

ODYSSEY 1421

Chapter 1421: Reverse Growth

The Virtue Archives held a special position in the Perennial World. Even the four ruling powers hoped to send their youths to study in that place, but that was easier said than done. Much like the opportunities to observe the Liu family's Sword Monument, studying in the Virtue Archives was but a dream for many people.

Although the Virtue Archives tried to maintain a close relationship with the White Dragon Clan, it was just to remain on opposite sides to the Celestial Frost Sect. Well, the relationship between the Archives and the White Dragon Clan was better described as mutual acceptance rather than being actually close.

"Alright, after we finish our trip in the Dominion Realm, Long Qi will go to the Virtue Archives to study. At that time, I'll have to ask Brother Wen to help him quite a bit," Long Xi smiled as she spoke softly.

Wen Diyi replied, "It can be done."

Although Wen Diyi had only offered him an affirmative to the possibility, Long Xi's attitude towards him obviously became much better, and Long Tian also grew more enthusiastic. Long Tian did not believe that Wen Diyi actually placed any value onto Long Qi. After all, to Long Tian, Long Qi was nothing but the family's son-in-law, and was not particularly important.

Long Tian felt that Wen Diyi had only offered Long Qi an invitation to attend Virtue Archives as a way of showing favor to the White Dragon Clan. Sure enough, it had been the right choice to allow Wen Diyi to join the team to the Dominion Realm.

Lu Yin spread out his domain to probe the paths ahead of them. They moved forward underground, still following Long Tian's map towards a certain direction.

Elsewhere, Bai Shaohong and his party were also attacked by desiccated creatures.

The Withered Glory region was absolutely massive. After all, it used to be the domain of Progenitor Ku.

"The sect has long wanted to explore this region, but was delayed," a man said casually. Given his gentle demeanor, he did not seem like anyone exceptional. When he spoke, his eyebrows moved slightly, which was quite enchanting. This man was Bai Shaohong, the Celestial Frost Sect's Junior Progenitor.

Four people walked behind Bai Shaohong; three men and one woman. Shang Qing was among them. The other two men looked perfectly identical, and clearly were twins. There was also a beautiful woman who had a refined air to her. However, given the fact that she was part of Bai Shaohong's team in the Dominion Realm, she was clearly not an ordinary person.

"I heard that the Celestial Frost Sect has a secret technique that was inherited from Progenitor Ku. I was hoping to come to the Withered Glory region. It seems like Junior Progenitor Bai quite familiar with this place," the graceful woman said with a smile. She seemed quite pleasant.

Bai Shaohong answered with a smile, "It was only a matter of luck that allowed me to receive Progenitor Ku's secret technique. I don't actually know much about this Withered Glory region. Still, we can be considered to be at least a step ahead of the other three teams."

As he spoke, they faced off against a horde of countless creatures.

One of the twins stepped out from behind Bai Shaohong, though it was not clear what he was doing. The withered creatures became confused, and then eventually stopped attacking and scattered.

Shang Qing was surprised.

The woman praised, "If I saw that correctly, Brother Dongshan just used an inheritance from Progenitor Ku."

Bai Shaohong smiled. "Let's go. We'll visit the Voidsoul Palace first."

"We won't go where the map was leading us? That's where everyone else is headed," the woman wondered.

Bai Shaohong's mouth curved into a smile. "There's no rush. No one can take what belongs to me."

Some distance away, there was another group of people traveling a certain direction. They were led by an elegant woman who seemed particularly refined. She was wearing nothing more than ordinary clothes, but it was impossible to hide her noble bearing. The woman was not especially beautiful, and was quite ordinary, but anyone who saw her a few times would become fascinated.

There were people who claimed that a woman's appearance was not the most important thing, but her demeanor. This woman possessed an unparalleled temperament.

In the Dominion Realm, it would be difficult to hide her skin that was whiter than snow. This woman was Wang Su, the Wang family's Junior Progenitor.

Behind Wang Su stood Yuhua Mavis, Unseen Light, Nong Sanniang, and Crown Prince Gui Qian.

At this moment, this team was also being attacked by desiccated creatures. Unseen Light's utility with his domain far surpassed what Lu Yin was capable of, and Unseen Light was using it to protect the team from the attacks of countless creatures. However, a massive creature that looked like a mountain suddenly appeared, and Unseen Light's domain was not able to restrain this beast.

Nong Sanniang then took action. She somehow turned the fallen bark that littered the Mother Tree's branch and had accumulated over countless years into farmland, and the fields trapped all of the dry creatures within thousands of miles.

Wang Su looked around with a small frown. "Reverse growth. The power of Progenitor Ku is more troublesome than expected."

Nong Sanniang sighed. "There are rumors that Progenitor Ku unlocked the secret behind aging and immortality, which allowed him to be able to wither people to death, or grant them immortality. These creatures should have died long ago, but they were bound by the power of the dead Progenitor Ku."

"If that's the case, sounds like Progenitor Ku was a bit like those monsters," Crown Prince Gui Qian said, his voice low and gloomy.

Wang Su turned to look at Crown Prince Gui Qian. "Don't speak such blasphemy. The power of a Progenitor is something that cannot be understood, and your words could very well have just sentenced us to death in this place."

Crown Prince Gui Qian looked up at Wang Su. "Progenitors aren't that mysterious. Your Wang family has a Progenitor, and so does my Specter Abyss. A Progenitor is still a human, so it's impossible for them to know about everything, let alone a dead Progenitor."

Wang Su indifferently replied, "That just shows that you don't know enough about that level of power."

Crown Prince Gui Qian then stayed silent.

Nong Sanniang took the white towel off of her head to clean her face. She then wiped down her arms in a very carefree manner. "Let's go. Lead us to where the map guides us first, and then we can discuss Origin Matter."

The excursion teams from the White Dragon Clan, the Celestial Frost Sect, and the Wang family had all been attacked by desiccated beasts, and the team from Shenwu's Sky was no exception. However, it was clear that the team from Shenwu's Sky was having a more difficult time of things, because Junior Progenitor Xia Shenfei was actually sleeping.

Xia Taili's face was flushed with anger as she glared at a man who was being carried overhead by star energy. "Damn it, Brother, you stink! When are you not drunk? I can't believe that you're actually drunk at a time like this. Just wait, when we get back, I'll make sure to tell Grandpa and see you confined for punishment. You actually got me hurt, idiot!"

Behind Xia Taili, Yao Xuan had a strange expression on his face. This was not actually because of the sleeping Xia Shenfei, but because of Wu Taibai.

Yao Xuan had never dreamed that Wu Taibai was actually an elite of Shenwu's Sky's 'Tai' generation. When Yao Xuan had seen Wu Taibai on the Shenwu Junior Progenitor Star, he had first been rather happy, as he had thought that the two of them could join forces to deal with the other people on the team, but he had quickly learned that Wu Taibai was originally from Shenwu's Sky, which had completely stunned him.

Yao Xuan was someone who always put on a calm demeanor. He was the crown prince of the Celestial Demon Empire, and he had learned to not lose his cool, and that was the essence of his way of imperial rule. However, he was completely stupefied at that point where he had learned the truth of Wu Taibai.

What left Yao Xuan even more confused was that Wu Taibai had not exposed him as a trespasser, which was quite interesting.

When Wu Taibai had first seen Yao Xuan, he had shown no signs of surprise and had acted as though he was meeting a complete stranger.

Apart from these three people, there was one more person on the team from Shenwu's Sky: Liu Hao. The four of them carried Xia Shenfei along in a very embarrassing manner. Behind them were endless numbers of the desiccated creatures.

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Long Tian and his party proceeded smoothly for two days, using Lu Yin's domain to scout ahead. Finally, they were again attacked by creatures. These creatures were flies that grew from the skin in the piles of dead matter. On an individual basis, these flies were much weaker than the bats the youths had encountered before, but they had truly overwhelming numbers. They could compare to the terror ants Lu Yin had seen in the Lower Realm, and the swarm took on different shapes. The entire team was terrified, and they fled back to the surface of the branch.

They looked around once they emerged, and they found weapons stabbed into the branch of the Mother Tree, as well as countless bones. Long Xi was surprised. "A battlefield?"

They had emerged right in the middle of the ancient battlefield, and they saw corpses laying on the ground far into the distance.

Moving any of the bones caused them to turn to dust, and the white bones disintegrated, as did the clothes and even the weapons. It was clear that this place was ancient.

"In ancient times, powerhouses were always on the frontlines when fighting against those monsters. This Withered Glory region where Progenitor Ku lived was at the edge of the Dominion Realm, and they constantly had to fight off the monsters' attacks. Half of those on the ground are human, while the other half are those monsters," Wen Diyi emotionally explained. He sounded as though he was reminiscing about the ancient times.

Long Xi quietly responded, "Without the protection of our Progenitors, we humans would never have reached our current status."

"What's that?" Lu Yin saw a stone tablet that stood some distance away, so he moved towards it.

Long Tian had already moved close, and he read the writing on the tablet: "The Voidsoul Army which was under Progenitor Ku. The entire army died here, and someone erected this monument to pay homage to them."

Lu Yin was shocked. A powerful Progenitor had led this army, and yet all of the troops had perished. The Progenitor had most likely had met a bad ending as well.

When Wen Diyi saw the stone tablet, he suddenly thought of something, and he touched the monument, causing it to turn to dust.

Long Tian and the others did not react. While they did not know what Wen Diyi was thinking, they felt they should follow along.

Elsewhere, at the edge of the battlefield, Wang Su and her team were also looking at the weapons that had been stabbed into the branch, as well as the bones that turned to dust when touched. All of them looked very somber.

"An ancient battlefield. There should be something that was left behind here," Crown Prince Gui Qian commented.

Wang Su casually replied, "During the ancient times, humanity was at an absolute disadvantage. Humanity lost far more of those ancient battles than we won, and even when we did triumph, only less

than one person in 10,000 would survive. Despite that, we still managed to defeat those monsters. Any idea why?"

Nong Sanniang sighed. "Because they brought their enemies down with them."

Unseen Light and Yuhua Mavis did not understand what was being discussed.

Wang Su continued, "Once humans realized that they were doomed to lose to the war, they developed a tactic of mutual destruction. Even if they couldn't win, they could still force a draw. This sacrifice is how we were able to continuously defend this Perennial World and how descendents like us came into being. If we ever chance across these battlefields, avoidance is the the best choice for us."

"Let's avoid this place. If anyone accidentally enters this battlefield, the trap will be triggered that will guarantee mutual destruction; no one will be willing to retreat when that happens," Nong Sanniang said.

Crown Prince Gui Qian had no objections. Nobody would turn away from any opportunity available in this place, so he did not doubt the Junior Progenitor's words as being true.

However, just after their retreat was agreed upon, an invisible energy shot into the sky no more than a hundred meters away from the team. Where the energy touched down, the branch was quickly withering, and the barrier that had appeared started moving towards the youths, as though the barrier was shrinking.

Wang Su was shocked. "Attack!"

They all attacked in unison, but were unable to break through the invisible barrier. Yuhua Mavis threw a punch, but the force of her fist was eroded by the force that made up the barrier, and even her bones were exposed. This startled her, and she quickly retreated.

"Don't be reckless. This is the power of Progenitor Ku. Run!" Wang Su shouted as she started rushing deeper into the battlefield.

Nong Sanniang was furious. "Someone must have reached the center of this battlefield! Are they an idiot? This is going to hurt us."

Unseen Light felt that he was just too unlucky. They had only been a hundred meters away from where the barrier had appeared, and they had intended to leave, but now they were trapped instead.

Was there any way to survive the power of a Progenitor?

Although the humans who had fought monsters during the ancient times had been brave and had rather died together than suffer defeat, these youths were not monsters, nor did they want to die.

Chapter 1422: Obligations Of A Brother-in-law

On the other side, someone else had gotten caught up in the appearance of the barrier: Xia Taili.

Xia Taili was at a loss as she stared at Liu Hao and Yao Xuan who were outside the barrier formed by the invisible, and also at Xia Shenfei, who was still drunk and floating in the air. What the hell?

She immediately attacked the barrier, but was not able to overcome such a strong barrier.

Yao Xuan, Liu Hao, and Wu Taibai immediately moved to try to rescue Xia Taili, but all their efforts were useless. They could only watch as Xia Taili was forced towards the center of the battlefield by the barrier.

Bai Shaohong and his party had also been close to the battlefield, but Bai Shaohong was cautious by nature, so he had stopped his team the moment that he had realized that there was an ancient battlefield up ahead, so his team did not get involved.

"I don't know which unfortunate person stepped foot in the center of the battlefield and triggered the trap that ensures mutual destruction," the elegant woman on the team said with a smile.

Bai Shaohong stared towards the center of the battlefield. It would be best if all three of the other teams were involved in this.

At the center of the battlefield, Long Tian's group saw the barrier sweeping towards them from the distance, and their expressions all drastically changed.

"That should be the power that made it so that no one left this battlefield alive and that everyone from both sides died," Wen Diyi said solemnly.

"Attack!" Long Tian shouted as a long spear appeared in his hand. He thrust it forward in a strange curve. At the same time, Long Xi also pulled out a long spear and stabbed forward.

While Lu Yin could see that Long Xi and Long Tian were both using long spears, he could tell that there was a slight difference between them. The difference could be felt the moment they each simply grabbed hold of their spear. Lu Yin had observed countless sword and spear techniques from the Sword Monument, and he felt more from the way Long Tian held the spear than he did from Long Xi.

At the side, Liu Tianmu immediately attacked, using the Eleventh Sword.

Wen Diyi attacked as well, and ancient characters appeared on top of each other over his hand before shooting forward with tremendous power.

Lu Yin did not remain idle, and he attacked with Vacuum Palms.

There were five people, and five attacks struck as one at a single point, but they were simply unable to do anything to the approaching barrier.

Long Xi grabbed Lu Yin and stepped back.

Long Tian's face grew ugly as the barrier formed from the invisible energy shot towards his team.

"Leave now!" Long Tian said in a deep voice before turning and making his way towards the center of the battlefield.

"Everyone, there's no need for any of us to hide our strength right now. We need to work together, and if we don't break this barrier, none of us will be able to live," Long Tian continued.

Lu Yin suddenly shouted, "Someone's coming!"

He had left his domain out this entire time, and he had just felt a powerful individual enter the edge of his range.

At this moment, another person meant more help, so Long Tian immediately led everyone towards where Lu Yin indicated.

At the edge of Lu Yin's domain, Wang Su and her team were also racing towards Lu Yin and the others.

Unseen Light commented, "The domain we just entered belongs to Long Qi, so it was the White Dragon Clan's team that triggered this."

Nong Sanniang gritted her teeth. "What a bunch of idiots!"

Wang Su's face remained calm. It did not take long for the two teams to meet each other.

Lu Yin and Unseen Light both looked in another direction at the same time. "There's someone else."

Everyone's expression changed once again. Had all of the teams that had entered the Dominion Realm gotten caught in this trap? This was the worst luck.

Nong Sanniang gloated, "I hope it's those guys from the Celestial Frost Sect."

Though no one liked to admit it, it was true that the Celestial Frost Sect stood at the top of the four ruling powers, and Bai Shaohong's team was absolutely the most powerful of the four teams.

It would be perfect if Bai Shaohong and his team were also inside this barrier, as their chances of survival would rise drastically.

Unfortunately, Xia Taili was the only person that approached.

"Which idiot got me involved in this mess?" Xia Taili's face was full of indignation.

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. She was already trying to place blame without even knowing the situation. They had emerged from inside the branch to find themselves in the middle of the battlefield. They had certainly not taken a typical path.

"Hey, was it you? Something wrong with your eyes?" Xia Taili stared at Unseen Light. "Are you ashamed to open your eyes?"

Unseen Light casually replied, "I've always been like this, though it's led to more than a few misunderstandings."

"Alright, cut the nonsense. We have eleven people here, so we all need to attack with power vessels. I refuse to believe that we can't break through this barrier," Wang Su said.

Long Tian solemnly agreed, "Don't hide anything and use your strongest power vessel."

"This power once destroyed an entire ancient battlefield. If the barrier maintained that same strength even now, we'd have no chance. But things tend to decay over time, and this barrier should be much weaker than before, so if we attack together, we'll definitely be able to break it," Wen Diyi said firmly.

Xia Taili rolled her eyes, "Thank you for the explanation! You're so smart."

Wen Diyi was left speechless.

Lu Yin glanced at Xia Taili. This girl really had a vicious tongue. It reminded him of Hai Qiqi.

"Come on, attack!" Long Tian shouted as he took out a large seal from his cosmic ring. The moment the big seal appeared, the void twisted, and everyone felt as though they had just been struck by a heavy hammer.

This was a power vessel that surpassed the strength of even an Envoy. No one knew just how powerful it truly was.

Wang Su also took out a power vessel, and it caused the earth and sky to ripple.

Long Xi, Wen Diyi, Xia Taili, and everyone else took out various power vessels, and Lu Yin brought out the ring that Long Xi had given him. He planned to throw it.

"That's for defense," Long Xi snorted.

There was no time to think, and all of the power vessels were used at the same time to attack a single point on the barrier.

The next moment, the void was torn apart, and an indescribable shockwave tore through the Withered Glory region. It turned into an incomparable storm that swept out in all directions.

Lu Yin was blown away before he could even see what was happening. He reflexively put on his universal armor. It was an item that could endure attacks with power levels of nearly 700,000, and it was much stronger than the ring-shaped power vessel that Lu Yin had been given.

After being protected by his universal armor, Lu Yin opened his eyes. However, all he could see was the shattered void. Each crack looked like it would give birth to a massive beast, and they spread out in all directions.

Lu Yin's body was hurtling through the air, and he did not even know which direction he was heading.

Looking up, Lu Yin was able to see a black spot appear, and his expression changed. It was a woman.

His first thought was of Long Xi, and so he instantly stored his universal armor.

Wha--

There was a scream as Xia Taili came crashing down, on a collision course with Lu Yin. He quickly dodged. He saw that Xia Taili's body was wrapped up within a power vessel that looked like aquatic plants.

She smashed into the ground with enough force to smash away all of the bark that had built up. The power vessel protecting her was very durable, and it prevented Xia Taili from being smashed to a pulp.

Xia Tai Li rubbed her head.

"It hurts! It hurts," she said. She looked up and saw Lu Yin. The two just stared at each other for a moment. "Pull me up."

Lu Yin stretched out a hand, and Xia Taili grabbed it and stood up. She stored her power vessel, and then just stared at Lu Yin. "Are you a man? I don't know what you were thinking, but where's the impressive man who pointed a spear at me back then? Gone already?"

Lu Yin felt helpless. "The force behind you was too much, and I wasn't able to catch you."

Xia Taili snorted coldly. She dusted off her clothes and looked around. "Where are we?"

Lu Yin also looked around. "We shouldn't be too far from the battlefield, but we've been separated from others."

"Thank you! I needed that reminder." Xia Taili blurted out sarcastically.

Lu Yin could understand what Wen Diyi's had felt, but he stayed silent.

"Okay, since we've been separated from the others, let's each go find our own teams," Xia Taili suggested as she looked in a particular direction. "Later."

She started to leave

Lu Yin spoke up, "The Dominion Realm is very dangerous, and many people die here after each Yuanlun Festival. It's not safe for you to go on your own, so I'll go with you."

"No need. I'll find my big brother," Xia Taili said.

Lu Yin insisted, "We're both from one of the four ruling powers, but you're still a girl, and it's not safe to be alone here. I'll protect you."

Xia Taili's face twitched and she stared at Lu Yin. "I said, no."

"You call me brother-in-law," Lu Yin said seriously with a sincere expression on his face.

Xia Taili gritted her teeth. "No! I said no! Don't you understand what I'm saying?"

At this time, they felt a tremor from off in the distance. They looked at each other, and their expressions changed as they had seen a group of strange, desiccated creatures rushing towards them. In front of the creatures was a person. Was that Wen Diyi?

Wen Diyi saw Lu Yin and Xia Taili, and shouted loudly, "Run! It's dangerous."

Without any further nonsense, Lu Yin and Xia Taili both instinctively turned and fled away from the approaching horde. However, they quickly realized that the creatures were not only behind Wen Diyi, but were also in front of them. The creatures were actually everywhere. They were surrounded.

"We fell into a nest" Xia Taili's face turned ugly.

Lu Yin had fully released his domain, searching in all directions. Suddenly, he pointed to the right. "That way! Hurry!"

He then raised a hand and released a Vacuum Palm into the horde of desiccated creatures surrounding them.

The Vacuum Palm smashed a withered creature, but when it struck a second one, the creature's withered sections recovered a great deal, and it also grew much larger. The most troublesome thing

about the creatures in this place was that every attack against them had to exceed a certain limit, as if it did not, the creatures would simply become stronger.

The power vessel that looked like aquatic plants wrapped around Xia Taili's body once again. She shot forward in a brazen manner and attacked the desiccated creatures while releasing a growl.

More of the dried out creatures rushed over from the distance, and some of the desiccated bats appeared overhead.

Lu Yin frowned. They were in big trouble.

Wen Diyi arrived, but he led another large group of the creatures. "Hurry up and run, or else these things will exhaust us to death!"

More of the terrifying creatures appeared every moment.

Xia Taili was furious. "I was able to see that without your comments. Can you just stop talking?"

Wen Diyi felt helpless, "I didn't want this, either."

Countless dried creatures surged over from all directions. They were surrounded by a massive number of the clawed creatures, and there was a swarm of the bats overhead which had a second head at the tip of their tails. All of them looked completely terrifying.

Xia Taili's power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant swept out all directions, but many of the creatures that were struck were simply empowered. Wen Diyi's power vessel was a fan, and each time he swung the fan, a bone-eroding wind was released. Each attack was far more powerful than what he had revealed during the previous fight. The cursed wind released by the fan frequently eliminated the creatures' flesh and blood, but other creatures were strengthened by the attacks.

Lu Yin also brought out an item, the giant mechanical right arm that he had Enhanced six times long ago at the cost of a million star essence. The strength of this arm approached that of an Envoy.

The truth was that this arm had become useless to Lu Yin, as his own physical strength was already able to threaten an Envoy, which meant that he was already more powerful than the mechanical right arm. He could at most muster a power level of 400,000, which was similar to Long Jue's. However, in order to have a reason to be able to reveal such a level of strength, Lu Yin used the mechanical arm to sweep away a large swathe of the creatures.

Chapter 1423: Rogue

Although Lu Yin's mechanical arm was able to attack a large area, it was still weaker than Xia Taili's power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant or Wen Diyi's fan. Each of their attacks only strengthened one or two of the creatures, while each of Lu Yin's attacks reinforced four or five of the withered creatures.

There was a bang, and Wen Diyi evaded. Where he had just stood, a massive withered creature roared. Its strength had already reached the level of an Enlightener.

Wen Diyi raised his hand and swept out with his fan. The bone-eroding wind blew forward and dissipated the creature's flesh and blood.

"Brother Long Qi, don't use that weapon. If we need to, we'll fight them one at a time, as at least that way we won't be strengthening them," Wen Diyi loudly suggested. As he spoke, he swept his fan towards the sky to prevent the bats from approaching.

Lu Yin put away the massive mechanical arm and instead started attacking with a Vacuum Palm. This method was much slower, but he would not strengthen many of the desiccated creatures.

After half a day, all three were exhausted, yet there were still many of the dry creatures still around. Overhead, the bats had moved close together, and it almost looked like they were fused together to form a massive bat that attacked the youths from above.

Wen Diyi was startled, and he raised a hand. Golden colored ancient characters took the form of a Literary Prison to trap the bat. After that, another layer of characters appeared, followed by a third, a fourth, and finally a seventh layer.

"Seventh-fold Literary Prison?" Xia Taili was surprised. "You actually managed to reach the seventh level of mastery?"

Lu Yin was caught off guard; there was actually this much more to Literary Prison?

Wen Diyi looked exhausted, and he was breathing heavily. "I've pushed too far, so you'll have to take over for a bit."

Xia Taili was confused.

Wen Diyi explained, "Keep us safe with defense artifacts for now, or else these endless creatures will overwhelm us with their numbers. We can't kill all of them."

Xia Taili thought that this seemed to be the right strategy, and her strange power vessel wrapped around her body with what looked like aquatic plants. She then smiled at Wen Diyi. "Thanks for the reminder. I have to say, the people from Virtue Archives are certainly smart."

Seeing Xia Taili's smile, Lu Yin had a premonition of something bad.

Wen Diyi was stunned. "What about us?"

Xia Taili shrugged. "Good luck to you both! After all, we're in the Dominion Realm, and we're all on competing teams to begin with."

Her smile grew even brighter. "You couldn't have been thinking that I would actually help you."

After speaking, she turned to look at Lu Yin and smiled at him. "Brother-in-law, you should bring out that energy you showed when you thrust that spear at me. These monsters should be enough for you to play with for a while."

Lu Yin rolled his eyes; thrust? This was a very awkward way of phrasing things.

He looked over at Wen Diyi, who was also looking at Lu Yin, clearly feeling rather helpless.

"Later brothers." Xia Taili smiled and waved. She was protected by her power vessel, and she intended to use its strength to break out of the encirclement. She would likely be fine, as long as she did not stumble upon any creature that was too powerful.

Wen Diyi spoke up, "Princess Taili, speaking on behalf of the Virtue Archives, we are willing to accept people from the Xia family to study at the academy. I wonder if this might be enough to trade for protection with your power vessel?"

Xia Taili turned to look at Wen Diyi with bright eyes, and the aquatic plants surrounding her shifted open a bit. "Come on in! You must be joking; why would we need to make a trade to keep each other safe? By the way, how many people are we talking about?"

Wen Diyi sighed. "Given my position, I can offer three places."

"Five." Xia Taili opened a hand.

Wen Diyi thought about it, but then agreed.

Just as he was about to enter the protection of the aquatic plants, Lu Yin charged in first, though Xia Taili did not even respond for a moment. Lu Yin had moved extremely fast, though that did not concern Xia Taili at all. She stared at Lu Yin blankly before becoming angry. "Who let you in? Get out!"

Lu Yin responded in a serious manner, "You call me brother-in-law, so I should protect you. The Dominion Realm is too dangerous to travel alone."

This was the exact same thing he had said when the two of them had first fallen onto the branch. At that time, Xia Taili had wanted to get rid of Long Qing, as she had a map to guide her, but Lu Yin had seen through her intentions and had made sure to keep her close. Now, he was doing the same thing again.

Xia Taili was upset, her face flushed from anger. "You bastard! Get out! Get away from me!"

Lu Yin remained stoic. "I won't leave you alone."

"If you don't get back out, I'll attack!" Xia Taili screamed.

Lu Yin silently took out the ring-shaped power vessel as well as the mechanical arm. "Don't worry. I won't leave you alone."

Xia Taili was completely speechless. How could a person have such thick-skin? She felt certain she could beat this person. After all, she was one of the two top powerhouses of Shenwu's Sky's Taizi generation. Still, Long Qi had the qualifications to travel to the Dominion Realm, and attacking him might risk damaging the protection of her power vessels. This person seemed to have quite a few items of his own, and Xia Taili had her own limits of what she was willing to do.

At this moment, Wen Diyi silently entered into the protection of the power vessel, and merely glanced over at Long Qi. How had Wen Diyi not noticed how thick-skinned this person was?

Wen Diyi let out a sigh for the five places in the Virtue Archives that he had just traded, feeling as though he had taken a loss.

"Can you be any more shameless?" Xia Taili glared at Lu Yin. They were still surrounded by an endless number of desiccated creatures that were frantically attacking the three youths while also letting out roars of frustration. The power vessel that looked like aquatic plants blocked all of the incoming attacks.

Lu Yin's expression remained as solemn as ever. "Sister Taili, don't worry, since you call me brother-in-law, your brother-in-law will never leave you."

Xia Taili was feeling terrible regret at this moment; why had she ever called this guy brother-in-law? She had only randomly said it when she had gone to White Dragon Mountain to deliver some gifts. She had clearly been speaking sarcastically, but this bastard heard whatever he wanted.

Besides that. Long Qi had actually been rude to her at that time! She felt like she finally understood just what it meant to be truly shameless. Inexplicably, she thought of her older brother, Xia Shenfei. If the two ever spoke to each other, it would be nothing but spouting off nonsense the entire time.

"A person like you is truly unworthy of Sister Long Xi. Everyone else would be willing to die in a righteous manner and would pave a road of blood with their very lives. But what about you? You're just shameless?" Xia Taili sneered, still not willing to give up. She was hoping to wake up some sort of legendary bravery within this young man.

However, Lu Yin was someone who completely lacked dignity, and he just stared off into the distance in a very serious manner. "Don't worry, brother-in-law will protect you."

Wen Diyi wanted to give the two a moment.

Xia Taili finally gave up. She controlled her power vessel to slowly move the three of them away from the horde of desiccated creatures. Xia Taili really wanted to try to get something out of this. "I can take you, what can you give?"

Lu Yin did not even look over. "Don't worry, your brother-in-law will protect you."

"You, bastard!" Xia Taili was finally unable to put up with him, and she cursed before looking away from Long qi.

Wen Diyi glanced at Xia Taili with sympathy, but then he was suddenly drawn to to look at a black spot off in the distance. Was that Crown Prince Gui Qian?

Wen Diyi was not the only one to notice the distant person, Lu Yin had noticed the man a long time ago, which had also been why he had continued to stare in that direction. However, the longer Lu Yin looked, the more solemn he became. A strong surprise rose in the depths of his eyes.

Crown Prince Gui Qian was off in the distance, shrouded in a black mist. There were bones spread across the ground, and they transformed into weapons that looked like spider legs. These weapons were frantically slaughtering the withered creatures all around. Occasionally, the black mist would also wrap around the bones of these creatures and consume their energy. He never stopped killing and replenishing his energy, he was like a killing machine.

Crown Prince Gui Qian had also seen Lu Yin and the other two. More bones stood up from the ground, and then suddenly jumped up and shot through the sky before smashing down violently in front of Lu Yin and the others.

When Crown Prince Gui Qian appeared, the black and white mist in Lu Yin's heart started roiling, and he immediately dropped his head to hide the shock he felt. The black energy that this Crown Prince Gui Qian was using was death energy. This person was a member of the Specter Clan!

The Specter Clan also had members in the Perennial World? Also, he had clearly just used the same battle technique that Xie Xiaoxian had one used that created an armor from bones and had reinforced the bones with death energy.

In the Fifth Mainland, the Xies had practically destroyed the Specter Clan, and they had been left with no choice but to turn to the Neohuman Alliance. Since this Crown Prince Gui Qian was able to use the Xie clan's technique, it seemed he was a member of the Xie clan. However, that clan did not use death energy. Xie Xiaoxian had once used the bones of a member of the Specter Clan, but had not been able to use death energy. This Crown Prince Gui Qian was able to use both death energy and the Xie clan's technique. The only possibility was that Crown Prince Gui Qian was a member of the Specter Clan, and that the Xie clan had suffered an unfortunate fate in the Perennial World.

"Take me with you," Prince Gui Qian demanded in a low voice.

Xia Taili became upset. "Why? You're that important?"

Crown Prince Gui Qian stared at Xia Taili, then, without saying a word, the bones behind him suddenly attacked.

Xia Taili quickly blocked the attack with her power vessel, and she shouted angrily, "You're crazy! Why are you attacking us?"

Crown Prince Gui Qian's eyes grew red. "If you don't take me with you, we'll all die here together."

As he spoke, he took a dark bone out from his cosmic ring and he forced it into his body. The dark mist roiled, darkening the entire surroundings. "Choose, or you can just kill me before leaving."

"You're nuts!" Xia Taili was furious, and she turned to look at Wen Diyi. "Attack!"

Wen Diyi felt helpless. "It's not easy for someone to qualify to come to the Dominion Realm, and it's not worth fighting him."

Xia Taili grew furious. "Are you saying that you feel threatened by him?"

Lu Yin spoke up, "It's better than dying here."

"Shut up! You don't have the right to speak, bastard!" Xia Taili scolded Lu Yin. She then glared at Crown Prince Gui Qian and told him in a surly manner, "Get in."

Crown Prince Gui Qian moved into the protection of the power vessel without any hesitation. He then only spoke two words: "Thank you."

Xia Taili was very unhappy at this moment. It was her power vessel, and she had been the one to seize the initiative to escape, so how had things turned out like this?

Wen Diyi was once again left at a loss; why did neither of the other two have to pay any price to enter the protection of the power vessel? He was still too naive.

The four youths continued on within the protection of the power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant. They moved very slowly, as they were surrounded by countless creatures, and the power vessel had to push its way forward. Wen Diyi and Crown Prince Gui Qian took turns cleaning up the creatures.

After a day of travel, the surrounding horde seemed to have decreased a bit.

"We're finally out," Lu Yin said emotionally.

Xia Taili shot him a sharp look. "Useless man! Three big men with me, and yet all of them expected to be protected by a woman! You're all useless! Just useless!"

Lu Yin pretended not to hear anything.

Wen Diyi felt helpless. "I paid for your help."

"So that makes you useful?" Xia Taili was rude, as she was upset with everyone.

Wen Diyi no longer spoke.

Before long, they were able to see the outlines of buildings off in the distance. Xia Taili's eyes lit up.

"What's that?"

Wen Diyi looked at the buildings and replied in a solemn tone, "That should be the Voidsoul Palace."

Xia Taili was surprised. "The Voidsoul Palace? Where Progenitor Ku used to live?"

Wen Diyi nodded. "There are rumors that this Voidsoul Palace holds an inheritance from the Progenitor, but the historical records claim that he died suddenly and had no time to leave an inheritance, so the truth is that no one knows what's in there."

Chapter 1424: Lost Families

"Let's go! Let's head in there!" Xia Taili became very excited when she heard that they were looking at the Voidsoul Palace. After that, she looked over at the three men with her. "Listen to me: I saved all of your lives, so you aren't allowed to vye with me for the treasures. Got it?"

Wen Diyi pursed his lips.

Lu Yin looked off into the distance.

Crown Prince Gui Qian just snorted derisively, which infuriated Xia Taili so badly that she nearly tried to kick the man out of the protection of her power vessel.

A bit in front of the group of four, but still outside the Voidsoul Palace, stood Yuhua Mavis. She had been thrown to this place. She had been lucky and had not encountered any of the dry creatures. It was also possible that all of the creatures had been lured away by Lu Yin and the others in his group, but regardless, Yuhua Mavis had encountered no difficulties on her way to the Voidsoul Palace.

Yuhua Mavis did not know anything about the Voidsoul Palace, but it was clearly odd to come across a building in the Dominion Realm.

She was quite amazed as she looked up at the front of the Voidsoul Palace. She was not impressed by the building itself, but by the cultivators who had been reduced to nothing more than bleached bones. It

looked very similar to the ancient battlefield she had previously come across. The building itself had fallen into ruin, and it was impossible to see any of its original grandeur.

Yuhua Mavis lifted a foot and began walking towards the Voidsoul Palace. Coincidentally, she saw two people in front of her also approaching the palace. They were Long Tian and Long Xi, and they had also been blasted close to the palace by the explosion, just like Yuhua Mavis.

Long Xi's face was pale. She wanted to search for Long Qi, but the Dominion Realm was vast, so where should she even start searching?

Her only hope was the Voidsoul Palace, as everyone who saw it would definitely try to search it.

Yuhua Mavis had not expected to come across Long Tian and Long Xi, and the siblings were also surprised to see Yuhua Mavis. Almost instantly, Long Tian's eyes filled with killing intent. "She's part of the Wang family's team! Let's get rid of her."

He vanished. His speed was so fast that Yuhua Mavis was not able to see anything at all.

A while ago, Long Xi had told Lu Yin that once a person reached a high enough level of mastery of the White Dragon Clan's Roving White Dragon, they would be able to briefly enter the true universe that only Envoys could normally touch. At this moment, Long Tian was using such speed to attack Yuhua Mavis, and the Junior Progenitor far surpassed the speed she had previously seen Wang Yi use.

Yuhua Mavis had already estimated the power of the Junior Progenitors after meeting Wang Su. Now that Yuhua Mavis was personally facing Long Tian's unbridled killing intent, she felt a suffocating pressure suddenly fall upon her. This felt just like when she had faced off against Lu Lu after he had transformed.

She did not hesitate even a moment to raise her hand, and she instantly threw out a dozen punches. It did not matter if she was unable to see her opponent.

Long Tian knew that since Yuhua Mavis qualified to travel to the Dominion Realm that she was strong enough to be acknowledged by Wang Su. Still, Long Tian had not expected the woman to be so powerful. Her attacks were powerful enough that Long Tian assumed that she was using the Wang family's Four Arts.

When Long Tian next appeared, one of Yuhua Mavis's fists smashed into him. However, he did not try to go up against the punch, but instead twirled his body through an impressive arch while forming a spear out of his star energy. The spear took the blow, and it bent the spear shaft. Long Tian then threw the spear straight at Yuhua Mavis.

Yuhua Mavis lifted a leg and kicked the weapon. There was a loud bang, and a powerful shockwave swept out in all directions, reducing the ancient rubble littering the front of the Voidsoul Palace to dust.

When it came to pure physical strength, there was almost no one in the same generation, aside from Lu Yin, who could compare to Yuhua Mavis, unless the person used a special technique, like how Wang Yi had used his family's Four Arts. However, Long Tian was different from Wang Yi. Long Tian had already opened up two meridian points, while Yuhua Mavis had not opened any. Opening two meridian points had allowed for an amazing increase in strength, and Long Tian was able to force Yuhua Mavis back with a single strike.

She was completely stunned. She had not underestimated Long Tian, and she had delivered her most powerful kick, and yet she had still been forced back.

Long Tian's spear shot forward. His eyes were locked onto Yuhua Mavis. He had also been surprised by their previous exchange. This woman was much stronger than he had assumed.

If anyone from the Fifth Mainland were present, they would have been able to warn Long Tian to never look at anyone from the Mavis family straight in the eye.

As Long Tian stared at Yuhua Mavis, he knew that he would never be able to kill this woman.

An emerald green light appeared, and Long Tian momentarily fell into confusion. However, Yuhua Mavis did not take this opportunity to take any action. Both when competing for the position of the Cosmic Five or ZENITH, she had fought people who were able to almost instantly recover from her Rhythm of Life, and she expected Long Tian to be faster than anyone she had ever faced. This was why she refrained from rushing towards the Voidsoul Palace.

The moment she took a single, barefooted step, Long Tian had already awakened. He looked at Yuhua Mavis in surprise. "You might have an innate gift that allows you to control people, but you still can't run!"

As he spoke, he waved a hand. "White Dragon Surveying the Sky."

Five coi-like tokens appeared and trapped Yuhua Mavis. Long Tian's spear twirled before stabbing forward. The spear tip twisted the void, and nearly tore through it. This attack had reached the absolute limit of what an Enlightener could be capable of. Long Tian wanted to deal with this woman as soon as possible and avoid Wang Su arriving and stepping in.

Anyone who was capable of controlling him, even if it was only for an instant, could not be allowed to remain alive.

Long Xi quietly watched from a distance. She did not move, and merely stared at her older brother. Unless his opponent was another Junior Progenitor, there was no way they would be able to stay alive. This fight was already over.

Long Tian's attack would determine Yuhua Mavis's fate. She could not block this spear, nor could she evade.

She stared at Long Tian and his spear, and then opened her mouth and swallowed a fruit. The very next moment, a terrifying aura descended, and an emblem of a green leaf appeared on her forehead. She waved a hand and broke through the White Dragon Surveying the Sky that had trapped her, and even tore through the void.

She had blocked Long Tian's attack. "The strength of an Envoy?"

Yuhua Mavis grabbed hold of the tip of the spear and violently smashed it. The head of the spear shattered, and the force continued on, causing the rest of the spear to shatter. After that, she released a punch. The enormous power was caused by a towering giant tree that had appeared behind her. It looked like an imprint.

Long Tian saw the phantom of the giant tree appear behind Yuhua Mavis, and he then looked at the emblem of the green leaf that had appeared on her forehead. His pupils shrank to pinpricks, and he blurted out, "Mavis! You're part of the Mavis family from the First Mainland!"

Boom

Yuhua Mavis punched Long Tian up into the air, and the tremendous force of her fist shattered the void, which blasted Long Tian back down to the ground.

Long Xi was still watching in the distance, and though she was surprised at what she saw, she still did not move.

Yuhua Mavis stared at the ground, and then jumped up and let out another punch as she stared at Long Tian. His eyes opened, but his vision had gone red. He was completely shocked, and he disappeared. However, Yuhua Mavis was able to see his movements this time, as she was able to see the true universe where Long Tian was racing towards her. She pulled back her right arm, and let loose another punch.

Long Tian's feet suddenly stopped, and small dragon scales suddenly appeared over his body.

There was another loud bang, and Long Tian was smashed back once again. Yuhua Mavis had already swallowed a fruit from the Mavis family, and for the moment, she could use the strength of an Envoy, just as Yuehua Mavis had done when facing Yan Cheng during the defense of the Outerverse.

Given that he was up against someone with the power of an Envoy, it was impossible for Long Tian to win, even if he had already used the White Dragon Transformation.

There was a trace of blood at the corner of his mouth. He wiped it away, and then suddenly smiled. "The Mavis family. The ancient families like yours certainly have some pretty powerful relics, but how useful can they be? Tell me, how long can you sustain this power?"

Yuhua Mavis coughed, and blood leaked from her mouth. She turned pale. Even though she possessed the strength of an Envoy for the moment, she was still not able to kill Long Tian. He had actually never even taken this fight seriously, as he had never used a single power vessel.

"How long can you keep this up?" Long Tian took out a real spear that shone brightly. This weapon was clearly a rare treasure, and he had become serious. The spear shot forward, and the power of the spear thrust combined with the strength of the power vessel to produce something that horrified Yuhua Mavis. She erupted with her full strength and turned to rush into Voidsoul Palace without any hesitation. There was no reason to fight, as she could not win.

Long Tian shouted, "You can't escape!"

Yuhua Mavis was still able to utilize the strength of an Envoy, which made it so that not even Long Tian could catch up to her.

Long Xi approached from behind Long Tian. "Someone from the Mavis family?"

Long Tian snorted. "When the First Mainland was destroyed, the Mavis family was the only survivors. The clan has a propensity towards protecting themselves."

"I've never heard of a Mavis family anywhere in the Perennial World," Long Xi pressed.

Long Tian sneered. "She's a trespasser."

"From the Forsaken Land?" Long Xi was surprised.

Long Tian responded in a quiet voice, "The Mavis family chose to not come to the Perennial World, but instead remained in the Forsaken Land. Only that place has any members of the Mavis family. This means that there are trespassers in our ranks. Her name shouldn't be Yu Hua, but Yuhua Mavis."

"If this Yuhua Mavis is here, then there must be other trespassers. We'll need to see what other rats are here."

At this moment, Long Tian suddenly remembered a particular incident, and he turned to look at Long Xi. "Wasn't she the woman who helped Long Qi find out about where those Guan brothers had hid the evidence of being Redbacks?"

Long Xi had also thought of this, and she nodded.

"What's her connection with Long Qi?" Long Tian's voice sounded a bit off and rather cold.

Long Xi stared back at her brother. "You can't think that there's a trespasser from within one of the White Dragon Clan's branch families."

Long Tian looked back towards the Voidsoul Palace. "Even if there's no connection, we still need to find that woman quickly and silence her as soon as possible. Otherwise, once Long Qi gets dragged into this mess, no one will be able to save him."

"Don't worry, Long Qi doesn't know that woman. During that incident with the Guan brothers, it was because that woman didn't like what was happening, so she gave Long Qi the location, not because she wanted to contact him" Long Xi explained.

Long Tian let out a sigh of relief. "That's good. My White Dragon Clan can never give the Celestial Frost Sect any reasons for them to act against us."

With that, he continued on towards the Voidsoul Palace.

Long Xi's eyes flickered. While Long Tian had no doubts concerning Long Qi, that was because Long Tian fully believed that Long Qi was a true member of the White Dragon Clan. Only Long Xi knew that her husband-to-be was a fake. She tended to forget that the real Long Qi was gone. In fact, Long Xi had never even thought to ask the fake Long Qi for his real name. Did he actually have anything to do with Yuhua Mavis?

The more that Long Xi considered everything that Long Qi had done, the more off things felt. How could anyone from a branch family have the courage to disobey an order from the main family? What secrets did the fake Long Qi have?

Long Xi's mood grew complex. Due to her relationship with Long Qi, she wanted to stop thinking about this subject, but the more she thought about things, the more suspicious she became .

"Come on. We need to catch up with that woman from the Mavis family," Long Tian urged.

Long Xi quickly chased after her brother while taking in a deep breath. No matter whether or not there was a problem with her Long Qi, she could not say anything to anyone. If it turned out that there really was something wrong with the fake Long Qi, then she would just have to deal with it herself.

The Voidsoul Palace's gates were not hidden. The gates were a hundred meters tall, and had been formed out of unknown materials. Despite the ages that had passed, the gates had not been completely destroyed, just like the rest of the building.

Progenitors were capable of destroying moons, planets, and even stars with just a glance. Their destructive force were extremely powerful, so any building that had held a Progenitor would naturally be completely extraordinary.

Yuhua Mavis rushed into the Voidsoul Palace, and saw nothing but thick dust. As soon as she entered, a wind swept up all of the dust throughout the entire Voidsoul Palace. It was much like throwing a boulder into a calm lake.

She took no more than a glance around before choosing a direction to flee. At the same time that she moved, she also let out attacks into all of the other corridors that she could have entered, as she intended to hide her path.

Chapter 1425: Voidsoul Umbrella

After Long Tian and Long Xi entered the Voidsoul Palace, they saw the dust that filled the air, and were completely unable to find any trace of Yuhua Mavis.

Just when they were about to start searching in a certain direction, there was a loud noise from within the depths of Voidsoul Palace, and cracks appeared on the floor. Long Tian's eyes lit up, and he rushed in the direction of the noise they had heard. Suddenly, a pair of scarlet eyes with vertical slits appeared as a figure emerged and locked eyes with the Junior Progenitor.

Long Tian was startled, and he shifted his body to the side. The dried out corpse king in front of him violently smashed the area Long Tian had just stood, and then moved to try to grab Long Tian.

Long Tian snorted. "I didn't expect there to still be monsters here after so many years."

As he spoke, his spear pierced the corpse king's body and shattered the corpse king.

At the same time, the vibrations from the depths of Voidsoul Palace stopped.

Long Tian guessed that Yuhua Mavis had also encountered a corpse king. "Let's chase after her."

Suddenly, the Voidsoul Palace vibrated again, though not from a battle. It felt as though the entire Voidsoul Palace had become alive, and it trembled as rays of light rose from the floor. They formed a streamer that hung outside the palace, and it eventually took the shape of an umbrella that slowly rotated.

Outside the palace, still far away, Xia Taili and the others with her were drawn to the huge umbrella.

Wen Diyi's eyes grew excited. "That should be the Voidsoul Umbrella that Progenitor Ku made! Rumors claim that every one of those umbrellas possess the power of Progenitor Ku, and can bring a person back to life! Each one is also strong enough to resist an attack from a Semi-Progenitor. These were the Voidsoul Army's most powerful weapons."

"Resurrection? Something that exaggerated?" Lu Yin was surprised.

Wen Diyi replied, "Progenitor Ku uncovered the secret of aging and immortality. While the legends might have exaggerated the facts a bit, Progenitor Ku still had obtained complete mastery over the mysteries of human life. His understanding surpassed mere medical knowledge and nearly stepped into the realm of a secret technique."

"Go!" Xia Taili was very excited, and she put away her power vessel, despite the number of desiccated creatures that were still surrounding the youths. She put all of her energy into racing towards the Voidsoul Palace.

Lu Yin and the others raced forward as well.

Suddenly, the Voidsoul Palace changed. The Voidsoul Umbrella had already appeared, so this clearly indicated that someone had already entered the palace.

Another group of people appeared from another direction. This was the team led by Bai Shaohong. This group had not gotten entangled with the fiasco with the ancient battlefield, and they had been steadily continuing on towards the Voidsoul Palace this entire time. However, they still arrived a step behind. Ling Tong and some others had been blasted very close to the Voidsoul Palace, and Bai Shaohong was able to see that the Voidsoul Umbrella had already been activated.

He was in a hurry, so his team accelerated towards the Voidsoul Palace.

Eventually, the two parties met each other a hundred miles outside of the Voidsoul Palace.

Xia Taili and the others had not expected to encounter Bai Shaohong and his team. When the Junior Progenitor saw Xia Taili and the others, he immediately attacked them. A palm passed through the void to land right in front of Wen Diyi.

No one had thought that Bai Shaohong would instantly attack without a word. Several people did not even have time to react. Wen Diyi was struck by the palm, and he vomited blood as he flew away. The moment he landed, his palm hit the ground, and a golden light flashed.

Lu Yin froze and stared at Bai Shaohong. This person was ruthless.

"Go! Capture Xia Taili and keep her alive, but kill the other three," Bai Shaohong ordered in a deep voice. He was completely ignoring the Virtue Archives that was behind Wen Diyi, as well as Specter Abyss that was behind Crown Prince Gui Qian. There was no need for him to be afraid of such powers.

Wen Diyi's chest was in agony. There was a deep imprint on his body from the attack that had struck him. The palm had not been a purely physical attack, but had held power that was able to drain a person's vitality and cause a body to be drained of energy while also trembling uncontrollably.

However, Wen Diyi was no weakling. Even if he had been severely injured, he had still used Literary Prison the moment he had struck the ground. When Bai Shaohong moved to launch a second attack, he discovered that he was already trapped and had been locked within a seven-fold Literary Prison.

Bai Shaohong had not expected Wen Diyi to be able to react so quickly, and the Junior Progenitor was trapped for the moment. "You're asking to die!"

The twins behind Bai Shaohong both attacked at this moment. Lu Yin brought out his ring-shaped power vessel and entered it. Xia Taili used her power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant in an attempt to bind Bai Shaohong and his team. However, though Xia Taili had a power vessel, so did Bai Shaohong. A white smoke appeared and trapped the aquatic plant and the other power vessels.

"Yun Tingting?" Xia Taili was surprised.

The woman named Yun Tingting looked at Xia Taili. "We won't hurt you, so just stop."

The twin brothers, Dong Shan and Dong He, both attacked Crown Prince Gui Qian as one. The surface of the prince's body changed, and bones erupted to block the attacks.

Shang Qing attacked Lu Yin. Though the two knew each other, Shang Qing's attack was still completely ruthless, though it was blocked by the ring.

Xia Taili and the others were forced onto the back foot from the moment they first encountered Bai Shaohong and his team.

Wen Diyi saw the killing intent in Bai Shaohong's eyes, and forced himself to endure his injuries in order to use his Literary Prison once more. Bai Shaohong had already shattered three layers of the first Literary Prison.

Yun Tingting's white smoke was very mysterious. The moment Lu Yin saw it, he immediately thought of Smoke-Eater Peaks.

"Let's capture them. They might have some value alive." Shang Qing said as he mercilessly attacked Lu Yin.

Bai Shaohong looked over towards Shang Qing and Lu Yin. Actually, he looked only at Lu Yin. The Junior Progenitor's eyes grew even colder. "He has to die."

Lu Yin frowned. The moment that Bai Shaohong had glanced over at Lu Yin, the fifth layer of the Literary Prison had shattered. This showed that Bai Shaohong desired Lu Yin's death over everyone else's. It was possible that the instantaneous attack against Lu Yin's group had been because of him, but if that was the case, why had the first attack not targeted Lu Yin?

As Lu Yin was thinking about this, Xia Taili used a strange attack to lock the woman Yun Tingting, and the woman was literally locked; her arms were bound by a lock.

"Xia Secret Art: Lock?" Yun Tingting was caught off guard.

What kind of secret technique is that? Lu Yin felt this was an odd technique.

There was a bang. Crown Prince Gui Qian was knocked back by the twins, but the prince was unharmed. He had managed to protect himself with a power vessel. With that, he rushed towards the Voidsoul Palace without any hesitation.

Wen Diyi coughed up some blood, and another Literary Prison wrapped multiple layers around Bai Shaohong. However, when Crown Prince Gui Qian tried to make his escape, the Literary Prison collapsed. Bai Shaohong did not care about Wen Diyi, but was instead staring at Crown Prince Gui Qian. "People from Specter Abyss should die."

He then raised a hand high and pointed a finger. As he did, the void froze.

This was something that could be considered normal in the Fifth Mainland, as any Enlightener, or even a Hunter, could freeze the void. But they were in the Perennial World, and in this place, only an Envoy was strong enough to effect the void, and yet Bai Shaohong had just done so.

The sight of Bai Shaohong's finger attack stunned Lu Yin. This was the same finger as the one in his dreams. While the dream finger did not freeze the void with a cold air, the feeling this attack gave off was identical to what Lu Yin had seen on White Mountain when he had first arrived in the Perennial World. This was the same finger that Elder Qing Xing had used. He had been an elder from the Celestial Frost Sect, and it looked like this finger attack really did come from the Celestial Frost Sect.

Bai Shaohong's finger fell. It pierced the void and moved to crush Crown Prince Gui Qian.

The prince turned around, and his eyes suddenly turned golden. "You underestimate me, Bai Shaohong! You actually believed that I'm not your opponent!"

As the prince spoke, his death energy condensed to also form a finger that pointed back at Bai Shaohong.

Two fingers appeared in the sky; one black, the other one white. They clashed, and one finger froze, while the other melted. The impact split the sky from the ground.

Everyone felt a bone-chilling cold that was completely terrifying.

Bai Shaohong's eyes narrowed. "Arrogant!"

Even as he spoke, his finger grew larger, and it began to freeze the death energy itself as the finger pressed towards Crown Prince Gui Qian.

The prince gritted his teeth. He had only opened his lower meridian point, while Bai Shaohong had also opened his middle meridian point. This was vital, because without this extra edge, there was no way for the finger of death energy to be overpowered by the Celestial Frost Sect's finger. "Xie Secret Art: Universal Appropriation."

A voice rang out, and the lock that trapped Yun Tingting suddenly appeared in the hands of Crown Prince Gui Qian before locking onto Bai Shaohong. The moment Bai Shaohong was trapped, his eyes snapped wide open. "Cloud Fall."

The finger and even the sky itself turned into a cloud that descended and covered the ground. The cloud rolled forward to envelop everyone present.

Lu Yin felt a cold cover his entire body, and then ice began to creep up his body from his feet. He looked down, incredulous. Even though he was standing inside the protection of the ring, he was still being frozen. This had to be a secret technique.

Crown Prince Gui Qian was also frozen. He had locked Bai Shaohong, but had also been trapped by Bai Shaohong's secret technique in return.

Xia Taili and Wen Diyi were the same, and only Yun Tingting and others from Bai Shaohong's team were unaffected.

Shang Qing glanced over at Bai Shaohong with fear. This was a terrifying secret technique. A secret technique that targeted an entire group, like this one, was the most difficult to deal with. There was no way to block this attack, given the power of the finger, and the only way to break free was through pure force.

As expected of one of the Perennial World's Junior Progenitors. Shang Qing was no match for such a person with just his own strength, and his only option would be to use the Tri-Yang Technique.

"Kill them!" Bai Shaohong shouted.

The twins instantly attacked Crown Prince Gui Qian. The prince was just about to use a power vessel, but suddenly the ground itself changed and everything was divided into orderly squares. It looked like farmland, and everyone was restrained by it.

Everyone knew that Nong Sanniang had arrived the moment they saw the farmland, as only that family of farmers had such strange battle techniques.

"Things here are so exciting, so how could I miss out?" Nong Sanniang quickly showed herself, and her eyes swept over everyone present before finally locking onto Bai Shaohong. "Bai Shaozu, you're wanting to kill Crown Prince Gui Qian, but he is helping Wang Su, who's on her way. Can you give me some face?"

Bai Shaohong's eyes grew cold. "Attack!"

The moment he gave the order, the twins attacked, one with his right palm, the other with his left. They worked together to form a flag out of their star energy. The flag fell from the sky and shrouded Crown Prince Gui Qian. This was the twins' joint attack, and it was called Mountain and Sea Banner, and it was powerful enough to subdue even the most powerful members of their generation.

Crown Prince Gui Qian's expression changed, and bones erupted from across his body to shatter the ice that had trapped him. At the same time, a glowing gray skeleton appeared and rose into the sky to contend with the Mountain and Sea Banner.

Simultaneously, Bai Shaohong managed to break free of the secret technique that had locked him, and he raised a hand to attack Crown Prince Gui Qian through the void. Nong Sanniang frowned, and her star energy took the form of a hoe. She crudely hefted the hoe and swung it at Bai Shaohong. "Nong Family's Martial Technique: Plowing the Land."

She let out a loud shout, and thousands of images appeared that seemed to overlap upon the hoe from across time and space. This single hoe seemed to represent the hard work of countless people, and it swung out against Bai Shaohong's palm attack.

There was a massive boom, and a terrifying shockwave blasted out that was visible to the naked eye.

Bai Shaohong and Nong Sanniang both were forced to step back.

At this moment, another tremble came from the distant Voidsoul Palace, and then a powerful suction erupted from it. It pulled up Bai Shaohong and others into the Voidsoul Palace. One by one, all of them were grabbed, and Lu Yin was no exception.

For a moment, everything was peaceful. There was no trace of battle, and even the marks that their battle had left on the ground had been covered up.

Chapter 1426: Efficiency

In a certain corner of the Voidsoul Palace, a figure flew in from outside and smashed against a pillar so hard that an indent of the person's body was left in the pillar.

This figure was wearing a suit of armor, and it immediately stood up after falling to the floor. The figure started moving away from where they had landed, all the while studying the surrounding area.

Naturally, this figure was Lu Yin. When he had first seen Bai Shaohong and Nong Sanniang fighting, he had not expected to get dragged in, but he had still put on his universal armor. He had a very strong survival instinct.

He was not inside the Voidsoul Palace! The fighting outside must have grown too loud and triggered a reaction from the palace, which was why they had been sucked in.

Lu Yin heard a low roar from a corner. The sound startled him, and he turned to look, only to see a pair of scarlet eyes with vertical pupils.

The Voidsoul Palace was enveloped by the huge Voidsoul Umbrella, but it was possible to see tiny red dots appearing on the umbrella. There were places where these dots were densely packed, and they slowly moved. Once everyone had been sucked into the palace, one particular little red dot started to disappear.

Bai Shaohong stood in another corner of the Voidsoul Palace. Every step he took left deep footprints on the floor. He was also faced with a red-eyed corpse king, but the Junior Progenitor just raised a hand and mercilessly slapped down, smashing the corpse king's head.

The moment the corpse king died, one of the red dots on the Voidsoul Umbrella disappeared. Also, Bai Shaohong was able to sense the umbrella's energy, and it felt like he was able to control the umbrella.

He thought of something, and suddenly his body was pulled, and he disappeared. When he next appeared, he was in another part of the palace. He did not know where he was, just that there was another corpse king in front of him. This corpse king was about as strong as the first one he had faced, and was only a mere Explorer. He easily killed this corpse king as well, and he then felt a bit more of the Voidsoul Umbrella's energy.

He understood. The Voidsoul Umbrella had detected the energy from his battle with Nong Sanniang, and had then dragged everyone nearby into the Voidsoul Palace to clear out the remaining corpse kings. The reward for whoever destroyed the most corpse kings would be the Voidsoul Umbrella itself. There were many corpse kings to destroy, but the final winner would gain control of the Voidsoul Umbrella.

Bai Shaohong's eyes lit up at this thought. His demeanor grew confident and arrogant; the umbrella had to go to him.

The Voidsoul Palace was huge. After all, Progenitor Ku had lived in it with his Voidsoul Army. Many corpse kings had stayed in the place since ancient times, but given the size of the place, it was difficult to encounter any of the corpse kings, let alone the other people on the Junior Progenitors' teams.

Long Tian retracted his hand and looked up. Even though he could not see the Voidsoul Umbrella, he was able to feel it more strongly as time went on. At the same time, he was also able to sense other energies appearing, trying to compete with him for control of the Voidsoul Umbrella. Unfortunately for those other people, he had already killed far more corpse kings than any of them.

As another corpse king fell to the ground in front of Long Tian, his body disappeared, only to reappear a ways away. He sensed a powerful aura, and he reflexively used the White Dragon Transformation and took out a strange power vessel. He thrust his spear forward, but the shaft was grabbed by a corpse king. The creature had a physical strength that was practically on par with an Envoy.

Corpse kings had an innate advantage when fighting humans. The creatures felt no pain, had no desire for life or fear of death, they had incredibly robust bodies, and were able to freely use their innate gifts. Once they started cultivating, they would be able to improve leaps and bounds. It was because of these advantages that the humans lost most of their battles against them, and they could only employ the strategy of self destruction to eliminate these monstrosities.

Even if Long Tian was a Junior Progenitor and was able to defeat anyone beneath the Envoy realm, he would still struggle terribly to fight against a corpse king that was on the verge of reaching the strength of an Envoy.

Elsewhere, Lu Yin had come to the same realization as the two Junior Progenitors from the moment he had killed his first corpse king. He had sensed the energy of the Voidsoul Umbrella and had realized that the umbrella was intending to use the youths' power to clean out the Voidsoul Palace.

Ancient Progenitors were incredible. Even after they died, they left behind a power that still tried to deal with the monsters.

A Vacuum Palm shot out, striking a corpse king, Lu Yin clenched his fist; it was time for him to finally release his full strength, as he wanted to be the one to get the Voidsoul Umbrella that held the power of resurrection.

The power of a Vacuum Palm lay in its speed and power. Lu Yin killed another corpse king and quickly appeared in another location. Every time he saw a corpse king, he would attack it with a Vacuum Palm. His strength far exceeded what it had been during ZENITH, and he had also completed his nineteenth cycle as a Hunter and had even opened his lower meridian point. If he had possessed such strength during ZENITH, Wang Yi would not have been able to endure one of Lu Yin's Vacuum Palms.

His domain had been fully unleashed, and he was liberally attacking with his Vacuum Palm. Lu Yin was actually clearing out the corpse kings faster than Bai Shaohong or Long Tian, at least until he came across a corpse king that was approaching the strength of an Envoy.

With a bang, the full-powered Vacuum Palm was only able to knock the corpse king back 100 meters. The attack was not able to cause any sort of severe damage to the beast.

The corpse king looked at Lu Yin with its scarlet eyes and then charged towards the youth.

After the passing of countless years, even if the corpse king had once possessed any semblance of sapience, the creature was nothing but instinct at this moment, which made it the perfect target for Lu Yin to attack, as no matter how strong the corpse king was, without intelligence, it could only serve for target practice.

However, the beast's body was too tough. Lu Yin repeatedly attacked with countless Vacuum Palms, but only was able to leave some marks on the corpse king's body and was unable to penetrate the creature's defenses. It would take a great deal of time for him to whittle this corpse king down and defeat it.

Lu Yin was able to feel the Voidsoul Umbrella's energy growing stronger and stronger. He frowned. After a moment's thought, his die appeared. It was time to Enhance some items.

As soon as he tapped it, the die began to rotate. Four pips: Timestop.

The scenery changed before Lu Yin's eyes, and he appeared within the gray space. He immediately began to roll his die again.

As long as he was able to enter the Timestop Space, he was guaranteed to be able to roll a three, so first rolling a four was the best result.

Lu Yin rolled the die five times, and finally, on his sixth attempt, he rolled a three.

As soon as he saw the two screens of light, Lu Yin threw out the orb that he had stolen from Madam Lan.

When Lu Yin had attacked the Blaze Realm, Madam Lan tried to use this orb to annihilate Lu Yin's forces, but he had stolen it from her with the Yu Secret Art. The orb held a powerful flame, and when he had seen its runes, he had almost matched up to those of an Enlightener. At this moment, Lu Yin hoped to Enhance the orb so that he could use the flame it held to kill the corpse king much faster.

After throwing out the orb, Lu Yin began to feed the screens with star essence.

While the flame within the orb could be used as a weapon, if Lu Yin was not careful with it, he could also hurt himself. He did not want to go overboard, so he only enhanced the orb three times.

The third upgrade cost him nearly 8 million star essence. Lu Yin could feel the surging temperature of the flame within when he held the orb. The heat of this flame far surpassed the dark magma he had used to train on the Junior Progenitor Planet. The orb contained a temperature that was beyond what Lu Yin could endure at this time, though he felt he would be able to do so after becoming an Enlightener.

Lu Yin checked his remaining time, and then soon calmed himself down and began to silently recite the complete Stonewall Scriptures.

Finally, the scenery changed, and Lu Yin returned to the real universe. No matter how much time he spent in that gray and white Timestop Space, no more than a second had passed in the real universe. Still, a second was a significant amount of time for a powerful cultivator, and the corpse king was already close to Lu Yin. It slapped out a hand and sent Lu Yin flying.

Luckily, Lu Yin was unharmed, as he was still wearing his universal armor. If he had not, the monster's attack would have easily caused him heavy injuries.

The corpse king charged Lu Yin once again, but this time Lu Yin raised the upgraded orb and attacked the corpse king with it. Only a small amount of the contained flames were released, and yet still the corpse king was reduced to ashes the moment it came in touch with the flames.

Lu Yin felt a bit hot as he held the orb. He was guessing that the flames the orb held could compare to an attack from an expert with a power level of 600,000, while the corpse king had merely been close to the power of an Envoy.

If the corpse king had managed to undergo a corpse king transformation, things might have turned out different, as the flames might not have been enough to destroy such a creature.

Lu Yin disappeared, and when he reappeared he was close to another corpse king. Each successive corpse king was slightly stronger than the previous, and Lu Yin's current opponent was another corpse king that had a level of strength that almost reached that of an Envoy.

Lu Yin just incinerated the creature with the flames within the orb without saying a single word.

One victory, two, three. Lu Yin did not know how many corpse kings were within the Voidsoul Palace, but he did know that the flames within his orb were starting to run out, though he was also gaining more and more control over the Voidsoul Umbrella, and he had already surpassed everyone else.

Bai Shaohong was able to feel that someone else was slaughtering the corpse kings even faster than he, despite the fact that he had already used a power vessel. Each successive corpse king was progressively more powerful, and even though Bai Shaohong was using a power vessel, he still needed at least 15 minutes to defeat each corpse king. How could anyone be even faster than him? Could it be that the others had only encountered weaker corpse kings?

That should not be the case, as the Voidsoul Umbrella was not a person and it had no intelligence, so there should not be any sort of difference in the treatment of the different people. The strength of the corpse king a person would be sent to face was related to the number of corpse kings a person had already killed, as well as their speed. The faster a person killed the corpse kings and the more corpse kings a person defeated, the stronger the corpse king they would be paired with. Given this pattern, there was no way for anyone to be faster than Bai Shaohong unless they had a more powerful power vessel than he.

Bai Shaohong's eyes flickered. Not just anyone was able to use such power vessels. The stronger the power vessel, the greater the burden placed on the user. Otherwise, given the Celestial Frost Sect's

support, Bai Shaohong would have been able to use power vessels with the strength of a Semi-Progenitor without any scruples and breeze his way through everything.

Who could it be? Long Tian? Wang Su? Xia Shenfei?

At this moment, Long Tian was also trying to guess who was progressing so rapidly. Long Tian had entered the palace earlier than the others, and yet someone had killed more corpse kings than Long Tian. How could anyone defeat these beasts so fast? Could they only have been facing corpse kings with the strength of an Explorer? That should not be the case!

Given the situation, Long Tian had no choice after giving the matter a bit of thought. He brought out another power vessel.

Both Bai Shaohong and Long Tian had started to use their strongest power vessels. For a time, the Voidsoul Palace shook without stopping, and the red dots sprinkled across the Voidsoul Umbrella started disappearing faster and faster. Three people continued to fight for first place, and the top position kept rotating between them, and everyone else was left just watching the fun.

Two days later, the last corpse king was destroyed. With that, the orb in Lu Yin's hand finally shattered, as the flame inside had been utterly exhausted.

At the same time, his perspective shifted, and Lu Yin was suddenly looking at the entire Voidsoul Palace. He saw a place where tribulation crystals were stored. Excitement filled his eyes; could that be the inheritance Progenitor Ku had left behind?

After only a moment, Lu Yin's perspective returned to his body, but he already knew where Progenitor Ku's inheritance was stored.

Lu Yin was not the only one to be given this information, as Bai Shaohong and Long Tian had seen the same scene. All three had seen the same location, and all three had already made the same decision to grab the inheritance.

At this moment, it was a speed race. However, it did not matter how fast Bai Shaohong or Long Tian might be, as they could not compete with Lu Yin. This was simply because Lu Yin was already extremely close to where the inheritance had been hidden.

After only a quarter of an hour, Lu Yin had found the inconspicuous secret room. He had seen Wen Diyi on the way while rushing towards the inheritance at top speed. Lu Yin had badly startled Wen Diyi, as he had assumed that another corpse king had appeared.

Lu Yin grabbed the tribulation crystals the moment he entered the hidden room. There was also a box on either side of where the crystals had sat, and Lu Yin instantly appeared in front of one and stored it in his cosmic ring. By this time, Bai Shaohong and Long Tian had both arrived outside the room, and only a wall separated them from Lu Yin. Normally, Lu Yin would be trapped and sealed within the room, but he had the Ce secret technique.

Chapter 1427: Long-lost Weapon

Lu Yin glanced at the second box. He had the time to grab it, but decided to leave it behind. As his right foot moved to take a step, an astral chessboard appeared beneath him, as he was about to use the Ce Secret Art.

Once this chessboard appeared, everything became a chess piece. Lu Yin, Bai Shaohong, Long Tian, even the walls, the stones on the ground, and the air became chess pieces. This was the power of a secret technique.

Activating the secret technique, Lu Yin moved.

He shifted himself far away, and made sure that he avoided Bai Shaohong and Long Tian's line of sight. The very next moment, the two Junior Progenitors rushed into the hidden room from two different directions, and they both instantly saw the box that had been left behind.

Bai Shaohong's eyes narrowed. He pressed a hand down. "Cloud Fall."

This was another secret technique, and it covered everything within 100 miles. Clouds fell, and Lu Yin looked up. Bai Shaohong's reaction speed shocked Lu Yin, and he raced away. Still, it was impossible for Lu Yin to instantly escape, as he was still within the secret technique's effective range.

Clouds descended, and Lu Yin was frozen as they passed over his body.

Bai Shaohong waved a hand, and a surge of star energy swept through the hidden room, smashing the walls and pillars as it blasted out in the direction Lu Yin had fled. As soon as all obstacles were removed, the two Junior Progenitors would be able to see who had stolen from them.

Lu Yin could never allow such a thing to happen. The cold was so powerful that there was no way that he would be able to escape in time, so he was left with no choice but to take something out of his cosmic ring that he then threw towards the two Junior Progenitors. It was one of the flash-bombs that he had not used in a long time. This one had been made from materials from the Technocracy that Lu Yin had received from Brother Hui, and Lu Yin had then Enhanced the flash-bomb until it was strong enough to effect even Enlighters with power levels of nearly 300,000.

Bai Shaohong and Long Tian were each far more powerful than such an Enlighter, but the flash-bomb was still powerful enough to cause them to momentarily lose their sight, and that moment was all that Lu Yin needed.

The flash-bomb exploded, and a dazzling light instantly illuminated the entire region of the Voidsoul Palace.

Bai Shaohong and Long Tian had never dreamed that anyone would employ such a diversion, particularly Bai Shaohong, who had already guessed that someone had taken part of the inheritance from the room a single step ahead of him. His secret technique Cloud Fall should have left anyone completely trapped, and after that, Bai Shaohong had attacked in the direction of the escaping person. However, his attack did not meet a person, but a flash-bomb, and it had left him almost entirely blind for a moment.

Lu Yin used a hand to smash the ice from the Cloud Fall secret Technique that had trapped him, and he used the Ce Secret Art once more to escape far away.

When Bai Shaohong was next able to view his surroundings, Lu Yin had already escaped far away.

He could scarcely believe that someone had used such a method, and he showed a rare display of anger. "Who? Who would use such a despicable method? Who was it?"

After this, he turned around, only to see the final box in Long Tian's hands.

If that box had not been left behind, the two youths absolutely would have chased after the thief who had fled, but one box had been left behind, and they both wanted it.

While rumors claimed that Bai Shaohong and Long Tian had an inseparable relationship, only the two of them were aware that their relationship was nothing more than a matter of trading benefits.

Bai Shaohong was from the Celestial Frost Sect, which was the leader of the four ruling powers. Due to this status, he was able to easily suppress the other three Junior Progenitors.

As for Long Tian, he had a cold personality and was ruthless in his dealings, which meant that he was also disliked by Xia Shenfei and Wang Su. This meant that Long Tian and Bai Shaohong had been left with no choice but to present the impression that they had an excellent relationship to keep the other two Junior Progenitors from growing too bold.

However, at this moment, there was no one to see the two of them.

"Brother Long, do you have any guess as to who that person was just now?" Bai Shaohong asked, calming himself down from his momentary rage.

Long Tian refrained from storing the box in his cosmic ring. If he did so, Bai Shaohong would have to be a perfect saint in order to happily give up on the remaining prize. The most important detail at this moment was whether or not the contents of the box were worth fighting over. Bai Shaohong made Long Tian nervous, and the White Dragon Clan was wary of the Celestial Frost Sect.

If Bai Shaohong had been the one to grab the box, he would never have hesitated to keep it.

"Brother Bai was not able to get a clear look?" Long Tian asked back.

Bai Shaohong's voice grew cold. "That person might have used sneaky methods, but they are still quite strong. Not only were they able to break free of my Cloud Fall secret technique, they were also able to escape both of our sights. It had to have been a secret technique, but neither of us were able to get a clear look at the technique. It might have told us who that was."

"Anyone who's able to visit the Dominion Realm is a powerhouse, so it's not unusual for anyone here to have a secret technique. However, there's something else that I would like to remind Brother Bai about." Long Tian's voice dropped low and his expression turned serious. "There are trespassers mixed in with our numbers."

Bai Shaohong's eyes suddenly went wide. "Are you certain?"

"Of course. I already ran into someone from the Mavis family," Long Tian said.

Bai Shaohong sneered. "I guess there'll always be trespassers. The Mavis family? They've sneaked in here before, and now they've shown up once again."

"I remember that there's also someone on your team with a murky background. Have you thoroughly vetted them?" Long Tian asked.

Bai Shaohong replied, "That person's from Nest, so Brother Long doesn't need to worry about him at all. However, I'm quite curious about what's in the box. Can Brother Long open it up?"

Long Tian clenched his spear. "Things here always belong to those who manage to grab them."

"And I can grab that." Bai Shaohong lifted his head and disappeared in a flash. At the same time, Long moved with the Roving White Dragon. The two started a fight in the confines of the small hidden room that others would not be able to clearly track. Spatial cracks appeared and spread out.

Some distance away, Lu Yin turned back before letting out a sigh of relief. He was not being chased. Sure enough, it had been the correct choice to leave a box behind. Otherwise, he would have been chased by two Junior Progenitors, and he might not have been able to make a clean escape.

His gains from this venture were not small. He had grabbed a pillar of tribulation crystals that was about the same size as the one that Long Ding had used to open his lower meridian point, and Lu Yin would be able to use it towards opening his own second meridian point. Also, there was the box he had grabbed.

Remembering it, Lu Yin pulled out the box and opened it. He saw what looked to be a piece of jade inside, and he reached in and pulled it out. Instantly, his mind was flooded with information. His body went stiff, and he nearly collapsed. Fortunately, he was able to recover in time to catch himself. He moved his right foot forward and stabilized his body.

The piece of jade in his hand shattered into pieces.

Lu Yin stood there, his eyes flickering. He closed his eyes to go over what had just happened before opening them once more.

Unexpectedly, the piece of jade had held Progenitor Ku's battle technique. This particular technique was called Extremes Must Be Reversed. Rather than a battle technique, it seemed more like a cultivation method. More accurately, it was a method of treating one's body.

With this Extremes Must Be Reversed, once a person reaches their peak strength, they would be overcome with weakness, while when they become weak, they would suddenly become strengthened.

Practicing this method would cause a person to become completely dried up, just like the desiccated creatures in this part of the dominion realm, and the person would only be able to recover their strength after being attacked. However, they would also be able to voluntarily enter a dried up state once more, and this process was intended to be repeated in a manner that would allow a person to accumulate their strength.

This was the battle technique that Progenitor Ku had left behind, and it was an amazing technique. Not only could a person dry themselves up, but they would also become capable of doing the same to others, which would allow them to rebuild the ancient Voidsoul Army that Wen Diyi had mentioned to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin could not determine how powerful this technique had been in the hands of Progenitor Ku, but Lu Yin did know that this was not a technique that he could use.

By becoming desiccated, a person would be left unable to do anything. This was a technique that was highly suitable for those freaks who focused exclusively on cultivating, such as the fanatical cultivators who constantly remained in seclusion. When thinking of such people, Lu Yin instantly thought of Seruzen, who had left his right arm held up high for twenty years. That man had been left dried up and deformed long ago, and his entire body had become bronzed and skinny, looking much like a mummy. Seruzen was the ideal person to use this sort of technique.

Lu Yin felt rather helpless; if only he had grabbed the other box instead.

Throughout the entire ordeal, while Lu Yin believed himself to be alone, someone had been observing everything: Crown Prince Gui Qian.

While Crown Prince Gui Qian had not killed as many corpse kings as Lu Yin or the other two, he had still slaughtered enough to be shown the entirety of the Voidsoul Palace by the Voidsoul Umbrella, and he had also seen the location of the secret room. He had watched as Lu Yin had taken the tribulation crystals and one of the two boxes. The two Junior Progenitors had not seen anything, but Crown Prince Gui Qian had seen Lu Yin act the thief.

At this moment, Crown Prince Gui Qian was searching for Lu Yin.

All of the corpse kings in the Voidsoul Palace had already been wiped out. The Voidsoul Umbrella seemed to have completed its mission, and it had begun to slowly shrink before it ultimately fell and broke through the roof of the Voidsoul Palace and dropped to the floor. Close to where it fell, the twins who were on Bai Shaohong's team were startled, as they had not expected to see the Voidsoul Umbrella fall.

The two looked at each other. They both instantly wanted to grab the umbrella. After all, a major motivation to visiting the Voidsoul Palace was precisely this power vessel.

However, just as Dong Shan was about to grab the Voidsoul Umbrella, a stream of qi wrapped around the Voidsoul Umbrella and pulled it away.

The twin brothers looked up into the distance where they saw Shang Qing holding the Voidsoul Umbrella in a hand. He looked quite calm.

"Shang Qing, give it back to us!" Dong Shan shouted fiercely. Behind him, Dong He simply charged forward. The twins had already been upset at Shang Qing's presence on the team, as without him, there would have been one more person from the Celestial Frost Sect with them.

Dong He never even considered being polite to Shang Qing. "Wind God Slash."

A violent attack swept forward to cut Shang Qing in half. This was part of the Celestial Frost Sect's Wind God battle technique. The sect's forte was unarmed combat.

Shang Qing had shown no hint of surprise when facing the Four Arts, or the Wind God Slash. As far as he was concerned, neither of the twins could compare to Wang Yi's strength during ZENITH.

The Wind God Slash was a dangerous attack, and it shot straight for Shang Qing, but he easily evaded it. Dong He suddenly appeared behind Shang Qing, moving at the same speed as the previous attack. He

struck a palm at Shang Qing. Both of the twins had already opened their lower meridian point, so neither of them could compare to an ordinary Enlighter, so they both considered themselves to be at least one level superior to Shang Qing.

However, the palm attack was useless against Shang Qing. He let the palm strike his chest, and then looked up at Dong He. A stream of qi shot forward and struck Dong He's right shoulder, forcing him back while breaking his shoulder.

Dong Shan jumped forward. Shock filled his eyes, and Shang Qing raised a hand. The same stream of qi shot forward, but Dong Shan just waved a hand. "Yu Secret Art. Void Transfer."

The stream of qi was diverted elsewhere.

Shang Qing was stunned; the Yu Secret Art? If Shang Qing remembered correctly, that was Lu Yin's secret technique, and yet the Celestial Frost Sect also had the Yu family's secret technique.

There was another Wind God Slash, this time from Dong Shan, and at the same time, Dong He pointed a finger forward to release a Celestial Being Shows the Way. The twins were teaming up to fight Shang Qing.

Shang Qing's expression remained as calm as ever. These twins wanted to join forces? During ZENITH, Lu Yin and Wang Yi had teamed up to deal with Shang Qing. Shang Qing would never fear being ganged up on, but things were a bit difficult at this moment, as he could not use the full power of the Tri-Yang Technique.

Suddenly, he remembered something, and he pulled out the Voidsoul Umbrella. He swung it forward like a stick, and it instantly shattered the Wind God Slash and the Celestial Being Shows the Way. A shockwave erupted from the impact, and it blasted Dong Shan and Dong He back a thousand meters. Both brothers coughed up blood.

The two were furious that their opponent had just used the Voidsoul Umbrella against them.

Shang Qing was pleasantly surprised. He did not know how to use the true power of the Voidsoul Umbrella, but the item itself was naturally powerful, and it could allow him to easily defeat the twins.

Chapter 1428: Already Enough

"Shang Qing, our Junior Progenitor intended to get that Voidsoul Umbrella, and yet you dare take it?" Dong Shan roared in anger.

Shang Qing's eyebrows rose high. "Before we arrived in the Dominion Realm, Junior Progenitor Bai told us that treasures will go to whoever manages to get them, so why would he intend to rob me?"

"How bold! How dare you slander our Junior Progenitor? It sounds like you don't want to continue in this universe!" Dong He shouted fiercely.

Shang Qing remained silent. He had never even considered staying in the Perennial World.

"Shang Qing, give us that Voidsoul Umbrella right now, and we can act as though nothing ever happened." Dong Shan spoke in a somewhat softer and persuasive tone.

Shang Qing put the Voidsoul Umbrella away again. "Sorry; can't do that."

Dong Shan gritted his teeth. "Do you think you can really defeat the two of us with that Voidsoul Umbrella? While the Voidsoul Umbrella is a power vessel with the strength of a Semi-Progenitor, it's not something that ordinary people can use. Forget you, not even a junior Progenitor could use that thing's full might!. Until you become strong enough to use it properly, the best you can hope to do is use the natural strength of the power vessel like what you just did, and how long do you think you can keep that up?"

"Not to mention, we also have our own power vessels," Dong He threatened.

Shang Qing's eyes grew sharper. Dong Shan was right, the Voidsoul Umbrella could, at best, be used like a stick by Shang Qing. It was absolutely impossible for him to reveal its full power. How could he ever manage to control a Progenitor's power? However, did Shang Qing really need the Voidsoul Umbrella in order to defeat the twins?

After a moment's thought, a murderous light filled Shang Qing's eyes, and a stream of qi moved beneath his feet, as he had subconsciously desired to fly and reveal the godly image he was accustomed to.

At this moment, a figure rushed out from a side of the room and punched one of the twins after the other. The brothers had not expected to be attacked so suddenly, and though they had hurried to raise some form of defenses, the attacker was too strong, and they were both knocked unconscious and sent flying in different directions.

Shang Qing was taken aback; Yuhua Mavis?

Indeed, the attacker had been Yuhua Mavis. The moment the power of the Voidsoul Umbrella had disappeared, she had no longer had the courage to remain in the palace, and she had immediately moved to escape. As she had been leaving, she had stumbled upon the fight between Shang Qing and the twins.

Yuhua Mavis glanced at Shang Qing, and took special note of the Voidsoul Umbrella in his hand, but then she simply ran off.

By the time the twins had recovered enough to fight back, both people were gone.

"Who attacked us?" Dong Shan was furious.

At this time, the Voidsoul Palace began to rumble more and more violently. Walls and stone pillars began to collapse, and the ceiling completely shattered so that everyone was able to look up at the branches of the Mother Tree that covered the sky. They looked like countless mainlands high in the sky.

Everyone raced to avoid being buried in the collapsing Voidsoul Palace.

Lu Yin was also trying his best to avoid the place where Bai Shaohong and Long Tian were fighting each other as he rushed out of the Voidsoul Palace.

There was a terrible bang as the Voidsoul Palace completely collapsed. In one corner, Bai Shaohong and Long Tian's battle tore through the void, and a spatial tear opened up above everyone, stunning many of the youths.

"Stop!" Long Xi shouted loudly as she raise her hand. Bai Shaohong was instantly trapped within the restraints of White Dragon Surveying the Sky, but at the same time, Yun Tingting attacked with her white smoke to trap Long Tian.

The twins raced over to stand at Bai Shaohong's side, while Lu Yin instinctively hurried over towards Long Tian. There was a clear delineation of the two sides.

The Voidsoul Palace had already collapsed, so everyone was exposed, including Xia Taili, Crown Prince Gui Qian, Nong Sanniang, and Wen Diyi.

Bai Shaohong shattered the White Dragon Surveying the Sky, while Long Tian also broke free of the smoke. The two sides stood staring at each other.

"Brother Bai, any battle between us won't end quickly." Long Tian smiled gently. He looked to maintain a friendly atmosphere.

A smirk also appeared on Bai Shaohong's face, and his eyes lay on the box. "There's no use talking, as strength decides the outcome. Sooner or later, one of us will be declared the winner, but we shouldn't fall out because of it."

"So, how about we end things here today?" Long Tian asked. The White Dragon Clan stood in a different position from the Celestial Frost Sect. Even if Long Tian was rather unpopular because of his personality, he would not purposely aggravate most people. It simply looked like he was on conflicting sides with Bai Shaohong at this moment, but Long Tian knew that he needed to consider their relationship as a view of the bigger picture.

Bai Shaohong clasped his hands behind his back. "This battle will eventually be decided, whether it's today or tomorrow. It's just a matter of whether or not it's worth fighting."

Long Tian's eyes narrowed. He held up the box and simply opened it up.

Everyone stared at the box. This box held a Progenitor's inheritance, and no one could ignore such a thing.

"The Ku Secret Art? A secret technique?" Long Xi exclaimed.

Long Tian's eyes revealed his surprise; the box held a secret technique.

Across from Long Tian, Bai Shaohong felt disappointed. The Celestial Frost Sect already had the Ku Secret Art, so they had no desire for this treasure. In fact, Dong Shan had comprehended the Ku Secret Art. However, while this technique held no value for the Celestial Frost Sect, it was invaluable to other organizations. It was impossible to simply ignore whoever gained this secret technique.

"Brother Bai, what do you say?" Long Tian asked.

Dong Shan stepped up from behind Bai Shaohong and quietly said, "Junior Progenitor, if you allow the White Dragon Clan to gain this secret technique, we will have even more trouble dealing with them in the future. No matter what, this is still a secret technique."

Bai Shaohong silently looked around. Everyone watched, even Xia Taili, who had already escaped the area. Everyone stayed silent at this moment. If Xia Shenfei had been present, he would have had a say in

matters, but at the moment, Xia Shenfei did not even know where he was. He was still passed out, which left him unqualified to negotiate anything with Bai Shaohong, no matter how badly Xia Shenfei might desire the secret technique.

Crown Prince Gui Qian seemed to be staring at the Ku Secret Art that Long Tian held, but the truth was that his focus was constantly on Long Qi. With the exception of the crown prince, no one was aware that Lu Yin had been the one to get to the inheritance first. Gui Qian had watched as Lu Yin had stolen the crystal pillar and the first box, though he had not seen what had happened after that.

He had assumed that Long Qi would be caught by Bai Shaohong and Long Tian, and had never considered that Long Qi might have the ability to escape from two Junior Progenitors while carrying a Progenitor's inheritance, and at the moment, Long Qi was hiding in plain sight by mingling with everyone else. The man who Long Xi had been forced to marry due to pressure from the Celestial Frost Sect was the person who had hidden his strength most deeply out of everyone present.

Crown Prince Gui Qian had no confidence of pulling off such a stunt himself and remaining perfectly hidden. There was no way this Long Qi was as simple as people believed.

Bai Shaohong's eyes finally landed on Lu Yin, and his eyes flashed with a cold light. He then looked over at Long Xi and showed a faint smile. "It's been a long time."

Long Xi frowned. "My elder brother asked you something."

Bai Shaohong smiled. "What would you like me to do? I'll do whatever you say."

The moment these words were spoken, the atmosphere grew rather awkward.

Xia Taili's eyes lit up, and she reflexively looked over at Lu Yin, full of schadenfreude. Now that Lu Yin's wife was being teased, she wanted to see how this thick-skinned bastard would react.

Almost everyone present was familiar with the matter between Bai Shaohong and Long Xi, so everyone went silent after he spoke.

Long Tian instinctively glanced over at Lu Yin.

Long Xi stared back. "Junior Progenitor Bai, please show some respect."

Bai Shaohong smiled. "I'm speaking to you, so why should I need to worry about such a thing? After all, you'll be mine sooner or later."

Everyone held their breath; this was even more blatant than what had been said before.

Xia Tali's eyes lit up; this was so exciting! She had not expected to watch such a show!

Behind Bai Shaohong, the woman named Yun Tingting looked at Lu Yin with curiosity. If this person was a man, there was no way he would be able to endure such humiliation!

Shang Qing glanced at Lu Yin in a strange manner; this guy was really unlucky.

"Enough! Bai Shaohong, stop your nonsense." Long Xi had become so angry that she was not able to help herself from glancing over at Lu Yin. While she and Long Qi had been forced together by circumstances and were not yet even officially wed, he was the first thought on her mind after Bai Shaohong had said such a thing. However, unless a man was made of wood, how could any husband endure such an insult?

Long Tian appeared to be calm and did not react in any way.

One after another, everyone looked over at Lu Yin like he was wearing a brilliant green hat. In particular, Xia Taili's eyes were positively shining.

Lu Yin was thoroughly upset at this moment. Did he like Long Xi? They had not spent enough time together to form any real feelings, but regardless, Long Xi was to be Lu Yin's wife, and it was unbearable to hear another man completely disregard him in such a manner as to claim Lu Yin's wife as his own while in front of Lu Yin.

This was no longer a matter of Bai Shaohong merely ignoring offering Lu Yin any bit of respect, this was no different than Bai Shaohong stomping his feet all over Lu Yin's reputation, as well as completely ignoring him.

With that, Lu Yin moved forward. Long Xi's brows rose high, and she stared at Lu Yin and shouted at him, "What are you doing? Get back!"

Lu Yin's eyes were ice cold at this moment. "What did you say?"

Long Xi looked at Lu Yin's cruel eyes. She did not know why, but at this moment, her heart suddenly softened. She knew what Long Qi was enduring at this moment, but even if it was a situation that was impossible to endure, he still had to do so.

Long Xi then urged Lu Yin in a quiet, pleading tone, "Step back. He's deliberately trying to provoke you, so step back, as that is the only way you can help me right now."

Lu Yin clenched his fists. This was the first time Long Xi had ever spoken to Lu Yin in such a tone. Lu Yin had gained some understanding of Long Xi, and he knew that she was under incredible pressure from Bai Shaohong, as he was attempting to cause a conflict for any reason.

Lu Yin suppressed his frustrations within his heart. He had almost raised a hand to attack Bai Shaohong with a Vacuum Palm, but after seeing Long Xi's pleading eyes, Lu Yin endured his humiliation. If he made a move at this time and exposed his strength, he would be revealing that there were trespassers in the Dominion Realm, and then his only choice would be to leave. After all, Lu Yin was confident in escaping even if Long Tian and Bai Shaohong teamed up to chase after him. However, what would happen to Long Xi if he did that? The woman had a cold face, but a kind heart, and she had always treated Lu Yin very well. She would be forced to bear the consequences of Lu Yin's actions.

Lu Yin did not have the confidence of being able to fully resolve the situation at this time, and he could not allow Long Xi to pay the price.

Seeing Lu Yin stop, Bai Shaohong sneered.

Long Tian said, "Alright, Brother Bai, there's no need to say anything unnecessary. My sister is already married, and she has no future with you.

"Now, what do you plan on doing about this matter?"

Bai Shaohong glanced at Lu Yin with blatant contempt before looking back at Long Tian. "Long Xi has already spoken. While she was not clear with her words, I understand her intention. Given the situation, this can be treated as my gift to the White Dragon Clan."

"Junior Progenitor!" Dong Shan could not stop himself from speaking up, but was stopped from saying anything further by Bai Shaohong.

Long Tian was surprised, but nodded. He was a pragmatist who did not care about the process, only the results. "Thank you, Brother Bai."

Bai Shaohong smiled and looked back towards Long Xi. "Are you happy?"

Long Xi ignored Bai Shaohong completely and walked over next to Lu Yin. "Did you forget what I told you when we completed the first step of getting married?"

Lu Yin remained silent.

Long Xi spoke quietly, "I told you that I don't need you to become powerful or famous, just to stay safe. After we leave this Dominion Realm, I will do my best to protect you. I only hope that you will be able to endure, because Bai Shaohong will do his best to provoke you. Keep yourself under control so that we can go back to Dragon Mountain where we will be safe."

Lu Yin looked at the exhaustion on Long Xi's face. He helplessly sighed. "I understand."

Long Xi let out a sigh of relief, though in her heart, she was not able to ignore a feeling of loss. No woman would want her man to be forced to bow his head to others, but what more could she ask for? This was already the limit. Long Qi had given a much better performance than what she had ever expected. This was already enough. While he could not compare to a Junior Progenitor, it was enough.

Chapter 1429: Extreme Strength

Xia Taili felt deep regret when she saw Long Qi holding back. "They didn't fight, how unfortunate. Still, how long can a man hold back?"

She did not speak quietly, and everyone was able to hear her.

Lu Yin raised his head to look at her.

She defiantly glared back, pretending to be contemptuous.

Lu Yin rarely felt such anger. He looked over at Bai Shaohong, and at just that moment, Bai Shaohong looked at Lu Yin. The two stared at each other, each unable to hide their murderous intentions towards the other.

"Eleven people are here; where's that woman?" Long Tian's voice broke the silence as he glanced around.

Bai Shaohong averted his eyes from Lu Yin and loudly asked, "There was a woman with impressive physical strength. Who saw her before?"

Dong Shan and Dong He glanced at each other. "Junior Progenitor, when we were fighting with Shang Qing, we were attacked by a woman who fled before the Voidsoul Palace finished collapsing."

"She was certainly quick to escape... Everyone, you need to remember that there's a trespasser from the Mavis family who made it here," Long Tian coldly stated.

Everyone was caught off guard, and Lu Yin and Shang Qing reflexively glanced at each other; Yuhua Mavis had already been exposed.

Bai Shaohong frowned and looked at the twins. "What fight?"

Dong Shan pointed at Shang Qing and sternly announced, "He snatched the Voidsoul Umbrella."

Everyone looked over at Shang Qing. So he had been the one who had managed to grab the Voidsoul Umbrella.

The Voidsoul Umbrella was a treasure that had been left in the Voidsoul Palace by Progenitor Ku. It was a power vessel with the strength of at least a Semi-Progenitor, and it was invaluable. Everyone had entered the palace in hopes of obtaining the umbrella. According to legends, Progenitor Ku had mastered the mysteries of aging and immortality, and the Voidsoul Umbrella held the power of resurrection when one could wield its full power.

Shang Qing looked back at everyone with complete indifference. It was impossible to see even the slightest hint of nervousness.

Bai Shaohong's eyes flashed as he looked at Shang Qing. "The rules of this place say that treasures belong to whomever grabs them."

He then looked at Long Tian and the others. "Shang Qing managed to pick up the Voidsoul Umbrella, so no one should have any intentions of stealing it."

Long Tian casually replied, "Right now, I want to find that mouse."

Bai Shaohong turned to look at Xia Taili. "Where's Brother Shenfei? Has he not yet arrived? Or is he here but has stayed hidden?"

Xia Taili arched a brow. "Bai Shaohong, what do you mean?"

Bai Shaohong indifferently replied, "While we were in the Voidsoul Palace, a rat slipped away from and stole some things before we were able to get a look. Judging by their strength, it could only have been either Brother Shenfei or Wang Su."

"Are you looking down on us?" Xia Taili gritted her teeth, and she adapted a posture that shouted that she was ready to do anything at any moment.

Lu Yin was left speechless; there was something wrong with her head! This was not the point!

"What else was part of the inheritance aside from that box?" Nong Sanniang was surprised at this reveal.

Bai Shaohong looked over at her. "Where's Wang Su?"

Nong Sanniang pointed in a particular direction. "I saw her blasted that way."

Seeing the direction, the expressions of Bai Shaohong, Long Tian, and Xia Taili all changed at the same time, and a hint of urgency flickered in their eyes.

Wang Su had been sent in the direction of the destination indicated on the map. There was something in that direction, and Wang Su could not be allowed to seize it.

Bai Shaohong and Long Tian both looked at each other. "Looks like things are about to speed up."

Long Tian nodded. Suddenly, he attacked. He waved a hand, and five coin-shaped tokens flew out to surround Nong Sanniang and trap her within the White Dragon Surveying the Sky.

Nobody had expected Long Tian to attack so suddenly.

At the same time, Bai Shaohong did not delay, either. He stabbed a finger forward, and attacked Crown Prince Gui Qian with a Celestial Being Shows the Way. A black mist erupted from the prince. "I knew you couldn't be trusted!"

As he spoke, bones emerged from his back and spread out, clashing with Bai Shaohong's Celestial Being Shows the Way.

"Attack! Take care of Crown Prince Gui Qian and Nong Sanniang!" Long Tian shouted fiercely as he spun his spear around before thrusting it straight at Nong Sanniang.

The two Junior Progenitors want to eliminate these two people.

Nong Sanniang frowned. "We'll leave first."

As she spoke, an incomparably massive hoe appeared in her hand. She swung it and it smashed down.

It was readily apparent that the hoe was a power vessel, and it was also clearly much stronger than the one she had used before. Not only did the hoe shatter the White Dragon Surveying the Sky, it also smashed into Long Tian's spear.

Long Tian was not able to retract his spear in time, and it was pushed back by the hoe.

Nong Sanniang wanted to escape, but it would not be easy. As soon as she tried to flee, Long Tian pursued. "Sanniang, given our friendship, I won't hurt you. If Bai Shaohong came after you, things would be different for you."

Nong Sanniang snorted. "The four ruling powers are all the same, and there can be no friendship with them!"

She continued to wave her hoe about even as she spoke. "Plowing the Land!"

The hoe slammed down as she released a loud shout.

The void was torn open. It was obvious that the hoe was a power vessel with a strength that surpassed an Envoy, and it had a powerful recoil. Not only did the attack not land on Long Tian, Nong Sanniang herself was injured by the recoil.

Long Tian waved his hand once again, and Nong Sanniang was again trapped within the White Dragon Surveying the Sky.

On the other side, Bai Shaohong was even more fierce as he attacked Crown Prince Gui Qian. Celestial Being Shows the Ways rained down, shattering the bones that the prince brought out.

Dong Shan and Dong He joined forces and used the Mountain and Sea Banner to fiercely attack the prince as well.

Xia Taili suddenly made a move as well. Her power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant moved and quickly incapacitated and trapped Dong Shan and Dong He, removing them from the battlefield. At the same time, Xia Taili used her secret technique to place a lock onto Bai Shaohong for the second time.

Bai Shaohong indifferently glanced over at Xia Taili. "You're just asking to die right now."

Xia Taili sneered. "You think I'm an idiot? As soon as you deal with them, you'll come after me!"

The moment she finished speaking, smoke shot up from her feet and wrapped around her like a chain. Xia Taili frowned. "Yun Tingting, you really stepped in it this time!"

Yun Tingting responded with a smile. "You attacked Junior Progenitor Bai, so I have to move against you. Sorry."

"You must really think that my Taizi generation is nothing but a joke!" As she spoke, her right hand covered her face while a stream of energy gathered over her hand. She adopted a unique posture.

Lu Yin was taken aback. He had seen this pose before, as both Wu Taibai and Shang Qing had used it during ZENITH.

"Divine Martial Armor." Xia Taili's aura instantly changed drastically, and she gave off the feeling of a goddess of war. She waved a hand and tore through the smoke. She aimed a hand at Yun Tingting, and the energy shot forward.

Yun Tingting's expression changed. She wanted to retreat, but found that the energy that made up the Divine Martial Armor had congealed the area, and she felt as though she was trapped in a swamp. There was no way for her to retreat.

The attack struck Yun Tingting, but Xia Taili did not seem at all happy about it. Instead, she grew even more upset than before. "Just another avatar! Yun Tingting, you're too sneaky!"

At this moment, another stream of qi shot through the air, but his one was attacking Xia Taili.

The girl was startled, and she waved a hand to send out the energy of her Divine Martial Armor to clash with the stream of qi. The attacking qi was easily shattered, but it quickly recovered. Shang Qing had attacked.

Xia Taili furiously glared at Shang Qing.

Bai Shaohong ignored the other battle. He broke the secret technique that had trapped him by breaking the lock. He did not know when Crown Prince Gui Qian had moved in front of him, but the prince locked

his strange eyes onto the Junior Progenitor, and Bai Shaohong's pupils shrank in an instant. An image of a ghost appeared in his mind, and an inexplicable, boundless fear filled him.

Lu Yin watched the battle between Bai Shaohong and the Crown Prince Gui Qian. The moment that the prince had locked his eyes onto Bai Shaohong, Lu Yin had already known that the Specter Clan's eye technique had been used.

Even if Lu Yin believed that Bai Shaohong would end up overpowering the prince, he did not expect the Junior Progenitor to have an easy time of shaking off the Specter Clan's eye technique. Yet the prince was the one to break first, and he let out a wail. The fear left Bai Shaohong's eyes, and they grew sharp and bright once more. "Who gave you the courage to use an eye technique on me?"

As he spoke, he placed a hand against the prince's chest. There was a loud bang, and Crown Prince Gui Qian spat out blood and he was sent tumbling through the air.

Bai Shaohong did not stop his attack. It was unknown if it was intentional, or if he was not thinking clearly at the moment. Regardless, his right hand rose and his index finger pointed at the void. It seemed as though the void had been frozen. The finger then swept to the side. It stopped after moving about half a meter, and then suddenly moved in the opposite direction back to where it had started.

For a moment, everyone just felt an uncomfortable sensation from the surrounding space growing unstable.

Lu Yin's expression changed and his back grew cold.

He watched as Bai Shaohong attacked again with his finger. The second attack overlapped with the first attack, and a black line appeared between the two points that had been the starting and stopping points of the two attacks. In the blink of an eye, the line grew. It sliced through space and Crown Prince Gui Qian's body.

This attack slashed through the void. This was not the same as how the void normally broke, but a very clean and precise cut through space. The slice continued a long ways, and unless it was used against an Envoy, resistance would be pointless and the attack would simply wipe out everyone in its path.

Long Tian, Xia Taili, and everyone else froze as they saw this scene. They were overcome with astonishment and fear at the Celestial Frost Sect's ultimate technique: Void Rip.

This was an attack that truly could open the day.

Crown Prince Gui Qian was sliced apart by the attack, and his body fell to the ground that was quickly dyed red.

Everyone went silent. There was fear in Lu Yin's eyes as he stared at Bai Shaohong, as this attack was truly too powerful.

Bai Shaohong pulled his hand back and turned his head to look at Long Tian. Already there was a smile on Bai Shaohong's lips.

Long Tian's eyes grew sharp. This had been a demonstration made for him, and since that was the case, he could not afford to be underestimated.

In front of Long Tian, Nong Sanniang's face was still painted with her shock. Long Tian told her, "Sanniang, for the sake of our families' friendship, I won't kill you. However, I will stop you from participating in the next fight."

After he finished speaking, he spread apart the fingers of a hand, and then curled them as though grabbing something.

Nong Sanniang went pale and she fled.

Long Tian's hand transformed into what looked like a dragon's claws. The claws twisted the void like a curtain that Long Tian then grabbed hold of.

Lu Yin's mouth fell wide open as he stared at this scene in disbelief; Long Tian had just grabbed hold of space itself?

Long Tian flicked a hand to hurl the void he had grabbed hold of towards Nong Sanniang. She spun around and counter attacked with her hoe-shaped power vessel, but she was not able to touch the void. The void was invisible, but it struck her stomach. Nong Sanniang spat out blood as she flew through the air. While she was still in mid-air, Long Tian waved his hand again, and the invisible void slammed into Nong Sanniang's back, sending her spinning through the air.

She was mercilessly beaten like a sandbag.

Lu Yin was badly startled; how could Long Tian possess an innate power of space?

Everyone else was similarly shocked speechless, including even Bai Shaohong. He had already known that Long Tian possessed a hidden innate gift, but Bai Shaohong had never expected it to be an innate gift of space.

Can an innate gift of space be mastered in such a way? No, Big Sister said that space and time are the most mysterious powers, so how could Long Tian master an innate gift of space? If it's not space, then what is it?

Bai Shaohong refused to believe that Long Tian had mastered an innate gift of space.

Nong Sanniang miserably crumpled to the ground. She was still coughing up blood as she looked up at Long Tian in shock. "You- space?"

Chapter 1430: Faking Death

Long Tian looked down at Nong Sanniang and replied, "Don't resist. I know that the Nong family's secret technique is difficult to deal with, and also that you're very talented, but the attack just now seriously injured you. Even if you manage to escape, you still won't be able to participate in the next battle."

Nong Sanniang wiped the blood from the corner of her mouth as she stared up at Long Tian. "I just want to know if the person who defeated me has an innate gift of space."

Even disregarding Nong Sanniang, everyone else wanted to know as well.

A smile appeared on Long Tian's face. "Yes."

Everyone was shocked; so he really did have an innate gift of space.

Lu Yin frowned; Long Tian had an innate gift of space? That was truly unique.

Long Xi's expression remained calm. There was actually a trace of ridicule in the depths of her eyes, but no one noticed it.

Bai Shaohong's expression changed completely as he looked at Long Tian. "No wonder you didn't reveal your innate gift during the Yuanlun Festival. It turns out to be something so terrifying."

Long Tian looked back at Bai Shaohong. "I'm sorry Brother Bai, but my innate gift is rather difficult to master, and it's easy to kill my opponents if I'm not careful."

Bai Shaohong's gaze grew sharp.

"Also, Brother Bai, your innate gift still hasn't been revealed," Long Tian continued.

Bai Shaohong smiled. "It's nothing worth even mentioning."

"Really?" Long Tian also smiled. An innate gift that was not worth mentioning? Only an idiot would believe such a claim.

Nong Sanniang no longer had any plans to resist, and Crown Prince Gui Qian had already been killed. At the moment, Xia Taili was the only person who was not part of the two teams that were fully present.

Everyone turned to look at Xia Taili.

Xia Taili's hair was in disarray, and the Divine Martial Armor had disappeared from her body. It looked like she had accepted her fate. "This is too much. There are too many people here to go against."

Long Tian smiled as he said, "Don't worry, we won't hurt you."

He raised a hand and the White Dragon Survey's the Sky trapped the girl. With that, Long Tian turned to look at Wen Diyi.

Wen Diyi attacked, and the seven-fold Literary Prison appeared and wrapped around the White Dragon Surveying the Sky.

After that, smoke appeared as Yun Tingting raised her hand. The cloud of smoke shot forward and enveloped the Literary Prison.

Three different trapping techniques had been used to completely block Xia Taili.

Xia Taili's power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant was able to defend and protect her, but it had no attacking power that could overcome the techniques that had locked her in place.

Long Xi walked over to Xia Taili and extended her hand. "Give it to me."

Xia Taili blinked and acted ignorant. "What?"

Long Xi casually replied, "Give me your cosmic ring."

Xia Taili exclaimed, "You want to steal my cosmic ring? You must be dreaming! This is too much! Since when did the White Dragon Clan become a bunch of thieves? Long Xi, you've really fallen! You taught you to do this?"

Long Xi remained perfectly calm. "Cosmic ring."

Xia Taili angrily retorted, "Long Xi, don't forget that you're a princess! How can you act like a bandit? What does the White Dragon Clan get out of this? You're still trying to bully me! I'm just a weak girl, and I don't have anything good in there. Just go away! Go away!"

Long Xi just stared at the other girl. "I'll give it to Xia Shenfei, so just give me your cosmic ring."

Everyone was staring at Xia Taili. No one could know if she had any power vessels in her cosmic ring that could attack and break through the trapping techniques that bound her.

The truth was that she did have such a thing. She had believed that these people had forgotten about such a possibility, and had not expected Long Xi to be so cautious. Xia Taili gritted her teeth and glared at Long Xi. "Just you wait! I won't give up! I'll remember this!"

She then turned to glare at Lu Yin. "And you, you shameless bastard! You dared to take advantage of me, and I'll tell my big brother what happened."

Everyone turned to stare blankly at Lu Yin; he had taken advantage of the girl?

Even Long Xi was frozen for a moment, and she instinctively turned to look at Lu Yin. Her eyes gradually grew colder and sharper.

Lu Yin felt somewhat speechless. "Please don't confuse things. Didn't I just make use of your power vessel to escape the creatures that were chasing us? Brother Wen can vouch for me."

Wen Diyi spoke up, "That's right, don't try to cause any misunderstandings."

Everyone's attention reverted back to Xia Taili. What a pity that this was the case. Things would have been more interesting with such a scandal.

Long Xi's expression was far more unhappy when she turned back to look at Xia Taili. "Hurry up and give me your cosmic ring."

Xia Tai snorted. "Just wait! A whole group of people are bullying me; my big brother won't let this go!"

With that, she finally removed her cosmic ring and threw it on the ground before stomping on it with both of her feet.

Long Xi made a random gesture and collected the cosmic ring. She then turned around and walked away without even taking another look at Xia Taili.

Long Tian glanced at Xia Taili and Nong Sanniang one last time before taking the lead and leaving the area.

Bai Shaohong and his team also started off in the same direction.

Before long, both teams were gone.

Xia Taili just kept cursing and muttering to herself.

Close by, Nong Sanniang had also been trapped within a White Dragon Surveying the Sky and a Literary Prison. The difference between the two girls was that Nong Sanniang had been badly injured and needed to treat herself.

"Don't be upset. From their position, this was the right move to make, and we were just unlucky," Nong Sanniang said in a helpless manner. She was very open about the situation. "At least it's better than death."

When this was said, Xia Taili subconsciously looked over at Crown Prince Gui Qian's corpse. That guy had been truly unlucky.

Huh? No, Xia Taili noticed something as she stared at the. "Sanniang, look. Isn't the blood from corpse a bit too red?"

Nong Sanniang turned to look as well, and her expression changed. Sure enough, the blood was too red. While it was true that blood was red, it would gradually darken after leaving a body, and would no longer remain a bright red.

"Crown Prince Gui Qian, get out here! You aren't dead!" Nong Sanniang shouted loudly.

Xia Taili felt horrified. The prince had managed to be cut in half, and yet had not died? This really lived up to Specter Abyss's reputation.

Suddenly, the severed corpse of Crown Prince Gui Qian that lay some distance away moved, and the two pieces started moving closer to each other. Finally, as the two women stared in horror, the two pieces merged together, and Crown Prince Gui Qian's closed eyes opened. His gaze was steady.

What?

Xia Taili screamed as though she had just seen a ghost.

Nong Sanniang's face also went pale. "So, you really weren't dead."

Crown Prince Gui Qian moved his arm. "It's easy to fake death."

"Bullshit!" Nong Sanniang said angrily. She would also have wanted to play dead, but she did not have the ability to pull it off.

"You- how did you pull that off? Bai Shaohong isn't stupid." Xia Taili felt like everything was off kilter, as if she was looking at a ghost.

Gui Qian casually replied, "My body was just cut in two. It wasn't a big deal."

Xia Taili and Nong Sanniang went silent. Not a big deal? If it was that easy to fake death, then no one would ever die.

Bai Shaohong's attack had not only cut the prince's body in two, it had also severed space itself. Even if someone wanted to reconnect the two severed pieces, it would be impossible. It was no different from the concept of someone being burned to ashes and then hoping to be resurrected. Crown Prince Gui Qian's accomplishment was equal to such an impossibility.

It could only be said that everyone had underestimated the power of Specter Abyss. Everyone had long feared Specter Abyss, and even the four ruling powers had suppressed that organization. The younger generation had not understood that sense of fear before, but at this moment, the two women were able to understand a bit. Even Bai Shaohong had been deceived by Crown Prince Gui Qian's act.

"Alright, now we need to make a deal." Crown Prince Gui Qian looked at Xia Taili. "I know you have a map of where everyone's heading. Give it to me, and I'll promise you one thing."

Xia Taili rolled her eyes. "You must be an idiot. You want to follow them?"

He lightly responded, "I'd have to be dreaming to want to follow two Junior Progenitors without being discovered."

"Glad to hear you know that much," Xia Taili retorted.

Crown Prince Gui Qian grew more serious. "I promise you that I will help Xia Shenfei at the destination they're all headed for. This is what I will promise."

Xia Taili felt moved. At this moment, Bai Shaohong's team was complete. While Long Tian was missing someone from his team, there was no guarantee that the missing person would rejoin them. On the other hand, Wang Su's team was missing two people, and Xia Taili's older brother's team was missing one person. If Crown Prince Gui Qian helped her big brother, it would be no different from Wang Su's team missing three members, while Xia Taili's brother's team would be complete. He would hold a complete advantage.

Nong Sanniang frowned. "Crown Prince Gui Qian, Wang Su brought you here. If you're willing to betray others so easily, who will ever be willing to trust Specter Abyss in the future?"

Crown Prince Gui Qian was completely indifferent. "I forced Wang Su to bring me here. That's the only reason she didn't bring someone else. Besides, what happens in the future has nothing to do with me."

Nong Sanniang continued to press, "Since you're willing to betray Wang Su right now, what guarantee can you offer that you'll help Xia Shenfei in the fight after getting the map?"

Xia Taili grew wary. "That's right."

The prince looked up. "Even if I don't help Xia Shenfei, I'll still be seen as an enemy by Bai Shaohong and Long Tian. The enemy of an enemy is a friend."

Xia Taili started considering the matter.

The prince waited quietly.

After a while, Xia Taili gritted her teeth and gave the map to the prince. She had not kept the map in her cosmic ring, but in her hand. "Remember, you promised me that you'll help my brother. Even if you aren't able to help my brother, you still have to act against Bai Shaohong. Show them they messed up."

Crown Prince Gui Qian agreed, "Don't worry, Bai Shaohong already killed me once."

With that, he started following the map and headed in the same direction as Long Tian and the others.

As she stared at Crown Prince Gui Qian's disappearing back, Nong Sanniang asked, "Do you actually believe him?"

Xia Taili rolled her eyes. "Only an Idiot would believe him. Still, he'll definitely cause some trouble for Bai Shaohong, and that's good enough."

Nong Sanniang nodded.

Bai Shaohong had not considered that Crown Prince Gui Qian could resurrect himself from such an injury. Actually, the prince's primary target after he had recovered was not Bai Shaohong, but Lu Yin. The prince had not revealed what he had seen Long Qi do in the palace, not even when everyone had attacked him. He wanted to deal with this matter on his own.

At this moment, Lu Yin was also in a bit of trouble because Yuhua Mavis had been exposed as a trespasser.

When Long Tian asked about Lu Yin's relationship with Yuhua Mavis, all that Lu Yin could say was that he did not know the woman. As for the help he had received from Yuhua Mavis with exposing the Guan brothers as Redbacks, Lu Yin was forced to swallow a bitter fruit.

This was all Guan Hai's fault, as even when he had been dying, he had tried to drag Lu Yin down as well.

"Brother, what are you trying to say?" Long Xi asked coldly.

Long Tian's team had already traveled a ways towards their destination, and Long Tian had started talking as they traveled. "I just don't want the White Dragon Clan to end up getting involved because of that woman. You should already know how despicable those trespassers from the Forsaken Land are. If not for them, the Perennial World would likely have a few more Progenitors."

Long Xi frowned. "This isn't the time to talk about this."

Long Tian stared at Lu Yin for a moment before redirecting his attention forward.

Lu Yin felt guilty, and he subconsciously glanced over at Long Xi, who happened to be looking at him at the same time as well.

Long Tian was unaware, but Long Xi knew that Lu Yin was not actually from one of the White Dragon Clan's branch families. However, she had not once asked Lu Yin about his origins, not even when they had first met.

Long Xi was the princess of the White Dragon Clan, which meant that she was part of the four ruling powers, and thus held a respected status. This was why she had never cared about Lu Yin's background, as an ordinary cultivator was not worth her attention. Her reaction had been completely normal.

However, Lu Yin was fully confident that she would conduct a thorough investigation into his background as soon as they returned from the Dominion Realm.

Lu Yin had acted in a brazen manner from when he had joined Humility's Gate. He had arrested traitors and Redbacks, which were accomplishments that ordinary people could not pull off. There had been too many coincidences for it to just be a matter of luck.

Lu Yin might not be able to escape Long Xi's interrogations after returning from the Dominion Realm, and that gave him a headache.

Even at this moment, Long Xi was staring at Lu Yin with a complicated expression that held a hint of wariness.