he thought. After meeting Wang Tian, Ji Lanfang also entered the Swordsmanship World and did not want to leave. Luckily, he was a projection, or the people from his sect would have thought their Heavenly Emperor was abducted.

Xi Shangyan briefly chatted with Wang Wei afterward, only telling him he sent her family the news, but there has been no response as of yet. The Demon Suppression Emperor asked for a tour of the Myriad Emperor World, and Wang Wei obliged. Shi Qian said she had something important to discuss but said she could wait until he had all his affairs in order, so she became a temporary guest in the court.

Wang Wei summoned Wang Qi with the next batch of people to be trafficked to the upper dimension. Then, a few days later, Wang Qi returned with the resources in hand.

"There were no issues with the Devil Race?"

"No; they didn't even ask," replied Wang Qi, and Wang Wei pondered. There were two reasons for this response: firstly, the upper dimension is not as prejudiced against the devil race, or their history has long been forgotten or erased after the rise of these parasites. Maybe a combination of the two.

He dismissed Wang Qi before checking the resources.

"As expected," he commented. According to his agreement with these people, the resource exchange is based on the talent of the individuals sent. After a preliminary analysis of the batch's talent, they will calculate what to send. Then, there will be additional rewards based on their performance after absorbing the Heaven Will.

Last time, he sent the best of the best, so the reward was exceptional. After these people descended, they sent him the bonus, which was exceptional as everyone became Eternals. But this batch, the

preliminary talent, could not compare to the former. Luckily, Wang Wei had made up for it with numbers.

After putting things away, he took out something else.

Chapter 1060 New Branch

Wang Wei had a bright smile as he read Wu Hong's letter. The content was simple; he only thanked her for the advice, and she replied that it was no problem. However, he cared more about the gesture's intent than the content. He carefully placed it away in the protected area of his space.

He wouldn't write another letter for a while as he understood that haste makes waste. His plan for courting her again was not to initially be too intense and let nature take its course.

Wang Wei summoned Shi Qian in the garden. "You said you wanted to talk with me."

"I need a favor," Shi Qian said. "And I'm prepared to pay for it."

"Go ahead," nodded Wang Wei as he served her tea.

"As you may have already known, my father is one of the people I send to my group."

"Found his reincarnation?"

"Yes," nodded Shi Qian. "I took this opportunity to strip him of his Immortal Essence so he could have a chance with the Emperor Path."

"Wise move."

"The problem is my mother," continued Shi Qian. "I also want her to change path."

Wang Wei frowned, "If you want me to help you strip her of her Immortal Essence, that's beyond my ability." Without experiencing reincarnation, the other paths cannot change to the Emperor Paths. This is one of the absolute rules of Heaven and Earth. That's why the Transitioning Method

would not work for Insurgents of the Dao, Immortal, and God Path; it won't even work for Dong Lifen's Fortune Dynasty Path.

"No, I know that's impossible," said Shi Qian, waving her arms. "I've convinced her to reincarnate, but we're both worried. I was wondering if you could help me accelerate her reincarnation."

"Accelerate? How fast?"

"If possible, I want her to be born in the next 10,000 years."

Wang Wei frowned as he sipped his tea, "Although I have the ability, I'm afraid I cannot help you."

"Why?" asked Shi Qian swiftly. "If you're worried about the remuneration, we can discuss a fair price."

Wang Wei shook his head, "That's not the issue. I simply do not want to interfere in Samsara's affairs to such an extent."

"Just for this?"

Wang Wei sighed, "You simply do not know the terrifying secrets involved. If you did, you would be prudent like me." He also wanted to accelerate his grandfather's reincarnation so the family would be together. But the best he is willing to do is to bless him with ample luck so that he has no issue in his reincarnation and that he is reincarnated in Wang Clan. Besides that, he did not interfere too much in the process.

Shi Qian pondered briefly before sighing. She knew Wang Wei was a reasonable person, so he must have his reason for rejecting her. "Is there anything you can do?"

"I can allow her memories to return early and ensure she is born in the Light Race, but that's about it."

"That's fine," she nodded. "I know people can reincarnate with a powerful artifact from their previous life to protect them. Do you know how?"

Wang Wei pointed at her forehead and sent the information she wanted directly into her mind.

"Thank you. As for compensation, I will???"

"No need," said Wang Wei. "Consider it a favor from a friend. One day, if I'm in need, you can come to return it."

Shi Qian paused before cupping her hands to salute, "I will."

Wang Wei watched Shi Qian leave and prepare for his next meeting. However, before he even took a step, he felt something. He looked in the direction of the Western Continent.

"Buddhism's Qi Luck? Did something happen?" The power of fate flashed in his eyes, and he saw the source of this change.

"Them?" Wang Wei saw a distant world, and it was the place of origin of the two Barbarian brothers and sisters from the Deception Trial. "If I remember correctly, their names were Tolui and Khutulun, among the earliest victims of Feng Heng's spread of Buddhism."

He previously thought these brothers and sisters would eventually remove the influence Buddhism had on them, but he was only partially correct. The sister, Khutulun, did so, and she eventually proved the Dao and became an Eternal Emperor.

Meanwhile, the brother remained religious. After the Absolute Beginning Magic was no more, he began to spread Buddhism in their world and the Lower Realm. Then, he eventually found a Merit Proving Method while having the cognitive blockage in his mind removed. After years of meditation, he created a new branch of Buddhism, which granted him enough merit to prove the Dao and become the second eternal of his world.

"Is this Tantric Buddhism?" muttered Wang Wei. There are many branches or philosophies of Buddhism, one of which is Tantric Buddhism, also called Vajrayana Buddhism. This form of Buddhism focused on a faster path of enlightenment through using Tantras or sacred texts with instructions on rituals, meditation, and philosophic teachings. They also practice Deity Yoga, which involves visualizing Buddhas or deities to accelerate their path of enlightenment.

[AN; This is a simple definition as Tantric Buddhism is more complex than stated.]

Wang Wei's deduction was correct, as Tolui invented the cultivation world version of Tantric Buddhism. Wang Wei waited, and as expected, Feng Heng soon came to visit him.

"Did you see it?" he asked.

"I did," nodded Wang Wei.

"This poor monk wants to know your opinion."

"Tell me what you think first."

Feng Heng paused, "Amitabha. This poor monk does not like the core ideals of this practice. Visualizing other accomplished monks to accelerate the path to enlightenment is the same as people who rely on bloodlines; they can never reach the same level as their predecessors."

"That's a fair point," nodded Wang Wei.

"Then, there is the strict relationship between Teacher and Student. Buddhism should be more open-minded; otherwise, it's easy to abuse such a relationship or hierarchical structure."

Wang Wei did not state his opinion. However, Feng Heng's words were the same criticism some scholars or other monks had of Tantric Buddhism on Earth. Of course, no branch of Buddhism is perfect, and all have their criticism.

"Lastly, they seemed to place strength and acquiring Divine Abilities above wisdom or becoming enlightened," continued Feng Heng. This poor monk could see why they made this choice, given the cutthroat nature of the cultivation world, but such a philosophy will only train warriors instead of monks."

"So, what are you going to do?" asked Wang Wei, and Feng Heng looked confused.

"This poor monk's first instinct is to stop them, but I know that's not the correct way." All religions or philosophies will branch out, and sometimes, these branches will be too far from the core ideas of the religion; that's inevitable, and it would be unwise to try to stop it.

"You should already have an idea of what to do, and you have my full support," said Wang Wei, and Feng Heng bowed before leaving. Now that he had acquired what he wanted, he swiftly returned to the Western Bliss Sect and sent an invitation to the Vajrayana Buddha Emperor. He plans to debate scripture with the latter and win publicly. Then, he will discuss how to prevent this new branch from deviating too far from the core ideologies of Buddhism.

For example, after visualizing other Buddhas or deities, the tantric monks must also visualize themselves to reduce the influence of others' paths. Monks on this path cannot be easily granted the monk title without a deep understanding of the Dharma; if they only have strength or Divine Abilities but not wisdom, they cannot be called monks.

Feng Heng had many ideas and was still thinking of many more. This new branch is great news for the revival of Buddhism, but it's also a test. If not handled properly, the chances of them repeating the same mistake of their predecessors will drastically increase.

'Hopefully, this Buddha Emperor will be more understanding and not immediately resolve to violence,' thought Feng Heng; he did not want any contradictions or strife between Buddhist branches.

After the chat with Feng Heng, Wang Wei no longer paid attention to the changes in Buddhism. He had the idea of introducing this pair of brothers and sisters into his alliance but decided to wait to see how they handled Feng Heng's visit.

He walked to Xu Shi's palace, where the wonderful sound of the zither received him.

"Still think it was unfortunate you did not major in the Zither or Sound Dao," he said as he walked inside.

"What can I say: fate chose a different path for me," she replied with a gentle smile, and Wang Wei scoffed at these words.

"Is it time?" asked Xu Shi.

"Yes."

She nodded, "As I said previously, don't expect much. The Martial Hegemony World will not accept outside influence in the world, even a peaceful or cooperative one. I recommend expanding to another world."

"I know, but I must try," replied Wang Wei. "Plus, the people want war, and I might as well give them one."

Xu Shi looked at him but did not say anymore. She was already prepared and did not waste time to leave.