

## Necropolis 991

### Chapter 991: Making the World of Immortals Whole

The heavenly court enveloped Witherdew Major the second it was established. Previously devastated by the chaos lightning tribulation, the Witherdew court stirred to life and began to rebuild. As reconstruction efforts commenced, Lu Yun raised the Xue Clan—former peak faction of Witherdew Major—as the royal clan of the major.

Patriarch Xue Chujiu of the Xue Clan was the new lord of Witherdew major. This was the youth who'd weathered his immortal tribulation in the East Sea and swore fealty to Lu Yun after becoming a void ascended immortal. That brought the Xue Clan under Lu Yun's banner as well and made them one of the largest factions in Dusk Province.

Their immortals had mostly all died in that chaos tribulation, and what few remained fell to numerous ambushes from other experts in the world. But after a few decades of support from Lu Yun and nurturing by a thriving immortal dao, the Xue Clan fully recovered and added a dozen dao immortal to its ranks.

Xue Chujiu was now a Supreme Immortal of Original Order, though he and his clan weren't part of the Dao Academy. Lu Yun's plans for them all along were to have them take over Witherdew Major and put that major firmly in his court.

Xue Chujiu fully lived up to his benefactor's expectations and led the Xue Clan to new heights, thoroughly surpassing their previous iteration. When the clan's heritage was lost in the disaster that'd struck their home and their immortals all met their end, it'd been Lu Yun who took them in, bequeathing them cultivation methods and immortal crystals so they could train and grow in peace.

Apart from the Lus and Qings of Dusk Province, the Xues of the Witherdew Major were the most loyal to Lu Yun. In fact, their loyalty exceeded those two clans' in some regard.

.....

The moment Xue Chujiu took control of Witherdew Major and ascended to his throne, an enormous ripple traveled between heaven and earth. The rulers of the nine majors, ten lands, and four immortal seas lifted their heads at the same time to look into the high reaches of the sky.

Evolved from the previous Central World, the heavenly palace was the new heart of the world of immortals. Rays of milky-white brilliance streamed out from it to meld into the twenty-three facets, thus dissolving the last hint of a burial layout over the world.

Upon this happening, the nine majors, ten lands, four immortal seas, and previous Central World truly came into their own and interlocked as the twenty-four facets of the world, completely demolishing the world's burial layout and freeing the world's inhabitants from a state of being burial goods.

Although the regular denizens of the world had no idea what'd taken place, the various facet monarchs immediately understood what had just occurred.

"The establishment of the world of immortals was the hope of our kind, but our enemies also used it to construct a tomb to bury us all." The rulers of the ten divine nations in the ten lands cast complicated

gazes at the magnificent heavenly palace. They still refused to bend the knee despite everything they'd seen.

These experts had slumbered in the protection of their tombs since the Primeval Age. Their purpose in doing so was to vie for a chance, a future opportunity to become masters of the realm.

If they swore fealty to that heavenly emperor and the immortal sovereign and headmaster behind him, that would render all of their plans meaningless. Survival wasn't their primary goal. They wanted to carve out a territory of their own in this realm and become utmost masters, so that they could ascend to the creator realm.

.....

"Greetings to the Heavenly Emperor!"

"We greet the Heavenly Emperor!"

"All hail the Heavenly Emperor!"

Worship and greetings rose and fell in waves as the citizens of Witherdew and Nephrite Majors fell to the ground, kowtowing to the Central World.

"You may all rise." Qing Taxian waved a hand and looked in the direction of the Dao Academy.

Lu Yun and Qing Yu stood at the peak of Mount Xuanhuang and nodded gently at him.

"The twenty-four facets are just a revolution of the minor cycle. There's thirty-three layers to the true world of immortals!" Lu Yun suddenly murmured to himself.

When he'd returned from the great wilderness, he'd seen the world of immortals as thirty-three layers instead of twenty-four facets! Nephrite, Lazuli, Primus, Witherdew, Enlightened, Aureate, Thundergale, Truespirit, and Exalted Majors; Heaven Locus, Odyssey, Horizon, Mist, True Water, Yang Fire, Heaven Descent, Yellow Springs, Crimson Abyss, and Demon Measure Lands; Unsullied, Unmeant, Unselfish, and the Untroubled Seas; and the Central World made up the twenty-four facets.

There were nine more shadows beneath them that those of the world couldn't see. These were the nine lost layers of the world of immortals. The world would never be perfect or be the world of Fuxi's plans if the layers remained nonexistent. However, the nine had been completely destroyed in the great war a hundred thousand years ago.

Thus, the foundation of the world of immortals had been completely cut off.

.....

"You want to use the kingdom of hell to supplement the world of immortals?!" Qing Yu quickly grasped what her beloved wanted to do when she read the look in his eyes.

"If the world of immortals remains incomplete, you will also be a flawed immortal sovereign and will face your own cataclysm one day. How can I stand by and watch that happen to you?" Lu Yun reached out a hand and stroked Qing Yu's long hair.

“But the kingdom of hell should transform into the eighteen levels of hell! It’ll be the dao of yin to the world’s dao of yang. If you use your kingdom to recreate the nine layers, wouldn’t that... no. I won’t allow it!” Qing Yu firmly disapproved, unquestionable resolve shining from her eyes. If Lu Yun dared use his kingdom to complete the world of immortals, she would immediately give up the immortal dao to stop him.

“That’s not it.” He shook his head. “The kingdom is a world projected by the Tome of Life and Death. If we incorporate it into the world of immortals, it’ll eat away at the immortal dao. Maybe the reincarnation cycle will even replace it at some point to become the great dao of the world.”

He flashed a grin. “Do you remember the Hadal Bonefire?”

“Eh?” Qing Yu’s eyes gleamed.

The Hadal Bonefire was called thus because it’d been born in the endless Hadal Battlefield. That battleground had now become nine massive prisons incarcerating terrible criminals in the void of hell.

“I’ll take out the prisons from the abyss of hell and connect them to the world, making it whole again!” Lu Yun declared firmly.

“But...” Qing Yu hesitated. “The prisons are in the deepest depths of hell and the prisoners there are so dreadful that even Ge Long and the blood demon can only barely manage to keep them in the Hadal Battlefield...”

“I’ve met Holy Emperor Fuxi, Leize, Huaxu, and Hongjun in the great wilderness.” Lu Yun smiled.

“They’ve been making their plans since then and never put a foot wrong. None of their plans have ever been anything but a success either—even their enemies have to do as they’re manipulated to do. The most they can do is make the best of the setup they’re caught in!”

Whether it’d been the Dao Tree, curse on great emperors, or turning the world of immortals into a great tomb... all of that had been a result of chaos creatures being unable to ruin the plans of Fuxi and the others. They’d had to settle for second best and read the best they could to the circumstances.

“Hongjun is on Mount Buzhou now. If we ask him for help, he’ll be able to make the world of immortals whole again!”

## **Chapter 992: To Stem a Raging Tide**

Lu Yun couldn’t do anything about the Hadal Battlefield—that’d held true even after he returned from the great wilderness with a peak chaos realm cultivation. His power infinitely close to a creator’s had been insufficient to affect it.

Neither was Ge Long certain of how strong the prisoners within the Hadal Prisons were. Only the unique power specific to that region could keep them sealed within.

But now that Hongjun had returned to his full power, Lu Yun guessed that he and the others had surmised the situation of today when they were forecasting the future from the Primeval Era. If Lu Yun could think of using the Hadal Prisons to make the world of immortals whole again, there was no reason that Hongjun and the others couldn’t.

.....

“Why have the heavens seen fit to bless me with someone like you who never does what is expected?” At the peak of Mount Buzhou, Hongjun looked dumbly at his sudden visitor. His heart almost leapt out of his chest when he heard what Lu Yun was planning. “Use the Hadal Battlefield to complete the world of immortals? We didn’t have a plan like this and didn’t think of anything like this either!”

Hongjun and Fuxi shook their heads rapidly.

“The prisons were a battleground that was present before our realm came into being. No one knows what’s being held inside and no one knows how they were formed!” Hongjun said solemnly. “Even if our realm was destroyed, those prisons would still remain!”

“This... wasn’t part of your plan?” Lu Yun frowned slightly.

“You seem to have immortalized us and view us as your gods.” Fuxi shook his head with a wry smile. “The heavenly palace and kingdom of hell are completely outside of our expectations. Though we made many plans in the great wilderness and foresaw that we would cause someone to travel back to our time to become humanity’s first great emperor, you have to know that our opponents are the chaos creatures!

“How long have they lived in the chaos? Any lowly soldier under their command is older than our entire realm! They’ve destroyed realm upon realm in their chaos, many of them which housed powerhouses far greater than us. And yet, all of those realms died.”

Lu Yun fell silent. Fuxi was right. With how strong the chaos creatures were, even creators were ants in front of them. If it wasn’t for the energy of a realm being anathema to them, they would easily destroy every single world in the chaos with a wave of their hand.

“The reality is, we’ve lost as well,” Hongjun sighed. “We lost the moment the immortal dao was born. The world of immortals was turned into a tomb and the Dao Tree rooted in the immortal dao. A curse appeared on the title of ‘emperor’ to prevent further great emperors from being born beneath the great dao. Countless hordes of akasha ghosts fed off the immortal dao as well... When all this appeared, the immortal dao was no longer the immortal dao of our plans.”

Hongjun swept a glance at Lu Yun and smiled. “Did you think that it was part of our plans that you’d clean all of these tumors from the immortal dao?”

“...wasn’t it?” Lu Yun asked subconsciously.

“No!” Hongjun and Fuxi answered in unison. “Our plans ended after you arrived in the great wilderness. Everything you’ve done since returning to the world of immortals is a result of your own thinking!”

“Everything regarding Mount Buzhou, my rebirth, and Fuxi’s resurrection are your actions alone.” Hongjun shook his head slightly. “If it wasn’t for you taking a strand of my soul force and planting it in a Hell Flower, I wouldn’t have been able to absorb the power of reincarnation. I would still be drifting along the wheel of reincarnation and have scattered along the progression of history some time ago. I wouldn’t be sitting here talking to you.

“The same goes for Fuxi, so you wanting to complete the world of immortals with the Hadal Battlefield is your thinking entirely. You are not walking a predetermined path!”

“We don’t have that kind of ability or the capability to think so much. Not only do you overestimate us, but you also think too little of yourself,” Fuxi continued. “Thank goodness I chose you and not...”

He sighed gently and didn’t continue. It was apparent that Fuxi had once identified another candidate to send back to the great wilderness, but he’d given up on the notion in the end. Lu Yun didn’t ask who it was, but he had a feeling that the other candidate was still somewhere in the world of immortals.

“That may be so, but I still need your help to complete the world of immortals and restore the thirty-three layers,” Lu Yun said solemnly. “The twenty-four facets appear to be perfect, but they’re not unassailable. There’s still great flaws present, so all thirty-three layers need to be reinstated! The Hadal Battlefield is the most optimal choice, so I’d like to request your help!”

“Fuxi and I can’t do it alone, we need Pangu and God as well,” Hongjun mused thoughtfully. “My three disciples need to lend a hand as well. They’re connate spirits of this realm and embody the three essentials.

“Someone else needs to be part of the effort as well—she is the greatest titan of this realm. We can keep the prisoners under control only with her help.”

“Who?” Lu Yun blinked. Was there anyone else who could rival these legendary figures in front of him?

Although only Ge Long was still alive out of Hongjun’s disciples, the soul force of the other two had been sent into the Hell Flowers. It was only a matter of time before they returned to life.

“Mo Yi.” It was Fuxi who responded. “Mo Yi has a tremendous background on par with Violetgrave’s. If she’s willing to lend a hand, it won’t be a difficult task to refine the Hadal Battlefield into the world of immortals and make everything whole again.”

“Mo Yi...” Lu Yun started. Mo Yi was a special existence in the world of immortals.

She’d once severed her own cultivation to remain in Dusk Province, seemingly on the run from something. She’d become a minor city lord, but still abided by the rules of the world, refraining from doing anything that wasn’t allowed or beyond the limits of what this world could tolerate.

After the void realm was restored, she was the first to sever her cultivation and start anew. And after experiencing the void realm and becoming a void ascended immortal, she paved the way for the rest of the immortals in the world to do the same.

Qing Buyi, Chen Xiao, Lu Feng, and Mo Yi all possessed similar auras—an indicator that they were likely from similar backgrounds. However, Mo Yi was more restrained than the other three and didn’t act in such an unbridled manner.

Still, Lu Yun was very curious about them and where they came from.

“There’s no need to guess about their origins, you’ll find out when the time is right.” Hongjun smiled when he caught a glimpse of Lu Yun’s expression. “Hold your horses for now, it’s not the best timing to repair the world of immortals. The twenty-four facets of this broken world are the last scheme from the chaos creatures. If you undo it now, they’ll likely implement new plans. We’ll have a hard time responding then.

“The ninetieth year of the Xuanhuang calendar! My two disciples and the Great Emperor of the Eastern Peak will return then. Let’s do it in the ninetieth year. We’ll need some time to prepare as well.”

The light of wisdom shone in Hongjun’s eyes. Though their plans laid since the great wilderness had failed, but Lu Yun’s appearance and great efforts to stem the raging tide bestowed new hope upon them.

And thus, Hongjun and Fuxi started their plans anew as well.

It was the forty-fifth year of the Xuanhuang calendar. Forty-five years was plenty of time to make their preparations.

“Alright.” Lu Yun nodded, realizing that he’d been overly hasty.

Though the nine majors had returned to order and the heavenly court established, that didn’t mean all was well in the world. He needed to firmly take up the reins and thoroughly stabilize the world of immortals. The ten lords of the divine nations, for instance, were no placid characters.

### **Chapter 993: Wuzhiqi**

North Sea, the world of immortals.

The two scarlet apes had employed tremendous force to move Levitating Island to the center of the North Sea.

Ever since the school of monster spirit dao was established at the Dao Academy and the identity of the school’s dean revealed, the entire world of monster spirits had turned on the two scarlet apes.

Though current monster spirits didn’t know of the monster spirit ancestor of the great wilderness, the little fox was also the monster spirit ancestor from a hundred thousand years ago. At the same time, she was the monster celestial master of the ancient immortal court and had protected the entire race all this time. That identity alone was enough to compel the monster spirits of the world to fall under the Dao Academy’s banner and become part of the school for monster spirit dao.

In comparison, the monster spirit sacred land that Goldenlight had created by sheer force on Levitating Island seemed rather illegitimate and misbegotten.

The other two heavyweights of the North Sea—the Dark North Sword Sect and Ingress Island—had already joined the Dao Academy and become part of their forces. They remained in the North Sea still, observers for the academy in this part of the world.

.....

Levitating Island was almost an empty island these days. Apart from a few tribes still loyal to the scarlet apes, there was no one else here.

Crash. Crash. Crash.

The North Sea’s waters howled and churned as tempestuous waves, crashing repeatedly onto the shores of the island. Goldenlight and Silverlight were in human form and sitting cross-legged on the peaks of the island, staring into the distance of the North Sea’s horizon.

They didn't know what to do or where to go anymore. That day, Silverblaze's resounding question had almost shaken their dao hearts.

Do you want the monster spirit race that is with you, or the race of your ideals?

"Have we really done wrong?" Deep dejection shone from Silverlight's beautiful face. She'd entertained no thought of any other action after learning of the little fox's true identity, and neither did she dare face the monster spirit ancestor.

Silverlight was a monster spirit from the time before Emperors Fall and had once listened to Daoist Yuyu's lectures. The daoist had casually taken her as an honorary disciple, which was why she'd dared contend against Lu Yun and the Dao Academy.

But when Tushan appeared, Silverlight's self assurance faded away.

This was the ancestor of their race! The one who'd safeguarded monster spirits and gremlins in the great wilderness and seen to their survival, so that they could later evolve into the monster spirit race of modern times.

Tushan had never called herself the ancestor of their kind, it was the monster spirits and gremlins of the great wilderness who'd bestowed this title of veneration on her. However, she'd disappeared during the human dao era. Some said she'd entered the chaos with the Flame Emperor and journeyed the outer realms, while others said that she'd already died.

All of the stories and legends about Tushan came from Daoist Yuyu. He taught mostly monster spirits and he greatly respected Tushan, often regaling his disciples with her stories. That was when Silverlight had learned of the monster spirit ancestor's existence.

But now that both Daoist Yuyu and the ancestor were in the Dao Academy, Silverlight didn't have the face to go see them.

"If Lu Yun and Qing Yu could forgive even the akasha ghosts, then there's still time enough for us to take stock of our errors and turn back..." Goldenlight said softly as he looked at his dao partner.

Silverlight leaned against his shoulder and shook her head gently. "I can't forgive myself. The monster spirit race of our ideals is a golden age of our race, an era that truly belongs to us! But when we can't even protect the monster spirits by our side, what right do we have to speak of ideals?"

Indelible pain flashed through her eyes.

Boom!

An enormous wave reared in the North Sea as a gray figure stood up from the depths. It was an enormous monkey several thousand kilometers tall, towering over the waves like a hulking mountain. Its fur was gray and two black flames burned in its faintly golden eyes; it wielded a mammoth wooden club that almost overturned the entire North Sea when it was raised.

"What in the?!" Goldenlight shot to his feet and summoned the Divine Seaquell Staff into his hand, taking his true form as a scarlet ape.

Silverlight remained in human form but stood up as well, ready to fight. This giant monkey was no friend to suddenly appear in front of Levitating Island like this. Its presence was also terrifying—it dwarfed the two scarlet apes, despite them reaching peak human king realm!

“Who are you?!” Silverlight demanded from the giant monkey.

“Wuzhiqi of the Huai River.” The monkey voiced a few simple syllables that were different from modern language, but they came with his will and so the two scarlet apes could still understand him.

“Interesting, interesting!” Wuzhiqi grinned broadly. “To think that I would meet two descendants right upon breaking free of my seal, and that one of them would be a female!”

“Wuzhiqi?!” Silverlight gaped. “Connate demon god Wuzhiqi, first monkey beneath the heavens!”

Wuzhiqi was a connate demon god born of the Huai River and accustomed to raising all manner of trouble. There was no wrongdoing he didn’t try. Taiyi had subdued him at some point and dubbed him river god of the Huai River. In the great wilderness, the Huai River was the second greatest water system of the land. That made Wuzhiqi’s position even greater than river god Bingyi of the Yellow River.

Everyone had thought him dead, but here he was, alive and well!

“I, am, your ancestor!” Wuzhiqi stared fixedly at Silverlight. “Good, good, very good! Mine bloodline has declined in this age, but to think that I’ve run into a descendant! The days of mine tribe’s flourishing are within sight.”

He reached out and grabbed at Silverlight.

“How dare you!!” Goldenlight swung his metal club forward to smash it down on the big monkey’s head.

BAM!

Goldenlight flew backward after a muffled impact and splashed down far into the distance.

“Little monkey, you are my descendant so I do not wish to take you to task. I will eat you if you offend me again,” Wuzhiqi cackled, his hand wrapped around Silverlight. Shrinking to the size of a regular human, he set foot onto Levitating Island.

“This is... the work of Tushan and that she-demon Ah Zhi!” Taking a close look at the island’s layout, the monkey cackled again. “I have yet to find shelter after breaking free of Di Jun’s seal. This shall do.”

He tapped the center of Silverlight’s forehead between her brows, forcing her back into scarlet ape form.

“Scarlet apes... are not purebloods. There are too many bloodlines from other races mixed within.” Wuzhiqi smacked his lips together. “But no matter, my bloodline is domineering. The offspring you and I produce will still be my children and pureblood, gyakakakaka!!”

Blanching, panic chased dread chased horror in Silverlight’s eyes.

**Chapter 994: The Fuck is Taiyi**



Silverlight had never dreamed that she'd one day become the tool with which to repopulate a race. When the shock and panic wore off, absolute despair rose from the bottom of her heart.

She possessed ambitions of creating a glory age that belonged to only the monster spirits. Her race, so piteous and humble in the time of the great wilderness, would stand at the top of this realm and be lowly no more!

However, Wuzhiqi's appearance shattered all of her dreams. Though he was the ancestor of all monkeys and apes, the first of their kind, he wasn't a monster spirit. He was a connate demon god, and the offspring he produced would also be a connate race!

.....

"Run, run!" There was no other thought in Goldenlight's heart but to run!

Wuzhiqi was so powerful that Goldenlight couldn't begin to think of defying this forefather. If Wuzhiqi wanted to kill him, it'd be easier for the demon god than stepping on a stinkbug.

But that didn't mean Goldenlight was giving up. He flashed across the North Sea like lightning and barreled into Nephrite Major.

"Help, ancestor, help!!" Screaming his anguish, Goldenlight's voice reverberated through the land. "Monster spirit ancestor, please help us and save Silverlight!"

He knelt in front of the Dao Academy and repeatedly slammed his head into the earth with every iota of strength in his being. With how firm the academy's grounds were, even the strength of a peak grand pure realm immortal couldn't shake the campus. Instead of a hole opening up from the force of his kowtows, his forehead soon dripped with blood instead.

"If you are willing to help us, ancestor, then I will repay you even if I am to be your horse or cow for the rest of my life! I will never oppose the academy ever again!"

Shocked gazes traveled this way from all over Dusk Province, and many immortals gaped at the proceedings in front of the academy.

Goldenlight was the monster spirit ancestor of the North Sea and had invaded Dusk Province more than once. The two sides couldn't abide each other, and that feud had continued even after the construction of the Dao Academy. In fact, it'd grown even worse with both Goldenlight and his dao partner Silverlight threatening the academy from the North Sea.

These days, the academy nursed a grudge for the death of Yuan Tong as well.

But here Goldenlight was, begging for help in front of the academy doors with no thought for any of this! Just what had happened in the North Sea that would cause a monster spirit ancestor—a peak grand pure realm immortal—to set aside all considerations of face and solicit help like this??

"I know of the affairs in the North Sea. I would have gone even without your visit." The little fox's voice traveled out of the academy, but she didn't appear herself.

Bloody tears streamed from Goldenlight's eyes as he continued to kowtow without stop.

The little fox sighed at the sight. In all honesty, she was quite gratified that their race possessed characters such as them, ones who stalwartly maintained their position and refused to submit.

Truth be told, she was rather flustered by Wuzhiqi's sudden reappearance at the chaos realm. This demon god had disappeared into the passage of time a long time ago. Currently, the little fox was only empyrean realm and wouldn't be his match even though she possessed the Bell of Chaos.

The emerald club in the big monkey's hands was also a mighty connate treasure. If he had returned in peak condition, only Taiyi would be barely able to subdue him—but still not firmly suppress him.

As the river god of Huai River, there were more tales of Wuzhiqi's misdeeds than anything else. There was no evil he wouldn't partake in, and none of the experts in Taiyi's court had been able to bring him to heel.

He might not quite be at his peak now, but so was the little fox short of chaos realm. Lu Yun and Qing Yu weren't in the world of immortals at the moment either, but neither would the two be his match if they were.

"The blood demon might be able to suppress him, but he's one of Lu Yun's trump cards..." the little fox wavered.

"Go find Lin Yan," Lu Yun's voice suddenly echoed in the little fox's mind. "Lin Yan is the reincarnation of Taiyi, he should be able to handle Wuzhiqi."

He wasn't in the world of immortals at the moment, but he kept an eye on matters at home at all times. He'd sensed it the moment Wuzhiqi appeared.

"No!" the little fox declined. "It's the same as sending him to his death if you let Lin Yan go. Taiyi subdued him through sheer violence that year, the demon god never wholeheartedly submitted to the celestial court."

"Trust me, send Lin Yan!" Qing Yu chimed in. "Wuzhiqi is his fortuitous opportunity. It's not enough that the world has Lin Yan at the moment, we need Taiyi!"

"Taiyi!" The little fox trembled, understanding what they meant.

Hongjun had exited the wheel of reincarnation and returned to his origin only after he died on Earth. That step had been crucial for him to return to his true self.

Taiyi was different from the others. He'd never died and was continuously cycling through this realm through a special method. He'd actually lost himself during one of the endless cycles, and if it wasn't for the existence of hell, Lin Yan would still likely be lost and have no idea who he was.

If he wanted to break free of this repeating cycle and fully become Taiyi again, he would have to experience death, just like Hongjun had.

"Alright, I understand." The little fox stepped out and set foot on Mount Xuanhuang, following its path to Earth. Lin Yan and the other prodigals, as well as Jing Huaci and Houtu, were currently guarding the ancestor planet.

“I’m such an idiot!” She smacked her forehead. “Lin Yan isn’t a match for Wuzhiqi, but Houtu’s on Earth! If she takes the field, she’ll smack ten of those monkeys dead with one slap!”

Houtu was a great master on par with Leize and the others. Though the big akasha ghost had injured her before her departure, she was still the same as before and served by the two great demon gods Shentu and Yulei.

“But to help Taiyi with his tribulation...” Resignation rose on her face when she thought of Taiyi. She didn’t like him at all and, in fact, quite hated him. But for the sake of the greater picture, she had to pay him a visit.

.....

“We meet again, Tushan!” A grating voice sounded in her ear when the little fox first glimpsed the curve of the cerulean planet.

The gray Wuzhiqi had appeared by her side at some point with an emerald-colored club in his hand. When he looked at her, his faintly golden eyes turned almost pure green.

“What a pity you can’t carry on my bloodline.” He did nothing to conceal the lust on his face as he gazed upon her.

“Taiyi is on the ancestor planet.” The little fox didn’t know what’d happened after the great wilderness, how Wuzhiqi had survived, or who’d sealed him away. When she traveled to the future, she hadn’t seen any sign of him.

It was as if this water monkey had suddenly disappeared, and then just as suddenly reappeared.

“Taiyi?” Wuzhiqi leered. “The fuck is Taiyi? If it wasn’t for Di Jun, I would’ve plucked the feathers off that scraggly bird a long time ago and ripped it to pieces!”

### **Chapter 995: Di Jun**

The fuck is Taiyi?

The little fox almost burst out laughing when she heard this. She really did dislike, or even hate Taiyi, but it was the first time she’d heard someone talk about him like this. As for Di Jun, she’d heard of the name before, but never met the person in question.

Di Jun was an extraordinary human great emperor of the human dao era. His foundations had been so vast that he’d almost rivaled Yellow Emperor Xuanyuan. Even now, there were those who still worshipped him on the ancestor planet.

The little fox didn’t know what’d happened in the human dao era or what kind of grudge existed between Wuzhiqi, Di Jun, and Taiyi. Foxi had set their destination for the time after Emperors Fall, when the immortal dao already existed.

As he approached the little fox, a hazy flame blossomed from Wuzhiqi’s body, looking like water on fire. There was nothing but lust in his eyes when he regarded the little fox.

She considered the situation gravely and slowly summoned the Bell of Chaos from her right hand, enveloping her body with it. They were at the intersection of Earth and the world of immortals. She hadn't yet entered Earth's cosmos and they were a long ways off from the actual planet.

Lin Yan and the others couldn't sense that she or Wuzhiqi was here; the two were effectively facing off in a no man's land.

As the little fox backed away, space around her turned viscous and tightly held her in place.

"Tushan, I don't want your treasure or anything else from you. I just want your virginity pill." A long, thin tongue snaked out of Wuzhiqi's mouth to flick his nose. The little fox had no idea how he managed to pull that off.

She looked warily at the big monkey, frosty killing intent exuding from her eyes. However, she didn't brashly jump into action. The little fox could clearly sense that the Wuzhiqi in front of her was no longer the one she'd known from the great wilderness. He'd converted himself fully to a lifeform beneath the immortal dao.

Even his combat arts and cultivation methods had been baptized by the immortal dao. In Lu Yun's words, the big monkey had kept up with the times and hadn't been rendered obsolete by progress.

It was obvious that Wuzhiqi hadn't just broken out of his seal. He'd dwelled in the world of immortals for an unknown period of time and observed certain events happening. He'd probably even visited the Dao Academy and learned a variety of new combat arts and cultivation methods there, integrating the new knowledge with his own.

The little fox was no match for him now.

"Are you going to strip off your clothes and crawl in front of me, or do you want me to do the deed?" The burning water around him flickered with greater intensity until space seemed to noticeably freeze to the naked eye. The little fox couldn't move anymore.

"So it looks like you want me to do it." Cackling, Wuzhiqi walked up to the little fox and reached out to tug at her robes.

Humm.

A large buzz sounded at the void of the intersection between the Earth and the world of immortals. A magnificent shadow suddenly appeared behind the little fox as a domineeringly powerful surge of strength crashed over Wuzhiqi.

"Di Jun!!" The big monkey screeched and shot several thousands of kilometers backwards. He held his club horizontally in front of him, looking back in the direction he'd come from with dismay and alarm.

The magnificent figure was just a shadow with blurry features, but it towered into the heavens and stood behind the little fox. Confusion and fear glittered in Wuzhiqi's pale golden eyes.

In the Primeval Era, in particular a long period of time before Emperors Fall, Wuzhiqi had symbolized invincibility. He'd led the countless remnants of connate races and almost overthrown the era of human rule.

Those days marked the disappearance of the Three Pure Ones, the reincarnation of the Eastern Emperor, and the mystery of Eternal and Arbiter's whereabouts. There didn't seem anyone who could stand up to the monkey.

But then, Emperor Di Jun rose to prominence in those dark days and defeated Wuzhiqi numerous times before finally sealing him beneath the eye of the North Sea until present day. It was also because of this that the monkey had avoided untold cataclysms and lived until modern times.

However, Wuzhiqi wasn't grateful in the least. Compared to being sealed in a dark and gloomy eye of the sea where no sunlight reached, he'd rather have died. Now that he'd broken free of his seal, he only had two wishes. One, to revitalize his race and two, to seek revenge on Di Jun.

He didn't believe that Di Jun had died—he wanted to personally end the human emperor. No! He wanted to seal Di Jun under the North Sea for a billion, ten billion years to slake his burning hatred!

But now that his nemesis had truly appeared and stood behind Tushan, his flames of vengeance were instantly scattered by the terrifying pulses of power from the figure. Wuzhiqi was certain that this figure was Di Jun, but his presence was more than ten times stronger than the great emperor of old. In fact, it was a hundred times greater and far outstripped where the previous emperor had stood!

“How is this possible, how could you have gotten so strong??” Though his cultivation level in the Primeval Era was currently out of reach, Wuzhiqi's internal force and combat arts had undergone a qualitative change under the effect of the immortal dao. He was so many more times stronger than the demon gods of that bygone age.

However, he'd never fathomed that Di Jun would become even stronger!

“How am I so strong?” Di Jun looked at the monkey and spoke in a supercilious tone, “No, I haven't changed. I've just returned to my true self.

“Wuzhiqi, you are the river god of Huai River as appointed by the celestial court, so I will not kill you. Will you turn and leave now, or do you want me to throw you into the eye of the sea again and suppress you for another ten billion years?”

It'd been only six hundred million years since the founding of the immortal dao, with human dao even further away in history. The ten billion years since Wuzhiqi had been sealed away was an absolutely staggering number when a hundred million years was already an unimaginably long period of time to most beings.

Ten billion years... exceeded the capacity of comprehension.

In Lu Yun's historical records, he addressed the entire age as a general Primeval Era when he referred to their events.

“Don't try to pull the wool over my eyes, Di Jun, your true body isn't here. You won't be able to seal me away with just a projection!” Wuzhiqi's gaze sharpened as he noticed the enormous black shadow in front of him was just an image.

“Is that so?” Di Jun turned a face that lacked features to the monkey. “That’s right, I’m under too many constraints and limitations when I’m just a projection. If my master was here, he would’ve ripped you apart already!”

“Master?” Wuzhiqi blinked. Di Jun has a master?

But in the next moment, his expression changed drastically and he turned tail with his club.

A sapling sparkling with golden light was slowly materializing from the void and melding into Di Jun’s body—the Karmic Tree.

### **Chapter 996: Purple Qi**

A dense beam of virtuous merit collected from the Karmic Tree sapling and melded into Di Jun’s body. He sharpened into focus and gained defined features on his face—Tianqi’s face.

Tianqi was Di Jun!

Or more accurately speaking, Di Jun was one of Tianqi’s reincarnations.

In order to free himself from the body of the Mount Tai mountain god and become a full-blooded human, Tianqi had to utilize the power of reincarnation and be reborn into another life. However, his core essence was so powerful that even when he was reborn as a human, he remained the mountain god of Mount Tai at his core.

Therefore, he had to undergo the process again and again, living and dying through multiple lifetimes before the wheel of reincarnation finally washed away the core essence of a mountain god. He became a personage of stunning ability and power in every one of his lives, rising to the peak each time and becoming a great emperor of the human race.

Di Jun was one such iteration, and Tianqi was about to complete his trials and return to Lu Yun.

The Karmic Tree had shown signs long before, and though only Tianqi’s projection returned for now, it contained all of his thoughts and consciousness. Thus, the sapling that’d split off from the mother tree instantly traveled from hell and arrived in the void to reinforce Tianqi, so that he could project his true form.

“Auntie!” Tianqi bowed at the little fox. “Long time no see!”

“It’s only been a few decades,” grumbled the little fox.

Tianqi was Lu Yun’s disciple and the little fox had been inseparable from Lu Yun when they were in the great wilderness. When Tianqi returned from Mount Buzhou, it’d been the little fox and Lu Yun who’d taught him together. Thus, Tianqi called the little fox his aunt.

He smiled ruefully when he heard this response. The decades that the little fox spoke of had been ten billion years in his eyes! His only goal and motivation during all of this time was the knowledge that in the future, his master the Flame Emperor had need of him. He needed to be able to fight for this realm.

It was also due to Lu Yun’s influence that Tianqi wanted to break away from his mountain god core and become a human. He’d lived his entire life in Lu Yun’s shadow, his drive and standards completely a

result of what Lu Yun had conferred upon him. But he also enjoyed operating under such circumstances and never felt an urge to change.

“Where are you?” the little fox asked hurriedly as she looked at Tianqi. “With your current strength, you could’ve smacked the water monkey dead with one blow. Why didn’t you kill him just now?”

She was quite dissatisfied at how the situation had turned out.

“Wuzhiqi is the key to Taiyi and the others breaking free from their tribulation. If they want to fully control Mount Vastspace, they must return to their origins and become connate demon gods of the great wilderness again,” Tianqi responded carefully while looking at the little fox’s expression. “If that wasn’t the case, I would’ve killed that monkey all those years ago. I wouldn’t have let him live until now.”

Though it’d been ten billion years, Tianqi still seemed to be the innocent young boy of yesteryear when he faced the little fox. Everything was as if it’d been yesterday.

“Alright then.” The little fox nodded. “So you’ve become involved in this game as well and are one of the players, not just a chess piece. You’ve really grown up.”

If anyone else had heard a girl of roughly seventeen years old assess the Great Emperor of the Eastern Peak, Emperor Di Jun of the human race, and a few other astounding great emperors in this way, their eyes might’ve fallen out of their sockets.

But for some reason, this unparalleled personage towering at the peak of the multiverse accepted it with a look of enjoyment on his face. He seemed like a child who’d been complimented by his elders after receiving good grades.

“Where is your true body?” asked the little fox. “You seem to be in a state of being both dead and alive.”

She frowned slightly at the projection in front of her. The Karmic Tree was helping him take form, but he seemed to exist between life and death in a zone of great danger.

“The chaos!” Tianqi wiped off the smile on his face. “My true body sits in the chaos. There is a treasure there that can help chaos creatures temporarily withstand the energy of a realm. My body sits where it can be found and fights off those creatures.”

“What?!” Shock drifted across the little fox’s face. “Help chaos creatures withstand the energy of a realm? Something like the dao palace?”

“No.” Tianqi shook his head. “I’ve heard of the dao palaces and how they hold a chaos star within, forming a world system of their own. Chaos creatures can survive in our space when they reside in those systems, but that doesn’t give them the ability to personally set foot into our realm. These treasures, however, help them to temporarily slip into our worlds without suffering an attack from the realm!”

“You said treasures, plural?” The little fox seized on that detail.

“Correct, these treasures. There’s a lot of them, not just one or two. It’ll be a calamitous disaster if the chaos creatures lay their hands on them,” Tianqi responded gravely.

He spread out a hand and released a ball of hazy purple light. "This is it. It looks like purple light and is without form or shape, but it acts like a gas that can be absorbed into the body to confer temporary immunity on the chaos creatures."

The little fox accepted the purple qi and stored it within her body. "I'll show this to your master and his wife. They should be able to deduce what this is."

"Master and... his wife?" Tianqi blinked. "Auntie, are you not my master's wife?"

The little fox rolled an eye. "Your master's mind is filled with thoughts of his lady. He has no room for anyone else!"

"Ohhhhhhh. I see~~~" answered Tianqi, humming knowingly.

"Shut up." The little fox couldn't be bothered with this turn of conversation and threw the Bell of Chaos at Tianqi. "You can't guard those treasures without a handy treasure at your disposal. You can borrow this bell for now. I've undone the last restriction inside it so you can deploy its full strength."

"Um..." Tianqi hesitated and then thought of the terrifying creatures within the chaos. "Then thank you, auntie."

"Alright, go back for now. You should be able to hold on until your master comes to rescue you, now that you have the Karmic Tree and Bell of Chaos by your side." The little fox waved noncommittally.

Tianqi chuckled ruefully. He really was at the end of his rope since the chaos creatures were too strong. If it wasn't for the fact that this special place was at the intersection of the realm and the chaos, he would've been overrun many times over long ago.

He would return to the world of immortals the moment he couldn't stand guard any longer. This was why the Karmic Tree had split off a sapling, ready to receive him at any time.

"Auntie, you must remember that only the big monkey can help Taiyi and the others. He is the river god of the Huai River and thus embodies the legitimacy of the celestial court in the great wilderness. Taiyi and the others are all connate demon gods. Only by borrowing the legitimacy of that age will they be able to endure their trial," Tianqi solemnly reminded once more before he left. He really was afraid that the little fox would do something and snap Wuzhiqi like a twig.

Though she'd been confined against her will just now, she'd been wholly without fear. Tianqi had materialized to save Wuzhiqi, not to help the little fox.

### **Chapter 997: Bridge of Forgetfulness**

"What?! Return to the world of immortals? Do we not need to guard the ancestor planet anymore?" In the Gates of the Abyss by Kunlun Mountain on Earth, the Deaf Prince's trademark tones boomed in all directions. They were insulated by the formations within the gates, so his words didn't travel to the outside world.

"They want us to return so we can activate our tribulation... or rather, escape it so we can return to our previous selves." Jing Dichen remained calm and frowned slightly at the little fox. "Compared to Changxi, I like my current identity more."



She spun around in a circle, luxuriating in the self of a heavenly dragon that was the third princess of the Unsullied Sea. She was an honest-to-goodness idle prodigal who did whatever she felt like, whenever she felt like it.

While these six had fully recovered their earliest memories, they'd lost their original identities somewhere along the endless cycle of reincarnation and completely turned into latter-day lifeforms. This was similar to Tianqi's process and how he'd scoured himself through reincarnation and washed the core essence of a mountain god from his being.

The prodigal alliance all rather enjoyed their current selves. No one felt the desire to become a mighty demon god again, to be a lofty character on high so far removed from anyone else. This also included Taiyi, who now wanted to quietly live out his days as the third young master of the Lin Clan.

"Some things aren't up to you." The little fox shook her head. "You six will be grand pure realm at the most with your capabilities, even with the reinforcement of the treasures of human dao. You'll be of no help to this era, but if you return to your origins, you'll be six connate demon gods. You can judge for yourselves which is more important and what the right decision is."

Off to the side, Jing Huaci and Houtu looked at the six with great amusement and some schadenfreude.

As the reincarnation of the Queen Mother of the West, Jing Huaci's situation was different from the six prodigals. Kunlun Mountain was her dao arena to begin with, and although she was only peak grand pure realm now, her cultivation would continue to increase as long as she remained on the mountain. Breaking through to great emperor and chaos realm was only a matter of time.

That left Houtu, who hadn't gone through the cycle of reincarnation at all. The little fox had directly hauled her back from the great wilderness, so these worries didn't apply to her.

"In... that case, the six of us will go meet our tribulations," Beicang Qiong heaved a sigh. "During the great wilderness, the Flame Emperor collected our soul force and the Great Emperor of the Eastern Peak pulled us out of death with the power of reincarnation. If we die again this time, there will be no one to save us. We need to protect ourselves with our own power."

"Let's head back to the world of immortals!" Feng Ruyi, Bai Qi, and the others stood up as well. They were unwilling and possessed no alternative, but there really was no other choice available to them. This had to be done—for themselves, for all life beneath the heavens, and for this realm.

.....

Lu Yun and Qing Yu had no idea where they were. They were following the void in the deepest part of hell, but they didn't end up in the Hadal Battlefront. Instead, they came to a marvelous place.

A stone the size of a fist and sparkling with rays of remarkable radiance led the way—the Stone of Three Lives.

Hongjun had used the stone as a foundation with which to integrate the hell of human dao and construct the wheel of reincarnation. When he returned from his tribulation, he returned the treasure to Lu Yun. He'd borrowed it in the great wilderness and returned it in present day.

The Stone of Three Lives was a powerful treasure born in the netherdark. It nurtured the power of reincarnation and was also the foundational stone of the human dao hell.

After untold years of tempering and fortifying, it was more than a hundred times stronger than when Lu Yun first obtained it; it was almost in the chaos realm itself. He was now entering the path of unknown space with it because he wanted to search for other fragments of the human dao hell.

In the final years of human dao, hell was smashed into pieces and scattered into the void. The part that the Tome of Life and Death controlled was just the biggest and most central fragment that remained. Lu Yun could use the Stone of Three Lives to sense where the others were and collect them to reintegrate them back into his hell.

“Where are we?” He and Qing Yu walked hand in hand through a place without any source of light. They moved in a world of complete darkness.

“We’re not in the world of immortals or the lower realms... and of course we’re not on the ancestor planet.” She deduced with a frown on her face. “We’re not in the chaos either! We seem to be in an undiscovered realm.”

Qing Yu was very certain that they were in a defined realm, but that this realm wasn’t located in any of their known space.

“Be careful,” Lu Yun suddenly raised. “If my hunch is correct, the prisoners in the Hadal Prisons come from here.”

Qing Yu nodded slowly.

Hummmm.

A strange sound came from ahead of them and the stone quivered in Lu Yun’s hand. It seemed to form a strange connection with something in the darkness.

“The fragment of hell is ahead of us!” Lu Yun’s eyes lit up.

The two subconsciously picked up their pace and walked swiftly toward a hazy glow appearing in the gloom. An enormous bridge loomed quietly out of the dark, covered by a dense carpet of something that looked like flies.

“...don’t move!” All of Lu Yun’s hairs suddenly stood on end and he grabbed Qing Yu, swallowing lightly.

“What is it?” Qing Yu stopped as well.

“Take a close look at that. What’s that covering the stone bridge?” He swallowed hard and carefully posed the question.

Qing Yu focused her gaze on the bridge and noted things that looked like flies... but they were much bigger at roughly three meters long. They glowed with a dim red, but that eerie radiance was overshadowed by the hue of the bridge, so it wasn’t that apparent.

“Corpseflies!” Qing Yu kept her voice down with great effort. “Don’t those things only exist in a zombie’s body? And the ones we saw beneath Myriad Formation Summit were only the size of a palm...” her voice trailed off.

The flies beneath Myriad Formation Summit were born of Yueshen’s body. They’d been palm sized only because her resentment had blown up her body several thousand kilometers long. The ones before them were three meters long! If they were truly inside a giant zombie, how big was it for flies of this size to appear?

Were they inside a giant zombie, or were they inside a giant corpse coffin like Myriad Formation Summit?

Lu Yun and Qing Yu didn’t dare speculate too hard on this.

“If my guess is right, that stone bridge is the Bridge of Forgetfulness... It spans the yin and yang worlds in the hell of human dao,” Lu Yun murmured. “Let’s get that bridge first before we do anything else!”

He strode out and walked up to the bridge.

### **Chapter 998: The Third and Fourth Realms**

From the distance, the Bridge of Forgetfulness looked to be just a small stone bridge erected in the dusky depths of the void. But when Lu Yun tried to approach it, he realized that it was so many times bigger than he’d imagined.

It seemed as large as a world.

The corpseflies that’d been three meters long to the couple before turned into mammoth creatures five hundred kilometers long.

There was no frame of reference in the darkness, so Lu Yun had no idea how far away he was from the bridge.

The Bridge of Forgetfulness was different from the Gates of the Abyss fragment in Zhao Qing’s tomb. The gates were broken and the main body in Lu Yun’s hands, hence it was easy for him to subdue the fragment he found.

The bridge in front of him was whole and complete with no sign of damage. If it wasn’t for the Stone of Three Lives in his hands, he probably wouldn’t be able to sense that it was here at all.

It grew bigger the further in he walked, as did the corpseflies buzzing over it. More terrifying was that he still had no idea of how far away he was from the bridge!

The boundless darkness was too pure in this unknown world and unknown realm. There was nothing else in front of him apart from the Bridge of Forgetfulness.

Clenching his teeth, Lu Yun deployed the Boundless Step and strode ten steps of five hundred thousand kilometers each, covering five million kilometers total. The bridge grew larger in his field of view, but he was still very far away from it.

He had no idea how big it was even now, but the corpseflies on it were as large as a planet in his eyes now. Their bodies rose and fell in deep slumber.

Qing Yu reached his side with a few leaps and bounds.

“How far away are we from this bridge?” she murmured as she looked at Lu Yun, feeling a bit numb at how nonsensical things were.

“I don’t know... but look at the corpseflies on the bridge. They’re as big as a main world in the lower realms, so why is it can we see the bridge in its full glory?” Lu Yun calmed down,

If the corpseflies were already as big as a main world and the bridge was even bigger than them, logic dictated that they would be only able to see part of the bridge. However, the entire Bridge of Forgetfulness was in front of them and appearing in its fullest glory.

It was bigger than the entire world of immortals by now.

“Wait a second.” Qing Yu took in a deep breath and sat down crosslegged, operating formula dao to deduce the truth of the situation here.

Lu Yun took out the Tome of Life and Death to safeguard her. This bridge was too uncanny, so forcing formula dao on it might very easily lead to a backlash.

Indeed, a surge of tremendous force surged from the bridge and slapped down on Qing Yu the moment the book’s light enveloped her.

Boom!

The light curtain from the Tome of Life and Death trembled violently, then crushed the force as if it’d been rudely challenged. It didn’t strike back after that, just remained hovering over Qing Yu’s head to protect her.

That surge of strength had threatened her life, and if it wasn’t for the book standing guard, Qing Yu would’ve already died to the attack.

With Lu Yun as her protector, no further worries nagged at Qing Yu’s mind. She concentrated fully on operating formula dao and tried to get the truth of the matter regarding the bridge.

Crystalline glyphs sparkled around her and continuously transformed into different shapes. At the same time, terrible surges of force erupted from the bridge and blasted down at Qing Yu. The light from the Tome of Life and Death shook and trembled, dispersing the attacks.

The backlash wasn’t an active attack from the Bridge of Forgetfulness, but a natural recoil from Qing Yu’s use of formula dao. Some great personages in the world permitted no blasphemy against them. Even saying their name out loud would result in attacks from their enemies, to say nothing of deducing their true nature.

Plainly, the bridge was an entity at this level.

Qing Yu’s eyes shot open after an indeterminate period of time and she looked at the stone bridge with great shock.

“What is it?” Instead of putting his treasure away, Lu Yun quickly followed up on his beloved’s expression.

“It’s alive!” Incredulity crossed Qing Yu’s face. “The Bridge of Forgetfulness is alive, it’s a living being! It’s not a dead thing!”

“What?!” Lu Yun didn’t quite understand. “Alive? The bridge is alive?”

The Bridge of Forgetfulness was an ultimate treasure born from the hell of human dao. It was the same kind of treasure as the Stone of Three Lives and the Yellow Spring. But... it was alive?

“This is a special kind of existence caught in a plane between our world and the chaos, but it’s abnormally spacious. I think we could call it... the third realm.”

If the chaos was viewed as one realm of existence and their multiverse another, then where they were was the third realm.

“No, wait, I shouldn’t say that it’s caught in a plane between us. If my deductions are right, this third realm is older than ours. It exists between every world that is born and the chaos.” Qing Yu gave the notion careful thought. “Our worlds are never truly destroyed. Whenever the chaos creatures destroy a lower world, a second is immediately born in the chaos. This chain of life has never been broken, which makes whatever lives in the chaos the true poison of everything.”

“The third realm, huh?” Lu Yun looked around at the nearly completely empty void. So this was a plane of existence on par with theirs and the chaos.

“So our worlds are on the same footing as the chaos. I’d always thought the chaos was bigger than all of us combined and more sophisticated.” Lu Yun scratched his head. “How far away are we from it?”

He pointed at the bridge that looked so close, but was plainly very far away.

“Extremely far!” Qing Yu made an estimation. “At least a hundred billion kilometers away...”

“A hundred billion?! How big is this third realm??”

A hundred billion rivaled the entire cosmos of the cosmos over the world of immortals, yet this was only the distance between them and the Bridge of Forgetfulness!

Qing Yu frowned slightly. “I don’t know how big this realm is... but something feels off. I feel like there should be another realm apart from the third. Or rather, we’re in the fourth realm now and the plane of existence we haven’t seen yet is the third.”

She squatted on the ground and started drawing various diagrams. “That’s right, we’re in the fourth realm and there’s an unknown third realm we haven’t reached yet!”

### **Chapter 999: Hexacolor Flower**

“What do you mean?” Lu Yun wasn’t quite following Qing Yu’s line of thought. First she spoke of a third realm, now it was suddenly the fourth realm?

“Take a look at this.” Qing Yu rose and stretched out a finger, drawing four concentric circles in the air. Each successive circle enveloped the previous one, but they were connected at the very bottom with the one starting point in common between all of them.

“The innermost circle is our realm. It continually grows and will one day assimilate the second circle—the chaos. This new combined realm will continue to expand and one day subsume the third realm, then the fourth, becoming a world without end or boundaries.

“As for how big the fourth realm is... I don’t know that either. Maybe there’s no border that defines its reach.”

She looked around at where they stood. It was bereft of anything other than the Bridge of Forgetfulness. Even the immortal dao couldn’t extend into this place.

“The bridge has obtained a special power here that’s helped it come alive and become a real life form...” Qing Yu frowned.

“Then what about those corpseflies on it?” Lu Yun was beginning to wrap his mind around the situation. The fourth realm was an incomparably sophisticated plane of existence. Their own realm was inferior to it before it finished swallowing the chaos and that unknown third realm.

The Bridge of Forgetfulness had come alive in the fourth realm and the endless gigantic corpseflies on it set him very ill at ease. This fourth realm appeared quite empty, but there must be some sort of horrific existence living within it—unknown zombies, for instance.

Since Qing Yu had identified it as alive and not a zombie, there was no way these corpseflies came from it.

“I don’t know...” Qing Yu shook her head. “I can’t calculate any further. There’s no immortal dao here or the energy of our realm. It’s so much less real than the chaos and it’s all I can do to deduce this much.”

“A few hundred billion, is it? Let’s go take a look!” With a wave of Lu Yun’s hand, the Tome of Life and Death turned into a curtain of light that encased him and Qing Yu.

He didn’t dare separate from his beloved in this place and the book was his only surefire trump card. He couldn’t even sense the Gates of the Abyss anymore. If he wanted to return to the world of immortals or hell, he’d have to do so through the Tome of Life and Death.

“Big brother, big sister, don’t go over there.” The ethereal voice of a child sounded by their ears. Startled, the couple halted in their tracks and looked backward at the same time.

A little girl wearing a red dress had appeared at some point and was standing charmingly behind them. She looked about eight years old, but also seemed to be not fully present on the scene. She was standing there, but also not there.

“That stone bridge has become a scary monster and it’ll eat you if you go over there. You’ll turn into something like those flies,” she said earnestly.

“And who are you?” Lu Yun asked the girl. “Why are you here?”

“Me?” A lost look flashed across her face. “I don’t know who I am either... I’m not here. I’m in the world below.”

“The world below? The third realm?” Qing Yu asked subconsciously.

“So that’s called the third realm...” The little girl nodded. “That used to be a battlefield where a lot of people died, and then someone tried to bring them all back to life. But that person failed, so they all turned into little flowers planted in that world.

“I’m in that place you call the third realm to protect those flowers.”

“Little flowers? Flowers like this one?” Lu Yun pushed his hand forward, displaying a Hell Flower on top of it.

The little girl shook her head gently. “This kind of flower.”

A small flower of six colors appeared in front of her. It possessed six petals and three leaves, each of which seemed to embody a certain utmost rule and law, coming together to depict some sort of monumental truth.

Lu Yun and Qing Yu were instantly captivated by the hexacolored flower.

“Alright, I should be getting back. Many things in the third realm want the flowers for themselves, so I need to keep them safe. You mustn’t go to the bridge no matter what. It’ll eat you!” The little girl slowly faded away alongside her flower.

“She’s the manifestation of a treasure,” Qing Yu suddenly said. “A supremely powerful treasure so many times greater than Worldcarver, Heavenfall, and your Quietus.”

“A treasure?” Lu Yun subconsciously thought of the relationship of the blood demon and Situ Zong with their treasures.

“She’s not the treasure itself, but the manifestation of one. She’s not alive!” corrected Qing Yu. “I wonder what level of existence it takes to refine a treasure like this... It’s basically the creation of a realm distilled down into a treasure. No, no wait, not just a realm, but the creation of everything!”

“Did a life form of the third realm create her?? How strong can they be that they can refine treasures beyond chaos realm?!” Lu Yun wondered with amazement.

The little girl hadn’t been a connate treasure born from nature, but an artificially created treasure from the hands of another. Just how strong was her maker?

“But we have to head over there, no matter what!” Resolution shone in Qing Yu’s eyes. “Though the Bridge of Forgetfulness is alive now, its spirit isn’t strong enough to harness the bridge itself. We still have a chance.

“If we wait until the spirit can fully control the bridge, we won’t stand a chance of doing anything at all.”

“Alright,” Lu Yun agreed. He, too, had no plans of heading back to their world right now.

Though his replica had refined hell once over, there were still plenty of flaws in the netherworld due to the missing fragments that'd once made it whole. The Bridge of Forgetfulness and the world it'd spawned were indispensable parts of the human dao hell.

.....

"Why didn't you listen?" The little girl in a red dress stood in a world of purplish haze, pouting mournfully as she watched the two figures make their way to the bridge. "If you're eaten by the bridge too, that bridge will wake up and come here to eat all the flowers up..."

A continent filled with purple fog and carpeted with hexacolor flowers spanned behind her. She thought for a moment and materialized a black pennant in her hand. Sparkling stars embedded into the pennant exuded the radiance of the celestial bodies in the sky.

"Wait... I don't think this is called the third realm... I think it's called Hongmeng?" the little girl murmured quizzically to herself. She waved the pennant out of the third realm and sent it into the fourth.

### **Chapter 1000: Even Bigger**

Abnormally loud breathing and irresistible force radiated from the Bridge of Forgetfulness, inducing grave discomfort in Lu Yun and Qing Yu. The bridge now appeared to be a divine dragon above the nine heavens in their eyes. So lofty, so majestic, and they as two ants scabbling around in the dirt.

How big was the bridge?

Lu Yun couldn't tell. It was big... very big... The corpseflies on it were as big as the world of immortals, and the bridge itself was no bigger than their realm.

"I was wrong..." Qing Yu suddenly said. "It's not that its spirit isn't strong enough, but that its body is too strong. No spirit could be strong enough to perfectly propel such a massive body."

A wave of overwhelming despair pressed down upon the couple.

It wasn't despair from the prodigious force that their opponent wielded, but of psychological pressure. It didn't come from the Bridge of Forgetfulness either, but from their own hearts. It was the mental tension of an ant gazing upon a divine dragon, something that not even the Book of Life and Death could dispel.

"What in the world?!" Lu Yun was the first to snap out of it. He placed a hand on his beloved's back and broke down a karmic fruit from a stash he always carried with him, infusing its strength into her body.

Qing Yu took in a deep breath and turned an expression of shock toward the stone bridge.

"It's... it's a being that's infinite times more advanced than us. Not advanced in terms of strength, but the metamorphosis of what it means to be a life form!" Incredulity tinged her voice.

In her eyes, all of the known beings in the universe that could cultivate, including the chaos creatures, were on the same level. Strength and cultivation level might differ from individual to individual, but there was no difference in their fundamental form of existence. They were all the same on that underlying level.



That notion was overturned after seeing the Bridge of Forgetfulness.

It wasn't alive to begin with, but had become a life form in this fourth realm, one that was more sophisticated than all current known forms of life.

Or in Lu Yun's words, the difference between them and the bridge in front of them was the difference between a single cell organism and a human being. The two were on a completely different level.

"Life is constantly evolving and we are not its terminal point. Perhaps... this bridge is." Lu Yun stared fixedly at the bridge when he recovered his calm.

A single eye slowly opened on the Bridge of Forgetfulness as well, locked in scrutiny of the Tome of Life and Death over Lu Yun's head. No emotions colored the eye, as if the couple was no different from the void that surrounded them.

Only the book over Lu Yun's head drew its attention.

However, just because it didn't care about the two humans didn't mean other things didn't. The gigantic corpseflies suddenly awoke and buzzed off the bridge, pouncing on Lu Yun and Qing Yu.

The corpseflies were now more massive than the world of immortals, which made the couple nothing more than a particle of dust to their eyes. However, they could clearly identify where the humans were and head unerringly in their direction.

Innumerable corpseflies buzzed over at the same time in a dense cloud, but didn't have to jockey for space among each other. They presented an extremely harmonious scene that made perfect sense.

The light curtain created by the Tome of Life and Death began to shake from the combined momentum of the corpseflies.

"Creators!" Lu Yun finally identified the flies' strength at this time. They were all creator realm!

"We're leaving!" He grabbed Qing Yu and furiously combusted the hellfire within his body, wanting to call upon the Boundless Step and depart from the premises.

But the corpseflies were so strong and dreadful that the air currents resulting from their movement were on par with grim chaos storms. They churned Lu Yun's death art to pieces without even meaning to.

Space around them became a vacuum that permitted no combat art or cultivation method to function. The two were confined to this void and could only watch the enormous corpseflies bear down upon them.

Hummm.

Suddenly, brilliant cosmic radiance flared from the empty void as three hundred and sixty-five stars lit up in the air. There seemed to be powerful beings residing in each of the celestial bodies, becoming one with their seat and sharing the same power.

Boom!

Boundless starlight gathered in a black pennant that retracted with a neat furl, crushing the corpseflies to pieces.

“I told you not to come here. You’re no match for it—er, wait, it hasn’t made a move yet.” The little girl that’d disappeared earlier rematerialized with the black pennant over her head. It was incredibly big now, just as massive as the Bridge of Forgetfulness.

“What are you doing here, sticking your nose where it doesn’t belong instead of guarding your tomb?” A ponderous will traveled from the bridge, brimming with extreme dissatisfaction. Plainly, this wasn’t the first time the little girl had come and prevented it from killing someone.

“I can’t just sit by and watch you descend into a cultivation deviation now, can I?” the little girl responded like she was an elder. “Enough, your current strength is enough to—eh?!”

The two of them suddenly fell silent and looked askance at the male human.

Lu Yun’s body was growing rapidly in size from that of a regular human being to one even bigger than the bridge. Death Art, Size Manipulation!

He didn’t know what the limits of the death art were and how big or small he could become, but he cast all thought of that from his mind and deployed it to its utmost in this mysterious fourth realm that was infinitely big.

The Bridge of Forgetfulness was extremely big, bigger than even their realm. But after the pennant of the cosmos suddenly appeared and crushed the corpseflies, he found that he could suddenly use his death arts again.

There was no point in running away. The bridge was too strong and the little girl might not be able to protect them. Additionally, who knew what else lurked in this realm? As he made his countermove, the enormous bridge shrank in his field of view.

“I want to see just how strong a bridge this is!”

Whoosh!

Blazing hellfire gushed from his body and turned the local region into a sea of hellfire. The Tome of Life and Death ripped through the void to summon the Karmic Tree to the fourth realm. Glinting with frosty killing intent, Quietus also appeared in Lu Yun’s hand and took aim at the Bridge of Forgetfulness.