

Merchant 651

Chapter 651: Possibility of the Sea Burial Lotus Flower's Evolution

Lin Yuan returned to his room and entered the Spirit Lock spatial zone. He saw Chimey and Genius helping him to organize the elemental pearls and sorting them by purity and type.

They even sorted the 9.9 purity heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls by the exterior.

The Wind Speed Rapid Antelope nearby did not immediately bound up to Lin Yuan when it saw him. Instead, it stared at the Sea Burial Lotus Flower as though it had noticed odd movements.

The Wind Speed Rapid Antelope could defend against strong winds, and it attacked the Sea Burial Lotus Flower's Bone Lotus Flowers.

Genius retreated behind Lin Yuan's leg and quickly scampered up to his shoulder.

It said in a childish voice, "Yuan, the Sea Burial Lotus Flower always steals your coral jade when the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope is resting. It uses its Bone Lotus Flowers to yank a few coral jades into the water. The sounds shock the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope awake. Once the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope wakes up, it will keep glaring at the Sea Burial Lotus Flower and will not move an inch."

Lin Yuan walked up to the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope and patted its head as he said, "You've done well."

Lin Yuan took a wind-elemental pearl, crushed it, and fed it to the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope.

Lin Yuan had placed the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope in charge of the Spirit Lock spatial zone, but he never expected it to take its responsibility so seriously.

It had been so perturbed over a few pieces of coral jade.

However, Lin Yuan admired this trait of the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope. It had been so affected by the Sea Burial Lotus Flower because it felt that it had not fulfilled the role it had been given, which was to take care of the Spirit lock spatial zone.

Once Lin Yuan comforted the Wind Speed Rapid Antelope, he grabbed the Sea Burial Lotus Flower out of the spirit pool.

Lin Yuan noticed that the Sea Burial Lotus Flower had evolved too quickly while it was in the spirit pool. It had already evolved to Elite IV/Elite, and a small Sobbing Sea Crystal had sprouted near its roots.

However, Lin Yuan was slightly suspicious. Why did the Sea Burial Lotus Flower go after the coral jade that had not even finished developing their spots yet instead of absorbing the spirit qi in the Spirit Lock spatial zone?

Could it be that these coral jades that have not finished developing their spots yet are more attractive to the Sea Burial Lotus Flower than the immense amount of pure spirit qi in the air?

The Sea Burial Lotus Flower was not very intelligent. It always relied on instincts to pick the best method for its survival and evolution. In other words, the coral jades that had some slight spotting were of great use to the Sea Burial Lotus Flower.

Judging by the development of the spots, Lin Yuan noticed that the coral jade finished developing spots in about the same amount of time as jade-textured wood.

Lin Yuan had promised to provide Gao Feng with 150kg of coral jade every ten days. It took up 40% of Lin Yuan's coral jade production per cycle.

Lin Yuan planned to use 20% of the coral jade to nurture the Angelfish of Bliss he had received from Gao Feng and maintain the mother Angelfish of Bliss.

Thus, every time he produced coral jade, he still had 40% left over.

Lin Yuan planned on giving the remaining coral jade to Hu Quan to create luxury goods that they could sell.

However, it turned out that the Sea Burial Lotus Flower had use for the coral jade.

Lin Yuan felt that there was no harm in giving the remaining 40% of the coral jade to the Sea Burial Lotus Flower for it to absorb.

Although the Sea Burial Lotus Flower had not changed much after absorbing a few pieces of coral jade that had recently developed spots, there was still a chance that it would eventually transform or evolve.

Even though the Sea Burial Lotus Flower had never been known to evolve or transform, the coral jade was a mineral that could not be produced underwater.

Moreover, the Sea Burial Lotus Flower had only been recorded in the history books once.

Its single appearance generated an enormous deserted island underwater.

Lin Yuan started to analyze to himself. *If I continuously feed the spotted coral jade to the Sea Burial Lotus Flower, is there a chance that it'll eventually evolve or transform?*

The more Lin Yuan thought about it, the happier he became.

The Moon Empress had told him that some carcinoma feys transcended their original parameters after evolving or transforming, allowing them to be contracted.

If the Sea Burial Lotus Flower could evolve or transform into something useful to Lin Yuan, he would be fully capable of forming a contract with it.

The Cinnabar Osmanthus Haworthia's fruits were going to be ripe soon.

Once Lin Yuan ate the fruits, he would no longer need to rely on Morbius' Spirit Lock. He would be able to form a true contract with a fey.

The Sea Burial Lotus Flower was a plant-type fey and was compatible with the type of feys that Lin Yuan could contract.

When Lin Yuan had contracted Genius and Chimey, they were so weak that they could not be considered feys.

Lin Yuan had so little spiritual energy at that time that if they had been real feys, he would have fainted on the spot or nursed a headache for two weeks after contracting them.

At the worst, he could have died.

Although Lin Yuan had decided on feeding the spotted coral jade to the Sea Burial Lotus Flower, he did not want to encourage it to snack secretly.

Thus, Lin Yuan started to train the Sea Burial Lotus Flower again, just like he had done when he had first captured it.

The training lasted for two hours.

Two hours later, the Sea Burial Lotus Flower had become extremely compliant.

Every time it saw Lin Yuan's hand reaching over, it would raise its small white flowers and wrap his fingers with its petals.

Lin Yuan then poured the Five Fortune Ranchu that Duan He wanted into the spirit pool. He wanted to let it stay there for some time.

In the next instant, Lin Yuan opened the brocade pouch that Duan He had given him and carefully poured out the crushed crystal pieces onto his workbench.

He also summoned the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen.

The Sacred Sword Wielding Queen did not even look at the Law Crystal pieces on the table and said while salivating, "Master, can I eat the bag of Law Source Crystals first?"

Lin Yuan was overjoyed to hear this.

The sacred source lifeform that he had contracted was picky, but it seemed as though it would be easy to satisfy it. After all, compared to the Law Crystals from a Suzerain/Myth fey, the Law Source Crystals from a Class 7 dimensional lifeform were definitely much easier to obtain.

Lin Yuan would never refuse such a request made by the sacred source lifeform. He took out the other brocade pouch and poured out the Law Source Crystals inside onto the workbench.

Chapter 652: The Queen's Evolution

Lin Yuan counted a total of 20 Law Source Crystals on the workbench.

These 20 Law Source Crystals proved that Duan He's current power, or his power from long ago, already enabled him to kill at least 21 Class 7 dimensional lifeforms, which had a similar amount of power as a Suzerain/Myth fey.

Lin Yuan could not help but admire Duan He's, or rather the Six-headed Sea Demon Snake's, current strength.

Lin Yuan looked at the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen that was staring greedily at the Law Source Crystals and said, "Absorb these Law Source Crystals first. It will give me a chance to check the types of these Law Source Crystals."

The Sacred Sword Wielding Queen happily picked up the turbid Law Source Crystals.

It picked up each piece of Law Source Crystal and embedded it into the crown on its head.

The image of the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen embedding the Law Source Crystals into its crown reminded Lin Yuan of the way Zhao Xiaochun ate.

It was the spitting image!

Lin Yuan was about to comment that the 21 Law Source Crystals looked ugly when they were all embedded on the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's crown when the Law Source Crystals started to twinkle like starlight.

Every piece of Law Source Crystal shone like a star, and the light descended upon the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's flowing skirt.

When he saw the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen absorbing the Law Source Crystals, Lin Yuan turned his head to peer closely at the pile of Law Source Crystal pieces on the workbench.

When Duan He had poured out the Law Crystal pieces into his hand, Lin Yuan had felt that there were a lot of them.

Lin Yuan used True Data to check the attributes and saw that these Law Crystal pieces came from five Suzerain/Myth I feys.

Each Law Crystal had been shattered into many pieces.

When the pieces were mixed together, it looked like they came from more than five Law Crystals.

Lin Yuan carefully examined these Law Crystal pieces and started to pick some pieces out.

Once he was done, he said softly to himself, "Did Duan He kill a family of Jade-Gray Whales?"

Lin Yuan noticed that three of the five Law Crystals came from Suzerain/Myth I Jade-Gray Whales.

This made Lin Yuan understand why the Six-Headed Sea Demon Snake's main head was so much bigger than the heads of other types. It must have been because it had devoured the flesh of the three Suzerain/Myth I Jade-Gray Whales.

The three Jade-Gray Whales had comprehended very similar laws, yet their flavor was distinctive.

It was Rippling Law, Sever Law, and Vortex Law.

All three laws were inclined toward water-type elements when it came to combat, and they were considered average laws.

However, Lin Yuan felt that these three laws were very suitable to the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's Blade of Sacred Sword.

One of the other two Law Crystals turned out to be from the Dark Light Ghost Fish that had comprehended Light Curse Laws.

The last Law Crystal had come from the Gilt Flames Dragon Lice that had comprehended Flame Laws.

Lin Yuan contemplated the situation.

Although none of the five Law Crystals are complete, when combined with the three complete Law Crystals that it had absorbed previously, the skirt already has dark-type, ice-type, water-type, fire-type, and light-type elemental laws.

At this moment, Lin Yuan suddenly heard the sounds of leaves rustling and two strange noises.

One of the noises was foreign to Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan immediately identified the other as Crow Caw.

He turned and was stunned by the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's transformation.

The 21 Law Source Crystal pieces in its crown had already turned into a tiny gem.

When Lin Yuan saw the gem and sensed the pure law power within, he realized that the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen had distilled the pure law power inside the Law Source Crystals.

The Icy Flames Law, Dark Death Law, and Dead Dream Law that were originally in the skirt had turned into shadows.

They solidified into lively images of the Cold Snow Pine, Night Calamity Crow, and Dream-Eating Bat.

The Night Calamity Crow and Dream-Eating Bat represented darkness and occupied the sky, while the Cold Snow Pine towered like a majestic snow-capped mountain.

As for the willpower that it had absorbed from the Dark-Eyed Scorpion Tiger and Dark Spirit Eye Tadpole, they did not seem to evolve after the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen absorbed the Law Source Crystals.

Instead, the willpowers' aura seemed to become even more subdued after the laws' aura increased.

The willpowers took their place in a hidden area on the skirt.

At that moment, the two laws occupying the sky on the skirt suddenly lit up.

The Night Calamity Crow and Dream-Eating Bat's aura climbed, and the law power increased by several times.

When the Night Calamity Crow and Dream-Eating Bat's law aura increased, they became even more lively.

Law Rune sensed the willpowers and realized that they had reached a similar power to the Suzerain/Myth III Endless Summer's Enlightenment Law.

It was evident that the 21 Law Source Crystals had fertilized the laws and triggered a breakthrough.

Lin Yuan could not help but gasp to himself. *I can't believe I completed the goal of the Night Calamity Crow and the Dream-Eating Bat's fight in such a way.*

The Sacred Sword Wielding Queen opened its eyes and stretched.

“Master, the Dark Death Law, and Dead Dream Law have reached Myth III. From now on, when the Blade of Sacred Sword is used, the laws won’t dissipate after you attack with them. After they’re used, they will return to the skirt to recuperate and regain energy,” said the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen.

Lin Yuan’s face lit up with joyful surprise.

Lin Yuan was reluctant to use the Blade of Sacred Sword if the laws would dissipate after each use. He had gone through a lot of effort to obtain those Law Crystals, after all.

“Since the Night Calamity Crow and Dream-Eating Bat’s laws won’t dissipate after reaching Myth III, does this also apply to the Cold Snow Pine’s Icy Flames Law?” asked Lin Yuan.

The Sacred Sword Wielding Queen nodded, pointed to its skirt, and said, “Once the laws absorbed by my skirt reaches Myth III, they will become a totem on the skirt. Laws that become totems won’t dissipate.”

Lin Yuan looked where the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen was pointing and noticed that there was a crow and bat embroidered onto it.

Chapter 653: Prepare to Evolve! Spirit-Drawing Ichthyosaur!

Lin Yuan thought, This transformation might have something to do with Suzerain/Myth III feys gaining the ability to change into a weapon. Now, instead of changing their bodies, they turn into images on the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen’s skirt.

He pointed at the piles of Law Crystals pieces and said, “You should absorb these too.”

The Law Crystals with pure law power were definitely beneficial to Lin Yuan.

Although only the Mother of Bloodbath and Endless Summer could use them for now, there was a chance that the other people in the mansion would have a use for them someday.

The Sacred Sword Wielding Queen felt no greater joy than when it was eating.

As its skirt swayed, the five piles of Law Crystal pieces flashed and shot toward the crown on the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen’s head.

Soon, Lin Yuan noticed something else happening to the skirt.

Under the influence of the Jade-Gray Whales’ Law Crystals, the skirt started to ripple and turned into an endless ocean.

A fierce and flaming insect was on the Cold Snow Pine’s snow-capped mountain.

The insect flapped its wings, and a ferocious aura emanated from it.

It seemed to be too frightened of the flying Dark Calamity Crow and Dream-Eating Bat to take flight and remained on the Cold Snow Pine’s branches.

The flames around its body fused with the icy flames around the Cold Snow Pine and painted a beautiful picture.

Three silhouettes appeared on the ocean.

The silhouettes slowly became bigger, and shortly after, three enormous whales with long tusks appeared on the surface of the ocean.

They crashed into the ocean, sending strong waves rippling in all directions.

The moment the whales appeared, the ocean's ripples did not calm. There seemed to be endless darkness and turmoil swirling in the depths.

A dim light blinked under the water, and it looked to be directing people into the underwater trench that they would never return from.

Besides the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen's strength, the laws its skirt absorbed created a boundless world that took Lin Yuan's breath away.

There was an unknown number of creatures beneath the waters of the rippling ocean on the skirt.

It seemed to be a secure vessel for the mysterious world.

Each wave seemed to be carrying a cacophony of secrets.

Lin Yuan was lost in his thoughts.

The Willpower Runes related to inclusion and vastness that Lin Yuan had comprehended at the coast had condensed in his mind.

The vast sea stretched in all directions and connected all the bodies of water.

Lin Yuan did not expect that amongst the two Willpower Runes he had comprehended, neither was suitable for Genius.

They were suitable for Blackie instead.

Lin Yuan was in no rush to evolve Blackie to Normal/Fantasy.

After all, he was able to sense that he would be able to comprehend the Willpower Rune suitable to Genius in the next two days.

At that time, he would be able to evolve Genius and Blackie to Normal/Fantasy at the same time.

By the time the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen finished absorbing the five piles of Law Crystal pieces, Lin Yuan noticed that its stars had not increased to 2 Stars.

It looks like I still have a long way to go before I can evolve the Sacred Sword Wielding Queen. I wonder when it'll be able to evolve to 4 Stars and unlock new abilities.

The next day was the opening of his private territory. Thus, Lin Yuan had hit the sack early with Genius and Chimey in his arms.

However, this night was a rollercoaster of changes for someone in the mansion.

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The flying paper that was Wen Yu changed back into her in the Hidden Moon Pavilion.

She was panting as she said to herself, "Rushing all this way with Elemental Paper's Dance of Paper is too much of a drain on my spirit qi. It looks like it'll be more convenient to travel to the Hidden Moon Pavilion during the day, at least before I become a B-rank spirit qi professional."

Wen Yu started to look through the bookshelves until she found the personalized magazine about the Miao family's experts. She lay out the information on the table and whispered, "Elemental Paper, use Hear Heaven's Secrets."

She turned into a giant tome.

The tome opened, and the pages started to flip.

The paper generated a gentle breeze that flipped through the information on the Miao family and their experts.

Shortly after, the table full of information had been thoroughly flipped through by the gentle breeze.

Wen Yu changed back into human form and placed both hands on the table.

She was utterly exhausted.

Wen Yu was so drained that she had to sit down. She took a spiritual fluid she had personally concocted out of her fey storage box.

The flying paper landed neatly next to Wen Yu's hand.

The stacked paper formed a tower that was slightly taller than that formed by the information about the Miao family.

Wen Yu said under her breath, "Elemental Paper's Hear Heaven's Secrets drains a lot of vitality. However, it sure is an efficient way to organize information."

Due to her lack of spiritual power, Wen Yu's face was as white as a sheet. Nonetheless, a smile stretched across her face.

I can finally become someone of use to Lin Yuan and Sky City!

Wen Yu was unaware that behind the rows of bookshelves stood a man wearing a silver robe.

His bright eyes were fixed on her.

Mystic Moon stared at Wen Yu and focused on the Elemental Paper. He could tell that Lin Yuan regarded Wen Yu highly.

In the beginning, Wen Yu had been a spirit attendant that Mystic Moon would never even have spared a second look.

Now, she was Lin Yuan's assistant that he had specially picked out. Mystic Moon realized that this unassuming girl was improving at an unprecedented rate.

Mystic Moon still remembered that when Lin Yuan had picked his assistant, Wen Yu had begged for an audience with the Moon Empress because she felt that she was not up to the task.

Mystic Moon could not name even one good thing about her.

However, after the Moon Empress told Mystic Moon to guide Wen Yu, Mystic Moon found that she was a hidden genius.

As he looked at Wen Yu, Mystic Moon felt his heart waver.

Wen Yu heard a burst of bright laughter nearby. She raised her head to see Mystic Moon staring at her and quickly jumped to her feet to greet him.

“Greetings, Lord Mystic Moon!”

Wen Yu was filled with anxiousness when she greeted Mystic Moon.

Mystic Moon was the Radiant Moon Palace’s main steward and oversaw everything that concerned the Radiant Moon Palace.

Although she had interacted with him many times, this was the first time that they were alone together. As such, Wen Yu could not help but feel nervous and extremely wary.

Lord Mystic Moon is so busy. I wonder what happened to lead him to seek me out personally...

Chapter 654: Swearing on a Boundary

When Wen Yu noticed Mystic Moon’s silence, she bowed and said, “Lord Mystic Moon, I finished looking through the information I came to the Hidden Moon Pavilion to find. I hope I did not affront you by not noticing your presence. I apologize for bothering you.”

Mystic Moon did not immediately respond.

He casually flipped through the personalized magazine about the Miao family and their experts before asking Wen Yu, “Is the Young Lord clashing with the Miao family?”

Wen Yu looked up at Mystic Moon with respect but did not answer. She thought of herself as a full member of Lin Yuan’s team. If Mystic Moon wanted to know anything about Lin Yuan or Sky City, he could ask Lin Yuan anytime.

However, without Lin Yuan’s permission, Wen Yu felt that it was inappropriate for her to divulge anything about Lin Yuan or Sky City to anyone else.

Mystic Moon smiled, seemingly satisfied with Wen Yu.

During the meal they had together on New Year’s, Mystic Moon had noted that the Moon Empress and Lin Yuan, and Cold Moon and Chu Ci, looked like perfect Masters and disciples.

He could not help but want to find a disciple for himself.

However, the moment such a thought entered his head, Mystic Moon realized that the only candidate he could think of was Wen Yu.

Mystic Moon was usually swamped with his various duties as the Radiant Moon Palace's main steward. Thus, he never paid much attention to the younger generation.

Mystic Moon knew that the only person who met his expectations as a potential disciple was Wen Yu.

He would be setting off for the outskirts in a few days, and the fact that he happened to bump into Wen Yu at such a time could only be the work of fate.

Mystic Moon never judged a person by their talents. He felt that talent only went as far as enabling a person to comprehend Willpower Runes. Everything else could be achieved through the accumulation of resources.

Even though some feys were rare and unusual, they could be specially cultivated by Creation Masters. Thus, there would not be any limitation when it came to fey choice.

An untalented person would not differ much from a person that possessed a variety of feys.

The number of feys a person could contract was limited.

Mystic Moon valued Wen Yu's intelligence more than her talent, as well as her unshakable loyalty toward Lin Yuan.

As one of the Moon Envoys, Mystic Moon was well aware of the Moon Empresses' feelings and respect toward Lin Yuan.

Cold Moon was the other Moon Envoy, and she had been accompanying Chu Ci in Redbud City for the past few months. Hence, she was not as aware as Mystic Moon.

Mystic Moon had recognized Lin Yuan as the Young Lord ages ago and treated him as a junior.

Wen Yu's role by Lin Yuan's side replicated the one that Mystic Moon played for the Moon Empress.

Mystic Moon was also more than willing to painstakingly nurture a loyal and competent stewardess for Lin Yuan.

Just as Wen Yu was about to speak, she saw Mystic Moon smile again.

"Wen Yu, are you willing to become my disciple?"

Mystic Moon's words struck Wen Yu like a bolt of lightning.

Wen Yu felt utmost respect for Mystic Moon.

Without Mystic Moon's guidance, she would never have been able to reach enlightenment as quickly as she did, no matter how smart she was. She would also never have been able to prove her worth to Lin Yuan.

As much guidance as Wen Yu had received from Mystic Moon, she never dared to hope that she would one day become his disciple.

Wen Yu, who had grown up in the cutthroat environment as one of the Radiant Moon Palace's spirit attendants, had still managed to preserve her pure and kind heart.

However, all her years of competing had led her to realize that opportunity fell to the most prepared one.

There were even some chances that would vanish forever if they were not immediately seized. Trying to grasp them at a later time would be futile.

Thus, Wen Yu hastily replied, "Lord Mystic Moon, I'm willing to become your disciple."

Mystic Moon's usually bright eyes softened, and he said kindly, "If so, why are you still addressing me as Lord Mystic Moon?"

Wen Yu quickly shouted with solemn respect, "Master!"

When he heard Wen Yu address him as Master, Mystic Moon felt a sense of responsibility settle into his soul alongside that of being the Moon Empress' Moon Envoy.

He did not immediately shower affection on Wen Yu. Instead, his expression turned serious as he said, "I'll be very strict with you. You'll have to make sure that you pick up everything I teach you."

Wen Yu nodded vigorously.

Wen Yu had been exposed to Mystic Moon's teaching methods before. His teaching style had really pushed the inexperienced Wen Yu to her limits, and she had thought of giving up.

However, after overcoming them, she could feel the monumental improvement she had gained after just one month.

Although this learning process was difficult, it was effective.

Wen Yu loved this feeling.

Wen Yu assured him, "Master, no matter how strict you are, I'll be able to take it. I'll earnestly learn everything you teach me!"

The moment Wen Yu spoke, she felt an astonishing pressure rise up in front of her.

The brilliant silver light was like a mirror, and it caused ripples in the air.

Wen Yu lifted her head and saw that Mystic Moon's black hair had turned a sparkling silver. His face was now covered with silver dragon patterns, and two silver horns erupted from his head.

When Wen Yu saw the horns, she could not help but express her surprise. She had grown up in the Radiant Moon Palace, but she never knew that Mystic Moon was actually a fey.

The concentrated dragon charisma that radiated from him told Wen Yu that he was a fey with the dragon-species bloodline.

Wen Yu had come across many dragon-species feys before, including Zhou Luo's Diamond/Fantasy Lava Dragon Lizard. However, under this terrifying dragon aura, Wen Yu was certain that the dragon aura she had experienced before this could not even hold a candle to it.

If they were compared, the latter would not even be considered as part of the same bloodline.

As a Creation Master, Wen Yu could guess that there was more to Mystic Moon's dragon-species bloodline than met the eye.

The intensity of his bloodline could be considered the legendary true dragon-species bloodline.

What happened next shook Wen Yu to the core, and her eyes widened even more.

She did not expect that after becoming her Master, Mystic Moon would also become her Path Protector.

However, Wen Yu was confused about one thing. She had heard of swearing on Willpower Runes and Law Runes, but she had never heard of swearing on a boundary!

Chapter 655: Difficult to Avoid Death

After Mystic Moon became Wen Yu's Path Protector, he retracted his aura and returned to his original appearance.

Mystic Moon said to Wen Yu, "I'll be going to the outskirts five days later. You should stay by my side until then. I'll help you to increase your power!"

Wen Yu thought back to the opening of Sky City on Star Web that was taking place tomorrow morning.

She needed to go to the private territory with Lin Yuan. Hence, she said to Mystic Moon, "Master, I need to go to Star Web with the Young Lord tomorrow to help him with some things. I was thinking that I could come back to Radiant Moon Palace to meet up with you when I'm done helping the Young Lord."

Mystic Moon looked at Wen Yu with amusement and thought, *This brat only went as far as to say that she needs to help Lin Yuan with something on Star Web. She deliberately avoided going into detail about what they're going to do. Does she think that I have no idea what's going on? My sacred source lifeform oversees a third of the groups on Star Web.*

Mystic Moon thought back to the way Lin Yuan decorated the exterior of his private territory, as well as the people who flocked there daily to see if anything exciting was happening.

This greatly interested Mystic Moon.

Mystic Moon could not help but wonder how Lin Yuan's brain worked. He had managed to gain a place on the Visitor's Ranking even though his faction territory had yet to declare its role.

Sky City had even managed to enter the private territories' Topic Ranking yesterday.

In order for a faction territory to garner any sort of notoriety, it needed to continuously stoke the flames of popularity and try to spread its name through word of mouth.

However, Lin Yuan had used such a simple tactic and managed to reach the level of popularity in two months that other rising factions failed to achieve even after a decade.

If Lin Yuan knew what Mystic Moon was thinking about, he would have sighed at Mystic Moon's wild train of thought and the enthusiasm of those busybodies who came to his private territory to see if anything exciting was happening.

Lin Yuan just could not figure out why on earth those people would do something so lame.

All I did was not decorate the exterior of my private territory. Is it really worth coming here every day to laugh about it? Is it that much fun to ridicule someone else? It even caused the private territory to end up on the rankings.

Mystic Moon waved his hand, and a rainbow light appeared in his palm.

“Go and ask the Young Lord for a leave of absence. I’ll help you form a marrow contract with this sacred source lifeform now. You’ll only be of more help to the Young Lord after you’ve increased your power.”

Wen Yu agreed with what Mystic Moon said. She picked up her phone and was about to call Lin Yuan.

However, it struck her that he must already be asleep at this hour. Hence, she made a split-second decision and lifted her arm. A piece of paper appeared, and it quickly folded itself into the shape of a crane.

The paper crane rode the breeze and soon disappeared.

Wen Yu used Paper Crane’s Promise to notify Lin Yuan that she would be staying in the Radiant Moon Palace for the time being and that there was no cause for him to worry.

Just before the cusp of dawn, Wen Yu opened her eyes after the marrow contract.

At that moment, a gem the shape of a water chestnut appeared in the center of her forehead.

There seemed to be a cat’s eye etched inside the gem.

When the water chestnut-shaped gem appeared, the etching of the cat’s eye seemed to weave a fantasy world.

In this fantasy world sat people who were in the middle of a grand meeting.

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Lin Yuan had just woken up when he saw Genius sprawled out on his pillow and staring at him with its round blue eyes.

Chimey was still snoring away on Genius’s head. The feathers on its head occasionally fluttered against the soft fur on Genius’ head.

A paper crane perched on Genius’ mouth flew into Lin Yuan’s hand when it noticed that he had awoken.

Since Lin Yuan had checked Elemental Paper’s attributes using True Data, he immediately recognized the paper crane as Elemental Paper’s Paper Crane’s Promise.

When he saw the words written on the paper crane, Lin Yuan was overjoyed for Wen Yu.

With Mystic Moon as her Master, Wen Yu was sure to learn many things.

Lin Yuan had woken up early today, and it was not even 6:00 a.m. yet.

At this time, Liu Jie should just be waking up, and breakfast would not be ready yet.

Lin Yuan went downstairs and encountered Liu Jie and Duan He sitting on the sofa with grim expressions.

Next to Duan He was an unconscious person covered in blood.

Lin Yuan immediately frowned.

Duan He and Liu Jie noticed Lin Yuan, but neither of them spoke.

“What happened?” asked Lin Yuan.

Duan He quickly replied, “You instructed me to go to the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce last night to protect Listen. In the middle of the night, while Listen and Fei Qianqiong were chatting, someone was sneaking around outside. Although this person has not yet reached king-class, he had contracted a Diamond Storm Fearsome Wolf, which made him way too fast for us. Neither Zhou Luo nor Fei Qianqiong is speedy. When the person escaped, he killed seven or eight Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce employees. I sent Purple Demon out, but it ended up using too much strength. Listen asked Fei Qianqiong about it, and he said that the person was not a member of the Iron Wall Chamber of Commerce. As such, I decided to bring the person here.”

Liu Jie’s brows drew even tighter. He had just come downstairs to prepare breakfast when he encountered Duan He. He had assumed that Duan He had come to ask Lin Yuan to save this person. He did not expect that the bloodied unconscious person was an enemy spy.

Liu Jie was about to speak when he heard Lin Yuan ask Duan He, “Senior Duan He, the next time something like this happens, don’t bring it into the mansion.”

Lin Yuan’s words confused Duan He.

Lin Yuan added, “Chu Ci is still young. You saw her for yourself last night.”

Duan He immediately understood what Lin Yuan meant and scratched his head in embarrassment as he thought, *I’m really too careless.*

Liu Jie had already propped the person up and carried him to the empty space under the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus outside.

Lin Yuan waved his hand over the unconscious man, and green light landed on the man’s body.

Duan He watched as Lin Yuan healed the man and said, “I don’t think he can be saved. Purple Demon ate his feys. His mind might be preserved, but Purple Demon used its tail and attacked him. I’m certain that all his bones other than his skull are broken. Since he has been carrying the wounds for an entire night, it’s unlikely that he’ll live.”

Chapter 656: Declare War!

Just as soon as Duan He spoke, his eyes suddenly widened. He watched as the barely breathing man’s vitality started to increase.

Duan He looked at Lin Yuan and felt that he had just eaten a crow. He then went up to touch the man and realized that most of the man's bones had regrown.

In the next instant, Duan He looked at Lin Yuan with amazement. He did not know that Lin Yuan was a healing-type spirit qi professional. Now that he knew, he was also surprised to find out how powerful Lin Yuan was.

Lin Yuan had even managed to heal such grievous injuries.

Most importantly, Lin Yuan had achieved such incredible healing effects without summoning any feys.

The man was starting to wake up, and he immediately recoiled when he saw Duan He. This led to him banging into the Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus's branches, which caused the flowers to fall and scatter all over.

The fallen Cinnabar Sweet Osmanthus flowers' odor pervaded the air, jolting the man's desecrated mind.

Lin Yuan noticed this and took the opportunity to ask the befuddled man, "Did the Zheng family's third lineage send you to spy on the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce?"

The man naturally opened his mouth and replied, "No, it was Second Young Master..."

Lin Yuan raised an eyebrow in shock.

The man climbed to his feet and realized that he had misspoken. He quickly fell to his knees and started to plead, "I'll tell you whatever you want to know. I'm willing to reveal all my secrets in exchange for sparing my life."

Lin Yuan coldly sneered. "The Zheng family's main lineage wouldn't send out a spy who can divulge their secrets. Since you've regained your life and now understand how precious it is, I'm sure you know that you need to face the consequences of killing all those Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce employees yesterday."

Lin Yuan turned away from the kneeling man and said to Duan He, "Senior Duan He, since you're the one who brought him here, you can decide what to do with him."

When he was done speaking, Lin Yuan went back into the mansion.

Genius nudged Lin Yuan's hand with its head as it wagged its tail.

In Genius's book, Lin Yuan never looked cooler than he did now.

However, Lin Yuan's perspective started to shift again.

When Lin Yuan had been training in the Class 3 abyss dimensional rift, he showed no mercy to those that were trying to kill him.

The ones that had tried to kill him had been buried under a mountain of sand.

Now, Lin Yuan had established a faction, and he was no longer the person he was before. He could no longer approach a situation based on his individual point of view.

Sky City supported the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce. Thus, every Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce member, even the lowest ranking employees, was affiliated with Sky City.

The Zheng family's spy had killed close to ten Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce employees. This heinous act steeled Lin Yuan's heart.

Lin Yuan knew that in an avalanche, every tiny snowflake played its part.

Now, two separate circles appeared in Lin Yuan's mind.

The circles represented the enemy and himself.

With this in mind, Lin Yuan felt that he had been too soft-hearted when it came to the matters concerning the Zheng family.

Lin Yuan turned to Duan He and said, "Senior Duan He, the Zheng family's territory, is Indigo Azure City. They shouldn't be allowed to run free in the Royal Capital."

Duan He immediately read between the lines and said assuredly, "Young Master, don't worry and leave it to me. After tonight, there will no longer be any trace of the Zheng family in the Royal Capital."

Liu Jie walked up to Lin Yuan and said, "Lin Yuan, we've already sowed the seeds of discord between the Zheng family and us. During the upcoming dimensional rift active period, they won't be making any big moves. However, they will definitely be up to shady tricks. Since Listen needs luxury resources to expand the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce's luxury goods trading routes, we can consider using the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce to declare war on the Zheng family."

Although Liu Jie had never joined any faction previously, he was a member of the Radiance Hundred Sequence. He was well aware of the brutal inter-faction battles that took place.

Liu Jie felt that since they needed to strike, they should make the first move in order to secure the advantage.

Lin Yuan had no shortage of luxury resources and materials. Meanwhile, Hu Quan could handle the crafting production.

The Radiance Federation was a central market where luxury goods were sure to pass through.

Although the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce presently could not hold a candle to the Zheng family, they could win by dominating raw materials, working harder, and using the market.

Liu Jie thought back to when they were organizing the mansion. He had seen the five of six boxes of jade-textured wood pieces in the storeroom and thought, *If the Zheng family tries to rely on their status as a veteran faction to start a price war with the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce, they will definitely run out of resources first.*

These boxes full of jade-textured wood pieces were kept in the storeroom like rubbish.

The more Hu Quan crafted using the new jade-textured wood, the more pieces he generated.

Lin Yuan nodded and said, "We can arrange for Listen to declare war on the Zheng family. However, Uncle Hu will not be able to cope with the workload with just 30 Class 3 Spirit Craftsmen."

Lin Yuan started to analyze to himself, *Judging by the current progress, I'll need even more Class 3 Spirit Craftsmen. The Return to Faraway Mansion, Master Hong Shen's basement quarters, the other bases around the mansion, the man-made lake, the base on the other side of the Space Tunnel, and most importantly, Sky City's main city on the Floating Island Whale will need a sea of Spirit Craftsmen to work on them.*

Moreover, in order for the Listening Heron Chamber of Commerce to solidify their stock of luxury resources, they'll need a team of Spirit Craftsmen to continuously craft for them. I need to bring this issue up with Hu Quan so he can use his title as a Class 5 Spirit Craftsman to recruit and attract more Class 3 Spirit Craftsmen from around the 32 cities in the Radiance Federation.

Chapter 657: Lin Yuan's Experiment

After breakfast, Lin Yuan told Hu Quan about what he had in mind.

Hu Quan's eyes lit up like lightbulbs. He had established Heavenly Craft Pavilion with the idea of making a name for himself, after all.

Spirit Craftsmanship was a job that required one to dedicate their entire life to it. If a Spirit Craftsman could not gain recognition, they would not be considered a success regardless of how many expensive products they created.

Now that he had Lin Yuan's support, Hu Quan was suddenly struck with the idea of one day making Heavenly Craft Pavilion even more powerful than the Spirit Craftsmen Association.

Lin Yuan returned to his room and logged into Star Web as Black.

He first recounted the recent happenings to Tian Ningning.

Recently, Black had been laying low.

However, this had not left Tian Ningning with nothing to do.

Black had an overwhelming number of mother fans. Although some time had passed, these fans kept the video of Black's battle on the top 100 of the Celestial Stairway's video library.

No one benefited more from this than Poison Beauty.

However, Poison Beauty had been troubled as of late. She did not expect someone to recruit her as a sales host for luxury goods auctions on Star Web.

They did not forbid her from pursuing other live streaming activities. Still, if she accepted, the amount of time that Poison Beauty spent live-streaming the Celestial Stairway's battles would fall greatly.

This would most likely cause her climbing popularity to fall.

Usually, Poison Beauty would refuse such recruitment without hesitation. However, their offer was too attractive for her to reject them outright.

Tian Ningning had spent her time writing articles about Black based on true events.

Although the articles were rather boring, they still appealed to Black's fans.

Black's fans were all burning with curiosity, which made them desperate for any crumbs. Since Black was such a mysterious character, the fans were delighted to read Tian Ningning's occasional articles, no matter how boring they were.

However, a wind had kicked up, and the previously calm Star Web had been thrown into chaos in the span of one night.

Every person on Star Web, including Black, had been overtaken in terms of popularity by two youths—Lin Yuan and Chu Ci.

Chu Ci's performance at the Allstar Match had been like a forceful slap to those who had not thought much about her.

She was now being lauded as Radiance Federation's number one genius. Despite her young age, she had already comprehended two Willpower Runes and had two Fantasy Breed feys.

Besides these hard facts, her combat skills were also extremely polished. She had been exceedingly calm as she faced off against Chen Hongfeng. Her complete lack of panic made it clear that she had an absolutely solid foundation.

Her elegant looks were just the cherry on top that fuelled her popularity even further.

Due to her immense popularity, her nicknames 'Princess Iron Bull' and 'War Goddess Iron Bull' had also been called into attention.

As for Lin Yuan, his appearance and feys were an enigma.

He was just a powerful mystery.

Mysteries were bound to pique the interests of others.

The mystery surrounding Lin Yuan had made the people on Star Web desperate to learn more about him.

There were already many people who had started comparing him to Black.

As the two were compared, the store owner of the Purchase With No Loss store, who had been compared to Black previously, was mentioned once again.

Thus, this three-way comparison led to a messy war between the fans.

When Lin Yuan was done fighting two duels on Celestial Stairway, he saw Tian Ningning's posts about the three-way debate and found it rather awkward. He could not reveal to Tian Ningning that there was no point in comparing because the three people in question were all him.

Meanwhile, Lin Yuan's two duel wins gave Tian Ningning work to do.

After winning the two duels, Lin Yuan did not plan on logging in as Black for the foreseeable future. After handling the matters on hand, he decided to focus on leveling himself up to a B-rank spirit qi professional.

Recently, Lin Yuan had been busy with various matters and had not had the time to continuously evolve his feys to increase his power.

Lin Yuan resolved to promote himself to B-rank before the Radiance Hundred Sequence's recruitment. If he was successful, he would be able to evolve feys at a much quicker rate. This would allow him to amass an even larger mountain of resources that he could use to evolve feys' quality and grade.

Lin Yuan would also be able to go to the Creation Master Association to take the exam for Class 3 Creation Masters.

Genius spent its time learning about Class 3 Fey Observers, Class 3 Spiritual Ingredient Analysts, and Class 3 Scholars.

After all, when Lin Yuan took the Class 3 Creation Master exam, he would once again choose to be tested on the topics of Class 3 Fey Observers, Class 3 Spiritual Ingredient Analysts, and Class 3 Scholars.

When Lin Yuan logged into Star Web using his identity as a Creation Master, he put on the strange mask with Sky City patterns on it. He then went to the Purchase With No Loss store to check on the amount of Aurora pollen he had earned in exchange for the Flower Brocade Pearls.

Given that the news of the events at the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearl auction had spread, Lin Yuan had earned five times more Aurora pollen than he had anticipated.

Naturally, this was also contributed by the fact that Aurora pollen was a common good.

When Lin Yuan saw the enormous amount of Aurora pollen, he estimated that it would be able to feed his 30 Angelfish of Bliss for three years.

However, once the female Angelfish of Bliss gave birth, there would be numerous more mouths to feed.

Angelfish of Bliss produced many offspring at once. However, their rate of survival was low, hence why they were rare.

With the Mountain River Eternal Life Carp in his possession, Lin Yuan was not worried, however.

Thus, Lin Yuan decided to use Flower Brocade Pearls to exchange for Aurora pollen again. He had his reasons for wanting to amass a mammoth amount of Aurora pollen in such a short span of time.

Aurora pollen was used as a food ingredient, and Creation Masters rarely used it to concoct spirit fluids.

Lin Yuan's intense collection of Aurora pollen would result in inflation in the price.

When the price for Aurora pollen increased, it became more expensive to nurture Angelfish of Bliss.. This would put Lin Yuan in direct opposition against the Sea Bliss Clan that specialized in nurturing Angelfish of Bliss.

Chapter 658: The Territory's Grand Opening

Lin Yuan had not planned on getting his revenge on the Sea Bliss Clan after their attendants kicked him out.

However, his good friend and partner Gao Feng intended on striking back against the Sea Bliss Clan. As such, Lin Yuan was not opposed to lending a hand.

Although the current amount of Aurora pollen that Lin Yuan possessed would not have any drastic impact on the market, he had increased the frequency of the exchange and the amount of Flower Brocade Pearls he was offering in exchange.

Initially, Lin Yuan had started with offering one Flower Brocade Pearl for exchange. Now, he was up to ten.

This time, Lin Yuan was offering them in groups of three.

Lin Yuan could clear out his large stock of Flower Brocade Pearls through this method.

Previously, he had not traded the numerous Flower Brocade Pearls because he was afraid it would spoil the market.

Still, he had already stopped cultivating Flower Brocade Pearls. Instead, he was cultivating Golden Lotus Brocade Pearls.

After witnessing how the Flower Brocade Pearls could benefit a Creation Master, Lin Yuan was certain that the Golden Lotus Brocade Pearls would also attract creation Masters who collected a large number of Flower Brocade Pearls.

Lin Yuan's large-scale collection of Aurora pollen was also his way of using his resources to test the market. He wanted to see if he could use his resources to monopolize a spiritual ingredient like the Aurora pollen.

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Even the Sea Bliss Clan would come begging to buy Aurora pollen from him if he was successful!

Lin Yuan understood that it was difficult to monopolize the market using one's resources. If he individually bought all the Aurora pollen, the Sea Bliss Clan would definitely notice.

If the Sea Bliss Clan started to copy him and bought as much Aurora pollen as they could get their hands on as well, Lin Yuan would have failed. Thus, Lin Yuan decided to use the blind trade method to throw suspicion off.

This allowed him to manipulate every person or faction that took part in the blind trade into becoming a pair of hands that helped him to dominate the Aurora pollen market. This would bring in buyers from all over the Radiance Federation and prevent him from being spotted by Sea Bliss Clan.

By the time Sea Bliss Clan was any wiser, it would be too late.

Once he was done handling matters in the Purchase With No Loss store, Lin Yuan went to Sky City's private faction territory.

The moment he stepped in, Lin Yuan was rendered speechless.

Don't these gawkers need to be with their families during this festive season? Why are all these people here? Did they actually bring their old folk and children to ogle the outside of my private territory? I don't understand what's so interesting about this place. Those rising factions without a solid foundation must have been frightfully bullied after they opened private territories on Star Web.

This made Lin Yuan feel like Sky City's private territory was a place without stress.

The outside of Sky City's private faction was empty, which made any rising faction without a solid foundation feel good about themselves.

Since Lin Yuan was Sky City's owner, his appearance notified the people who had gathered outside.

The crowd of onlookers had been chatting up a storm.

When Lin Yuan appeared in such an obvious position, the people who had come to laugh and tease could not help but turn their attention to Lin Yuan.

The eyes of a middle-aged man with a goatee standing in the front row lit up, and he said to the burly man next to him, "This boy is a member of this private territory. The last time I was here, I saw him go in."

The middle-aged man with the goatee did not notice that the burly man's face had abruptly been taken over by shock.

The burly man stared at Lin Yuan in disbelief before turning back to dazedly ask the middle-aged man with the goatee, "Old Feng, are you sure you're talking about the masked young man?"

The middle-aged man with a goatee rolled his eyes and replied, "Freezing Cold, don't you trust me? When have I ever lied?"

Freezing Cold had done enough odd jobs for Old Feng to know Old Feng's character.

Although Old Feng liked to gossip, he only acted and spoke righteously.

However, Freezing Cold thought back to the strange masked young man who had produced a Bronze/Epic dragon-species fey that had awakened its bloodline. He could not believe that this empty and ridiculed private faction territory belonged to this young man.

Freezing Cold did not believe Old Feng, but several people had overheard Old Feng's words. Thus, all eyes were focused on Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan had managed to stay calm while being watched by 200,000 people. Hence, the stares of these people did not disconcert him at all.

Nonetheless, Lin Yuan was confused by the sneers and looks of ridicule.

At that moment, Lin Yuan heard a teasing voice shout, "Hey, young man! Your private faction territory sorely needs items. Open Mountain Chamber of Commerce is willing to lend you a few items to decorate the place."

Lin Yuan looked in the direction of the voice with an emotionless countenance.

The middle-aged man with the goatee was giggling at Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan raised an eyebrow behind the mask. He did not expect to see a familiar face here.

Freezing Cold's gaze was also on Lin Yuan. When he noticed Lin Yuan looking back at him, Freezing Cold ducked instinctively.

Freezing Cold was about to yank Old Feng back and tell him to stop stirring trouble when the young man's bright voice sounded out.

"Thank you for taking the effort to come despite it being the new year season. You helped Sky City gain a spot on the Visitor's Ranking. I want to express my deepest thanks on behalf of Sky City."

Lin Yuan's words took everyone other than Freezing Cold by surprise.

They had come to mock him, yet now they were being thanked.

However, the words did not sit right with the crowd.

They sounded positive, but they insinuated that they were a bunch of layabouts who had too much time on their hands.

When realization dawned on the crowd, they felt anger rise up within them.

They realized that the strange masked young man had already entered the private territory.

However, the door to the private territory had not been shut, signifying that the young man had opened the passage into the private territory.

Chapter 659: Scarily Uncultured!

At the sight of the open door, Old Feng scoffed and said, "Let's go, Old Cold! The outside of Sky City is so sparse. I can't wait to see if the interior is also empty."

Freezing Cold had wanted to leave from the moment he saw Lin Yuan. He knew that all the people that had come to mock this place had made a mockery of themselves instead.

Fortunately, Freezing Cold had not said anything rude. All he had done was come to join in the gawking.

Since Old Feng was leading the way, Freezing Cold did not mind following the crowd to enter the private faction territory.

Freezing Cold hastily followed Old Feng, and they walked toward the entrance.

When they entered the territory, Freezing Cold had a sense that he had entered a different world.

The sight before him was like a scene out of a fairytale as plumes of clouds shrouded a web of constellations.

Old Feng's initial expression of anger and derision dissolved when he saw the decorations.

He thought, *Since when did private faction territories gain the ability to change their surroundings? I helped my President to decorate the territory by placing some sculptures made of metal spirit materials there. Why didn't I notice this ability?*

As he was surrounded by what looked like a sky, Old Feng felt that spending some money would be a worthwhile investment.

This decoration was just too majestic!

Old Feng looked further in and saw the strange masked young man sitting next to a wooden table. He immediately recognized the wooden table as the standard one gifted to all private territories by Star Web.

However, Old Feng could not ridicule this table because he had spotted what looked like a plant made of a tower of gems.

The plant had numerous flowers that resembled white jade, and the flowers emanated a classy air.

Old Feng could not help but exclaim, "It's a Bronze/Epic Oath Lily of the Valley!?"

Lin Yuan was busy checking the messages posted by the recent visitors.

When he heard Old Feng's voice, Lin Yuan glanced at the Oath Lily of the Valley and looked at Old Feng in surprise.

My Oath Lily of the Valley is a legitimate Bronze/Legend one. Why did you reduce its quality?

Lin Yuan sighed.

How scarily uncultured!

With these thoughts in mind, Lin Yuan suddenly entered a state of comprehension.

Lin Yuan's lip curled at the sudden comprehension. He finally comprehended the Willpower Rune that was suitable for Genius.

However, since he had comprehended it on Star Web, he could not condense the Willpower Rune yet. He would be able to fully form the Willpower Rune when he left Star Web.

Old Feng felt someone forcefully tug at his sleeve.

He turned and looked at Freezing Cold.

Freezing Cold suppressed his astonishment and chided Old Feng, "Old Feng! Take a good look at the Oath Lily of the Valley. You might not be a Creation Master, but as a B-rank spirit qi professional and a businessman, can't you even get this right? Look around you. Sky City definitely has some amazing members!"

Freezing Cold deeply regretted missing out on the opportunity.

Why didn't anyone tell me what kind of faction Sky City really was? They even have a Bronze/Legend Oath Lily of the Valley!

Old Feng's eyebrow twitched, and he carefully examined the Oath Lily of the Valley on the table. He also scrutinized his surroundings.

Old Feng suddenly felt lightheaded, and his jaw almost hit the floor.

Many gawkers had followed Old Feng and Freezing Cold in. They were also baffled by what they saw.

Since this faction could afford to place a Bronze/Legend Oath Lily of the Valley in its territory, why didn't they properly decorate the exterior of the territory?

It was either that they had run out of time to decorate the exterior or because they felt that it would not help exhibit their strength.

They were already overflowing with strength!

Numerous people had already left Sky City's private faction territory and started promoting the faction territory.

Lin Yuan was not opposed to this in the slightest.

Once he was done looking through the visitor logs, Lin Yuan opened the message board and was shocked to see a message from a Star Web official.

Lin Yuan knew that Sky City had been climbing up the Visitor's Ranking recently, perhaps because of his previous visit that had attracted some attention.

However, he was surprised to see that Sky City had attained #99 on the Popularity Ranking.

The Popularity Ranking and Visitor's Ranking were valued differently.

The Visitor's Ranking was ranked based on the number of entrants and was not considered to be a prestigious ranking. After all, some elite factions did not allow entry into their private faction territory.

Attendants saw to every person that entered the Aquarium of Bliss' faction territory. At the slightest misdemeanor, the attendants would immediately eject the person and blacklist them. Thus, some truly top factions never appeared on the Visitor's Ranking.

Besides a few veteran factions, the Visitor Ranking was largely made up of rising factions.

However, the Popularity Ranking was a different matter.

Every private faction territory on Star Web had a place on the Popularity Ranking. It was a representation of influence.

Lin Yuan looked through the Popularity Ranking and noticed that Sky City was the only rising faction in the top 100 factions.

The top 50 elite factions secured the top 50 spots, so it could be said that Sky City's appearance on the Popularity Ranking was extremely odd.

The Popularity Ranking was updated every day, after all.

Lin Yuan thought, *Since Sky City has made it on the Popularity Ranking, I can't allow the ranking to fall.*

Lin Yuan used the rights given to faction territories and announced Sky City's role.

Those who had just left Sky City's private territory had not had the chance to spread the news about Sky City. Thus, after Lin Yuan announced Sky City's role, Star Web exploded.

Chapter 660: Condense Fairy Orchard

After Lin Yuan announced Sky City's role, he took out a white envelope and hung it on the spinning wheel. He then realized that the middle-aged man with the goatee was shakily walking up to him.

The middle-aged man with the goatee bowed and stammered, "L... L... Lord! I've always had a lousy way with words. I don't even like the way I speak. I didn't mean to offend you."

Old Feng wanted to slap himself. It was bad enough that he was a busybody, but he had even been ignorant in the face of true remarkability. Such a remarkable person had even heard his aspersions.

To add fuel to the fire, he had even identified his background.

Once Old Feng observed the surroundings, he could not even begin to imagine the amount of Creation Master resources needed to create such surroundings. He was truly oblivious and had even wrongly guessed that it was a new ability from Star Web.

Such magnificent scenery could only be the work of over 100 Bronze/Epic feys.

Old Feng was not surprised that a faction could produce over 100 Bronze/Epic feys. Any top faction would be capable of doing so, much less an established veteran faction.

However, these Bronze/Epic feys were being used as ornaments instead of combat.

There were so many of them as well.

They were blatantly using venerated Creation Masters as Spirit Craftsmen!

Weren't they afraid of bad karma?

When Lin Yuan heard what the middle-aged man with the goatee said, he raised an eyebrow and asked, "If that wasn't your intention, did you have another intention?"

Old Feng broke out in cold sweat. He was about to launch into an explanation when he saw that the strange mask-wearing youth had started pruning the Oath Lily of the Valley.

It was clear that he did not mean to put Old Feng on the spot.

Although Old Feng was only a B-rank spirit qi professional, his contracted fey was the Gold/Epic Wrench Viper.

Old Feng came from the business world and was an accurate judge of character. Thus, he knew that this strange mask-wearing young man was good-natured and would not intentionally humiliate him.

It was either that or this young man could not be bothered with Old Feng at all.

Old Feng carefully walked up to Lin Yuan and murmured, "Lord, when we were outside, I told you that I could lend you some gems to decorate the exterior of your territory. But now I see that you have no need for them. However, by your grace, can you rent some items to the Open Mountain Chamber of Commerce? We're willing to rent the items at market price. It's definitely reasonable!"

Old Feng's coquettish actions almost caused Freezing Cold to keel over.

You're so shameless! Do you really think this person doesn't know what you are trying to say?

Lin Yuan almost choked on his own saliva.

Why is this old man trying to charm me?

At that moment, Lin Yuan finally understood why private faction territories on Star Web sometimes chased people out and had blacklists.

The gawkers suddenly stood to the side and created a channel in the center while some rising faction and veteran faction members were walking in.

Outside of Fragrant City...

A looming mountain was cloaked in a fog that carried a subtle floral scent.

Fragrant City was south of the Radiance Federation and connected to the Radiance Federation.

However, it was not as humid or experienced as much rain as Redbud City.

Yet, both cities had the same fresh air of spring all year round.

In a wooden manor on the mountain, a wrinkled old woman was seated at a table and holding a basket of flowers. She started to sort through the flowers and picked out a few to place in a vase.

A young girl with hair that cascaded down to her waist was seated next to the old woman.

This young girl's brows were deeply furrowed, evidence of the deep conflict she was feeling.

However, she tried her best to plaster on a smile in front of the old woman as she cut off the ends of the flower stems using a knife.

This made it easier for the old woman to arrange them in the vase.

The old woman looked at the young girl's deeply etched frown and said kindly, "Ningxiang, are you still worried about the collaboration with the Miao family's Connected Beast Park?"

The girl named Ningxiang shook her head and hastily changed the topic. "Grandma, you've changed your style of flower arrangement. You used to like small clustered flowers like plum flowers and osmanthus. Now, you prefer peonies."

The old woman noticed Ningxiang's attempt to change the topic and was certain that she was still thinking about the collaboration with Connected Beast Park.

However, since she did not want to talk about it, the old lady did not pursue the matter.

She continued the conversation and said, "As I grow older, I've grown to appreciate the larger flowers that I used to think were too flamboyant. After a lifetime of flower arranging, I've come to learn something. All flowers will bloom and wither. It's all a matter of time. Our Condense Fairy Orchard is no exception. When time is up, we'll wilt too. You don't have to be too upset about it."

Tears welled up in Sun Ningxiang's eyes.

The Sun family members were dwindling. Only she, her grandmother, and her five-year-old brother were left.

Condense Fairy Orchard used to thrive when she was younger and was known as a top faction.

Unfortunately, after her grandfather's death three years prior, Condense Fairy Orchard's three pinnacle Class 4 Creation Masters started to fight for power.

Although her grandmother had managed to put a stop to it, her soul had become injured, and all her limbs, save for her hands, had necrotized.

After the three pinnacle Class 4 Creation Masters left, Condense Fairy Orchard no longer possessed the power of a top faction.

If they did not collaborate with the Miao family's Connected Beast Park, Condense Fairy Orchard would be stripped of its status as a top faction in a few years.

However, the conditions stated by Connected Beast Park were too harsh.

If they agreed to Connected Beast Park's terms, they would only be able to preserve Condense Fairy Orchard's glory for a while more. It would just be prolonging their eventual doom.

Sun Ningxiang was against selling themselves out if the inevitable result was death.

But where were they to find the road to salvation?