

Merchant 591

Chapter 591: Constellations that Control Fate

Bai Hao saw the figure of a woman standing next to the white rock river. Her back was facing him, and she was singing the song that was playing in his ear.

A mellow song was the most gentle form of punishment. It could slink into a heart unnoticed and chain it up before one even noticed what was happening.

When Lin Yuan logged onto Star Web, he went into his private territory.

Since Lin Yuan wanted to go into his private territory on Star Web, he brought along the mask Hu Quan had made for him.

He assumed that it would be rather empty since he had not announced his private faction's role.

However, when Lin Yuan entered, he realized that about seven or eight people were standing outside his private territory and talking.

Lin Yuan was slightly suspicious, but he felt annoyed when he heard what they were discussing.

"Why are the bunch of you here in the middle of the night? There's nothing exciting to see."

"Why are you talking about us? You're rather sinister! You come here at the same time every day to mock Sky City."

"I'm not mocking Sky City. I just think that Sky City is a little pitiful."

"My rising faction, Nut Mercenaries, is also new. However, if I happen to meet any member of Sky City, I'm willing to donate some outstanding items for them to spruce up their entranceway."

The other people present were disgusted at this Nut Mercenaries member.

We've agreed on a time to leave here together to take a look at Nut Mercenaries' private territory. It's not like your private territory has anything valuable. Why are you acting all high and mighty here and trying to lord above other rising factions? How are you worthy? What a joke!

Lin Yuan pursed his lips as he scanned these few people. He sighed to himself at how silly they were.

Why aren't they asleep at this hour?

Lin Yuan ignored them and went into his private territory.

The group of people had noticed Lin Yuan when he entered. They initially thought that he was just here to see if anything exciting was going to happen.

They did not expect that he would turn out to be a member of Sky City.

Inside his private territory, Lin Yuan checked his private territory's visitor log.

Even after five minutes, he was not done checking through the visitor logs from today.

Lin Yuan gave up checking the visitor logs.

He noticed that there was mail from the Star Web officials in his private territory's mailbox. After taking a look at it, numerous questions popped into his mind.

In the last month, his private territory had achieved a ranking in the Visitor's Ranking.

There were many rankings for private territories on Star Web.

Most of the ranked private territories were a cut above the rest, and they represented the institution of private territories on Star Web.

Although the Visitor's Ranking was not a particularly powerful ranking, it did carry significant weight amongst all the rankings.

After all, it represented the number of people who visited private territories every day.

Lin Yuan might have been happy if his private territory had been ranked after he announced its role.

However, his private territory had not even debuted. It was no different than a patch of empty land.

It was impossible for empty land to be attractive!

Hence, all the visitors had just come to see if there was anything exciting happening.

It was because of this that Sky City's highest ranking on the Visitor's Ranking was 87th.

Although, it had currently dropped to 98th.

Lin Yuan had not been investing time into his private territory, so he did not expect that so many people had been ridiculing him for carelessly leaving his private territory's security access rights open.

Although Lin Yuan felt that this was rather ridiculous, he had no plans to stop this situation.

Those people who had come to join the crowd were only providing Sky City with free advance advertisement.

Lin Yuan did not plan on decorating the exterior of the private territory. Nonetheless, he and Hu Quan had put a lot of effort into the interior design.

Lin Yuan used the Star Web Card to bring in all the items and placed them on the floor of the large hall.

He hung all the jade-textured wood roulettes made by Hu Quan on the walls.

The jade-textured roulettes hanging all around the walls starkly contrasted with the white walls and created a classy atmosphere.

Then, Lin Yuan used the golden strings from the jade-textured phoebe zhennan and strung all the roulettes together.

There were a total of 108 jade-textured wood roulettes.

There was a notch in the center of every roulette where Lin Yuan placed a strand of Bronze/Epic Starlight Grass.

As a mainly decorative fey, the Starlight Grass could also release weak spirit qi.

The star patterns on the Starlight Grass's leaves swayed naturally.

The swaying movements of the Starlight Grass's leaves caused the roulette to turn, and in turn, each of the roulettes along the golden phoebe zhennan strings started to turn as well.

The weak spirit qi also caused the roulettes and golden phoebe zhennan strings to glow dimly.

The glowing golden strings and the shining Starlight Grass leaves lined up and seemed to form numerous constellations.

It could create the feeling of a star-filled sky during the daytime.

The turning roulettes looked like skipperless steering wheels turning in the sky.

In this artificial sky, these self-turning steering wheels seemed to be controlling the fates of mortals using the golden strings.

Now, the interior design of this private territory was utterly stunning.

Chapter 592: Recruiting Duan He

Although the interior design was already immaculate, Lin Yuan was not done decorating.

Lin Yuan also set up the 36 Bronze/Epic Floating Cloud Flowers, placing one flower between three spinning roulettes.

Shortly after, elusive clouds rose from the flowers and shrouded the bright constellations and roulettes.

The light could not be completely hidden. The clouds were only meant to add an air of mystery and create the magical atmosphere of being amongst clouds.

Lin Yuan was basically done with decorating.

Lin Yuan thought for a while before raising his hand and storing away the jade-textured wood table Hu Quan had made.

He did not replace the complementary ordinary wood table that was given to all faction territories.

The ordinary wood table was extremely common. There was a Bronze/Legend Oath Lily of the Valley placed on it.

Each of the white bell-like flowers of the Oath Lily of the Valley gleamed softly. It was like the flowers were collecting the promises of the mortal world under the clouds and roulettes in the sky.

After Lin Yuan left his private territory, he noticed that the number of people gathering outside had increased by at least five times.

There were even more who were coming over.

Those first few people must have called more people over after seeing Lin Yuan go in.

Lin Yuan could not help but sigh as he wondered why these people were not enjoying the new year or sleeping.

Do they just gawk all day?

Lin Yuan did not have time to waste on these people.

On the third day of the new year, Sky City's spectacle of clouds would be even more stunning.

After leaving Star Web, Lin Yuan plucked the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus from the Pure Land of Bliss. He intended on planting the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus in front of the mansion's entrance.

Lin Yuan had been keeping the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus in the Spirit Lock spatial zone because of the Cinnabar Osmanthus Haworthia growing on it.

Lin Yuan really needed the Cinnabar Osmanthus Haworthia to increase his energy.

Since the Cinnabar Osmanthus Haworthia had left the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus, Lin Yuan wanted to pour out the soil on the Pure Land of Bliss.

The Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus without its tree core would never recover.

Planting a new flower species in the mansion added a hint of elegance to the mansion.

The sky was starting to brighten. While Lin Yuan was instructing the Source Sand to dig in front of the door, he heard Wen Yu's voice.

"Young Master, you haven't slept the entire night. Why don't you drink some of the purple sesame lamb soup that Liu Jie slowly simmered last night."

Wen Yu knew that Hu Quan's Vitality Sloth had replenished Lin Yuan's vitality.

He would not have been able to sleep that night.

However, she did not expect to find him gardening at the break of dawn.

Wen Yu was a spirit attendant in the Radiant Moon Palace and immediately recognized that Lin Yuan was about to plant the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus.

The Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus was not an outstanding species of osmanthus.

It was considered upper-middle, and its most interesting aspect was that it changed drastically when it evolved.

The legendary extinct species of osmanthus was an evolved form of the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus.

Even the Moon Empress had chosen to plant several Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus in the Leaning Moon Mountain's garden.

Several of them had evolved to the higher grade of osmanthus feys.

According to Wen Yu's memory, not even the lushest Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus in Leaning Moon Mountain's garden was half as lush as Lin Yuan's Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus.

The clustering tufts of scarlet flowers were already weighing down the strong branches.

Lin Yuan took a sip of the purple sesame lamb soup Wen Yu served him.

When his taste buds were drenched in the freshness of the lamb meat and the spiciness of the purple sesame, Lin Yuan felt a warmth enter his body.

When he swallowed the soup, small beads of sweat appeared on his nose.

Liu Jie could not help but marvel at Liu Jie's improving cooking skills.

Recently, Liu Jie liked to cook medicinal food.

Medicinal dishes made of fresh ingredients and some feys with medicinal properties had a special flavor.

Lin Yuan checked the time and saw that it was only a little past 6:00 a.m.

"Why are you up so early?" asked Lin Yuan.

Liu Jie was usually the first one to wake up in the mansion. He usually woke up at 7:00 a.m.

When Liu Jie started making breakfast at around 7:30 a.m., Wen Yu would walk out of her room.

Wen Yu received the medicinal soup that Lin Yuan drank and explained softly, "Last night, you said that you wanted information on Duan He, so I asked a spirit attendant in Hidden Moon Pavilion to help me look through Duan He's personalized magazine."

Wen Yu was always aware of her skills and the role she needed to play in Sky City.

When she was a spirit attendant in Radiant Moon Palace, Wen Yu had regarded herself as extremely talented.

Apart from her aptitude as a Creation Master, she was considered rather powerful amongst the spirit attendants.

However, ever since becoming Lin Yuan's personal assistant and getting to know Liu Jie, Listen, and Chu Ci, Wen Yu came to understand that power was innate. It could not be compared with others no matter what.

Hence, Wen Yu had taken Mystic Moon's suggestion and had started focusing her efforts on managing the information and organizational aspects of Lin Yuan's private faction.

She was not determinedly striving toward governance.

Up till then, Wen Yu had been rather downtrodden.

It was because she had not managed to gather even one Willpower Rune.

After hearing what Wen Yu said, Lin Yuan knew that she had not slept last night as well.

"Wen Yu, what do you think about us recruiting Duan He?"

Wen Yu pondered over his statement.

“Young Master, I think it’ll be good for us to recruit Duan He,” replied Wen Yu.

Lin Yuan raised an eyebrow. Ever since establishing Sky City, he had not contributed as much as Wen Yu.

Wen Yu was usually the strictest when it came to picking new talented individuals.

Duan He’s character and skills must be impressive if he managed to tear a compliment from Wen Yu.

“Tell me about the information you learned about Duan He last night.”

Wen Yu did not look through the organized information in her hands. She had already memorized all of the information surrounding Duan He.

“Duan He’s character is beyond reproach. When he was king-class, he was once Captain of the Spirit Guards.”

Lin Yuan was stunned to hear that he had been a Spirit Guard Captain.

Lin Yuan’s parents had both been part of the Spirit Guards. Thus, the title of Spirit Guard Captain held a special meaning to him.

Any person who protected the sanctity of life in the face of danger was worth respecting in Lin Yuan’s books.

They were also the most adorable people!

Chapter 593: Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake and Thunderwave Sky Chaos Snail

Lin Yuan thought for a moment before asking, “Has Duan He been a part of any factions other than the Spirit Guards?”

Wen Yu shook her head.

“Duan He has never joined any other factions. He was once a part of a team of emperor-class experts. However, he left for some reason. He is quite powerful. Duan He prefers to contract water-type feys that are skilled at attacking. According to the records in Hidden Moon Pavilion, as of three years ago, his main feys are the Suzerain/Myth I Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake and the Suzerain/Myth I Thunderwave Sky Chaos Snail.”

Lin Yuan frowned upon hearing the names of the feys that were compatible with Duan He.

When Lin Yuan had first met Duan He, the latter had been using a Diamond X/Fantasy V Sword Plume Sea Hawk.

Not only was the Sword Plume Sea Hawk incompatible with what Wen Yu said about Duan He, but it also did not exist in his team of main feys.

“Doesn’t Duan He have the Sword Plume Sea Hawk as one of his main feys?”

Wen Yu shook her head.

“Duan He can’t afford to nurture another fey after the Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake. However, he did contract the Unmatchable Bird five years ago. The Sword Plume Sea Hawk might be the Unmatchable Bird’s evolved form.”

Lin Yuan immediately understood.

The Unmatchable Bird was the same as his strengthened Red Thorn and Source Seed. It also transformed and evolved according to its contractor’s desired path.

Few Unmatchable Birds and Source Seeds could be found at the Radiance Federation. It was not a source-type lifeform that existed on its own.

Source Seeds were easily mistaken as rubbish, while the Unmatchable Bird was considered an extremely expensive source-type lifeform.

It was almost as valuable as fairy source-type items.

Lin Yuan remembered the Sword Plume Sea Hawk’s abilities and exclusive skills that he had seen on True Data. He could not help but lament how Duan He had failed to properly nurture it.

It was too one-sided and harsh to only nurture the Sword Plume Sea Hawk’s offensive side.

However, Wen Yu had said that Duan He’s only main fey was the Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake.

Lin Yuan felt that Duan He was only making his own life more difficult by nurturing the Sword Plume Sea Hawk in this way.

A multi-directional group attack managed to quickly harvest the pieces of dimensional lifeforms in the dimensional rift.

The more Lin Yuan thought about it, the more he felt that he had found the truth.

The Bamboo Monarch had declared the Sea Demon Snake as the strongest fey in quality-wise.

However, being the strongest also caused the Sea Demon Snake to suffer consequences in the manifold.

The consequences would be shifted onto the Sea Demon Snake’s contractor.

Whenever the Sea Demon Snake grew a new head, it needed to absorb twice the resources as compared to the other feys of the same quality.

Duan He’s main fey was a Suzerain/Myth I Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake. This meant that Duan He could have nurtured six other Suzerain/Myth I feys in the time that he had invested into the Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake.

Lin Yuan’s eyes lit up!

On the one hand, Duan He’s Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake was very strong.

If Lin Yuan could recruit Duan He, he would gain an unrivaled in its own quality and ferocious asset.

On the other hand, due to how difficult it was to nurture the Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake, Duan He had to be very poor!

This is great! The poorer, the better! The poorer he is, the more desperately he'll need resources, and the happier I'll be!

While talking to Wen Yu, Lin Yuan was done planting the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus in the hole the Source Sand had dug.

The Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus' petals had fallen and scattered all over the soil, a blanket of red covering the ground.

The air was tinged with the osmanthus' fragrance.

Wen Yu hurriedly grabbed a broom and started sweeping up the fallen osmanthus flowers.

"Young Master, we'll be able to make our own honeyed osmanthus wine out of this Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus from now on," said Wen Yu.

Lin Yuan smiled from ear to ear.

"Yes. This Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus is about to evolve to Gold grade. I don't know if Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus that had its tree core removed will start a new lease of life once it evolves to Gold grade."

Wen Yu knew that Lin Yuan wanted to cultivate the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus.

"Young Master, I'll bring back some plants and water from Leaning Moon Mountain later. Then, I'll carefully water this Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus," said Wen Yu.

A crystal bottle and a flat and unassuming paper item appeared in Lin Yuan's hand.

Wen Yu was a Creation Master. She immediately recognized the paper item as the mutated paper-elemental source-type lifeform.

When she saw the amber fluid in the crystal bottle, Wen Yu was stunned.

One drop of the amber fluid had saved her and was the reason she had resolved to start a new chapter of her life. It was the Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar.

As Lin Yuan handed the items to her, Wen Yu's heart trembled vigorously.

The paper-elemental source-type item aside, there were at least 200 drops of Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar.

A single drop was already unbelievably precious.

Top factions had come to Leaning Moon Mountain to humbly plead with the Moon Empress in the hopes of gaining the contents of this small bottle.

Lin Yuan saw that Wen Yu was making no move to receive the items.

"This paper-elemental source-type item is more suitable for you. If you drink this bottle of Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar, your body will be completely cleansed of impurities. Once you've been

cleansed, you'll be able to contract the paper-elemental source-type item. Then, you should rest well tonight and replenish all the energy you lost from staying up all night," said Lin Yuan.

Wen Yu gazed at Lin Yuan with several odd emotions. She then took a deep breath and accepted the items from Lin Yuan.

"Thank you, Young Master," said Wen Yu earnestly.

The sun had risen.

Wen Yu summoned the Earth Rush Golden Lotus and bathed in the sunlight together.

Lin Yuan headed toward the kitchen and checked the soup that Liu Jie had cooked for him.

Liu Jie usually prepared a separate soup in the kitchen when he made meals.

Whenever this pot of soup was used up in cooking, Liu Jie would add more.

Lin Yuan was cooking the jar of soup that Liu Jie had helped him to prepare with special ingredients last night.

This jar of soup was the product of Lin Yuan's cooking skills after not stepping into the kitchen for some time.

Wen Yu clenched her fist over the crystal bottle and the paper-elemental source-type item.

Suddenly, a gust of wind kicked up.

Chapter 594: Second Young Master has the Final Say

A rain of osmanthus flowers fell with that gust of wind.

One of the osmanthus flowers landed on Wen Yu's hair.

Wen Yu plucked the osmanthus flower from her hair and realized that there were subtle markings on the petals.

Although the flower had fallen from the tree, it still bore the markings of the tree's growth.

Wen Yu looked between the flower and the paper-elemental source-type item in her hand. A dream took root in Wen Yu's mind.

"If only I could become a white paper engraved with all the memories of you and Sky City," murmured Wen Yu.

Wen Yu spoke under her breath, and the wind was still whistling. Perhaps only the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus caught what she said.

"If I could become paper, my front side would display proclamations while the back would be full of secrets."

This time, Wen Yu spoke louder. Before her words could sink in, she entered into a trance.

A transparent, paper-shaped Willpower Rune materialized in Wen Yu's mind, and the spiritual energy surrounding Wen Yu started to swirl rapidly.

...

Mystic Moon reached out his arm and peered at the food in his chopsticks. He felt that there was nothing special about the dish, but the knife-work was solid.

All the humble foods had the taste of an aged soup.

The taste of the aged soup was the finishing touch that elevated the dish.

If it was one year ago, Mystic Moon would never have believed that someone would cook a home-cooked meal for the Moon Empress during a New Year's visitation.

Although the Moon Empress liked all kinds of food, she was picky about what was allowed to enter her mouth.

Ordinary dishes were not permitted to enter the Moon Empress's mouth.

However, she was now beaming as she feasted on these common dishes.

Cold Moon's usually frigid expression had also thawed as she drank the soup that Chu Ci ladled for her.

Now, Mystic Moon's desire for a disciple was stronger than ever.

Suddenly, he remembered the young girl that he had once guided.

When they were done eating, the Moon Empress said to Lin Yuan, "Little Yuan, Mystic Moon will be leaving the continent on the 7th day after the new year. The space tunnel will be set up before the 15th. Previously, I didn't advise you because there was a lot of time before you had to go to the Spirit Wood Federation. Now, I have to tell you with the utmost seriousness that all of the places in the outskirts will be completely different from the Radiance Continent. You have to be able to stay composed wherever you go."

Lin Yuan nodded seriously.

"Don't worry, Master."

Even if Lin Yuan had not understood the dangers of foreign places after being in the abyss dimensional rift, he had definitely learned what he should do in the face of foreign factions from his experience in the evolving water world dimensional rift.

The Moon Empress took Lin Yuan's words into account and went on to say, "Do you want me to help out with some of your problems?"

A flash of coldness and murderous intent streaked across the Moon Empress's gaze.

Lin Yuan knew that the Moon Empress was referring to the Zheng family because there were no other current problems in his life.

The Moon Empress had offered him once before. She had to be asking again because the Zheng family was about to make a move.

Lin Yuan shook his head and replied with a smile, “Master, I’ll seek you out if I can’t handle it myself.”

The Moon Empress stretched out her hand and gently caressed Lin Yuan’s head, and then placed the Extreme Token with the Flowing Cloud Beeswax inside around Lin Yuan’s neck.

“I’ve already filled the Extreme Token with the moonlight domain. Don’t hesitate to activate it when you’re in danger.”

Lin Yuan lowered his head to look at the Extreme Token hanging around his neck. He could feel that there was something different about the Extreme Token.

However, he could not pinpoint where the difference was.

...

Unlike the happiness brimming in the Radiant Moon Palace, the atmosphere in the Zheng family’s manor was extremely tense.

Zheng Jiangliu and Zheng Wenbo stood off to one side and stared at the austere youth sitting on the main seat.

Despite the raging fire burning in the fireplace, Zheng Jiangliu and Zheng Wenbo felt a chill that resonated from within their bones.

Bi Chenghu from the Iron Wall Chamber of Commerce was kneeling on the floor with his head down. He was terrified of offending the important person seated on the main seat.

He had lost track of how long he had been kneeling.

Bi Chenghu did not dare to use his spiritual power while he was kneeling. Hence, this king-class expert’s legs had already gone numb.

The youth on the main seat scoffed. The kneeling Bi Chenghu twitched, and the terror in his eyes intensified.

Bi Chenghu’s main reason for coming to the Royal Capital was that he had no idea why the Zheng family’s third lineage, which had been supporting him and the Iron Wall Chamber of Commerce all along, was suddenly ignoring him.

He did not expect to meet the Zheng family’s main family’s core member—the Zheng family’s revered Second Young Master.

If this was any other time, Bi Chenghu would have been over the moon at the chance to meet someone like the Second Young Master.

But now that Bi Chenghu knew that the Iron Wall Chamber of Commerce had caused trouble, he wanted nothing more than to dive into a crack in the floor to avoid Zheng Jiangliu’s piercing gaze.

However, Bi Chenghu was even more terrified of the Second Young Master, who had not even thrown him a glance.

Zheng Jiangliu looked at Zheng Kaiyuan and tentatively said, "What do you think about this matter, Second Young Master?"

Zheng Kaiyuan slammed his hand down on the table forcefully.

He startled the small black and white sable in his arms. It tunneled into Zheng Kaiyuan's blooming sleeves.

"What do I think? Let's ignore the death of the Zheng family's third lineage's Jiao Hanzhong. However, my guardian is now on his last legs, not to mention deaf and mute. The Zheng family's third lineage is actually asking what I think?"

Zheng Kaiyuan spoke like a haughty elite that was chastising his subordinates. His tone indicated that he did not consider the Zheng family's third lineage as part of his family at all.

Zheng Wenbo had already been scared silent. He stood hunched behind Zheng Jiangliu.

Zheng Jiangliu's expression had soured significantly, but fear lay underneath his sour expression.

Zheng Jiangliu said with a resigned air, "Second Young Master, we've been collecting resources from the coastal shores outside of Indigo Azure City. The third lineage only asks for 20% of this business. You can have the remaining 80%."

Zheng Kaiyuan's sharp gaze penetrated Zheng Jiangliu.

"The third lineage is now struggling with gaining control of the coastal sea owned by the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce despite having schemed for so long. Hehe, it looks like the third lineage has been hiding many things from me!"

Zheng Jiangliu's body froze.

"The third lineage dared not hide anything from you, Second Young Master. From now on, you can have the final say when it comes to the third lineage."

Chapter 595: I Think I'll Be Chosen!

Zheng Jiangliu thought to himself, Only Jiao Hanzhong and I know about the Sea Burial Lotus Flower that was found in Indigo Azure City's coastal sea. Jiao Hanzhong had taken care of everyone else who knew. Not even Zheng Wenbo is sure of the details. Since Jiao Hanzhong died, I'm the only one left who knows. Now that the Sea Burial Lotus Flower is dead, I have to keep this information to myself if it's the last thing I do. If Second Young Master finds out about the Sea Burial Lotus Flower, he'll punish the third lineage for sure.

Jiao Hanzhong had been the strongest person in the Zheng family's third lineage.

Jiao Hanzhong was dead. Hence, the third lineage had now become the weakest link in the four lineages, which initially stood side by side.

Zheng Jiangliu needed to find a reliable source of support for the third lineage, even if the new source of support was greedier than a fearsome tiger!

Zheng Kaiyuan glanced at Zheng Jiangliu.

“Since the third lineage wants to side with me, they better focus on developing the coastal sea. Other matters are unimportant. I want 90% of the profits.”

Zheng Jiangliu almost cracked his teeth with the force that he was grinding them together.

An evil smile appeared on Zheng Kaiyuan’s cold face. He looked askance at Zheng Jiangliu and said lightly, “What’s wrong, Third Uncle? Do you disagree with me?”

Zheng Jiangliu’s tightly gritted teeth trembled. The tremors were so strong that he tasted blood.

He yanked Zheng Wenbo, who was behind him and knelt on the floor.

“Your ideas are always the best, Second Young Master.”

The kneeling Zheng Jiangliu started to guess to himself.

The moon has been bright the past few days. The concentrated moonlight illuminated Indigo Azure City’s coastal sea. That’s the exact location where I sent Jiao Hanzhong to kill the masked youth.

However, this guess was terrifying, and Zheng Jiangliu dared not dive in too deeply.

Although the Zheng family had not experienced any disasters in the past two weeks, Zheng Jiangliu thought it would be best to stay on his guard.

If the Zheng family crossed someone that was untouchable, even the Miao family who supported the Second Young Master would burst into flames.

The top faction that was the Miao family would be burnt to a crisp.

When Zheng Kaiyuan heard Zheng Jiangliu’s response, he glanced at Zheng Jiangliu haughtily but did not address him again.

Instead, he turned to look at Bi Chenghu, who wanted nothing more than to disappear.

“The source is the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce. Hehe, I can’t believe they’re capable of so much,” said Zheng Kaiyuan.

There was a hint of solemnness in Zheng Kaiyuan’s eyes.

Although Zheng Kaiyuan was arrogant, he was not stupid. He had even sought out the Indigo Azure Guard Captain to understand the circumstances.

After Zheng Kaiyuan’s numerous visits to the Indigo Azure Guard Captain, he only managed to find out the name Sky City.

He was clueless as to the power that Sky City held.

After one match that had the power to kill two emperor-class warriors, Zheng Kaiyuan could not disregard them.

Bi Chenghu would never have expected that the Zheng family’s Second Young Master would talk to him in such a condescending manner.

Although the Second Young Master seemed to be talking to Bi Chenghu, he might as well have been talking to himself.

Bi Chenghu, who thought that he knew the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce rather well, dared not interrupt.

While Bi Chenghu was struggling, he was unexpectedly called out by Zheng Kaiyuan.

“Third Uncle said that your name is Bi Chenghu. What a bold-sounding name. I know you came to Third Uncle for resources. Whether he decides to give you any or not, I can help you out. Are you interested?”

Bi Chenghu, whose legs were already numb, assumed that he was doomed.

Little did he know that he would be granted such a blessing.

Bi Chenghu’s eyes lit up as he cried out, “I’m willing. If you’re willing to help the Iron Wall Chamber of Commerce, we’ll do anything in for you in return!”

Zheng Kaiyuan knocked on the armrest of the main seat.

“While the dimensional rift remains closed, all beasts should hide their claws. Nothing good will come out of baring their teeth. However, the Zheng family cannot stay idle! Bi Chenghu, I shall give you the luxury resources that you desire. All you have to do is make sure that you squeeze the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce dry.”

Bi Chenghu was delighted by this unexpected surprise and thanked the Second Young Master happily.

Zheng Jiangliu looked at Bi Chenghu with a troubled gaze.

Now that he had formed a connection with the Second Young Master, Bi Chenghu could stand on the same level as Zheng Jiangliu and no longer needed to play the role of the obedient dog.

However, Zheng Jiangliu’s uneasiness has diminished.

Although this matter stemmed from the Zheng family’s third lineage, they had managed to dig themselves out of the hole by offering the coastal sea’s resources.

Zheng Jiangliu just needed to focus on developing the coastal sea resources and increasing profits.

Zheng Kaiyuan would handle all the problems.

By reading in between Zheng Kaiyuan’s words, he was prepared to fight the faction behind the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce.

...

Lin Yuan and Chu Ci were done spending New Year’s at the Radiant Moon Palace. They returned to the mansion the next day.

Back at the mansion, Lin Yuan and the rest had a reunion dinner together. They initially planned on going shopping in the afternoon, but the first snow of the year arrived.

The snow was heavy. It covered the Royal Capital like a blanket of white goose feathers.

The Return from Faraway Mansion's plants and Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus were covered with a thick layer of snow.

The group watched as the snow became heavier and discarded their plans to go shopping. Instead, they made a variety of intricate dishes with Liu Jie.

The snow descending from the sky gave Lin Yuan a good feeling.

The snow was a good omen that heralded a warm and healthy spring.

The snow bore the hope that the coming year was going to be smooth sailing.

Chu Ci had always been the quiet type. However, she was rather restless now. All she could think about was going to watch the Allstar Match tomorrow.

Lin Yuan felt that Chu Ci was even more lively than Genius and Chimey combined at that moment.

He watched Chu Ci pace around him.

Lin Yuan knew that Chu Ci had something to say to him, so he patted the seat next to him on the sofa and said, "Stop pacing. You're making me dizzy. You can tell me anything."

Chu Ci planted herself next to Lin Yuan and giggled. "Big Brother, there might be a challenge match at the Allstar Match tomorrow. I have a feeling that I'll be picked! That's why I want to evolve the Varja Butterfly to Fantasy Breed today."

Lin Yuan affectionately pinched Chu Ci's nose and said, "When did you become so superstitious? I can't believe you're trusting a sixth sense. If so, I think I'll get picked too!"

Chapter 596: What Do You Need to Join Sky City?

Lin Yuan helped Chu Ci to press down the stray hairs on the top of her head and said, "Next time, don't hesitate to say what you're thinking. Let's evolve the Varja Butterfly to Fantasy Breed in the training room after dinner. I've also prepared your third fey."

Hu Quan, who stood off to the side, held the jade-textured strings and was crafting Sky City's special mask on the shelf made of metal spiritual ingredients.

When he heard the conversation between Lin Yuan and Chu Ci, Hu Quan pursed his lips.

Lin Yuan is such a hypocrite! He told his sister not to believe in her sixth sense, yet he does the exact same thing. If so, I'll just say that I have a feeling both of you will be chosen!

Chu Ci happily reached out her hand and tousled Lin Yuan's pristine hair before sticking out her tongue and running to the kitchen to cook with Liu Jie.

Lin Yuan hastily fixed his hair as he sighed.

"This little brat is becoming too impetuous."

As he spoke, Hu Quan noticed that Lin Yuan's lips were stretched into a wide smile.

Before they sat down to eat, Lin Yuan decided to do something that was very important to Sky City.

It was about Duan He's recruitment.

Lin Yuan had sent out the elemental pearls that he traded for with Master Duan Li, Wang Fuxiang, and Stream in the Cloud through Ostrich Logistics. The only exception was Duan He's elemental pearls.

Instead of immediately going through with the trade, Lin Yuan told Duan He to come after New Year's. He wanted to give himself some time to look through Duan He's information.

However, Lin Yuan did not expect that Wen Yu would be so efficient.

She had organized all of Duan He's information in one night.

Now that Lin Yuan had thoroughly checked out Duan He's information, he intended on pulling Duan He into Sky City.

Thus, Lin Yuan was not opposed to taking the initiative to recruit him.

Lin Yuan had obtained Duan He's contact details.

Besides adding Duan He as a friend on Star Web, Duan He had also sent his phone number.

Lin Yuan checked Duan He's phone number and dialed it.

The phone rang for almost a minute.

Just when Lin Yuan thought the call would fail to go through, Duan He picked up.

Lin Yuan could hear a sound that resembled whistling winds, and it was accompanied by the neighing of a herd of strong horses and the thunderous crackle of lightning.

From the sounds, Lin Yuan knew that Duan He was out killing.

"Hello, who is this and what do you want? If you try to promote some lousy spirit ingredients, I suggest you hang up now. I don't have the extra cash to buy whatever nonsense items you're selling."

Lin Yuan heard Duan He exclaim loudly, "Thunderwave Sky Chaos Snail, use Eight Thousand Lightning Strikes!"

Duan He did not expect that he, an emperor-class expert, would be trapped by these gross Class 3 water world dimensional lifeforms.

His body was covered in the sticky fluids spat out by the Class 3 water world dimensional lifeforms, making him dizzy.

Thus, Duan He could not help but lash out at this stranger's phone call.

Lin Yuan had not anticipated this tongue lashing when he called Duan He.

"So, does this mean that you don't want the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls anymore?" asked Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan promptly hung up the call.

After he hung up, Lin Yuan did not set down the phone.

Less than three seconds later, Lin Yuan's phone rang.

Lin Yuan waited till a minute was almost up before he picked up the call.

When he picked up the call, Lin Yuan heard Duan He's embarrassed and apologetic voice.

"Sir, I, I didn't know it was you! I've been receiving too many calls from salespeople trying to sell spiritual ingredients, and I thought it was happening again."

Emperor-class experts always needed an abundance of rare spiritual ingredients, and many of them would leave their contact details at auction houses and shops where they had just bought spiritual ingredients.

Whenever these places had precious items, they had specialized employees who would contact emperor-class experts.

Most emperor-class experts were happy to receive such a service.

The spiritual ingredients promoted by these businesses were mostly aligned with the items that the emperor-class experts had bought previously.

These businesses would not have the courage to flippantly disturb emperor-class experts.

However, Duan He was an exception.

Duan He's pocket was empty. He was close to donating his organs in order to nurture the Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake.

He spent every penny in his possession on his blade.

Thus, Duan He felt pained whenever the businesses promoted items to him that he wanted to buy.

Duan He did not expect that his way of speaking on the phone would offend the Moon Empress' disciple.

The Moon Empress's disciple also had the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls that Duan He desperately needed.

Duan He had not returned home to rest during New Year's as he wanted to gain more resources that he could use to trade for Lin Yuan's heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls.

A few days ago, Duan He had been desperate for spiritual ingredients and had no choice but to buy some. Thus, he spent the source-type items he had initially planned to trade for the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls.

There was no other reason that could result in Duan He working so hard over New Year's.

Duan He assumed that Lin Yuan would either ignore him after being offended or go through with the agreed-upon deal.

Instead, Lin Yuan said, "How about this? You should set a time to come to my store on Star Web. I left an access control for you. Let's talk face to face."

From Lin Yuan's words, Duan He had the feeling that Lin Yuan wanted to seek him out for more than the deal about the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls.

Duan He thought to himself, *Is this about what my nephew said in the group? But it's already been a few days, and he didn't say anything when I was right next to him. From the way he casually tossed out those Floating Life pearls, he must be a generous person. I don't think he's someone who wants payback.*

Duan He looked at the Class 3 water world dimensional rift that he had almost completely cleared out.

"I'll be able to be at your store in ten minutes."

Chapter 597: Lin Yuan's Thousand-Layer Scheme

Lin Yuan hung up the call.

He had blurted out his intention to recruit Duan He because he wanted to use a kind of psychological tactic—a thousand-layer scheme.

He wanted to allow Duan He to have time to prepare and evaluate the circumstances.

If Duan He did not have any inclination to join Sky City, Lin Yuan would not be able to recruit him no matter what he offered.

However, if Duan He wanted to join Sky City, Lin Yuan would be able to build up his stakes layer by layer, which would exert pressure until it reached the amount that would convince Duan He to join Sky City.

This was the essence of the thousand-layer scheme.

Lin Yuan straightened his posture before logging onto Star Web and entering the Purchase With No Loss store to wait for Duan He.

Lin Yuan frowned as he waited for Duan He. He was deep in thought about what kind of stakes he should exhibit in order to be able to recruit Duan He.

Shortly after Lin Yuan sat down, Duan He's figure appeared in the doorway.

When Lin Yuan saw Duan He, his lips curled into a smile.

Duan He's arrival signaled that Lin Yuan's thousand-layer scheme had already partially succeeded.

Duan He had come despite knowing Lin Yuan's motive, indicating that he was interested.

Even if Duan He was opposed to the idea, it was not a strong opposition.

There was room for negotiation.

Duan He noticed that Lin Yuan looked the same as he was on the deserted island outside Indigo Azure City.

He was still wearing the strange mask with the majestic sky city engraving.

Only Lin Yuan and Duan He were present in the store. Duan He walked up to Lin Yuan and said, "Sir, my nephew Recluse Study was just spouting nonsense. I didn't know that the brat had eavesdropped on the adults' conversation."

Lin Yuan shook his head and said generously, "I don't mind such things. No one would believe him anywhere. Here you go. These are the ten wind-type heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls with 98% purity. The price we agreed on was two source-type items for one elemental pearl."

Duan He felt a sting from Lin Yuan's words, but his limbs were numb. He hurriedly took out the 20 source-type items to trade with Lin Yuan.

Duan He had just retrieved three of the 20 source-type items from the Class 3 water world dimensional rift.

No matter how reluctant Duan He was, he had to admit that Lin Yuan was offering a much lower price than other pinnacle Class 4 Creation Masters.

At the very least, he did not need to waste the immense amount of effort he would need to search for the extremely rare spiritual ingredients that the pinnacle Class 4 Creation Masters wanted.

Lin Yuan did not immediately receive the 20 source-type items that Duan He offered.

"Senior Duan He, if you're willing to join Sky City, you don't have to offer anything in return for these 10 heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls," said Lin Yuan earnestly.

When Duan He had first heard Lin Yuan's offer, he instinctively rejected it. But afterward, he felt a slight ripple against his decision.

Duan He knew that Lin Yuan was the Moon Empress' disciple. He would undoubtedly gain closer access to the Moon Empress by joining Lin Yuan's faction.

However, there were not only benefits to joining a faction but also a larger load of responsibilities to bear.

He would also gain many comrades whose lives would be codependent on his.

The feeling Duan He hated the most was seeing his comrades die in front of him.

This was the reason that Duan He had left the Spirit Guards after that one mission and decided to become a free spirit qi professional.

Thus, Duan He had decided that a deal was a deal.

Lin Yuan noticed that Duan He had not retracted his hand, meaning that his first layer of offering had not been accepted.

Hence, Lin Yuan threw out his second layer of offering.

"If you're willing to join Sky City, Sky City will provide you with a compatible and valuable Bronze fey each time you comprehend a Willpower Rune."

Duan He shook his head again.

He had comprehended a Willpower Rune, but he only needed a bit of time and effort to find a valuable Bronze fey on his own.

As an emperor-class expert, the challenge was not finding compatible Bronze feys but how to nurture the Bronze feys to Myth Breed.

Duan He only needed to request a Class 4 Creation Master to privately create a compatible Bronze fey.

After being rejected again, Lin Yuan waved his hand and summoned the Bronze/Legend Golden Curtain Peonies.

The moment that the brilliant Golden Curtain Peonies appeared, Duan He's gaze changed.

Duan He had assumed that the Bronze feys Lin Yuan mentioned would be Bronze/Epic at most. He did not expect Lin Yuan to possess a Bronze/Legend.

Duan He could find suitable Bronze/Epic feys, but there was no way he would be able to obtain Bronze/Legend feys on his own.

Even when nurtured by a Class 4 Creation Master, there was only a small chance of a Bronze/Legend fey being produced.

It could be said that only Class 5 Creation Masters could nurture Bronze/Legend feys.

Duan He asked himself, *The three great Class 5 Creation Masters are the Moon Empress, Bamboo Monarch, and Chef Supreme. I don't have the right to approach any of them, much less ask them to help me create a fey that's compatible with my Willpower Rune.*

Duan He gulped as he considered the practical benefits of Lin Yuan's offer.

Duan He no longer had any reason to reject him.

Lin Yuan observed Duan He's demeanor and knew that he had hooked Duan He with his second layer of offering.

He now needed to seal the deal so that Duan He would immediately agree to join Sky City.

It was normal for a faction to give up an enormous amount of resources when they were trying to recruit an expert.

Even the unbelievably wealthy rising factions needed to pad the pockets of king-class experts when trying to recruit them.

That was the only way to convince the king-class experts to willingly join them.

Lin Yuan was now trying to recruit an emperor-class expert, so he was ready to shower Duan He with resources.

If Duan He was willing to join his faction, Duan He would also become stronger through Lin Yuan's resources.

It was a win-win situation.

Lin Yuan pondered for a moment before throwing out the third layer of offering without another word to Duan He.

Chapter 598: Successful Recruitment

“Senior Duan He, I heard that you’ve been running around collecting spiritual ingredients because you contracted a Sea Demon Snake. Is it the Suzerain/Myth I Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake? If so, all the resources you’ve been trying to accumulate will eventually be devoured by it. You should be able to evolve it to Myth II, but it will grow a new head and become a Seven-Headed Sea Demon Snake. The Seven-Headed Sea Demon Snake will need a lot of law power to evolve to Myth III. I wonder where you’re planning on going in order to procure enough law power to evolve the Seven-Headed Sea Demon Snake from Myth II to Myth III?”

Duan He was not surprised by how well Lin Yuan knew about his need for resources.

Lin Yuan was the Moon Empress’ disciple. It was easy for Lin Yuan to uncover any secret in the entire Radiance Continent.

The legendary Hidden Moon Pavilion held even more secrets than the Spirit Guards’.

Duan He’s biggest issue at the moment was nurturing the Sea Demon Snake.

The Sea Demon Snake was already at the peak of Suzerain/Myth I, and Duan He had invested years of hard work into it.

All these years, Duan He had not even had the chance to rest at home. He spent every waking hour hard at work.

“If you’re able to obtain Law Crystals after joining Sky City, I can provide you with pure law power,” said Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan proclaimed his third layer of offering.

This was also the last layer of offering that Lin Yuan had prepared.

If Duan He rejected this as well, Lin Yuan would be at a loss.

If Duan He agreed, it would be great news to Lin Yuan.

Not only would Sky City gain a capable member that would increase its fighting ability, but the Law Crystals that Duan He would find would allow Lin Yuan to nurture his Sacred Sword Wielding Queen.

Duan He was stunned by Lin Yuan’s words, mumbling in disbelief, “Are you telling the truth?”

Lin Yuan looked straight at Duan He and nodded solemnly.

“Of course I’m telling the truth.”

Duan He immediately retracted his hand that was holding the 20 source-type items.

He called Lin Yuan ‘Young Master’ in a loud and clear bark.

“Young Master, do I need to swear using a Willpower Rune in order to join Sky City?”

Duan He was elated.

Even if Class 4 Creation Masters could also nurture Bronze/Legend feys, only Class 5 Creation Masters were able to draw out the pure law power from Law Crystals.

The three great Class 5 Creation Masters were the Moon Empress, Bamboo Monarch, and Chef Supreme.

The drain of drawing out law power was completely internal.

This was why Class 5 Creation Masters had so much authority and received so much respect.

Even if an even stronger emperor-class expert went to join a top faction, they would not be able to obtain the pure power of laws.

They would need to deeply comprehend laws when their contracted Suzerain feys evolved to Suzerain/Myth II or absorb Law Crystals that were compatible with their contracted fey's type.

Naturally, allowing the fey to absorb the energy inside Law Crystals could not compare to pure law power.

As long as Duan He wanted to advance as a combat-class spirit qi professional, there was no way he could reject Lin Yuan's offer.

Upon hearing Duan He's prompt agreement, Lin Yuan said, “All you need to do is make an oath by a Law Rune to become mine and Sky City's Protector.”

Duan He breathed a sigh of relief.

If Lin Yuan wanted Duan He to become his servant, Duan He would not have agreed no matter how attracted he was by Lin Yuan's offer.

As an emperor-class expert, pride was more important than benefits.

Although not all emperor-class experts subscribed to this, it was a principle that Duan He lived by.

This principle allowed Duan He to have a sense of discipline whenever he was faced with temptation.

Duan He contemplated for a full three seconds before looking at Lin Yuan and said, “I know how to be your Protector. But, how am I supposed to protect a faction?”

In Duan He's eyes, Lin Yuan was the head of Sky City. As Lin Yuan's Protector, he needed to listen to Lin Yuan's orders.

The way Duan He saw it, becoming Lin Yuan's Protector was the equivalent of becoming Sky City's Protector as well.

“As Sky City's Protector, you need to protect every plant and everything in Sky City, even if it costs you your life. Meanwhile, I will make you stronger.”

Lin Yuan spoke with immense austerity.

He was completely different from the friendly person he usually was. He now seemed like an elite that was full of attacking power.

Lin Yuan had not thrown out so many offers in his effort to recruit Duan He to gain a useless layabout.

Thus, he laid out the conditions first.

Lin Yuan had grown and learned more about the world and his own power in the past half a year.

Given Lin Yuan's abilities as a Creation Master, his Sacred Sword Wielding Queen would be able to help evolve Duan He's Suzerain/Myth I Six-Headed Demon as long as Duan He found enough Law Crystals.

If Duan He was confident that the Sea Demon Snake could survive the Trial of World Creation, the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen could even help the Sea Demon Snake evolve to the Creation Nine-Headed Sea Demon Snake.

Lin Yuan did not talk to Duan He as the disciple of the Moon Empress. Instead, he spoke with his usual humility.

Lin Yuan's words left Duan He at ease. Since he was going to join a faction, it was natural that he would have the duty of protecting everything in the faction.

Duan He bent over and bowed to Lin Yuan.

"Young Master, I can't make an oath by a Law Rune on Star Web. However, I have decided to join Sky City and become your Protector."

Chapter 599: Lin Yuan Gives Out Nectar

Lin Yuan smiled brightly.

The sudden shift in Lin Yuan's expression made Duan He feel that this masked youth was a cheerful youth even though he could not see his face clearly.

Duan He suddenly heard Lin Yuan say, "You're not the only one who has to protect everything in the faction. I have to do it too!"

As he spoke, Lin Yuan thought back to how Liu Jie and Zhou Luo had bravely confronted their enemies in the evolving water world dimensional rift.

Lin Yuan pursed his lips and said softly, "I'll do everything I can to protect everyone in Sky City."

Lin Yuan's voice had barely been a whisper, but Duan He could clearly sense the meaning and weight in Lin Yuan's words.

Although Duan He was not familiar with Sky City, he could tell from the way its leader spoke that Sky City was a warm faction at the very least.

Lin Yuan did not expect himself to fall into such a trove of emotions.

The head of a faction definitely had heavier burdens to bear than the others.

Lin Yuan straightened his posture and said to Duan He, "Senior Duan He, come to the Royal Capital if you have time."

Duan He extended his arm and awkwardly stroked his beard.

"Young Master, I want to make use of the dimensional rift's active period to collect more resources. As of now, I only have half the spiritual ingredients needed to evolve both my Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake and Thunderwave Sky Chaos Snail to Myth II."

Lin Yuan touched the Legend Gold Curtain Peonies' flowers and replied with a smile, "Since you agreed to join Sky City, the faction will take care of all the spirit ingredients you need other than Law Crystals."

It was not as easy to gain an emperor-class expert's loyalty as it was to gain a king-class expert's.

Any faction, including elite factions, would put their emperor-class expert members on a pedestal.

The faction was sure to provide their emperor-class experts with all their daily necessities.

Lin Yuan was not going to skimp on anything either.

Both the Zheng family and the Divine Wood Federation already had their bows drawn.

With another emperor-class expert in his ranks, Lin Yuan would be able to better handle matters on both ends.

Duan He blinked. He assumed he would only be receiving the benefits that Lin Yuan had mentioned.

Frankly, Duan He was already satisfied with being able to receive pure law power. He did not expect Lin Yuan would be willing to provide the resources he needed to evolve his feys.

He had been courted by veteran factions and elite factions before. However, not one of them had been willing to do the same as Lin Yuan.

Duan He knew that he required many times more the resources of other emperor-class experts. It was not easy for any faction to provide for him.

This blessing came too abruptly!

The thought of being freed from trudging around and being beaten by the elements allowed Duan He to feel a newfound sense of ease.

Duan He thought about how difficult it had been for him to nurture the Unmatchable Bird to the Sword Plume Sea Hawk, yet he had not used it much since.

Duan He felt that it was doable.

It looks like I'll have to nurture the Sword Plume Sea Hawk as a group-control rather than group-attack type from now on.

Lin Yuan was not stressed by the increased burden of Duan He's immense resource needs.

The strength of Duan He's Sea Demon Snake outweighed the cons of the enormous amount of resources it devoured.

The number of heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls in the Spirit Lock spatial zone were increasing every day.

This was a good way to use them up and raise Sky City's combat power.

Once Lin Yuan settled things with Duan He, he left Star Web.

Duan He also started rushing toward the Royal Capital.

Given the Diamond X/Fantasy V Sword Plume Sea Hawk, Duan He would only need a day to reach the Royal Capital.

Duan He would be able to sign the contract with Lin Yuan when the latter announced Sky City's roles on Star Web.

When Lin Yuan walked out of the room, the banquet had already been set up.

Besides the variety of dishes, there was also a jade square platter that was about a meter long in the middle of the table. Various cakes and deserts sat atop the platter.

Only a few of the deserts were exquisitely shaped like various feys. They were very lifelike.

It was obvious that Liu Jie had prepared them. The rest of the slipshod products had to have been made by the others.

After being steamed, the slipshod deserts all looked the same.

Chu Ci, the Mother of Bloodbath, and Endless Summer tried to pick out the desert that they had made.

However, they could not tell the difference no matter how hard they tried.

Lin Yuan saw that Wen Yu looked like a completely different person.

She must have already used the Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar to completely cleanse herself.

Soon after, Listen and Zhou Luo returned and took a seat at the table.

Almost everyone was present at the Return from Faraway Mansion.

No one depicted on the feature wall was absent.

Lin Yuan thought for a moment before pulling out a large bottle of Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar that he had left in the fey storage box.

He also took out six empty bottles and filled each to the brim with nectar.

Lin Yuan placed a bottle in front of the Mother of Bloodbath, Endless Summer, Liu Jie, Listen, Zhou Luo, and Hu Quan.

Lin Yuan had already given Chu Ci and Wen Yu Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar, using it to cleanse their body of impurities.

No matter how much Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar he had, Lin Yuan was reluctant to drink it for sport.

One might be rich, but they should still use items to their best potential.

Chu Ci watched as Lin Yuan poured out the Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar and immediately thought about what had happened to her after drinking it.

She was about to speak when she saw Hu Quan, who had been toiling over his crafts, and Zhou Luo, who was exhausted and hungry after returning, gulp down the entire bottle of nectar.

Once they were done drinking, Zhou Luo and Hu Quan could not help but give Lin Yuan a thumbs-up as they exclaimed, "This nectar is delicious! Where did you buy it from?"

Wen Yu's eyelid twitched as she looked at both of them, thinking to herself, *Unworthy people will never be able to touch the Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar no matter how much they want to or how much they're willing to spend. How can they ask where it was bought from?*

If Leaning Moon Mountain was willing to sell the nectar, even elite factions would scramble and riot in order to obtain it.

Lin Yuan blinked. He did not expect Zhou Luo and Hu Quan to finish drinking the full bottles of Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar.

Lin Yuan hastily said, "Uncle Hu, Big Brother Zhou, the both of you should head to your bathrooms quickly."

Chapter 600: Evolve! Vajra Butterfly!

Lin Yuan had not finished speaking before Zhou Luo, and Hu Quan dashed toward their respective rooms.

Liu Jie looked at the full bowl of amber fluid. He had already recognized the contents.

When the Insect Queen had been in danger, the Bamboo Monarch had given Liu Jie a drop of Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar.

Although the drop of Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar had not cured the Insect Queen, it did grant it one more year of time.

Otherwise, it would have died before Liu Jie met Lin Yuan.

Liu Jie would also not be living the life he was living at the moment.

The Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar was especially beneficial to the Mother of Bloodbath and Endless Summer, who were already Myth Breed feys.

In order for the Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar to cleanse a body, it evolved the genetic model to perfection.

Feys had much more complicated genes than humans.

The Mother of Bloodbath, Endless Summer, and Liu Jie returned to their rooms as well after drinking the Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar.

Lin Yuan felt slightly awkward and felt that he should have taken out the Silver Stamen Gold Luster Cassia nectar after the meal.

Now, only he, Chu Ci, and Wen Yu were left seated at the table.

After the meal, Lin Yuan took out the two pots of Golden Curtain Peonies and placed them beside the water rhinoceros leather sofa. Hu Quan had already created a plant holder that had not been used.

The Glow-Winged Butterflies inside the red sandalwood longevity fish tank flew out after sensing the Golden Curtain Peonies' aura.

They danced around the Bronze/Legend Golden Curtain Peonies.

The Glow-Winged Butterflies were diurnal and usually refused to fly at night.

However, they were now flitting around the Golden Curtain Peonies with as much vigor as they had in the daytime.

Lin Yuan knew that the Glow-Winged Butterflies were after the Golden Curtain Peonies' pollen.

The two Golden Curtain Peonies were full of pollen. Even after evolving to Fantasy Breed, the Vajra Butterfly would not be able to use up all of the pollen.

Lin Yuan did not continue to stop the Glow-Winged Butterflies from consuming the pollen.

The longer that Lin Yuan looked at the dancing Glow-Winged Butterflies, the more he felt that something was wrong with one of them.

The other Glow-Winged Butterflies were trying to put as much space between them and this particular Glow-Winged Butterfly as possible while they were flying.

Just as Lin Yuan was about to check on this Glow-Winged Butterfly using True Data, Chu Ci said, "Lin Yuan, I'm done eating. I'll wait for you in the training room."

After hearing what Chu Ci said, Lin Yuan stopped caring about the Glow-Winged Butterflies and said, "Wait for me. Let's go over together once I'm done eating. Before we go, I want to prepare all the metal and plant-type pollen that the Vajra Butterfly will need in its evolution to Fantasy Breed."

Lin Yuan took out a wooden box and gently patted the large peonies, sending a plume of pollen cascading into the wooden box.

The shining golden pollen shimmered as they filled the box's interior.

Lin Yuan carried the box as he pulled Chu Ci to the training room.

Presently, all of Chu Ci's feys had been built by Lin Yuan.

Thus, Lin Yuan was looking forward to seeing what kinds of exclusive skills the Vajra Butterfly would develop once it evolved to Fantasy Breed.

Lin Yuan was not expecting much of the Burning Sunflower because its original abilities were already enough to aid Chu Ci in battle.

Lin Yuan felt that any additional exclusive skills were all just icing on top of the cake.

When they arrived at the training room, Lin Yuan summoned the Bronze/Legend Vajra Butterfly.

The Vajra Butterfly had been by Lin Yuan's side for some time. When it saw Chu Ci, it flew over to her and flitted around her lovingly.

It landed on Chu Ci's finger, then on her nose. Chu Ci was tickled pink as she giggled.

Lin Yuan had also contracted a butterfly-species fey. It was a fey that could be considered one of the ten most beautiful feys in existence—the Blue Flash Purple Butterfly.

However, the Blue Flash Purple Butterfly was extremely aloof.

Although Lin Yuan could sense the deep affection that the Blue Flash Purple Butterfly felt for him, it did not interact with him on the regular.

Lin Yuan felt that the Jasmine Lily was the only one to which the Blue Flash Purple Butterfly could warm up.

Six months had passed since the Blue Flash Purple Butterfly had hatched, and Lin Yuan had nurtured it from the beginning.

Among all his feys, Lin Yuan was the most clueless about what Willpower Runes suited the Blue Flash Purple Butterfly best.

He thought about how Chu Ci had picked the most compatible Willpower Rune through observing the Vajra Butterfly. Hence, Lin Yuan decided that he would also find the right time to study the Blue Flash Purple Butterfly to see if he could comprehend a compatible Willpower Rune.

After Chu Ci and the Vajra Butterfly played around for a while, she summoned the Willpower Rune that she had comprehended from the Vajra Butterfly.

This was not the first time that Lin Yuan had seen this Willpower Rune of Chu Ci's.

This Willpower Rune had an oddly thick feeling, as though it was a strong shield.

However, behind this heavy feeling was an exploding aura.

Lin Yuan had always felt that this Willpower Rune had a subtle aura of impulsivity.

Lin Yuan placed the wooden box of pollen on the table in the training room.

“Instruct the Vajra Butterfly to eat the pollen in the wooden box until you feel that it can't eat anymore. Then, combine your Willpower Rune with the Vajra Butterfly and evolve the Vajra Butterfly to Fantasy Breed,” said Lin Yuan.

This was not Chu Ci's first Fantasy Breed. However, Chu Ci was more nervous as compared to the previous time when she was still rather ignorant.

Ever since she started on the path of a spirit qi professional, Chu Ci, who was obsessed with real combat practice, understood exclusive skills and ability compatibility more than other people her age.

Although Chu Ci was nervous, she did not seem anxious as she instructed the Vajra Butterfly.

By the time the Vajra Butterfly had eaten half of the pollen in the wooden box, its abdomen had swelled.

A golden light shone from within its abdomen. It illuminated the Vajra Butterfly's green metal body with a light golden sheen.

Chu Ci sensed the Vajra Butterfly's condition. When the Vajra Butterfly's entire body was gleaming golden, she immediately directed the Willpower Rune toward the Vajra Butterfly.

The Vajra Butterfly combined with the Willpower Rune and the golden light intensified in an instant.

Soon after, Lin Yuan watched as the intense golden light retreated.

Suddenly, a watery green light appeared in the center of the golden light.

The moment that the watery green light appeared, Lin Yuan became certain.

Judging from the Vajra Butterfly's process of evolving to Fantasy Breed, everything seemed to be going smoothly.