

ODYSSEY 1441

Chapter 1441: My Surname Is Lu

Apart from the alcohol in the cosmic ring, there was also something that looked like a puppet that caught Lu Yin's attention. He studied it quite seriously, and his face was solemn. This was most likely Xia Shenfei's most powerful treasure, as the puppet gave Lu Yin a great feeling of danger.

It was naturally taken.

Next was Long Tian. Lu Yin violently smacked Long Tian's forehead and then simply took away his cosmic ring along with everything inside of it.

It held numerous items, but most of them were useless. The only thing that actually interested Lu Yin was a spear that had some strange, green, gelatinous substance on it. Only the gods knew what it was, but Lu Yin took it anyways. Before moving on, he smacked Long Tian one more time.

Oops, almost forgot. Lu Yin glanced over at Long Xi. He had almost forgotten that Long Xi was carrying Xia Taili's cosmic ring, as she had not yet had the opportunity to return it to Xia Shenfei. Lu Yin fished it out, and after opening it, he found the power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant within it. Not bad.

Finally, Lu Yin moved on to Bai Shaohong, who was the leader of the four Junior Progenitors.

Talking to this person was not as simple as just searching through his cosmic rings.

Finally done, Lu Yin returned his consciousness to his own body, and for an instant, he felt the confusion and suppression press down upon his mind once more. He quickly started reciting the Stonewall Scriptures, and the pressure immediately pulled back. Free to move, he quickly released four Vacuum Palms in a row to shatter Bai Shaohong's limbs. A fifth attack struck his chest, causing Bai Shaohong to spit out a mouthful of blood. He barely woke up for a moment, and he saw Lu Yin's attack. However, the haze of the Forgotten Ruins quickly overcame him once again.

Lu Yin let out a long breath, and his consciousness switched back to the dry corpse. He then dragged Bai Shaohong out of range of the trap while also carrying his own body.

Bai Shaohong woke up as soon as he was out of range of the Forgotten Ruins. Years of training his mind caused him to instantly try to flee, but Lu Yin had already crippled Bai Shaohong's arms and legs and severely injured him. Bai Shaohong was so badly wounded that he nearly collapsed the moment he tried to move.

Lu Yin had already shifted his consciousness back to his own body. He watched as Bai Shaohong's body swayed once before grabbing the man with a hand. All four of the Junior Progenitors seemed to like to do this to people, so Lu Yin would reciprocate.

Bai Shaohong was now conscious, so he clearly saw Lu Yin's hand shot towards him. He instinctively tried to resist, but he was too injured.

Lu Yin grabbed Bai Shaohong's neck while fiddling with his cosmic ring with his other hand. "Are you looking for this?"

Bai Shaohong stared at Lu Yin as blood spilled from the corner of his mouth. He still could not believe what had happened. "How are you fine? How did you escape from the Forgotten Ruins?"

"What are the Forgotten Ruins?" Lu Yin asked.

Bai Shaohong sneered, "The Forsaken Land really is forsaken. You don't even know about the Forgotten Ruins."

Lu Yin frowned, and his left knee slammed into Bai Shaohong's stomach. Star energy appeared above the Junior Progenitor's body and formed a finger, but the finger dissipated at almost the same moment that it appeared. Even though Bai Shaohong had also reached the Worldliness realm of star energy control, it was impossible for him to resist Lu Yin due to how injured he currently was.

Lu Yin's knee struck Bai Shaohong's stomach, and he bent over, coughing violently. Along with his coughs came out blood.

Pitiless, Lu Yin looked down at the Junior Progenitor.

Bai Shaohong swayed. Finally, he was unable to endure the pain, and he collapsed to the ground as his limbs bled from the exertion of the attempted violent movements. He gritted his teeth as he glared at Lu Yin with bloodshot eyes. "Do you even know what you're doing? How dare you say anything! You're nothing but an ant from the Forsaken Land! If I take action, do you realize that my Celestial Frost Sect can wipe out your entire Forsaken Land at any time? The only reason why you people have been allowed to continue to exist is nothing but pity!

"I can ask the Progenitors to take action against the Forsaken Land whenever I wish to destroy everything you know."

Lu Yin quietly stared at Bai Shaohong. "Are you threatening me? If I'm worried about what you're saying, then I can just kill you."

Bai Shaohong's eyes grew wide. "You wouldn't dare."

Lu Yin thought that this was too funny. Long Tian and Bai Shaohong were the same kind of person. Long Tian acted completely self-righteously and always looked down on Lu Yin while acting as if he was the ultimate authority. Bai Shaohong behaved in the exact same manner. Apparently, this was just the attitudes of the Junior Progenitors that had been elevated to the highest level by the entire Perennial World. The entire universe even contributed to their cultivation resources.

While Lu Yin had never spoken with Wang Su or Xia Shenfei, he was quite confident that, even if those two were not as open about their arrogance, it was still something that had been engraved into their very bones. In particular, these four had a sense of natural superiority over those from the Forsaken Land.

"The moment I die, the Celestial Frost Sect will instantly know, and they will naturally come to the conclusion that I died at the hands of you trespassers. That's because no one else in this entire universe would dare to offend my Celestial Frost Sect by killing me! Only you pitiful people from the Forsaken Land would ever dare do such a thing. But know that if you really do dare to kill me, the Forsaken Land will become a true hell!" Bai Shaohong threatened loudly.

Lu Yin squatted down and looked Bai Shaohong straight in the eyes. "Then tell me. If the Perennial World—no, I'm sorry. If your Celestial Frost Sect wishes to attack the Forsaken Land, do you have a way to get there?"

Bai Shaohong stared back at Lu Yin. "I know that you're trying to mess with me, but I'll still tell you. Your strength should put you at the top of your generation in the Forsaken Land, so you should already know about the Three Gates. After passing through the Three Gates, on one side is our universe and on the other is your Forsaken Land."

Lu Yin arched a brow, as this was rather surprising. Was Bai Shaohong actually that stupid? Or was he just pretending and trying to bluff Lu Yin?

After passing through the Upper Three Gates from the Perennial World's side, one would not be in the Fifth Mainland, but rather the territory of the monsters. Once they opened the Upper Three Gates—wait, no. The Upper Three Gates had already been opened. Otherwise, the battlefield behind the Mother Tree would not have become as fierce as Guo Shan had mentioned.

Bai Shaohong had to be bluffing. But even then, that did not seem right. Bai Shaohong was aware of Lu Yin's strength, and thus, his status. So, what would he think that Lu Yin did not know that the Upper Three Gates had been opened by those monsters? Why would Bai Shaohong say such things?

Could it be that the actual location of Upper Three Gates was a secret? Bai Shaohong might merely know of their existence, but not where they were actually located. He was just bluffing.

Lu Yin thought for a moment. Earlier, Guo Shan had said that the battle behind the Mother Tree had become fierce, but he had not mentioned the existence of the Upper Three Gates. Rather, Lu Yin was the one who had guessed at their location.

That actually made sense, if his thinking was correct. If everyone in the Perennial World knew where the Upper Three Gates were located, then the Fifth Mainland would not have been so peaceful for so many years. The people of the Perennial World had already left the Fifth Mainland and abandoned it. As far as this world was concerned, the Fifth Mainland was a forbidden land.

In that case, the question was, just how had Wang Yi traveled to the Fifth Mainland? He had represented the Technocracy during ZENITH, which meant that the Wang family had a secret passageway that led to the Fifth Mainland. Bai Shaohong would not try to bluff Lu Yin by threatening that the Celestial Frost Sect would pass through the Upper Three Gates if the sect had an alternative means of entering the Fifth Mainland.

Numerous thoughts flashed through Lu Yin's mind. Across from him, Bai Shaohong felt that he had succeeded in intimidating Lu Yin, so he let out a sigh of relief and coldly stated, "Although you've injured me, you can still save me from the Forgotten Ruins. I'll just act like nothing here ever happened, and I can even help you with your identity as a trespasser. Compared to the Forsaken Land, I expect that you're more than willing to stay in the Perennial World and join the Celestial Frost Sect."

Lu Yin felt that this was hilarious. Bai Shaohong was not stupid, but he was actually trying to intimidate Lu Yin while simultaneously trying to recruit him!

Not even someone like Bai Shaohong knew the location of the Upper Three Gates, which showed just how wary the Perennial World was of the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands. How easy would it be for Lu Yin to turn this threat around on Bai Shaohong? The Junior Progenitor's words had made Lu Yin suddenly realize the seriousness of being a trespasser.

"You still haven't told me what the Forgotten Ruins are," Lu Yin pressed.

Bai Shaohong frowned. "I just told you that I can give you a new identity. Get me out of here, and not only will I get you into the Celestial Frost Sect, but I'll also make sure that you become a core disciple. It won't be impossible for you to become a Progenitor one day. I don't even need to get any Origin Matter during this trip. In truth, my Celestial Frost Sect already has some, but it's better if a person tries to get it for themselves. Still, it doesn't really matter if I get it or not. This is the strength of my Celestial Frost Sect."

"I'm going to ask you one more time: what are the Forgotten Ruins?" Lu Yin ignored everything that Bai Shaohong had just spouted off and focused on his question.

Bai Shaohong grew angry and shouted back, "Long Qi, do you really want to end up as my enemy? Do you even understand how terrifying my Celestial Frost Sect actually is?"

Lu Yin suddenly moved and grabbed Bai Shaohong's hair. This supremely talented young man, who had once been handsome and extraordinary, was nothing more than a stray dog at this moment. "My name isn't Long Qi. My surname is Lu."

Bai Shaohong's pupils instantly shrank to pinpricks, as though he had just heard the worst thing in the world. He stared at Lu Yin in amazement. "What did you just say? You- you- your surname is Lu?"

Lu Yin sneered. "What? Does my name make you that uncomfortable?"

All of the blood drained from Bai Shaohong's face. He suddenly looked more panicked than ever as he stared at Lu Yin in disbelief. "Impossible! You're a descendant of the Lu family? How's this even possible? You can't be from that Lu family."

After a moment's thought, he said, "You're from the Forsaken Land. You just have the Lu surname, but you have no connection to that Lu family."

"I am from that Lu family, as how else would I be able to reach this level of strength? I've come back," Lu Yin said in a nostalgic voice as he stared off into the distance. It was as though he was reminiscing.

Bai Shaohong roared, "That's impossible! The Lu family was exiled! Everyone with the Lu bloodline was exiled back then, so even if there are some remnants, they're nothing more than the Lu family's disciples. There's no way that anyone truly surnamed Lu is still around! You're a fake! You're lying!"

As Lu Yin observed Bai Shaohong's reaction, it was clear that this information had greatly disturbed the Junior Progenitor. Could the Lu family really be that terrifying?

Lu Yin's mind raced, and he shouted back, "If I wasn't from the Lu family, how could I possibly have defeated you?"

"It's impossible! Even your Progenitors were exiled! None of them were missed! None of them!" Bai Shaohong screamed as he stared at Lu Yin.

"I'm standing right here, so why should it be impossible? Do you really believe that your methods were flawless? Your exile ended up being ineffective," Lu Yin scolded, his eyes growing red.

Bai Shaohong was hysterical now. "The White Dragon rolled over and shoved the entire Lu family towards those monsters! All of the members of the Lu family were there, as it was done on the day of their festival! Their celebration became their funeral! The four ruling powers joined forces against the Lu family, so how could any of them have returned? Not a single member of the Lu family was spared! Every last one of them was exiled! You can't possibly be from the Lu family!"

Lu Yin felt shaken. While he had made some guesses before, at this moment, everything was finally laid bare, and he had some difficulty breathing. The Lu family really was from this universe. However, apparently, they had been defeated by the four ruling powers, and the White Dragon Rolls Over had shoved them towards the monsters? They called it exile. How was that exile?

"I'm from the Lu family, and I'm back. The Lu family has returned," Lu Yin coldly announced.

Bai Shaohong's veins were bulging out across his entire body, and his hands were clenched into fists. Although Lu Yin had crippled Bai Shaohong, he briefly managed to regain control of himself with this surge of adrenaline, and he grabbed Lu Yin's clothes. "You're lying! If you really are from the Lu family, then prove it!"

Chapter 1442: Life Experience

Lu Yin's eyes flickered, and he raised a hand, bringing out his Champions' Stage and letting it slowly rotate in place. It was possible to see the image of the Giant Emperor on it, looking almost as though it was still alive.

When Bai Shaohong saw the Champions' Stage, he was stunned stiff, as though he had been struck by lightning.

"So? Is this enough to prove my identity?" Lu Yin asked in a cold voice. This particular innate gift was the most solid proof of his past. Despite all of his guesses and deductions, he had nothing that connected him to the exiled Lu family aside from the Champions' Stage.

Lu Yin hoped to use Bai Shaohong to reaffirm his connection to the Lu family, and also to find out exactly what had happened in the past. While the chances of learning this information from the Junior Progenitor were very slim, Lu Yin would not give up as long as there was even the slightest possibility of success.

Bai Shaohong was struck dumb the moment he saw the Champions' Stage. Slowly, he managed to tear his gaze away from it and back at Lu Yin. It was as though Bai Shaohong was actually looking at Lu Yin for the first time.

His eyes held conflicting emotions, including disbelief, nostalgia, a great deal of resentment, jealousy, and... fear.

"I know who you are! Hahahaha, you're back! You really are back, hahahaha!" Bai Shaohong laughed like a madman as he stared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin seized him by the collar. "Then tell me who I am!"

Bai Shaohong laughed. "I'm not stupid. You've lost all your memories, and you know nothing about the Lu family! You don't know where you came from, who's waiting for you, or even who your enemy is, hahahaha! You don't know anything! You're so pathetic. Do you know why you were even able to survive? It's simply because your fate is the most tragic, hahahaha!"

Lu Yin clenched his fists as he stared into Bai Shaohong's eyes. "I don't feel like my life is that tragic. You're in my grasp afterall."

"As expected, you're actually able to fight back. Still, it's all useless. Everything has already been determined, and you can't change things no matter what you do! You're even a trespasser now! It looks like you've received a lot of support from those bugs in the Forsaken Land, but so what? So what even if you amass the entire Forsaken Land to attack this universe? You can't even go up against the Celestial Frost Sect alone! You can't go against my sister, just like your siblings!" After he finished speaking, Bai Shaohong suddenly spat out a mouthful of blood as his body was torn apart. He had committed suicide.

Lu Yin had not expected Bai Shaohong to kill himself. Wordless, he let go of the corpse and watched as Bai Shaohong's body fell to the ground.

Bai Shaohong had been the Celestial Frost Sect's Junior Progenitor, and he had been beyond arrogant and conceited. Although he had done his best to stay alive, even sacrificing his dignity to do so, he had decisively committed suicide at that moment. It just went to show how much of an effect Lu Yin's identity had had on the Junior Progenitor.

Only when confronting someone they considered to be of an equal or higher status would such a person ever debase themselves. It was a common trait among those at the top.

From Bai Shaohong's perspective, Lu Yin had previously been nothing more than an ant from the Forsaken Land. Even if Lu Yin had received an inheritance from the God of Death, he still had not qualified to enter Bai Shaohong's sight. Whenever he looked at Lu Yin, Bai Shaohong only ever saw one thing: treasure. He had wanted to take everything from Lu Yin: the Origin Matter, his secret techniques, and even the God of Death's inheritance.

However, everything had taken a 180 after Lu Yin had revealed his Champions' Stage. Bai Shaohong had let go of his arrogance and sense of invincibility. He had abandoned his threats and forgone any hopes of finding a peaceful solution. Their relative statuses had reversed, which was why Bai Shaohong's eyes had been filled with more fear than resentment, and that was also why he had chosen to commit suicide.

The moment Bai Shaohong heard Lu Yin's surname, he had already known that there was no way to survive, and thus, suicide was his last decision to make. Bai Shaohong had not wanted to die at Lu Yin's hands.

Standing beside the Champions' Stage, Lu Yin's face had frozen stiff as he stared at Bai Shaohong's corpse.

"By my name, I appoint you as my champion." A chilly voice fell, and an image of Bai Shaohong was branded onto the Champions' Stage with life-like details.

Lu Yin stared at Bai Shaohong's corpse as the recent words repeatedly echoed in his mind.

Lu Yin had only revealed his surname to confirm things about his past. He had indeed managed to confirm where he came from and gained a lot of information, but there was still so much more to uncover.

The Lu family, the four ruling powers, and the White Dragon Rolls Over. These details were only the tip of the iceberg, and there was a great deal more hidden from him.

Bai Shaohong had said that the day of the Lu family's exile had been the same day as their festival. Apparently, the entire Lu family had only gathered because of this festival, which had presented the rare opportunity to cast all of them out at once. In that case, why had there been a festival? Who had been behind everything and caused the four ruling powers to join forces? There had to be a mastermind, as how else could the four ruling powers have joined forces so easily? Even if the White Dragon had rolled over, how had that managed to push the entire Lu family away? The Lu family had been powerful enough to force the four ruling powers to join forces, which meant that they had definitely been more powerful than any one of the four ruling powers.

Could the Lu family have lacked the strength to fight back? What about everyone else? For example, what role had the Liu family and Seed Garden played during those events? Why had Bai Shaohong been so certain that Lu Yin suffered from amnesia? Was the seal on Lu Yin's back that inhibited his various breakthroughs somehow connected to all of this?

There was just too much that Lu Yin still had to find out. More importantly, who was his family's enemy? Who was the hand in the dark that had directed the events leading to the Lu family's exile?

There were still too many secrets hidden from Lu Yin in the Perennial World.

After thinking about matters for a long time, Lu Yin finally released a pent up breath. He engraved all that he had learned into his memory and then looked at the cosmic ring. It was pointless to get caught up in the mysteries that he was pursuing right now, as he could only continue investigating after he left the Dominion Realm. At this moment, he had to focus on all the possible rewards that he could harvest.

Lu Yin found tens of millions of star essence in Bai Shaohong's cosmic ring, and when that was combined with everything else, it meant that Lu Yin had about 300 million star essence on him. It was quite a bit, but not a massive amount.

As he looked at a fruit that was stored in a box made of some strange crystal, Lu Yin felt an inexplicable sense of familiarity, but he could not remember from where. Had he come across this type of fruit before? If he had seen it before, then that memory seemed to have been sealed away.

Lu Yin put away the fruit, and next, he looked at a flower. It was red, delicate, and truly beautiful. Suddenly, Lu Yin went stiff with shock; he had seen this flower before as well.

Earlier, after rolling six pips on his die, he had Possessed an Enlighter and tried to find out any memories related to the Lu family. As he had done so, the Enlighter's head had exploded, and the last image that Lu Yin had managed to glimpse from the man's memories was of a shower of precisely these red flowers drifting down from the sky.

Lu Yin stared at the delicate red flower. He had no idea why Bai Shaohong had this flower, but Lu Yin intended to keep it. Finally, after sorting through Bai Shaohong's various power vessels, Lu Yin came across a square metal plate that had four lines on it. It was a sourcebox array.

Lu Yin was quite certain that he was looking at a sourcebox array, and the lines on this piece of metal seemed rather familiar to him. He felt that it was related to a certain battle technique.

Had someone managed to place Void Rip into a sourcebox array?

If so, then that person was an incredibly skilled Array Master. Just looking at the plate left Lu Yin feeling fearful. He was lucky that Bai Shaohong had not tried to use this sourcebox array, as Lu Yin might not have been able to withstand this attack. Clearly, it would not have given him any time to prepare his defenses.

Lu Yin placed the cosmic ring back onto the finger of Bai Shaohong's corpse and then started sorting through everything that he had looted from the other various people.

He had gained about 300 million star essence, but his most valuable gains were the pillar of tribulation crystals, the Origin Matter, the knife and hairpin that he had taken from Wang Su, the long spear with a strange green gelatinous substance attached to it that he had taken from Long Tian, the puppet that he had found on Xia Shenfei, and the sourcebox array from Bai Shaohong. Also, he had found the four Junior Progenitors' tokens along with various other odd knick knacks and items.

He had found more than 200 sheets of blank white paper. He could not figure out what the paper was for, but he had found it on Bai Shaohong and some of the others.

After sorting through everything, Lu Yin's mood greatly improved. During this trip to the Dominion Realm, he had made out exceptionally well. He had grabbed the pillar of tribulation crystal in the Voidsoul Palace as well as Progenitor Ku's battle technique. He was not certain of the abilities of this puppet that he had taken from Xia Shenfei, but if it worked well, it might be able to replace his universal armor.

Lu Yin merged his consciousness back into the withered corpse and carried his own body out on its back. He then dragged Bai Shaohong back within the Forgotten Ruins and set him in the same position as all of the others so that no one would be able to tell that he had already died. Lu Yin then looked for Unseen Light and the others and dragged them over to the chamber's exit one at a time.

Unseen Light, Wu Taibai, Shang Qing, and Liu Tianmu were all taken out. Then, Lu Yin stared at Yao Xuan; should this person be taken out as well? Lu Yin struggled momentarily, but he ultimately decided to take out the prince of the Celestial Beast Empire. After all, during the earlier fight, Yao Xuan had used his Force Explosion to rouse Lu Yin's consciousness, which had prevented him from suffering far worse injuries.

Five people were dragged to the edge of the Forgotten Ruins and then left there. Almost done, Lu Yin set the withered corpse to the side, reverted his consciousness back to his own body, and then dragged all five people out of the Forgotten Ruins in one go.

The moment the five left the range of the Forgotten Ruins, they instantly woke up and reflexively retreated.

Lu Yin pursed his lips. "You're safe now."

All five youths had put a certain amount of distance between themselves before looking at each other and then at Long Tian and the others still trapped within the Forgotten Ruins. Finally, they focused their attention back onto Lu Yin.

"You weren't affected by the Forgotten Ruins?" Wu Taibai was surprised.

Lu Yin looked at Wu Taibai. "You're from Shenwu's Sky, so why did you help us?"

Yao Xuan also spoke up. "I was surprised by that as well. What did Xia Shenfei mean when he said that you betrayed Shenwu's Sky?"

Wu Taibai shrugged. "I didn't betray them—I just have a different goal. You've already seen for yourselves how the people of the Perennial World look down upon the Fifth Mainland, but I don't agree with their viewpoint. The Fifth Mainland holds certain inheritances that this place is missing, and they can only be found there. Shenwu's Sky also has certain inheritances that are only reserved for Xia Shenfei's junior brother, so I just left."

"Is that really all there is to it?" Lu Yin did not believe this explanation.

Wu Taibai retorted, "What do you think?"

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "How did you get to the Sixth Mainland and become the Progenitor of Combat's disciple?"

Wu Taibai leaned against the wall of the chamber. "Brother Lu, are you interrogating me? Don't forget—I helped you out just now, and I've never done anything to harm you from the very beginning."

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. Bai Shaohong had not known about the location of the Upper Three Gates, so there was no way that Wu Taibai could know. In that case, how had he entered the Fifth Mainland? No it should be the Sixth Mainland?

The Fifth and Sixth Mainlands. The Technocracy. The Wang family. Lu Yin seemed to gain some understanding, but this was Wu Taibai's business. "What are the Forgotten Ruins?"

Everyone else was similarly curious, and they could not suppress their desire to know the answer.

Wu Taibai glanced around at everyone. When he answered, there was fear in his voice. "The Wang family has a certain battle technique that's known as Forgotten Ruins. As the name suggests, it's a technique that can make a person forget everything, even their physical selves. The result of mastering this technique is the Forgotten Ruins, as the technique can be focused onto a specific place, though it needs someone to trigger the activation."

He looked over at the nearby corpse. "If I'm not wrong, that corpse is the key to these ruins."

Unseen Light and a few others had already noticed the corpse, and it was fairly obvious that Lu Yin was able to control the corpse, which was quite bizarre.

Chapter 1443: Hidden World

Lu Yin did not try to hide what he had done. "I once practiced a form of puppet manipulation, which allowed me to control this corpse."

He then turned to Wu Taibai. "Are you saying that, as long as that corpse is destroyed, the Forgotten Ruins will disappear?"

Wu Taibai sighed. "That's what's happened in the past, but you have to remember that this is a trap and that all of us followed a map to get here. That map came from Long Xian, so Long Xian must be a Redback, which means that those monsters must also be here. If a trap is that easily destroyed, then can it still be considered a trap?"

"Besides, destroying the corpse is a part of the trap, and it appears that the trap activated after the four Junior Progenitors all used their visualization method. Or maybe it was triggered after the power level in the battle crossed a certain limit."

Everyone quietly listened on.

"I suspect that, even if I smash that corpse apart now, not only will it not save them, but it might even kill them," Wu Taibai said in a serious manner. "This is what those monsters like to do the most: force us into killing our own youths. Still, all of this is just my speculation."

Everyone had to admit that Wu Taibai's guesses seemed highly probable.

It was absolutely not easy for humanity's enemies, those monsters, to set a trap in the Dominion Realm. If their trap that had taken such a great amount of effort was easily destroyed, then it would be pointless.

Given that a trap had been set up, the monsters clearly had complete confidence in trapping the four Junior Progenitors, even if a true Progenitor moved to save the youths.

The Perennial World had placed their hopes entirely on the Junior Progenitors, hence their title. As for the monsters, they would be willing to do nearly anything if it allowed them to eliminate a future Progenitor. It was also possible that this trap had not even been set with the youths in mind.

Humanity had been at a disadvantage in the war against the monsters for countless years, and even the Dominion Realm had been invaded many times. No one knew just how many traps had been left behind. Alternatively, could the monsters be hoping that someone would make a trip to save the youths? Had the trap not been fully activated yet? It was impossible to know.

"Should we go?" Unseen Light asked.

Everyone looked over at Lu Yin. He had rescued them all, and he was also the most powerful. Thus, he had the most say in this situation.

Lu Yin looked over at Long Xi who was still within range of the Forgotten Ruins. He could not just abandon this woman.

Even after Lu Yin had been completely exposed as a trespasser, Long Xi had still given him critical information during a battle, which was beyond anything that she owed Lu Yin.

The moment she warned Lu Yin, she had claimed a place in his heart. While he could certainly just leave her here in the trap, Lu Yin was not willing to do so. However, if he rescued her, then what guarantee was there that she would not expose them all as trespassers? What should he do? It was one thing to have certain feelings for a person, but could that overcome the brutal truth of the situation? As a part of the Perennial World, could Long Xi actually let them go as trespassers from the Forsaken Land? Even if she could overlook that status for Lu Yin, what about everyone else? She definitely would not allow the others to continue roaming around freely.

Lu Yin was not confident that Long Xi could be trusted with their status, and releasing her would be gambling with everyone's lives.

Yao Xuan was cautious. "Lu Yin, you can't possibly be thinking of saving that woman! We can't all die here with you."

Unseen Light spoke up. "Our situation is not stable. It might be possible for you to save her in the future."

Lu Yin frowned as he silently stared at Long Xi.

Shang Qing glanced over at Lu Yin. "If you want to save her, then you have the option to do so. Don't you have a hidden world? Just put her there."

Lu Yin was taken aback. "A hidden world? How could I have something like that?"

Shang Qing casually replied, "Zenith Mountain."

"That's a hidden world?" Lu Yin was stumped.

Everyone else was similarly surprised, as they were all very familiar with Zenith Mountain, but was that mountain really a hidden world?

Shang Qing explained, "Zenith Mountain was one of the Hall of Honor's greatest treasures, and it was always a hidden world. It can grow large or small, and it can also be used to attack or defend. At first, the Hall of Honor wanted to give it to me, but that would not have looked right. That was why they made it the prize for ZENITH's champion, which is why it was given over to you."

Lu Yin felt awkward. "So are you saying that it's something that I stole from you?"

Shang Qing looked back at Lu Yin and replied, "No. You earned it through your own strength, though there have been many arguments within the Hall of Honor. Still, Arch-Elder Zen is the hall's master, and he awarded you with Zenith Mountain. It's a hidden world that can hold life that can still be stored in a cosmic ring."

After speaking, the three streams of ancestral qi swirled back around Shang Qing, giving him an ethereal appearance. Anyone who saw him would want to beat him up.

Lu Yin impatiently took out Zenith Mountain and placed it on the ground. It looked like a simple rock.

Everyone stared at it, and they could all see where they had been fighting on the mountain, though they all felt irritated by the statue of Lu Yin.

Lu Yin sat down cross-legged on the ground. "I'm going to control the withered corpse, so please step back."

Everyone gave him odd looks before stepping back.

Lu Yin's consciousness returned to the withered corpse, and it stood up.

Everyone was amazed. Was this real life? It was not that they had not encountered puppetry techniques before, but rather that they had never expected such a thing to be so useful at this moment.

However, even with a puppetry technique, how had Lu Yin himself been immune to the Forgotten Ruins? The people who were present were not stupid, and they all knew that Lu Yin had some secrets, but who among them did not? Unseen Light had not revealed his innate gift even during ZENITH. Thus, no one questioned Lu Yin on the matter.

The corpse approached Lu Yin's body, placed it on the corpse's back, and then reentered the Forgotten Ruins. After all, Lu Yin's body could never be more than five meters away from the corpse.

The corpse picked up Long Xi, set her on the edge of the trap's range, silently returned to a corner, and then Lu Yin's consciousness returned to his own body.

Lu Yin opened his eyes and pulled Long Xi out of the Forgotten Ruins.

She opened her eyes and warily looked around. When she saw all the people who were still trapped within the Forgotten Ruins, she turned to look at Lu Yin with a torn expression. "Did you save me?"

Lu Yin nodded.

Everyone else stayed silent and kept their distance.

Long Xi stared at Lu Yin. Suddenly, a spear appeared in her hand, and she raised it high. "You and I are enemies!"

"Then why did you warn me?" Lu Yin countered.

Long Xi clenched the spear shaft. "I warned you as a final show of affection. From now on, there is nothing more between the two of us."

Lu Yin sighed in a helpless manner. "Do you really believe that they'll just let you go?"

He looked over at Unseen Light and the others.

Long Xi's expression froze. "Then just try to stop me!"

She instantly used the Roving White Dragon and disappeared with a single step. Lu Yin also disappeared, blocking Long Xi's path. She reflexively used White Dragon Surveying the Sky, and she was a bit stronger than Wang Yi when he had participated in ZENITH. After all, she had already opened her lower meridian point. Still, that meant nothing against Lu Yin.

This was the first time that the two had faced each other in a serious manner, and it was also Long Xi's first time truly experiencing Lu Yin's terror.

Lu Yin had been trapped by the White Dragon Surveying the Sky several times in the past, but it could not hold him at this moment. He appeared behind Long Xi by using a Teleportation Formation and stretched out a hand to grab her as golden battle force twined around his hand.

Long Xi spun around as dragon scales covered her body in a dense pattern: the White Dragon Transformation. She thrust her spear forward, showing no mercy.

Lu Yin calmly raised a hand and grabbed the shaft of the spear. A shockwave spread out from the two and blasted their surroundings to shreds.

Long Xi was unable to move, which shocked her even more. "You-"

Lu Yin shook his head. "You are much weaker than me."

He then unleashed 250 Stacks of the Overlaying Stacks Path through the spear. Long Xi was unable to keep her hold on the spear, and she instantly dropped it. The moment it fell down, she released a punch, but Lu Yin just leaned his head to the side, sweeping the spear shaft away while simultaneously striking Long Xi in the shoulder. Her body swayed to the side, and her fist missed Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's domain was only deployed to a few meters around him, but it made Long Xi feel as though she was mired in mud. With this opportunity, Lu Yin grabbed Long Xi's shoulder and dragged her towards Zenith Mountain.

The scenery changed before their eyes, and Long Xi suddenly saw the massive, towering form of Zenith Mountain, as well as the statue of Lu Yin far above.

She retreated back dozens of meters, and as she stood across from Lu Yin, she sharply accused, "Is this your real strength? Have you been laughing at me this whole time?"

Lu Yin blinked. "No, I'm actually quite afraid of you."

Long Xi gritted her teeth. "Where are we?"

"This is a hidden world, so don't even think about trying to escape from this place unless you can shatter the entire world," Lu Yin said. As he spoke, he began throwing out massive amounts of star essence.

Zenith Mountain used star energy to fuel its protective barrier. The more star energy that was used, the stronger its protection. Theoretically, it could even defend against the attacks of an expert with a power level of a million.

Lu Yin had no idea how much star essence it would take to reach that limit, but to be safe, he immediately threw out 100 million star essence.

Zenith Mountain quickly changed in response. The inside of the mountain filled with energy, and as that happened, a transparent barrier completely surrounding the mountain appeared.

Long Xi jumped up and punched at the barrier.

Lu Yin simply watched.

After blasting the barrier apart, Long Xi raced away from Zenith Mountain to return to the chamber.

Lu Yin's mouth fell open, and he quickly chased after her while cursing to himself. Zenith Mountain looked powerful, but it seemed to be nothing but a false facade. He had assumed that it would at least be able to defend itself against an Envoy, and he had not expected the initial barrier to be so weak. He would have to spend more money.

As Lu Yin left Zenith Mountain, Long Xi glared at him with cold eyes. She raised a hand, and her star energy formed a rope that she threw at Long Tian. She was trying to save him from the Forgotten Ruins. However, the moment her rope entered the range of the Forgotten Ruins, Long Xi was overwhelmed with confusion and sat down cross-legged once more.

Lu Yin was left speechless. If it was that easy to save people from this trap, then he would not have needed to carry everyone out one at a time. He grabbed Long Xi and returned to Zenith Mountain.

Long Xi recovered as soon as she entered Zenith Mountain. When she looked around, she quickly realized that she was back in this place.

Lu Yin could not believe what had just happened, so he threw out 200 million star essence onto the mountain this time.

He had spent more than 116 million star essence upgrading his universal armor until it could protect him from attacks with power levels of almost 700,000. Zenith Mountain was so huge that even 100 million star essence had been completely useless. Thus, Lu Yin threw out another 200 million more, making for a total of 300 million star essence.

Long Xi jumped up to attack the barrier again.

The barrier was much tougher this time, and although Long Xi was able to crack the barrier with a single punch, she was unable to escape this time.

Lu Yin gritted his teeth. This still was not enough. He threw out another 200 million star essence, practically bleeding from the cost that he was paying to save Long Xi. If it were anyone other than her, then he would not have nearly spent so much star essence on Zenith Mountain; this was a pitiful return on his money.

Long Xi threw out another punch. This time, she failed to break the barrier, which surprised her. She began to frantically attack the barrier while using various combat techniques, even the White Dragon techniques, but everything was useless. Although the barrier trembled violently, it held firm.

Long Xi was unwilling to accept captivity, so she used a power vessel.

As soon as he saw the girl's crazed appearance, Lu Yin silently threw out another 100 million star essence. He had already gone numb to this expenditure, as so far, he had spent 600 million star essence on this mountain for her. This was getting rather expensive.

Chapter 1444: Can You Act?

Long Xi glared at Lu Yin, furious. "What are you doing?"

Lu Yin pursed his lips. "I want to save you from that trap, but I'm also afraid that you'll ruin things for us. So, for now, you'll have to stay in this great world. Don't worry, I'll let you go as soon as it's safe."

Long Xi was enraged. "Let me out! I'd rather be back in the Forgotten Ruins!"

"That's just stupid since that trap was set by those monsters. You'll most likely end up dead." Lu Yin was very upset. After all, he had just spent 600 million star essence in an instant to imprison Long Xi. It was not worth the expense. No, he would have to get some more value from this expenditure.

"By the way, you'll be bored if you stay here all alone, right? I'll go and get you some friends," Lu Yin told Long Xi before leaving.

Long Xi around at the deserted Zenith Mountain, her face flushed with anger. Her mind was filled with all the moments that she had spent with Long Qi in the past and how he must have been laughing at her this entire time. The most infuriating bit was how earnest he had sounded when speaking to her. If possible, she would tear his mouth off without any bit of hesitation.

Soon, a man was thrown onto the mountain: Wen Diyi. He fell to the ground and then stood back up with a blank expression on his face.

"Princess Long Xi? Where are we?" Wen Diyi was confused.

Long Xi took a breath before indifferently responding, "We're in a great world that belongs to Long Qi."

Wen Diyi was stunned. "Long Qi captured us?"

Long Xi was already in a terrible mood, so she just ignored Wen Diyi.

After that, Yun Tingting was sent to the mountain, followed by Liu Hao, and finally, Crown Prince Gui Qian. In the end, Lu Yin rescued everyone from the Forgotten Ruins except for the four Junior Progenitors and Dong Shan.

He could not afford to take Long Tian and others with him, as if he did, there was no way he would be able to endure the investigation that the four ruling powers would carry out. His only chance was if the four were left trapped within the Forgotten Ruins since this trap had nothing to do with Lu Yin. On the other hand, people like Wen Diyi did not matter. The universe was so vast that no one could possibly know where such people went.

"Everyone, stay here and relax. I'll save all of you," Lu Yin's voice filled the mountain.

Long Xi was furious, and she ground her teeth.

Wen Yi and others quickly tried to say something, but Lu Yin simply ignored them all.

Outside of Zenith Mountain, Lu Yin was feeling quite satisfied as he put the mountain back into his cosmic ring. Now, the expenditure had been worth it.

Yun Tingting's smoke was very similar to what Smoke Eater Peaks possessed, though Yun Tingting's was even more advanced. Liu Hao was the Liu family's most talented youth. Wen Diyi had mastered a more advanced form of the Literary Prison, and Crown Prince Gui Qian was from the Specter Clan. It would be useful to take all of these people back to the Fifth Mainland, and it would definitely more than

compensate him for the 600 million star essence that he had spent on Zenith Mountain's barrier. Lu Yin would never voluntarily suffer a loss.

After seeing Lu Yin throw Wen Diyi and the others onto Zenith Mountain one by one, Yao Xuan and others were no longer able to sit still.

"Brother Lu, are you planning on taking them back with you?" Unseen Light asked.

Lu Yin seriously answered, "They're old friends, so I can't bear to see them suffer here, especially when I can take them away."

Damn! He can spout off bullshit so easily! Yao Xuan secretly cursed. His handsome face betrayed his dissatisfaction at this moment, though he did not dare to reveal too much. After all, Lu Yin was much stronger than Yao Xuan. Not to mention how Lu Yin could just outright kill Yao Xuan, but he could also toss the prince back into the Forgotten Ruins, which would be the end for Yao Xuan.

"If these people disappear, then the people of the Perennial World will definitely investigate the matter. Both the Liu family and the White Dragon Clan won't give up that easily," Liu Tianmu commented.

Lu Yin replied, "Given the size of the universe, it's impossible to know where these people end up."

"So only the four of them fought with the Junior Progenitors? Who would ever believe such a coincidence?" Yao Xuan couldn't help but point out.

Lu Yin glanced at him like he was looking at an idiot. "Aren't there still the rest of us?"

Everyone was stunned; what did that mean?

"Everyone, can you act?" Lu Yin asked with a smile.

...

A few days later, Nong Sanniang and Xia Taili arrived at the fork in the branch. They had been trapped for several days, but finally, after Nong Sanniang's injuries healed, the two women had worked together to escape.

It was impossible for Long Tian and others to keep the two women trapped for too long.

"Is that it?" Nong Sanniang asked.

Xia Taili nodded as she looked around. "I can see traces of battle everywhere, but I don't know what happened to everyone."

She was worried about Xia Shenfei, so Xia Taili jumped down and headed into the hole.

Nong Sanniang followed close behind.

The two soon arrived at the bottom, where they found Liu Tianmu with a sword piercing through her belly and stabbing her body to a wall. The blood from her wound had already dried and turned black, giving her a miserable look. She had been stabbed by Wu Taibai, but he was not in a good state himself. Half of his body was strangely twisted around, and it took no more than a glance to see that he had been badly injured and fallen into a coma.

This scene made Xia Taili go pale, and she hurriedly moved forward to check, only to be relieved to discover that Wu Taibai was not dead.

Nong Sanniang spoke up, "This woman isn't dead either."

Xia Taili quickly roused Wu Taibai. He coughed, and blood spurted from his mouth. He slowly opened his eyes and was surprised to see Xia Taili. "I'm not dead?"

Xia Taili anxiously asked, "What happened? Where's my brother?"

Wu Taibai shook his head. "I don't know. At that time, I injured that woman, but my consciousness grew hazy for a moment. It feels like I forgot about something because, when I next opened my eyes, I saw you."

Xia Taili felt puzzled, and she looked over at Nong Sanniang.

Nong Sanniang also woke Liu Tianmu up. She looked like she was in a terrible state, and there were numerous sword wounds crisscrossing her body. She was lucky that the wounds had not killed her.

She tried to resist the moment she opened her eyes, but Nong Sannian easily held Liu Tianmu down. "What happened here? I remember that you were with the White Dragon Clan's team. Where's Long Tian?"

Liu Tianmu solemnly answered, "I don't know. I fainted after being stabbed, and when I next opened my eyes, I saw you."

Xia Taili and Nong Sanniang looked at each other and quickly moved further in.

Wu Taibai glanced over at Liu Tianmu before struggling to his feet. They both pretended to be cautious of each other as they followed Xia Taili through the tunnel.

After a while, they came across Unseen Light, and they saw that his blood-stained body had fallen to the ground.

Nong Sanniang hurried forward to investigate, but Unseen Light had not died yet either.

Unseen Light also apparently only remembered fighting, and he was as ignorant as the other two about what had happened afterwards.

Xia Taili grew increasingly anxious. As they walked further in, they eventually found Shang Qing, Yao Xuan, and Lu Yin. Everyone was in terrible condition, but there was one thing that never changed: everyone was still alive.

This did not seem right. How could there be no deaths after such a terrible fight?

Finally, the Forgotten Ruins entered their sight, and Xia Taili saw Xia Shenfei sitting cross-legged on the ground, as well as Long Tian, Wang Su, Bai Shaohong, and Dong Shan. She also saw Dong He's corpse.

Nong Sanniang's expression grew solemn. "Don't be hasty."

"What the hell is going on here?" Xia Taili felt puzzled as she studied everyone sitting on the ground.

Everyone felt confused.

Unseen Light spoke up. "During the battle, I heard certain words like 'Forgotten something'."

"The Forgotten Ruins?"

"The Forgotten Ruins?!" Xia Taili and Nong Sanniang both shouted at the same time, their faces already pale.

Unseen Light replied, "I'm not sure."

Nong Sanniang's face grew solemn. "That's probably what you heard. If I'm remembering correctly, this is indeed what happens when people come across the Forgotten Ruins. Its no wonder why you all instantly fell to the ground during the fighting. No matter how violent the battle is, the moment the effect of the Forgotten Ruins is activated, you'll forget about everything and become like the living dead."

Lu Yin secretly praised Nong Sanniang. If he did not know that this woman came from the Nong family, he would have assumed that she was another trespasser. Her explanation had been practically perfect.

"What about Long Xi and the others?" Xia Taili asked Lu Yin as she turned to look at him.

Lu Yin shook his head. "We lost track of each other a long time ago. On the way here, we were attacked by a massive horde of withered creatures, and Long Xi and a few others were separated from us."

Xia Taili frowned. Long Xi and the other missing ones did not have the map to this place, so they would not be able to find this place. However, why was Crown Prince Gui Qian not present?

"How do we save them?" Lu Yin asked, afraid that Xia Taili would overthink things and uncover some holes in the story.

Lu Yin's interruption caused Xia Taili to lose her train of thought as her anxiety over saving Xia Shenfei and the others grew.

However, the Forgotten Ruins were something that she had only heard a little about, and she had no idea how to dismantle the trap.

Xia Taili tried to use her star energy to drag Xia Shenfei out of the Forgotten Ruins, only to suffer the same fate as Long Xi.

Nong Sanniang solemnly said, "The Forgotten Ruins aren't easy to break free of, and it's beyond us. All we can do is ask for help."

Xia Taili felt helpless. "We'll have to head back to the Junior Progenitor Planets to ask the elders to help out with this."

Lu Yin's heart sank. For the first time ever, he was actually hoping that those monsters would be stronger so that this trap would not be shattered that easily. Otherwise, all of the trespassers would end up suffering.

"I'm actually rather curious. The Forgotten Ruins are the symbol of the Wang family's mastery of All Is Forgotten, so why is one here? Could the Wang family have set up this trap?" Lu Yin asked curiously.

He had considered asking this question a long time ago, but he had been sidetracked before. Thus, he had only mentioned it at this time.

Nong Sanniang answered, "This has to do with the Wang family's past. If you want to know more about this, you'll need to ask the elders of your White Dragon Clan."

Lu Yin choked for a moment and simply stopped talking afterwards.

Typically, the excursion into the Dominion Realm did not end that quickly, but the situation had become very serious, and the four Junior Progenitors had clearly miscalculated. Thus, everyone needed to immediately return to the Junior Progenitor Planets to ask for backup.

Before they left, everyone discussed whether or not they needed to leave behind someone to guard the place.

"There are trespassers among us, and no one knows what those people might do! Also, if this trap was somehow set by those monsters, then they might still have another card hidden up their sleeves. Thus, we have to leave someone to protect them," Xia Taili said.

Everyone glanced around at each other. They were all visibly wary and untrusting of each other.

After seeing everyone's reactions, Xia Taili did not know how to proceed. She did not know if there were any trespassers among those present. Since someone from the Mavis family had managed to get into the Dominion Realm, then there had to be others as well. It would be a huge problem if any of the trespassers were left behind as guards.

In truth, the best person to leave behind was Nong Sanniang, but she had been seriously injured, and she also needed to speak to the elders herself. With no other resort, Xia Taili finally turned to look at Lu Yin.

Upon seeing Xia Taili looking at him, Lu Yin's eye twitched, and he coughed a few times, hacking up blood. Everyone else was even worse off than him.

Xia Taili felt helpless. "Leave behind a power vessel to protect them."

"My power vessel was destroyed," Lu Yin said. He pointed over at Shang Qing. "He did it."

Xia Taili rolled her eyes and helplessly said, "I didn't tell you to leave one."

The more desperate the situation was, the less this person could be counted upon.

In the end, no one knew what Xia Taili left behind for protection. Based on her reassured expression, Lu Yin believed that the power vessel should even be able to fend off Envoys, but where had it come from? Xia Taili had lost her cosmic ring.

Lu Yin had ignored something important; all of these elites were skilled at deception, so the more important items might not have been stored in their cosmic rings. After all, cosmic rings were rather obvious targets, and it would be safer to store truly valuable items elsewhere. As soon as Lu Yin thought of this, he felt his heart lurch, and he once again saw all of the people sitting within the Forgotten Ruins. They must still have some good things left on themselves that he had not taken away. How terrible! Unfortunately, it was already too late.

Chapter 1445: Return

While following the maps, they had encountered numerous withered creatures, so as the youths returned to the Junior Progenitor Planets, they decided to join forces. During this return trip, they even discussed their formation so that they could rush back to the Junior Progenitor Planets as quickly as possible.

The fact that all four Junior Progenitors had been trapped was a disaster for the Perennial World. It was essentially a fracture in the continuity of inheritances, which could not be allowed.

Lu Yin forced a withered creature back with a single palm attack. However, not only was the creature not killed, but it actually became even stronger. Behind him, Xia Taili felt frustrated. "Why are you so useless?"

Lu Yin retorted, "Really? I'm injured right now!"

"Get to the middle and don't get in the way!" Xia Taili was in a particularly irritable mood at the moment, so she yelled harshly at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin casually returned to the middle of the group. He looked quite relaxed as everyone else protected him.

Xia Taili gritted her teeth. If not for the fact that she needed this wastrel to confirm her story and prevent the White Dragon Clan from not believing her, she would never have brought Long Qi along.

Suddenly, Lu Yin exclaimed, "Yuhua!"

Xia Taili was startled, and she looked at where Lu Yin indicated. Off in the distance, a withered creature was attacking another person: Yuhua Mavis.

"Trespasser!" Xia Taili shouted fiercely as she raised a hand and attacked with a palm. The energy of her Divine Martial Armor forced many of the creatures back as it shot towards Yuhua Mavis.

Yuhua Mavis frowned and responded with a punch, causing a powerful force to clash with the Divine Martial Armor. Xia Taili's attack was shattered, and Yuhua Mavis fled in another direction.

Xia Taili quickly gave chase, and simultaneously, Yao Xuan, Lu Yin, Shang Qing, and Unseen Light also pursued her.

Yuhua Mavis had not expected that five people would break off from the group to pursue after her.

Xia Taili had not wanted anyone else to join her in her pursuit, and she looked over at Lu Yin in surprise. "What are you doing?"

Lu Yin looked solemn, and he quietly said something to Xia Taili. His words startled her, and she seemed to instinctively not believe Lu Yin.

Xia Taili looked up and saw that Yuhua Mavis was getting further and further away, so Xia Taili raised a hand. A lock appeared on Yuhua Mavis. It was the Xia Secret Art: Lock.

Yuhua Mavis would not be able to break free from the technique in a short amount of time since Xia Taili was about as strong as Wang Yi.

Xia Taili immediately attacked with another palm, clearly intending to smash Yuhua Mavis's head apart with her Divine Martial Armor.

Suddenly, a ball appeared in front of Xia Taili. "Force Explosion."

She quickly pulled back, and the void trembled as an impressive amount of spiritual force swept out in all directions, affecting Xia Taili's consciousness.

She looked back up, only to see that Unseen Light had just saved Yuhua Mavis.

"You really are trespassers!" Xia Taili snapped.

Shang Qing attacked, and three streams of ancestral qi shot towards Yao Xuan and Unseen Light.

The three people counterattacked, which shattered the streams of qi. Lu Yin also attacked, and his Vacuum Palm managed to injure Unseen Light. Yao Xuan coldly stated, "There's no need to chase after us. You'll never see us again."

With that, he threw something out of his cosmic ring.

Lu Yin, Xia Taili, and Shang Qing quickly fell back as the void tore open in front of them. A power vessel with a strength that surpassed an Envoy's had been used, and it produced a shockwave that swept everyone up into its chaos. The attack then struck the ground and opened up a fissure in the branch.

Once things grew peaceful once again, Yuhua Mavis and the other two had already disappeared.

Xia Taili frowned as she stared into the distance. They had run away. Had that attack been a power vessel?

She heard Lu Yin cough as he approached. "I didn't expect all of them to be trespassers."

Xia Taili turned to glare at him. "If you suspected it, then why didn't you tell me before?"

Lu Yin acted helpless. "I wasn't sure. I grew suspicious because I happened to notice that Unseen Light didn't make any moves against Yuhua in the Voidsoul Palace."

"He's an old friend of yours, which is also why you stayed quiet," Xia Taili countered.

Lu Yin sighed. "These trespassers are too powerful. Now that I think about it, they probably befriended me on purpose in order to hide their identities."

Shang Qing approached. "Let's go."

Xia Taili looked around once more, but then she helplessly returned to the group.

Behind Xia Taili's back, Lu Yin and Shang Qing glanced at each other before following the young woman.

They had come up with this plan a long time ago. Since Yuhua Mavis had already been exposed, it was highly unlikely for just a single trespasser to have infiltrated the teams traveling to the Dominion Realm. After returning to the Junior Progenitor Planets, even if the elders were preoccupied by the fact that the four Junior Progenitors had been trapped, they would still pay attention to all of the youths, and each one would be thoroughly investigated.

Out of everyone, Unseen Light and Yao Xuan were the two with unverifiable backgrounds, so the two had simply hidden themselves in Lu Yin's Zenith Mountain along with Yuhua Mavis.

Lu Yin had the identity of the White Dragon Clan's main family's son-in-law, and he had even passed the clan's blood test.

Shang Qing came from Nest, but no one knew all of the prisoners from there. Some people were even born in that place, so it was impossible to confirm anything.

Wu Taibai was from Shenwu's Sky.

As for Liu Tianmu, she was an actual member of the Liu family. The Liu family in the Fifth Mainland had originally been a branch of the family in the Perennial World, and even the Thirteen Swords had come from this universe. Thus, Liu Tianmu had also passed a blood test. Lu Yin still remembered the occasion when Liu Tianmu had shown a rare hint of emotion when explaining this matter to him. "Do you think that the Liu family is full of idiots? That you can just join by claiming to have the Liu surname?"

Exposing Unseen Light and Yao Xuan as trespassers not only made things easier for everyone else and helped remove any suspicion of the remaining people being trespassers, but it also allowed the three people to be safely taken away from the Dominion Realm. In short, this move killed two birds with one stone.

After all, the trespassers all knew each other and would want to work together. What person would think that there were still more trespassers?

Long Xi had told Lu Yin that in the past, during the excursions into the Dominion Realm, it was normal for all of the trespassers to die. At best, only one or two had escaped, which was considered incredibly lucky. No one had ever thought that Lu Yin's presence would allow everyone to return safely. Not even a Progenitor would consider this possibility.

The truth was that the trespassers' greatest source of support was the nature of the four ruling powers. They were not united, as if the Perennial World was ruled by a single power, it would be much more difficult for trespassers to sneak in and out.

The return trip was much faster than the trip out of the Junior Progenitor Planets. After only a few days of travel had passed, everyone saw the planets appear up ahead.

Xia Taili let out a sigh of relief and quickly shouted, "Senior Jun!"

"I am not allowed to set foot in the Dominion Realm. Please return to the Junior Progenitor Planet first."

Xia Taili breathed heavily before leading everyone to Shenwu's Sky's Junior Progenitor Planet.

As the entire group arrived on the planet, the void twisted before them, and an old man emerged. "Taili, what happened? Where is our Junior Progenitor?"

Xia Taili quickly shared everything that had happened with the old man.

The old man was shocked, and he immediately contacted Shenwu's Sky.

While he was doing that, three more people appeared in front of the youths.

Altogether, there were three men and one woman, and all of them were quite old. These four were the strongest powerhouses among the guardians of the Junior Progenitor Planets, and all of them had survived six tribulations. By the Fifth Mainland's standards, these four's power level had all exceeded a million, and they were all comparable to Yuan Shi.

It was because of these people's ages that they had no hope of proceeding any further in terms of cultivation, and that was also why they had been forced to rely upon the Junior Progenitors. They could only hope that the youths would eventually become Progenitors who would then help the elders' cultivation take another step further.

While these four were all quite old, their ambition was still undiminished.

The moment they heard that the Junior Progenitors had been trapped in the Forgotten Ruins, several people panicked.

Lu Yin looked back towards the Dominion Realm. At the moment, it was impossible to determine what fate had in store for them. He also thought of the location that Unseen Light had mentioned where all of the trespassers were supposed to go to for someone to take them back to the Fifth Mainland. However, would they even be able to reach that place?

Throughout the Fifth Mainland's history, many people had been sent to the Perennial World to grab Origin Matter and fight for the opportunity to become a Progenitor. However, very few had ever succeeded. Each person sent to the Perennial World was among the Fifth Mainland's most gifted youths, and none of them would be any worse than Yuhua Mavis.

When it came to survival, luck mattered more than strength.

At this point in time, everything was a matter of fate.

Before long, a terrifying aura descended, causing Lu Yin and the others to all look up at the same time. An unfathomable power had entered the Dominion Realm. This person should be a Semi-Progenitor.

Soon after, another terrifying aura fell upon them.

Lu Yin's scalp went numb. No one knew what these elders were capable of. Lu Yin silently uttered a prayer, hoping to give those monsters a bit of strength. While this was wrong, Lu Yin nonetheless did not want to die.

A day passed, and then two. Before long, five days had passed. Everyone was still quietly waiting on Shenwu's Sky's Junior Progenitor Planet. Not one person spoke, not even the ancient powerhouses.

Finally, after ten days passed, they received word from the four ruling powers. The first thing that happened afterwards was that everyone was separated and questioned individually about what had happened during their time in the Dominion Realm.

Regarding the two days that it had taken Xia Taili and Nong Sanniang to catch up to everyone else at the trap, everyone had already discussed their stories.

With Unseen Light and Yao Xuan being removed, everyone else had a strong background. While there might be a few missing or twisted details, it would not be anything that truly mattered.

At this point, the only thing that the four ruling powers were concerned about was whether or not there were still any trespassers hidden within the excursion teams. As for the four trapped Junior Progenitors, that had nothing to do with Lu Yin and the others. It had already been determined that it was impossible to extract the four from the Forgotten Ruins, and it was quite obvious that the trap had been set by those monsters.

As for finding Long Xi and others, no traces could be found. No matter how the various powerhouses searched, they were unable to find anything. Thus, there was no need to say anything further about that matter either.

"It's quite clear that this place is truly a Forgotten Ruins, but not an ordinary one. Something further must be hidden there. If we forcibly take them away, we might trigger something."

"Bai Laogui, I want to speak with your grandchild and the other children."

"Long Laogui, what are your thoughts?"

"Hmph, no."

"Then don't spout off nonsense. Your heir is also trapped in that place, so give the matter some more thought."

"Alright, stop wasting time!" an old woman shouted to the others.

The two fell quiet.

"This particular Forgotten Ruins is incredibly old, and it should have been left behind from the ancient war. This trap was laid down when Progenitor Ku was still alive."

"True. If one is able to set up this sort of trap, then it means that they have no fear of rescue. Let's wait for our Progenitors to come out. It shouldn't take long."

"That's such a cowardly plan. It doesn't sound like what Xia Yingxiong said." An old white man smiled.

Long Laogui² also had a strange smile. "You're the hero."¹

"Shut up, you two! Let's put this matter aside for the moment. What about those children? Long Laogui, I heard that you lost another one of your clan's children."

"Hmph, there is no guarantee of survival when exploring the Dominion Realm."

"You aren't human," Bai Laogui³ said.

Long Laogui grew furious. "Old Bai, do you want to fight?"

"Enough!" the old woman shouted yet again. Suddenly, her voice dropped. "Aside from our four ruling powers, Virtue Archives, Specter Abyss, the Yun clan, and the Liu family all have people missing. Those monsters were able to set one trap, so it's not impossible for them to have set up a second one as well."

However, it seems like the missing people suffered from bad luck more than anything, and we need to consider how we'll explain this matter to those organizations."

"There's no need to explain a thing. Such a result is expected when exploring the Dominion Realm. Even the four Junior Progenitors were trapped, so what can anyone else say?" Bai Laogui replied.

"There were three ants from the Forsaken Land who managed to sneak in, so we still need to make sure there aren't any others hidden among us," the old woman said.

"That's not very likely. It's already pretty good that they were able to sneak three people into the teams," Xia Yingxiong said.

"Ahem, the Forgotten Ruins are something created by your family. Do you not have any thoughts on this?" Bai Laogui asked.

The old woman replied, "You don't know what happened to my Wang family back then."

Everyone stopped talking.

Chapter 1446: Continuous Possession

Finally, Xia Yingxiong spoke up, "We elders can only fight and kill. Academic work like this should be left to the kids."

"Has anyone found Xian'er yet?" the old woman asked.

Bai Laogui answered, "No. My younger brother is stuck for the moment, but once he comes out, he will not be unmoved by this matter."

"When she makes a move, everything will be taken care of, so why bother wasting time thinking about it?" Long Laogui commented.

The old woman replied, "The Progenitors' support is the biggest thing, but even the Progenitors have their own difficulties. They cannot move at will. For now, we should await the Progenitors' instructions. We shouldn't expect those monsters to unite us through this. As for Long Xian, kill him on sight. Long Laogui, I assume that you have no problem with this."

Long Laogui solemnly responded, "Of course not. My White Dragon Clan has already lost enough face from this."

"So then, we are decided."

...

On the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet, Lu Yin and Liu Tianmu stood beneath the statue of Long Tian. They felt the ground tremble as bridges reconnected the four planets to each other before the planets started moving back towards the Middle Realm.

The current excursion to the Dominion Realm had ended.

As for Lu Yin, he felt it was a pity. Only he had gotten any Origin Matter, and no one else had grabbed any.

Long Xi had mentioned that while it was always a challenge to find Origin Matter in the Dominion Realm, each excursion found several pieces rather than just one. All that could be said was that the excursion had been cut short due to those monsters' trap.

The monsters had used Long Xian to leak a map that had lured everyone to a trap. It was a chilling plan. Even if the four Junior Progenitors were eventually rescued, they would be barred from continuing to explore the Dominion Realm unless they were willing to break the rules. Doing so would be no different from crossing the Progenitors' wishes, which would have a profound impact on their future. The four ruling powers would have to decide whether such an excursion was worth it or not.

If Lu Yin had a choice, then he would break the rules even if he was told no by the four ruling powers.

All of the youths were kept under strict guard on one of the Junior Progenitor Planets, just as Lu Yin and the others had expected.

While there was nothing suspicious about any of the remaining youths, it was impossible for the four ruling powers to simply believe their reports. Thus, this observational period was both expected and accepted.

This was as far as the plan that they had made went. Next, everyone had to find a way to return on their own.

As for Lu Yin, he needed to stall for time. He did not know how much the investigations would reveal, but if Wang Yi stepped forward, everything would be discovered.

Lu Yin wanted to escape ahead of the others and get to the rendezvous point that Unseen Light had shared with him first.

Although the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet was not that big, Lu Yin still did not know where to go. In the end, he simply returned to the dark black magma where he had trained earlier.

After remembering his gains from the Dominion Realm, Lu Yin let out a long breath. If he wanted to, he could open up his middle meridian point at any time. After all, he had two pillars of tribulation crystals: one big and one small. However, that led to a rather large problem: he had no way of explaining how he had opened his middle meridian point when it was inevitably noticed. Lu Yin slowed his racing heart more and more.

He did not know if anyone was watching him, so Lu Yin released his domain, and eventually, he noticed a middle-aged man.

The middle-aged man noticed Lu Yin's domain, and he gently told Lu Yin, "Elder Long Kui ordered me to tell you that he will escort you to the top of Dragon Mountain in the Higher Realm."

The older man then closed his eyes and simply quietly stood in place.

Lu Yin retracted his domain and frowned. With Long Xi gone, the White Dragon Clan would not hold the same attitude towards Lu Yin that they had before. It was good for him to keep this in mind, as there were some members of the White Dragon Clan who wanted to get rid of Lu Yin, as his current status was a bit embarrassing to the clan.

No, he could not follow Long Kui to Dragon Mountain. If he reached the mountain, he could forget about leaving the place alive.

After having this thought, Lu Yin raised his head and brought out his die. There was no one in the Perennial World who could help him aside from Humility's Gate, but if Lu Yin stepped foot onto Dragon Mountain, Humility's Gate would no longer be able to provide him with any assistance. Therefore, he had to find a way to let Humility's Gate assign him a mission.

It was impossible to get in contact with the outside world from any of the Junior Progenitor Planets, so Lu Yin's only hope was to roll a six with his die.

Lu Yin had once tried to roll six pips with only a small amount of star essence nearby, and it had allowed him to Possess Guan Yun, who had been relatively close. With Lu Yin's current strength, no matter who he Possessed, it would be beneficial to him..

The middle-aged man was acting with restraint, and so he was not actively monitoring Lu Yin. This was his only chance.

Lu Yin retrieved a bit of star essence from outside, but not much. He then set his cosmic ring aside, raised a hand, brought out his die, and tapped it. The die started to slowly spin around before ultimately stopping at five pips: Gift Copy.

This was useless, so Lu Yin rolled the die again.

His second try landed on one pip, and a piece of star crystal fell out. Lu Yin was left speechless, but he used the piece of star crystal to restore his die and roll again.

His third roll landed on two pips: Blackhole Disassembly. This was also useless, so he rolled the die for a fourth time, only to get a five.

Lu Yin frowned and took a deep breath before saying a silent prayer and rolling the die a final time. It stopped on three pips: Enhance.

Lu Yin blinked as he stared at the two light screens before waving a hand to disperse them.

Even though the middle-aged man was not actively monitoring Lu Yin, it did not mean that Lu Yin was willing to upgrade his items out in the open. What if he was discovered? It would have been fine if he rolled six pips, as he would simply appear to be training.

Originally, Lu Yin was limited to only rolling his die five times before he was forced to rest for ten days. Even though his cultivation had improved drastically since he had first awakened his first innate gift, this limit had not changed.

During the next ten days, Lu Yin behaved normally as he melted star essence over the magma and quickly absorbed it.

While he did this, the middle-aged man occasionally swept through the area with his star energy, but he was unconcerned after seeing that Lu Yin was simply cultivating.

Lu Yin felt afraid. It seemed that the various organizations were still concerned about the youths. But even if they had doubts and suspicions, nothing serious had come to light. It was normal for people to die while exploring the Dominion Realm, and any survivors could only be considered to be lucky.

After ten days, Lu Yin raised his hand and brought out his die again.

This time, he was lucky. His very first roll was six pips, and he watched as the scenery around him change to that strange, dark space. There, he saw an array of orbs of light appear. He immediately merged with the closest orb, and he soon felt lightheaded. When he opened his eyes, he saw that he was being held by a pair of jade-white arms.

Lu Yin was stunned; what the hell?

"Let's just rest for a while. That old man won't be coming back anytime soon since he went to the Island of Hope to curry favor with the Junior Progenitor." The owner of the jade arms was a beautiful woman who was curled up like a kitten within Lu Yin's arms. Lu Yin had Possessed someone named Zhu Xian, and he was holding another man's wife.

Memories continued to pour in as Lu Yin stared at the beautiful woman he was holding with a strange expression.

This person was from a branch of the Xia family in the Middle Realm. The branch patriarch, Xia Ru, was a powerhouse almost as strong as an Envoy. Thus, he had traveled to the Island of Hope to offer his compliments to Junior Progenitor Xia Shenfei. Lu Yin had Possessed Xia Ru's sworn brother, and the woman that he was holding was actually Xia Ru's wife.

This matter was nothing much. Rather, even more bizarrely, Zhu Xian had actually been placed within the Xia family by the Celestial Frost Sect. He was a traitor who had also started an affair with the wife of another family's patriarch. Xia Ru himself greatly respected Zhu Xian and hoped that the man would become an Envoy, which was why Xia Ru intended to allow Zhu Xian to observe the tribulation when he attempted to become an Envoy.

There was nothing straightforward about this matter. What a mess! Lu Yin felt a headache.

As Lu Yin held her, Madam Xia opened her eyes and looked at Zhu Xian with a smile. "You look so silly right now! Why? We've been doing this for so long, so why are you still afraid? You already have this branch family under your control, and if not for Xia Ru's identity, you would already be its master."

As she spoke, she leaned closer and closer to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin grew flustered as he saw Madam Xia approaching him, so he quickly ended the Possession. He returned to the dark space and then back to his own body. He opened his eyes and let out a long breath. That had been very tempting.

For some reason, Madam Xia had reminded Lu Yin of Madam Nalan. However, Madam Xia could not compare to Madam Nalan's natural seductiveness.

Lu Yin shook his head vigorously and put no more thought to the matter. He lifted his head and brought the die back out to roll it again. Zhu Xian clearly had not been of any help.

The second roll ended on four pips.

Once again, Lu Yin's vision changed, and he appeared in the Timestop Space.

As long as he entered this place, he would be able to get whatever roll he needed, but Lu Yin did not have enough star essence to Enhance any items at this time. He also did not want to cultivate with his own resources, as he wanted to stabilize his cultivation while embezzling some star essence into his own cosmic ring. At the moment, he needed to slow down his rate of improvement.

Still, he could study the Origin Matter.

Lu Yin took out the leaf. He looked at it all over, but it did not look like anything special. However, he could not tear it apart with his strength.

He also tried using star energy, but that also gave no response. After thinking for a bit, Lu Yin dripped a bit of his blood onto the leaf, but there was still no response. This thing was quite strange.

This was supposed to help a person open their upper meridian point, so how could there be no response at all?

Did a person have to first open their middle meridian point before the Origin Matter would have any response?

Lu Yin studied the leaf for a few days, but he could not discover anything at all. After three days passed, he left the Timestop Space. He actually did not see any reason why this Origin Matter was not fake! He felt like this was actually very likely since it had been used in a trap set by those monsters. They might have used a fake that was even able to deceive the Junior Progenitors.

Lu Yin gritted his teeth at the thought that he had been tricked.

He secretly cursed before continuing to roll his die.

On the fifth roll, it landed on six pips again, and Lu Yin reentered that dark space. Without any hesitation, he chose a bright orb of light and merged with it.

Lu Yin's eyes instantly snapped open, but before he could get a clear look at anything, the body that he had Possessed was seized by a massive tentacle. He instinctively wanted to resist, but the body that he had Possessed could not use the Ce Secret Art.

Lu Yin felt stunned, and his body was dragged into the ground. What the hell was going on? He saw that he was not the only creature being dragged away by the tentacles; were those things all around him terror ants?

Lu Yin's scalp went numb, and his whole body trembled. He had actually fallen into a terror ant colony. No, the terror ants were also being grabbed by the tentacles.

A foul stench assaulted his nostrils, and Lu Yin turned to see an unforgettable scene. There was a round mouth that looked like a black abyss, and it was sucking him in along with a horde of countless terror ants. This was an anteater!

Lu Yin's consciousness went blank. The body that he had Possessed had died.

His consciousness returned to his body. Inside his chest, the black and white mist trembled and increased by a small bit. Lu Yin did not even notice it, as he was busy remembering what he had just witnessed.

He must have been in the Lower Realm, as terror ants could only be found in that place.

Terror ants were the natural enemy of countless creatures in the Lower Realm, and when Lu Yin had traveled to the Lower Realm with Long Xi, they had both possessed power vessels that could protect them from Envoys. But even then, they could only flee when faced with a horde of terror ants.

And yet, those same terror ants were nothing but the food of that terrifying anteater. What level of strength did that creature possess? It had to have a power level of at least a million, or perhaps it was even comparable to a Semi-Progenitor!

Chapter 1447: Seven-Stage Formcast Model

After experiencing another death, Lu Yin felt even more dread towards the Lower Realm. There were truly countless terrifying monsters down there. It was no wonder why Root was unable to completely eliminate all of them.

After rolling his die five times, Lu Yin had to rest for another ten days, and he spent his time absorbing more star energy.

Twenty days had passed since he had returned to the Junior Progenitor Planet, and during these twenty days, the middle-aged man had swept through the area three times with his star energy. The third sweep had taken place nearly nine days after the first two. It looked like he was becoming a bit lax.

Given Lu Yin's current progress, it was expected that he would need some more time to finish his nineteenth cycle as a Hunter, but Lu Yin was in no hurry.

After ten more days, he continued rolling his die.

This time, he failed to roll a single six, or even a four, which he felt was rather unfortunate.

Lu Yin left the underground area with the dark magma to spend some time relaxing. He then dragged a great deal of star essence back to the magma while also secretly putting a great deal into his cosmic ring. He would not always have access to such unlimited resources.

"All of the resources here are marked, so you can't take them away with you." Lu Yin had deliberately passed by the middle-aged man in order to gauge the man's reaction, which was when the man had made this comment.

Lu Yin pursed his lips. "I know."

With that, the man simply ignored Lu Yin.

Most of the powerhouses who were willing to follow a Junior Progenitor were either approaching the end of their lives or had reached their limits when it came to cultivating. Besides them, there was another group of people that followed a Junior Progenitor, which were those who needed protection from their enemies because they lacked the necessary strength. This last category was clearly the one that the middle-aged man fell into.

Lu Yin threw a great deal of star essence into the dark magma before continuing to absorb it while reciting the Stonewall Scriptures.

The Stonewall Scriptures had always been very mysterious to Lu Yin, and it was something that he did not dare to reveal to the outside world. Still, whenever he encountered something mysterious or strange, he would frequently recite the scriptures.

In truth, Lu Yin had always tried to investigate the identity of the old man whom he had met on Driftcharge Planet, but unfortunately, there was no way to proceed.

Lu Yin feared forgetting the Stonewall Scriptures, so he recited them repeatedly and took comfort in them.

Ten more days passed. During this time, no one approached the Junior Progenitor Planet. Liu Tianmu also spent her time peacefully cultivating.

Lu Yin lifted a hand and brought out his die. He took a deep breath and silently sent up a prayer that he would roll a six, as that was his only way to survive.

His finger tapped the die, and it slowly spun around before finally stopping: six pips.

Lu Yin's mouth fell open. What was this? Was it the way that he had rolled the die? Had he been doing things wrong this whole time? Was he supposed to pray before rolling the die?

He had almost no time at all to consider the matter before his consciousness appeared in the dark space. Like usual, he quickly found a bright orb and merged with it.

Lu Yin Possessed another body, but he did not immediately open his eyes. The first thing that he noticed was the overwhelming, bone deep pain.

He quickly opened his eyes to see that he was in a dark cell. A short old man stood in front of him with a strange grin on his face as water dripped in the corner with an incredibly regular rhythm.

Lu Yin blinked. What was this? Was he being interrogated?

"Looks like it's still not enough. We'll just have to continue." The short old man had an odd smile. Lu Yin did not know what had just happened, but he was immediately struck by the bone-deep pain once more. This pain was actually a bit worse than when Lu Yin had opened his lower meridian point, and it felt as though his entire body was being crushed and then rebuilt.

"Lu Yin" quickly spoke up. "I'll talk."

The little old man was clearly startled, and his eyes flashed. "What?"

The pain disappeared, and Lu Yin and the little old man stared at each other. What was Lu Yin supposed to say? What did this body know?

Finally, memories flooded into Lu Yin's mind. After two seconds, he understood his current situation. He had Possessed an Envoy named Ren Qing. Additionally, the reason why he had been able to Possess an Envoy was because the man's stellar energy vortex had been destroyed, greatly weakening him. Given

the man's current situation, any random Enlightener with a power level of just 400,000 would be able to easily defeat the man, and this weakness was also why Lu Yin had been able to Possess an Envoy.

However, this matter was not important. Rather, Ren Qing was a Redback, and he happened to be the only Redback that Guan Hai had been in contact with.

After Lu Yin had exposed the Guan brothers as Redbacks, Guan Tong and Guan Hai had been taken away by Qing Chen. They had then committed suicide before they could be interrogated and more Redbacks uncovered. Since they had been discovered, there was no way they would be allowed to live. The brothers had been extremely decisive, which was also why they had become the leaders of Huaiyuan's Humility's Gate. In the past, Qing Chen had appreciated the brothers' decisiveness, but after their capture, that same trait infuriated him.

Fortunately, Humility's Gate had already investigated who the brothers had been in contact with and who they had been grooming to become traitors to humanity. Nothing was initially found, but Qing Chen was quite clever, and he had pretended to discover something and made some false arrests. Out of those who had been targeted in this manner, only Ren Qing had been found to be a Redback. When people had gone to arrest him, he had fought back with too much vigor, eventually resulting in him being specifically targeted by Qing Chen and then brought to this place.

Right after capturing Ren Qing, Qing Chen had immediately destroyed the Envoy's stellar energy vortex to prevent the Redback from also killing himself. However, Qing Chen had overestimated Ren Qing; he did not have the same determination as the Guan Brothers, and he had quickly broken down during the interrogation.

However, due to how quickly the man had caved in the interrogation, Qing Chen did not believe what Ren Qing Said, and neither had the old interrogator. Thus, the torture had never stopped.

Regardless, Ren Qing had been absolutely miserable and was treated as a tragic reminder for the rest. Lu Yin actually felt some sympathy for the man, as Lu Yin knew that the man's confessions were all true.

"I know that you're still trying to keep some important information hidden, but just say it. If you don't want to suffer, then talk to me. If you don't, I won't let you have an easy death, and I'll use the rest of my life to slowly torture you until you live a hundred lifetimes of suffering. Keeping this up for ten years is nothing." The little old man had a strange voice, and when that was combined with the gloomy atmosphere of the room, it made for a truly frightening delivery.

Cultivators were greatly superior to ordinary people when it came to both body and will, but the methods used to interrogate cultivators also far exceeded anything that would ever be used on ordinary people. Cultivators needed to be interrogated with special techniques, but with those techniques, cultivators could break just like ordinary people.

Lu Yin had already skimmed through many of Ren Qing's memories, and Lu Yin was absolutely certain that Ren Qing had nothing to hide, let alone tell the interrogator. The only secrets that Ren Qing had been told were related to the efforts put towards recruiting him, and his recruiter had been a Redback. However, Ren Qing had only ever heard a voice and had never seen anyone, though he had already told the interrogator all of this.

"Why are you still trying to hide things?" The little old man's eyes grew cold, and his voice took on a terrifying timbre.

'Lu Yin' sighed. "I already told you."

The interrogator's eyes sharpened as he stared at 'Lu Yin.'

The body that Lu Yin had Possessed was too weak at this moment, and he could not stop himself from panting and was even coughing up blood. He stammered, "Whe- when I heard that the Guan brothers were Redbacks, I- I purposely called them. To- to pass them- no, to meet- meet them in the hidden place. I saw- I saw--"

Lu Yin deliberately paused, and the little old man shouted, "What did you see?"

Lu Yin weakly continued, "I saw that they had recorded something down. It- it should be about how- how to train Redbacks. The- the characteristics of their target. I- I saw this."

The little old man stepped forward and eagerly asked, "Where is that recording? We searched their territory and found nothing!"

Lu Yin showed a bitter smile. "The things that we recorded on have booby traps placed inside them. How can they be taken away that easily? The first person who touches it might be able to see the things that were being recorded, but at the same time, because the recordings were seen, they'll be destroyed..."

The little old man grabbed Lu Yin's chin and demanded, "What else are you hiding? Say it now!"

Lu Yin screamed, "I'm not hiding anything! This wasn't anything important, and I just remembered it!"

"This is the most important thing! You-" That was all that Lu Yin heard before his consciousness snapped back to the dark space and returned to his own body.

Lu Yin opened his own eyes, secretly rejoicing that his luck had been good this time. He had Possessed Ren Qing's body, and he had also cast a line. As for whether or not he managed to catch any fish, that would all depend on luck. Still, he had not dared to say anything more.

He continued rolling his die.

Next, he rolled a four: Timestop, which thrilled him. This was the perfect moment for him to Enhance his items. He believed that he had picked up at least one or two billion star essence, and he did not even know how many items he would be able to Enhance with his current funds.

The first thing on his list to Enhance was his formcast model. His previous formcast model had been consumed when he had become a Hunter, and although he had later Enhanced another one to a six-stage formcast model, he had found that he lacked the funds to upgrade it to a seven-stage one.

He needed to upgrade his six-stage formcast model to a seven-stage model. During his last attempt, he had estimated that he would need hundreds of millions of star essence to complete the upgrade, and although he had not had enough star essence before, he felt that he currently had plenty.

Once again, he rolled his die.

As long as he was in the Timestop Space, he was guaranteed to eventually roll three pips.

Eventually, when Lu Yin rolled his die for the sixth time, he finally got what he wanted.

He grew incredibly excited as he looked at the two light screens.

The fact was that formcast models were a special creation unique to the Fifth Mainland, and it allowed their youths' cultivation speed to match that of those with much greater resources, like those from the Sixth Mainland or the Perennial World. Lu Yin's peers in those places did not use formcast models, but rather torrential overflow.

Lu Yin had never heard of anyone having a seven-stage formcast model or experiencing having their body remade seven times, and he had no idea if it would do anything special.

Regardless, he wanted to give it a try. He would only find out after trying, and there would be no downside to improving further.

It was time to go big. Lu Yin's eyes blazed with excitement as he threw out the star essence that he had gathered from the Junior Progenitor Planet and watched as the formcast model descended through the two light screens until it finally fell out from the bottom.

Lu Yin looked at it, but it seemed no different from before it had been Enhanced. As he held it in his hands, Lu Yin let out a sigh. This upgrade had been incredibly expensive.

The formcast model did not look much different from before, so after a moment's thought, Lu Yin looked back at the two light screens; could he Enhance the formcast model yet again? Lu Yin was very curious, so he immediately set the formcast model back on the upper screen and threw out a million star essence.

He stared at the formcast model. Had it moved? No, it did not seem to have moved at all.

Lu Yin felt a little disappointed when he saw that apparently the formcast model could apparently no longer be upgraded. Still, he also felt a bit lucky. After all, even if it could be upgraded to eight stages, would he be able to gather enough star essence?

It had cost him more than eight million star essence to upgrade a formcast model to six stages, and it had cost hundreds of millions of star essence to get a seven-stage formcast model. Based on this rate, the next upgrade might take trillions of star essence, or perhaps even more.

Where could he ever get so much money? Even if he stripped the entire White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet bare, it would likely not be enough, though there might be enough if he stripped all four of the Junior Progenitor Planets bare.

While the possibility of Enhancing his formcast model yet again excited him, Lu Yin focused on looking through his cosmic ring while considering which item would be best to Enhance.

Naturally, the next thing he tried to Enhance was the Origin Matter. Lu Yin might not know what it was, but there was no hesitation as he threw the leaf out onto the upper screen of light. However, Lu Yin was disappointed to see that the leaf did not move at all. It could not be Enhanced.

Next, he moved on to the strange power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant.

Chapter 1448: Mass Upgrade

Lu Yin stared at the power vessel that looked like an aquatic plant. He had taken this from Xia Taili, and he had been quite impressed by its strength and utility. After all, he had been bold enough to take advantage of its protection.

This was the one. Lu Yin placed the power vessel on the upper light screen and then quickly threw out a great deal of star essence.

There was also the knife that he had taken from Wang Su, the puppet from Xia Shenfei, the Karmic Flame, and the froststone. Anything and everything that could be Enhanced was repeatedly upgraded. Still, some, like the froststone, could be Enhanced without limit, and he only upgraded those peculiar items a few times. He would continue in the future if he had the opportunity. After all, he was in no rush.

Lu Yin used up all of the star essence that he had picked up from the Junior Progenitor Planet to Enhance his items, which was a tremendous expenditure. Still, the expenditure had allowed Lu Yin to become armed to the teeth at the cost of nearly two billion star essence. This outrageous sum would shock anyone, and even wealthy powers like the four ruling powers could not wantonly spend their resources in this manner.

Lu Yin quietly estimated that he had most likely used more of the Junior Progenitor Planet's resources than all four of the Junior Progenitors combined. No, he had probably used more resources than all of the people who trained on the planets combined, which he found very impressive.

Although the amount of money that he had just used left Lu Yin feeling slightly dizzy, he continued to roll his die.

Half a day later, on a mountain in a certain region of the Middle Realm slightly to the south of the center and close to the Mother Tree's trunk was the place where Qing Chen resided and cultivated.

The little old man had delivered a report regarding Ren Qing's interrogation to Qing Chen, and it made Qing Chen grow serious. "Send Cai Shu to me."

Before long, an elegant-looking, middle-aged man approached Qing Chen and slowly bowed. "Master."

This man was Cai Shu, Qing Chen's eldest disciple. He was also the person who oversaw the administration of Qing Chen Mountain and the Middle Realm's Nine Gates in Qing Chen's stead. In other words, he was the supervisor's right hand.

Qing Chen tossed over the report from the interrogation.

Cai Shu looked it over with clear surprise. "So he still had additional information to share. This disciple thought that he had already given up everything."

Qing Chen replied, "This information has nothing to do with him. Rather, he most likely was not able to endure the interrogation any longer, so he tried to remember anything helpful. What are your plans regarding this?"

Cai Shu grew solemn. "The Guan brothers' records are very important. Those monsters have long since used various identities to hide among us humans. Since someone was able to recruit the Guan brothers as Redbacks, their recruiter must have a very high status. This goes for both sides; this individual must have a high status among both us humans as well as those monsters."

Qing Chen nodded, but then he frowned. "There is something very strange about this situation. Ren Qing clearly gave us this information, but then he seemed to regret saying it and even refused to admit that the information ever came from him."

Cai Shu also felt puzzled. "Why would he do that? He's already shared everything he knows, so why would he refuse to tell us this information?"

"I don't know. It's certainly a mystery. Regardless, we can't let him die, though we also need to continue interrogating him. What are your thoughts about these records?" Qing Chen asked.

Cai Shu replied, "Long Qi was the one who exposed the Guan brothers as Redbacks, and he was also the one who uncovered the evidence proving his accusation. We could ask him to help us with this."

Qing Chen shook his head. "Ren Qing said that the records were stored in the Guan brothers' secret base. I checked that place myself, and there's no way Long Qi could have accessed that place."

"Master, since Ren Qing mentioned the records but nothing was found in the Guan brothers' hidden location within the Huaiyuan Gate, then does that mean that those records were destroyed long ago? After all, Ren Qing never saw them," Cai Shu guessed.

Qing Chen nodded helplessly. "That's certainly possible. If that's the case, then this information is worthless."

"There's another possibility," Cai Shu suddenly said, his eyes flashing. "The evidence that Long Qi used to back his claim that the Guan brothers were Redbacks was something that he took from Guan Yun's hiding place. Since Guan Yun secretly hid one piece of evidence, then is it possible that it wasn't just that? Could he have also hidden those records?"

Qing Chen's eyes snapped wide open. "Contact the White Dragon Clan right now. I, Qing Chen, as Supervisor of Humility's Gate's nine Middle Realm Gates, order Long Qi to come to Qing Chen Mountain in order to assist with this investigation."

"Understood."

On the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet, Lu Yin lowered his hand. He had rolled his die two more times after Enhancing everything in his cosmic ring, but he had failed to roll Possession both times. He had even prayed before the rolls, but it had not helped. Still, he did not feel frustrated. During this cultivation session, he had already achieved his goal, and right now, he would only use Possession to dredge up further information regarding the Lu family, so this string of failures was acceptable.

When he thought of the Lu family, Lu Yin's heart grew heavy.

The four ruling powers had exiled the Lu family in order to usurp their position, which meant that Lu Yin's enemies were the four strongest powers in the entire Perennial World. Each and every one of them had powerful Progenitors, which was terrifying. Any one of the four could casually destroy the Fifth Mainland.

Lu Yin could still hear echoes of Bai Shaohong's words from right before his death. One sentence in particular had bothered Lu Yin: 'So what if you amass the entire Forsaken Land to attack this universe? You can't even go up against the Celestial Frost Sect alone!'

Bai Shaohong's confidence had been based on the Celestial Frost Sect's Progenitors, as well as the powerhouses who were second only to the Progenitors.

However, the Fifth Mainland was not a simple place either. The Forsaken Land that the Perennial World ignored had the inheritances of Progenitor Chen, Progenitor Hui, the Rune Progenitor, as well as those of the first four mainlands. Lu Yin did not believe that the Fifth Mainland could not stand up to the Celestial Frost Sect with those hidden inheritances, so he wanted to at least try.

He had already become the master of the Outerverse, so he might as well become the master of the entire Fifth Mainland.

As this thought ran through Lu Yin's mind, he tapped his die for the third time. It slowly spun before eventually stopping. Six pips. Lu Yin was completely shocked. This was too unexpected. He had actually managed to roll Possession two times out of his five rolls.

His consciousness returned to that dark space. Since Lu Yin had just Possessed Ren Qing's body earlier, he did not have much star essence remaining. Thus, Lu Yin immediately merged with the closest orb of light. It was not exceptionally bright, but it also was not that dim.

Lu Yin opened his eyes, only to see the snow-white neck of a girl whose back was facing him. He was also able to see what the young woman was doing.

Yu Chen? Lu Yin was stunned. Isn't she Yu Chen?

Countless memories poured into Lu Yin's mind, and his face twitched.

Yu Chen turned around and asked, "What's wrong?"

"It's nothing," Lu Yin replied as he slowly bowed to her.

Yu Chen did not think much of the matter, and she returned to her current task. This was why she had missed the moment when the eyes of the old man behind her flickered with confusion, bewilderment, excitement, worry, and every other sort of emotion.

By the time Yu Chen turned around again, the old man was back to normal, as Lu Yin's consciousness had already returned to his own body. After all, he was currently very short on star essence.

At the moment, Yu Chen was on the Celestial Frost Sect's Junior Progenitor Planet, which was not far from the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet. The close range of the Possession was enough to demonstrate just how few star essence Lu Yin had left.

Lu Yin's eyes opened wide. There was an incredible amount of worry welling from deep within his eyes. The old man that he had Possessed was Yu Chen's guardian. This man had protected her since childhood, and he was the person that she trusted most. The information that Lu Yin had gleaned from the old man's memories was certainly enough to thrill him, but a certain person had also appeared within those memories: Liu Shaoge.

Lu Yin had never considered that he might run into Liu Shaoge in the Perennial World, but that person had somehow appeared close to Yu Chen. This was unbelievable. How had Liu Shaoge managed to get to the Perennial World? How had he joined the Celestial Frost Sect?

Had he also gone through Jupiter? This was the only reasonable explanation, but if Liu Shaoge had also entered via Jupiter, then another question naturally came up: had his journey been made intentionally, or by accident? If it had been an accident, then everything was fine, but if it had been intentional, then that changed everything. That meant that Liu Shaoge had previously known about the Perennial World, or at least about the Primeval Surnames Alliance as well as the existence of the Hidden Earth Society.

If Liu Shaoge knew about the Perennial World, then what about Bai Qian? What about the rest of the Hidden Earth Society?

Lu Yin frowned. Discovering Liu Shaoge's presence in this universe had completely disrupted Lu Yin's thoughts. He had nearly forgotten about Liu Shaoge, and his most recent impression was that the Daynight clan had sent an Enlighter to Earth to chase after Liu Shaoge. Clearly, Liu Shaoge had been improving this entire time, as he had managed to enter the Celestial Frost Sect.

Lu Yin was certain that Liu Shaoge had already seen Lu Yin's information, but he clearly had not mentioned anything to Yu Chen. Why?

Lu Yin could not see through Liu Shaoge's motivations.

According to Lu Yin's impression, Liu Shaoge was a despicable person who would do anything to achieve his own goals. In that sense, Liu Shaoge was actually quite similar to Lu Yin, but there was a crucial difference in that Liu Shaoge had no bottom line. Liu Shaoge had not yet exposed Lu Yin, but that did not mean that the same would be true in the future. It was possible that Liu Shaoge was simply waiting for the proper opportunity, one that would allow him to expose Lu Yin and ascend into the sky.

Of course, the most important detail was that if Liu Shaoge exposed Lu Yin, Liu Shaoge would also lose all of his protection.

The Perennial World was very antagonistic towards trespassers. Bai Shaohong had offered to vouch for Lu Yin's status, but Lu Yin had not trusted the Junior Progenitor. The moment Liu Shaoge exposed Lu Yin as a trespasser, all of Lu Yin's efforts would become worthless. It was not simply a case where trespassers could sell out their own people and their life would turn around, as otherwise some of the previous trespassers would have done so long ago.

There was no way that such a method would work. Liu Shaoge would not expose Lu Yin, and it was precisely for this reason. Unless, of course, Liu Shaoge could also return the moment that he exposed Lu Yin.

For the moment, Lu Yin set aside his concerns over Liu Shaoge's presence. Liu Shaoge had done everything he could just to enter the Celestial Frost Sect and get close to Yu Chen. It was impossible for him to sacrifice all of that effort just to take Lu Yin down.

Liu Shaoge assumed that he was watching Lu Yin from the dark, but unexpectedly, Lu Yin had preemptively discovered Liu Shaoge's presence. Now it was time to see who could outplay the other!

Suddenly, Lu Yin wanted to know what was happening in the Fifth Mainland and the Outerverse.

Although Unseen Light had shared some recent news, Lu Yin was still worried.

Lu Yin wondered if it was possible, given enough star essence, to use his die's Possession to send his consciousness back to the Fifth Mainland and Possess someone there. This possibility intrigued Lu Yin, so he jumped up and left the pool of dark magma. He deliberately avoided the middle-aged man as he collected another large amount of star essence. Although he did not have any more items to Enhance, Lu Yin could never have enough star essence. However, he could not hide this star essence in his cosmic ring, and it was already clear that there was a great deal of star essence missing from the Junior Progenitor Planet. Trying to hide the star essence would just draw the attention of the various powerhouses, so it was best to simply use the star essence while it was available.

Lu Yin could not hide his actions from the middle-aged man. The man frowned, but he did not say anything. As he had already mentioned, all of the resources on the Junior Progenitor Planet had trackers on them, so nothing could be freely taken away.

Although the middle-aged man knew this, it was still rather distressing to see Lu Yin throw so much star essence into the dark magma, and the man could not stop himself from speaking up once more. "You can't take any resources away from this place, and your cosmic ring can't even hold that much."

Lu Yin gave the man a polite smile and then continued on his way.

The man frowned and snorted derisively before falling silent. Although he had decided to follow Junior Progenitor Long Tian, this man was not originally from the White Dragon Clan. Even if Lu Yin's status within the clan had fallen due to Long Xi's disappearance, Long Qi was still a member of the White Dragon Clan himself. The man knew that he could not touch even a branch member of the White Dragon Clan, which forced him to just ignore the matter. Besides, Long Qi would definitely be punished once the Junior Progenitor returned.

Chapter 1449: San Liang's Ambitions

Liu Tianmu emerged from the training room where she had been cultivating for more than a month. During the period of time, her injuries had healed a great deal. Out of everyone who had traveled to the Dominion Realm, Liu Tianmu had suffered the worst injuries.

I wonder how Lu Yin is doing or if he has any way to return home.

Before sending them to the Perennial World, Arch-Elder Zen had told the youths to not force the matter if they were unable to obtain any Origin Matter. It was more important for them to return alive.

They would be safe as long as they could reach the rendezvous point, but how were they supposed to leave the Junior Progenitor Planet?

As she was thinking of these things, she was covered by a large shadow.

Liu Tianmu looked up, only to be stunned. She saw Lu Yin pass by above her while carrying a literal mountain of star essence. He shot her a smile when he saw her.

Liu Tianmu blinked, feeling rather stunned. What was this all about?

The middle-aged man had also seen what Lu Yin was doing, but he refused to look at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin threw the star essence into the dark magma, which created a boom. Of course, he kept the star essence separate from the magma; if the star essence was vaporized, he would be forced to gather more.

As Lu Yin stared at the mountain of star essence that likely numbered in the hundreds of millions, he wondered if it would be enough. He would not be able to take any more from where he had grabbed this batch, and it was becoming increasingly obvious that many places on the planet were missing piles of star essence, which would likely rouse people's suspicions.

He just needed to relax for a few days before attempting to break through.

Lu Yin took out the Skyblaze Stone and began absorbing the star energy that was constantly vaporized by the dark magma.

After a few days, his die recovered, and Lu Yin went back to rolling. His luck was good, as he immediately rolled a four.

He appeared in the Timestop Space and quickly took out the Skyblaze Stone. It was time for him to finish his nineteenth cycle as a Hunter.

...

Elsewhere on the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet, the middle-aged man opened his eyes and looked towards Lu Yin's location. Just what was that kid doing with so much star essence? The man could not help but be curious, and he swept his senses through the area around Lu Yin and his star essence. As the man scanned the area, Lu Yin seemed to sense the man, and he looked over.

The middle-aged man was surprised; he had broken through? When a Hunter completed their nineteenth cycle, it meant that they had reached the peak of the Hunter realm and were only a single step away from becoming an Enlighter.

The man felt that this was a pity. If Long Qi had reached this level before going to the Dominion Realm, the Junior Progenitor would have had a much better attitude towards Long Qi. Unfortunately, even if Long Qi had become an Enlighter, he would not have been able to help the Junior Progenitor.

As for the star essence that Lu Yin had gathered, it was all still there, untouched. The middle-aged man frowned. He had no idea what Long Qi intended to do with it.

Lu Yin was able to sense that his observer was unable to restrain himself from investigating, a smile appeared on Lu Yin's face. While the watcher could not resist periodically checking on Lu Yin, there would be a period of a few days where he did not observe Lu Yin in between.

Lu Yin lifted a hand and tested his strength as a Hunter with nineteen completed cycles. Completing another cycle had not really changed Lu Yin's strength, and raising his cultivation had basically only increased his star energy reserves. Normal Hunters likely experienced a more noticeable increase in strength, but the change was not very substantial for Lu Yin. He would only experience a substantial change in his strength after he broke through to the Enlighter realm.

However, it was impossible for him to break through to the Enlighter realm here.

Lu Yin let out a sigh as he stared at all the star essence that he had gathered. He lifted his hand and brought out his die. He hoped to roll a six here.

While his plan was reasonable, he was unlucky, and none of his four remaining rolls managed to land on Possession, forcing him to wait for another ten days.

At this moment, in the Middle Realm, Long Kui had received orders from the clan to escort Long Qi to Dragon Mountain in the Higher Realm.

Long Kui was feeling rather depressed at the moment. He had been forced to babysit Long Qi ever since his first appearance despite his status as an elder of the White Dragon Clan. The more he thought about his situation, the more upset Long Kui became.

After another ten days, Long Kui approached the Island of Hope, which was very close to the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet.

At the same time, Lu Yin looked up at his die that had appeared before him. He tapped it, and it slowly spun before landing on six pips.

Lu Yin was overjoyed at this roll.

His consciousness appeared within the dark space again. This time, Lu Yin was in no hurry, and he shot through the darkness. The further he traveled, the more likely he was to Possess someone from the Fifth Mainland.

After traveling for a quarter of an hour, he finally chose an orb of light to merge with before the entire mountain of star essence was consumed.

...

My name is San Liang. I am very ambitious. There is a goal that I have had since I was a child: I want to be superior to others. Others cultivate, and so I do. Others focus their minds solely on cultivating, but I am different. I also study.

Psychology is a very interesting subject, especially since many cultivators have developed their strength to great heights but retained a simple mind. It is easy to read such people's body language, and thus,

even if I have the same cultivation as them, I am able to easily overpower them. My status now vastly outstrips my power level, which barely exceeds 400,000. I am frequently in touch with the nine overseers, and I help them with common tasks.

My goal is to eventually become an overseer.

This position used to be far out of my reach, as only those with sufficient backing can ever gain such a position, but something happened a while ago on Honor Mountain, and there is now an opening for an overseer. This is my opportunity.

However, it will not be easy to become an overseer with so many competitors. I lack for nothing except a powerful backer. What should I do?

Lu Yin opened his eyes as memories poured in. The first thing that filled his mind were these words that were deeply etched into his host's mind, as though a constant reminder for the man to not forget.

Lu Yin had indeed reached the Fifth Mainland. This was wonderful! He quickly brushed aside the chaotic memories and searched for information regarding the Outerverse.

After a while, Lu Yin let out a sigh of relief. Luckily, after he had disappeared, Arch-Elder Zen, the chief justice, and Eversky Island had all made it crystal clear that no one was to touch the Outerverse without their express permission. Lu Yin had not been missing for very long, so nothing had happened to the Outerverse in this time.

However, there was some big news.

Two major incidents had occurred in the Neoverse.

First, the Progenitor of Secret Arts had forced his way into the Neoverse, uncovered Aeternus Nation, and then used his might as a Progenitor to destroy the place, which had stunned the entire universe. However, the Progenitor had also been injured during this attack. Many people believed that he had been injured by the remnant power left behind by one of the Fifth Mainland's dead Progenitors, just like what had befallen the Progenitor of Combat. However, there were others who believed that the Neohuman Alliance actually possessed the power to injure a Progenitor.

Regardless, the truth of the matter was something that people outside of the top-most powers did not have access to.

The Neohuman Alliance's Seven Skygods had killed Bu Kong, and the Progenitor of Secret Arts had retaliated by eliminating many of the Neohuman Alliance's strongholds throughout the Sixth Mainland. The matter had died down after that, and everyone had believed the matter to be settled. No one had expected the Progenitor to actually be biding his time, waiting to take action once he uncovered the location of Aeternus Nation. The Neohuman Alliance's headquarters that the Fifth Mainland had never been able to find had been utterly destroyed.

While Progenitors had immeasurable power, most could not endure ridicule. The scheme carried out by the Progenitor of Secret Arts had been truly extraordinary.

Lu Yin felt that the Progenitor of Secret Arts had been too reckless. If the blackhole barrier had been broken by the Progenitor's actions, then both the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands would have been doomed.

The other major incident was no less of a disaster for the Fifth Mainland: one of the Mainland's seven Semi-Progenitors, Lingzhi Mavis, had died.

She had not been killed, but had rather died while trying to break through to become a Progenitor.

This incident had incited a massive commotion throughout the Fifth Mainland, and the ripples even spread to the Sixth Mainland.

This was the first time that a Semi-Progenitor from the Fifth Mainland had died due to failing to become a Progenitor since the ancient war.

How could it possibly be easy to become a Progenitor? Despite that, Lingzhi Mavis had dared to try before anyone else, which demonstrated her confidence. Her failure was a true pity.

Lu Yin found this San Liang to be quite interesting. The more memories that Lu Yin looked through, the more impressed he was by the man's talent. San Liang was also impressed by certain people, and Highsage Wudi was San Liang's hero. That man possessed the courage and daring to attack Honor Mountain itself, which had destroyed everything that San Liang had held to be true.

San Liang wanted to become an overseer, and due to this goal, he had never stopped studying psychology, even while cultivating. But one strange thing was that, despite his tremendous efforts, no one had ever tried to support San Liang.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. He stretched out a hand, left Wang Wen's contact information right in front of San Liang, and then ended the Possession.

San Liang's body trembled, and he looked around. Strange, why did he feel as if he had been stunned for a moment? He was just about to leave when his face suddenly and drastically changed after seeing the note that Lu Yin had left behind. San Liang turned pale. How had someone gotten this close to him without him sensing anything at all? It was a terrifying thought.

San Liang glanced at his gadget. A minute had passed, but he had not noticed any time passing at all. This struck him with a sense of horror. He was on Honor Mountain, but someone had made a casual move against him. This person had to possess an unimaginable level of strength. If they had wanted to do something, anything to San Liang, then wouldn't it have been all too easy?

San Liang stared at the contract information before him for quite some time, as he was hesitating. Finally, he gritted his teeth. No matter if this was a blessing or a curse, he had to face it.

He then quickly picked up his gadget and called the number that he had been given, only to discover that he could not connect. The person he was trying to call was out of range. Helpless, San Liang made his way towards CyNet World, as that was the only place where he could call someone regardless of where they were located in the Fifth Mainland.

On the White Dragon Clan's Junior Progenitor Planet, Lu Yin's consciousness returned to his own body. He rolled his shoulders to stretch his muscles as he looked around. Then, his expression changed a bit.

The mountain of star essence that he had previously gathered had completely vanished. Even if he had not voluntarily ended his Possession, it still would have ended as the star essence had already been used up.

That was ridiculous! How much time had he spent? He had only Possessed San Liang for around a minute, which had meant that Lu Yin had only been able to review a few bits and pieces of the man's memories and leave behind Wang Wen's contact information. And yet, that brief amount of time had consumed a vast amount of star essence. If he wanted to continue a long distance Possession for an extended amount of time, it would cost him billions of star essence if not more. There was not enough even on the entire Junior Progenitor Planet to attempt such a thing.

At this moment, star energy swept through the area. "Long Qi, Elder Long Kui wishes to see you."

Lu Yin heard the middle-aged man's voice, and it was quickly followed by, "Hey! Where did all the star essence go?"

Lu Yin pursed his lips and leaped out of the dark magma. He merely glanced at the shocked man who was standing some distance away before continuing on towards the statue of Long Tian.

Soon, Lu Yin was behind Long Kui on Gui's back, and they were flying towards the Middle Ocean. As for the middle-aged man, he had gone to report to the powerhouse guarding the Junior Progenitor Planet. Yi He was a super expert who had survived six tribulations, and he was an expert that the Fifth Mainland would evaluate as having a power level of over a million.

"All of the star essence that he took is gone?" Elder Yi He was surprised.

The observer had an ugly face. "Yes, it's all gone."

Elder Yi He just laughed. "It looks like that child found some way to eliminate the trackers. Just forget about it and don't worry about him."

As far as such powerhouses were concerned, star essence was nothing more than resources for low-level cultivators to use, and it was of absolutely no value. In contrast, the observer treated the star essence as an incredible amount of wealth. If he had been able to access such excessive funds, he would have long since become an Envoy.

The middle-aged man was quite unhappy with the situation. He was not reluctant, but rather jealous. Still, since Long Qi was a member of the White Dragon Clan, he had probably never lacked for star essence. The man could only sigh and return to his own training as he waited for his chosen Junior Progenitor to return.

Chapter 1450: Qing Chen Mountain

As for Lu Yin, he desperately wished to make off with all of the star essence on the Junior Progenitor Planet, but he knew that that was impossible, at least for the moment. He could not afford to incite any trouble over star essence. Also, it did not really matter. As long as Long Tian and the other Junior Progenitors remained trapped in the Dominion Realm, their Junior Progenitor Planets would not disappear. There would eventually be an opportunity for him to take it all, so Lu Yin had to walk away for the time being.

They passed over Hope Restaurant and the Island of Hope, arriving above the Middle Ocean in a blink of an eye.

"How did you get separated from the princess?" Long Kui asked. Lu Yin had already heard this same question repeatedly.

When he spoke of Long Xi, Lu Yin acted sad, though he also made sure to insert a hint of anxiety. "It was because there were just too many of those withered creatures. Not only did they not die when attacked, but they also became even more powerful with each of our attacks. All of us were struck and scattered."

Long Kui frowned. This was the same story that the White Dragon Clan had already heard. During the two months that it had taken the Junior Progenitor Planets to return, in addition to rescuing Long Tian, the clan had also spent their efforts on tracking down Long Xi. However, the Dominion Realm was no ordinary place. A Semi-Progenitor had searched around while being more cautious than anyone else, but still, nothing had been found.

Lu Yin saw what Long Kui wanted to ask, so he quickly spoke up. "Elder, what will the clan do to me?"

He showed a very nervous expression that was full of hesitation and confusion towards his future.

Upon seeing the youth's expression, Long Kui lost all interest in pursuing his questioning. Out of everyone, Long Qi was the last one who wanted something to befall Long Xi. If anything happened to Long Xi, then Long Qi would have absolutely no leeway at all within the White Dragon Clan. Beyond that, it would also be much easier for anyone with a grudge to move against Lu Yin.

The White Dragon Clan had never doubted Long Qi. No matter how anyone viewed the situation, Lu Yin was the last person who wanted something bad to happen to Long Xi. Lu Yin was even less of a subject than Long Tian.

"Don't worry. Nothing has been confirmed regarding the princess, which is good news. It's possible that the princess will return soon," Long Kui said. He had a much better attitude towards Long Qi than before, though that might have only been out of pity. After all, Long Kui was well aware that the general White Dragon Clan did not have a positive attitude towards Long Qi. The life that awaited him at Dragon Mountain was not a good one.

Lu Yin sighed and stared off into the distance. "She can't have suffered any accidents!"

Before long, the void tore open in front of the duo, looking like a fissure in the sky.

Gui quickly stopped and warily observed the crack.

Long Kui maintained a dignified expression, as there was an Envoy blocking their path.

Two people, a man and a woman, emerged and calmly stared at Long Kui.

When Long Kui saw who was approaching them, his expression grew ugly. "So it's Mr. Liu Ye and Sister Fei Hua. Might the two of you tell me why you are stopping us?"

Lu Yin observed the man and a woman in front of him with curiosity. The man was Mr. Liu Ye, whom Lu Yin had met in Hope Restaurant earlier. The woman had an average face, but an amazing figure. Her

face left people feeling rather uncomfortable, as her cheekbones were rather high, and she also had thin lips, which gave her a mean appearance.

These two worked as the Liu Ye Fei Hua Duo, and they were quite famous in the Perennial World. Even Long Kui felt rather intimidated, as he did not even need to guess to know why these two had appeared: Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo.

Mr. Liu Ye stepped forward with a gentle smile on his face as he spoke. "Senior, these juniors were waiting for you here, and I sincerely hope that senior understands. There is a certain question that I would like to ask little brother Long Qi."

Long Kui frowned. "Mr. Liu Ye, I respect you and your contributions to Humility's Gate, as you once greatly helped with the arrest of a Redback, greatly contributing to humanity. I'm not offended that you've stopped me, but I'm afraid that I've already told you that Long Qi only received some resources from Semi-Progenitor Kui, not an actual inheritance. You believed this when speaking with us in Hope Restaurant, but you and Sister Fei Hua are now blocking our path. Isn't this simply slapping yourself in the face? Could it be that your previous words in Hope Restaurant no longer matter?"

Mr. Liu Ye did not respond, and instead, Sister Fei Hua stepped out from behind him and moved forward. "Senior Long Kui, I'm the one who's pressing for the matter at this time, as I don't believe this kid's bullshit."

Long Kui frowned. The woman was very rude.

Mr. Liu Ye spoke slowly. "Fei Hua, watch your words."

Sister Fei Hua snorted and turned to stare at Lu Yin. "Boy, don't be afraid of acting like a man. Although Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo was someone who was hated by almost everyone, he never hid his matters and was bold to act. Since you've received his inheritance, you shouldn't embarrass him."

Lu Yin was left speechless. How had Semi-Progenitor Kui Luo been merely bold to act? That had been his entire intention! If he had not acted in such a manner, then how would he have been able to carry out his insane hobby? "Senior, this junior really did only find some resources. For example, if you lost your wallet while out walking and I picked it up, would I then inherit all your martial techniques? All I picked up from his scattered inheritance was just a pittance."

Sister Fei Hua stared at Lu Yin. "I don't believe you."

Lu Yin opened his mouth, but he had nothing to say.

Long Kui roared, "Sister Fei Hua, if Long Qi says that he has no information, then he doesn't know! If anyone asks him, even the Supervisor of the Nine Gates or the master of the four ruling powers, he still would not somehow gain knowledge that he does not have! Now get out of our way, or else my White Dragon Clan will take this as you moving against us."

Sister Fei Hua gritted her teeth and glared at Lu Yin. "That matter ate at my master's heart! Even if my master is gone, I will get an answer for him! Boy, where did you get your inheritance?"

Lu Yin's heart skipped a beat. He was worried that people would poke into his story, and the more he was investigated, the more holes that would appear. "Senior, this junior really doesn't know anything. Your questions are useless, and an interrogation would give you even less."

As soon as Lu Yin spoke, Long Kui became enraged. These people still wanted to question Long Qi?

Gui let out a tremendous roar, and Long Kui's spear appeared in his hand, pointing straight at the two people blocking his path. "Are you trying to antagonize my White Dragon Clan?"

Mr. Liu Ye quickly stepped forward to stand in front of Sister Fei Hua. He apologized to Long Kui. "Senior, we juniors have been rude, but this matter ate at our master, and he eventually died because of this matter, making us lose our composure. Please forgive us, Senior."

After speaking, Liu Ye looked over at Lu Yin with a heavy gaze. "Little brother, it seems that you really are ignorant of this matter. We have offended you."

After speaking Liu Ye stretched out a hand and threw a fully bloomed flower towards Lu Yin.

Long Kui was caught off guard, and so he did not move to stop the flower.

Lu Yin grabbed the flower, curious as to what it was.

"This is a power vessel that belongs to the two of us, and it's something we have used together for a long time. It is a gift for Little Brother for the insult that you have suffered today."

Sister Fei Hua was still unwilling to retreat, but she no longer blocked the path forward.

Long Kui replied in a low voice, "Thank you."

With that, he pushed hard, and they quickly left.

Sister Fei Hua gritted her teeth, and after seeing Long Kui's massive mount disappear, she finally spoke up. "Why did we let them go? That kid probably won't be allowed out after he arrives at Dragon Mountain, and we won't be able to question him no matter what."

Mr. Liu Ye replied, "That's why I gave him our power vessel. If he never comes out, then he's not the one who knows. However, if he does appear, then I'll instantly know his location. You saw how things are right now. Even if he does know, he will never say anything. Such knowledge would cause countless people in this universe to make trouble for him. That's why Long Kui will never allow the child to admit to anything, even if it means completely falling out with us."

"Then we should just fight! Are we still afraid to go up against Long Kui? It wouldn't be a big deal for us to become full members of Humility's Gate," Sister Fei Hua countered.

Mr. Liu Ye shook his head. "There's no need to destroy our relationship with the White Dragon Clan. We just need to wait for a bit. As long as that kid leaves Dragon Mountain, we'll have our chance."

Some distance away, Lu Yin was curiously studying the power vessel. It was powerful, and it definitely could not compare to a common power vessel. Lu Yin could feel a hidden power inside it.

"That's the Flying Blossom Willow Leaf Duo's power vessel.¹ That married couple made it together, and even throughout the entire Perennial World, it would still be considered a powerful defensive item. They rarely give those away, so you've actually profited pretty well from this," Long Kui commented.

Lu Yin felt curious. "What exactly are they trying to ask me about?"

Long Kui's eyes flickered, and he turned to look at Lu Yin. "Do you really want to know?"

Lu Yin blinked. "Nope."

"Then don't even ask. Just don't ask about anyone's questions that they want to ask you," Long Kui's tone turned sour.

Lu Yin asked, "Are we heading to the Higher Realm now?"

Long Kui did not respond.

The elder's attitude had changed yet again. Old man, I'll settle things with you sooner or later.

Lu Yin stared out at the Middle Ocean. Why had no fish nibbled at the bait that he had put out? If he really did go to Dragon Mountain, it would be very difficult for him to ever leave. Had his bait not been good enough?

Lu Yin grew more and more anxious when he saw that they were about to leave the Middle Ocean.

On one particular day, Long Kui's communication crystal trembled. Lu Yin looked over, but he did not know who the elder was speaking to. However, Lu Yin did hear a vague mention of Qing Chen Mountain, which thrilled him, as it meant that his plan had worked.

Long Kui lowered his communication crystal and spent a moment in silent contemplation. After that, he patted Gui's back, and the beast turned around and headed towards another part of the Middle Realm.

Lu Yin grew curious. "Why'd you change direction?"

This time, Long Kui replied, "We're heading to Qing Chen Mountain."

Lu Yin felt a bit lost.

Long Kui explained, "Qing Chen Mountain is where Senior Qing Chen, the Supervisor of the Middle Realm's nine Humility's Gate, lives. Senior Qing Chen has asked you to assist with an investigation related to some matters from the Guan brothers' arrest."

Lu Yin felt perplexed. "Weren't Guan Tong and Guan Hai taken away by Senior Qing Chen? What else could they want me to do?"

Long Kui shook his head. "This is Humility's Gate's affair, so I don't know. Think about what you know, and help Senior Qing Chen deal with this matter as quickly as possible. I will wait for you outside of Qing Chen Mountain."

"Oh," Lu Yin replied as a smile appeared on his face. Wait for me? Don't wait. You'll have to wait for the rest of your life!

There was absolutely no way that Lu Yin would ever go to Dragon Mountain.

Even though Lu Yin did want to visit the Higher Realm and investigate what had happened to the Lu family in the past, he did not have the ability to do so. If he traveled to the Higher Realm, he would just be imprisoned within the White Dragon Clan.

After twelve days passed, Lu Yin saw Qing Chen Mountain appear off in the distance.

Qing Chen lived on Qing Chen Mountain. The mountain not only housed numerous powerhouses from Humility's Gate, but it was also home to Qing Chen's disciples.

One such disciple led Lu Yin up the mountain. As for Long Kui, he really was left outside Qing Chen Mountain, unable to proceed any further.

Long Kui would avoid getting involved with certain matters when it came to Humility's Gate. He understood his position.

At the top of Qing Chen Mountain, Lu Yin saw Qing Chen, the nine gates' supervisor. Lu Yin quickly stepped forward and offered a bow. "The Fourteenth Gate's Long Qi greets the Supervisor."

Qing Chen nodded with satisfaction. He was the one who had sent Lu Yin to the Fourteenth Gate. Qing Chen did not care about the four ruling powers' internal conflicts, and neither did he care about the hidden intelligence provider behind Long Qi. Instead, Qing Chen only cared about one thing: Long Qi was able to find traitors and Redbacks for Humility's Gate, and that was enough.

"Long Qi, it's good that you were able to return safely. I heard that the Dominion Realm is very dangerous, and that there were trespassers involved this time," Qing Chen softly greeted Lu Yin.

Lu Yin respectfully replied, "Yes, those trespassers from the Forsaken Land were too cunning, and not even the Junior Progenitors managed to discover them."

Qing Chen sighed. "There have also been trespassers in the past. Forget it, I don't want to talk about this anymore. Do you know why you were brought here?"

Lu Yin shook his head.