

## **Necropolis 1221**

### **Chapter 1221: Dancing Heads**

Hints of strangeness colored an already tense atmosphere after Lu Yun voiced his question.

Half of a Meteorite King?

What did this mysterious stranger mean by that?

Even Dusksnow Morningstar stared agog at Lu Yun and the king.

Nodding, the Meteorite King said, "There is indeed only half of me here. As for where the other half has gone to... You better hope that you never meet it, or you'll die very grim, grisly deaths."

Malevolent unearthliness filled the king's smile; Dusksnow Morningstar trembled and a chill crept over his skin to see it.

Fiery black sparkles brimmed in Lu Yun's eyes as he stared down the Meteorite King.

"You released the news yourself that you're heavily injured! You coordinated this situation to ensure that countless Hongmeng experts would gather here!" Lu Yun abruptly withdrew the hellfire in his eyes.

"Fight already if you want to, cut the bullshit!" The king's expression changed drastically when he heard this statement and he charged the nearby Morningstar.

The sudden flurry of motion startled Lu Yun and he vanished on the spot, returning to the little fox's side.

Boom!

An enormous mushroom cloud rose from where he'd just been. Many cultivators caught in the blast zone evaporated before they had a chance to react.

"Hahahaha!!" Dusksnow Morningstar threw his head back with laughter. "That's right, we fight if we want to! What's with all the other crap?! I don't care if you're a full Meteorite King or half of one, you're going to be my stepping stone today!"

Humm.

Radiant starlight lit up the void and the image of an enormous bow brightened the sky, breaking apart the mushroom cloud. As numerous shocked cultivators watched on, the stunning genius shattered the Meteorite King's spatial restriction forcefield!

Morningstar climbed through the air with bow in hand and the stars as his arrows, firing off a barrage of attacks at the king beneath him.

The ground quaked and shook violently, changing the terrain of Meteorite Peak. Everything within it ducked and looked for cover, scattering in all directions in search of relative safety.

Though Dusksnow Morningstar was yet to become a titled king, his battle strength was infinitely close to one. He could be hailed as a half-step king, and therefore the clash between the two wasn't something that ordinary superior realm cultivators could compare to.

What the frantic beings scurrying around the mountain didn't realize was that the path that'd led them here had vanished. It had been replaced by an unfamiliar void, so they wouldn't be able to leave the mountain no matter where they ran to.

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"What's going on?" the little fox asked Lu Yun urgently; they were remaining where they were.

She was frightened out of her wits as well. The strange opening move from the king had almost broken her formation. If she hadn't been as fully prepared as she was, her formation of illusion would likely be long gone by now.

"Half a king is still a king!" Lu Yun forced out through grit teeth. "He's not going to die that easily. He wants to use this half of him to recreate a full version of himself!

"Everyone that's come to Meteorite Peak, whether arcane beast or cultivator, will become his sacrificial goods. Dusksnow Morningstar is the greatest gift of them all!" His tone turned very grave. "The other half of the king is also here and he wants to kill me."

"Just what is this Meteorite King? Is he something from the ancient tomb that fell down?" the little fox asked hastily.

"No, I just tested him with hellfire." Lu Yun shook his head. "We really need to be careful."

The little fox nodded and began setting up more formations of illusion. She'd discovered that a strange power in the mountain was continuously ramming hers. Once her work was broken, she and Lu Yun could very well become lost in here.

Changes were occurring in the forcefield of Meteorite Peak. It'd formed a peculiar layout—one that appeared to be Ghost Hits Wall in Lu Yun's eyes. Even superior realm cultivators would be blinded by this layout and thoroughly lose themselves in endless loops of the same route.

"What is that?!" the little fox suddenly shrieked with disbelief.

Large heads were dancing through the air, mumbling as they flew, "Where's my body?"

"Where's my body gone?"

There were human heads and beast heads, all of them looking very normal other than the fact that they were flying in the air.

One of the heads brightened with eagerness when it took in the fleeing crowds below and swiftly drew close to a sprinting cultivator. Two small hands probed out of its ears and tugged the cultivator's head off with ease, then held the headless body upright and fixed itself onto the neck.

"Hahaha! I have a body now! Look, isn't it pretty?" The corpse with a new head capered wildly in delight.

"A body, a body! I want a body too!"

"There are so many bodies here!"

“Get them!”

“Take their bodies!” With wild abandon, the heads dove at the fleeing cultivators and arcane beasts.

These beings were already lost in Ghost Hits Wall and weren’t aware of the frightening heads. Many died gruesome deaths before even understanding what was going on.

The heads always jigged and pranced with joy after obtaining new bodies, but they swallowed all of the vitality within the bodies before long, causing the latter to shrivel up and wither away as dust.

After absorbing new sustenance, the heads grew even stronger and flew off in search of new victims.

“This can’t be allowed to continue!” Lu Yun looked on grimly. “We need to break this layout first!”

These heads certainly came from the broken ancient tomb and were something that the Meteorite King kept around. Perhaps his other half was hidden in one of them.

Though Lu Yun had seen through the king’s scheme, he didn’t understand why this was the plan. Why would the king cut himself into two for no reason at all?

Lacking the time to contemplate this, Lu Yun brought out premium purple crystals and began to set up a formation. He didn’t know where this Ghost Hits Wall originated from, but given his current mastery over feng shui and formations, it was a simple task to break it.

In the eyes of feng shui masters, Ghost Hits Wall was just a lower level killing formation. But for those who didn’t understand feng shui formations, they would be blind and deaf upon entrance and wander around completely lost.

His hands flicked rapidly through the air and he opened his arms wide after a hundred breaths. A purple formation spread out of his arms and slammed into the void.

Boom!

A muffled impact sounded over Meteorite Peak as something like a transparent cover was shattered to pieces.

“What is that?!” shocked screams rose one after another. “It’s vicious ghosts! There are vicious ghosts in Meteorite Peak!”

etvolare's Thoughts

This is a deviated Flying Head Sect!!

### **Chapter 1222: Yin and Yang in One Body**

Vicious ghosts!

The heads gyrating through the air were vicious ghosts!

Shock dawned in Lu Yun’s eyes when he heard the hubbub of screams. This was his first encounter with vicious ghosts of the Hongmeng, but he hadn’t been able to tell that these beings were ghosts!

He hadn't read any ghostly qi from them or even yin qi. In his eyes, these vicious ghosts were just some strange and bizarre living beings. Plainly, that was the furthest thing from the truth. These flying heads were the same kind of ghostly entities as present in the world of immortals and chaos.

Vicious ghosts were the most terrifying entities in the Hongmeng. They appeared and disappeared mysteriously, devouring everything in their path. These types of ghosts were the greatest enemy of all living beings in the Hongmeng.

No one had thought that they'd suddenly appear in Meteorite Peak, at the heart of Starspace Region!

"Stop those ghosts, they can't be allowed to leave the mountain!" shouted a superior realm cultivator. Dressed in purple with eyes glittering like the stars, he exuded an incredibly commanding presence and was stronger than Miao Qimiao.

He suddenly leapt into the air and punched through the remains of the Meteorite King's forcefield, then grabbed a head hurtling toward him and crushed it with a single hand. The Meteorite King was battling Dusksnow Morningstar up in the air. He'd released his full strength, so the forcefield was naturally weakened.

"The Purpleclad Duke of Starspace City!" Many cultivators present were reinvigorated when they saw the man shoot into the sky and pulp a head with one blow.

The Purpleclad Duke!

This was a long renowned superior realm cultivator widely considered one of the mightiest below a titled king in Starspace Region. Perhaps he was overshadowed by Morningstar now, but no one in Starspace Region would ever not know his name.

"Kill!" Experts from Starspace City immediately clustered around the duke when they saw him and fought back against the heads with coordinated effort.

Hongmeng beings had contended with vicious ghosts for countless eons. Though these capering heads were incredibly eerie and horrifying, the cultivators struck back with ferocity once they regrouped and recomposed themselves.

The Purpleclad Duke charged at the forefront, furiously slaughtering the enemy.

Gurgle gurgle gurgle!

The ground beneath their feet suddenly split open as scarabs thirty meters long rushed out of the earth. Mouth parts chittering hungrily, they swiftly set upon the cultivators and arcane beasts standing on the ground.

Anguished yells and shrieks quickly filled the air as any protective combat art or treasure ripped apart like paper beneath the scarabs' mouths.

Agape with horror, the Purpleclad Duke dove from the air and stomped a bug to death. He was beginning to panic.

The scarabs were black as night and thirty meters long. Carpeted by a layer of armor-like spikes, they were all in the superior realm! And most importantly was that they were true Hongmeng beings, but they were helping the vicious ghosts kill other third realm denizens!

“DIE!!” A burst of turbulent power exploded from the duke’s body. A pair of purple wings unfurled from his back and beat the tyrannical storm of energy toward the enemy.

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Hidden in their formation of illusion, Lu Yun and the little fox located Miao Qimiao and the others and dragged them inside.

“You utter trash! What about the formation I just gave you? Don’t you know to set it up??” Lu Yun wanted to slap them dead himself when he saw how covered in injuries they were. There was even a head stuck to the back of Miao Qimiao, attempting to nibble away at him.

“Esteemed, esteemed grandmaster, things happened so quickly that we didn’t have time to set it up!” Miao Qimiao almost burst into tears.

They ordinarily lived in the lap of luxury in Starcloud City and had never imagined that they’d one day experience this kind of battle. Miao Qimiao had been confident that there was no danger of anything going wrong with this trip to kill a king, given that there were two supplemental grandmasters in their entourage.

Who would’ve thought that these kinds of surprises would occur?? First it was vicious ghosts, then it was the terrifying scarabs. Miao Qimiao and the other five were almost scared witless and reduced to gibbering fools.

“No wonder Zhuo Bufan tapped Zhuo Yu to be the Redbud city lord and not you guys.” Lu Yun was faint from anger.

He finally understood some things, like how Zhuo Bufan had mentioned to not take Miao Qimiao too seriously, that Lu Yun and the little fox were the final authority in Starcloud City.

“You five will right now, this very second, immediately go out to set up the formation!” he roared. “Help the Purpleclad Duke kill the bugs and vicious ghosts!!”

“Under, understood!” Miao Qimiao and the others exchanged quick glances. They shook as they realized their flaws as well. Given their present character, Starcloud City would likely instantly fall into enemy hands if anyone attacked it.

“Sigh, practice the formation while you kill the enemy. Go on.” The little fox felt a bit of pity for them. She sent a formation of illusion into the group, temporarily concealing them from regular vicious ghosts and the scarabs.

The five snapped into formation and rushed out into the fray.

“Zhuo Bufan really is a buffoon and his men even more so,” Lu Yun grumbled. “I’m almost starting to wonder if that Scorch King is one too.”

The little fox quirked her lips and didn’t respond.

“Are you able to find the other half of the Meteorite King?” she asked instead. “I suspect that he’s yin and yang in one body—half dead and half alive.”

“...you’re right!” Lu Yun blinked with realization. “If the balance between life and death is broken, he needs to divide himself into two. The living portion needs to revive itself with the blood of living creatures, whereas the dead portion needs to partake and strengthen itself with the dense qi of death.”

It was due to this imbalance within the Meteorite King that he’d been forced to rip himself into two!

Lu Yun quickly grasped the implications when the little fox posed the possibility. The dead portion of the king was very likely a ghost king! A king level vicious ghost!

“If we kill the dead portion of the Meteorite King, all of this here will be taken care of.” The little fox nodded.

Lu Yun soundlessly called upon the Spectral Eye, but couldn’t see through the vicious ghosts because they weren’t dead. Or perhaps it was the current him who couldn’t see through them.

“We don’t need to purposefully seek him out,” the little fox added. “Since you’ve shattered Ghost Hits Wall, the other half of the Meteorite King has probably already noticed you. He’ll come for you if you expose yourself.”

“If he does, I’m dead meat.” Lu Yun tugged a corner of his lips up. He was only in the inferior realm and had yet to reach its peak. Take on a king by himself?

Absolutely courting death.

“Things can’t be allowed to go on like this. First those heads, then these scarabs, what next a little while longer?” Lu Yun took a deep breath and set his jaw when he looked at the Meteorite King fighting Dusksnow Morningstar in midair. “We don’t need to find the other part of the king, we can just kill this one!”

### **Chapter 1223: Puppets**

Moves and blows flew between the Meteorite King and Dusksnow Morningstar in furious frenzy as both parties called upon their greatest strength and combat arts.

The king’s ultimate goal was to facilitate Morningstar in becoming a titled king, upon which the genius would then oversee his dying wish. Regardless, the Meteorite King wouldn’t go easy on his challenger in the process.

Though he appeared on the wane and sinking fast, that was just the result of splitting oneself into two. In reality, he was nowhere near the brink of death, despite having his strength whittled away.

Dusksnow Morningstar specialized in the bow and arrow. With the air beneath his feet, he quickly shifted through various positions and sent arrow after arrow whistling through the air like shooting stars.

Even one as strong as the Meteorite King was quite bedraggled from facing such an aggressive attack.

However, panic remained on the sidelines from beginning to end. He knew that he would be the ultimate victor as soon as Dusksnow Morningstar became a titled king. So while more arrows drilled through his body, his eyes grew brighter from all the injuries.

Growing numbers of living beings within Meteorite Peak lost their lives and a vast stream of flesh and blood essence surged into the king's mind, strengthening his mental prowess.

Morningstar was in the full throes of a berserk battle rage; fires that sparkled like the stars burned around him. He'd completely forgotten everything—the only thought in his mind was to defeat the enemy in front of him.

Defeating the Meteorite King would make him a full, titled king!

In his burning obsession, he failed to notice the increasingly sinister smile on the king's face.

The Meteorite King was completely on the back foot now. Though he was releasing all of his strength, he was still no match for the young genius.

Dusksnow Morningstar was only a hair's breadth away from ascension. He would reach the apex when he killed the Meteorite King!!

"GO!!" He pulled his bow all of the way back and coalesced a hundred and eight thousand arrows of light, releasing a hail of projectiles on his opponent.

"Well met!" roared the king.

Hummm.

Gray light blossomed from his body and formed a huge shield in front of him. Although his plans hinged on his own death, he still didn't take the matter lightly. He had to ensure that Morningstar clearly defeated him in proper combat—only then would the boy's mentality be perfect without flaw and smoothly ascend to kingship.

Boom!

A fraction of a breath passed before Morningstar's arrows viciously bit into the king's shield.

Craaaaack. Crumble!

Ugly cracks snaked across the enormous shield before it fell apart.

"Die!!" Eyes wide with bloodlust, Morningstar's longbow erupted with light and formed the image of a titanic bow with an even bigger arrow of light on its string.

Hummmmm.

Resonating with an ear splitting hum, the arrow sprang from the bowstring and bore down on the center between the Meteorite King's brows.

The king gave up the fight in this moment. He couldn't defend against this harrowing arrow, nor could he avoid it.

He'd lost. Or rather, he'd won!

Boooooom.

White brilliance filled the sky over Meteorite Peak. Countless beings lifted their heads, forgetting to defend themselves from the vicious ghosts and awful scarabs in front of them. They stared dumbly in the direction of Dusksnow Morningstar and the Meteorite King.

A king had fallen!

Dusksnow Morningstar was about to become a new king!

“What?!”

“Who dares ruin my plans?!”

Two furious roars rang from the air. One belonged to Morningstar, and the other to the Meteorite King!

White radiance faded away to reveal a smear of fey purple interposed between the two combatants.

The Purpleclad Duke!

He’d stopped Morningstar’s fatal blow with a single hand!

“How dare you deny my dao, Purpleclad Duke?!?!” Morningstar screamed with rage. He was only a breath away from becoming a titled king and could already vaguely sense the greatest treasure of the realm—the Hongmeng Tower!

As ephemeral and nonexistent as that breath was, it’d turned into a moat that could not be crossed!

The Meteorite King was likewise stewing in a fit of wrath. If the genius had become a king, then the boy would be his. Everything had been ruined by this strange man in purple!

To everyone’s great shock, the Meteorite King acted in concert with Dusksnow Morningstar to lash out offensively at the Purpleclad Duke!

“Purpleclad Duke, you stop Morningstar. I’ll go kill the king!” came a loud shout from the air as six vivid figures appeared in the sky, forcing the king back with a combined blow. At the same time, five other figures descended from the void and sent Dusksnow Morningstar flying.

The duke’s blood was roiling from the fearsome blow that he’d taken and he was moderately injured. Having both of his opponents beaten back at the same time gave him some breathing space.

“My thanks, fellow daoist!” He quickly made use of the time to heal and recover.

The Purpleclad Duke had sensed Lu Yun’s presence when the latter shattered the Ghost Hits Wall layout. Lu Yun had revealed himself earlier to inform the duke of his deductions, which was why the man then disregarded his personal safety to prevent Morningstar from killing the Meteorite King.

Meanwhile, the greatest fruits of Lu Yun’s labor over the past three years in the Hongmeng were on display—six puppets!

He’d crafted them using puppet dao of the supplemental paths. With the bountiful treasures of Starcloud treasury as their foundation, he’d perfectly integrated the six highest orders of the chaos into puppet dao and etched a Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals into each of them!



Most importantly, an entire premium purple crystal vein was embedded in each of the puppets. Not only would they provide endless strength to the puppets, but they would also seamlessly conceal the ripples of the chaos orders and formation.

The six puppets could call upon peak superior realm power. However, they couldn't become titled kings since they were puppets.

Displaying marvelous teamwork, the six blasted the Meteorite King into the ground.

"Bastard!!" Morningstar flew into a fit of fury and violently flared his aura, sending Miao Qimiao and the others flying while he dove at the king like a man possessed.

"Dusksnow Morningstar, calm down for a moment!" roared the Purpleclad Duke as he landed in front of the genius.

"All those who deny my dao will die!" Morningstar lifted his longbow and smashed the weapon down on his obstacle. Though he practiced the dao of bow and arrow, his close combat capabilities were also uncommonly strong.

"Then I'll beat you into listening!" snorted the duke. He'd voluntarily vacated his position after the genius rose to fame, not wanting to clash with Morningstar.

All of those concerns had gone out the window at this point. Reality also confirmed the truthfulness of Lu Yun's words. The vicious ghosts and scarabs that'd been wildly slaughtering all living beings in the mountain had turned their attention to Lu Yun's six puppets.

These six puppets possessed the power to threaten their king. If they killed the Meteorite King, then all of the king's schemes would have been for naught.

etvolare's Thoughts

So this Meteorite King is... planning on eating Morningstar after he becomes a king...?

#### **Chapter 1224: A Meteorite King Clad in Green**

A sword shimmering with purple light appeared in the Purpleclad Duke's hand. He threw himself forward, blocking the almost crazed Dusksnow Morningstar.

Lu Yun's six puppets were mired in a dense throng of vicious ghosts and scarabs. Each one of the puppets was the equivalent of a peak superior realm cultivator. They hacked their way out of the tide of enemies and doggedly kept on the Meteorite King.

Their quarry wanted to rage with indignation.

He was already at the end of his tether and gravely injured. If Lu Yun's six puppets drew near him, he would be dead without a doubt!

Everyone around them was so taken aback by the scene that they didn't know what to think. Why was the Purpleclad Duke stopping Morningstar from killing the Meteorite King? The Starspace King had personally conferred his dukedom and hailed the Purpleclad Duke as the strongest powerhouse beneath kingdom.

When Dusksnow Morningstar came into the spotlight, the duke had purposefully stepped back and almost entirely disappeared from the public eye so that he wouldn't steal the limelight. No one felt that the duke's current actions were committed out of pettiness or jealousy. If he wanted to prevent Morningstar from becoming a titled king, all he had to do was to kill the Meteorite King himself.

"Whoever kills the Meteorite King today can keep his body!" the Purpleclad Duke suddenly roared.

"Seriously?!" The cultivators below bubbled over with excitement. This was why all of them were here, but they hadn't dared take any action out of consideration for the duke, Dusksnow Morningstar, and the six strange existences that'd suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

"When have I ever gone back on my word?!" the duke shouted as he defended himself against another fearsome arrow. "Whoever kills the Meteorite King can claim his body. If anyone wants to take it from the victor, I'll be the first to kill them!"

Whoosh!

The sword in his hand erupted with an otherworldly light and forced Morningstar back.

With that, the cultivators beneath them didn't care about the fight between the two powerhouses anymore. Whooping and yipping with greed, they charged the Meteorite King.

A situation that'd somewhat stabilized on Meteorite Peak was once more thrown into disarray as stunning battles broke out all over the place.

The scarabs and vicious ghosts were as strong as before, but they now faced both Lu Yun's puppets and packs of maddened cultivators. The six puppets were six identical weapons—a vein of premium purple crystal could be found in each of them as well as a complete Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals.

More important was the formation that the six formidable puppets formed—another Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals. They were able to deploy the formation at its maximum output.

The formation formed a vortex of six colors over Meteorite Peak and sucked all of the vicious ghosts and scarabs into it, churning them to pieces.

"A king?!" All of the cultivators and arcane beasts came to a halt, raising shocked eyes at the kaleidoscopic vortex above.

They could clearly see that the six bizarre figures were only in the superior realm, but when the six worked in tandem to assemble an odd formation, they possessed the battle strength of titled kings!

I had no idea this kind of thing was possible!

One had to know that no matter how strong a superior realm cultivator was, they would never possess the strength of a king prior to being baptized by the Hongmeng Tower. Take Dusksnow Morningstar—though he'd defeated the Meteorite King in open combat, he was still a half step king before the tower acknowledged his efforts and bestowed a title upon him.

The strength of a king remained off limits to him, but the six strange figures had been able to obtain king level power in their own way!

The Meteorite King was well and truly panicking now. If the six puppets had been a threat to him before, they could absolutely take his life now! His scarabs and vicious ghosts were jokes in front of this formation; they were no impediment to the six strange figures.

“Get out here!” he suddenly roared.

The ground beneath his feet split open once more and headless bodies crawled out from below.

Vicious ghosts!

These were yet more vicious ghosts. When the heads flying through the air noted their arrival, they descended upon unoccupied necks with cheers of glee.

Hummm.

Rays of uncanny green light beamed from the newly born vicious ghosts and covered all of Meteorite Peak. They came together and gradually solidified into a man in green. He was tall and limber, with green hair past his shoulders. Long, emerald green robes draped around him and his eyes shone with green light.

The man in green looked just like the Meteorite King!

When the green clad Meteorite King appeared, the spatial restriction forcefield abruptly doubled in strength. Furiiously battling in midair, the Purpleclad Duke and Dusksnow Morningstar fell down from the sky.

“What is going on here?!” When Morningstar picked himself up from the ground, he gaped at the green clad Meteorite King in midair. He’d finally realized that something was wrong.

The Purpleclad Duke set his jaw with concentration. He was under much more pressure than the genius.

“You can’t become a titled king here. You’ll become his sacrificial good as soon as you do so!” he panted. “The Meteorite King isn’t an arcane beast king at all, he’s a ghost king!”

All was eerily quiet on Meteorite Peak. Gray wisps of smoke rose from the black scarabs and drifted around the mountain in a chilling manner, completely changing its appearance. Lush forests and verdant growth vanished, replaced by mottled mud and rocks scattered in a mass grave. Broken graves and shattered tombstones were jumbled in random piles throughout the gray landscape.

Chills skittered across the skin of all living beings in Meteorite Peak.

Up in the sky, the green clad Meteorite King waved and summoned the dying half of himself to his hand. He tossed the king back out again, throwing him at Morningstar.

“I’ll let the others go if you kill him. Otherwise, all of you will die,” he said coldly while looking at the genius.

As he spoke, he delivered a casual backhand and flattened Lu Yun’s six puppets. The Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals and hardy puppets had no room with which to react.

Too strong!

A true titled king wasn't a level of existence that Lu Yun could touch at the moment. Inside the formation of illusion, he spat out a mouthful of blood and the little fox hastily kept him upright when he swayed.

"You will be a titled king if you kill him," the green clad Meteorite King repeated coldly.

Dusksnow Morningstar's fingers twitched.

### **Chapter 1225: Success**

"Do you seriously believe the Meteorite King's words when he's a ghost king?!" shouted the Purpleclad Duke when he heard the king's captivating threat.

Scowling, the green clad Meteorite King reached out and brought his hand down on the duke's head. He wasn't someone who'd just been made a titled king—he was an extremely strong ghost king. Even Lu Yun's six puppets had been flattened into meat patties with just one blow.

"Stop!!" screamed Dusksnow Morningstar when he saw this. "I'll self detonate if you dare kill the duke!!"

He spoke with rapid urgency, forcing the green clad Meteorite King to stop right before the terrifying hit reached the Purpleclad Duke.

Self detonation!

If Morningstar detonated on the spot, he would vaporize both himself and the injured Meteorite King. He'd already defeated the Meteorite King and would become a titled king if he killed his opponent. The same didn't apply to the Purpleclad Duke, so he wouldn't ascend to kingship even if he interrupted the proceedings and killed the Meteorite King.

Various emotions flickered through the green clad king's face as he considered the duke. He suddenly slammed his hand down and annihilated more than a hundred beings instead.

"Starting from this second, I will kill five hundred people with every ten breaths," he intoned frostily. However, he didn't retrieve the other Meteorite King, leaving him by Morningstar's feet instead.

Boom—

A pillar of purple light flashed overhead and blasted the green clad king off his feet; it was swiftly followed by a gigantic moon rising into the air. A beam of resplendent moonlight shot down at the comatose Meteorite King and sliced him into two.

The little fox and Lu Yun suddenly appeared next to the two halves and shouldered the body, then vanished once more.

Too fast!

No one had the opportunity to react—even Dusksnow Morningstar and the Purpleclad Duke were left gaping with surprise.

“Who was that?!” Flickering with unnatural green light, the green clad Meteorite King charged into the air. A domineering presence billowed forth from him like a stormy gale.

Boom!

Another pillar of purple light fired into the air and the king shrieked as he was once more sent flying.

“Kill them all! Leave nothing alive!” he howled with indignity.

Boooooom.

Another pillar of purple light rammed into him and almost drove him into the ground.

“Premium purple crystals! Who. the. FUCK is hitting me with an entire vein of premium purple crystals?!” he bawled with shock and fury.

He could clearly sense that the three blows that’d hit him were all backed by the power of a premium purple crystal vein. Each one had contained the complete energy of an entire vein! The three attacks had fully connected—not a drop of energy from the crystal veins had been wasted.

They’d resulted in some injuries to his body and he’d be gravely injured if three more fired at him. Most importantly was that not everyone could deploy the strength of a premium purple crystal vein. That meant that there was at least one supplemental grandmaster here on the verge of becoming a titled king!

King level supplemental masters were more frightening than any king level cultivator or arcane beast.

Additionally, even the green clad Meteorite King only possessed a hundred veins of premium purple crystal. He normally kept them carefully sealed away and couldn’t bear to use them!

Consuming a vein to hit someone?

Who else would do such an extravagant thing apart from supplemental grandmasters who practiced “wealth makes right”? Thinking of how his Ghost Hits Wall had been dismantled, the green clad king was increasingly certain of his speculations.

When his thoughts traveled here, he cautiously decided to go back into hiding and refrain from exposing himself. At the same time, he had no intention of letting anyone leave the mountain alive.

If any word got out that he was actually a ghost king, Starspace Region kings would show up the next day to raze Meteorite Peak to the ground. He had to kill all of the arcane beasts and cultivators here, including the grandmaster hidden in the shadows.

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“Success!” Lu Yun and the little fox retreated to the little fox’s formation of illusions.

He’d already employed Size Manipulation to shrink the formation smaller than a particle of dust, then sunk it into the ground and set up several powerful defensive formations around it. Even a king would be hard pressed to track them down in the disorderly mountain.

“Start refining the pill! None of these ghosts will be a concern to us if we truly reach a Hongmeng cultivation level!” Lu Yun had already removed a crystal core from their half of the Meteorite King’s body. The living part of the king had transmuted into an arcane beast, while the green clad portion was the ghost king.

While Lu Yun might still have trouble with the ghost king even when he reached a Hongmeng cultivation realm, none of the ghostly entities outside would pose a threat to him. After all, catching ghosts was his area of expertise!

Acting decisively, he unleashed Spacetime Reincarnation and sat down cross-legged to refine the Eight Treasures Return Pill inside the tiny formation.

Meanwhile, a maddened slaughter began outside.

Countless ghosts raged like they’d gone berserk, surging from all directions to kill everything alive in the mountain. However, the cultivators and arcane beasts weren’t easy targets for the taking either.

Dusksnow Morningstar and the Purpleclad Duke had allied together; Miao Qimiao and the other four also possessed the strength of a half step king when assembled in the formation that Lu Yun had given them. The five of them worked with the two powerhouses to gradually withstand the ghosts’ charges.

“We can’t communicate with the outside world, the Meteorite King’s sealed off the peak with his forcefield!” Morningstar was as white as a sheet. He’d tried using communication talismans and formations to send messages, but found that Meteorite Peak was completely isolated.

It was far too easy for a king to seal away his domain with a forcefield.

“Stop those ghosts!” Miao Qimiao suddenly snapped. “It will be the doomsday of that Meteorite King when my lord emerges from seclusion!”

“Your lord?” Morningstar blinked. “Zhuo Bufan? What’s that buffoon doing here? He’s not good for anything.”

“...not the duke.” Miao Qimiao almost spat blood in his anger.

“Is it the one who broke apart the layout here and beat back the Meteorite King three times?” The Purpleclad Duke slew a hundred ghosts with a single stroke.

“That’s right, him.” Pride appeared on the faces of Miao Qimiao and the others. They were now fully won over by Lu Yun and the little fox—not just by what the duo had displayed in the mountain thus far, but by the amazing benefits they’d reaped from the gifted formation.

“Can it be...” Morningstar seemed to realize something and asked with shock, “Is your lord one of the two from Redbud City?”

“Not just one of the two, both of them are here!”

## **Chapter 1226: Thunder Tribulation**

Lu Yun had told Miao Qimiao to deliver this spiel. Otherwise, if those assembled in Meteorite Peak couldn't see any hope facing off against a horrifying ghost king and endless ghostly entities within the mountain, they'd crumble mentally and just wait for death.

But now that they knew that there were two supplemental grandmasters hidden in the shadows, preparing a secret method to contend against the ghost king, morale soared to new heights. They focused all effort on the enemy in front of them to buy time for the grandmasters.

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Though Lu Yun was concentrating on refining a pill, he was extremely nervous and operating Spacetime Reincarnation at its utmost.

During the process, thought upon domineering thought continuously swept over Meteorite Peak. Though the green clad Meteorite King had hidden himself, he hadn't given up on locating Lu Yun and the little fox. He used his consciousness to scan every inch of the mountain.

The little fox deployed her illusions to their greatest; all of the beads on her wrist were alight and a haze of purple radiance floated over her illusions.

This was the strength of Purple King Lu Qing.

Being a peak king, Lu Qing stood at the forefront of the kings. He could crush the Meteorite King with a single finger, and so his power ensured that the ghost king wasn't able to discover the formation of illusions for the moment.

On the other hand, the little fox wasn't a king herself and the beads on her wrist weren't the Purple King in the flesh. It was just a treasure imbued with his strength, but she faced a bonafide king.

"Hurry!" she suddenly shrieked. "The Meteorite King's about to discover us!"

"Almost done!" Lu Yun split his attentions between operating the Spacetime Reincarnation combat art and refining the pill.

"What?!" he gasped. "A pill tribulation?! There's a pill tribulation for the Eight Treasures Return Pill?!"

Rumble—

Black tribulation clouds gathered without warning and covered the mountain peak. Though the Eight Treasures Return Pill wasn't a premier pill in the Hongmeng, its effects were heaven defying. To easily catapult a being beneath the third realm into the Hongmeng proper?

Yet not even Lu Yun had thought the pill would attract a heavenly tribulation!

Purple lightning howled within the black clouds and suddenly gathered itself together to smite a certain point in Meteorite Peak.

"Found you! So you're refining a pill!" The green clad Meteorite King abruptly materialized and stared fixedly at a tiny speck of dust. With his full concentration on that point, he immediately saw through the little fox's formation. "So you're two people and one of you is a formation grandmaster! Die!!"

He was faster than the thunder tribulation and arrived before the lightning struck. Wielding a large bone pennant, he viciously swept it down Lu Yun and the little fox.

“Piss off!!” The little fox stepped forward and called thirty-six points of purple light to her, coalescing as a bright purple moon. The moonlight was as keen as a blade and stabbed forward at the nearby Meteorite King.

“What?!” Highly dismayed, he reversed the pennant sweep and brought it horizontally in front of him.

Wham!

He shrieked and flew backward from the terrible collision.

“A king level treasure!! How do you have a king level treasure on you?!” Full of confusion, the green clad king flailed with shock and bafflement.

Even Hongmeng kings rarely possessed a corresponding level treasure. As a ghost king hidden deep within the realm, it was impossible for the Meteorite King to own one. The bone pennant in his hands was just a superior realm treasure.

Oddmoon was currently purple due to the Purple King’s strength running through it, and it’d been fashioned by three kings of Mangcang Mountain. It’d never been revealed in the Hongmeng, so naturally the Meteorite King wouldn’t be familiar with it.

“He’s discovered our position and war treasures won’t be able to fire on him. Come on, think of something!” Muttering beneath the purple moon, minor fractures had appeared on the little fox’s beads.

Lu Qing had gifted them to his mother for self defense, but he’d never imagined that she’d one day face a king!

Though the little fox was growing frantic, she remained solidly in front of Lu Yun. She wasn’t afraid of death, there was still the Resurrection Talisman inside of her, so she had another life to play with!

Instead, she fretted over the possibility of the Meteorite King destroying the cauldron of pills.

“The king level treasure is mine!” Greed dawned on the king’s face. “Get away, ants!”

He delivered a casual backhand and slapped away all of the cultivators charging him, then once more rushed the two grandmasters.

The little fox had fully released the power within the thirty-six beads and directed it to Oddmoon, turning it deep purple. Lu Yun looked at the pill tribulation descending upon him, splayed his fingers, then... Thunder Palmstrike!

Rumble—

Bolts of purple lightning went straight into his palm and transformed into beads that hung on the six paths of his nascent spirit. Purple electricity crackled around him, filling the air with a purple haze. His clothes and hair floated from the strong electric current.

“Move!” He pointed with his other hand and released a bolt of lightning.



RUMBLE!!

An immense electrical current formed the image of a dragon and smote the Meteorite King. Eyes wide open, black smoke wafted off the king and set his green robes on fire.

He was a ghost and a pill tribulation was heavenly thunder!

Lightning and thunder from the heavens were the antithesis of yin entities!

Though this level of tribulation wouldn't truly harm a Hongmeng ghost king, if combined with the little fox's injection of the Purple King's strength into Oddmoon, the two would possess enough bite to injure the Meteorite King.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

White smoke swirled out from the bone pennant and slowly covered the Meteorite King, separating him from the purple lightning and moonlight.

A puppet suddenly appeared in front of him and cracked a broad grin, then self detonated!

"What the fuck?!" he cursed loudly. "You just ignited a premium purple crystal vein!!"

The white smoke barrier around him was completely dispelled and a second puppet appeared in front of him, flashing him the same grin.

He wanted to vomit blood; he'd recognized these puppets as the six strange fellows he'd flattened earlier. So they'd recovered?!

More importantly, he finally understood why the six could bizarrely release king level power. Their core essence was a premium purple crystal vein!

BOOM!

The second puppet exploded and almost took the bone pennant with it.

Lu Yun carefully controlled their direction of attack, directing them to the rear of the Meteorite King and out of the little fox's way. His Thunder Palmstrike finally finished swallowing the pill tribulation, and he swiftly grabbed two pills when the final bolt of lightning arced towards the king.

Shoving one into his mouth and the other into the little fox's, he stowed the pill cauldron.

In the shocked gazes of the Meteorite King and rest of the cultivators, the receding tribulation clouds regathered and were a hundred times more dense than before!

"You can die now, Meteorite King." Lu Yun turned his palm toward the sky and splayed his fingers...

Scintillating radiance sank into his hand and bereft of protection from the bone pennant, the king shuddered with horror.

### **Chapter 1227: The Redbud King Appears**

"You two are only in the inferior realm!!" The Meteorite King didn't get a clear look at Lu Yun and the little fox's cultivation level until now—they were inferior realm!!

He wanted to choke on regret. If he'd known that they were in the interior realm, he would've employed the most basic and violent method from the very beginning—wipe out everything on the mountain with a savage burst of power and crush them into minced meat!

Who would've thought that two supplemental grandmasters that almost rivaled a titled king would only be inferiors?!

Though supplemental cultivators weren't skilled at combat, their cultivation realms were far from humble. Even ordinary supplemental cultivators would use precious resources and valuable treasures of the world to forcefully enhance their cultivation level, to say nothing of supplemental grandmasters.

To be a grandmaster almost always meant that one was in the superior realm!

Therefore, the Meteorite King had been strongly influenced by the assumption that the two grandmasters in hiding were in the superior realm. Who would've thought that they'd only now be undergoing the heavenly tribulation from inferior to common realm?!

The king was so infuriated that he wanted to spit out blood.

“These two used my arcane beast body as an ingredient to refine the Eight Treasures Return Pill!!” He finally understood what Lu Yun's plans were.

Ordinary supplemental grandmasters or cultivators only wanted a cultivation realm, they didn't care about foundations at all. After all, they studied the supplemental daos and not combat arts or secret methods for close body combat. Whether or not their foundations were solid was completely meaningless to a supplemental grandmaster.

When a pill such as the Eight Treasures Return Pill incorporated the crystal core of an arcane beast king, not only would it help the cultivator break through, but it would also consolidate and force the ascension without any damage to their foundation.

The Meteorite King had never fathomed that the two supplemental grandmasters would be refining this kind of pill!

Their heavenly tribulation was hot on the heels of their pill tribulation.

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Electricity of colors that ran the gamut of a rainbow wrapped around Lu Yun. Thunder beads orbited his body, each of them brewing with terrifying power.

The green clad Meteorite King retreated with keen briskness. If it'd been any other king present, they wouldn't have cared about the lightning snaking around Lu Yun. However, the Meteorite King was a ghost king, and tribulation lightning happened to be an ultimate counter to ghost kings.

Boom—

Boom—

Boom—

Lu Yun waved a hand before the king had time to react and discharged the thunder beads into thunder and lightning that also echoed the colors of the rainbow. They churned together and came roiling towards the Meteorite King.

He shrieked and turned tail to flee. Not only did the multicolored bolts of lightning possess the power of extreme yang, but they were also imbued with the strength to exorcise evil and demons.

These were the attributes of the Yi Wood Cleansing Thunder that'd once belonged to the Divine Azure Dragon King.

Lu Yun had perfectly melded those attributes with his current thunder method and infused the tribulation lightning with those qualities whenever he deployed Thunder Palmstrike.

Boom—

Boom—

Boom—

A battle drum suddenly cut through the din. The tribulation clouds that had begun to disperse in the sky above gathered once more and roared with the fearsome power of wind and thunder.

The Battle Drum of Wind and Thunder.

This was the treasure that Lu Yun had refined in Redbud City with the hide of a kui and the bone of an azure dragon. When employed along with his Thunder Palmstrike and full activation of the Tome of Life and Death, he commandingly intercepted the heavenly tribulation and kept it over the mountain.

The drum directed the thunder and lightning together as a multicolored dragon of thunder that pounced viciously on the fleeing green clad king.

It vaporized all of the vicious ghosts in every spot it passed through, leaving the Purpleclad Duke and Dusksnow Morningstar agog with awe. It was their first time witnessing the power of a supplemental grandmaster.

“No wonder Hongmeng kings show courtesy and respect to any supplemental grandmaster they meet. I had no idea they were so incredible!” Morningstar sucked in a sharp breath. “How strong would they be if they were titled kings?”

“The two in front of us are almost titled kings!” the duke murmured. “They can compel their heavenly tribulation to stay—this is unheard of! It's likely that only the supplemental kings of legend have the ability to do so.

“But the Meteorite King is a ghost king, and ghost kings are suppressed by heavenly tribulations. The two supplemental grandmasters wouldn't be able to hold their own if it was any other king present.” The duke was keeping a calm head and quickly identified the crux of the issue.

As strong as supplemental grandmasters were, they were no kings in the end. If it wasn't for the fact that the green clad Meteorite King was firmly counteracted by the heavenly lightning, he would easily kill Lu Yun and the little fox with a casual backhand.

Naturally, Lu Yun wouldn't permit him any breathing space. Thunder ripped and roared through the mountain peak as resounding drum beats rapped through Meteorite Peak, vibrating vicious ghosts to dust.

Up in the sky, the deep purple Oddmoon flared with cuttngly sharp moonlight, joining the enormous dragon of thunder and lightning to smite the Meteorite King.

"I am a king!!" he snarled, the crumbling bone pennant in his hand burst with searing white light. "A high and mighty ghost king will not be desecrated by worthless ants!!"

Kabooooom!

The bone pennant exploded into a gigantic white bone flower that glowed with a menacing light that the scintillating dragon of seven colors smashed resoundingly into. A colossal explosion rang out as the scene turned white in front of everyone's eyes.

The horrific collision sent everyone's flying, and Lu Yun felt like the void would rip his body apart.

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People's minds cleared after an indeterminate period of time.

"Meteorite Peak is no more." The Purpleclad Duke struggled to his feet, taking in the surroundings and seeing that the ring-shaped mountain had crumbled into piles of boulders and dirt. The forcefield that had enveloped it was gone without a trace.

Everyone was grievously injured, but no one had died. Most of the fallout had been absorbed by the floating Oddmoon and the forcefield that'd surrounded Meteorite Peak. Lu Yun was covered in blood—he carried the little fox in his arms and stared fixedly at the center of the mountain.

The little fox no longer breathed and her heart had stopped. The thirty-six beads on her wrist lay on the ground as a pile of wood dust. Her fingers twitched as hazy light rose from her body, she then sprang up from Lu Yun's embrace.

"Did I just die?" She blinked large silver eyes and rubbed her forehead.

Lu Yun nodded.

"Well then, thank goodness I had your talisman," she chuckled merrily.

"Our son's gift to you is ruined," he responded shortly.

She'd released all of the power within the beads and shunted it toward Oddmoon, using it to protect every living being on the mountain. In return, she'd died from the backlash. The Resurrection Talisman he'd gifted her had activated upon her death, reviving her.

"No worries, I'll have him make a few more for me," she giggled with the laughter of the blithely carefree. Dying and then coming back to life... tasting the great horrors of life and death had resulted in great benefits to the little fox's cultivation.

Lu Yun, however, wasn't in near so good a mood.

The green clad king slowly stood up from the center of Meteorite Peak. His eyes released two beams of green light—he was no longer in the form of a living being. He was now a vicious ghost through and through, a king of vicious ghosts!

“I’ve used up the heavenly tribulation, but I still wasn’t able to kill him.” Lu Yun’s heart sank as he watched the leering Meteorite King.

“Hahahaha!! Supplemental grandmaster!!” The king floated into the air. “Sad, are you? You could’ve been a king of supplemental dao if you’d killed me, but you couldn’t!”

His body began furiously devouring all of the yin qi in the surroundings. Though the mountain lay in ruins, the remains of the great tomb were still there and that made for an unending source of yin and ghost qi.

The Meteorite King’s ghost body recovered at a speed visible to the naked eye.

“I just wanted to see how big the gap between the current me and a titled king was,” Lu Yun sighed as he looked at the fully recovered king. “I’d thought that I’d be able to dominate the Hongmeng once I was in the common realm, that I could go find her... But to think that I still fall far short.”

The little fox grasped his hand. Oddmoon had returned to the center of her brows as an imprint on her forehead.

“Oh?” The king blinked when he heard the response, as did the Purpleclad Duke and Dusksnow Morningstar. Something seemed off with Lu Yun’s words.

Despair blanketed the scene as everyone knew there was no hope of surviving a ghost king. But... Lu Yun had sounded like he was just confirming his strength?

The “her” that he’d mentioned went completely unnoticed.

“I’ll have to work hard once I go back and ascend to the superior realm before I can walk the Hongmeng,” he sighed.

“Go back? Hahahahaha—you’ve ruined everything, how can I possibly let you go back alive?!” he shouted almost at the top of his lungs. When he reached out, his hand had turned into the claw of a vicious ghost and sparkled with black ghost qi.

“DI—what?!” The Meteorite King shot backward right when he arrived in front of Lu Yun.

A willowy purple figure had appeared in front of the grandmaster at some point. It was a young girl, an exceedingly beautiful young girl. Elegant and graceful, she wore a pretty purple silk dress.

“Hmm? We meet again, little friend. ...what is this place?” The Redbud King first looked around with surprise, then snapped to grave attention. “A ghost king?!”

She darted forward and laid him flat out on the ground with one smack.

“This is...” Her slender eyebrows knit together tightly. “Meteorite Peak, you’re the Meteorite King.”

**Chapter 1228: Co-Conspirator**

Staring dumbly at the stunning woman, no one could say a word. Who would've fathomed that Lu Yun would suddenly summon the Redbud King??

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"You... you..." A stammering Lu Yun also stared at his reinforcement. "You sent your primary body, not a replica?!"

"That's right." The Redbud King nodded.

"Didn't you say this token would call only your replica?" he asked ruefully.

If he'd known that the Redbud token would summon the Redbud King in person, he would've never used it so easily. The karmic repercussions were too great when they involved a king, and he would now owe too big a favor.

With the Redbud King's foot firmly planted on the green clad Meteorite King's chest, the struggling ghost king felt like a mountain had landed on him. He couldn't twitch a single finger.

The Redbud King truly stood at the apex of the realm. She was the strongest powerhouse in the Redbud Region, its only ruler and king. Now that she was here in person, she immediately suppressed the Meteorite King and contained the situation.

Everyone on the scene held their breaths and lowered their heads, not daring to look directly at the stunningly beautiful king.

She scratched her head, then smiled. "I decided to come myself when I sensed ghostly qi around you. Who would've thought that the Meteorite King would be a ghost king?"

"Thank goodness I'm here in person, or all of you little fellows would've died to the last, even if my replica could keep him in check."

Lu Yun nodded with resignation.

"Alright, this is Starspace King territory, so I can't remain here indefinitely. Hmm, I'll take the Meteorite King with me then." She hauled him up by the collar and paused when she was about to leave. "Wait, that doesn't seem right. If I leave like this, will people think that I'm a co-conspirator?"

"Don't kill him!" Lu Yun flung out a hasty hand when he saw purple light glint balefully in the king's eyes. "If you kill him, that's doing away with a key suspect. The best way to handle things now is to send him to Starspace City and have the Starspace King handle this."

Given her relative lack of social experience, the Redbud King often made the wrong decision when it came to interacting with others. If that hadn't been the case, she wouldn't be the only king in the vast Redbud Region.

She frowned slightly, "The Starspace King is an old fart, I'm supposed to deal with him? Forget it, you handle it."

She casually threw the sealed green clad Meteorite King onto the ground before Lu Yun, whose jaw dropped at her actions.

The Redbud King rubbed her temples, then vanished with a turn of her body.

“I’ve placed another one hundred and eight sealed premium purple crystal veins into the two tokens. Mm, mmhmm, I’ve discovered that the spacetime formation of illusion that you’ve set up for me can evolve!” Her voice sounded in Lu Yun and the little fox’s ears. “The value of this formation can’t be measured in premium purple crystals anymore.”

The two looked wordlessly at each other. So... the Redbud King’s primary purpose for coming in person was to bring them money.

They’d set up the formation with their core great dao. As their daos assimilated into the Hongmeng over the past three years, so did their grasp of the supplemental daos continuously improve. Thus, the formation that they’d set up together matched the pace of their advancements.

It now had the potential to be a king level formation.

The Redbud King wasn’t really an idiot; she knew full well what this meant, which was why she’d willingly offered up her friendship. Though her manner had been a little too straightforward, it was precisely what Lu Yun needed.

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The other cultivators in the area stared dumbly at the two grandmasters. The highly revered Redbud King had been like a girl next door to these two, completely bereft of the bearing and stance that a king should have.

Lu Yun and the little fox grew ever more mysterious to them.

“Let’s go.” Lu Yun beckoned to Miao Qimiao and the others. The five quickly came up to him and opened a tiny transportation formation, leaving with the restrained Meteorite King.

Though he was in their custody, this wasn’t a safe place. Other horrific creatures of the dark could pop out at any moment. Additionally, it was impossible that he didn’t have any co-conspirators, given his ease in penetrating the heartland of Starspace Region and being able to lay such extensive plans.

All Lu Yun could do now was to leave this area of trouble as soon as possible.

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“So who’s gonna be first?” Lu Yun heaved a sigh when he looked at the Meteorite King sprawled on the ground. The king was so badly beat up that he resembled nothing of his former self, but he was still alive.

Since the Meteorite King was a ghost king, all Lu Yun had to do was to kill him to make him an Infernum. However, the overlord of hell was so far removed from a titled king that he couldn’t kill one even after trying everything in his arsenal.

There was a peculiar energy lining the Meteorite King’s body, a strange power that rebuffed all of Lu Yun’s attempts. He hadn’t been able to puncture that layer of protection even when all five hellfires burned in unison.

“Probably the Starspace King.” The little fox sat on a tiny stool, her chin in her hands as she watched Lu Yun throw everything he had at the Meteorite King. She wondered, “Who else other than him can install a ghost king in a central location of Starspace Region without attracting attention?”

According to Lu Yun’s calculations, the first to visit Starcloud City for the Meteorite King would have a very close relationship with the king. If not a solid co-conspirator, then pretty much the same equivalent.

“If even the Starspace King is a ghost king, then things really are a mess in the Hongmeng.” Lu Yun gave up trying to kill the Meteorite King. Though he was in the common realm now and part of the third realm, it was still almost impossible for him to kill a king.

“What do we do now? Wait here, or go find Qing Yu at Hopeless Major?” the little fox continued.

“Let’s wait a bit longer, we aren’t strong enough yet,” Lu Yun sighed. He’d gained a thorough understanding of the realm’s dangers. Given their current strength, they’d swiftly end up dead if their concentration lapsed for a split second.

He could use the Resurrection death art to bring the little fox back if she died, but all was over if he died. His Resurrection Talisman incorporated the actual death art. If his primary body died, then the death art would no longer exist.

Boom!

An enormous explosion sounded from outside the city as Starcloud shook from the impact.

“Here they are!” Lu Yun’s eyes shot wide open. “I’d thought he would attempt courtesy first, that he’d use an investigation in the name of the Starspace King as an excuse to retrieve the Meteorite King. I hadn’t thought that he wouldn’t even bother with a pretense!”

As startled as he was, Lu Yun didn’t panic. He’d taken this possibility into account and made various arrangements around the city.

“Miao Qimiao, who is it that’s come?” he shouted when he walked out of the chamber.

Roll roll roll.

A head dropped from the sky—Miao Qimiao’s head!

### **Chapter 1229: He Can Do Whatever He Wants**

Lu Yun backed up in shock—someone had killed Miao Qimiao!

And not only the guest elder! With wet squelches, the heads of the other four premier experts also plopped at Lu Yun’s feet. His mind racing through possible explanations, he quickly understood what had taken place.

The five must’ve been so confident in the formation gifted to them that they’d rushed out to ward off the enemy, but had instead been slaughtered for their troubles. Since they’d been brave enough to meet the visitor, the newcomer couldn’t be a king. The visitor had to be an extremely terrifying half step king at most.



Half step kings wouldn't be able to dismantle the formations that he'd painstakingly set up around Starcloud City.

He'd invested significant time in using Starcloud as a lab rat during these three years, experimenting with and testing all sorts of defensive formations. Thanks to his efforts, he'd raised the city formations to peak capability and condition.

Lu Yun brought out five Resurrection Talismans and stuck them onto the five. After five balls of hazy light circulated through their corpses, the five of them came back to life.

"What, what's going on? I remember that my head was cut off and my soul scattered upon the wind... Why am I alive again?" Miao Qimiao murmured blankly from his position on the ground.

The five seemed to realize something at the same time and turned their gazes to Lu Yun standing nearby.

"Mi, milord... did you save us?" Comprehension began to prickle at the mental edges of the only woman among the five—Luo Shanshan.

"Mmhm." Lu Yun nodded and changed the subject. "Who's the visitor?"

Starcloud's great defensive formation was still vibrating from the initial blow, but its many layers had successfully dispelled the terrifying force of impact.

"Netherdragon of Mangcang Mountain!" Miao Qimiao sucked in a sharp breath. "I'd thought that the five of us in formation would be able to withstand him, but to think that we'd uhh! Er..."

He quickly stopped talking. They'd died, but then come back to life. The karmic repercussions of this were too great and involved too many matters to speak of.

After experiencing the great horrors of life and death, the experience had turned into an immense opportunity for them and they'd reaped boundless benefits. They had the potential to become titled kings if they continued on their journey of cultivation.

At the same time, they owed Lu Yun too much for it since he'd been the one to save them. They were wholeheartedly dedicated to him now.

When he'd used the Resurrection death art to save the three-eyed man, the same debt of gratitude had occurred and it'd been impossible for the man to repay it. Thus, he'd wanted to kill Lu Yun to even the scales and ultimately put an end to things by dying because of his savior.

Miao Qimiao and the others understood this logic as well. Kill Lu Yun? Impossible. Their only feasible path forward was to follow him with no qualms or regrets.

It wasn't a betrayal of their true master, since Zhuo Bufan had been the one to bring Lu Yun to them. He'd given Lu Yun free reign of Starcloud's treasury, proof enough of the grandmaster's position in Zhuo Bufan's heart.

"Netherdragon?" Lu Yun frowned slightly and looked at the little fox. This was a strong half step king, often mentioned in the same breath as Dusksnow Morningstar, the Purpleclad Duke, and the venerated enforcer.

“He’s here for Oddmoon.” Silver radiance sparkled in the moon crescent between the little fox’s brows. “But someone else may be using him too. Eh, who cares? No one below kingdom can break your formation.”

She remained blithely unconcerned—Oddmoon was her treasure now. Though she wasn’t a king, she could deploy strength on par with a half step king when she used it. Someone wanted to make her hand it over and return it to Mangcang Mountain?

Never in a million years.

“It’s also not a good look for me to be blatantly blocked in like this,” Lu Yun chuckled ruefully. Though Starcloud City was Zhuo Bufan’s territory in name, he’d actually gifted it to Lu Yun and the little fox.

In return, Lu Yun had sent him one of the eighteen Eight Treasures Return Pill that he’d refined. By now, Zhuo Bufan had officially broken through to the superior realm.

“It’s finally your turn for once!” the little fox chuckled merrily.

Lu Yun had once sent Aoxue to blockade the Qing Clan in the world of immortals, then personally blocked the doors of the nine sacred lands in the chaos. But when he reached the Hongmeng, it was he who experienced this overt provocation.

Though it was done in a different manner, it was definite humiliation in the eyes of others.

“What now? Are you going to let this pass?” asked the little fox.

“What else can I do? He can do whatever he wants. He can’t break the city’s defensive formation, so we don’t have to pay him any attention.” Lu Yun couldn’t care less. “Zhuo Bufan’s a bumbling fool and this city is his. Does it bring honor and glory to block the door of a fool?”

Miao Qimiao and the others looked at each other, not daring to react to that declaration. Their suspicions were growing as to the exact nature of the relationship between Lu Yun and Zhuo Bufan.

“Alright, the five of you can go back and concentrate on your cultivation. Don’t antagonize him before you reach half step king.” Lu Yun and the little fox returned to the meditation chamber, resuming their research into how to kill the Meteorite King.

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“What’s going on? Why is the defensive formation of Starcloud City so strong?” Netherdragon scowled at the city so close to him for the taking.

He was a man with frostily chiseled features, wearing a tight black combat outfit that sculpted itself around his rippling muscles. Two dragon horns jutted out of his head and a black hood billowed behind him.

As a heavyweight of the dragon race, he was most likely to become the fourth king in Mangcang Mountain. Given that, he absolutely had the right to participate in any of the mountain's strategic decisions.

Evilfox of Mangcang Mountain had unexpectedly died in the chaos, then Oddmoon had somehow appeared in the Hongmeng three years ago. It'd dominated the scene, causing unease in the experts of Mangcang Mountain.

But after that day, all remained quiet within the realm. No one appeared on their doorstep to cause trouble, and so taut heartstrings gradually relaxed.

It'd appeared again in Meteorite Peak a few days ago. This time, the mountain could no longer sit still and decided to make a move—with certain persuasion from various interested parties as an impetus.

At the same time, their three kings exercised extreme caution. They weren't here in person, but sent Netherdragon instead. The foremost powerhouse of Mangcang Mountain beneath kinghood was to travel to Starcloud City and take back Oddmoon!

When he arrived, he ran into a Karmic-Tree-reinforced city formation. This was one of Lu Yun's experiments; any visitors bearing hostile intent would be attacked by the formation as soon as they drew close.

All of that culminated in the events leading up to the present moment.

Netherdragon was so enraged that he wanted to vomit blood. In his eyes, the two grandmasters of Starcloud City weren't as mighty as the rumors made them out to be. They'd been able to withstand the tide of beasts and the Meteorite King only because of Oddmoon.

But now, he couldn't even break apart a measly city defense formation??

"Netherdragon, what are you doing in Starcloud City?" Arctic tones suddenly sounded by his ear as an arrow cut through the air like a shooting star, aiming straight for Netherdragon's chest.

Startled, the dragon turned to the side and just barely managed to dodge the attack.

"Dusksnow Morningstar!" Netherdragon frowned tightly at the newcomer. "Are you looking to stick your nose into this?"

"Stick my nose into this?" Morningstar threw his head back with laughter. "Someone from Ceriseblue Region attacks a city of my Starspace Region, and I'm the one being nosy?"

Whoosh!

He drew back his bow as he chortled with mirth and spewed forth a hundred and eight bolts in a shower of arrows down onto Netherdragon.

### **Chapter 1230: Quiet**

Dusksnow Morningstar was caught on the threshold of becoming a full titled king. It wasn't a high threshold, but neither was it a low one. At the moment, he felt like he'd suddenly stuffed three massive buns into his mouth after going without food for three days and nights. Delicious and nutritious, however, all were lodged in his throat.

Swallowing them would fill him up, but he was almost choking to death on them instead.

When he saw Netherdragon—the same peak half step king as him—it was like glimpsing water. The dragon would wash down all of the buns for him, freeing him from limbo and ensuring that he could eat his fill!

Thus, a fearsome shower of physical arrows followed the rain of a hundred and eight arrows of light.

Netherdragon was a little startled out of his wits. When powerhouses of their level met in battle, cautious probing was usually the name of the game. They only fought to first tap, not even first blood. Life and death would be on the line if anyone brought out their full strength.

When Dusksnow Morningstar met the venerated enforcer, they'd only exchanged three moves before ending the fight. All possible combinations of victory and defeat had been simulated in those three rounds.

Does this kid want to use me as his grinding stone so he can take that final step?? Netherdragon suddenly understood the reason behind Morningstar's zeal. "You bastard!"

Whoosh!

Black qi wreathed around him with a shake of his body, giving rise to a huge black dragon shadow that rushed out of the energy. It circled around the rain of arrows and shot at Morningstar. Netherdragon was responding in a no holds barred fashion. If he didn't want to die in these circumstances, he had to go all out!

"Haha! Well met!" Morningstar shouted with laughter as his longbow flared with the radiance of a star. Points of sword light glinted at the edges of his longbow and sliced down at the black dragon. Though he cultivated the way of the bow and arrow, he was no less than any other half step king when it came to close combat.

The Hongmeng qi outside Starcloud City churned turbulently in the wake of two half step kings clashing against each other. Their combined energy pulses were infinitely close to that of a full titled king, and Starcloud's defensive formation shook violently as it negated their energy. However, the ripples from their battle were too wild. The formation was being taxed beyond its endurance—something that Netherdragon noted.

He continuously directed Morningstar's attacks toward the city, making use of the genius to attack Starcloud's formation. Morningstar's eyes were red with battle lust; he didn't care if the city was affected by their battle. So what if Starcloud would be ruined by their fight? Everything else was unimportant as long as he became a titled king.

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"You caught a king alive?" Di Ling gaped at the Meteorite King presented to her. "It's the Meteorite King, and... he's actually a ghost king?!"

"You know the Meteorite King?" Lu Yun blinked.

Di Ling nodded. "It hasn't been long since my Di Clan left the Hongmeng, so of course we know of the Meteorite King. We never would've thought that he'd be a ghost king!"

The immortal dao had existed for six hundred million years, while the Di Clan had left for a lower world three hundred million years ago. Indeed, such a time interval wasn't long for the Hongmeng—some kings took naps lasting several hundred million years.

"Is there a way to kill him?" asked Lu Yun.

"Di Ling!" All color drained from the Meteorite King's face when he took a clear look at the girl in front of him.

Though she was just in the inferior realm at the moment since she was barely a creator, the insignificant ant was a terrifying demonic thing in the king's eyes. Stark fear shone from his eyes.

The Di Clan!

That had been a group of sheer lunatics in the Hongmeng. When they were still in the realm, they'd been able to challenge the Valley of Ten Evils!

After they'd descended to the world of immortals and voluntarily transformed themselves into beings of the immortal dao to protect that dao's foundations, they'd been targeted by some horrifying existence and exterminated almost overnight.

Regardless, legends of the Di Clan still abounded in the Hongmeng. It hadn't been that long since their disappearance—just a mere three hundred million years. Who knew if they'd somehow overcome that horrifying existence one day and reappear in the Hongmeng?

And now, here Di Ling was.

"Should... I do it, or you do it?" After the Di Clan revived in the sea of Hell Flowers and became denizens of hell, Di Ling naturally perceived many of Lu Yun's special abilities.

"Do you have a way for me to kill him?" Lu Yun lit up.

"Yes." Di Ling nodded and opened her hand, materializing a shortsword with an interesting design. It was half a meter long and floated over her palm. "This sword is called 'Quiet'. If you refine it, you will be able to kill the Meteorite King."

"Quiet?!" Lu Yun gasped at the name.

"That's right, it shares the same source and origin as Tianqi's Quietus," Di Ling responded. "The Sword of Chaos in Exalted Major of the world of immortals is also from the same source."

"The number one sword in the worlds, chaos, Hongmeng, and fourth realm is this Quiet."

Quiet appeared to be a thin layer of sword light and no longer than half a meter, but apparently represented the origin of all swords in the four realms. All swords in existence used it as their blueprint.

"A treasure of the fourth realm?" Lu Yun widened his eyes at Di Ling.

"Yes." She nodded again. "Of the stars that land in the Hongmeng, some are ancient tombs that fall from that mausoleum, but there are also many that are actual stars from the fourth realm. It's just that most beings who dwell in the Hongmeng are unable to discern whether something is a star from the fourth realm or an ancient tomb of that mausoleum."

“Quiet fell into the Hongmeng along with a star of the fourth realm, and my clan laid claim to it. It is now yours.”

She gravely pushed the sword to Lu Yun, who didn’t make a fuss or put on a show of refusing such a priceless treasure. He wrapped his hand around it, resulting in a sharp character shooting out of the sword and sinking into his mind.

It was the character that stood for “sword”. This was the first sword of the four realms and the ancestor of all swords.

The will of Quiet rampaged through Lu Yun’s mind. He didn’t use the Tome of Life and Death to subdue it or even call upon his own sword dao. Instead, he projected his mind to the fourth realm, picturing the boundless strength and cultivation level he possessed in that plane.

Whoosh!

Sword light gushed out of the four hundred and eighty million pores of his body, ripping his clothes apart and forming a new snowy-white robe on his body.

A sword robe!

“You...” Di Ling’s eyes widened, finding it incredulous that Lu Yun had won Quiet’s approval so easily.

“There are no sword cultivators within the fourth realm—I’m the first,” he chuckled easily.

“The fourth realm...” Di Ling laughed wryly. “So milord is a powerhouse of the fourth realm. No wonder...”

Lu Yun didn’t explain himself. He could’ve easily killed the Meteorite King with the physical edge of his new sword. He was just as surprised as anyone that he’d so easily tamed the treasure when he mentally projected his fourth realm replica.

No, not tamed. Theirs was a relationship of equals.

Quiet was a weapon of the fourth realm and Lu Yun was the first being of the fourth realm to focus on sword dao. There were those who used swords there, but no one who concentrated solely on sword dao.