

Necropolis 1191

Chapter 1191: The Sacred Land of Order

“In that case, I’m very much at ease,” Lu Qing grinned wryly. “With the chaos tribulation happening ahead of schedule, the seal beneath the chaos sea has also cracked open. I need to go back and handle that.”

“Are you not going to meet your mother?” Lu Yun asked with a pause.

Lu Qing looked toward Inception Palace, where the little fox was hiding behind Ying Luo and shyly poking her head out for a look. When she saw that her son was looking at her, she quickly shrank back.

“Not today. I’ll meet her whenever she’s ready to see me.” Lu Qing firmly shook his head.

“Alright then.” Lu Yun nodded. “Be careful out there. Come find me if you run into anything you can’t handle. I’ll take care of it for you.”

“I will!” Lu Qing finally broke into a broad grin and left with a neat turn. Always alone and isolated from everyone in the chaos and Hongmeng, the Purple King finally had his own backer now—his own father.

Thump!

Thump!

The lizard-dragon and Zhuo Bufan plopped to the ground, unable to lift a single finger. The Purple King’s aura was too great.

Meanwhile, most of the chaos creatures were a bit lost as to what had just happened. They only knew that there was a powerhouse beyond the chaos who guarded the chaos sea. Legends of the Purple King were wholly unfamiliar to them.

But for those of the Hongmeng, the Purple King was an inviolable being who was an utter legend. Everyone in the third realm knew of him. This kind of intangible, psychological pressure was the most lethal.

Leize, Huaxu, and the others looked blankly at each other. They’d always thought that Lu Yun was one of the Purple King’s, that his accomplishments up till now were a result of the Purple King’s support. How very wrong they were! The scene they’d just witnessed was the exact opposite of everything they’d surmised before.

The one in the chaos sea had knelt and called Lu Yun father!

What the hell was all this??

The Purple King hadn’t planned on obscuring his relationship with Lu Yun, and neither had Lu Yun wanted to do so either. If even father and son didn’t dare proclaim their relationship to the world, then there was no courage to speak of in their hearts.

.....

The Karmic Tree remained in front of the six palaces, irradiating the chaos with scintillating waves of merit and virtue. The golden light swiftly cleansed the realm of resentment from the deaths of innocents.

This chaos tribulation was finally over and the mortal souls that the palace sovereigns had saved were released back into the realm. They would be the new seeds of life in the chaos and repopulate its vast reaches.

However, palace sovereigns had jointly saved less than a thousandth of their usual numbers this time. It would take untold ages for these seeds of life to return the chaos to its previous vibrancy and prosperity.

Though most of the vengeful spirits that'd suddenly appeared had focused on the six palaces due to attaching to the nine sacred lands, other factions had also been caught up in the fallout.

Nearly half of the regular factions in the chaos were no more after this unforeseen disaster. The remaining ones limped on, mostly intact, if lacking all of their mortal members. Only those above chaos realm still survived in these factions.

The early tribulation had been a true cataclysm for the realm. It hadn't been an impartial, regular rhythm of life, but an artificially contrived calamity.

.....

"The heavyweights of the Hongmeng can't be bothered with using schemes on us anymore. They've gone so far as to ignite a chaos tribulation and nearly caused us all to go extinct! We no longer need to show insincere courtesy when dealing with them."

The six palaces were now truly one entity and the relationship between the six monarchs an open secret.

All six leaders and most of their senior council sat together, discussing what to do next.

Leize stood up, his expression darkly foreboding. When the six monarchs chased the Hongmeng creatures into the chaos, they'd only managed to kill three. The remaining four had been rescued by a Hongmeng powerhouse. If Lu Qing hadn't appeared in the nick of time, the six of them would likely be dead as well.

This had well and truly enraged the six monarchs.

"That's correct." Huaxu stood up and declared coldly, "I'm going to announce the next steps of the palaces. All of you need only to listen and obey. There is no need for questions."

"Understood!" The sovereigns of the six palaces took a collective deep breath. They knew how serious matters were.

"The seeds of the immortal dao have taken root in the chaos. What we need to do now is to cultivate the immortal dao! Turn the chaos orders that you cultivate into the immortal dao of the worlds."

Her first order sent general confusion, shock, and unrest through the assembly. Many wanted to argue and refute the command, but when they recalled what she'd said in the beginning, they closed their mouths without another word.

"From now on, the six palaces will be one entity and discard the sacred palace name. We will become the order sacred land!"

The sacred palaces voluntarily giving up their title and modifying it to become the order sacred land meant that the nine sacred lands were truly no more. Even if the four escaped Hongmeng creatures wanted to resurrect the sacred lands, they would be reinstating completely illegitimate factions.

Rumble!

An enormous disturbance sounded in the void after Huaxu spoke, shaking all six palaces. The order of space keeping them together swiftly vanished and their location truly became one singular patch of void.

The lizard-dragon had razed the Dubiety Realm and placed all of its chaos beasts into the abyss. Since the Dubiety Realm had reached the end of the road, there was no need for the six palaces to guard its gates anymore.

As their locale meshed into one entity, the six palaces become a world themselves.

"Understood." No one dared object to Huaxu's most sacrosanct command. She'd called upon the highest orders of the chaos already and set everything in stone.

"The third item on the agenda." Huaxu and Leize sat down while the Nirvana monarch stood up. "The worlds are now a forbidden zone. No sovereign is to go near them and if anyone dares speak of destroying them, they will be the public enemy of the order sacred land!"

"If the worlds find themselves in trouble, we must step forward in their defense." This was a roundabout way of saying that their future purpose would be to protect the worlds.

"...understood." Sovereigns looked at each other with wry grins.

The nine sacred lands had once attacked them with the excuse that the six palaces were protecting the worlds and seeking to destroy the chaos. Well then, that was being used as their new purpose now. How about that?

"Apart from this, it goes without saying that minor tasks such as chasing down the remnants of the nine must be undertaken," the Burgeon monarch remarked faintly.

.....

The little fox was once more in human form. She cupped both hands around the crystal ball and hugged it close.

"Don't you want to see what your soul force replica experienced in the mythological realm?" Lu Yun asked with a smile.

She shook her head. "I don't know... Will I turn into someone else after I refine the crystal ball?"

“Then let’s just go with the flow.” Lu Yun nodded.

“Mm.” She put the ball away and asked, “Shall we go back to the world of immortals? With our current level of strength, we should be able to handle what’s in the Nihil Hell.”

Chapter 1192: Misstep

“The world of immortals no longer needs me.” Lu Yun shook his head gently. “Little Yu and I will only impact its development and interfere with the growth trajectory of the immortal dao. As for the Nihil Hell, the thing inside it won’t dare cause trouble with Violetgrave standing guard.”

The little fox stood next to Lu Yun and blinked large eyes at him, nodding with partial understanding.

“Meng Wang also understood this when he was the immortal emperor, but could never bear to fully withdraw from the world. He still had the world of immortals develop according to his wishes, which was why he was defeated in the end,” Lu Yun sighed softly.

“Let’s go to the third realm,” he concluded after some thought. “Violetgrave’s paved the way for us and Little Yu will find things difficult if she’s there alone. We should go help her.”

The little fox fidgeted awkwardly; she was unusually interested in the third realm. “How do we get there? Have the lizard-dragon and Zhuo Bufan take us there?”

“I’m afraid that won’t work. They’re both from great Hongmeng factions, so they’ll be detected if they use their own power to return to the realm. We need to find a way using our own methods.” Lu Yun pondered, “My past self and your soul force replica both entered the Hongmeng once. Though they only took a look around, the path that we created should still be there.”

A smile appeared on his face. Though he hadn’t left too many traces of himself or anything that could cause karmic repercussions in the mythological realm, he’d still laid many plans for his present self—the path into the Hongmeng, for example.

After he broke through to the chaos cultivation realm, he realized that the immortal qi of the worlds and the pure chaos currents of the chaos were insufficient for his further cultivation. He needed to partake of higher level power in order to continue progressing.

While karmic fruits could raise his cultivation level and a million and eighty thousand of them seemed like a lot, the world of immortals also needed the fruits to fend off the yin spirits. Additionally, with chaos creatures now starting to cultivate the immortal dao, a monumental amount of supplemental virtue and merit was necessary for it to thrive and prosper into a full great dao governing the chaos.

For Lu Yun, entering the Hongmeng to advance his cultivation was the natural next trial. He wouldn’t use the power of goodwill to increase his own strength.

“Then let us go to the Hongmeng!” The little fox returned to her fluffy form and darted into Lu Yun’s arms. “To the great beyond!”

“...can’t you maintain human form?” Lu Yun scowled down at her.

“No!” She pursed her lips. “What if you have lewd thoughts about me? I don’t want to raise a whole litter of fox kits with you!”

“.....”

“Off we go!” She poked her head out of his robes and pointed ahead with dashing flair.

“.....”

.....

Lu Yun and the little fox seemed to have vanished into thin air. There was no sign of them, whether in the chaos or the worlds. Regardless, the situation in the world of immortals had fully stabilized.

The Immortal Realm Battlefront had completely stalled the yin spirits outside the world of immortals. Though countless immortals were still needed to man the lines, there would be no further danger to their homes as long as this vanguard was maintained.

After the Dao Academy finished expanding to all parts of the world, it began to withdraw from secular affairs and out of the public eye. The thirty-three facets retook control over the world, and the immortal emperor its only ruler.

Only in this way did the world of immortals truly live up to its name. If the Dao Academy continued to be its greatest voice, that would eventually send the immortal dao down the wrong path and the academy disciples steadily become more overbearing, until they returned to how they'd been before the great cleansing.

This was what Lu Yun least wished to see.

.....

“Are you so sure that the path you created before is still there after so many chaos tribulations?” Back in human form, the little fox wore a dress of white silk and had casually swept her hair up with a hairpin. She tugged one of Lu Yun's billowing sleeves and followed closely by his side.

“Chaos tribulations?” Lu Yun paused. “Can chaos tribulations destroy paths to the Hongmeng?”

“Haven't you noticed that the entire chaos seems to have been reborn after this tribulation? Everything here has been wiped clean away.” The little fox rolled her eyes at Lu Yun and subconsciously wanted to burrow into his arms. However, Lu Yun pressed his hand to her head and forced her to remain in human form.

Compared to before, the chaos now was much more empty and open. Though there were still countless pristine currents swirling in the void, it was as if they'd been washed clean. All of the chaos creatures and even the plant life inside was completely gone.

They were spotless, immaculate, and completely devoid of everything.

There'd been traces of life in the chaos before, as well as various coordinates, strange formations, restrictions, and others scattered throughout the void. They were now all gone, along with the chaos tribulation.

“I'd already ascended beyond the chaos then, so the path I created should be strong enough,” Lu Yun murmured.

It was the little fox's turn to roll her eyes. "Think about it, how many chaos tribulations have taken place from the mythological realm to present day? Eight thousand? Or ten thousand?"

Lu Yun chuckled ruefully, he'd really miscalculated this time.

"Young master!" Zhuo Bufan popped out from the abyss. "You and the mistress can easily enter the Hongmeng."

"You have a way?" Lu Yun turned around to look at Zhuo Bufan. The abyss wasn't fully closed, so Zhuo Bufan and the lizard-dragon could come out at any time and take care of things for their new master.

"Yes, yes!" he quickly responded. "This humble one is an enforcer of the Enforcer Alliance, here on orders to investigate who's destroyed the Dubiety Realm. It wouldn't raise a single eyebrow if I bring you and the mistress back.

"Besides, the young master and mistress will need a place to stay upon entering the realm. The Enforcer Alliance is comprised of a hundred and eight king-level factions in the Hongmeng. The network of connections is loose and complex. If I vouch for your inclusion in the alliance, no one will look into your origins or background!"

"And who's your mistress?!" the little fox objected with a red face.

"Ah yes, yes. Understood!" Zhuo Bufan smiled with the knowing look of men.

After Lu Qing set up a restriction in Zhuo Bufan's true spirit, the enforcer was as docile as could be. Lu Yun's word was his command, there was no thought of rebellion or any other inclination contrary to the human's wishes.

"Alright then." Lu Yun nodded. "But are you sure that you haven't exposed yourself? Your father's a king. Won't he have noticed that your true body's suddenly entered a lower realm?"

He flicked a sideways glance at the man. This worry was precisely why he hadn't directed Zhuo Bufan or the lizard-dragon to bring them to the Hongmeng.

"No!" Zhuo Bufan answered confidently. "The Purple King is the most terrible king in the Hongmeng and so much stronger than my father. He can't see through the Purple King's methods, not to mention I was in closed door cultivation at that time..."

He smiled ruefully. "But the lizard-dragon can't show itself after we travel back. It's no secret that Dragonhollow Mountain's sent him to the world of immortals to set certain plans in motion there."

The lizard-dragon nodded as well. Since the other end of the abyss leading to the Hongmeng had been severed, that also meant that the mountain knew something had happened to it.

Chapter 1193: Oddmoon Cave

The lizard-dragon was one of the notable experts of Dragonhollow Mountain. Each and every single one of its moves was under close surveillance by multiple kings. If it suddenly appeared in the Hongmeng, they would certainly rush to capture it.

“The lizard-dragon stays here. Zhuo Bufan will come with me to the Hongmeng.” Lu Yun thought for a moment and kicked the lizard-dragon into hell.

Tumbling head over heels into the netherworld, it nodded with great suffering on its face.

“The young master has so many kings under his command, he can just charge into the Hongmeng.” The lizard-dragon clapped its claws over its face when it looked at a slyly grinning young girl.

Carmine Arbiter.

Ever since the lizard-dragon entered hell, it’d become Carmine Arbiter’s favorite punching bag. The young girl who looked sixteen years old could beat it to the point where it didn’t dare strike back.

“Do you think there are only kings in the Hongmeng?” Carmine Arbiter curled her lip. “Kings are the rulers of the third realm simply because the true greats are busy attacking the barrier between the third and fourth realms.”

The lizard-dragon gaped at the girl, who grinned merrily back.

“Come on then, use your strongest combat arts and fight me!”

The lizard-dragon wanted to cry again. Carmine Eternal and Arbiter were sisters with extraordinary backgrounds. Many thought that they were from worlds that’d been destroyed prior, but here Arbiter was mentioning the third realm!

And now she wanted to use the lizard-dragon to hone her skills.

One had to know that the creature was still sealed by the Bridge of Forgetfulness, but its cultivation realm was truly in the Hongmeng. All of its combat arts and secret methods were far beyond anything in the world of immortals. How could anyone who easily trashed him be an ordinary being?

It was due to the sisters taking turns tormenting the lizard-dragon that gave it the misconception that Lu Yun had hundreds of thousands of kings under his banner. Everyone that attacked the poor lizard-dragon bore the same energy ripples as the two sisters. That, combined with Lu Yun’s psychological dismantlement, resulted in a beautiful misunderstanding.

Carmine Eternal and Arbiter had suffered indelible blows in the past that’d necessitated even the rebirths of their true spirits. They desperately needed someone like the lizard-dragon—a fearful, sealed creature of the third realm to be their punching bag. Only through repeated battles would they find themselves again.

.....

Zhuo Bufan’s method of bringing Lu Yun and the little fox to the Hongmeng was simple. Not only could his command token execute any Hongmeng creature that’d made an unauthorized trip to a lower realm, but it was also a transportation formation that brought enforcers back to the Hongmeng.

“Hold on!” Lu Yun stopped him just as he was about to activate the token.

“Young master.” Zhuo Bufan had adopted the same honorific that the lizard-dragon used. He looked at Lu Yun with confusion.

“Do you know the hiding spots of Huo Zongxing and the others?”

“You want to fully root them out?” Zhuo Bufan blinked.

“Indeed, I will cut down the weeds and pull them out by the roots!” Lu Yun nodded. “Those four are only mortal beings for the moment, but they already possess the battle strength of sovereigns. If they’re allowed to grow, they’ll become a pestilence sooner or later.”

“I see!” Zhuo Bufan concurred and explained, “There’s eleven kings behind the nine. Those kings are the owners of the eleven creation seeds in the chaos. The nine descended to a lower realm through the creation seeds not for the world of immortals, but to capture the Purple King.”

Lu Yun nodded slightly. If all eleven creation seeds had given rise to Hongmeng creatures, then even his son would be in dire straits now.

His past self had studied the eleven creation seeds and found that they contained terrifying strength. Even though Lu Yun’s replica had exceeded the chaos and was infinitely close to being a king, he was still as weak as an ant in front of the creation seeds.

Thus, he’d decisively taken action and destroyed one of them to protect the dao fruit that his past self would eventually turn into.

Hongjun had successfully obtained another creation seed later on and opted to swallow it to destroy the power within. That was why only nine seeds had successfully matured and given rise to the nine sacred lands and Hongmeng creatures.

If all eleven had borne fruit, the consequences would be too disastrous to imagine.

An unknown master had taken away the nine seeds and remaining four Hongmeng creatures. It was only a matter of time before the seeds gave birth to new sacred lands and beings from the third realm.

Thus, trouble had to be wiped out at its source, right now.

The order sacred land within the chaos currently lacked the strength to kill those four creatures. After all, there was a stronger existence standing behind them. As for Lu Qing... he was preoccupied with the seal in the chaos sea and had no effort to spare for anything else.

Thus, it was up to Lu Yun to clean up the loose ends. This was the last thing he could do for them before he left the chaos.

.....

Dangers abounded in the secret locales of the chaos. The chaos mountain was one such place similar to the chaos sea and Oddmoon Cave sat at its foot. It, too, was a forbidden zone that’d once claimed the life of sovereigns.

Just as its name indicated, Oddmoon Cave was an enormous cave. A silver crescent hung over it, looking very much like the moon over the chaos sea. Thus, this place was known as Oddmoon Cave.

As opposed to a forbidden zone, it was more accurate to label this place as just... strange. More than one sovereign had died here, but so had mortal beings run into fortuitous opportunities and risen to sovereign heights within a very short amount of time.

According to Zhuo Bufan's calculations, the four Hongmeng creatures and their backer were within the cave. Lu Yun and the little fox were hidden deep within the abyss. Only Zhuo Bufan approached the cave, stopping in front of it.

The mountain soared prominently and seemed unending, like an enormous dragon crouched the chaos. Oddmoon Cave sat in one of its valleys, looking like a deep and mysterious opening into the earth. There was a living being sitting cross-legged before it.

Dressed in an outfit the color of blood, he exuded the same aura as fresh blood. There were three eyes on his face—the one who'd killed Fuxi and used Lu Yun to derive a complete Dragonquake Scripture!

The three-eyed man had infiltrated Inception Palace after making it back to the chaos and tried to shatter the six palaces from within. He'd wanted to lay hands on all six, but failed in the end and only a sliver of his true spirit escaped after the chaos dragons attacked him.

Who would've thought that he'd already recovered and would be in front of Oddmoon Cave?

"I thought it'd be Lu Yun. I wasn't expecting you." He opened three eyes to look at Zhuo Bufan.

"Do you know me?" Zhuo Bufan started.

"No," the three-eyed man responded matter-of-factly. "But whether it's you or someone else, it makes no difference to me as long as it's not Lu Yun. You'll all soon be dead."

His third eye widened in a glare and stared straight at Zhuo Bufan.

Chapter 1194: What You Looking At

Zhuo Bufan felt it quite out of place that the three-eyed man was glaring at him. He rubbed the back of his head. "What you looking at?"

"I..." the three-eyed man was flabbergasted. "How is this possible?! I've closely studied the Dragonquake Scripture and derived the forbidden combat arts within. How are you still alive?!"

Smack!

Zhuo Bufan walked up and firmly cracked his hand across the man's face.

"What you looking at," he repeated.

"I'm not looking at anything!"

Smack!

"What you looking at, if not anything?" Another slap.

"You bastard!" The three-eyed man flew into a rage. He was one of the top experts in the chaos and had reached sovereign realm a long time ago!

After the chaos dragons attacked him, he'd come across another stunning opportunity and raised his level of strength once again. He now nearly rivaled one of the sacred monarchs of old, but this boy of unknown origins dared slap him?!

A vermillion ripple blossomed from the man's body and slammed into Zhuo Bufan.

Smack!

Another slap broke apart the fearsome counterattack and landed his hand on the man's cheek again.

"What you looking at?!"

"AHHHH!" The three-eyed man flew backward with an anguished wail. He was going out of his mind!

Hummmm.

The vertical eye in the center of his forehead flared with a bright light and projected an eye that was five hundred meters into the sky. It opened with a cutting radiance that drilled into Zhuo Bufan.

"And what you looking at?" He completely ignored the look that could annihilate the six monarchs and raised his hand for another slap.

.....

"He's gone nuts from all of your bullying." The little fox looked wordlessly at Lu Yun, who rubbed his nose without comment. Zhuo Bufan did indeed need a place to vent his bottled up emotions.

The vaunted son of a mighty king—a member of the Enforcer alliance—had become Lu Yun's servant. Though he didn't dare defy Lu Yun, he still nursed his own thoughts and emotions deep down.

Those needed to find an outlet, or they'd stew and fester into something worse. The three-eyed man in front of them was the perfect target at the perfect time.

Zhuo Bufan slapped the three-eyed man silly in front of Oddmoon Cave, all the while muttering, "What you looking at."

The man also wanted to go crazy. He knew that the person in front of him wasn't a secluded expert of the order sacred land or whatever it called itself now, but a true powerhouse beyond the chaos!

But, there was someone like that in residence in the cave as well!

There were no further hints about Zhuo Bufan's enforcer identity as he'd withdrawn his power and refrained from sending out his terrifying aura. In addition, he'd changed his appearance and didn't look the same as when he'd first descended into the chaos.

A few hundred slaps later saw the three-eyed man heaving for breath on the ground. The projected eye over his head had also been fully dispersed.

"Friend, since you're also from the Hongmeng, why bother with these ants of the chaos?" A genteel voice traveled out of Oddmoon Cave as a figure in blue strolled out. It was a composed and dignified young man who moved with an air of superiority. He was loftily above all—including even Zhuo Bufan.

"What you looking at?" Zhuo Bufan threw the three-eyed man to the side and frostily repeated himself.

The newcomer's expression darkened when he heard the response.

"Friend, an enforcer has already come from the Hongmeng. If you don't wish to be arrested, you should quietly go about your business and refrain from raising a fuss!" the young man warned.

Though the Enforcer Alliance was on their side, the rules of the Hongmeng had to be upheld. The enforcer would look the other way and ignore their doings only if the two parties didn't run into each other.

The moment they did, the enforcer would have to carry out the laws of the Hongmeng and kill the other party, even though they were from the same realm.

"What you looking at?" Zhuo Bufan still repeated the same words.

"You!!" the young man started purpling with rage.

Zhuo Bufan suddenly stepped forward and set his foot on the three-eyed man's chest, bending over to dig the third eye out of his forehead.

With a ghastly shriek, the man's presence faded away. All of his cultivation was centered in his third eye. It was his strongest point, and also his fatal weakness. If his third eye was destroyed, then he was entirely crippled.

"You knew that he practices the Dragonquake Scripture, but still took him in." Zhuo Bufan shifted his foot to the three-eyed man's head and crushed the man's skull.

With that, the last of the three-eyed bloodline in the chaos was fully no more.

The young man's breathing hitched.

"You're from Mangcang Mountain?" Cerulean light flashed through Zhuo Bufan's eyes as he looked at the youth. "Evilfox of Mangcang Mountain?"

"You're the enforcer!!" Evilfox gasped with horror when the stranger identified him with a look. He'd never imagined that the enforcer to the chaos would come knocking on his front door!

Most terrifying of all was that the enforcer was here in his primary body!

Evilfox was very strong. He was a force to be reckoned with in the chaos if one disregarded Lu Qing and Violetgrave. But in the Hongmeng, he was just a minor player. He wasn't on Zhuo Bufan's level, to say nothing of the lizard-dragon.

It was he who'd rescued Huo Zongxing and the others when the six monarchs chased after them. Those four were currently hiding in Oddmoon Cave. Evilfox was also the one to rescue the three-eyed man, reshape his soul, recover his peak strength, and propel him to the heights of a sacred monarch.

Minions in the Hongmeng were easily heavyweights in the chaos. Thus, in order to maintain the balance of the second realm, those of the third were forbidden to visit without authorization. This was the reason for the Enforcer Alliance's existence, but it was only one of their purposes. They had many other duties and matters to mediate in the Hongmeng as well.

.....

“He’s here for us! Go!” Deep inside the cave, Huo Zongxing and the other three panicked. Though Zhuo Bufan was facing off with Evilfox, the senses of the four rang with alarm that they were the true targets.

They circled further into the depths of the cave and wanted to slip away through another exit.

“Seal!” Zhuo Bufan waved his hand and sent out an enormous talisman that sealed off the entire mountain. “Evilfox, do you accept your sentencing at my hands today?!”

“Fuck off!!” Evilfox shrieked and summoned the odd moon hanging overhead. It flared with light that seemed tangible to the touch and smashed down on Zhuo Bufan.

Chapter 1195: My Name is Bluegrave

“No wonder you dared enter the chaos by yourself, you brought an ultimate treasure with you,” Zhuo Bufan sneered and waved a hand.

The abyss opened up and swallowed the enormous moon while it was still in midair. The moon crescent was a great treasure of the Hongmeng!

Mangcang Mountain was a peak faction in the third realm and boasted of three kings. If it’d been any other enforcer here, they would’ve docilely gone elsewhere when they saw the moon in front of the cave.

But what did Zhuo Bufan care about the mountain or another? Apart from killing Huo Zongxing and the others, he just wanted to go back with a scapegoat and complete his mission.

Color drained from Evilfox’s face; he whirled around and ran off. If even the greatest treasure of Mangcang Mountain could be so easily taken, it was impossible for him to stand up to the enforcer.

“You want to go?” Zhuo Bufan snorted and materialized the Execution command token, throwing it into the air and changing it into a streak of sword light.

Whoooooosh.

Brilliant radiance cut through the chaos and decapitated Evilfox.

Thump!

Evilfox’s body hit the ground as an enormous gray fox. He stopped moving after twitching a few times.

An Execution command token encompassed the will of the Hongmeng. Even if it grazed only a replica, it could still reach the primary body through the connection between the two.

“He really is a fox.” Busily toying with a tiny, bright moon in the abyss, the little fox shifted disdainfully to the side when she saw Evilfox’s true form outside, as if that would somehow put greater distance between them.

The odd moon had been tamed by the power of the abyss. Its mental brand had been wiped clean and it now belonged to the little fox, since it was in her hands.

Lu Yun smiled and didn't plan on contesting her ownership. He was more focused with the abyss being able to subdue treasures! Even a premier treasure of the third realm had been no match for it. This was an ability that neither the Hadal or Abyssal Hells possessed.

Outside Oddmoon Cave, Zhuo Bufan gently placed his hand on the walls of the chaos mountain.

Rumble—

The mountain trembled as the extensive passages of Oddmoon Cave were sealed away. There was no more trace of the cave to be found. Shortly thereafter, the nine creation seeds floated out of the mountain and landed in his hands.

Zhuo Bufan sent the nine seeds into the abyss, completing Lu Yun's possession of all eleven creation seeds.

The little fox no longer needed creation seeds; she'd long taken out the one she'd refined. Lu Qing had also removed the one that'd been on Qiu Luoyu.

Eleven creation seeds formed a ring that hovered in front of Lu Yun.

The little fox swallowed when she saw the nine crystalline seeds, but didn't make a move for them. She knew that if she wanted them, Lu Yun would give them to her.

"Just what are these eleven seeds?" Lu Yun murmured as he looked at the seeds sparkling with dreamlike radiance.

"I don't know." The little fox shook her head.

Zhuo Bufan entered the abyss with Evilfox's body. He'd executed Huo Zongxing and the other three as well. Gone into the ether and their true spirits shredded by the Execution command token, there was no chance of them ever coming back to life.

"The eleven seeds represent eleven kings," Zhuo Bufan said in a quiet voice. "These eleven kings are the strongest in the Hongmeng. The eleven creation seeds are actually power nodes of the third realm. Not only are they formed from peak Hongmeng strength, but they also represent eleven laws.

"The laws of the four origins: earth, air, water, and fire. The laws of the five elements: metal, wood, water, earth, and fire. And finally, yin and yang!"

Lu Yun's past self had refined the seed of pure yang, whereas the little fox had refined the one of pure yin.

The seeds of yin and yang happened to be crucial to the eleven. Since Lu Yun had broken the one of yang and Hongjun the one of yin, the remaining nine wouldn't amount to much no matter what they tried.

"However, just like the lizard-dragon, those eleven seeds can't enter the Hongmeng. The eleven kings will sense them when they do and personally come take them away!" Zhuo Bufan quickly added.

Hummm.

The eleven creation seeds suddenly shone with brilliant radiance before Lu Yun could respond and drifted into the air. Tensing, he readied the Bridge of Forgetfulness in the abyss.

The light of the eleven condensed into a shimmer of watery blue. A young girl with blue clothes, blue hair, and blue eyes slowly walked out of it.

The abyss next to Lu Yun vanished the moment she appeared, replaced by a world of beautiful mountains and clear waters. Fields of grass grew between the peaks, children frolicked among the flowers and chased butterflies. Men tilled the fields, women wove clothes, and chickens and dogs challenged each other. It was a peaceful world of tranquility.

The abyss was no longer by Lu Yun's side, as was neither the little fox nor Zhuo Bufan. The Bridge of Forgetfulness was the only thing here, but as an ordinary bridge over a small creek.

"Hello, you." The blue-haired girl smiled at Lu Yun.

"Hello to you, too." Lu Yun blinked. He'd met her before!

He'd met her the first time he entered a dao palace, and she'd told him the truth of the chaos and worlds and the origins of the six dao palaces. Lu Yun had thought she was the replica of a certain heavyweight, but he didn't see her anywhere after he entered the chaos.

Who would've thought that she'd appear after he obtained all eleven creation seeds? And in this abyss??

The girl burst out laughing when she saw his wooden expression.

"Ahem!" Lu Yun collected his thoughts, plastered a serious expression on his face, and bowed politely. This girl was absolutely a heavyweight in the Hongmeng. Perhaps she even exceeded the level of a king!

She'd easily subdued the Bridge of Forgetfulness! Though the bridge was an entity of the fourth realm, its true spirit was too weak and unable to control its massive body until its cultivation reached the fourth realm as well.

"This humble one greets the lady," Lu Yun said.

"HahahaHAHAHAHA!!" The blue-haired girl threw her head back with laughter when she saw his reaction. "You don't recognize me in this form, kid?"

"Huh?" Lu Yun blinked.

"Ahem!" She turned solemn. "I'm Bluegrave!"

Lu Yun:

Chapter 1196: The Sixth Hell

Bluegrave.

Lu Yun felt even his teeth ache when he heard the name. Violetgrave's nether fire was purple and her dark fire was blue. The Bluegrave in front of him... was plainly Violetgrave's replica. She was also the one who'd appeared when Qing Yu was weathering her human tribulation.

“You didn’t tell me to call you Bluegrave the last time you saw me.” Lu Yun plopped down on the ground and craned his neck up at the girl.

Bluegrave shrugged and sat down as well, leaning against Lu Yun.

“If I hadn’t used the perspective of a chaos creature to tell you all that, where would you be now?”

A small creek suddenly appeared in front of them and Bluegrave dangled her bare feet in the clear waters.

“I...” Lu Yun blinked.

Their conversation in the dao palace and summary of the difference in perspectives between the chaos and the worlds had completely changed some of his thoughts towards the chaos creatures.

He’d once viewed them as vile demons and enemies. All of them were savage, despicable existences that deserved every kind of death possible. They well deserved to be erased from existence. But after that encounter... his thoughts took a completely different turn.

Thus, there hadn’t been any estrangement or discomfort when his thirty-six golden warriors joined the various factions in the chaos. Otherwise, it would’ve been very difficult for him to accept the realm even after learning of Fuxi, Wahuang, Leize, and Huaxu’s true natures.

Lu Yun nodded gently.

“So are you Violetgrave or Bluegrave?” He turned around and asked the stunning face that was completely different from Violetgrave’s.

“What’s the difference? It’s just a name.” Bluegrave smiled. “Just like the little fox—is there a difference between the present her and the soul force replica in the mythological realm?”

Lu Yun grinned wryly and shook his head without a word.

“Violetgrave is preoccupied guarding the spatial node, so here I am.” Bluegrave gently leaned her head against Lu Yun’s shoulder.

It felt like lightning had struck him. He froze, not daring to move.

“Don’t think too much, I’m just tired and want to borrow your shoulder for a bit,” Bluegrave yawned.

Lu Yun looked sideways at the girl. Her eyes were already closed and her long lashes quivered with each breath. Her breathing was steady—she’d fallen fast asleep. Bereft of anything else to do, he closed his eyes and remained unmoving.

After an indeterminate period of time, Bluegrave opened her eyes and extended in an extensive stretch.

“Awake now?” Lu Yun turned his head around to look at her.

“You’ve got some brains, kid, to not wake me up.” Bluegrave patted his shoulder. “So you’ve decided to go to the Hongmeng?”

“Yep.” Lu Yun nodded. “The world of immortals and chaos don’t need me anymore, so I’d like to try my luck there.”

He suddenly realized that the bit of distance he felt toward Violetgrave had vanished after Bluegrave's nap.

"You're leaving because they don't need you?" She looked at him with a half smile.

Lu Yun didn't respond.

"If you're going to the Hongmeng, I recommend you bring all five hells with you." Bluegrave suddenly turned solemn. "The Great Peak of the Five Hells and the five hells themselves belong to Tianqi. If he continues to develop his strength and returns to being god of Mount Tai, the hells will return to him.

"Almost none of your current strength and what you rely on originates from something that belongs to you alone. Thus, you need to start making plans for yourself."

Lu Yun nodded.

What he worried about wasn't the five hells, but the Tome of Life and Death. All of his accomplishments stemmed from that treasure. If it decided to leave him one day, he would truly be left with nothing.

"What does this have to do with the five hells though?" he asked with confusion.

"Because the five hells aren't the complete five hells." Bluegrave thought for a moment and continued, "There should be six hells in the world.

"Wisdom, the mind, the soul, fresh blood, the body... and another crucial thing is the true source of life. If you can materialize the sixth hell into this world, then you'll fully free yourself from everything around you and become an independent you." Bluegrave's limpid eyes stared straight at Lu Yun.

"The true source of life?" He frowned slightly.

"Yes. When you comprehend the true source of life is when the sixth hell will be born. That's all I can say for now."

"Alright then." Lu Yun nodded. "But the Hadal Hell has been integrated into the world of immortals and something's got ahold of the Nihil and Sanguine Hell. How am I supposed to obtain them?"

He was truly perplexed. If possible, he would've rushed into the Nihil Hell and wiped out whatever was in there. However, he'd already calculated that if he charged in with the Bridge of Forgetfulness, he'd just die for the attempt.

The lizard-dragon and Zhuo Bufan would only be snacks if they went in.

The terror of the thing in the Nihil Hell didn't stem from just the machinations of the third realm, but the innate strength of that hell.

"The true source of a hell lies not with the hell itself, but with its flame," chuckled Bluegrave. "The flame inside a hell comes from the Sal Tree of Life and Death. In an impossibly far off time, the Sal Tree supported all five hells and thus all five flames burned on it.

"Now that the Sal Tree is in your hands and has evolved to the even stronger Karmic Tree, you won't have any trouble igniting the fires of the remaining hells."

While the flames of the Abyssal and Nihil Hells had indeed gone out, the Karmic Tree could relight the fires.

"I came this time to give you the embers of those two flames." A gray and a white ember floated upward when Bluegrave opened her hand. They seemed to be attracted by something and immediately sank into Lu Yun's body, devoured by the Tome of Life and Death.

She blinked. "It looks like there's another treasure in you that I can't see through. It's not only the five hells!"

"Mmhmm." Lu Yun nodded.

"Then I am at ease. I'll be on my way now, there's another place in the chaos that requires my attention." With that, Bluegrave abruptly vanished and everything returned to normal. The deep abyss appeared in front of Lu Yun and the little fox and Zhuo Bufan stood by his side before he could react.

It was as if nothing had happened.

"Smells so nice." The little fox suddenly brought her face up to Lu Yun's and sniffed his shoulder. "Why does it smell so nice?! You have another woman outside, don't you!" she demanded with a hot glare.

Chapter 1197: The Third Realm

"Violetgrave was just here." Lu Yun narrowed his eyes at the little fox.

"Oh, no wonder the fragrance seems so familiar." She'd met Violetgrave before, so all she did was stick out her tongue. "No, wait, what does it matter to me if you have a woman outside? It should be Qing Yu who's worried."

She sank into deep contemplation as Lu Yun scowled with resignation.

"Zhuo Bufan, you can take us to the third realm now." Lu Yun suddenly realized that Bluegrave had taken the eleven creation seeds with her. Since they contained a great secret and he didn't want to brashly jump into action yet, it was best for now that she take them away.

"Eh?" Both the little fox and Zhuo Bufan blinked, with the former asking, "Are we not making further preparations?"

"Preparations for what? Do you want to say goodbye to your friends and family? Or have you forgotten something at home?" Lu Yun asked, perplexed.

The little fox blinked, then shook her head blankly. Though this was part of their plans, a sudden trip to the Hongmeng... a place which everyone in the chaos both feared and desired... was a bit too much to handle.

"Or do you want to stay here?" Lu Yun asked when he looked at her face.

"No!" The little fox resolutely shook her head. "The third realm! The legendary Hongmeng! I must go and take a look!"

A dreamlike radiance flashed outside her body as she prepared to return to her true form. Lu Yun poked her in the forehead and interrupted her transformation art.

“Stay in human form if you want to go to the third realm, or I’ll immediately send you back here,” he ordered with a glare.

The little fox backed up subconsciously and wrapped her arms protectively in front of her chest. “What, what do you want to do to me?!”

“I hear nothing, see nothing, and know nothing,” Zhuo Bufan quickly offered.

Smack!

Lu Yun smacked his subordinate’s head. “Stop dilly-dallying and take us to the third realm.”

“Ah, eh, yes!” Zhuo Bufan shook and quickly returned to the chaos, Lu Yun and the little fox hot on his heels.

“Young master, mistress, you must be careful,” he struck a grave tone. “It is forbidden for enforcers to bring chaos creatures into the third realm without authorization. We’ll be attacked by the rules of the Hongmeng as soon as we enter. Though I can avoid this punishment because I am the son of a king, the young master and mistress will still be affected to a certain degree.”

“Mm.” Lu Yun nodded. “Wait!” He suddenly recalled something important. “I forgot to ask Violetgrave where Little Yu is now.”

His primary purpose for visiting the Hongmeng was to look for Qing Yu. He’d wanted to stop by the world of immortals first to ask Violetgrave where she was, but had been so disoriented by Bluegrave’s sequence of actions that he’d completely forgotten about it.

However, it only took a few moments’ thought before he put it out of his mind.

Violetgrave knew that he was going to the Hongmeng, but hadn’t told him where Qing Yu was. And with his personality, he never would’ve forgotten to ask Violetgrave. Yet, he had. Plainly, Bluegrave had used some sort of mental cue to encourage him to temporarily forget about the matter.

She wouldn’t have kept things from him if he’d asked. Then, this meant that Violetgrave didn’t want to tell him for now.

“I wonder where Little Yu’s gone, they’re being very mysterious.” Lu Yun, the little fox, and Zhuo Bufan vanished from the chaos in a ball of dreamlike purple radiance.

Bluegrave reappeared once they left and looked in the direction that Lu Yun and company had left in. “I’m not telling you for your own good,” she murmured. “If the first thing you did after arriving in the Hongmeng was to ask about Hopeless Major, you wouldn’t even know how you ended up dead.

“Strange, when I first established a faction, I wanted to create a land of virtue and merit that committed kind acts. Why has it become Hopeless Major and part of the Ten Valleys of Evil in the Hongmeng?” Bluegrave cocked her head in deep thought, completely baffled at where things had gone wrong.

.....

The world of immortals.

Though the Dao Academy had retreated out of public sight, it still remained the eternal sacred land of the world and ever more mysterious.

The main academy in Dusk Province no longer took in disciples. Instead, it was the heavenly courts of the thirty-three facets that set up branches of the academy and enrolled students, slowly replacing the original Dao Academy.

On a certain day in the one hundred and fiftieth year of the Xuanhuang calendar, immortal radiance sparkled from Mount Xuanhuang and resplendent beams shot into the chaos. A towering mountain slowly rose in the order sacred land.

Mount Xuanhuang!

Another mountain had appeared in the chaos, one of bronze metal and immortal luminescence. Thus marked the true appearance of the immortal dao's prototype in the vast chaos, an imperceptible shift in the way that chaos creatures cultivated.

Not only that, but the polluted chaos currents in regions where the energy of the worlds extended into began to clear up after the immortal light's sudden passage. They clarified into pristine currents, a shocking display of the immortal dao's ability to defuse damage that the energy of the worlds would inflict on the chaos creatures!

At the same time, brand new realms budded in the immortal dao.

Immortal lord, eternal overlord, and sovereigns!

However, they didn't exist for regular immortals. Only those who reached chaos realm would be able to see these last three realms.

Of course, the chaos was so expansive that it would take an indeterminable period of time for the immortal dao to grow into the great dao of the realm. But under the guidance of the order sacred land, all chaos creatures began to cultivate immortal dao.

The seeds of life that the six sacred palaces had saved in the last chaos tribulation became the first batch of chaos creatures to practice the immortal dao.

.....

Matters of the world of immortals and the chaos had nothing to do with Lu Yun anymore.

After the purple haze receded, a current of exceedingly tyrannical energy poured into his body. Unbidden, he opened his arms wide to fully devour this immense qi.

Power of the Hongmeng!

This was the strength that all Hongmeng beings needed when cultivating.

His new chaos cultivation realm instantly stabilized and rose with exponential speed. It took only moments for him to reach peak chaos realm and march on to the next.

Creator realm!

Wham—

He seemed to kick open an enormous door in his body and easily set foot into the creator realm. Creators could mobilize the orders of the chaos to create matter, making something out of nothing.

However, he was currently in the Hongmeng, not the chaos. Creators could easily manipulate the orders of the chaos, but couldn't touch the laws of the Hongmeng. These were two concepts on entirely different levels.

Creators could rewrite orders in the chaos and create all life, but that hardly applied in the third realm. For that reason, Lu Yun's breakthrough didn't result in any tribulation. It was a trifling matter in the Hongmeng.

His new cultivation level gradually steadied and he breathed out slowly, then opened his eyes. The little fox was sitting quietly on a cushion nearby, having also broken through to creator realm.

"This is... uh... a bit crazy?" The two looked at each other. They'd both had breakthroughs right after arriving in the Hongmeng?

"Ahem!" Zhuo Bufan smiled wryly off to the side. "Young master and mistress, this is the meditation chamber where this humble one enters closed door cultivation. The energy and laws here are most suitable for cultivation. Your core essences are strong, so breaking through here is very normal and expected."

Chapter 1198: Will

Understanding dawned on both Lu Yun and the little fox. Both of their cultivations had yet to reach the peak of their level, so breaking through as soon as they entered the third realm was a little ridiculous. It made sense if they'd arrived in a less-than-ordinary locale.

"Please stay here and cultivate, young master and mistress. I will report in with Evilfox's body and arrange for your identities," said Zhuo Bufan.

"Alright." Lu Yun nodded.

The Hongmeng differed from the chaos in that the system and rules here were much more strict. If they wanted to move about in the third realm, they needed a legitimate identity.

Zhuo Bufan bowed slightly to Lu Yun and the little fox, and backed out of the meditation chamber.

"This Hongmeng is a bit mysterious," Lu Yun said with a frown as he sat down on a nearby cushion.

"How so?" The little fox didn't understand his comment.

"When Little Yu and I overlooked it from the fourth realm, we saw that it was an enormous mausoleum guarded by a bizarre little girl in a red dress." Confusion shone in his eyes.

"Like the previous world of immortals?" subconsciously asked the startled little fox.

"No!" Lu Yun shook his head. "The world of immortals was once in the layout of a tomb that Tianqi used certain methods to destroy. The tombs in our world are just tombs created for their specific purpose, not to form a mausoleum."

“I don’t know if the Hongmeng beings don’t know they live in a mausoleum, or if they live in the tomb realms of the mausoleums.”

Prior to visiting the Hongmeng, Lu Yun had suspected that the third realm was similar to the world of immortals, forested by huge swathes of tombs. But after his arrival, he realized that this wasn’t the case at all.

Though they were yet to enter the Hongmeng proper as they were in Zhuo Bufan’s meditation chamber, his intuition keenly detected a strange eeriness that pervaded the third realm.

As for what it was, exactly? He couldn’t tell.

“Ghost Ancestor, have you been here before?” Lu Yun turned around and peered into the abyss.

“No,” the ghost ancestor in the fissure hurried to respond. Everything still felt very unreal to it. It’d followed Lu Yun to the Hongmeng? To the place that countless chaos creatures yearned for?

“What are you and why can you create akasha ghosts?” The little fox poked her head in as well.

The abyss was a peculiar existence. After Lu Yun refined the shard of Mount Tai into it, he fully controlled the treasure and was on track to reverting it back to the Abyssal Hell. The moment they arrived in the Hongmeng, he realized that not only could he open the gates to the netherworld, but he could also enter the abyss.

Hellfire had become the key to accessing the abyss and kingdom of hell.

It wasn’t until now that Lu Yun understood why Bluegrave had wanted him to bring the five hells to the Hongmeng. The strength that they released here far exceeded what they called upon in the world of immortals and chaos.

“I...” The ghost ancestor blinked and took human form, concealing the face that laughed and cried at the same time. He was actually a clean-cut young man without a hint of violence or a ghostly air. He seemed like a bright, outgoing boy with a sunny disposition.

Lu Yun and the little fox stared, not having thought that the ghost ancestor’s true form would look like this.

“I should be the accumulation of all resentment from the souls in worlds destroyed by the chaos.” The ghost ancestor sat in a corner of an abyss that wasn’t so bereft of life anymore. The countless chaos creatures of the Dubiety Realm had made the fissure their home.

“I think I was once an ordinary living being in one of the worlds. I somehow absorbed everything’s bitterness, which slowly turned me into this.” His face once more turned into that of laughing and crying features. “I’ve been contemplating what akasha ghosts are too. My face seems to have been drawn by a child, one that should’ve been carefree and innocent, but bore a face full of malice.”

Lu Yun materialized Qing Han’s brush with a flip of his hand.

“Right, that’s the brush!” the ghost ancestor quickly identified. “I don’t know what that brush is made of, but its ink is definitely concentrated resentment!”

Lu Yun put the brush away and exchanged a look with the little fox.

“A child wrapped in resentment drew the ghost ancestor and akasha ghosts?” Lu Yun murmured to himself. “Who is that child? A being of the Hongmeng? ...God once told me that akasha ghosts have something to do with me.”

“Pfft, you believe what he says?” The little fox threw him a look and wanted to dart into his arms, but stopped when she realized that it wasn’t as easy for her to transform into her true self here.

Lu Yun wordlessly stared off into the distance. God’s words to him had left too great an impact. He was even starting to wonder if he’d somehow created the akasha ghosts without meaning to. Perhaps it was unintentional karma from his past self in the mythological realm.

“Let me tell you something!” The little fox reached out with her soft, slim hands and pinched his cheeks, turning his head toward her. “The zombie king from his corpse was still alive when he said those things to you! He was affecting God every second of the day!

“It’s not necessarily God who said those things, but the zombie king! He wanted to plant the seed of doubt in your heart!”

Lu Yun shuddered with horror.

“Right, it could be the zombie king,” the ghost ancestor agreed thoughtfully. “The zombie king is highly cunning and calculative. My replica almost fell for his lies a few times and nearly ended up in his stomach.

“There’s always been a connection between him and God that affects both of them. God once entered the abyss with Heavenfall to kill the zombie king, but he still evaded death in the end. If he hadn’t died, God would’ve likely turned into a poisonous tumor as well.” The ghost ancestor sensed that Lu Yun’s mood was off and hastened to explain, “God only wanted you to fill in the four abysses, but didn’t mention the zombie king. That was a result of his will fighting the zombie king’s!”

Lu Yun nodded slowly. No matter what the truth was, the zombie king was completely obliterated from existence, leaving behind only his very profound impact on Lu Yun.

“What did you just say?” He suddenly revisited the ghost ancestor’s words. “Did you say something about will?”

“Yes, will.” The ghost ancestor quickly nodded, not understanding why his master was asking about this.

“Will... will,” Lu Yun mused. “No, not will. A will is pretty much the same as a being’s mental strength. If it’s not will, then what is it?”

He was thinking of what Bluegrave had said to him before leaving—the true origin of life. If he could grasp it, he would be able to create the sixth hell and form his own dao.

The ghost ancestor remained silent. He himself didn’t know where akasha ghosts came from. All he knew was that they’d likely created him.

“Young master and mistress, I have returned.” Zhuo Bufan walked in from the outside, his face slightly pale and a trace of blood at the corner of his lips. Plainly, he was injured.

Chapter 1199: The Chaos Sun Overlooking the Hongmeng

“What happened?” Lu Yun recomposed himself and shoved all random thought out of his mind.

“Nothing much. I ran into a rival and we had an altercation,” Zhuo Bufan responded awkwardly. “Young master and mistress, I’d wanted to arrange an internal position for you, but now that my rival is here... If you remain at alliance headquarters, you’ll likely meet a nasty death at his hands as well.”

He explained the current layout of the land with an unhappy expression. An incredibly unpalatable surprise had been waiting for him earlier—his faction in the alliance had almost been completely uprooted. Anyone having to do with him had either betrayed him, left the alliance, or been killed under flimsy pretexts.

As the newest members of his camp and personally vouched for, Lu Yun and the little fox would be easily exposed if anyone wanted to look into them. That would land them in danger as well.

“Then... let’s go with whatever you think is good.” Lu Yun was a bit speechless at the situation. Zhuo Bufan was indeed trash like the lizard-dragon had said. It’d only taken a few days’ absence for his entire clique to be erased.

He’s probably not just an airhead, but also a spoiled dandy who regularly makes a lot of enemies.

Lu Yun was actually reminded of the old him. He’d been in similar straits when he first arrived in the world of immortals.

“Don’t worry, young master and mistress. I’ve successfully arranged for your identities as enforcers.” Zhuo Bufan’s father was a king, after all, one with high authority and prestige in the Hongmeng. Installing two new enforcers was a piece of cake.

“I’ve assigned you to Starcloud City—part of my father’s domain. It’s not a big city, but that means you won’t attract anyone’s attention. As long as you don’t blow up the city, young master, no one will pay attention to you,” Zhuo Bufan explained earnestly.

“Okay, then.” Lu Yun nodded, not knowing much about the Hongmeng. Though he’d once been here in the form of his past self, he hadn’t ventured deep into the realm. He also wasn’t sure if the great war that the little girl had mentioned had taken place then yet.

“Right, find out about something for me,” he remarked. “I want to know what kind of force Violetgrave or Bluegrave commands in the Hongmeng and what relationships my son may have developed in the realm.”

Since Violetgrave hadn’t told him the name of her faction, Lu Yun had to find out for himself. There were a hundred and eight kings backing the Enforcer Alliance. Investigating something of this caliber would be an exceedingly easy task.

“Understood!” Zhuo Bufan quickly agreed.

“Alright. Take us to Starcloud City and then be about your business.”

A great sense of relief wrapped around Zhuo Bufan when he heard this. He had indeed been worried that Lu Yun would just stay here or have him follow by their side forever. If his rival killed these two...

Well, if Lu Yun died, Zhuo Bufan was certain that both he and the Scorch King, and the rest of their family could only beg for death.

There was also another king behind Zhuo Bufan's rival that made the situation extremely difficult.

Lu Yun and the little fox changed into their new enforcer uniforms. They were completely black and came with a black mask to hide their faces.

Black-robed enforcers were ranked only beneath the executives. With Zhuo Bufan's background, it'd still taken considerable effort to arrange for their new positions. The Enforcer Alliance wielded a great deal of authority and oversaw a number of matters. Hunting down Hongmeng beings who intruded into the chaos was only part of their duties.

A myriad of orders and laws abounded in the realm, and the Enforcer Alliance existed to maintain these rules in their multitude so that Hongmeng denizens wouldn't sink into confusion. Thus, kings of the Hongmeng highly respected the enforcers—not to mention that the hundred and eight kings backing the organization made it the strongest in the realm.

Though the alliance was a loose one, no one dared belittle it.

Zhuo Bufan's father was one of the hundred and eight, which was why his son was able to install his new friends as black robes.

The uniforms themselves were also a powerful treasure. Not only did it conceal their faces, but it hid their cultivation so no one could accurately gauge their true strength.

Enforcers frequently offended others when they were carrying out their duties; any slip in attention could result in a death feud. Thus, the clothing was also another layer of protection for the enforcers.

As the saying went, open spear thrusts were easily dodged, but an arrow from the dark was hard to detect.

.....

Exiting Zhuo Bufan's meditation chamber brought them into the Hongmeng proper. There was a sky, ground, and definition of space here. Though time also exerted no power over the realm, there existed its concept.

The sky of the Hongmeng was purple and stretched on without end. The legendary fourth realm lay beyond it, and it was said that whoever could smash apart their sky would enter the fourth realm, becoming an unparalleled existence.

Of course, that was only a myth. No one had broken through that barrier since the dawn of time.

A large sun hung in the purple sky and threw off splendid radiance, illuminating the entire realm.

"That sun..." Lu Yun gaped incredulously at the huge celestial body overhead.

"Correct, that's the chaos sun!" Zhuo Bufan murmured. "When the chaos sun rises from the chaos sea, it shines upon not only the chaos, but all of the Hongmeng as well!" He waxed eloquent with appreciation.

“That treasure is beyond the limits of our understanding. Even our kings seek to find the truth about the chaos sun and moon.”

The chaos sun and moon were in the chaos sea, but they illuminated the entire third realm too. They were the most mysterious treasure of both the Hongmeng and chaos, and Hongmeng denizens were forbidden from visiting the lower realms primarily due to those two celestial bodies.

“Yo, isn’t this the most eminent and distinguished Zhuo Bufaaaaan? I heard someone just beat the crap out of you! What are you doing out and about instead of hiding away and licking your wounds?” A somewhat sarcastic voice sounded before a young man, at the head of a group all dressed in the long robes of executive enforcers, swaggered up to Zhuo Bufan.

Though they wore the robes of enforcers, they weren’t wearing their masks and thus showing their true faces to the world.

Zhuo Bufan scowled darkly. These were the fellows who’d cornered him earlier and given him a thorough beating. They’d been wearing their masks then, and now they’d taken the masks off so they could jeer at him.

They were also the ones who’d uprooted his entire faction in the alliance.

However, Zhuo Bufan then jerked with surprise before his lips curved slightly upward.

“Are you looking to die, Du Guxun?” he sneered. “I investigated Dubiety Realm on orders of the venerated one and accidentally discovered that someone’s tampered with the chaos sun and moon. You made things difficult for me in every possible way after my return, going so far as to attack me so I can’t make my report. Are you the ones behind the sabotage?!”

The crowd of youths paused, startled by the unexpected rejoinder.

“Executive Zhuo Bufan of the Enforcer Alliance requests an audience with the venerated one!” Zhuo Bufan brought out the Execution command token without further ado and sent a pillar of brilliance into the sky, scaring the wits out of Du Guxun and the others.

Chapter 1200: The Venerated One

Befuddlement filled the eyes of Du Guxun and his friends when they looked at that skyward radiance. They didn’t understand what was going on and why the venerated enforcer had been disturbed for no reason at all.

One had to know that though they’d destroyed Zhuo Bufan’s faction in the alliance, Zhuo Bufan and his crew had done the same to them before! Incidents like these happened all the time and the venerated one had never cared about them before. How dare Zhuo Bufan call upon him now??

Though the venerated enforcer wasn’t one of the kings in the alliance, he wielded absolute authority in the Enforcer Alliance. In fact, he dared execute even the children of the kings. There were a hundred and eight kings, but only one venerated enforcer. The venerated one was their spokesperson.

A faint figure slowly walked out of a patch of scintillating brilliance. It looked like a young man of eighteen years with loose hair floating easily behind him. He wore clean white robes and didn’t look too

eye-catching. In fact, he was rather ordinary and no one would spare him a second glance in the middle of a crowd.

However, he exuded a commanding presence that sent chills down one's back. The venerated enforcer, the greatest of the alliance beneath a titled king!

There were even some who suspected that he was strong enough to be a king, that he only needed to attend his conferment ceremony.

"What is it?" He floated down to a standing position in front of Zhuo Bufan and the others, who hastily bowed to express their respect.

"Greetings to the venerated one!" Zhuo Bufan took a deep breath, recalling what Lu Yun had transmitted to him earlier. "In response to the venerated one, this subordinate received orders to investigate the Dubiety Realm's destruction. Some progress has been made."

"Oh?" The venerated enforcer raised an eyebrow. "You can just make your report at the Hall of Enforcement for something as minor as this. Why disturb me?" He regarded Zhuo Bufan with an unpleasant look.

"There is another matter," the good-for-nothing soldiered on doggedly. "Someone has meddled with the chaos sun and moon in the lower realm and ignited a chaos tribulation. Almost all of the chaos creatures died in it. This subordinate wanted to present these findings, but Du Guxun and his men obstructed me in every possible way upon my return. They even mobbed me earlier to attack me. Please look into this matter, oh venerated one."

"What?! Someone's meddled with the chaos sun and moon?!" The venerated enforcer jerked his head up and peered at where the chaos sun hung high in the purple sky, an ugly expression spreading across his face.

At his level of skill, he could naturally discern that the energy within the sun had been fully discharged, as if a chaos tribulation had just taken place. However, it was hardly time for one to erupt, and he hadn't noticed any of the necessary changes that would've taken place beforehand.

Since the chaos sun and moon were located in the second realm, no Hongmeng expert would detect a chaos tribulation taking place as they were in different planes.

"Indeed!" Zhuo Bufan nodded. "In the chaos, this subordinate executed Evilfox of Mangcang Mountain and four unidentified Hongmeng beings for unauthorized entry. I was about to make a report, but this group continuously blocked my way. I humbly beseech the venerated one to make a full investigation!"

It felt like a bolt of lightning had struck Du Guxun and the others. When they'd destroyed Zhuo Bufan's faction in the organization, they'd never thought that he was absent because he was in the chaos!

Commonly regarded as trash, how had the dandy of a second generation been sent on such an important mission?? If they'd known beforehand, they wouldn't have dared block his way no matter what, much less beat him up!

As he relayed his encounter, Zhuo Bufan presented Evilfox's body and the heads of Huo Zongxing and the others. The venerated enforcer's face darkened even further.

“All of you, get out of my sight. There will be no mercy shown the next time you interfere with the law being carried out!” he shouted at Du Guxun’s group.

“Our deepest gratitude!” They scrambled away, having been pardoned from certain grave punishment.

Zhuo Bufan smacked his lips. The venerated one was equitable and just, he hadn’t hoped that the revered enforcer would actually do something about his rivals. Though his good friends had all received missions that took them away from headquarters, leaving Zhuo Bufan fighting a solo fight for the moment, Du Guxun and his cronies would certainly openly avoid him for the time being.

“To think that you’d dare personally venture into the chaos for your investigation! Your courage is commendable, so I will record a satisfactory accomplishment under your name.” The venerated enforcer nodded at Zhuo Bufan.

“Thank you, oh venerated one!” Zhuo Bufan bowed again.

“You should cease using untoward and unorthodox methods against your enemies in the future. If you wish to defeat them, prevail over them in proper ways. You are dismissed.” The venerated enforcer waved a hand and vanished along with Evilfox’s corpse and the four heads.

“This subordinate will commit these words to heart,” Zhuo Bufan breathed a slight sigh of relief, then chuckled ruefully and transmitted to Lu Yun, “Young master, your plan worked very well!”

“That venerated enforcer is no ordinary person,” Lu Yun and the little fox also breathed more easily. They hadn’t even dared think too loudly just now, terrified as they were that the mighty expert would see through them.

Thankfully, the heavyweight hadn’t paid attention to them from beginning to end. Unexpected tampering with the chaos sun and moon had preoccupied all of his thoughts.

That had also been within Lu Yun’s expectations. If Zhuo Bufan hadn’t summoned the venerated enforcer, he’d calculated that the only possible outcome would be Du Guxun killing him and the little fox, then Zhuo Bufan being beaten to within an inch of his life.

The scions of kings didn’t care about two black robes; neither did the venerated enforcer. All of Zhuo Bufan’s men wouldn’t have been murdered if that hadn’t been true.

“Let’s go, we’ll take the transportation formation to Starcloud City!” Zhuo Bufan hastily proposed. Lu Yun and the little fox were so incredibly weak that any Hongmeng expert could erase them from existence by simply breathing on them. He wanted to get them to the city as quickly as possible, so that people he trusted could envelop them in a cocoon of safety. Only then would he be at ease.

“Zhuo Bufan!” the venerated enforcer’s voice suddenly sounded in his mind. He stumbled with fright and almost planted his face into the ground.

“Yes, venerated one!” Zhuo Bufan answered with trepidation and recovered his balance.

“When your two friends have the ability to protect themselves, have them visit Hopeless Major in the Ten Valleys of Evil.” With that, the mighty one’s voice disappeared, having almost induced a heart attack in his audience.

“What is it?” Lu Yun looked at his man with curiosity.

“The venerated one said something to me just now, I’ll tell the young master when we reach the city,” Zhuo Bufan shook with his response. The venerated one had seen through their identities!

Lu Yun nodded and took another look at Zhuo Bufan. He looked ready to jump out of his skin with fright—no wonder everyone viewed him as a bumbling fool.

Though Starcloud City wasn’t a large metropolis, it was one that belonged to the Scorch King—one of the hundred and eight kings of the Enforcer Alliance. Thus, there was a transportation formation that led straight to it.

When the group of three vanished among the sparkles of an activated transportation formation, the venerated one appeared in the void again. He looked at the fading shimmers of the formation with a faint smile on his face.