

## **Necropolis 1821**

### Chapter 1821: Cohesiveness That Is Lacking

The mask called the “Master of Darkness” was still on Moran Dongning’s face. Lu Yun had no plans to take it. Something even more startling happened instead—the outsiders in the Land of Reincarnation started fighting among themselves!

New Nihil Homeland marshaled its troops to attack Nihil Homeland!

As expected, the Golden Dragon King escorted Ao Quan out of the land. This place was no longer what it’d once been. Supremes could project themselves straight into the Land of Reincarnation through their dao palaces, but sequence experts had to pass through the door at Mount Astronomia.

If Ao Quan wished to leave the Land of Reincarnation, he had to do so through the mountain. But somehow, whether by accident or on purpose, Chu Xingran had set up Nihil Homeland in a spot furthest away from the mountain. In the same vein, New Nihil Homeland was close to Nihil Homeland and also far away from the mountain.

In the past, the outsiders felt that a location farther away from the front door of the Land of Reincarnation would be closer to its heartland. Distance held no meaning for the supremes, so they thought nothing of it when they projected themselves in.

It wasn’t until now that the Golden Dragon King realized the issue. He was easily intercepted halfway through escorting his son out. Unfortunately, nothing he said in protest made a difference.

The method to circumvent the Lifeline Talismans was imprinted in Ao Quan’s mind and surrounded by a restriction. The dragonling could see it, but couldn’t speak it. He could only comprehend and practice it himself without passing it on. It was similar to the restricted methods of the major factions and sects in the chief worlds.

Once he made it back to the dragons, the Golden Dragon King could ask the nine clawed golden dragon to undo the restriction. The method would become golden dragon property then.

First, however, Ao Quan needed to safely return back to the faction.

The other chief world factions realized what was at stake as well. Thus, several supremes set up a blockade along the way.

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“And where are you off to, Golden Dragon King?” the Cloud Atlas Supreme ground out.

“My son is injured and must go home to recuperate.” Keeping a firm grip on his composure, the Golden Dragon King pushed his son behind him.

“The current Land of Reincarnation allows entrance and no egress. You should return to where you came from.” Only the Cloud Atlas Supreme dared stop the dragon king. His eyes glittered brightly as he stared at Ao Quan. It went without saying why the Golden Dragon King was sending his son out. Lu Yun really had given the method to Ao Quan!

They'd originally planned on interrogating Ao Quan after New Nihil Homeland took Nihil Homeland. There was no need for that anymore since the Golden Dragon King was personally taking his son out of the land. The method was real!

Both the Cloud Atlas Supreme and Golden Dragon King knew what Lu Yun's scheme was, but they had to set foot into his trap all the same. Lifeline Talismans were too critical for the chief worlds at large!

While the supremes were focused on Nihil Homeland at the moment, Lu Yun and anyone else who knew the method would also have to die. Since the entire Land of Reincarnation was ultimately slated for destruction, the outsiders weren't in a hurry to aim their weapons at Lu Yun. For now, at least, he wasn't much of a threat.

The golden dragons were different. The Dragon Dominance Rings combined with the method to circumvent Lifeline Talismans would be a nightmare incarnate for the chief worlds.

"You seek to hold me here?" The Golden Dragon King narrowed his eyes and a pure gold dragon shadow rose from his back, manifesting an aureate sea.

"Since you refuse to retreat, I will beat you into withdrawing!" Neither did the Cloud Atlas Supreme back down. His backer was Yun Yi—an apex powerhouse in the chief worlds who was much stronger than the supremes. Even though Yun Yi didn't possess a world of sequence, he was wholly unafraid of the dragons.

As Yun Yi's son, Cloud Atlas would never bow his head to them.

Boom!

Energy blazed over Cloud Atlas and clashed with the Golden Dragon King. The two heavyweights were quickly embroiled in their own conflict.

"Capture Ao Quan!" The other supremes leapt into action as well.

Although Ao Quan was a thirtieth level sequence expert, he was helpless when faced with projections from supremes. The Golden Dragon King roared with fury and returned to his true form, shaking off Cloud Atlas and coiling around Ao Quan to return to Nihil Homeland.

"Lu Yun has done this to create conflict between us. He wishes us to fight each other so he can gain more time for the Land of Reincarnation!" Cloud Atlas' voice echoed through the void. "We are generous and will let bygones be bygones if you hand over the method or destroy it. What say you!"

"Piss off!" came the snarled reply.

Just like the azure dragons, the golden dragons would never stand for loss of face. The Golden Dragon King might've given way if the Cloud Atlas Supreme had brought his men first in a private audience.

But since the two sides had clashed against each other and the Golden Dragon King ran off with his son, this small hope of negotiation was no more.

Lu Yun had been afraid that the matter would be easily resolved, so he'd asked the Myriad Spirit and Firstspirit Supreme to add fuel to the flames and deepen their conflict.

“Kill!” Cloud Atlas burned with rage after hearing the response. He brought his men to Nihil Homeland and declared all-out war. The two sides fought with abandon and darkened the skies with their antagonism.

This was a reckoning of old and new grudges—not just the ones that’d formed in the Land of Reincarnation. The golden dragons were used to enslaving others with their Dragon Dominance Rings, even the descendants and friends of supremes. Although their reputation was better than the Corpse Refiners’, it wasn’t by much.

Given the dragons’ temperament, they didn’t care what other races thought of them.

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“Aren’t they on the same side? Why are they fighting each other?” Jian Bu’er was highly tense at all times, just waiting for the Cloud Atlas Supreme to suddenly appear and take revenge for his son’s death.

But the supreme was leading his men against the dragons instead?

“Who says they’re on the same side?” Lu Yun widened his eyes. “These guys have different languages, civilizations, and even great daos. There’s nothing that binds them into one cohesive whole. How are they possibly on the same side?”

He tugged his lips up in a half grin. “The same goes for the fourth realm. A lack of cohesiveness means we’ll never be one unit. The academies are one thing—they dispense knowledge and guide beings onto the right path, so there’s a bit of unity that can be found there. But the other factions care about only themselves. They fight who they can beat and surrender when they can’t. They protect only their own people.

“How can such a massive realm have any cohesiveness to speak of?”

Although everyone in the fourth realm now practiced immortal dao and thus counted as beings of the same great dao, it’d only been twenty thousand years since the immortal dao traversed the fourth realm. Twenty thousand years was nothing compared to the entire history of the fourth realm.

If someone did manage to conquer the entire realm, they would have to spend an inordinate amount of time eliminating the estrangements between the factions and sects. Whoever unified the fourth realm needed sufficient ability to make everyone submit to them and slowly create a sense of cohesion.

Lu Yun did not possess that kind of ability. He wouldn’t be a qualified conqueror.

“Alright, time for our business now,” he grinned.

## Chapter 1822: Six Paths

Lu Yun intended to publish the method to circumvent the Lifeline Talisman in the spirit paper, thereby completely rendering the talisman defunct. Lifeline Talismans didn’t just pertain to the multi-use one that Lu Feng had modified, but also the original single use version. Every faction among the chief worlds possessed the latter’s refinement method—that was its primary body of knowledge.

Destroying the Lifeline Talisman meant destroying these faction’s foundations and whittling away at their lives.

That was a heaven-shaking matter.

Lu Yun didn't plan to do so just yet. It wasn't time to—the battles between New Nihil Homeland and Nihil Homeland were reaching their peak. Factions of the chief worlds had followed suit in dividing themselves into different camps; the clashes had carried over to them.

This was the tiny crack of survival that the Land of Reincarnation wedged itself into.

No one would forget the land either, or that the method came from Lu Yun. Neither would they forget their ultimate goals in the Land of Reincarnation.

But the golden dragons weighed more heavily on their minds, that they might make a move behind everyone's backs. This was an unresolvable issue that forced everyone to pause their schemes in the Land of Reincarnation.

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"Are you going to start?" Moran Dongning snapped to attention when she heard Lu Yun's words. She knew what he wanted to do.

"Mhmm," Lu Yun nodded. "The chief worlds are having a grand time fighting between themselves and have no effort to spare for me. This is my best chance."

A hell battleship glowed blackly in his hand.

"The four of us will hold off the god of Mount Tai for you!" Moran Dongning intoned.

Lu Yun was going to combine the six hells as one and create the one origin hell. Once that hell formed, Lu Yun's hell dao would have a true foundation and his cultivation would leap forward. This process would also incorporate the five Ruinas resting in the kingdom of hell. Time was of the essence, so he couldn't wait for Chu Xingran's primary body to return with the core essence of the Firmament Prison from its ruins. He'd already calculated that if he wanted the prison, he would have to make a trip himself.

Chu Xingran's replica appeared in front of him with a rueful smile. "I have to tender my apologies this time. My primary body and Xie Tianxun are trapped in the ruins. If it wasn't for the several thousands of Resurrection Talismans that you gave me, I'd already be dead."

"Has something happened?" Lu Yun frowned.

"Yun Yi's arrived in the ruins," the man breathed out.

Lu Yun tightened his fist, but didn't say anything. Yun Yi was a personage far stronger than a supreme. He was a legendary character!

"You be careful." After a long moment of silence, Lu Yun took out a thick deck of Resurrection Talismans and gave them to Chu Xingran.

The man accepted them with a wry chuckle. Resurrection Talismans were more useful than Lifeline Talismans when facing experts beyond supreme. Lifeline Talismans blocked a fatal blow, but if such a heavyweight didn't kill their target with one strike, they would strike again, and again, and again...

Powerhouses could even confine their targets and kill them millions of times until all of the Lifeline Talismans were exhausted.

Resurrection Talismans, however, waited until the bearer was dead. That pulled the wool over the expert's eyes as it was a true death. Bearers could plant a seed of soul force at their desired spot of resurrection, thereby reviving at a different location.

If it was Lifeline Talismans that Chu Xingran and Xie Tianxun carried, they would've scattered upon the wind a long time ago.

Chu Xingran conveyed the new stack of talismans to his primary body through his nascent spirit. "You'll probably have to make a trip to the Firmament Prison ruins in the future."

"Mmhhh, I know," Lu Yun nodded. "I'll have to do it myself if I want to refine the Firmament Prison."

"...I mean to save us," Chu Xingran corrected helplessly.

Lu Yun: .....

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The once secondary worlds were now a tremendous patch of empty space. It was occupied by only three hundred and sixty-five Diexi's—they formed the major cycle formation of zombie kings to support the void.

Everything else that'd been present, including the three hundred and sixty-five stars that the zombie kings possessed, had been absorbed by the World Star. It'd gone to the space around Earth to manifest the Major Cycle Worlds that would support the fourth realm.

All of the fourth realm experts converged on this spot. Leize, Fuxi, Huaxu, Wahuang, Hongjun, Pangu, and God stood in seven separate directions, safeguarding the void. The Dao King was as aloof as ever; he sat cross-legged over everyone and quietly looked down at the happenings below. A delicate feminine figure stood next to him—Mo Yi.

Apart from them, the Three Pure Ones also came. They were mythological beings in their prime, but they currently struggled with injuries that they'd suffered before entering the Land of Reincarnation. Even so, they still arrived to help.

Meng Wang, Yun Zhongzi, Emperor Xuan Yuan, Xuanyuan Xiaoyue, and the torch dragon were also present. They hovered protectively around Lu Yun.

Further out in the outside realm were the four spacetime travelers.

Crafting the origin hell was such a significant matter that Lu Yun had to request aid from everyone he knew. If it wasn't for the ancestral gods fleeing for their lives, he would've asked them to come as well.

"I thought you'd leave with the Golden Dragon King and never come back." Lu Yun looked meaningfully at the torch dragon.

"I came in contact with too much karma when I took shape. If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't have survived the sea of hadal hellfire," the torch dragon answered quietly.

In this loop, Lu Yun saved him with the Tome of Life and Death. In previous loops, he saved the dragon with the Imperial Seal. Thus, the torch dragon owed a karmic debt to Lu Yun in every cycle. He became humanity's guardian purely to pay off this debt, and because he knew where the azure dragon ancestral god was. He'd even met with the ancestral god.

The torch dragon had lied to the Golden Dragon King.

"You need to be careful, I've stopped your two dao partners and son." Mo Yi's voice traveled into Lu Yun's ears.

"Thanks." Lu Yun bowed to Mo Yi and materialized a battle flag, tossing it to Tianqi. "If the dao partner of your past self shows up, beat her with this." He quirked his eyebrow at his disciple.

"What past self? I severed that tie a long time ago," Tianqi cackled. He placed Quietus back in his body and waved the flag around.

According to the god of Mount Tai's original plan, Tianqi would disappear after he took the latter's place in the war one hundred thousand years ago. Only the mountain god's reincarnated body would remain, and that was indeed how it'd played out in the previous cycles.

In this loop, however, Tianqi cultivated Lu Yun's Method of Life and Death. Thus, the war became an opportunity for Tianqi to destroy all of his ties with the god of Mount Tai instead.

"Good enough, let's begin." Lu Yun materialized the hell battleship with a flip of his hand and slowly crushed it to pieces.

The six hells were tied together as a strand of six beads. Lu Yun's nascent spirit began to appear as the Tome of Life and Death faded out of view in his consciousness. The six paths of his nascent spirit corresponded to the six hells!

The body, blood, soul, spirit, civilization, and order.

Chapter 1823: Dark Spirit

The six paths of Lu Yun's nascent spirit were based off of the cultivation method in the Method of Life and Death. His wasn't the only one—Tianqi's nascent spirit was also one of six paths.

When Tianqi first built the six paths of reincarnation, he used his nascent spirit as their blueprint. Those were the minor six paths. With Lu Yun possessing the six hells and their meaning, those were the true six paths.

Lu Yun's nascent spirit resonated with the six hells in the void as soon as it materialized. A Lu Yun appeared in each hell, each one identical to the young man standing outside. The only difference was that the hellfires of their respective hells burned around them.

As the six hells trembled, so did the six paths of nascent spirit. All of them resonated at the same frequency without the slightest deviation!

The six enormous hells began to meld into Lu Yun's nascent spirit—it was more like a replica at this stage. His nascent spirit remained the Tome of Life and Death. Currently, it was as if Lu Yun had evolved the core hell just to refine a replica for himself.

He never intended to confine himself to hell. He sought so much more than just a hell dao! This was also the direction that the Tome of Life and Death led him on.

Rumble—

The six hells clashed violently with each other and swept the surroundings with stunning aftershocks. If it wasn't for the assembled being the strongest of the fourth realm, just the ripples alone would've vaporized them.

"Be careful, the corpse god is here and nearby," an ethereal female voice traveled into Lu Yun's ears. Princess Mu lurked in the shadows. She and the ghost ancestor had been hidden all this time, concealing their presence so they could monitor everything in the vicinity.

As expected, the corpse god could hide herself from everyone but the princess and ghost ancestor.

"Mhmm," Lu Yun inclined his head. The two also shared the information with the others. No one visibly reacted, but they all went on the alert.

Since the corpse god could hide herself from their consciousness, that meant she was stronger than before. However, she didn't immediately reveal herself despite arriving on the scene.

Boom!

A massive mountain peak materialized in the void and crashed down on Lu Yun.

Mount Tai!

The god of Mount Tai was here!

He wasn't obscured in the surroundings like his dao partner—he used his full strength as soon as he took action and manifested the true form of Mount Tai. Since the real Mount Tai had long been destroyed, this was one he projected through Lu Yun's nascent spirit observation method.

"We've been waiting for you, god of Mount Tai." Pangu rose and punched the mountain with both fists.

Boom!

The projected mountain shattered, revealing the real mountain god. He looked very similar to Tianqi, but there were a few key differences between the two that were readily apparent.

Tianqi stood up as well, keeping his master's words firmly in mind. This wasn't his opponent, his opponent was the mountain god's dao partner.

"Pangu, I'd show you some respect if you still wielded your big ax, but now that you've melted it, you're no longer my match." Another Mount Tai appeared beneath the god's foot. The wails of thousands of ghosts echoed from it, as if it suppressed countless ghostly entities. This Mount Tai was the real Great Peak of the Five Hells—but just a fragmented piece.

"And you, God, you also melted your Heavenfall for a junior. You two are the greatest jokes beneath the heavens!" The mountain god was immensely displeased with what Pangu and God had done.

“I gave my treasure away as well.” Hongjun strolled forward with a smile on his face. “Only when we give unto others will we receive in kind. You have always held tightly onto the few that you have, which is why you have failed.”

“Me, fail? Hahahahaha!!” The mountain god threw his head back with uproarious laughter. “That kid is creating the origin hell in front of me as we speak. Everything is under my control. The hell is mine as soon as I kill him!

“And look at you guys. You’re injured, crippled, or just a far cry from your peak. Stop hiding, Yin Jiuying, I know you’re waiting to ambush me.” He looked in a particular direction.

Yin Jiuying padded out of the void. His face was dark and he was expressionless. He’d once viewed the god of Mount Tai as a dear friend and came to this land on account of his dying wish. But it’d all been a scheme!

He never left the Land of Reincarnation after that. He stayed, waiting for the day of the mountain god’s reappearance so he could collect on this karmic debt.

“Do you think we can’t do anything just because we’re injured or crippled?” Wahuang winked at him. “Are you not the same?”

The mountain god was also wounded. At the very least, his primary form—Mount Tai—was broken.

“Alright, enough stalling for that kid. Since you’re all here today, you can die with him!”

Whoosh!

The mountain beneath his feet trembled as strange life forms darted out of it. They were the same as the endarkened that’d once appeared in the land of darkness!

The major difference was that there were no ghosts or yin spirits among them and they were many times stronger than the endarkened. Howls and wails filled the void as shadowy figures pounced on all of Lu Yun’s allies.

They were so strong that each of them was the equivalent of a supreme! They rivaled the primary body of a supreme, and there were at least a hundred million of them!

It took only the blink of an eye for the powerhouses on the scene to be surrounded and nearly lose their lives.

“Creatures of the darkness!” roared Hongjun. “You do indeed have a treacherous heart, god of Mount Tai! You guided the dark spirits within the land of darkness to the fourth realm! The heavens will not tolerate your continued existence, you must die today!”

He flung himself forward, sidestepping all of the dark spirits.

Whoosh!

A massive hand probed out of the air and slapped Hongjun backward. The corpse god chose to show herself now.



“Though the god of Mount Tai is nothing good, only I can take his life.” She smiled and casually blocked all attacks aimed at her dao partner, allowing him to release as many of the terrible spirits as possible.

Tianqi unfurled the battle flag and summoned starlight in cascading waves. Those who’d died in battle in the primordial great wilderness awoke, starlight forming a body around their souls and sending them against the corpse god.

“Spirits of darkness from the land of darkness... dark spirits?” Moran Dongning blinked. “No wonder mother wanted me to come here with the ‘Master of Darkness’. She probably saw through everything a long time ago.”

The girl placed the mask on her face and projected a half laughing, half crying ghostly face into the void. The dark spirits crawling out of Mount Tai shuddered and scrambled back in retreat.

“The Master of Darkness!” the mountain god rasped out.

#### Chapter 1824: Zombie and Zombie

When the Master of Darkness appeared, it immediately subdued the dark spirits burrowing out beneath Mount Tai. The mountain separated yin from yang, which was also how the land of darkness and light was demarcated. Thus, where Mount Tai stood was the intersection of yin and yang.

With the tide of dark spirits in full retreat, Leize, Fuxi, and the others were able to free themselves and rush the god of Mount Tai.

He was entirely unafraid and picked up the mountain, throwing it into the crowd of charging powerhouses. Even though it was only a fragment of the original landmark, it was weight beyond what living beings could endure. Leize, Fuxi, Pangu, God, and Hongjun spat blood as they soared backward.

They were heavily injured to begin with, so there was nothing they could do against the mountain. The only ones who could stop the mountain god now were the four spacetime travelers.

“If you continue to stay put on the sidelines, old zombie, that kid will complete the manifestation of the origin hell. You won’t be getting the world of sequence then!” the mountain god squawked with urgency.

Everyone else was easy to handle—many of them had been caught in his traps. Although Yin Jiuying had forced him out in the end, that was just a small hiccup. He remained firmly in control of the greater picture.

Only the spacetime travelers were outside his sway.

When Moran Dongning traveled through time and delivered the Imperial Seal to the start of the Land of Reincarnation, he’d wanted to keep her there. But the spacetime travelers were so uncanny that not even the god of Mount Tai could dictate her actions.

He had to settle for negotiating with her and making her the Time Guard of the land. Perhaps the karmic repercussions of the Land of Reincarnation could contain her. Unfortunately, she still managed to struggle free and was now here with the other three spacetime travelers.

Most terrifying of all was the bizarre mask on her face. The legendary Master of Darkness?! Its presence immediately negated more than half of his plans. If the spacetime travelers came for him now, he'd never hold them off. His dao partner was also immobilized by the battle flag in Tianqi's hands.

"Old zombie? Is Jiang Chen here too?!" Chen Xiao started and quickly disengaged, looking in Lu Yun's direction.

Indeed, an enormous zombie suddenly appeared over the young man's head and extended a mouth dripping with corpsewater. It bit down on Lu Yun.

"No!" Qing Buyi roared and crossed his hands in front of his chest, taking the full force of the mountain god's blow. He trembled as he prepared to spring toward the zombie.

"Don't, it's a trap!" Lu Yun suddenly said. "This isn't Jiang Chen, it's just a massive zombie."

He opened his eyes and sent out a zombie of his own with a wave of his hand, flinging it at his attacker. His zombie was the one that the Corpse Refiners had sent into the land—the twentieth level sequence one. Despite refining it anew, Lu Yun hadn't had a chance to use it against the corpse demon when they were in the cavern beneath Mount Buzhou.

With the arrival of an old zombie on par with a supreme, it was the perfect opportunity to send it into the battlefield. The old zombie was a supreme-level zombie from the Corpse Refiners. A supreme didn't mean much on this battlefield; while Hongjun and the resurrected Leize were heavily injured, they could still easily kill a few supremes.

But a supreme-level opponent suddenly appearing at this critical juncture to attack Lu Yun could very well mean the end of everything.

"You don't need to do anything either, Senior Azure Dragon King. I can handle this," Lu Yun murmured as he sensed something.

The hidden Azure Dragon King halted in his tracks and concealed himself anew in the void. Within the dragons, the second strongest was Azure Dragon King Ao Chong. He was beyond a supreme and far superior to the Golden Dragon King.

If it wasn't for that, the golden dragons would've long defeated the azure dragons. They had their nine clawed golden dragon while the azure dragons lacked their ancestral god. Thus, they could easily seize legitimacy over the dragon race.

Cosmic radiance blossomed from the twentieth-level sequence zombie when it appeared. The illumination condensed into strands of silver thread that pierced the old zombie through.

The supreme-level zombie stopped moving. A beat later, Lu Yun's zombie began to crumble, as did its opponent!

Both zombies crumbled away into tiny pieces. The pieces then disintegrated once more into powder.

And then, both of them disappeared upon the wind.

Grappling with Tianqi, the corpse god shuddered. Lu Yun had planned to use that zombie on her when she was immobilized by the chain! While it wouldn't kill her, it would cause untold injuries. That zombie seemed to be a counter to everything that was zombified, including the corpse god!

"Stay focused when you fight me," Tianqi said coolly. He sent out another batch of battle spirits with a snap of his battle flag. They pulled at her body, wanting to haul the corpse god into the flag and seal her away.

Hongjun had created this flag for the corpse god.

Whoosh!

A familiar crimson chain rushed out of the corpse god's body and churned the battle spirits to pieces. She took advantage of the breathing space to break free and stand behind the god of Mount Tai.

Tianqi wasn't that strong at twenty levels of immortal dao sequence, but the battle flag bolstered him with one hundred million battle souls. At the very least, it enhanced his strength to the point of suppressing the corpse god.

The mountain god tilted his head and swept a glance at the corpse god. He didn't say anything.

The battle raged on. Four spacetime travelers attacked the mountain god, reaching a balance that didn't change even with the corpse god's sudden addition.

Thud!

A grayish-yellow cloth bag appeared in midair with a dull thud. Zombies summarily dropped down from overhead, each of them the equivalent of a supreme. They were no different from the one that Lu Yun had just destroyed, but he didn't have a second zombie to send out.

Jiang Chen had reached an agreement with the god of Mount Tai over the past twenty thousand years to temporarily put aside their grudges. He would help the mountain god obtain hell dao, whereupon the god would gift him the world of sequence.

To Jiang Chen, establishing a world of corpse dao sequence was most important. Though he'd dithered on his course of action before, his mind was made up when Lu Yun sent Jiang Kui away with a casual scheme. However, he didn't show himself. Instead, he sent over his personal treasure and poured out a waterfall of supreme-level zombies.

"That damned bastard!" Yin Jiuying cursed and charged the zombies. They didn't compare to the earlier dark spirits, but they were under Jiang Chen's control and he could assemble them into a Formation of Corpse Refinement.

Everyone else on the scene wouldn't fear it, but Lu Yun might.

Chapter 1825: Emperor of Zombies

Hell dao could restrain all yin spirits and ghostly entities, but it couldn't contain zombies. It was Lu Yun's tomb raiding skills that were useful against zombies, but preparations needed to be made beforehand. He'd just used everything he had.

Thus, an unending tide of zombies snarling for his flesh almost made him jump out of his skin. He never imagined that Jiang Chen—someone who hated the god of Mount Tai with every fiber of his being—would be willing to ally with his enemy!

Thank goodness Lu Yun had kept the Corpse Refiners outside of the fourth realm. Otherwise, it'd be Jiang Chen's primary body here, not just his Bag of Corpse Refinement.

Even if he let the sect in, however, Jiang Chen would still end up choosing to work with his enemy out of common interest. Lu Yun would never give the world of sequence to him, but the god of Mount Tai would. He had no use for the Imperial Seal, much less a world of sequence. His only obsession was hell dao!

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A tide of zombies surged forward like a landslide—the Great Formation of Corpse Refinement had become one with the zombies. Each zombie was a walking formation.

The mountain god and corpse god sprang into motion, breaking through the defenses of Leize and the others. They weren't here to fight, they just wanted to kill Lu Yun!

The Dao King finally stirred to action and threw down a piece of beautiful jade. Shenyu appeared on the scene again. He stood next to Lu Yun and beat back vast swathes of zombies with every gesture.

Taking advantage of the lull, the four spacetime travelers also hacked their way to Lu Yun, protectively placing him in their center. Together with Shenyu, they repelled the endless zombie horde on all sides.

Meanwhile, Hongjun, Pangu, God, the Three Pure Ones, Leize, Wahuang, and Huaxu kept the god of Mount Tai preoccupied. Tianqi took the fight to the corpse god again. The others put everything they had into killing zombies in the surroundings.

"I'm going to destroy that Bag of Corpse Refinement. There's no end to these zombies as long as it's still there." Fuxi looked up at the bag in midair—it was still pouring forth zombies. He stepped forward, vanishing from sight and appearing next to it.

Jiang Chen's image appeared before he could rip it apart and slapped Fuxi back down.

"That's your first battle zombie, isn't it? The one that escaped from the Abyssal Hell." Instead of reacting to the setback, Fuxi stared at the zombie that looked exactly the same as Jiang Chen.

Rumor had it that Jiang Chen was a zombie escaped from the Abyssal Hell, but that wasn't true. He'd captured a zombie that escaped from the hell and derived corpse dao from it, thereby establishing his sect. Those stories flourished because he wanted to build a reputation and some frightful legends for himself.

If he really was a zombie escaped from hell, how would he dare set himself against the god of Mount Tai?

That legendary zombie was stored in the Bag of Corpse Refinement and showed itself at this moment, facing off against Fuxi.

A smile flitted across the mountain god's face when he saw the zombie. He'd purposefully allowed it to escape that year. A pawn that he'd set up back in the day had now grown up and was capable of managing affairs by itself.

This was also part of the reason why Jiang Chen had been swayed to the mountain god's side.

Three successive blows from the zombie forced Fuxi back. His face was ashen and blood dribbled out the corner of his mouth. He was no match for the zombie; it was sufficient to turn the situation around.

"You go," Mo Yi said softly to the Dao King. "That zombie's absorbed the core essence of the Abyssal Hell and has grown to become an emperor among zombies. It's more terrifying than a corpse demon."

"I'm not needed." Surprisingly, the Dao King turned Mo Yi down. "Lu Yun's accounted for everything, he can't possibly have overlooked this. He must have his own plans for this zombie."

He paused and decided to explain a bit more. "You and I should focus on concealing the traces of this battle so that those from the chief worlds don't discover anything amiss. People from the Autumnus Realm are in this land."

"Alright, we'll do whatever you say," Mo Yi nodded.

The Dao King blushed.

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A faint smear of blood walked out from behind Lu Yun and stretched lazily. He clapped Lu Yun's shoulder with a smile. "Thanks. If it wasn't for you, my sister and I would forever wander the Land of Reincarnation and never remember who we are. So don't worry, we'll take care of that zombie for you."

It was a man with red hair in a crimson robe, but it wasn't the blood demon who cultivated blood dao. He was Jin Naluo!

Jin Naluo was the Hongmeng king who searched for the Blood Sea and looked to cultivate the dao of the Sanguine Hell. He was the first person to ever communicate with the Blood Sea through only his own merits—a feat that not even Lu Yun could've managed at the time. After all, his true self was one of the two true spirits that'd manifested in the Blood Sea.

The other one stood next to him in the form of a shapely woman.

Carmine Eternal!

The snake that Lu Yun released into the Blood Sea of the Hadal Hell was Carmine Eternal's true form. She was the second life form in the Blood Sea and shared the same roots as Jin Naluo. After the Sanguine Hell was destroyed, brother and sister were plunged into the Land of Reincarnation.

Jin Naluo was a bit luckier and reincarnated into the Hongmeng. His path of development was smooth, whereas Carmine Eternal fell into the worlds. The world that she was reborn in was destroyed by the realm monsters in every cycle she lived through. She finally reincarnated as the daughter of Taiyi and Yinglong. When Lu Yun sent her into the Blood Sea, she regained its power.

The path that she took was much more arduous than Jin Naluo's. And due to her association with Lu Yun, her brother nearly killed her a few times.

After Lu Yun refined the Sanguine Hell, he understood the karmic ties between the two and sent them into the Sanguine Hell. He then employed the Tome of Life and Death to help them return to their origins and recover who they once were.

Now that the zombie emperor from the Abyssal Hell had appeared, the two true spirits of the Blood Sea immediately showed themselves. They would use the power of fresh blood from the Sanguine Hell to defy the zombies of the Abyssal Hell!

Striking forward as two bloody shadows, they rushed the zombie emperor.

A zombie emperor wasn't a zombie king— a zombie king seized creation to reverse life and death, returning to the land of the living. A zombie emperor could only count as the strongest zombie, a ruler of zombies.

Jin Naluo and Carmine Eternal were born from the essence of the Blood Sea. They were well-matched with the zombie emperor.

"What about me? When do I get to fight?" That was Carmine Arbiter, and she was growing impatient. As a moat snake, she controlled the connate power of earth. At the same time, she'd comprehended one of the five ultimate orders—the order of life. She'd thus been granted the position of an ancestral god and ranked on par with the azure dragon ancestral god and others.

Chapter 1826: Tortoise Shell

"There's no rush," Lu Yun shook his head. "The god of Mount Tai has yet to use everything at his disposal. You are the ace up my sleeve, so we'll take care of things as they come."

From the formation of Nihil Homeland to the appearance of New Nihil Homeland, then to the outsiders attacking Dragon Formula Academy, every step of the way had been part of Lu Yun's plan.

It was all for this moment, to ignite conflict between the outsiders and redirect their attention elsewhere. They would be so preoccupied that they wouldn't have energy to wonder what was happening here.

The timing was ripe and the six hells had grown as one after twenty thousand years. It was time to physically combine them together and forge the only origin hell.

Lu Yun wasn't afraid of the outsiders attacking this spot—the strongest powerhouses of the Land of Reincarnation were gathered here. Him refining the only origin hell didn't conflict with chief world interests either.

He was only afraid of the outsiders taking advantage of this opportunity to attack the fourth realm, seize the world of sequence, and claim the seed of nothing.

Jiang Chen wouldn't leak the events taking place here because his goal was the world of sequence as well. Once their struggle over hell became public knowledge, it was highly likely that someone else would end up with the world of sequence.

He was livid that the powerhouses of the chief worlds had restricted him from the Land of Reincarnation. His people couldn't enter the fourth realm and he couldn't project himself through his dao palace. Only his disciples could enter after the orders of the fourth realm were made complete—they'd paved the way for him to project his will inside.

Thus, Jiang Chen had no choice but to work with the god of Mount Tai.

Mo Yi and the Dao King flawlessly prevented any hint of the fight from escaping. Everything remained completely concealed. Though the grand battle took place in the secondary worlds, the powerhouses of the chief worlds were scrambling around in a panic due to the latest development with the Lifeline Talisman. They had no consciousness to spare for probing the secondary worlds.

Lu Yun had carefully crafted his plans to ensure that everyone would be misdirected. The time he'd fought for in the fourth realm was supposedly to eke out enough breathing space for local powerhouses to grow into their power. Anything would help against the chief worlds.

In actuality, he was gaining time for himself to refine hell.

He'd grown over the past twenty thousand years and accumulated various plans, contingencies, and tricks. So had the god of Mount Tai done the same, thus, Lu Yun's ambitions hardly went unnoticed.

Since the mountain god was here, he'd surely made a plethora of preparations.

Fuxi found some room to maneuver as Jin Naluo and Carmine Eternal attacked the zombie emperor. He called upon the Dragonquake Scripture and summoned the dragons of the secondary worlds, turning them into tangible dragons that tore at the Bag of Corpse Refinement.

The stream of zombies immediately stopped.

"Damn you Jiang Chen, is that all you've got?!" the mountain god bawled.

"My primary body can't enter this land, what else do you want?!" Jiang Chen's response rang with some schadenfreude. He wasn't worried about the situation at hand—he had his own plans as well.

"What else do you want?" The mountain god immediately calmed down. He blocked Daoist Ingress' sword and took three steps back, allowing the man to pass through. That conveniently cleared the way for Daoist Ingress to attack the corpse god.

The corpse god hated her current situation—that battle flag was the bane of her existence. Although Tianqi wasn't that strong, he could fully keep her in check. When she was attacked on two sides, she was forced to retreat.

"Damn you, you broke my heart in your past life and now you want to kill me in your reincarnated life!" A deep bitterness sparkled in her ruby red eyes.

"Stop acting like that, old zombie. I severed my ties with the mountain god's reincarnated form long ago," Tianqi sneered. "You're nothing good either. When the mountain god decided to kill you, you went along with his plan so you could plot against him. But what are you plotting? There doesn't seem to be anything in the fourth realm that's of use to you."

“Don’t waste your breath, it speaks with a certain beguilement that can devour your heart and mind,” Daoist Ingress grumbled. Four rays of sword intent rose around him and assembled into a massive sword formation. He spun his sword and stabbed it toward the zombie emperor in the air.

“Let me help you, Daoist Eternal!” Daoist Ingress and Carmine Eternal were old friends; they were hailed as the two greatest troublemakers in the human dao era. When Carmine Eternal developed in the Blood Sea, Daoist Ingress—then Daoist Yuyu—stood guard over her until she hatched from her egg and had the strength to protect herself.

When Daoist Ingress destroyed the connate treasures of the various races and slaughtered the emperors of human dao, thereby sparking the war of Emperors Fall, it’d been Carmine Eternal who stepped forward to help. The two extracted the great daos from the emperors and fashioned the foundations of immortal dao.

Now that he saw her struggle with the zombie emperor, he immediately leapt to her aid.

“Grand-master, come help me!” Tianqi snapped to wakefulness upon Daoist Ingress’ reminder. There was indeed a strange seed that was new to the bottom of his heart, and he’d likely come under the corpse god’s control if they kept fighting.

“Coming, I’m coming. You haven’t learned to keep yourself in check even in death, old zombie! How dare you try to seduce my disciple! No wonder the god of Mount Tai wanted to crush his most cherished flower!” Wahuang shook off the mountain god and took out an embroidered silk ball, slamming it down on the corpse god.

Caught off guard, the ball smacked her head and the corpse god paused for a split second. That was enough for Tianqi to trap her with a roll of the battle flag.

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“Give me your skeletal form,” Jiang Chen said when the corpse god was incapacitated.

“Fine!” There was no room for the god of Mount Tai to hesitate. The corpse god was out of commission and the zombie emperor was also restrained. That left the rest of the group free to mob the mountain god.

A bloom of Hadal Bonefire accompanied the skeleton. Jiang Chen threw back his head with laughter and projected his will into the bony body. This was another one of the mountain god’s contingencies. A mere projection of a supreme’s will was easily destroyed, but that wasn’t the case if it was housed in the hadal skeleton.

The god of Mount Tai refined Hadal Bonefire from nine beings that’d grown to the fourth realm. It rivaled hellfire and the skeleton was coalesced from Hadal Bonefire. He’d originally prepared it for himself, but since he’d reformed a body over the past twenty thousand years, he didn’t need it anymore.

To Jiang Chen, this skeleton was an unparalleled battle zombie. Hadal Bonefire exploded when his projection sank into it. Instead of helping the mountain god or the corpse god, he charged Fuxi.



“Well met!” Fuxi stopped dismantling the Bag of Corpse Refinement and materialized a tortoise shell that was the size of a palm. He smashed it at Jiang Chen.

Chapter 1827: Yun Yi

Bam!

Fuxi’s tortoise shell slammed into Jiang Chen’s head.

Craaaack.

Starting from the head, cracks splintered through the incomparably sturdy skeleton with a series of crisp snaps.

Ringling silence filled the void. Everyone paused and looked incredulously at the shell in Fuxi’s hand. Even Lu Yun stopped and gaped at Fuxi.

They all knew the skeleton’s capabilities. Whether it was Jiang Chen or the god of Mount Tai inhabiting it, they made it a combination stronger than supreme. Its hardness was unfathomable.

Last time, the god of Mount Tai deployed it to ensure that he remained unharmed in the brawl with Shenyu, Jiang Chen, and the corpse god. But one hit from Fuxi’s shell caused it to fracture?? That was ridiculous!

What was that tortoise shell in Fuxi’s hand??

Crack crack craaaaack.

The skeleton swiftly collapsed into tiny pieces, leaving only a ball of Hadal Bonefire floating in the air.

“How, how is this possible?!” Jiang Chen finally found his voice and reacted to what was happening around him with a terrified exclamation. Before he could decide how to proceed, Fuxi raised his hand and smashed the tortoise shell onto the ball of Hadal Bonefire.

The flame that’d blazed for countless eons immediately extinguished. Jiang Chen’s floundering projection reappeared in the air. His face was ashen and he stared fixedly at Fuxi. Meanwhile, the god of Mount Tai was also at a loss.

“Zombie!” Jiang Chen roared and shifted his projection into the zombie emperor. He directed the zombie in a series of maneuvers that broke it free of Jin Naluo and Carmine Eternal’s encirclement. Jumping into the air, he landed next to the mountain god.

“Did you give me a fake body?!” he enunciated carefully.

“No, it was real.” The god of Mount Tai recovered from his shock and looked deeply at Fuxi. “That tortoise shell is the Yellow River Map and Inscription of the River Luo. It’s the treasure that Fuxi uses to manifest yin and yang, the five elements, and the eight trigrams. It’s an item of order that can derive the formations of the worlds, so a mere hadal skeleton can’t possibly have withstood it.”

Many thought that the Yellow River Map and Inscription of the River Luo were two separate treasures when, in fact, they were one. The back of the tortoise shell was the Yellow River Map and its stomach

was the Inscription of the River Luo. The shell was the ultimate treasure in which Fuxi manifested the formations of the worlds and derived the orders of existence with.

Fuxi was a legendary character even among the chief worlds. It was said that he was the creator of all formations and feng shui within existence, that he wielded the tortoise shell to manifest the eight trigrams and define what formations were.

Having picked up traces of order and been refined by it, the Yellow River Map and Inscription of the River Luo was also an ultimate treasure of order. Everyone knew of its name, but few were those who'd ever laid eyes on it.

Only when an item created a great dao and guided living beings along it, thereby collecting unbounded merit and being baptized by order, could it be called an ultimate treasure of order. The Yellow River Map and Inscription of the River Luo wasn't the only treasure of order—many other powerhouses of the chief worlds owned different instances.

Jiang Chen's eyes glittered at Fuxi when he heard the mountain god's explanation.

"Since you've brought out this level of treasure, that means you're at the end of your rope." The mountain god regained his composure and waved something that looked like a ruler into his hand. "What a coincidence, I own a treasure of sequence too."

His ruler slammed down on Leize in front of him, catching the dragon off guard. Leize's body disintegrated as soon as the item smashed into him.

"Ruler of Heaven's Measure!" Huaxu shrieked. Thankfully, Leize wasn't dead. Talisman light flashed by as his body reformed in the air.

"What a fine weapon!" Shock colored his gaze. He really had died to the mountain god's treasure just now—it would've rendered even Lifeline Talismans impotent. Being the measure of heaven, the ruler was unusually heavy and ended talisman and owner alike when it landed. Being different, Resurrection Talismans revived the owner the moment after they died.

"You live again? Then I shall simply crush you once more!" the god of Mount Tai laughed wildly and waved his ruler around. Distance held no meaning to the Ruler of Heaven's Measure as it was an item that took stock of distance. It would connect with Leize even if he was at the edge of the world.

Clang!

Fuxi's treasure flew in front of his father when the ruler descended and knocked it out of the mountain god's hand. It spun perfectly onto the battle flag in Tianqi's grasp.

Boom!

Violent ripples shook the battle flag and the corpse god made use of the opportunity to escape. She landed behind the mountain god, very much worse for the wear. The mountain god beckoned the ruler back to his hand.

At the same time, Jiang Chen regained possession of his Bag of Corpse Refinement.

The Yellow River Map and Inscription of the River Luo returned to Fuxi as well.

“This is bad, oh this is bad, I can’t endure the weight of that ruler...” Carmine Arbiter fretted, still in hiding.

“You don’t need to do anything. If this ruler is the mountain god’s last available means, then he loses today.” Lu Yun ignored everything else and focused on the six hells with all of his power, melding them into his nascent spirit.

While the power of the six hells were starting to combine, they were still distinctly separate from each other. The nascent spirit had to be the medium for them to fully become one. Lu Yun’s six paths were the perfect tool.

Battle broke out once more.

Only Fuxi could block the mountain god when the latter wielded his treasure. Once inside the zombie emperor, Jiang Chen possessed strength that rivaled the god of Mount Tai. By now, the corpse god avoided Tianqi, not wanting anything else to do with him.

Zombies poured out of Jiang Chen’s bag to distract the other powerhouses on the scene. The trio’s goal remained to kill Lu Yun. Everything was over once he was dead!

However, not only was there Leize, Pangu, and Hongjun standing in front of him, but also Shenyu and four spacetime travelers. None of them were easy targets; the corpse god and Jiang Chen were forced to be fully vested in battle.

A tiny purple ripple suddenly appeared in the void. Minuscule at first, it built in scale until it was as monumental as a tidal wave.

Waves brought water, but this ripple brought space. A man dressed in purple appeared in the center. He seemed completely removed from the mundanity of life. Easy on the eyes with a hint of worry between his brows, long hair that sparkled with faint purple floated to his waist.

“Yun Yi of the Cloudmist Realm greets the fellow daoists.” His tone was genteel and refined as he tendered a polite bow.

The scene froze—this was Yun Yi, the man who awed the chief worlds!

“That’s Yun Yi?” Lu Yun raised his head to consider the man bathed in purple ripples.

“Oh, this is very bad! I might not win if there’s a fight!” Carmine Arbiter spun in circles beside him. Although she was an ancestral god, she was much too young compared to most of the heavyweights present and certainly no match for Yun Yi.

The man walked out of the ripple and raised a cupped fist salute to those assembled, then slowly approached Lu Yun.

“Why is he here?” Leize looked darkly at Yun Yi. He recognized the newcomer and wouldn’t be afraid of the man if he himself was in his prime. Although Leize had revived through Lu Yun’s talisman, the fatal injury he’d suffered was still present on his body.

Thus, he was no match for Yun Yi.

Yun Yi exceeded supreme and rivaled the nine clawed golden dragon of the dragon race. He was also here in his primary body.

A smirk curved the lips of the god of Mount Tai. Yun Yi was his reinforcement troop, but he wasn't free to greet his helper. Fuxi remained on the offensive the entire time. His Yellow River Map and Inscription of the River Luo flew around the mountain god so quickly that it was almost a shooting star.

The mountain god would be smashed to pieces if his attention lapsed for a split second.

"Aren't you at the Firmament Prison?" Lu Yun couldn't help but ask.

"That is my replica," Yun Yi replied candidly. "Compared to the Firmament Prison, matters in the Land of Reincarnation are more important." He stared straight at Lu Yun. "Give me the core essence of the six dao palaces of highest order. I will leave the moment I have them and never be involved with affairs here ever again."

Chapter 1828: Final Ace

Lu Yun raised an internal eyebrow. The core essence of the six dao palaces of highest order? He'd already given it to the Myriad Spirit and Firstspirit Supremes. Who would've thought that Yun Yi, one who'd exceeded supreme, would also want it?

Thus, the young man shook his head. "Let us talk with our fists. I'm also curious what kind of methods the legendary figure of the chief worlds is capable of."

"Yun Yi, are you here for your three little concubines?" Lu Feng snorted before Yun Yi could respond. He was also here in his primary body and he waved around a large folding fan gilded with gold—his personal treasure. He looked at Yun Yi with cruel amusement.

Yun Yi tilted his head. "I didn't take you to task for bullying my dao partners, but here you are, mocking me. Do you really think you can do whatever you wish just because you're a spacetime traveler? You seek death!"

Rather than bring out a treasure or weapon, he simply pushed his palm at Lu Feng.

"So strong!" Lu Feng's eyes went wide with dismay and he quickly backed up. The palm strike still found him and flung him backward.

Although Lu Feng's cultivation also exceeded supreme, he was still weaker than Yun Yi.

"Out of the way, or you all die." Yun Yi's gaze turned cold. Although Chen Xiao, Qing Buyi, and Moran Dongning frowned solemnly, they remained standing in front of the latest arrival.

"Folks, let me handle Yun Yi. You take down Jiang Chen first," Shenyu offered, his body exuding the radiance of jade.

"You might have a chance if it was Che standing in front of me, but he will never join the fray." Yun Yi sneered at the Dao King and Mo Yi sitting high above them.

Che was the Dao King's name. Whether in the Hongmeng or world of immortals, he'd never personally extended a hand. His plots, schemes, and battles with the Curse King had all been conducted through Shenyu or in other ways.

He couldn't take action even when Mo Yi died—all he could do was trade his life for hers. He was restricted by a certain rule. If he broke it, unimaginable consequences would quickly follow. Thus, he remained sitting cross-legged in the void and silently watched over Mo Yi by his side.

"Master doesn't need to do anything, I am enough."

Hummm.

The illumination around him intensified as Shenyu brought both fists against Yun Yi. The latter shifted his weight back and bounded one step forward, deploying the same palm strike against Shenyu.

"Let's strike together!" Lu Feng came shooting back from an incredibly far distance. Though he was in bedraggled form, he maintained his composure.

Chen Xiao, Qing Buyi, and Moran Dongning understood his intentions and acted accordingly, attacking Yun Yi from four different directions along with Lu Feng.

"There's so many of us, why are we afraid of him?" giggled Wahuang. She tossed her embroidered ball at Yun Yi's head.

Those chasing after Jiang Chen also about-faced to refocus on Yun Yi. Other than Fuxi dogging the mountain god's footsteps, everyone else switched tack to target Yun Yi. Such was the pressure he exerted over them.

Roughly a dozen heavyweights only barely managed to keep the newcomer in check! Although Yun Yi was beset on all sides, he didn't panic. His attacks and defensive maneuvers were perfectly balanced and he handled the situation with aplomb.

Jiang Chen and the corpse god looked at each other. The way was clear and they approached Lu Yun without a word.

"Tsk tsks, you can die with peace of mind, Lu Yun. Don't worry, your friends, seniors, and teachers will soon reunite with you," Jiang Chen leered.

"Where are they reuniting with me?" Lu Yun firmly shoved Carmine Arbiter back into hiding.

"The netherworld, of course." Jiang Chen raised a brow.

"You do know I cultivate hell dao? I am the master of the netherworld. How about I send you guys there instead?" Lu Yun smiled superciliously.

"Stop wasting time, just kill him!" The corpse god sensed something amiss. Since Mo Yi and the Dao King couldn't join the group, the current Lu Yun was a fish on the chopping block. But for some reason, there was something off, something that she couldn't identify.

Twin rays of orange light flared from Jiang Chen's eyes—the power of corpse dao. "Since you're the master of the netherworld, I'll refine you into a zombie!"

He reached out his withered claw of a hand and brought it down on Lu Yun.

Boom!

An overwhelming power blasted from Lu Yun's body and shattered the claw. He remained sitting in the void, mostly preoccupied with restraining Carmine Arbiter from rushing out to lay waste to their enemies.

"Do you know why I choose to forge the origin hell here and not in my own kingdom?" he chuckled.

He'd shaped the kingdom of hell into a true world that stood on the same level as the world of immortals. Anyone who died in any of the four realms ended up in his kingdom. There, punishment and reward were impartially doled out. The dead either entered hell or the cycle of reincarnation.

The kingdom of hell was his world and everything there under his control. Yet, he'd still chosen to conduct his affairs in the abandoned secondary worlds.

The corpse god grimaced, she had no desire to talk to Lu Yun. Her crimson iron chain extended like a bloody dragon and snaked toward Lu Yun.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

Massive booms echoed around Lu Yun as ten palaces suddenly appeared. A stunning woman sat in each of them. The ten Yama Kings in the Grand Formation of the Ten Yama Kings! The three hundred and sixty-five Diexi's seated outside the zombie king formation also opened their eyes in unison.

Jiang Chen didn't recognize the first formation, but he did know the formation of zombie kings.

"Lu Yun, are you trying to use my own formation against me?" he sneered.

"I am less than you in terms of absolute strength. But in terms of formula dao? You are far beneath me," Lu Yun snorted. With a gentle tap of his fingers, he melded the Grand Formation of the Ten Yama Kings into the one of the zombie kings. A three hundred and sixty-sixth Diexi appeared with a coffin made of empyrean crystal. There was a barely visible, slender skeleton within.

This Diexi and the coffin suppressed the formation of zombie kings and transformed it into another existence. The one of Yama Kings became the core of the brand new formation.

Boooooom.

The formation of zombie kings shuddered as cosmic power and dominating strength of life and death roiled within the formation, oscillating in all directions.

"What?!" Having fought all of the powerhouses to a standstill and indifferently waiting for Lu Yun's death, Yun Yi gasped with shock. "Why didn't anyone tell me that he has the crystal coffin too?!"

Typically coolly composed, Yun Yi regarded the development with a trace of fear.

The god of Mount Tai and Fuxi stopped as well, shocked by the formation. Jiang Chen couldn't assume command over it when it was suppressed by the crystal coffin. Now that it was affected by the Yama Kings, it received a brand new strength—not one of the zombie kings, but one of the true major cycle.

The Yama Kings' formation had fully undone the power of the zombie kings. This formation now emitted cosmic strength interspersed with life and death, as well as hints of that terrifying crystal coffin.

"No more!" Yun Yi immediately disengaged from battle, ripped through the void, and fled the Land of Reincarnation.

Bam!

Bam!

Bam!

When cosmic strength rained down on the zombie emperor, it destroyed both body and Jiang Chen's projection. There was no coming back from this demise.

The god of Mount Tai smashed through the void with a wild wave of the Ruler of Heaven's Measure, escaping as well. His plans were in disarray and his helper gone. There was no point in further battle.

Tianqi acted before the corpse god could react and wrapped her with the battle flag, suppressing her inside.

Cosmic phenomena and the Grand Formation of the Ten Yama Kings slowly faded away. Only Lu Yun was left, sitting cross-legged in the void and quietly refining the six hells. The zombie king formation that everyone had overlooked was his true final ace.

Chapter 1829: Mind Explodes

Battle was over as quickly as it began.

Only a few breaths lapsed between the manifestation of the Grand Formation of the Ten Yama Kings, Diexi's appearance, and the corpse god's capture. That was enough to take care of everything.

Everyone withdrew to give Lu Yun space to refine his six hells. No one in the realm dared intrude on this locale anymore.

He'd been open to bringing out that fearsome formation against the god of Mount Tai and corpse god, but Lu Yun knew that it could only defeat, not capture them. He'd wanted to see what else the mountain god had up his sleeve.

Once Yun Yi appeared, however, Lu Yun knew that he could wait no longer. If he did, people would start dying permanently. It would be a death that the Resurrection death art could not reverse.

While he'd revived Fuxi, Leize, Huaxu, and Wahuang, they still retained the injuries that'd killed them. The wounds tormented their beholder at every second. The god of Mount Tai might also have more trump cards after Yun Yi joined the fray, but Lu Yun was no longer interested.

The six hells melded into the six paths of Lu Yun's nascent spirit and gradually became one.

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The thirty-one thousand and one hundredth year of the Xuanhuang calendar.

Lu Yun spent five hundred years integrating the six hells as one and forming the origin hell. Once it took shape, the six paths of his nascent spirit were no more. The origin hell successfully took root in the secondary worlds of the fourth realm.

He originally planned on making this hell a replica for his nascent spirit so that his nascent spirit could easily command the new hell. But once it truly came into being, he realized that his nascent spirit was insufficient to direct the origin hell. The profound meaning it contained was too grand.

The origin hell was the new and improved version of the kingdom of hell in the world of immortals. It buried all life and order. It was the final end and also the beginning.

To his shock, Lu Yun found the six orders of highest degree in the hell as well! Inception, ethos, burgeon, creation, opposition, and nirvana... Nirvana was not the final end, but a new beginning. After it came inception!

Apart from those six, the five supreme orders of creation, origin, truth, eternity, and life were also present. The origin hell seemed to represent everything in existence, the circle of life and order.

In other words, it was reincarnation.

A true reincarnation of life and order—all of its laws and rules cycled within.

It wasn't until now that Lu Yun understood why the god of Mount Tai was so besotted with hell dao. The hell dao of the five hells was indeed hell dao, but when the six hells combined as one and gave rise to the origin hell, the great dao transcended to reincarnation.

There was reincarnation in the Tome of Life and Death. What was meant by the strength of the treasure was the strength of reincarnation. It was just that Lu Yun had been too weak before to directly wield that power. He could only rely upon it to affect his kingdom of hell or the power of hell.

Now that he'd manifested the hell dao of six hells and combined them into one, it'd given rise to the power of reincarnation. The strength of the Tome of Life and Death was finally fully available to him.

As a result, Lu Yun's cultivation improved explosively and he reached twenty-four levels of immortal dao sequence. His new strength was unimaginable and the origin hell began to expand. It swallowed the void of the secondary worlds and turned all of it into hell.

With the major cycle formation of zombie kings now part of hell, the three hundred and sixty-five Diexi's all became her replicas. Diexi was written into the Tome of Life and Death and she was the new sprite of hell. She replaced the spirit that'd previously resided in the Hell of Order and oversaw hell for Lu Yun.

The ten Yama Kings also appeared in the origin hell. Their palaces towered in the ten directions and they could also wield the power of reincarnation.

Whatever characteristics unique to the six hells of the past all manifested in the origin hell. The six hellfires were no more, replaced by a bloom of black hellfire that burned throughout.



“Twenty-four levels huh? That’s... that’s still not enough. Far from enough.” Lu Yun took a deep breath. “God of Mount Tai, I know you’re still here.”

A tiny thought ripple disturbed the void.

“Honestly, if you hadn’t done everything you’d done, I wouldn’t have minded sharing hell dao—reincarnation dao with you. A great dao is not meant to be owned by one and fellow daoists are needed along the way. But I loathe your methods and goals, so you will never get your hands on this dao.

“Fuck off as far away as you can.” A sneer crossed his face as he lifted his head.

This was hell, the power of reincarnation surged. Diexi’s great formation of zombie kings secured the premises and her crystal coffin was placed in the center. Even Yun Yi had been thrashed by the ten Yama Kings, so there was nothing the mountain god could do in his state.

If he wanted the origin hell, he had to kill Lu Yun. Since the young man was yet to become a supreme, he still stood a chance.

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The thirty-one thousand and two hundredth year of the Xuanhuang calendar.

Nonstop war raged between New Nihil Homeland and Nihil Homeland for nearly six hundred years. It was a conflict that immortals of the fourth realm didn’t understand, and it finally ended this year.

Why?

The reason nearly made the Golden Dragon King’s mind explode and caused everyone from the chief worlds to spew vitriol.

The latest issue of the spirit paper published the way to circumvent the Lifeline Talisman.

These days, spirit papers found their way all throughout the four realms and chief worlds. Imitations had sprung up in the outside realm, but their level of influence wasn’t nearly as terrifying.

There were many things that the chief world factions didn’t dare talk about, but the spirit paper dared to write about anything and expose everything. With the Myriad Spirit and Firstspirit Supremes supplying information, the spirit paper published plenty of reports regarding the chief worlds.

Most of them were viewed as stories for the fourth realm to learn more about their enemies, but the events of the fourth realm—such as the war of the outsiders—were sometimes broadcast live. If a supreme’s projection was demolished or a famous personage’s children or disciple died, those were streamed in great detail.

On the other hand, the formula dao equations, treasure refinement methods, and talisman forging methods that the spirit paper published shocked the senses out of the chief worlds. It was said that Lu Yun had derived the way to evade the Lifeline Talisman using the basic equations of formula dao.

Over the years, many chief world factions sent their disciples into the Land of Reincarnation to cultivate immortal dao so they could learn formula dao. But whether it was New Nihil Homeland and Nihil

Homeland at the moment, they were furious beyond belief. Six hundred years of war had made things personal. Their conflict had spilled over to the outside realm and countless experts had fallen.

But now, the reason behind it all was simply published in the spirit paper??

Chapter 1830.1: Despicable

The Golden Dragon King's projection self detonated after he read the latest issue of the spirit paper. With the next issue, however, not only did smoke billow from his orifices, but his mind exploded as well.

"This is ridiculous, he goes too far, simply too far!" Thoroughly enraged, the outsiders never considered that Lu Yun would commit such an action. Not only were the supremes infuriated, but so were beings above supreme ready to crush the Land of Reincarnation.

Quietly biding their time all this while, the Corpse Refiners stirred with activity as they prepared to reenter the fourth realm.

The next important matter didn't come from the spirit paper, but Lu Feng.

"There lies a fatal weakness with the Lifeline Talisman, so it is only natural that it has been rendered defunct. I have researched a new Resurrection Talisman that draws inspiration from the resurrection layout. It can revive any being who has died within the last seven days.

"And, this talisman is foolproof!"

The chief worlds shook at this news. Many cheered for a replacement of the Lifeline Talisman, but even more were deeply worried. The powerhouses preparing to march on the fourth realm also quieted down.

Lu Feng was Lu Yun's elder brother and Lu Yun had just dismantled the Lifeline Talisman. Lu Feng announced a new talisman as soon as Lu Yun distributed the method to circumvent the old one.

It was... too devious.

Lu Feng was just the modifier of the Lifeline Talisman; any major faction of the chief worlds could craft their own. This Resurrection Talisman, however, came from Lu Feng alone. That meant he would hold all of their lives in the palm of his hand.

It'd been countless years since the Lifeline Talisman's invention and most major factions were heavily dependent on it. The path of cultivation was a treacherous and dangerous one. Any slightest misstep would result in one's death. Unparalleled geniuses, in particular, needed to experience a variety of setbacks and obstacles before achieving great accomplishments in their dao, even tests of death.

But if one truly died, that was the end of the road. Thus, Lifeline Talismans were a crucial way out of a fatal mistake. Knowing to change after a blunder was the mark of a great personage.

It would take at least a hundred million years, or even more, if the chief world factions wished to wean themselves off the talisman. Countless geniuses would die during this time. The Resurrection Talisman appeared at this time as their savior, but it was controlled by one person!

“I didn’t invent the Lifeline Talisman, so the method to circumvent it has nothing to do with me. But on my honor as a spacetime traveler, I promise there is no way to sidestep this Resurrection Talisman!” Lu Feng issued another statement.

“Spacetime travelers are deceptive, despicable rats. What honor do they have?!” was the general reaction after that declaration.

Those who saw the situation clearly rather wished for someone to step forward and break the Resurrection Talisman as well. Only then would that leave no way out for the various factions and force them away from their addiction to talismans.

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Ideals were beautiful, but reality was cruel. Not even the golden dragons had spare time to make trouble for Lu Yun anymore because the Resurrection Talisman was going on sale. Lu Feng announced that the auction of one hundred million talismans would commence in the Luo Trading Major World.

While one hundred million seemed like a weighty sum, the chief worlds were so vast that just the number of major factions alone could be counted in units of a hundred million.

Every faction had geniuses that needed the talisman and powerhouses who explored the ancient sites. One hundred million was hardly enough compared to demand.

It didn’t even begin to scratch the itch.

But since this was the first time the talisman was appearing in public, there were many who didn’t dare pay out the nose for it. These one hundred million were just a trial test.

Of course, the major factions also wanted to verify its effect. Some talisman grandmasters were already champing at the bit to replicate it.

The Luo Trading Major World was the most renowned merchant world in the chief worlds and its most prosperous locale. While it wasn’t that remarkable from a perspective of strength, its wealth was something that not even the dragons could measure up to.

There was no singular person that ruled over everything, but there were many heavyweights that held sway on it. Yun Yi alone possessed one and three tenths of an acre on the world. Countless merchant guilds were also located in the Luo Trading Major World. Everyone did business here, each supplying what the customer needed or seeking to earn enigma stones.

When Lu Feng introduced his modified talisman, he’d done so here. He was a solid tycoon in the chief worlds. He’d built a sizable auction house on the world that specialized in rare and exotic treasures. Of course, the Cloud and Wind Auction House’s most notable ware was the modified Lifeline Talisman.

The appearance of the Resurrection Talisman raised another uproar throughout the outside realm.

With the publication of Lu Yun’s method in the spirit paper, almost everyone could bypass the Lifeline Talisman now. It wasn’t a difficult method and easily learned. Apart from exploring ancient sites or dangerous locations, the talisman was worth less than the paper it was etched on in most places.

Lifeline Talismans also weren't applicable in those dangerous locales as the wielder remained in the same spot after evading death. Dangers abounded in those places—if one was trapped, it didn't matter how many Lifeline Talismans there were. The owner could only wait for death.

However, the Resurrection Talisman was purported to let owners decide where they wished to come back to life!

That meant the holder could just self detonate to escape from a trap. The only thing they'd lose was the treasure and wealth that they carried on them. But what did those count for compared to one's life?

Most importantly was that the talisman could be reused. A second one could be bought out when the first was consumed, then a third... fourth... They were like the modified Lifeline Talisman!

Resurrection Talismans were also divided according to rank. An initial rank talisman provided one revival, a mid rank three times, and an upper rank seven times. A special rank allowed for ten revivals.

Naturally, their prices grew at an exponential function.

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In the thirty-one thousand, twelve hundred and thirty-sixth year of the Xuanhuang calendar, the much anticipated Resurrection Talisman auction began.

Of course, this calendar wasn't acknowledged by the chief worlds and very few thought anything of it. It was the spirit paper that was based on this measure of time and so was the date set by the Cloud and Wind Auction House.

There was nothing anyone could do about it.

Just as when Lu Feng sold his modified talismans, he first brought out a few to demonstrate their use before the public eye. He invited supremes of the various factions in attendance to kill one of his employees, then used the talisman to resurrect the victim. Countless pairs of eyes and minds scanned the process and result to confirm the talisman's veracity.

Only then did the auction begin.

Chapter 1830.2: Despicable

The auction was held in a building called the Wind and Cloud Pagoda.

"Yun Yi is here too." Lu Yun and Lu Feng sat across from each other on the highest floor of the pagoda and observed the proceedings through a water curtain. Lu Yun glimpsed Yun Yi among the crowd.

The man's replica continued to hunt down Chu Xingran and Xie Tianxun in the Firmament Prison. It was his primary body here.

There were no private rooms or tables for distinguished guests in this auction house. Everyone sat in the void, regardless of their status. While fighting was allowed in the major world, one could not kill another for their goods. The aggressor would be expelled by the heaven and earth of this major world and eternally banned from entry.

They would also be pursued by many factions outside.

This was a place to do business and grow rich peacefully. While there were snake oil salesmen and those who forced customers into a purchase, as well as frequent bullying, one could not kill someone for what they held.

Thus, the auction house couldn't be bothered to create any special seating. They were all here to do business, so why the mystique? Customers could still kill each other for their goods after they left the major world, so it was better for one to not even bid on something if they didn't have the strength to keep it.

"Come on, come on, he won't dare do anything here." Lu Feng sprawled on a large cushion made from the fur of an unknown exotic beast. A smile hung on his face as he enjoyed a massage from the maids.

"Weird, you're not that much older than me, so how are you able to build such a large auction house?" Lu Yun didn't quite understand it. He was here for the show and to witness what things were like in the chief worlds.

Compared to them, the fourth realm was indeed a remote backwater in the middle of nowhere and forgotten by existence itself.

"Time flows differently in the chief worlds compared to the fourth realm. It didn't exist in the Hongmeng and chaos before, so the realm was a buffer. And since I'm a spacetime traveler, I can travel wherever I want without causing karmic repercussions." Lu Feng thought for a bit. "I've been in this outside realm for a billion years and I exceeded supreme in other eras. I don't know how long it's been since those eras. A hundred billion years? One trillion?"

Lu Yun: .....

"Life is boring if it is filled by only cultivation. We are also limited in what we can do if we're not in our own time period. Everyone will hunt us down if we run afoul of certain taboos, so us spacetime travelers move around only to cultivate or establish factions like the Wind and Cloud Pagoda.

"For instance, I traveled back a billion years to establish the pagoda and auction house, then put the modified Lifeline Talisman up for sale. With that accomplished, I traveled back to the present.

"The Wind and Cloud Pagoda continued to earn money for me over the past billion years, making me the richest person in the chief worlds. Yet to me, a billion years passed by in the blink of an eye.

"Since I'm a spacetime traveler, I am the only constant in space and time. I don't get tangled up with the karma of time, so anything I establish won't affect the development of time. Everything is set in stone. The Wind and Cloud Pagoda was supposed to appear during that period and so was the modified Lifeline Talisman."

He snickered when he saw Lu Yun's dazed expression. "But this ability only spares me from the karma of time. I am still affected by the karma of life, so if I do whatever I want and change certain things, there will come people to take me out and set things right."

Lu Yun massaged his aching temples, he didn't want to talk about the spacetime travelers anymore. He was regretting ever asking.

“Do you really think an initial rank Resurrection Talisman is worth a heaven and earth ancestral vein?” Lu Yun asked worriedly.

“It might not after a while, but it definitely is at the moment!” Lu Feng nodded at his brother’s change in topic. “The various factions of the chief worlds want nothing more than a replacement for the Lifeline Talisman now that you’ve dismantled it. They’re panicking and frantic, but once everything settles down and they regain their calm, they won’t pay that kind of price for the talisman anymore.

“This is our only chance to rake in ancestral veins for the Resurrection Talisman. Are you sure no one can duplicate it?” Lu Feng had tried to craft a Resurrection Talisman himself, but all of his experiments failed. When the Lifeline Talisman was mainstream, there were so many experts in the chief worlds that some secrets had been revealed about the modified version. Hence, Lu Feng had no objections to Lu Yun ruining it.

“The Resurrection Talisman is actually a type of combat art that no one can recreate unless they know one of my combat arts. So far, only my disciple Tianqi and I know it.”

The Resurrection death art came from the Tome of Life and Death and Tianqi also cultivated the Method of Life and Death. While he wouldn’t obtain any death arts from the treasure, Lu Yun could teach them to him.

“Then I’m reassured. If those major factions can’t read anything into the Resurrection Talisman, that means the price will stay high for a while longer,” Lu Feng sighed with relief. “Are you planning on visiting the ruins of the Firmament Prison as well?”

“Mhmm,” Lu Yun nodded. “Ruina is unable to meld into the origin hell if the Firmament Prison isn’t also present. Chu Xingran and Xie Tianxun are trapped by Yun Yi’s replica, so I have to go help them.”

“Alright then, I won’t stop you. But I’m also not going with you!” Lu Feng nodded, then shook his head.

“I wasn’t planning on asking you to,” Lu Yun rolled his eyes. “Let’s split the ancestral veins you get. Send my share to Fairylands and give it to Qing Yu and the little fox.” He rose to his feet.

“Are you leaving?” Lu Feng blinked.

“Yun Yi’s discovered my presence. If I don’t leave now, I won’t be able to after the auction ends.” Lu Yun thought for a moment and added, “If I still haven’t reached the Firmament Prison after the one hundred million talismans have been sold, sell another one hundred million! I’m sure no one will turn you down.

“Hang on, sell some invitations to the next auction once this one ends. Only those with an invitation have the right to participate in the next auction. Of course, they’ll need to pay an entry fee then as well!” Lu Yun’s eyes darted around in rapid thought. “Only ancestral veins are accepted for the entry fee!”

He was sorely tempted by the potential riches after he saw that one initial rank Resurrection Talisman could be sold for at least ten heaven and earth ancestral veins.

“That’s... that’s just despicable. Charging them twice to attend?” To Lu Feng, it seemed like “swindler” was written across his brother’s face.

“Pfft, there is no other location than this auction house that has these talismans. They can buy them here, or not.” Lu Yun smirked. “We won’t limit the number of attendees next time, but whoever doesn’t make a purchase can get out of here!”