

F.D Emperor 1111

Chapter 1111 The Monkey King's Charm

After killing all those people, two potent aura rushed toward Ye Dafu, forcing him to stop. "Hmm?" muttered the Monkey, ignoring Green Wood and focusing on the second Eternal Emperor. She was a beautiful woman dressed in colorful clothes, like a rainbow, with snake eyes.

"Such a powerful and beautiful demon," said the monkey with a grin before smelling the air. "This bloodline - it should be the Nine Serpent Monarch Bloodline." A brilliant light flashed in Ye Dafu's eyes.

"This Monkey King thought no one would ever be worthy of me, but who would have thought I would find a wife in such a strange manner."

"Who are you calling your wife?" asked the Noble Serpent Empress, releasing a cold aura full of the intention to kill.

"You, of course," replied Ye Dafu. "Only someone of your bloodline is worthy of someone like me."

"Monkey, I was going to show you some leniency, given we're both demons, but I've changed my mind," said the Serpent Empress. "Now, I will tear you apart and feed you to my dogs."

"Oh, such cruelty - I love it," grinned the monkey, showing his all-white teeth. "Don't worry. I will be merciful; I'll seal you and bring you back home to be my bride. The elders should be happy I found someone to pass on my bloodline."

The Noble Serpent Empress responded with actions by activating her [Awakening], which manifested in the form of a rainbow with nine colors hanging above her head in the shape of an arch. As a result, she became even brighter with her colorful dress. Meanwhile, Green Wood - who felt left out and secretly complained about why he was tasked with such a powerful opponent - also activated his [Awakening]. He had two wooden wings floating behind him.

"I'll provide assistance with my Wood Dao," he said.

"I don't need your help," countered the Serpent Empress as she activated two of her bloodlines: the Golden Jia Serpent, known for their mighty defense, and the Silver Void Serpent - a snake Innate Demon with immense speed due to their ability to slit through space and time. So, a golden aura enveloped her body before she disappeared from sight.

Ye Dafu casually moved his body, and a snake whip flashed past his head. A blurred creature then disappeared from his sight. A blurry figure constantly appeared around him for the next few seconds and attacked with the whip. He evaded all these attacks casually until he sensed countless tree roots coming from the distance, trying to entangle him.

He released a terrifying flame disaster to deal with the tree roots, and the Serpent Empress took this opportunity for a sneak attack. Ye Dafu blocked with his staff with a mocking smile:

"Wife, you should know what kind of bloodline I have. So, why use these useless tactics?" Others may not be able to see her once she uses her Space-Time Bloodline Ability, but he can even do so without opening his Heaven Eye.

"It seems you're not as useless as you look."

"Of course. I'm more than my exterior disposition-that's one of my many charms, which you will discover once you become my wife."

"In your dream." The Serpent Empress activated her Purple Fang Serpent Bloodline, which boosted her attacks and granted her control over Poison Dao. She opened her mouth to fire a breath of purple cloud. However, Ye Dafu only giggled before using a Poison Disaster attack, breathing red clouds that overwhelmed the empress. Her fate would have been terrible without the golden aura around her and the monkey's restraint.

Meanwhile, Green Wood was having the worst time in his life in the distance. According to the five elements theory, fire suppresses wood, meaning the attack was his natural element counter. He had to summon a unique tree around him to calm the monkey's attack, and it took him a moment to succeed. Right as he was about to intervene in the fight and provide assistance, two terrifying poisons rushed toward him, and he had to use his summoned tree to block them.

His towering tree wilted in a matter of seconds due to the intense nature of the poison, so he had to use his Wood Dao to change the tree's nature to adapt to this poison.

The Noble Serpent Empress looked at this monkey hatefully. She decided to stop underestimating him and used even more power. So, she activated the Mountain Serpent Bloodline to boost her fleshy body, mainly her physical strength, followed by the Winged Serpent Bloodline, which boosted her raw speed. Finally, she activated her Rainbow-Eyed Serpent to acquire powerful visual prowess on par or close to his Three-Eyed Monkey Bloodline.

The Serpent Empress took one step and appeared behind Ye Dafu. With her new speed-based bloodline and the previous ability to slit through the very fabric of space-time, her speed reached another realm.

Boom!

She punched him with an enormous force. This was not a normal attack as her Proving Dao Artifact, which was normally a whip, had wrapped around her fist like a glove to boost physical-based attacks. The Serpent Empress immediately frowned. Her Eye Prowess detected that her speed surpassed her opponent's reaction time, but an invisible power protected him.

'This is a domain technique where Heaven and Earth love and protect him; in other words, no matter where he is, the surrounding environment will naturally protect him,' the Serpent Empress analyzed, clenching her fists and attacking. Based on her eye insight, she targeted the weak areas of this technique. However, she soon realized how pointless this attempt was, as Ye Dafu seemed aware of these weaknesses and either fixed them or moved them around.

"The Nine Serpent Monarch clan was a fierce race that should have dominated the ancient era with their ability to absorb nine other serpent bloodlines and use their powers for their own. Instead, they were wiped out early in the stages of the war. Do you know why?" asked Ye Dafu.

The Serpent Empress ignored him and activated her Elemental Serpent Bloodline, granting her control of all the elements. She released a devastating attack like a combination of a universal-size tsunami, tornado, earthquake, volcano eruption, meteor shower, thunder atoms, etc.

Ye Dafu remained calm while internally shaking his head in disapproval. All these attacks failed under the disaster category, and thus, he was immune to them.

"The humans and other Innate Demons were jealous of the potential and targeted them; they wanted to wipe them out as soon as possible. However, this was not the main fault of their downfall," explained Ye Dafu. "Their biggest problem was the slow growth time. The most talented in their clans would absorb seven Innate Demon Serpent Bloodlines, but this also meant it took way longer, even by the standard of Innate Demon Gods, to develop all these bloodlines and powers."

Boom!

Ye Dafu swung his staff, hitting the Serpent Empress so hard that her bones cracked, and she suffered internal bleeding. Although her body healed instantly afterward, she could not forget the pain as Ye Dafu hit her with a disaster of pain.

"You're lucky to have acquired seven Innate Demon Serpent Bloodlines in this modern era, but you suffer the same fate as your ancestor - you have not developed them to their full extent."

The Serpent Empress ignored him as she activated her Jade Blood Serpent bloodline to increase her healing potential and deal with this pain.

"I can help you," said Ye Dafu, not stopping his grin. "With my help and the resources from winning this war, you will have no problem developing all your bloodline."

"Stop talking nonsense," she growled.

"Am I? Do you think you're something because you've achieved a lower 4-fold?" sneered Ye Dafu. "Look at all the Eternals of the Myriad Emperor World's faction: all their strengths are around this level, but they cannot access seven potent Innate Demon Bloodlines. Why?"

The Serpent Empress suddenly paused, taking these words seriously. "Is that why you're so powerful?" She realized his strength had reached somewhere around 5-fold, but she did not know exactly.

"Me? No," replied Ye Dafu. He was not part of Wang Wei's inner circle, so today's strength was the result of his own effort and luck. However, he cannot wait to use things like the Dream World and others to further his power.

"Then, how?"

"I can only tell you I've found a way to develop bloodlines," replied Ye Dafu. After losing to Wang Wei and leaving the Deception Trial, he still left his people to acquire news. Then, once he learned how powerful these people became, a fire was lit under Ye Dafu's butt; he realized he was nothing but a phoenix amongst a group of chickens.

With this realization, he put himself through cruel training while searching for ways to improve. Ultimately, he achieved a strength of 8-Leaf before his Heaven Will Battle, and after proving the Dao, he never stopped training.

"Are you really pondering his offer?" suddenly asked Green-Wood, but the Serpent Empress ignored him. The demon race cares more about bloodline when choosing partners - not appearance or compatibility, and if there were no enemies, Ye Dafu would be a top marriage candidate.

Chapter 1112 Earth Emperor Technique

"Can you imagine our children?" said Ye Dafu with a grin, and his words did have an effect. Demon races of different species have even lower chances of reproducing, but when they do, their children will inherit both their bloodlines 99% of the time. So, the Noble Serpent Empress imagined what it would be like to have a child with the Three-Eyed Monkey, Disaster Monkey, and Nine-Serpent Monarch Bloodlines.

'By all standards, this monkey is indeed the perfect partner,' contemplated the Serpent Empress. Their alliance would further their bloodlines and create a strong alliance between their two worlds and factions. Humans controlled the majority of Heaven Will Worlds in the lower dimension, so most demon-focused worlds will band together for protection.

"Don't listen to his nonsense," said the Green Wood Emperor. "All his sweet words are based on the fact that he and his faction will survive this war. But do you think that's possible?"

The Serpent Empress suddenly paused, "He has a point."

"Oh, we're going to win," replied Ye Dafu calmly.

"And how do you know this?" she asked.

"Come, let me tell you a secret."

"Just tell me."

"No, I must whisper it to you," he replied with his white teeth, making the Serpent Empress roll her eyes. Regardless, she flew next to him, and he whispered something in his ear.

"Are you telling the truth?"

"Of course. You can go in my memory to see."

"Fine," she replied after thinking briefly, and Ye Dafu did not hesitate to allow her access into his Sea of Consciousness and his memories. He had a bright smile that was telling her: see how much I trust you despite only meeting for the first time. The Serpent Empress blushed after figuring out his smile's meaning, but it quickly faded. "You're telling the truth."

"What's the meaning of this?" asked Green Wood. "What did he tell you?"

"I'm sorry, but I'm out of this fight."

"What? Are you serious?"

"Yes. But, of course, I also won't help their side," the Serpent Empress explained.

"Do you know the fate awaiting you and your homeworld for betraying the Commerce Hub?" the Green Wood Emperor asked in a severe tone. "You should understand the cruelty of these people. Don't you care at all?" The Serpent Empress shrugged. Now that she knew Wang Wei was alive and this entire war was nothing but his little game, she knew the Commerce Hub was destined to lose and fall from their status as the rulers of the lower dimension.

Green Wood suddenly paused. He knew the latter was not stupid, so he wondered what kind of news would prompt her to decide. He suddenly had a thought. 'No, it can't be.' He would not accept the fact that this bastard who had the entire hub scared like little kittens was still alive and lurking somewhere in the lower dimension. Green Wood had a severely restricted contract with the hub, so his fate was tied to them.

[Eternal Wood]

A towering white tree appeared behind Green Wood. He had bet that he would kill a few Eternals without using the Commerce Hub's aid, which came in the form of an Eternal Wood Qi. However, the situation had reached the point where he had no choice but to go all out. The white tree roots immediately went on the offensive, attacking Ye Dafu and the Serpent Empress.

"Hey, what's the meaning of this?"

"You're a traitor, so your head should be worth a lot."

"Wife, I've got this. Why don't you stay in my space ring while I deal with this idiot."

"Who's your wife? I haven't accepted any proposals yet."

Ye Dafu grinned. Despite her words, the Serpent Empress left the battlefield. Then, Ye Dafu focused on his opponent. His armor - which was his Awakening - released a bright light as the monkey fused his natural protection from Heaven and Earth with the armor to increase his defense. Then, he went on the offensive.

[World Ending Disaster]

With a wave of his hand, the surrounding million light years changed. The entire zone or area of this technique experienced what it would be like if a world ended: the very fabric of space-time tore apart, reincarnation stopped functioning - which released an incalculable amount of yin energy and ghosts to the world of the living, fate lost its shackle on people and the world, making them crazy and chaotic, Heavenly Dao lost its grip on the world, meaning that all the laws or Dao between Heaven and Earth lost control, and finally, the returned to its original as chaotic Chaos Energy swallowed the last vestige of the world.

Green Wood sweated as he watched this brilliant yet devastating technique. He wanted to run away. Luckily, the Eternal Wood Qi did not disappoint and protected him; he felt relief now that he was surrounded by an object the world deemed indestructible, nay, eternal. Meanwhile, Ye Dafu frowned.

[World Ending Disaster] was one of his masterpieces that he prepared to deal with that bastard Wang Wei. But this weak-ass Emperor that barely reached 3-fold actually blocked it. "You've officially pissed me off," the monkey declared.

"So what?" sneered Green Wood, not hiding the smugness he was feeling. Ye Dafu shook his head as he wondered how this kind of person could prove the Dao, let alone become an Eternal. he concluded that he was either one of those individuals born with extreme love from Heaven and Earth - despite their glaring flaws - or he was one of the Emperors that appeared after True Heavenly Dao started balancing the lower dimension because of how powerful the Myriad Emperor World had become.

[Disaster of the Mind]

Green Wood's body froze as his mind experienced the most terrifying horrors imaginable. He experienced his worst fear, confronted his greatest nightmare, came into direct contact with his greatest failures, and saw things that even his superior mind, as a higher-dimensional being, could not process. Saliva dripped from the corner of his mouth as he entered a vegetable state while standing.

Ye Dafu knew this was not enough and rushed for a finishing blow. He evaded the white roots from the tree, which was acting on instinct to protect its master. Sadly, before he reached his opponent, the tree fused with Green Wood and blessed his mind and soul with the eternal attribute, allowing him to survive that disaster.

"Damn you," roared Green Wood. He had never come so close to death, and it was the worst kind - death of the spirit. He no longer hesitated and touched the tree to fuse with it. His body then rapidly morphed into a treant or humanoid tree creature with white barks as body and green foliage that served as hair.

Bang!

Ye Dafu's staff hit him with full force while he was still transforming, and he flew in the distance. Such an attack should have been devastating; it was not. The skin of trees is naturally resistant to beating or attacks, and wood is the element of resilience and life, so healing or regeneration was not a problem for practitioners of this Dao. However, Green Wood did not even suffer a single scratch due to inheriting the eternal attribute of his Qi.

"Hehe, this power," he chuckled. He had never felt this powerful, so free - so invincible. Who would dare ask him for his debts once he lost if he had this kind of power? He would walk sideways in the lower dimension, doing whatever he pleased.

Green Wood rushed to his opponent but soon frowned. He found his body not as fast in this state as he wished it to be. However, this did not matter since no one could hurt him.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Ye Dafu clashed with this humanoid tree with his third eye fully displayed. He used every passing second to analyze his opponent.

'What's the best move? Eternal Disaster? No, that would take too long since I know little about such a high-level field as disaster. Then, a Weakness Disaster? This tree should have a weakness.' He thought briefly before deciding otherwise. Such a disaster might weaken his opponent, but he kept his impenetrable outer shell.

'In that case, a Yin-Yang Disaster? Nothing is absolute, and what goes up must go down. There is no way this thing is truly eternal, so experiencing a Yin-Yang Cycle should do the trick. No, I have something even better.'

[Earth Emperor Position: Samsara Cycle]

An enormous head resembling a Yama King manifested behind Ye Dafu, and his body emanated a dark and noble aura associated with Samsara or the afterlife. After learning about the existence of the Heavenly Emperor, Ye Dafu became enthralled and learned about the other two positions as well.

Then, he had an idea: could he create techniques that granted him powers based on these positions? He tried and succeeded because his Three-Eyed Monkey Bloodline involved everything about Heaven, Earth, and Humans.

So, he used the Earth Emperor technique he created to gain absolute control of Samsara Dao and kill the Green Wood Emperor.

Chapter 1113 Acquired

Ye Dafu hit Green Wood with his staff, and the whole world suddenly turned black and white briefly. Then, in a very short period, Green Wood's eternal body experienced birth and death millions of times to test the validity of his claim to be eternal. He resisted, as his white bark skin released an intense light to fight the power of Samsara, which was rapidly destroying him on a conceptual level. He failed.

Only Everlasting Emphyreans who have mastered their [True Self] can boldly proclaim to have escaped the shackles of death or Samsara, and even then, that's a wild claim that no one will make lightly. In the Chaos Universe's hierarchical structure, the Eternal Wood Qi can only be described on the lower tier of the path of eternity.

Crack!

Green Wood's body cracked in different parts, and he roared to show his unwillingness. He would not accept his fate so easily, so he tried to counterattack. What in this world could be considered truly eternal? Or, at the very least, come very close. The obvious answer is Grand Dao, but that's not something that Green Wood would dare to get involved with. So, he chose the second-best option: the universe's grand module.

He latched on the River of Fate, the River of Time, and even the Source Qi Space's eternal attributes to fuel his own. Many roots from his body entered the void to attach themselves to these modules and borrow their powers. So, in a split second, Green Wood's body stopped collapsing, and he had three new tree roots that were not only indestructible due to their eternal natures but also had the power to control time, fate, and endless energy.

"Idiot," sneered Ye Dafu.

[Backlash Disaster]

Can anyone meddle in the affairs of the River of Fate? The River of Time? Or even the Source Qi Space? No. These modules or concepts were inherently arrogant because of their power or status in the world, so how can anyone get involved with them? Ye Dafu used this fact to create a terrifying backlash against his opponent.

Green Wood had never felt so scared in his life. He felt like he was confronting entities that words alone could not describe, and even the idea of knowing these people sent shivers down his spine.

"Argh," he screamed as the terror was too much. His body was collapsing at an alarming rate; he was rapidly dying on a conceptual level, meaning no one would need to wipe his memories and go through all the struggles of killing an Eternal - he would just die. No one or nothing could revive him.

However, at the last minute, Green Wood acted decisively. He swiftly cut off his connection to these entities, abandoning most of his body. Then, he somehow controlled the chaotic spatial-temporal energy in the void to teleport him away, barely protecting himself.

"Hmm? Why is this bastard so good at running away?" muttered Ye Dafu. He did not expect his opponent to survive this backlash. Ye Dafu shook his head before focusing on the other aspects of the battlefield.

Commerce Hub Headquarters:

Wang Wei looked at the half-body of Green-Wood. "How stupid is this guy?" he muttered while shaking his head. He raised his hand to take out bright green light from his body. "This should be worth my trouble." He intervened at the last minute to allow this bastard to escape and prevent the monkey from getting his hands on the Eternal Wood Qi. Such energy was perfect for his Fate One or Dong Lifen's master, so he would not let it get into other people's hands.

'It's ridiculous how wealthy these people are,' thought Wang Wei. The Commerce Hub should be instrumental in acquiring the resources he needed to cultivate a much higher realm before ascending to the upper dimension.

"Hmm? By the strings of fate, why is this monkey making my job more difficult," complained Wang Wei before acting swiftly and teleporting him to the headquarters. Ye Dafu was embarrassed as he saw the side-eye Wang Wei was giving him.

"My bad," he said. He was so careless that he was almost exiled to the upper dimension immediately after winning his match. Wang Wei grunted. "Return home, and don't show yourself again."

"No way. The fight was just getting interesting."

"When people ask you how you survive your exile, what will you say?"

"I'll say I did it on my own."

"Do you think they'll believe you?" asked Wang Wei. "Some people already have suspicions; I don't want to give them more proof I'm not gone."

Ye Dafu remained quiet briefly before exhaling deeply. "Fine, but before I leave, fight me."

"You know you're not my opponent."

"I do, but I know I can make you sweat," replied the monkey with fierce eyes.

"You're overestimating yourself," countered Wang Wei while rolling his eyes.

"You're telling me such brilliant technique as my [World Ending Disaster] would be useless? Now, you're insulting me." The monkey did not hide his emotions.

"Why would it when I can do it even better than you?"

"Bullshit."

Wang Wei raised his hand to show him a sign of the end of the world. The technique was similar to Ye Dafu but with even more details. The dissolution of fate not only made things and people chaotic, but in his technique, fate served as the strings holding up the very fabric of existence. On top of everything else, Ye Dafu saw the separation of Yin and Yang, the destruction of Free Will and choice, the break up between Order and Disorder, the backlash of all karmic connections, and finally, the world reverting to its original state - chaos.

'Damn it,' thought Ye Dafu, his eyes slightly red as he concentrated on Wang Wei's palm. This technique was so powerful and beautiful that it inspired him; he saw how to improve his own technique, and such a fact brought immense shame to him, followed by trampling his pride. The monkey snorted coldly as he refused to admit defeat.

"Okay. I'll give you this technique," he said with gritted teeth. "What about my Earth Emperor Positions? Surely, this technique could make you sweat."

"I control Samsara Dao, and I'm unofficially a real Earth Emperor," Wang Wei replied coolly.

"You're not lying, are you?" He had never heard Wang Wei was the Earth Emperor, hence his suspicions.

"You know I would not lie about such a thing."

The monkey showed his sharp fangs in frustration as he clenched his teeth. "The Human Emperor?" He did not dare ask about the Heavenly Emperor Position since the person before him was the First Heavenly Emperor and the one creating a new era based on the position.

"I admit I have no connection to the Human Emperor Position," nodded Wang Wei.

"See? I have to tell you that my technique does not lose to the others," said Ye Dafu with a snicker. "You should admit my current self can make you sweat in battle."

"Although I don't have any connection with it, I have a friend who's a Human Emperor, and I can just copy her Fate Line if needed," Wang Wei said calmly, and he watched as the monkey's jovial atmosphere deflated like a balloon.

"No, I refuse to believe my current strength cannot make you sweat in battle."

Wang Wei shrugged. "You saw me with your Heaven Eyes and should know the disparity between us."

Of course, Ye Dafu knew; that's why he changed his goal from landing a few hits to making him sweat. He understood the concept of managing expectations and goals.

"You wait," said the Monneky King. "This is not over. I will first train until I can make you sweat, then until I can land a few good hits, then until I can survive in a real battle, then until I'm on your level, and then I will surpass you. Mark my word - this is not over."

Ye Dafu looked at Wang Wei defiantly despite his internal fear that he might get beaten for these bold words. However, Wang Wei laughed instead, "You really are like Sun Wukong."

"Who's Sun Wukong, and how dare he claim to be like me?"

Wang Wei was speechless before condensing the story of the Journey to the West for him. Ye Dafu swiftly read it with his divine sense.

"What a stupid monkey," he proclaimed.

"Oh?"

"It's obvious this journey to the West is a plot of Buddhism to use the monkey's powerful luck and destiny for their own use, but this idiot did not realize anything and just converted in the end," said Ye Dafu, not hiding his sneer.

"I can't believe you say this stupid thing is like me. I would fight you over these words if I knew I couldn't beat you."

Wang Wei shrugged, "You have to admit the monkey's endearing."

"He has his moment," agreed Ye Dafu, who had a mischievous light in his eyes.

"What stupid thing are you plotting?"

"First, I want to beat a few monks," said Ye Dafu; he felt he needed to vent after seeing how much of a sucker this Sage Equal to Heaven was. "Then, I think I'll pay a visit to Samsara. I want to know if there is such a thing as a Book of Life and Death and whether I can remove my name from it."

Chapter 1114 Humbling Experience

Wang Wei looked at this monkey beyond speechless; he genuinely did not have the words to express how bold he found this monkey. "Didn't you learn about the Earth Emperor Position for your technique?"

"Yes, so?" Ye Dafu replied with a puzzled expression before something dawned on him. "Oh right, I forgot about these Yama Kings." He frowned as this information immediately stopped his plan, which he was unhappy about.

"How strong do you think I need to be before I can take on a Yama King?"

"Wait, you're serious?"

"Of course," replied Ye Dafu without hesitation. "Since that monkey can do it, so can I." Wang Wei looked at him up and down: "You'll need to be a peak Boundless Paragon and one of the bests in the entire universe."

"Paragon? Is that after the Emperor Realm? No, I heard that's the Empyrean Realm," Ye Dafu asked with one arm crossed and the other on his chin.

"It's the one after that."

"I see. Well, now I have a new ambitious goal," he nodded. "Well, I'm leaving. I have a new wife waiting for me. Remember - I still want a revenge match." The monkey took one step and disappeared from the headquarters, leaving Wang Wei alone to shake his head.

"You're quite the actor."

"Who's there?" Wang Wei entered the highest alert state. Someone had come close to him, but he did not detect anything. His mind worked on overdrive, thinking about who in the lower dimension had such capabilities. He glanced over and saw a handsome young man in a blue robe, and Wang Wei had an inkling who this was.

"Who are you?"

"You should have already guessed," Chen Tong replied calmly. "So, let's skip the introduction. I'm here because I'm interested in why you went to this extreme length to manipulate that monkey."

"Excuse me?"

"You intentionally gave him that story so he could target Samsara and even the Yama Kings. So, I want to know why you did it."

"I have no idea what you're talking about," replied Wang Wei.

"I saw it when you underwent your Earth Emperor Trial. Did you do it out of spite and pettiness? No, something tells me you're playing a bigger chess game."

"Hong'er was right about you - you're too curious for your own good," said Wang Wei calmly.

"So, finally willing to admit it?"

"I'm not admitting anything."

"So stubborn," said Chen Tong with a smile. He waved his hand to manifest a tea table before sitting down and inviting Wang Wei. "This is Essence Tribulation Tea. After drinking it, you will pass 100 Flesh Tribulations without any pain, effort, or negative consequences."

"Such a thing exists?" asked Wang Wei as he sat down. "It must be rare."

"Although it's only useful for the first 1000 tribulations, yes, it's indeed a very rare resource," nodded Chen Tong as he poured the tea.

"I'm honored," said Wang Wei as he received the tea. How many people could say they've had a Paragon pour tea for them?

"There's no need for formality." Chen Tong waved his hand. "So, are you going to answer my question?"

"There is nothing to answer," Wang Wei declared coolly. Did he manipulate Ye Dafu? Of course. However, his target was not necessarily Samsara and the Yama King. He wanted to see if he could add an unknown variable to the world through the monkey by giving him access to knowledge or inspiration from another civilization. In other words, the fact that Ye Dafu became interested in Samsara is not the true value of his action; the real chess move opens his mind by providing him with some information about the Prehistoric World.

Wang Wei did not know the outcome of this move. There is a possibility that it would bear fruit, and there is also the possibility that Ye Dafu will garner the sight of Grand Dao and be swiftly eliminated. Another scenario is the monkey does not realize the value of that story and never uses it to its full potential, but Wang Wei does not care; he did it on a whim, and so he's alright with this move becoming useless.

"Is that so?" muttered Chen Tong. "Well, let's talk about something else. You seem to be in a terrible mood. Did something happen?"

"Have you been watching me from the shadows?"

"Of course. The entire dimension has never been so lively, so how can I not pay attention? I've never been so entertained since I died."

Wang Wei was speechless. "Shouldn't you be focusing on reviving yourself or something?"

"And be the first target of those people? I'm not stupid." Chen Tong shook his head. He would only revive once everyone else did. "Okay, don't change the subject. What happened to make someone like you have such an obvious change in mood?"

'This man is like if one of those people from Earth who loved gossip more than their life was reincarnated into a cultivation world and managed to reach the pinnacle of the world while preserving their gossiping side,' thought Wang Wei, becoming even more speechless. He sighed internally before deciding to converse with this man; it was the least he could do to allow him to reach 900 Dao Tribulations without much struggle. So, he told him what happened with Hong Wa, Blue Phoenix, and Ye Tuzhi.

"It seems you have just experienced a humbling."

"A what?"

"A humbling experience is the common term for what you've experienced. It's a common phenomenon among cultivators," Chen Tong explained.

"Elaborate."

"It's a mechanism designed by Grand Dao to restrict cultivators - mostly Paragons - and check our egos," continued Chen Tong. "For example, Yama Kings are the humbling experiences for Paragons who try to mess with Samsara. Time Wraiths are for the one messing too much with the River of Time, and Monarch Source Beasts are for people messing with the Source Qi Space."

Wang Wei frowned, "The River of Fate?"

"Its humbling experience is usually targeted toward Dao Lords and Overlords or Paragons with exceptional intelligence; it usually makes them look small and stupid," said Cheng Tong with a smile.

Did Wang Wei experience a humbling experience? It appeared as such, but he could not shake this feeling that things were too personal and not like the normal operation of a mechanism of the universe.

"Are Fiendgods the humbling experience for Primordial Chaos?"

"Yes and no," replied. "These creatures were created after the Body Refining Age ended and the Paragon Age started, but Fiendgod existed long before that. So, they are indeed our restriction in Primordial Chaos, but their situation is slightly different."

"Wait, are you saying that Yama Kings did not exist in the early ages of the Chaos Universe?"

"I know what you're asking. Yes, there were Yamas controlling Samsara, but the title of King was later created after the rise of the Paragon Age. Samsara's strict and even rigid control began with the Yama Kings' appearance."

"I see," nodded Wang Wei before sipping his tea. "What exactly did you guys do for Grand Dao to feel the need to keep your ego in check?"

"That's a good question," said Chen Tong before sipping his tea. "I'm not old enough for that era, but I know a few things. During the Body Refining Age, the True Power Dao Realm reigned supreme. Body Refiners were focused on finding or opening the illusory fourth gate of power, so they used the River of Fate, Time, and Source Qi Space to temper their bodies."

"Grand Dao left these guys alone since they mainly used these grand existences or concepts to temper themselves. The only complaint Grand Dao had about them was that they used too many resources. Then came the Age of Paragon, and we started messing with these things. We wanted to understand, control, and even destroy the River of Time or the River of Fate."

"So, you needed to be humbled and kept in check?"

"Exactly."

Wang Wei nodded, "Do you know how the entire history of the Chaos Universe is classified?"

"I do know a little," said Chen Tong, who changed the tea for wine. "Firstly, there was the [Genesis Age]; it's when the Chaos Universe was first born or created, and Grand Dao was young and inexperienced. Following that was the [Primordial Chaos Age], where the predecessors to Fiendgods - the Chaos Demon Gods - were born. Afterward is the [Lost Age], but like the Null Era in this place, little to nothing is known in this time, except that whatever occurred there was a taboo, and the Chaos Demon Gods disappeared, replaced by the Fiendgods."

"So, the Lost Age is one of the thirteen taboos?"

"That's right."

"Interesting. What's next?"

"I won't mention the ages after that because what I know are only speculations and not official history," said Chen Tong. "What I do know is the previous age was the [Essence Age] or [Age of Body Refining], and we are currently living in the [Paragon Age]. Of course, I have a feeling that the Ultimate Taboo marked the end of the Paragon Age, but this new age has not been officially named."

Chapter 1115 Grand Dao's Goal

Chen Tong's words allowed Wang Wei to verify many of his theories or speculations about the history of the Chaos Universe and the possible evolution of cultivation. He even learned a few new

things. However, he still lacked vital information; luckily, this was a great opportunity with a Paragon before him.

"I once theorized that in the early stages of the Paragon Age, before the Heaven Will System, the Old Era Paragons were a combination of the Immortal and Dao Path, and they had to understand Innate, Primordial, and Grand Dao Source to reach the world's peak. Is that true?"

"Yes, you're right," nodded Chen Tong. "Those Old Era Paragons were scary despite only being capable of borrowing the power of the Grand Dao Source. However, the vast energy inside their bodies was truly astronomical."

"You've met some of them?"

"Yeah. There are many still alive," explained Chen Tong. "They are stubborn and refuse to accept this new "easy" path; they often call us soft and weak - claiming that we have it easy."

"I'm surprised," replied Wang Wei. "I thought they would be extinct - either through natural process or by Grand Dao's elimination."

"No, they are still here. There is a powerful sect called the Origin Dao Sect in a normal source Chaos World called the Ancient Qi World that only cultivates that system. They controlled that entire world and are renowned in Primordial Chaos." Chen Tong suddenly shook his head.

"Bad memory?" asked Wang Wei

"These guys are annoying to deal with, especially the old and ancient ones who have existed since the beginning of the Paragon Age," Cheng Tong explained, not hiding his annoyance as he remembered his experience.

Wang Wei did not need to meet these people to realize their personality: obdurate, inflexible, and clinging to past glory. In other words, the kind of people no one wishes to deal with.

"How does their system work? Do they become Immortal Venerable at Tier 10 or Dao Ancestor? But each choice seemed to cause problems."

"It's more like they become Immortal Venerables and Primarchs."

"They condensed Innate Laws?"

Chen Tong nodded, "Correct. Then, while continuing to gather Immortal Qi, they understand Innate Laws, followed by Primordial Laws, before understanding the Grand Dao Source."

"The Ancient Qi World must be unique, right?"

"Yes. From what I know, it still follows the Order-Disorder during the early stages of the Paragon Age, not affected by the changes of the rest of the Chaos Universe?"

Wang Wei frowned, "And Grand Dao allows this? Or did they cultivate a powerhouse that would force Grand Dao to give them permission?"

"The former, most likely," replied Chen Tong. "However, I did hear rumors that there might be some secrets behind their continued existence."

Wang Wei nodded. He agreed the most likely case was that Grand Dao allowed their existence, most likely to see the clash between the old and new eras. Moreover, allowing the old cultivation path to exist would only bring more variables and opportunities for the overall development of the Chaos Universe.

Wang Wei thought briefly before asking the question he truly wanted the answer to:

"Why did Grand Dao create the Heaven Will and grant Paragons complete control of the Grand Dao Source? Was it a system similar to the Heavenly Court, where Paragons now bore the strength of the Chaos Universe and gave it more power for other things? However, considering Grand Dao's power level, this theory doesn't seem to make sense."

Chen Tong chuckled, "I bet your mind is thinking of something sinister, isn't it?"

"I mean, wouldn't you do the same?" asked Wang Wei. However, Chen Tong shook his head. "The answer to your question is simple: to strengthen the universe. Grand Dao wanted more powerful cultivators, so it created the perfect cultivation path and allowed all sentient beings to use it."

"I'm not completely buying such an answer," said Wang Wei, sipping on his drink. "Isn't it afraid of people becoming stronger than it and usurping its power?"

"Maybe that's exactly what it wants."

"I doubt this...Wait, you might be onto something," suddenly said Wang Wei. "What if it wants cultivators to achieve transcendence but to do so within its created rules and restrictions? What if Grand Dao wishes for people to surpass it but not do it in a way that is detrimental to it or the Chaos Universe? With this logic, many things will suddenly make sense."

"Hmm, I never thought of this," said Chen Tong. This statement opened his eyes, allowing him to connect many dots in his mind. "Grand Dao intervened to smooth the chaos of the Ultimate Taboo. There is a chance it wanted to eliminate the methods of transcendence that it deemed unacceptable."

Wang Wei and Chen Tong looked at each other, and their eyes expressed their thoughts to stop this topic. If they continued, it was guaranteed that Grand Dao would notice them - especially since Wang Wei was still a little Emperor and should not be privy to certain knowledge or information.

"Since there was the [Essence Age], and the [Paragon Age] could also be called the [Qi Age], do you think there used to be an [Essence Age]?" he asked. Wang Wei once theorized that the body refining path was the first cultivation system discovered by sentient beings, but he felt he might have been wrong.

Assuming that Acquired Life appeared in the universe after the Lost Age - specifically, when Fiendgods reigned supreme. There is a chance that they began to imitate their cultivation system and temper their bodies, but there is also the possibility that they believe that the flesh has a limit and that they could never reach the same level as these noble creatures. These early creatures would have focused on developing the intangible and limitless [Soul] or [Spirit]. In other words, there is a high chance that the Spirit Age was before the Essence Age.

"That, I don't know," replied Chen Tong. "I've heard people say there was such an age, while others say it did not exist. What I do know for sure is that the soul path seems to involve many secrets, and it might even be one of the taboos."

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

'Assuming there was a [Spirit Age], cultivation started from the inside with the soul, then the body with the [Essence Age], which is still from the inside. Then, it ended with the outside following the

[Qi Age]. It might be in my best interest to return to my roots and look inward once I reach the peak of the Paragon Realm.'

Wang Wei's aura suddenly changed, becoming subtler, calmer, and more ethereal and ephemeral. The light of wisdom deep in his eyes deepened, greatly surprising Chen Tong. 'Enlightenment? How envious.' Although Wang Wei's statement about Grand Dao was valuable information, Chen Tong would also like to have an epiphany and become enlightened.

"Congratulations, Fellow Daoists."

"I cannot bear the title of fellow Daoist," replied Wang Wei, shaking his head. "However, I do appreciate your kind words." The two chatted for a few more minutes about many topics before Chen Tong disappeared.

'Interesting,' thought Wang Wei. In this brief discussion, he created a character profile for Chen Tong, and the most valuable information on the profile was that the latter was not a Boundless Paragon. He once asked Wu Hong to feel the natural aura of Boundless Paragons, and he met a few, so he could tell after spending so long together. Regardless of this fact, Chen Tong was not an ordinary Paragon.

'He should be what Hong'er called a Half-Boundless Paragon or Failed Boundless Paragon. In other words, someone who was an Eternal Emperor and an Everlasting Emphyreans but failed to achieve Boundless.'

Wang Wei looked in the distance as he became lost inside his own mind. Chen Tong's appearance changes a few small things because he cannot detect whether the latter is spying on him. However, there were other upsides to this situation: he might be able to ask for help in case of an emergency.

'He's the very social kind of person, which means it's easier to get information from him through regular discussions,' analyzed Wang Wei. 'However, the issue is whether it would be as easy to get him to help.'

His brow furrowed, 'It should be relatively easy if I used his curiosity and gossip nature. However, he's still a Paragon and has lived a long life, meaning countless experiences. He will detect something if I go too far or is too obvious.'

Wang Wei never assumed these powerhouses were stupid. After living for so long, even a big will acquire wisdom by the sheer experience it would have lived through.

'So, the best way to deal with someone like him is to be direct and not try to manipulate. Otherwise, he might react violently once he discovers it or even have slight suspicions.'

He finished Chen Tong's character profile before focusing all his attention on the war. The good news is his mood was not as bad as before after that drink.

Chapter 1116 Home Invasion

Wang Wei first checked the Star Beast Battlefield. Everything was proceeding smoothly. Although their troops were facing a catastrophic defeat, the battle between powerhouses was in their favor - especially the confrontations between Eternals.

His eyes shifted to an odd group on the battlefield. They were invisible to everyone else except Wang Wei, but they were not fighting or assassinating people. Their purpose was one thing: gathering dead bodies. Wang Wei smiled before shifting his eyes.

The Commerce Hub's military advisor, Deng Qiang, oversaw the battlefield while gritting her teeth. It was obvious that things were not proceeding as smoothly as she expected, which was causing her frustration. However, Wang Wei's gaze was not on her but on the people she was secretly communicating with.

As he told the monkey, some people were already suspicious of his disappearance. The true rulers of the Commerce Hub started to freak out with this possibility, so many people called for a retreat. Unfortunately, it was too late for such a decision; it would be catastrophic if the troops were suddenly ordered to retreat.

So, the president calmed everyone by proposing to prepare a secret squad of Array Masters to truly exile Wang Wei to the upper dimension if he ever showed up. Although many people knew this action would be futile if Wang Wei were still in the lower dimension, it still soothed many people's nerves.

Wang Wei's gaze moved to the Martial Hegemony Battlefield. Ao Shen, Huo Fenghuang, his mother, and the Dao Opening Sect's Eternals were on this battlefield. Wang Wei checked on them, and they had killed a few Eternals but were still outnumbered.

'They should have no issue holding on,' he thought before focusing on his grandfather. He saw a smirk on the corner of the old man's mouth as he battled an Eternal Emperor. Wang Wei could tell he was not only enjoying the battle but also learning from it. With his 74 Infant Fiendgod Force, he was fighting a relatively weak Eternal, but it was an Eternal nonetheless.

'It might not be a bad idea for him to try to condense a Primordial Law before his battle with Nine Suns,' thought Wang Wei. He decided to suggest this to the old man. Although he knew he might not be happy since that would further delay his revenge battle with Emperor Nine Suns, it was better to be prepared than be sorry.

Wang Wei finished his check with Xu Shi and Yan Liling. Then, he wondered whether to reveal the two Eternal Class Puppets he acquired from the Qin's Treasury. However, he chose otherwise after mulling it over briefly; it was not good for the Dao Opening Sect to reveal all its hidden cards.

Void, Myriad Emperor World:

The Fist Saint Emperor frowned as he looked at the world before him. The large group behind him remained quiet, leaving him to his thoughts. This was not the first time he'd traveled to this place, so where did his hesitation originate from? Did he detect something the others did not?

'It's too easy,' thought the Fist Saint Emperor. Their journey to this world community was too smooth; it was as if no one cared whether or not they attacked this world. It could even be said they were tempting people to invade.

'What made these people so confident? Was it a lie that the First Heavenly Emperor was exiled?' Fist Saint frowned. He had sent an infiltrating squad with a potent talisman that would detect Wang Wei's existence. The president personally ordered me to hand over the talisman to him to ensure the news was correct, and as of now, the squad has returned and brought positive news.

'All signs showed nothing was wrong, but the more normal things look, the more suspicious I am,' thought Fist Saint, his brow deeply furrowed.

"Commander, what's the order?"

These words woke him up from his thoughts, and he exhaled. "Yin."

"Yes," said a hooded figure that suddenly appeared behind him.

"What information did you gather?"

"Nothing, sir," replied Yin. "I only did my task: enter, use the talisman, and bring back the result."

The Fist Saint Emperor was briefly silent. He could not blame the latter since the upper echelons directly ordered their task. "Do you want to try again?"

"I'm afraid that's impossible, commander," replied Yin.

"And why is that?"

"Although I was there briefly, I still felt a great threat."

"So, there are still powerhouses left to protect the world," summarized Fist Saint."

"Very likely."

"Then, why haven't they established some form of protection around their world?" He asked, pointing at the Myriad Emperor World. "They are basically inviting us in."

"The enemy is likely very confident in their strength, or they have a powerful hidden trump card."

"No shit, Dao Overlord," sneered Fist Saint. "The question is what?" Yin lowered his head, not daring to utter another word or look the commander in the eyes. The Fist Saint Emperor exhaled deeply to calm down. He did not like failure; as such, his previous experience in this world was affecting his current mission.

'I can't be too cautious to the point of indecisiveness,' he thought. 'This is a perfect window to attack, and I should take it before something truly unexpected occurs.'

"Tell the troops to enter. Prepare for an ambush," he ordered calmly. The Fist Saint led by example by being the first to charge into the Myriad Emperor World. He raised his senses to the extreme,

preparing for any changes - which did happen. He first noticed most of his troops were immediately teleported to distant places, and the Saint Fist Emperor frowned when his divine sense noticed the anomaly in the first area.

The aura of all the mortal cultivators in that area dramatically decreased, and it was swift and sudden. Their attack potency stopped at Tier 4, and no one was an exception. Myriad portals opened up in that domain to teleport countless puppets and constructs.

'Mortals? Is this the power of Mortal Civilization?' The Commerce Hub heard the news but did not expect mortals to play a role in such a large-scale war involving Great Emperors. The Fist Saint Emperor turned his focus to another domain. He frowned because his other troops-which still retained their powers-were surrounded by another group of mortals using something akin to this world's Dharma Body.

These mortals immediately started singing the song he heard the last time he was here, which boosted their powers and abilities. Then, they began to slaughter his troops with paintings, poetry, calligraphy, and instruments.

The third thing the Fist Saint Emperor noticed was that a few of his Immortal Tier Soldiers-the weakest ones-were in an isolated domain protected by formation, but the top-tier powerhouses had disappeared. He immediately concluded they were teleported to the Void Battlefield, just like what had happened to him before.

Many thoughts flashed in his mind as soon as he acquired the information through his divine sense. After processing it, the Fist Saint Emperor made his move. He decided to attack the Order-Disorder Array or technique that allowed these mortals to partake in this war.

'We will have the number advantage as long as they regain their powers and these mortals become weak and useless,' he thought, but a voice echoed in the void before he could move.

"I'm your opponent."

The Fist Saint Emperor heard that sweet and angelic voice, and before he could react, his surroundings had changed; he was now in that vast emptiness with a power that was so dangerous yet tempting-nothingness. He looked at the person before him, and his heart skipped a beat.

"What a beauty!" he instinctively exclaimed. Although he had seen Xu Shi, he felt the latter was the unapproachable kind of beauty. However, the woman before him was different: she was graceful

and ethereal due to a sage-like aura. Her body released a mesmerizing scent that was a combination of flowers and sweet-smelling medicine.

'What!' exclaimed the Fist Saint Emperor in his mind as his body involuntarily trembled. He just felt a terrifying killing intent locked on him, so intense that his legs lost control and wobbled. Although the thing appeared for less than a nanosecond, he knew he was not mistaken. He knew for a fact this killing desire did not originate from her, so he was on guard.

The Fist Saint Emperor controlled his body to relax, "How may I address you?"

Yan Liling frowned. She did not like this man's eyes. Although she was used to being stared at by men, most of them hid their desires well due to her strength and status. But this man only controlled his desires, not hid them.

"I'm the Pill Sage Empress." Despite her feelings, she still respected her opponent because he's an Eternal.

"I am -"

"I know who you are," she said. "I don't have the time or patience for your nonsense. You're an intruder, and I'm here to slaughter you. So, prepare yourself for battle."

'Rude,' he thought, but why did he find her even more attractive? The Fist Saint Emperor exhaled before activating his [Awaken]. He would not let his emotions affect this mission.

Chapter 1117 The Guardian's Might

The Fist Saint Emperor's [Awaken] transformed his body. The upper torso of his robe disappeared, leaving only the top. His skin turned red, with a golden mark running through his torso and arms. His aura was profound and grounded.

Yan Liling frowned. The last time this person showed up, he had to use a formation to raise his strength to 50% Grand Dao Source or 6-fold. That's why she separated him from his group. Now, he had achieved 5-fold strength on his own, showing the latter's talent or

'His importance to the Commerce Hub,' she thought. 'He must be a core member, trained to be one of their best muscles.' She sighed internally as she realized she should have paid more attention to the information from the Fate Shadow Guards.

Yan Liling no longer focused on this issue; she only needed to ramify this behavior from now on. Then, she activated her [Awaken], which materialized as a flaming robe around her blue hanfu and her black hair turning into flames. The Fist Saint Emperor's eyes lit up as he saw how much more beautiful she had become, but that would not stop him.

[Point Concentration Fist]

He threw a punch, and a small black dot appeared before his fist; this black dot that resembled a miniature black hole was the embodiment of all his powers condensed into a single point. A terrifying black beam rushed from the black dot toward Yan Liling, releasing a terrible vibration capable of unrivaled subatomic particles from their bonds.

Yan Liling casually waved her hand to manifest a cauldron that swallowed the black beam and instantly condensed a black pill. She held the pill and crushed it, releasing the same technique back to its owner. Her actions were swift and fluent, and Saint Fist was caught off guard. So, he crossed his arm to block.

His defensive measures succeeded, leaving only a few scratches on his red skin. However, Yan Liling was not done.

[Void Pill Bomb]

Her cauldron made good use of the environment's power of nothingness; it condensed the energy around into pills that she exploded toward her opponent. Saint Fist's intuition activated, and he quickly evaded, but one of the explosions was too fast and too close, so he had no choice but to punch it.

His fist was capable of punching anything-including life, death, space-time, and other concepts. However, Saint Fist felt this explosion was corroding his arms, so he acted decisively and blew up one arm; abandoning and regenerating a new one was the best choice in this scenario.

'Her main Dao is Pill Refining, so there is a high chance her physical body is her weakness. So, I need to get closer.' Saint Fist organized a battle plan based on the information he observed in this short confrontation and the information from the Hub. He knew all Emperors from the Myriad Emperor World had terrible battle experiences, so directly approaching his opponent would not work as she would know how to control her weakness.

[Temporal Storm Fist]

A phantom of the River of Time materialized behind him as he punched her. A terrifying storm with the power of time rushed toward Yan Liling. If she were hit, her body would either age terribly or be erased from the very fabric of time. However, her response was a sneer.

"Your resonance with Time Dao is weak compared to the real deal," she declared nonchalantly as her body released a purple flame that burned that temporal tempest. Saint Fist ignored her as he rushed forward and punched a second time. This time, he used an attack that directly attacked the soul-her senses, to be specific.

Yan Liling's eyes became dazed for a brief moment. 'This is my chance.' He suddenly appeared above her head and used one of his most powerful punches. Saint Fist even used his best applications of Dao Will and Will Manifestation. However, before his fist landed, a look of horror appeared on his face as he saw that smirk on his opponent's face.

Boom!

Yan Liling had activated her [Cauldron of Strength] before punching Saint Fist in his stomach with a fist full of Chaos Flame. The muscular man flew over a hundred light-years away before controlling his momentum. His stomach had a hole that showed through his body. Saint Fist grunted before healing this injury, only leaving some black marks on the spot.

Yan Liling squinted her eyes. 'Dao Holy Water?' Her attack was perfectly timed, and with her advanced application of True Will, this should have been a genuine life injury. But Saint Fist was completely fine and even instantly removed her True Will.

'Did he store Dao Holy Water inside his body for this battle? What a waste of resources.'

"No matter how much I try to overestimate your people, you always surpass my estimation," sighed the Saint Fist Emperor. However, Yan Liling responded with a colossal flame palm condensed from Chaos Flame.

'How rude,' thought Saint Fist before using his Universe Fist. His punch was backed by the destruction of thousands of universes as large as a Heaven Will. The flame dispersed, so he thought he had scattered the attack, but he was wrong; the flame was only bait. Yan Liling captured all the force behind his attacks and condensed them into a pill that temporarily increased her physical abilities.

She took one step to teleport in front of Saint Fist before slapping him. He wanted to evade, but she was too fast. He also feared his attack would once again be absorbed and condensed into a pill. His hesitation doomed him as he now no longer had the opportunity to choose. So, he could only condense a shield before him from the blood energy in his body.

Boom!

Saint Fist flew into the distance, but this time away, he did not float in the empty void. Ten metal gates materialized in his path, and he crashed into them. Saint Fist spewed a large mouthful of blood after breaking through the first gate, and his body's injuries worsened once he passed through all ten.

'What kind of metal are those damn doors made of?' he thought.

"The answer is Chaos Metal," said Yan Liling. "I've personally tempered and refined them for this technique - if you can call it one."

"Can you read my mind?"

"What do you think?"

The Saint Fist Emperor immediately panicked. He knew mind-reading techniques are unique across the entire lower dimension. He's not talking about the run-of-the-mill technique where someone uses their divine senses to bypass another's defenses and read their minds and memories. True mind-reading techniques are subtle and undetectable; they are rare across the entire dimension because an unknown force (most like True Heavenly Dao) restricts their developments or creations.

Most of them appeared in the form of unique bloodlines or awakened abilities. The techniques that contain such methods usually disappear or become extinct for unknown reasons.

'I need to calm down. Mind-reading is a very rare technique, and she cannot develop such an ability. As for learning it, well, she might since Buddhism once had such a technique, but its revival was recent, and it should have been lost.'

"That's a great rationale to trick yourself," said Yan Liling, nodding her head. Saint Fist's face turned pale before reacting swiftly; he entered a state of absolute concentration with little to no distraction.

"Yes, that's a good way to deal with the situation," Yan Liling added, continuing her mind game. Saint Fist did not react and went on the offensive: [Heaven Fist].

His fist resonated with Heaven Dao, so it contained countless calculations: all possibilities to prevent the enemy from evading, all possibilities to increase the punch's attack potency, speed, and force control, all possibilities to hit a weak spot, and all possibilities to ensure victory.

'This punch is bordering on perfection,' thought Yan Liling as she watched it coming. Her mind went into overdrive, calculating the best way to defend, and she only had one thought: she could not defend or evade.

'In that case, I shouldn't.'

[Pill Body Explosion]

She turned her body into an Explosion Pill, which turned into a bomb upon contact. Saint Fist was perfectly intact, as his punch also considered this possibility. Meanwhile, a black cauldron manifested in the distance, releasing an intense herbal smell. Then, Yan Liling's new body emerged from the opened cauldron.

"I must admit that this technique was brilliant," she praised calmly.

"I'm glad you think so. This is my life's masterpiece," said Saint Fist with a smug look.

"I also know there is no way you developed it on your own."

"How insulting," said Saint Fist, slightly raising his voice. There is nothing worse than a man having his pride trampled on in front of the woman he loves, let alone by her.

"I'm not diminishing your talent, but stating a logical conclusion," she added. "Despite everything that has happened, it has been a very short time since all the Heaven Will Worlds ended their final battles. So, there is no way for you to have created such a technique in such a short period without access to the Dream World or any foreign aid."

Chapter 1118 The Secrets of the Mind

The Fist Saint Emperor blushed in shame as she was correct. As a core Eternal Emperor of the Commerce Hub, they trust him immensely, and he was placed on the list of people to be trained at all costs - especially after seeing Wang Wei's threat level.

As such, he was chosen as one of the two people to be granted a [Potential Mirror], a one-time-use Chaos Treasure that can bring out a person's potential in advance. It's very rare; throughout the Commerce's history, they've only had five. They used the remaining two in this war.

The mirror is why he achieved 5-fold strength in such a short period and how he created many of his most powerful techniques, including the Heaven Fist.

"Let's not mention this," said Saint Fist, coughing lightly. "How about we stop this fight? I think you should know this is pointless. You guys cannot win this war without him on your side."

"We can stop this fight if you surrender and let yourself be captured," Yan Liling replied calmly. "I promise you, in the name of this world's guardian, that you will be treated fairly as a prisoner, and your life will be guaranteed until we've passed judgment on your fate."

'World's Guardian?' he thought, deciding that she used this particular phrase because it was crucial. "Why should I surrender since we have the advantage?"

"And how would you know that?" Yan Liling rebutted. "You've been stuck in this place, cut off from the outside world."

"Did Wang Wei show up?"

"Who knows."

Saint Fist snorted coldly. "Your mind game won't work on me. If he did, I would have been notified. At the very least, I would sense a shift in the world."

"If he doesn't want to be detected, what can you people do?" sneered Yan Liling, making Saint Fist quiet. He exhaled to calm down. "Is there no room for discussion?"

"I'm afraid not."

"Very well."

[Heaven Fist]

All he could think was to end this battlefield as swiftly as possible, so he used one of his most powerful techniques to end things. Yan Liling was calmed as she suddenly swallowed a pill.

[Illusory Pill - Grand Dao Source Pill - Heaven Dao]

Her body's aur changed, becoming more vast and grand. Her eyes turned cold and indifferent. 'This feeling is fascinating,' thought Yan Liling. She felt she knew all the secrets, knowledge, taboos, and truths about Heaven. It took her a moment to rein her mind to prevent this sensation from influencing her spirit and personality.

[Heaven Fist]

Saint Fist's face did not hide his horror, as his opponent used the same technique. Their clash released a shockwave that reached the other Immortal Tier Powerhouses fighting on this battlefield. Yan Liling took a few steps backward in the void as she was pushed back a few thousand kilometers.

"Again," she declared as she teleported before him and used the same technique. Saint Fist reacted on instinct and used his Heaven Fist. She took this opportunity to activate her [Mind Reflection Technique] to read his mind and get all the data on this technique.

Bang!

Yan Liling was only pushed a dozen meters backward, and she went for a third attack. Saint Fist was not stupid and wanted to use another technique to prevent her from copying it, but it was too late-her third fist was on par with his. A golden shield appeared around, and it perfectly blocked the attack.

"Huh?" muttered Yan Liling. "A defensive technique? I see. You used your resonance with Heaven Dao to deduce a defensive method of your Heaven Fist Technique. However, this should be your limit, right?"

She was correct. The [Mirror of Potential] is based on a person's talent and potential; he could only create these two brilliant techniques. "Alright, let's end this pointless fight," Yan Liling declared before using the Heaven Fist for the fourth time.

Boom!

The Fist Saint Emperor's protection broke, forcing him to display his horror. He could not understand how her attack could surpass him in just a few seconds of conversation.

"The answer to your question is very complicated and involves sensitive information, so I can't tell you," said Yan Liling with a gentle smile. She used the Heaven Dao, the previous data, and her [Future Buddha Self] to deduce a higher level of this technique, but as she said, she could not reveal such information.

Saint Fist's body trembled. Her voice might appear sweet to the outside, but to him, she sounded like a devil who enjoyed tormenting people's minds. Yan Liling did not hesitate to attack with the same technique; she wanted to destroy him physically and spiritually, and killing him with his own technique would help.

Saint Fist's body and soul disintegrated into particles smaller than quarks. Yan Liling experienced everything and even checked with her divine sense, but she could not help but frown. Whenever an Eternal dies, even if it's not true death, there is a unique aura in the atmosphere. Not to mention that an Eternal like Saint Fist would have his own vision for his death since he did not die on one of the battlefields where there were too many deaths for Heaven and Earth to count.

She suddenly turned to her right before sighing. A new and intact Saint Fist had materialized in the position near her. "A Longevity Technique? No, this felt familiar." The Heaven Dao's effect was still on, so she immediately realized the source of the familiarity ??? one of the spies, Yu Zhou.

"You're [Immortal]," she declared.

"That's right," he nodded. "My life is linked to our headquarters, so until it is destroyed, I'm Immortal." Yan Liling grunted before waving her hand to release a purple poison cloud. Saint Fist tried to defend himself, but the cloud corrupted his golden shield before turning his body into stone. However, the stone body disintegrated before another body materialized.

"Let's stop this pointless battle," said Saint Fist. "Although you're stronger than me, I will outlast you."

'Big brother,' called out Yan Liling in her mind.

'I know what you want to ask,' responded Wang Wei. 'His link is delicate, and I cannot do anything until I have full control of the headquarters, so seal him until then to prevent any trouble.'

'Alright.'

Yan Liling waved her hand to summon a cauldron that swallowed the Saint Fist Emperor despite his resistance. "I've never refined a [Immortal] before," commented Yan Liling. Meanwhile, Saint Fist tried to kill himself to be revived elsewhere on the battlefield, but his plan failed despite a few efforts.

"Hmm?" muttered Yan Liling as she noticed something. "He escaped? Did he revive himself in his homeworld? This guy is becoming a cockroach," she grunted. "Big brother, he escaped."

"I see. It's fine. I'll teleport him back to you if he shows up again," replied Wang Wei.

"By the way, your conjecture was correct."

"Which one?"

"The one about mind-reading-techniques." Yan Liling awakened her ability a few days after proving the Dao due to her soul's mutation. She tried it on others, and it worked even on Wang Wei. The only exception was when he used the Illusory Pill to achieve Taboo strength. So, Wang Wei was already developing techniques to protect his mind, not from ordinary mind-reading ability but from talented people like Yan Liling.

"Did you find something in his mind?"

"Yes. The Commerce Hub had the same suspicions as you and conducted experiments. So, they also believed True Heavenly Dao has severely restricted mind-reading-methods."

"Good to know."

Wang Wei had noticed this anomaly very early on in his cultivation journey, and he had deduced many truths from that observation. For example, the world does not function on any absolute, so how is the power of fate limited? Its counterpart - Free Will. But how is free will manifested? The answer should be the ability to make choices, but the true root of this answer is the mind - the thing that makes these choices.

As early as when Wang Wei first created his Fate Puppeteer Physique, when he first encountered the River of Fate, he was almost swallowed by its all-encompassing power. He only survived because he realized that the river could not read his mind and used this fact to survive.

Since then, he has known how important the mind would be for him to one day achieve his goal of absolute freedom, and he has also understood the importance of true mind-reading techniques.

"You reminded me of the importance of the Commerce Hub's database," said Wang Wei. This institution has existed for so long that it must have gathered much-lost knowledge and secrets.

"Don't forget to keep their pill recipe and knowledge on runes for me."

"No problem," nodded Wang Wei. "By the way, you can also study the Disruption Rune before I gift it." A portal appeared before Yan Liling to drop Emperor Jia's book, and she caught it with a smile. She immediately read it and became lost in thought, forgetting she would see her husband after this match. Meanwhile, Li Jun was clicking his tongue while shaking his head in the Samsara Court.

Chapter 1119 "Greatest Weapon"

Wang Wei looked at the distracted Yan Liling and shook his head. He guessed the Disruption Rune must have inspired her, so he looked forward to what she would do with it. He gazed at the mortal civilizations and the Mortal Dao Art to ensure nothing unexpected would occur now that Yan Liling was distracted. He sent orders to one of the puppets to keep watch of the world.

Finally, Wang Wei checked on the Nether Hell's seal before shifting his attention to someone else, or to be specific, another group - the Innate Demon Gods' leaders. Some people realized these people's identities and lusted after their bodies and bloodlines. Their situation appeared dire as countless powerhouses surrounded each of them; Wang Wei even detected people from the Corpse Selling Sect secretly encroaching on these people - most likely interested in their dead bodies.

'This is a perfect opportunity to help them and increase their allegiance to the Myriad Emperor World,' he thought before scanning every battlefield to see how he could send help to these people. However, everybody was occupied and could not leave their stations.

'The best option would be to free Ji Lanfang, but his release would increase these people's suspicions. So, my other option is to use some people from the Fate Shadow Guard or....'

Wang Wei pricked his finger to draw a single drop of blood, and when it fell on the ground, five clones of him with weak aura - relative to him - appeared. Then, these five individuals turned into different people, including men and women of different sizes, appearances, and even personalities.

"You're now mercenaries hired from world communities unaffiliated with the Commerce Hub. Go find Tie Gang; he will order you to help these Innate Lives." The clones bowed before disappearing. Wang Wei continued his observation and planning before muttering: "It's about time for this farce to end.' He ordered Wang Ju and the Fate Shadow Guards to prepare for mobilization; it was almost time for them to play their parts.

Void Zone:

Xu Shi floated in the void with a pink hanfu, looking more feminine and beautiful than ever. She glanced at the handsome young man before her, dressed in all white, with a natural arrogance and nobility that could compare with Huo Fenghuang - if not better.

"You're the last person I expect to take orders from the Commerce Hub," said Xu Shi.

"Where is Wang Wei?" asked Chu Luo.

"Haven't you heard? He's been exiled to the upper dimension."

"I don't believe that for a second." This fact was obvious to Chu Luo, not only because he knew what kind of talent it took to become a Dao Overlord, but due to the actions of the Myriad Emperor World's Eternals. All these people work together because there is a monster above them to restrict their actions ??? forcing them to act accordingly and follow the rules.

So, what would they do once that monster was no longer here? They would show their fangs, returning to their lesser or basic instinct of greed and unrestrained competition. Chu Luo knew there was a flaw to this analysis, and it was patriotism. These Eternals might have continued to band together to protect their home world.

But that's not how things are looking. They continued acting as if that monster still had its leach on them; they entered this war without hesitation, and the confidence that they would be the winner never wavered. Chu Luo had no choice but to conclude that Wang Wei was playing a major scheme, and this was nothing but a facade.

"Since you don't believe it - why are you fighting on the opposite side?" asked Xu Shi.

"I want a fair revenge match."

"Revenge? From what he told me, he lost his fight against you."

"Did he think I would not realize he let me win?" sneered Chu Luo. "Not only did I realize what he did, I also deduced why he did it." His eyes flashed with mockery and anger. "I guess I should thank him."

"So, after the fight with him, you realized the true potential of the Nine Extremity Foundation and tried to reach perfection. After succeeding and proving the Dao, you thought you were on par with him and prepared for a 'fair match' since your ego could not accept the last result.

"Then, you heard about his strength and accomplishment and could not accept such a result, thinking these people exaggerated his powers. Then, when the Commerce Hub came to you with an offer you could not refuse, you accepted since this was the perfect opportunity to prove you were right. Did I miss something?"

"No, you did not," Chu Luo replied calmly, his emotions or aura not fluctuating in the slightest.

"Unfortunately for you, the rumors are true. You paled in comparison to his strength."

"That remains to be proven."

Xu Shi shook her head, "Get past me first before anything else."

"I suppressed you once, and I can do it again," Chu Luo declared as he activated his [Awaken]. His white robe turned into clouds, along with his pupils, who also appeared as white as a blank canvas. His aura was vast and ethereal, like a god of creation about to breathe life into an entirely new universe filled with life.

'As expected, his strength was on par with me,' thought Xu Shi. She achieved a strength of peak 6-fold. However, she knew she was this fast because Wang Wei helped her accelerate the process; otherwise, she would never achieve it so quickly. Yet, Chu Luo did so without someone like Wang Wei for help, assuming he did not receive aid from the Commerce Hub.

'As soon as I ascend, I must reforge my foundation,' she thought while activating her [Awaken]. Xu Shi knew she was approaching the limit that her current foundation would allow her to stack Grand Dao Boosts, which is a problem that restricts all cultivators from reaching the higher levels of the Battle Realm. In other words, even if she had increased her understanding of Dao Imprint, her body wouldn't have been able to bear it without the proper Dao Foundation.

Chu Luo raised his hand to summon a sword: [Ultimate Swordsman Sword]. With the power of creation, he created a weapon with the power of a pure swordsman on par with Wang Tian and Ji Lanfang - no, even more powerful, given his respective strength.

Swish!

Chu Luo's hand left shadows as he moved so swiftly, releasing slash after slash, each containing unparalleled powers. Xu Shi realized the terror of these attacks and reacted swiftly; her body became transparent, and the slashes passed through her as if she were intangible.

Chu Luo's eyes narrowed as he realized what had happened. She temporarily sent her body into a parallel timeline to evade, so he slashed once again with the intent to cut off space-time itself. Xu Shi created a sword with the fabric of space-time and countered the attack. Her sword slash erased the enemy's slash from time itself before continuing forward.

The sword in Chu Luo's hand suddenly changed, beginning to release the same spatial-temporal aura as his opponent. He used the same attack, canceling hers.

[Death of Time]

What would happen if "time" were to die? Chu Luo's body stopped moving since time no longer existed, but was that all it did? No. Time is linked to causality, so his past, present, and future were erased-including all his karmic connections, such as his parents.

Without time, he lost all ability for experience, including growth and improvement. Without his past, all his achievements became pointless. There was also the breakdown of the laws of physics or the existence of many concepts, but these were the least of Chu Luo's problems.

[Birth of Time]

The sword in his hand turned into a cauldron, releasing a power that recreated the space-time continuum that Xu Shi had destroyed, reverting things to how they used to be.

'Something is wrong.'

'Something is wrong.'

They both had the same thoughts at the same time. However, Chu Luo was the first to realize why.

'She's extremely familiar with how I fight.' Although this was a short confrontation, he noticed this anomaly. It did not take him to deduce why:

'That damn dream world,' he thought.

'His battle IQ and experience are not less than mine,' Xu Shi analyzed after their initial clash to test each other. 'He probably used his Creation Dao to create something similar to the Dream World to train himself.' She was instantly jealous of the versatility of Creation Dao.

'However, what is the anomaly I'm thinking about?'

[Whisper of the Heart]

Chu Luo began to whistle a tune, and Xu Shi's expression changed as she immediately entered a defensive state. Chu Luo smirked. He had refined a new pair of eyes for himself with the Dao of Truth; in other words, his new eyes were a talent called [Eyes of Truth]. With his new eyes, he saw and exploited a small flaw in his opponent.

Chapter 1120 Rumors

Xu Shi summoned her Chaos Pot, which spewed a veil of primordial chaos to protect her. In the meantime, she dealt with the attack on her mind. She found herself in a world of her mind with nothing in sight. As she was about to try something to leave this place, she heard an alluring voice.

"Do you think he truly loves you?"

Xu Shi frowned as the voice seemed familiar.

"Do you think he has changed?"

"He has," replied Xu Shi as she mustered a terrifying power of chaos to destroy this Mind Space.

"Can you trust him while he's separated from you? Do you trust him not to find another woman?" said the enchanting voice.

"If I didn't trust him, I would not stay with him," Xu Shi declared.

"Then, you're better than me," said the voice, who finally appeared.

"A Heart Devil?" The person looked exactly like Xu Shi.

"More like a manifestation of your insecurities?"

"Insecurities? Those are bold terms," sneered Xu Shi. "What insecurities do I have?"

"Of course, it is about our Xiao Fan," said Heart Xu Shi.

"Nonsense," uttered Xu Shi calmly as she waved his hand to send a black slash with the power to wipe out time itself. However, the attack passed through the other as if she were intangible.

"Why are you reacting so fiercely if I'm only talking nonsense?"

"Because your words and even your existence are an insult to me," rebutted Xu Shi. "Do you think my relationship with him defines me? Do you think I spent every waking hour thinking about my husband? Do you think my life has no meaning without him around?"

"Isn't it?" asked Heart Xu Shi with a devilish smile. Her words contained a power that was extremely alluring to the mind.

"Maybe in the past, but not now - not ever again," said Xu Shi. "I've grown. He's grown. And now, our lives are better than before. Maybe things will change, but that goes for every relationship."

Heart Xu Shi looked at her genuine self before rapidly dissipating. The real Xu Shi thought this charade had ended, but she was wrong -- a second one appeared.

"What is it this time?" She could tell that time was passing slower in this mind space than outside, but that did not change the fact that time was still passing. If she did not leave quietly, Chu Luo would break through her defense and severely injure her.

"There have been rumors that you have entered a secret relationship with Wang Wei," snickered the second Heart Xu Shi. "So, is it true? Even if it's not, you should really entertain this idea."

Xu Shi's mouth twitched. Of course, she had heard of the rumors. They were everywhere in the Dream World and one of the most talked-about things in that space. However, she knew how ridiculous these rumors were. First, she was not this kind of woman; second, this man was head over heels in love with his wife.

"Your words are an even bigger insult than the first one."

"Oh, come on. You two are the most beautiful people in the lower dimension. He's the most powerful ever, and you're the most powerful woman," said Heart Xu Shi. "Now that you're close friends, I think you would be a perfect match - not to mention the alliance that could be created between your factions if you two got together."

Xu Shi exhaled deeply, not hiding her frustration: "I'm going to say this once, and only once - Wang Wei loves his wife, and he only wants her in his life. If something happened to their relationship, he would remain alone for the rest of his eternal life. And I feel the same way. In this life, I will have only one husband - and no one else."

"How boring," replied Heart Devil while smacking her lips. She disappeared, and Xu Shi opened her eyes to see that her veil of primordial chaos was almost broken.

[Horror of Primordial Chaos]

Primordial Chaos is vast, infinite, and ancient. Throughout its existence and development since the beginning of times, how many horrifying life forms have been created or grown to such a level? Too many to count. And today, Chu Luo confronted a fragment of one of those entities. He saw a pair of eyes hidden by a black-red fog, and his body trembled instinctively out of fear.

Before he could react, Chu Luo felt his mind, spirit, and unique Emperor's Soul rapidly collapsing. The very presence of this being's presence was enough to destroy him on a conceptual level. Chu Luo acted swiftly and created a universe inside his mind with countless lives before linking all their souls and Willpower to his own, allowing him to resist this attack.

Xu Shi took this opportunity to kick her opponent. She used a fleshly body divine ability - the [Weight of Primordial Chaos] - and the attack was intense, capable of annihilating worlds, the very fabric of space-time, and countless concepts.

Chu Luo made a split decision to create a piece of armor made of the strongest metal, which Primordial Chaos itself had tempered. His move was brilliant, as his armor could now block most of the primordial chaos power from his opponent. However, the sheer force behind the kick still sent him flying a few thousand kilometers.

'I understand the anomaly I sensed before,' thought Xu Shi. Your Creation Dao is no longer limited, is it?' When he countered his technique, she noticed how he did not use a weapon to use the Power of Creation but just wielded it as if it were a natural part of him. Chu Luo calmly looked at her without answering.

"You must have used Gu Xuan's Deception Dao."

Her deduction was correct. After studying the inheritance, Chu Luo worked hard to gain full power over Creation Dao. So, he refined a Deception Emperor Soul-instead of Creation-to allow himself to "deceive" Grand Dao into thinking he was a true Dao Overlord. Once that was done, Chu Luo rarely used his true Creation Dao because he knew using such a crooked path could earn him the ire of Grand Dao, leading to his death.

So, in most fights, he only used his limited Creation Dao unless it was absolutely necessary.

[Song of Eternity]

Xu Shi's pot spewed a fog that rapidly turned into a zither. A projection of the River of Time materialized behind her as she played, and a beautiful melody emanated from it. Under Xu Shi's guidance, a terrifying vibration that combines sounds or music from the past, present, and future rushed toward her opponent.

Before the vibration arrived, Chu Luo heard strange music in his mind, which hurt his spirit. He heard many different Zither players from the beginning of time until the last musician in the universe.

[God of Music and Vibration]

Chu Luo snapped his finger to create a God whose sole power is absolute control or mastery over music and vibrations. A large phantom of a man in all white, sitting cross-legged with a zither before him, materialized behind him. The god plucked one string to release a vibration that countered Xu Shi.

Their clash released a shockwave that could have destroyed countless Great Thousand Worlds. However, this was just the beginning. As these two masterful musicians clashed, the melodies they created reverberated from the Void Zone to the Martial Hegemony and Myriad Emperor World's world communities.

People who heard the sound had different reactions. Some felt they heard the most murderous songs between Heaven and Earth, almost driving them to madness. Others heard the most beautiful notes in the universe, elevating their minds and spirits to a higher plane of existence. A small majority had illusions that they either saw the most beautiful woman or man in existence or saw the person they loved most in their lives. And those were just the three main reactions after hearing that song.

Xu Shi frowned as she saw how easily her technique was canceled. 'Our strength is relative to each other. So, this fight is likely to end in a draw.' She was unhappy with this news, and it was the same for Chu Luo, who figured out the same thing. They looked at each other, and their auras clashed; they were both extremely competitive, and no one wanted to give up - especially given the result of their first fight.

Xu Shi saw this battle as an opportunity for payback, while Chu Luo felt humiliated that someone he could kill with one slap was not on the same level as him.

Chu Luo's eyes narrowed. He had a way of ending this as swiftly as possible, but his pride would not allow him to use this method.

'I can still win,' he thought as he used one piece of information that his [Eyes of Truth] detected. A sword manifested in his hand, and it was releasing a weird aura.

[Causality Sword]

Chu Luo swung his weapon, targeting Xu Shi's past. To be precise, he wanted to wipe out one specific event in her life - the time Lin Fan gave her the Dao Seed, and she inherited everything from him.