

ODYSSEY 1511

Chapter 1511: Choice

Lu Yin's eyes flashed; what Shaman God had just said was all too true. How could an ordinary human ever reach the level of strength that Lu Yin possessed? Among the various powerhouses who had accompanied the Junior Progenitor to the Dominion Realm, had there been even one who had not come from an influential family or organization? Even if someone had not come from an influential background, at the very least, they had to have encountered some sort of unbelievable opportunity.

But what about Lu Yin? His level of talent far surpassed that of any of the four Junior Progenitors, which was practically impossible for a nobody. On top of that, Lu Yin had the "Lu" surname. If his true name was ever revealed, the four ruling powers would never believe that Lu Yin was not a part of the Lu family.

"It actually doesn't matter whether or not you are truly from the Lu family. More importantly, once the four ruling powers announce that you are, the entire universe will take their word for it," Shaman God continued. The doll leaned closer once again until its face was almost touching Lu Yin's. The doll continued, saying, "And even more importantly, we all watched everything when you fought against Leader Hong back then. Tsk tsk, summoning the Giant Emperor with the Champions' Stage? Truly remarkable!"

Lu Yin's expression instantly turned grim. "That's impossible. No one saw that battle."

Shaman God's doll cackled. "The Perennial World has its Redbacks, so what makes you think that the Fifth Mainland doesn't as well?"

Lu Yin's heart fell. He had indeed failed to take such a thing into account. The Fifth Mainland most likely suffered from both the Neohuman Alliance and Redbacks. For example, there had been Zi Rong, who had cultivated the corpse king's transformation technique long ago.

"The heir of the Lu family appearing in the Perennial World? Kakakaka! The four ruling powers are sure to erupt with rage when they learn of this! The Higher Realm and Middle Realm will both start boiling as well. The most intense battle in history will explode between the Lu family's former retainers and the four ruling powers' supporters. Just the thought of it gets me all excited! Brat, keep on living. You actually have to stay alive, because you're the only catalyst that can trigger all of this chaos." Shaman God's doll burst out laughing.

Lu Yin scoffed. "Even if my identity is revealed, I won't become the four ruling powers' enemy."

"Really? Judging by what you did back in the Fifth Mainland, you're clearly not a big-hearted person. But even if you're willing to, do you really think that the four ruling powers will let you off? Will their supporters leave you alone? Above all, will the one behind the scheme of the Lu family's exile forgive you?" Shaman God shot out three questions at Lu Yin in one go, leaving the youth with nothing to say in reply.

If Lu Yin's identity was exposed, there was no question that he would become the greatest enemy of the entire Perennial World, and he would definitely be blacklisted as a peerless villain. The four ruling powers were guaranteed to do at least that much. Regardless, Lu Yin would not abandon his goal of

avenging his Lu family, which meant that he would ultimately take on the roles of the four ruling powers' enemy.

Lu Yin stared at Shaman God's doll. "You plan to have me become the trigger to a war between the Perennial World and the Fifth Mainland and pave a path for you."

"That's right! This plan sounds amazing, doesn't it? Kaka," Shaman God replied, sounding quite proud.

Lu Yin scoffed, "Stop dreaming! I'll never help you guys."

"Of course not! You'll only ever be acting in self-defense, and that's all there is to it. Unless you die, the four ruling powers will never let you or the Fifth Mainland go. Well, brat, you can always opt for suicide!" Shaman God mocked.

Lu Yin's eyes grew cold. This plot was completely exposed and transparent, which also made it the most difficult kind of trap to deal with. Even though he, the target, knew his enemy's schemes quite clearly, he had no choice but to follow along.

Since ancient times, humanity's greatest enemy had always been Aeternus. During the entire time, humanity had always been on the losing side against Aeternus, and the primary reason for that was that Aeternus thoroughly understood humanity. There was no way Lu Yin would sacrifice himself, and neither would the four ruling powers ever be willing to show him mercy. The hatred between the two stemmed from the fact that the two were on opposing sides, and their hatred would only grow larger and deeper.

The moment that Shaman God had discovered that Lu Yin had appeared in the Perennial World, he had already planned everything out.

"To be honest, back then, I didn't want to kill you when ZENITH ended, and I only wanted to bring you over here to the Perennial World. Unfortunately, my plans were ruined by that old Highsage Grandmaster. And yet, you came here anyways, and you've even created a name for yourself here that echoes throughout the entire Perennial World. I would say that my plan is proceeding quite smoothly, kaka." Shaman God's doll laughed without restraint.

Lu Yin quietly asked, "What happened to the Lu family?"

The doll suddenly stopped laughing, and it looked at Lu Yin with a somber expression. "Why should I tell you?"

Lu Yin ridiculed the doll in turn. "Even if you're only using me as a pawn, you should still throw me some scraps now and again."

Shaman God considered the matter for a bit before answering, "I can tell you, and on top of that, I'll even swear on my title as one of the Seven Skygods that the Lu family is most likely still alive."

A flicker of excitement lit in Lu Yin's eyes, and his heartbeat started to pick up.

"The Lu family was banished towards Aeternus. Still, the four ruling powers aren't a bunch of fools, and they never actually planned on destroying the Lu family from the very beginning, though neither were they capable of doing so. Instead, their goal was to have the Lu family fight Aeternus to their dying breath, essentially using the family's lives to light a torch and ignite the final flames of a war. However,

the members of the Lu family weren't dumb enough to simply submit to what fate had delivered to them. Instead, they hid themselves in other dimensions, which made it very difficult for even us Aeternus to find them. As of this day, no one knows just which dimensions the Lu family is hiding in," Shaman God explained.

"Parallel universes?" Lu Yin asked eagerly.

The doll replied, "Correct. It's just that there are far too many parallel universes in existence, and even we would struggle to track them all down. They could have even died after running into a much stronger civilization, or they could still be alive and well. Who knows?"

Lu Yin grunted. His first thought at this revelation was of Jiang Chen, who Lu Yin had met on Earth. In order to find a lightning rabbit, the man had been searching through multiple parallel universes. He somehow seemed to be able to easily travel between such universes, and also conduct searches in the ones that he visited. Lu Yin had no idea how Jiang Chen was able to do that.

"Whether or not the Lu family still lives is just your business. Maybe after you defeat the four ruling powers in the future, you'll also be able to find your family, kaka. Brat, the Lu family also has high hopes for you, which can be seen by how they willingly accepted their exile. They've placed all of their hopes on you, and I'm eager to see if you're willing to bear the burden of humanity's might by sacrificing yourself or if you'll choose to pave the way for my Aeternus by challenging the four ruling powers in order to bring the Lu family back to their rightful place. The final choice rests with you." Shaman God posed a terrible question.

Lu Yin stared at Shaman God's doll and continued to try ruffling the Skygod's feathers. "You monsters have no intelligence or emotions, which must be why you all love to test the limits of human emotions, right? How pathetic. You guys will never be able to comprehend familial connections and love. After all, the more you try to test humanity, the more it just proves your own failings. You really are all just monstrous brutes."

Shaman God's doll screeched with its strange laugh. "And so what, brat? I'm still waiting for your decision. If you don't want to die, then go repair the sourcebox array at the second forward basecamp within two days. That sourcebox array was completely destroyed when a large portion of the second forward basecamp fell down. I'll even help you with it."

After speaking, the doll raised a hand and pointed in a very specific direction. "Run that way, and you'll meet someone who'll help you.

"Until next time, brat! I look forward to seeing your growth, kakakaka." Shaman God's voice slowly faded into the distance.

Lu Yin's surroundings returned to normal, and he soon heard Che Zhan's voice right next to his ear. "Brother Long Qi, what about what I just asked you?"

Lu Yin was confused, and he asked in a daze, "What was the question?"

Che Zhan rolled his eyes. "Princess Long Xi! Aren't you the son-in-law of the White Dragon Clan's main family? I've heard that Princess Long Xi is the most radiant pearl of all of the four ruling powers. So how is she? Is she really as gorgeous as the rumors claim?"

Lu Yin replied with a slightly forced smile, "She's not bad."

"Alright, Che Zhan. Let Brother Long Qi rest and don't disturb him anymore," Brother Hong chided the swordsman.

Lu Yin looked away as Long Xi's face appeared in his head, followed by Ming Yan, Wendy Yushan, Zhuo Daynight, and Madam Nalan. The list also continued past them. Ku Wei, Yan Yan, and Cai Jianqiang. The faces of everyone who was familiar and dear to Lu Yin flashed through his mind one by one. He thought of the Fifth Mainland, the Outerverse, and the tiny planet that had always put him at ease: Earth.

The universe was such an exciting and vibrant place, so how could he willingly throw his life away? There was no way he could do that.

Even if he stood up against the four ruling powers, he would not die! Instead, he would bring the Lu family back to where they belonged, and he would also destroy Shaman God's plans. However, there was still so much he needed to do.

No matter how impossible a task ruining Shaman God's schemes might appear to be, Wang Wen and Wei Rong could be trusted to put up a challenge. In particular, Wei Rong excelled at all sorts of nefarious plots and machinations. There had to be some way to disrupt the Skygod's scheme.

At this moment, Lu Yin's question was no longer about whether he would return, but rather how he would be able to return with everyone who was currently with him.

Still, it would not do to underestimate the corpse kings' intelligence. The driving reason behind the four Junior Progenitors being trapped was Long Xian. Even if Lu Yin had not snatched the tribulation crystal thread back then, the monsters would have still found some way of ruining the man and forcing him into leaking that map of the Dominion Realm. That plan had been long in the works. With that thought, Lu Yin grew curious as to what had become of Long Xian. If he was still alive, then there was no doubt that he had already become a traitor.

Long Xian would not have had any other choice. Other than that man, it was impossible to know just how many others had been coerced by the monsters through various despicable methods, forced to tread paths that would have never been traveled otherwise. Lu Yin had just become one of those desperate people.

Humanity would undoubtedly meet a terrible end if they underestimated the intelligence of these monsters. They had lived for far too long, and they were extremely skilled in setting calculating and complex traps.

Lu Yin felt his head ache. He was not afraid of running into an enemy whose strength was beyond his ability to fathom, but he did fear intelligent enemies, especially ones who had lived for countless years.

After two days, another corpse king with the strength of an Envoy arrived to welcome death. From Lu Yin's new perspective, all of these corpse kings had actually been sent to die to him, as he had realized that Shaman God was actually helping him gather achievements on the battlefield. Not only did Shaman God need to ensure that Lu Yin lived and returned to the Perennial World, but Lu Yin's status also had to climb, as that was the best way for him to receive the attention of the four ruling powers. In essence,

Shaman God's plan was for a single result, which was that the moment Lu Yin returned to the Fifth Mainland, all four of the ruling powers would also make their way to the Fifth Mainland due to their wariness of Lu Yin's true identity. If that happened, Shaman God's plan would be a success.

Given his knowledge of Shaman God's plans, Lu Yin believed himself to be the most secure person on the entire battlefield. The monsters actually wanted him to survive far more than Xia Yan or any of the humans did.

"This is already the fourth Envoy level corpse king! Brother Long Qi, you've completely shattered everything I've ever known about cultivation," said a dumbstruck Che Zhan.

Even though the corpse king had been sent to die, that did not mean that it had been weak by any means. Lu Yin had still been struck hard enough where the vibrations from each impact had caused him to cough up blood, though such injuries recovered almost immediately.

After hearing Che Zhan's words, Lu Yin also felt like he had actually gone overboard. Throughout all history, how many cultivators had been capable of defeating multiple corpse kings at the Envoy level while being nothing more than an Enlightener who had completed thirty two cycles themselves?

Both Progenitor Chen and the Rune Progenitor had likely been capable of doing so, but no one inferior to Progenitors in their younger years would have been capable of such a feat. Lu Yin was very confident about that guess, since he also understood his strength after opening all three of his meridian points.

"I remember that, when the second forward basecamp began to fall, the defensive sourcebox array there seemed to fall down along with us," Lu Yin suddenly commented, and his words roused the attention of everyone in the underground space.

Mr. Guo tried to clarify Lu Yin's intentions. "What are you trying to say?"

Lu Yin seriously replied, "If that sourcebox array is repaired, then would there be a possibility for us to use its power to escape from this place? There's an army here in the New World, right? Since that army is capable of staying here and defending an outpost, they're clearly quite capable. If we work with them, we just might be able to get back up to the second forward basecamp."

People's eyes lit up with hope. All of them had already abandoned all thoughts of survival, and they had almost completely embraced their fated deaths. However, who would be truly willing to die? If there was even the slightest chance of survival, any of them would seize it in a heartbeat.

However, Mr. Guo's next words instantly returned everyone to the hell that was reality. "That's no use. The sourcebox array that protected the second forward basecamp is called Red Beam. It's very powerful and can defend against the attacks of powerhouses who have survived five and even six stellar tribulations. However, it was destroyed when the assault on the basecamp first started, and only a Lockbreaker who's surpassed the Senior Array Master level like Master Song could possibly repair it.

"Even the second array base's Master Zan wouldn't be able to repair this sourcebox array. Leaving aside the fact that there we don't even have a Senior Array Master, let alone a Realm Array Master, but even if we did, that person would still need a lot of time to comprehend the Red Beam before they could repair it. We'll never be able to endure for the time required to do that."

Everyone's eyes dulled.

Chapter 1512: The Hope of Humanity

Lu Yin solemnly replied, “Regardless of whether it works or not, I still have to at least try. Before this, I managed to fix the second array base’s defensive sourcebox array when everyone believed it to be impossible, including Master Zan and even Master Deng Guo. Despite that, I still succeeded. I want to give this array a try as well. It was already fixed once during that last battle that took place at the second forward basecamp.”

“You’re an Array Master?” Mr. Guo was completely shocked, and even Zhou Tang and the others had not expected Lu Yin to say this. He had already demonstrated a combat prowess that defied all common sense, so who could have imagined that he was also an Array Master on top of everything else?

“Oh, right. Your movements during your fight with that last corpse king were based off of a sourcebox array, weren’t they?” Che Zhen, who stood nearest to Lu Yin, exclaimed in understanding.

Lu Yin just nodded.

“Can we really get back alive?” someone asked, suddenly overflowing with hope. No one wished to die, and the mere prospect was painful to consider despite how all of Lu Yin’s comrades had been forced to face such prospects head on.

His eyes resolute, Lu Yin was the one to answer. “I don’t know, but we have to at least try.”

Mr. Guo voiced his hesitation. “Master Song and his disciples were able to successfully repair the sourcebox array before that portion of the second forward basecamp was abandoned, but it all broke down again. Given the state of the second forward basecamp’s remnants after it fell down here, the sourcebox array is likely even more damaged than before, and there’s also a possibility that some of the sourceboxes are completely missing.”

“I still have to try,” Lu Yin said decisively.

“That’s right! Brother Long Qi, give it a try.”

“Brother Long Qi, we’re counting on you! It’s at least better than waiting here to die.”

“Brother Long Qi, if we really do make it back alive, I’ll spend the rest of my life repaying you for this peerless favor.”

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“Long Qi, you go do whatever you need to. Leave this place to us,” Brother Hong spoke up as he glanced over at Mr. Guo and the others.

Mr. Guo nodded. “Give it a try.”

Che Zhan laughed. “Why didn’t you consider this possibility earlier, Brother Long Qi? Go, the sourcebox array isn’t far.”

Lu Yin pulled out the knife that he had taken from Xia Shenfei as well as his universal armor before throwing both items over to Che Zhan, who caught them with surprise on his face.

“Don’t die before I get back,” Lu Yin ordered. With that said, he immediately turned and left.

Che Zhan held the two items that he had just been given in a daze. He looked rather confused. These two things were practically invaluable, and more importantly, they represented life in the New World.

Che Zhan looked over at Zhou Tang.

A smile crept across Zhou Tang's lips. "Do as he says."

Mr. Guo could not help himself from singing Lu Yin's praises. "That boy has got spirit, righteousness, plots, but most importantly, a burning determination that never dies. If he survives this adversity, he's sure to take the universe by storm in the future. If I manage to return alive, I have to witness the day his power allows him to rule over the universe."

Even though no one else verbally expressed their thoughts, the glint in their eyes was enough. Their feelings were all on the same wavelength. Lu Yin's actions had impressed them far too much, and it had reached the point where they struggled to put words to their emotions. Additionally, all of them had entrusted their lives to Lu Yin, so the favor and gratitude that they felt towards him was overpowering.

In contrast, Lu Yin felt quite relaxed as he made his way towards the sourcebox array. The New World had become somewhat like his backyard garden. With Shaman God protecting him, who would dare to lay a hand on him?

As he scanned his surroundings, Lu Yin confirmed which direction he needed to take. He could sense the danger field of a sourcebox, which made him certain that the sourcebox array lay in that direction. Was it the defensive sourcebox array? Yet another new sourcebox array, though who knew just how much Shaman God had helped in its repairs.

The defensive sourcebox array emitted a red light that consumed everything with its power. Once the sourcebox array was activated, earth, sky, and even the void would be enveloped by red beams, and anyone who made contact with them would instantly die. For the monsters, the red beams were fiercely hated, as countless corpse kings had died to this sourcebox array. If possible, Shaman God definitely did not want this array to be fixed, but if that did not happen, then how could Lu Yin and the others join the human army stationed in the New World?

Without working together with that army, how could Lu Yin's group escape? The sourcebox array was their only hope.

Lu Yin observed his surroundings as he carefully approached the danger zone. What he found was not a sourcebox array that had been broken and shattered, but rather a deactivated array. Shaman God had actually left Lu Yin with a fully repaired sourcebox array.

Although the array had already been fixed, it would still take Lu Yin some time to activate it and learn how to smoothly operate it. Understanding such things took time, so this was where his die would come into play. All Lu Yin had to do was remember the structure of the sourcebox array's danger fields before entering the Timestop Space and continuing his research.

A great distance away, Marquis Green Bamboo was observing Lu Yin as the youth investigated the sourcebox array. The marquis's scarlet eyes that were touched with a green hue showed his clear distaste for this entire matter. To think that a human was allowed to run about so freely in the New World to the extent where he was even given as much time as needed to comprehend a sourcebox

array. On top of all of that, the youth was trying to comprehend a sourcebox array that had been specifically designed to deal with corpse kings. Marquis Green Bamboo was completely disgusted by what he was forced to witness and allow.

To make things worse, that sourcebox array had actually been repaired by one of the Seven Skygods himself! No one would ever believe such a thing if word of it ever leaked. Even the marquis himself could not help but think that if someone ever tried to accuse Long Qi because of this matter of cooperation, there would not be a single person in the entire Perennial World who would believe it!

The marquis grew more and more upset, and his finger twitched as he sent out another corpse king with the strength of an Envoy to attack Lu Yin's companions that had been left back in the underground space.

At this moment, Che Zhan was the person on guard against the corpse kings.

Lu Yin looked up and back in the direction that he had come from; were the battles resuming back at the underground crevice? The monsters really had no intention of allowing him to rest for even a moment. If he did not move quickly, then Che Zhan and the others would face terrible danger. After all, Shaman God was completely unconcerned with the fates of the other humans. Still, Lu Yin had left them with his universal armor and the dagger, so they should be able to endure for some time given their strength.

Lu Yin continued to stare at the sourcebox array for several days without stopping even once. With that time, he managed to memorize the arrangement of the sourceboxes' danger fields. It was very complicated, but fortunately, he had already comprehended several other sourcebox arrays along with the defensive sourcebox array up at the second array base, all of which helped him with his current efforts. Without his previous experiences, Lu Yin would have been completely lost.

He settled down on the ground in a cross-legged position as the void twisted around him. With a raised hand, the Champions' Stage appeared. Right after that, Lu Yin's die appeared within the Champions' Stage. With the Champions' Stage blocking all lines of sight, not even Shaman God would be able to see Lu Yin's die. Also, even if Shaman God was not currently watching Lu Yin, it was not bad to be a bit more cautious.

Even though Shaman God was not actively observing Lu Yin, Marquis Green Bamboo had not once looked away.

Upon seeing Lu Yin manifest the Champions' Stage, Marquis Green Bamboo felt shocked; so this kid was someone from the Lu family? The marquis's mind raced, and he quickly understood Shaman God's current plot. So that was how things were. The boy was from the Lu family. In that case, it was no wonder why Shaman God had said that this person could incite chaos throughout the entire Perennial World. How could the four ruling powers possibly sit back and do nothing when a direct descendant of the Lu family reappeared? How could the Lu family's former retainers be willing to abandon their struggle?

Marquis Green Bamboo gasped. "Who would've thought that a member of the Lu family still lived. Every single person from the Lu family presents a threat, but with this single direct descendant who just happens to have an even more impressive natural talent, he really is the perfect pawn for stirring up matters within the Perennial World."

As the marquis was contemplating everything that he had just realized, he never noticed the die hidden by the Champions' Stage.

Lu Yin stretched out a finger and tapped the die, making it spin in the air. One pip: Pilfer. Lu Yin's lips pursed when he saw that nothing at all appeared, but he quickly restored the die and rolled it again.

His second roll was a success, as it landed on four pips: Timestop.

The scenery changed before Lu Yin's eyes, and he entered a gray and white space where he formally began his research on the sourcebox array.

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Some time later, the scenery changed yet again, and Lu Yin reappeared in the New World. In the outside world, only a moment had passed, so Marquis Green Bamboo had not noticed anything at all.

For Semi-Progenitors, a second was a very long time, but if they were not paying particular attention, it could also be a negligible amount of time. The marquis had been considering Lu Yin's identity and the future chaos that would erupt in the Perennial World. Thus, he had not noticed anything about Lu Yin changing within that second.

Still, Lu Yin would not be particularly concerned even if someone did notice. While his innate gift was incredible if he explained it to someone, it was practically impossible for anyone to understand the truth from simple visual observation. Lu Yin had even entered the Timestop Space during his last battle on Earth to recover from his injuries. Mira had actually seen what had happened, but had merely assumed that Lu Yin possessed some kind of healing-related innate gift.

The gap between Lu Yin's strength and Mira's back then was quite similar to the gap in strength between Lu Yin and Marquis Green Bamboo at the present time. In both cases, an insurmountable difference of strength separated the two.

Elsewhere, Che Zhan was struggling to fight off the corpse king. The swordsman was no match for the monster, and if not for the universal armor's impressive defenses, the Envoy would have long since died. Halfway through the battle, Brother Hong replaced Che Zhan, and then Matriarch of the Eastern Mountain took a turn, followed by Mr. Guo. Each of them took turns fighting against the corpse king. In the end, they managed to hold out for several days under a terrible struggle, lasting until Lu Yin's return.

The moment that Lu Yin appeared, in a huge surprise, the corpse king fled, which caused Che Zhan and the others to stare in stupefaction.

"Even monsters can be scared?" someone asked in shock. Everyone turned to look at Lu Yin oddly. Truly, this youth was continuously shattering everything that they had known to be true in the past.

"Long Qi, how are things with the sourcebox array?" Brother Hong asked.

Everyone nervously stared at Lu Yin. They struggled to even breathe, as what they were waiting to hear would determine their lives or deaths.

Lu Yin took a deep breath and then smiled. "It worked."

Every single person present was stunned, and some were actually unable to believe Lu Yin's response. The silence stretched out.

Zhou Tang stared at Lu Yin in utter shock before finally exclaiming, "You managed to fix that sourcebox in just a few days?"

Lu Yin explained, "It wasn't me. Thanks to the efforts put in by Master Song and the others, the sourcebox array was already repaired, and it was actually barely damaged. They were only forced to abandon the sourcebox array because a massive portion of the second forward basecamp fell down here, but fortunately, the fall and the impact didn't damage it much further. I was lucky enough to figure out how to make the minor repairs that were necessary without much trouble. I was really lucky."

Everyone let out sighs of relief. Lu Yin's explanation made sense. After processing this news, everyone started to get excited, as they had just received a new lease on life. Their eyes were filled with gratitude and respect as they stared at Lu Yin.

"Now we can use that sourcebox array as we search for the Ever-Victorious Army," Mr. Guo said, relaxing a bit.

The Ever-Victorious Army was humanity's only army in the New World. Everyone here knew that the army was just a group of cultivators, but they were legends in the Perennial World. There were rumors that claimed that there was a human city in the New World, and that it was an eternal symbol of human hope. This city was known as New City, and the troops stationed there were often referred to as the Ever-Victorious Army. However, in truth those who actually knew the Ever-Victorious Army would only ever consider them by another name: the Forsaken Soldiers. The "army" was nothing but a ragtag group of soldiers who had been left behind.

No one would ever ask to be deployed to the New World of their own volition, as it was essentially a death sentence. The Forsaken Soldiers were no different than the Star Alliance, and all of the soldiers had been sent to the New World as a part of their penal punishment. Very few willingly took such a post, and the vast majority of the soldiers were people who had offended the four ruling powers in some way or another.

"In which direction will we find the Ever-Victorious Army?" Brother Hong asked as he looked over at Mr. Guo.

"Let me think about it," Mr. Guo replied.

Zhou Tang raised a hand and pointed towards the east. "That way."

"How do you know?" Che Zhan asked in confusion.

Zhou Tang looked up, regret evident on his face. "If we Star Alliance members didn't die here, we would have eventually been sent there as well."

Lu Yin's eyes turned cold. "Are the Lu family's former retainers stationed there?"

Zhou Tang met Lu Yin's eyes. "Some of them."

An irrepressible fury ignited within Lu Yin's heart. The Lu family had been exiled by those four groups, and then the family's former retainers had been forced to either join the Star Alliance or the Forsaken

Soldiers, not to mention those that had likely been directly sentenced to death. The four ruling powers were more than vicious, so how could he not ache for revenge against them?

However, no one could see through Lu Yin's calm facade to his raging emotions. He simply said, "Then let's go. We'll look for the Ever-Victorious Army as I can control the sourcebox array."

Everyone grew excited at the prospect of this journey. Dying in battle was much better than sitting around and waiting to die.

Far away, Marquis Green Bamboo remained silent as he watched Lu Yin and the others leave the underground crevice and move towards the sourcebox array. He already knew what would happen soon, so he immediately ordered, "Eliminate those people."

The moment this command was given, the horde of corpse kings surrounding the underground space suddenly charged towards Lu Yin and all of the others.

Lu Yin's face turned grim, and he shouted, "Go! Get inside the array!"

Chapter 1513: Rescue Mission

Before long, right when the horde of corpse kings were about to attack Lu Yin and the others, the humans stepped into Red Beam. As soon as they did so, the void warped, and the sourcebox array came to life, rising to connect the ground to the sky as it started emanating beams of red light in all directions. The moment the beams of red light made contact with the monsters, countless corpse kings were reduced to ashes. With the Red Beam's omnidirectional offense, it soon carved out a space free from the encroaching monsters. The sourcebox array was ten times more efficient at directly killing the corpse kings than the humans.

Lu Yin looked tense as he scanned the horizon. Red Beam was arranged with seven sourceboxes. Lu Yin had Che Zhan, Brother Hong, Matriarch of the Eastern Mountain, and Mr. Guo each take charge of a sourcebox. Then, he gave control of the remaining three to Enlighters who were on the cusp of becoming Envoys.

"From now on, everybody needs to listen to my commands. I'll instruct you guys on how to move around, but you need to keep in mind that the moment you make a single wrong move, the array might attack us as well," Lu Yin warned in a solemn voice.

Che Zhan and the rest all looked stern. "Understood."

"Understood."

"Understood."

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"Let's go. Che Zhan, take the vanguard. Matriarch of the Eastern Mountain, go to the right, twenty steps away from Che Zhan. Ten steps past her—Brother Hong, stay right where you are..." Lu Yin began giving out directions one after one. Everyone attentively listened to his commands, which helped maintain the full power of the Red Beam and wipe out the corpse kings in all directions. This allowed them to slowly make their way forward in the direction that Zhou Tang had indicated.

From a distance, they looked like a giant red sphere slowly moving across the ground, and any corpse king that touched the red light was immediately vaporized. This Red Beam sourcebox array had once protected the second forward basecamp, so such extraordinary power was actually to be expected.

Marquis Green Bamboo gasped in shock; even if the array had been fully repaired by Shaman God, Lu Yin was truly gifted as a peerless Lockbreaker since he had learned how to control and utilize the array within just a few days. His skills were truly jaw-dropping.

Once the various elements of a sourcebox array were set in place, it was difficult to shift it around. If someone wanted to relocate an array, they had to have a thorough understanding of the sourcebox array down to every last detail. Even Master Song had not mastered this array to that level. The truth was that Lu Yin would have been similarly incapable of mastering the sourcebox array if he hadn't retreated into the Timestop Space and dedicated an entire year to thoroughly researching it.

What Lu Yin had pulled off was enough to overwhelm even a Semi-Progenitor like Marquis Green Bamboo.

Nobody asked how far they were from the Forsaken Soldiers, or more likely, nobody dared to ask. There might be a great distance to cover, or they might be quite close. All the survivors needed was a strand of hope to cling onto, a hope that they would never have if they were forced to sit and wait to die in the underground crevice.

As the group walked over within the protection of the powerful attacks of the sourcebox array, the crumbled ruins of the second forward basecamp drifted further and further away while the shadow up above slowly faded from view. They were going off on a journey across the New World.

The unending horde of corpse kings continued to surround them, and there was no end in sight. There were also times when corpse kings with the strength of Envoys would attempt to forcefully break into the sourcebox array to destroy the array. But to counter these attempts, the three Enlighters carrying the sourceboxes had been placed in the center of the array while Che Zhan and the other Envoys were in the outer positions. This allowed the humans to hold out even against corpse kings with the strength of regular Envoys.

Soon, more than half a day had passed. The sky remained the same dusky color, but the sunset red beams of the sourcebox array were a stark contrast, making for a breathtaking and never-before-seen sight in the New World.

The ground began to violently tremble. A hundred meter tall giant corpse king had appeared.

Lu Yin's face twitched a bit when he saw the enormous corpse king. Things were no longer looking so good for them. Those oversized corpse kings were specially made to counter sourcebox arrays. These giant corpse kings could absorb sourceboxes into their bodies, damaging the arrays. This was how the defensive sourcebox arrays at both the second array base and the second forward basecamp had been destroyed. Back then, Zhou Tang had been forced to use his aurelian force to eliminate the giant corpse king attacking the second forward basecamp, and that move had overexerted him and severely injured his body.

Sensing that the situation was quickly growing beyond their means to handle, Lu Yin cursed Shaman God in his heart. If the Skygod really intended for Lu Yin to survive to the end, then why did that doll have to act so seriously and make things so difficult for him?

The beams of the sourcebox array continuously etched away at the massive corpse king while the giant stretched out a hand in an attempt to grab the people inside the array. However, the beams of light severed its fingers this time. This giant corpse king was much weaker than the one that had attacked the second forward basecamp, though its comparative weakness did not stop it from slapping its palm down onto the humans turtled under the array.

Just when Lu Yin was about to unleash his last Void Rip, he felt a fluctuation sweep by the nearby space. The void twisted as though it was being burned, and it started to collapse onto itself. This was a familiar feeling; was it aurelian force?

"Leave that one to me," Zhou Tang said as he stepped forward.

Che Zhan grinned. "Looks like he's recovered."

Zhou Tang stared up at the giant corpse king, waiting for the wounded hand to strike down. At a precise moment, the Envoy lifted his hand and threw a palm attack at the giant corpse king. The attack cleanly sliced off the corpse king's entire arm. Without any hesitation, Zhou Tang leaped forward and shot out of Red Beam. Another Envoy level corpse king suddenly appeared beside the man, but Zhou Tang just grabbed it as he raised his hand.

When fighting against corpse kings, there was almost no one who could be like Zhou Tang, who could crush them with his strength.

The grabbed corpse king growled in fury and unleashed an unknown sonic attack with its snarls. This attack actually managed to distort the void, but Zhou Tang's aurelian force just shattered the void entirely as he sent the Envoy level corpse king flying with a fierce slap. In front of Zhou Tang, the giant corpse king's fist was just about to strike the Envoy. Zhou Tang's eyes went wide in surprise, but he was invincible when he used his aurelian force.

There was an incredible boom as the giant corpse king's punch struck Zhou Tang's body, but Zhou Tang continued to stand tall in the void, towering above his opponent. He was not pushed back even a single step. Then, he raised a hand and slashed it upwards along the corpse king's body. Just as he had done to the corpse king that had attacked the second forward basecamp, this giant corpse king was also sliced in two, instantly dying.

Zhou Tang suddenly coughed, spitting out a mouthful of blood as his drained body fell back into the sourcebox array.

"Take care of him!" Lu Yin yelled in a deep voice. He was finally able to sigh in relief after seeing that the giant corpse king had been taken care of. Unless a corpse king with the strength of a five stellar tribulation Envoy appeared, the corpse kings would not be able to overcome the sourcebox array, which meant that Lu Yin's companions would be able to live. What's more, Shaman God definitely would not allow such powerhouses to make a move against Lu Yin, as if that happened, how could Lu Yin reasonably be expected to survive? Shaman God's entire plan would end up failing if such a thing happened.

Marquis Green Bamboo continued to observe everything from a distance, and he was almost unable to stop himself from making a move. Someone who had managed to cultivate battle force to aurelian force was worthy of the marquis personally taking action. If such a person could be defeated and then transformed into a corpse king, that would truly be perfect.

Sadly, the marquis was not allowed to do anything.

"Brother Hong, move seven steps back and watch out for the incoming sneak attacks from the corpse kings! Che Zhan, stop looking around!" Lu Yin chided.

Che Zhan was startled. He had caught sight of an oddly shaped corpse king, and it had drawn his attention. Even after Lu Yin's scolding, the Envoy still felt a bit anxious about what he had seen.

During the entire time that Red Beam moved forward, Lu Yin was constantly busy eliminating incredibly powerful enemies and repairing the array that was giving hope and life to everyone with him. The fact that Lu Yin had to constantly give orders to adjust the array also conditioned the various powerhouses to execute Lu Yin's orders as though they were edicts from god. In some way, it was as though they were all his subordinates.

No one realized it, not even Lu Yin himself, but he had started to command his comrades as though they were members of the Great Eastern Alliance.

The second forward basecamp had long since disappeared from sight, though the second array base above them did not show much of a change. No matter how far they traveled, the second array base remained in the same place in the sky, much like an unmoving sun.

"There's a city up ahead!" someone yelled excitedly.

Everyone else eagerly looked ahead, and bit by bit, the outline of a city appeared.

Lu Yin turned to look as well; had they arrived?

"That's not where the Forsaken Soldiers are stationed. This city belongs to the monsters," Mr. Guo glumly informed everyone.

Everybody's hearts sank. They stared off into the distance, and sure enough, countless corpse kings were charging out of the city and towards them.

"What do we do now? Do we need to go around the city?" someone asked.

Everyone turned to stare at Lu Yin, waiting for him to make a decision.

Lu Yin turned to Mr. Guo and asked, "Does this city have any sourcebox arrays?"

Mr. Guo shook his head. "Not one of this size. The monsters wouldn't bother setting up a sourcebox array within a city unless it has great importance. This doesn't qualify."

Lu Yin's expression chilled. Even if there was an array within this city, Shaman God would never allow it to be activated. At that thought, Lu Yin loudly yelled, "Then we continue charging straight through! We don't have time to make any detours. If another giant corpse king shows up, none of us will be able to deal with it."

Everyone gritted their teeth as they ferociously glared at the distant city. "Charge!"

"Charge!"

"Charge!"

...

From a distant location, Marquis Green Bamboo was dumbfounded at the scene he was witnessing. The humans wanted to charge straight into the city? Though, it didn't matter, as such cities were unimportant!

The closer the humans moved to the city, the more corpse kings that appeared. Regardless, the monsters were not able to stand up to the killing power of the sourcebox array's red beams. Even if these corpse kings had no fear of death, they were not willing to sacrifice themselves for nothing either. Besides, they actually possessed some intelligence of their own.

Finally, the humans managed to force their way into the city while under the array's protection.

For the vast majority of the survivors, this was their first time seeing a city inhabited by monsters, and they were naturally intrigued and curious about it.

The city was not much different from a human city, and the biggest difference lay in the architectural styles. Still, compared to a human city, the corpse kings' city felt decidedly more disturbing. There was not a single living creature within the entire city. In fact, the city felt more like a plastic display that had been set up to store corpse kings.

Rather than a city, it felt much more suitable to call it... a coffin.

Houses, buildings, and even the ground below them had all been completely destroyed by Red Beam. The survivors had not once slowed in their journey to the east. Lu Yin and the others plowed their way straight through the city center without pause, and their passage essentially split the city in two with the power of their array. The red beams even scoured away the top layer of the ground.

They did not sacrifice even a single person due to the array's protection, which was perfectly in line with Lu Yin's greatest hopes.

After leaving the city, they were greeted by the sight of an endless space. However, there were several massive planets overhead that spiraled around and crashed down towards the survivors.

While crushing humans with stars might sound like a domineering move, it was actually rather useless.

The red beams of light pierced through the sky and shattered the stars, which tore open the void and produced spatial cracks that spread out in all directions.

"Those guys behind us, aren't they human?" someone hesitantly asked within Red Beam.

Many heads turned to look behind them, and they quickly saw what that person had been referring to. A human figure was emerging from beneath the city that they had split in two. This person was moving

slowly, and instead of charging straight towards the Red Beam like the corpse kings, this figure was trying to avoid the corpse kings. Before long, more and more humans rose out from underground.

Lu Yin stopped them from moving forward and turned back to look. He saw a pair of lost and desperate eyes. That person really was a human.

“They’re humans!” Che Zhan shouted in surprise.

Mr. Guo explained, “This is one of the ways in which Aeternus births new corpse kings. They forcibly transform humans, which produces corpse kings from ordinary humans.”

Lu Yin had once visited Aeternus Nation, and although he had never seen a human be converted into a corpse king, he had certainly seen humans be treated as food, and he had also witnessed their efforts to integrate death energy into both humans and corpse kings to remodel them. Thus, this sight was not unfamiliar to Lu Yin, though it still impacted him emotionally. To think that they would stumble upon humans in this New World that was swarming with nothing but corpse kings. How helpless, miserable, and defeated must these people feel? They all stared at Lu Yin and the others with hope and begging expressions.

After the people rose out from under the ground one by one, they began to crowd together out of fear, and the nearby corpse kings quickly surrounded them.

“What do we do?” Che Zhan asked, looking at Zhou Tang.

Zhou Tang silently stared at Lu Yin.

One by one, everyone else eventually turned to look at Lu Yin as well. All of them had already begun to view him as their leader.

Lu Yin gritted his teeth and said, “We save them.”

Even though none of them wanted to die, and although their search for the Forsaken Soldiers was their last hope of survival, they were also not yet at the point where they could abandon helpless humans who clearly needed their help to be saved from a horrible death. Even if everyone was aware that trying to save these humans who had appeared would most likely draw the attention of powerful enemies, they still wanted to try. There was an ingrained sense of duty that was an intrinsic part of their human nature.

After hearing Lu Yin’s decision, the other survivors heaved sighs of relief before crying out in fury, “Save them!”

Red Beam turned around and moved back towards the city.

Outside the city, more humans endlessly rushed out from underground. The fact that they were on the battlefield behind the Mother Tree meant that they were also all cultivators who had fought against corpse kings before. However, they had been weakened by Aeternus’ efforts to remodel their bodies, and there were some who might have even been forced to kill their own companions after a successful transformation.

Chapter 1514: A Large-Scale Assault

It was not difficult to convert regular humans into corpse kings. After so many years of research and testing, Aeternus had many methods available to them, and what they employed in the underground spaces beneath their cities was corrosion. They corrupted these captured humans with the overwhelming energy given off by a mass of corpse kings, which would gradually permanently transform the humans.

Some who were unable to resist the corrosion were already no longer human, though there were also quite a few others who had managed to endure. There were also some humans who had likely only recently arrived and thus had not yet transformed. These were the people whom Lu Yin and the others wanted to save.

Normally, they would not go out of their way to rescue these captured humans who were being forcefully transformed, but since they had coincidentally run across them, the ragtag group of survivors had no intention of leaving the other humans behind to fend for themselves.

Watching from afar, Marquis Green Bamboo was a bit surprised. These people still want to save others when they were already in such a dire situation themselves? Were humans hypocrites, or just stupid?

Corpse kings littered the landscape everywhere outside the city, and most of the people who had escaped from underground were terrified, anxious, and quickly fell to despair. There were a few who fought against the corpse kings with everything that they had. One in particular shouted, "Brothers, I came here knowing that I'd die, but now, even just killing one of these monsters is a step forward for us! Stepping onto this battlefield already sealed our fates, so what is there to fear?"

"Kill the monsters! Kill them!"

"I'll drag at least one of them to hell with me if I'm going to die!"

...

The sourcebox array continued to fire its red beams in all directions like a giant red monster as it returned to the city and killed all of the surrounding corpse kings.

"Get in, QUICKLY!" Lu Yin yelled at the top of his lungs to the people who had climbed out of the underground pit.

Lu Yin and his group had been noticed by the humans long ago, though they had not expected any assistance. Upon hearing Lu Yin's words, everyone shot into the Red Beam without a second thought.

"Thank you for helping us, brothers," said a well-built man with a pale face. His aura was flickering and unstable, and he was only an Enlighter at best. However, he was the strongest of the humans who had climbed up from beneath the city.

"How many more people are still underground and still human?" Lu Yin asked.

"At least a million more."

Lu Yin was completely stunned. "So many? Where did they all come from?"

The man bitterly answered, "Some of them were taken from the battlefield, but we have no idea where the vast majority of them came from. Regardless, there are many people trapped in there, though we

weren't able to communicate with each other. The biggest reason why we know that they're not from the battlefield is because of their numbers. The fighting on the battlefield is simply too intense, and far more people are killed than those who are captured. There's no way so many people could possibly be captured. On top of that, their clothing is different from what we use."

Lu Yin grew a little worried at that information. He glanced at the hole that led underground and ordered, "Che Zhan, Brother Hong, Matriarch of the Eastern Mountain, let's move."

Upon hearing Lu Yin's orders, several people immediately began moving, and the red beams shot out once more. This time, many of them fired at the ground, tearing apart the ground beneath the city, as well as a concrete slab. The full underground situation was fully exposed.

As the ground crumbled and collapsed, humans, corpse kings, monsters-in-the-making, and even corpses were revealed.

After the ground crumbled, the entire city started to collapse as well. Corpse kings all around the Red Beam started charging towards it as though they had gone insane, but all of their efforts were fruitless. None of the monsters were able to even leave a scratch on the Red Beam.

There was a grim expression on Marquis Green Bamboo's face as he watched these events unfold. He had never expected Lu Yin and the others to choose to save everyone. The marquis's eyes narrowed in displeasure. This was not how the situation was supposed to play out! Those captured humans should have become back-up corpse kings that would be into the Perennial World as weapons!

As he thought of the immeasurable losses that they were suffering, Marquis Green Bamboo contacted Shaman God. The Skygod's response was simple. "Let him do whatever he wants. You should have already figured out his identity, which also means that you must have also realized the importance of letting him gain many achievements in this war."

Marquis Green Bamboo's eyes blazed with indignation, but he could only lower his hand and continue to silently watch. A shadow appeared behind him. It was a corpse king, one that was extremely strong and was comparable to a powerhouse that had survived five stellar tribulations. If this creature were sent into the city, then Lu Yin and the others would have no chance of surviving. Unfortunately, the marquis was unable to do anything besides watch on as the city was destroyed and the captured humans were rescued.

Marquis Green Bamboo and the corpse king behind him were not the only ones paying attention. The New World was supposed to be the monster's main base, from which they would invade the Perennial World. Thus, all of the Twelve Marquises had a vested interest in the current events. Any one of them could easily make a move and deal with the sourcebox array without any effort, but they had no choice but to simply watch on as the Red Beam left the city.

The number of people inside the sourcebox array had risen to close to a million after they saved every human who had not transformed, and the size of the Red Beam had increased considerably. If the rescued people truly had not been captured from the battlefield behind the Mother Tree, then the most likely possibility was that they had come from... parallel universes.

Lu Yin had never considered the fact that people from parallel universes could be captured and brought to this place as well. At this thought, his hair stood on end. There were an infinite number of parallel

universes, and the same could be said of the humans living in those universes. If the monsters actually had the ability to capture people from parallel universes, then it no wonder why there were an endless number of corpse kings.

Mr. Guo voiced his confusion. "All of the Twelve Marquises are on this battlefield, and yet they're letting us be. I honestly thought that the ruckus we kicked up this time would have caused our deaths."

Lu Yin countered, "Just doing this much can't be considered a big commotion. Just how big do you think the entire New World is? We're only crawling across a tiny corner of it at best."

Mr. Guo laughed. "You're right. There are countless cities throughout the New World, and destroying one is not necessarily enough to attract their attention."

Still, they had completely destroyed a city, which was an accomplishment that had never been done before in the New World. It would be nearly impossible for such a thing to not be noticed.

It was only a matter of time before formidable enemies sought them out.

Lu Yin looked around, wondering if Shaman God was spying on them or listening to any of the questions that were being brought up. That creepy doll had to be coming up with a way to resolve such doubts, right? Otherwise, successfully rescuing so many humans with nothing more than the help of the sourcebox array and then meeting up with the Forsaken Soldiers would not be a believable story.

Throughout history, there had been many examples of Redbacks gaining impressive achievements on the battlefield.

Off in the distance, Marquis Green Bamboo looked up at the second array base. "It's time to launch a large-scale assault. This should be the excuse for why we've been too busy to pay attention to the New World, right?"

Shaman God voice replied, "Gaga, all of the Twelve Marquises are to join in on the assault! We start now!"

Marquis Green Bamboo smiled bitterly. All of this was just because of Long Qi. Aeternus and humanity were about to engage in a battle that would embroil the entire battlefield behind the Mother Tree. Never before had anyone ever been given such peerless treatment. Not even the top ranked Redbacks were worth such efforts. Long Qi, I hope that you don't let Aeternus down.

There were some situations where the truth was bound to be exposed. If Lu Yin were a Redback, and if Aeternus went out of its way to help him rack up achievements in the war and also remove any suspicious details, then such things would eventually come to light. However, Lu Yin was not a Redback, and that was an absolute fact. Regardless, Aeternus was clever enough to work with Redbacks who did not even know that they were Redbacks!

One day later, the second array base high above them activated. Its unbelievably massive gears began to turn, which drew the attention of the entire New World, even that of Lu Yin and those with him.

"The second array base has been activated! A massive attack is about to be launched!" Mr. Guo exclaimed.

At that moment, a vibration echoed out that caused the ground of the New World to crack, and the trembles could be felt from far, far away.

“It’s the other array bases!” Che Zhan yelled in shock.

Instantly solemn, Brother Hong said, “One, two, three, four. Together with the second array base, all five of the array bases have all been activated. A fight like never before is about to start.”

Zhou Tang looked up and stared at the second array base with a serious expression. “A battle that involves all five of the array bases that has even forced all of them to be activated... Could a Semi-Progenitor powerhouse have made a move? No, if it were a Semi-Progenitor, it would be impossible to conceal such a battle’s fluctuations. Even here, we would feel it.”

“It’s no wonder why they ignored us. We’re nothing more than insignificant ants compared to a battle of this scale.” Mr. Guo sighed in relief.

Lu Yin suddenly roared, “Everyone, ignore the battle above us! We’ll seize this opportunity to keep rushing forward to meet up with the Forsaken Soldiers!”

“Yes!” Che Zhan shouted energetically.

“We need to use this opportunity in order to live! Charge!”

“Charge!”

...

The battle involving all five array bases would last for a long time, at least according to Mr. Guo. It would not be easy for a victor to emerge from such a large-scale battle.

Five days later, Lu Yin and the others were still making their way towards the east with the Red Beam. As they traveled, they came across yet another city.

It was of a comparable size to the city that they had crashed through before.

The Red Beam tore the city apart and broke the ground open. Everyone witnessed the same scene take place as before: people were being transformed into corpse kings underground. There was a considerable number of humans beneath this city, close to two million humans who had not yet been converted.

The Red Beam grew even larger as it accepted two million more people. At this moment, Lu Yin was traveling with more than three million people. Unfortunately, only a small number of rescued humans were able to exert any of their strength. In fact, only about 100,000 people were in fighting condition.

Marquis Green Bamboo was notified about the second city being destroyed, but he was currently at the second array base’s headquarters, and once again, he was fighting against Xia Yan.

“Abandon the second array base, General Xia! You’re courageous, but unfortunately, you’ve also sent many to their graves. You forsook all of those people.” Marquis Green Bamboo laughed gently while speaking to Xia Yan.

Xia Yan clenched the hilt of his longsword tightly, his expression pained. He would not have cared if other people had been abandoned, not even the Envoys from Star Alliance, let alone anyone from the four ruling powers. However, Long Qi had been among those who had fallen down to the New World.

Not only was Long Qi Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate Master, but he was also the son-in-law of the White Dragon Clan's main family. He had gained Master Deng Guo's favor, and he had also earned the recognition of Long Laogui. The White Dragon Clan had come to pay particular attention to the youth as well, and as Long Qi had become so important that he was second only to their Junior Progenitor Long Tian, which meant that abandoning the youth had caused Xia Yan a great deal of stress recently.

Humility's Gate, the White Dragon Clan, and Master Deng Guo. Pressure from all these different powers had left Xia Yan rather wan and sallow, and he had degraded to the point where fighting in this major battle was quite difficult for him to handle.

"You look rather pale. Why don't you go and take a break?" Marquis Green Bamboo teased.

Xia Yan answered quietly, "Dealing with you? That's just a small problem to resolve."

"Hahaha! Junior, you're as conceited as ever. You humans really love bolstering your self-confidence, but is it actually of any use?" Marquis Green Bamboo burst out laughing as he spoke. After he finished speaking, countless green bamboo shoots burst out of the void and surrounded the two opponents. In response, Xia Yan lifted his sword and cut through the void with a clean swing of his sword.

Down below, countless corpse kings were swarming at the headquarters, and many of the giant corpse kings began to launch their own attacks. The defensive sourcebox array was once again broken, which caused Master Zan's face to gradually grow pale as he quickly tried to repair it. Colonel Chun had already died during this attack. This siege had lasted for five days so far, and there was no end in sight.

Battle raged elsewhere besides the second array base as the other four array bases were also facing attacks from the other members of the Twelve Marquises.

Far below, on the sloped incline of the first array base, Bai Zhen was panting desperately. There were three corpse kings around him, and each one of them was just as strong as he was. He had no idea where all these corpse kings had come from.

There was a boom as the corpse king behind him attacked. The creature entered the true universe and unleashed a powerful punch at Bai Zhen's shoulder. He spun round and slammed a palm into the corpse king, using the Gap Between Heaven and Human. The corpse king fell back, but then a terrifying blood-red energy descended from above Bai Zhen, about to envelop Bai Zhen and reduce him to mere bones. This red energy was the corpse king's innate gift.

Bai Zhen's body was brutishly swatted in the direction facing the New World, but he managed to stabilize his body in midair at the last second. Seeing that all three corpse kings were about to attack him once again, his face turned grim. He whipped out a delicate red flower from his cosmic ring; it was the Fay Blossom.

The moment the Fay Blossom appeared, all three of the corpse kings suddenly started moving slower. They did not seem to realize what had happened to themselves, but Bai Zhen seized the opportunity to retaliate.

Two hours later, Bai Zhen was hiding in a corner and trying to quickly recover. Blood dripped from the corner of his mouth, and half his body looked like it was about to collapse. Still, with the help of the Fay Blossom, he had managed to kill all three of the corpse kings.

“Oh Fay Blossom, what a terrifying power you have.” Bai Zhen murmured as he stared at the delicate red flower he held in his hand. However, his eyes contained a deep fear.

Although the New World was Aeternus’s territory and humans essentially had no place there, it did not mean that humanity was completely ignorant about what happened in the New World.

Humans had always had various ways to observe what happened down in the New World.

Chapter 1515: Xiang City And The Forsaken Soldiers

Lu Yin and the others had managed to gradually get closer to the Forsaken Soldiers with the help of the sourcebox array. Even after they bulldozed their way through the second city, they still did not attract the attention of any of the powerhouses stationed on the array bases in the sky above them because every single one of the five array bases was suffering from a large-scale assault from the monsters. However, when Lu Yin and his group approached a third city ten days later, whether it was Aeternus’s Twelve Marquises or the various generals of the array bases, someone would definitely notice the commotion being kicked up in the New World down below.

This was not only because the third city was absolutely massive, but also because it was at a strategic location, which caused all five of the array bases to focus on the city no matter what else happened. Also, this was the city that lay closest to the Forsaken Soldiers, which made it the single most watched location in the entire New World.

Atop the second array base, Xia Yan had only just returned to the headquarters. He asked in complete disbelief, “What did you just say? Long Qi and the others are still alive?”

Liu Jing stood across from the general and enthusiastically replied, “Yes, General! According to a report from a reconnaissance team, they have spotted the Red Beam.”

Xia Yan’s eyes positively glowed from joy. The Red Beam was the sourcebox array from the second forward basecamp that only Master Song had been capable of repairing. However, when the second forward basecamp had been abandoned and fallen down to the New World, Master Song had followed him back to headquarters and had not fallen down with the sourcebox array. In that case, who else possessed the ability to repair the sourcebox array?

The only possibility was Long Qi. He had managed to repair the second array base headquarter’s defensive sourcebox array, so it was not completely inconceivable for him to have done the same for Red beam.

“How many of them are still alive?” Xia Yan asked.

Liu Jing shook his head. “I’m not sure about the details, but I’ve heard that the estimate of survivors is a few millions.”

“That’s impossible. There weren’t even that many that fell down to the New World with the second forward basecamp. Where did a few million come from?” Xia Yan instantly refuted the report.

Liu Jing replied, "From the intel that we've gathered, the red sourcebox array is currently somewhere close to Xiang City, and if our guesses on their startpoint and path are correct, then Long Qi and the other survivors must have already passed by two cities. Both cities most likely had humans who had not yet been converted into corpse kings."

Xia Yan gasped.

Liu Jing anxiously asked, "General, should we go down to rescue them?"

Xia Yan looked up and sighed. "How can we rescue them? All five of the array bases are entrenched in an ongoing battle, and even if that weren't the case, it's basically impossible to save anyone from the New World."

"But..."

Before Liu Jing could say anything, Long Laogui arrived. The old powerhouse appeared to be in quite a sorry state, and he had clearly fought against some formidable opponents of his own. Despite his exhausted condition, he immediately said, "Xia Yan, Long Qi is still alive, isn't he?"

Xia Yan replied, "Red beam is still active, and it's currently full of millions of people as they make their way towards the Forsaken Soldiers. As for whether or not Long Qi is still alive, we can't confirm anything yet."

Long Laogui sullenly retorted, "Other than Long Qi, who else down there has the ability to repair that sourcebox array? We need to get him back up here!"

Xia Yan was put in an awkward position. It was not that he did not want to save Long Qi, but rather that he was unable to do so. However, if news that Long Qi was still alive had already spread, which was likely why Long Laogui had raced over to headquarters to ask about it, then Qing Chen was most likely already on his way over as well.

Just as Xia Yan thought of Qing Chen, the communication crystal on his wrist started vibrating. Xia Yan let out a sigh before answering.

"General Xia, if possible, I ask you to please save Long Qi. However, if this is truly asking for the impossible, then Humility's Gate will not force the matter. The war takes precedence," Qing Chen said openly, clearly with no intention of making things difficult for Xia Yan.

This amply demonstrated the difference between Humility's Gate and the White Dragon Clan. Long Laogui hoped to use Lu Yin to improve the clan's relationship with Master Deng Guo, as doing so would be a great benefit to the White Dragon Clan. In order to achieve that goal, the old man would not mind lowering himself. In contrast, while Qing Chen was obviously more personally concerned about Long Qi's fate, he would not jeopardize the battlefield to save Long Qi either.

Xia Yan fell deep into thought. Even if he was an experienced commander on the battlefield behind the Mother Tree, this battle was still a difficult obstacle to overcome. Long Qi was undeniably extremely important, but that was not because of his position as a member of the White Dragon Clan. Rather, it was because he had accomplished so many things for humanity while working with Humility's Gate. If word leaked out that they did not intend to send reinforcements down to rescue him, everyone would

suffer a major blow of morale. However, the worst part of it all was that the youth could not be saved even if Xia Yan was willing to try.

“General, Long Qi and the others are already approaching Xiang City.” Liu Jing quickly updated Xia Yan after receiving the latest reports from the reconnaissance team.

Xia Yan was caught off guard, and he immediately said, “Contact the Forsaken Soldiers! Tell them to launch an attack on Xiang City and to prepare to receive Long Qi and the others.”

As soon as he finished delivering that order, Xia Yan raised his hand and contacted the generals of the other four array bases. “Everyone, I believe you have already caught wind of the events progressing down in the New World. It is time for us to take action and hold down the Twelve Marquises.”

Xiang City was Aeternus’s northernmost city, and further north of the city, the Forsaken Soldiers could be found.

Xiang City was one of the few major cities that Aeternus controlled, and countless corpse kings lived within the city. The strongest of all of them was Marquis Xiang of the Twelve Marquises, and the city had been named after him.

Xiang City had been established for the sole sake of countering the Forsaken Soldiers, and it was also the primary reason why the Forsaken Soldiers were unable to venture deeper into the New World.

The space between Xiang City and the Forsaken Soldiers served as the most active battlefield out of anywhere on the entire New World.

As far as those in the Perennial World were concerned, and also according to what was recorded in the history books, there was a human city known as New City that stood in the New World. The Ever-Victorious Army which allowed nothing to stand in their way was based out of New City. That army was supposed to be humanity’s sharpest blade in advancing through the New World, but in reality, it was completely different from common knowledge.

There was no Ever-Victorious Army, and nor was there even a New City. The only ones in the New World were the Forsaken Soldiers who faced a continual siege from atop the Stacking Mountain Range.

The Stacking Mountain Range, where the Forsaken Soldiers were based out of, was actually connected to the Perennial World. It was considerably higher in elevation than the New World, and that was exactly why they were known as the Stacking Mountain Range. The closer one moved to the Mother Tree, the higher the ground was. This made the location easier to defend, though it was also difficult to attack from. The mountain’s existence as a rather impregnable fortress was the sole reason why the Forsaken Soldiers had been able to survive for so long.

One day, a pair of eyes opened within the Stacking Mountain Range. They looked over towards Xiang City, and their owner asked, “Receive? It looks like some big-shot fell down here with us. They were quite lucky to survive, and they’ve even made it all the way to Xiang City. Liu Hua, wanna attack together?”

“I’ll pass. All twelve of the marquises have gone up to attack the five array bases, and they’re being held down up there. At the moment, Xiang City doesn’t have any Semi-Progenitors, so you can handle things there on your own,” an echoing voice replied.

“Xiang City has a sourcebox array, and it won’t be easy to take down. You should consider this carefully. This mission came straight from a general, so there has to be some kind of VIP in the group that we’re supposed to greet. It has to be someone from one of the four ruling powers, and if anything happens to them, your sentence here might actually get extended.”

After a short pause, the same voice answered in a reluctant tone, “Fine. Who would have thought that this day would come for me? I, Semi-Progenitor Liu Hua, actually have to play escort for some VIPs. What a joke!”

“This person got all the way here from where the second forward basecamp fell down and is even willing to force their way through Xiang City. These are people worthy of being rescued.”

As the man spoke, many people emerged from within the Stacking Mountain Range and started making their way down towards Xiang City.

From the south of Xiang City, Red beam was drawing closer and closer to the city.

Lu Yin’s expression grew solemn as he looked at the massive city standing tall and proud off in the distance. He commented, “There should be a sourcebox array there.”

The city that they were looking at was easily over ten times larger than the previous two cities that they had run into. It was practically impossible for such a metropolis to not contain a sourcebox array.

In a serious tone, Mr. Guo replied, “That’s Xiang City. As long as we make it past here, we’ll be at the Stacking Mountain Range where the Forsaken Soldiers are based out of. Getting past here means success.”

The crowd grew excited. They had overcome their fated doom, and now, a chance at survival was before them. They could almost see their future laid out for them, and all they needed to do was grasp it.

“However, this will also be our greatest obstacle to surpass. Xiang City exists in order to defend against the Forsaken Soldiers, and Marquis Xiang, one of the Twelve Marquises, is the master of this city. He’s a Semi-Progenitor level powerhouse,” Mr. Guo’s somber voice spoke up once more.

Everyone felt their hair stand on end at his words. A Semi-Progenitor? Such an expert was absolutely unsurpassable for them. They had no way of standing up to such an opponent.

Lu Yin’s eyes narrowed. “Seeing how big the battle raging overhead is, it’s likely that Marquis Xiang isn’t in Xiang City.”

“Let’s hope that that’s true,” Mr. Guo replied.

Innumerable corpse kings had already moved to surround the humans, approaching from the city up ahead. They clearly intended to exterminate the humans, but every single one of the monsters was destroyed by a red beam of light.

If possible, Lu Yin and the rest would have preferred to take a detour around Xiang City, but the city stood right below the Stacking Mountain Range. No matter what they wanted to do, they had to push through the city for even a possibility of meeting up with the Forsaken Soldiers.

From Xiang City's geographic location, Lu Yin was able to see that the Forsaken Soldiers held absolutely no power in the New World. Xiang City was essentially intended to block humanity's route to the rest of the New World, and that was the only reason for its location.

The red sphere continued to approach Xiang City, but all of a sudden, the ground began quaking. An enormous corpse king rose up and began charging towards Lu Yin and the others.

Lu Yin clenched his fists, and Zhou Tang stepped forward from behind the youth. The Envoy's aurelian force seeped through the void, covering hundreds of miles and incinerating the void. Zhou Tang leaped and began his dash towards the giant corpse king.

"Mr. Guo, retreat one thousand meters. Che Zhan, move forward..." Lu Yin continued to give orders to the people carrying the sourceboxes. A red beam fired at the ground, and in the blink of an eye, the ground had been blasted through, revealing what lay beneath. As expected, they found humans in the process of being transformed just like all the other cities.

Several million people moved along inside the sourcebox array, and they prepared to strike Xiang City head on.

Suddenly, something inside the city itself changed. A conical sourcebox array smashed into Zhou Tang, forcing him to cough up blood as he was sent flying from the impact. The man had not even made it close to the massive corpse king before he was sent flying.

Lu Yin and the others stared in shock. Was that the same sourcebox array as what protected the second array base?

It turned out that Xiang City really did contain a sourcebox array, and it was even identical to the second array base's defense system.

An ugly expression appeared on Mr. Guo's face. "After endless years of war, these monsters have managed to comprehend that sourcebox array and have even set it up in Xiang City."

The giant corpse king continued charging towards the crowd of humans, one step at a time. But also blocking their path forward was the sourcebox array. Even with the power of the red sphere around them, Lu Yin and the others would not be able to brute force their way through. Additionally, the humans emerging from the underground space were being slaughtered by the city's sourcebox array.

Reaching Xiang City turned out to be a dead end for Lu Yin's group.

Lu Yin cursed Shaman God for such negligence; could that puppet have forgotten to switch off the sourcebox array?

With the sourcebox array blocking their path, how could they ever manage to force their way through the city?

Just as despair started to well up within the survivors, the void off in the distance began to twist and churn. Everyone was struck by an inexplicable feeling that made them all feel as though they had passed through to the other side of the world. The sourcebox array's cones smashed into the ground, and right after that, a strange power suppressed the sourcebox array, stopping it from functioning. This did not happen to just one of the array's cones, but rather all of them at the same time.

An elderly man emerged from the void and looked at Lu Yin and the rest of them in awe.

Lu Yin and the others soon noticed the elderly man, and the first thing that came to their minds was that this person was a Semi-Progenitor. Only a Semi-Progenitor could possess such a terrifying level of strength that could isolate an entire region of the world.

“This one is Ji Feng, and I have come forth to assist all of you in reaching the territory of the Forsaken Soldiers.” As the elderly man spoke, the giant corpse king opened its large mouth behind the elderly human.

Though no one saw the old man do anything at all, the massive body of the corpse king that had been charging towards them suddenly froze as strange noises came out from within its body. Suddenly, its body exploded, and its entrails splattered across the ground.

The surviving humans all let out shouts of joy; a Semi-Progenitor had appeared, which meant that they were saved!

To the north of Xiang City, cultivators raced into the city one after another and began fighting against the corpse kings. Every single human was a member of the Forsaken Soldiers.

The Forsaken Soldiers had never managed to gain anything from launching a battle against Xiang City through all these years, but at this moment, Marquis Xiang was absent, which meant there was no Semi-Progenitor guarding the city. On the other hand, the Forsaken Soldiers had two Semi-Progenitors on their side. So while one of them dealt with the sourcebox array, the other smashed through the city, almost instantly crushing the corpse kings inside.

Only a Semi-Progenitor could possibly defend against such a large-scale attack, and with the absence of one, Xiang City essentially had no means of retaliating.

After seeing Xiang City’s forces swiftly collapse, the Forsaken Soldiers did not show any desire to advance further and continue on a crusade. Instead, they slowly withdrew from Xiang City behind their two Semi-Progenitors.

Lu Yin was confused by their actions. He was nearly completely certain that no more powerful enemies would appear in this place, and yet, the Forsaken Soldiers were stopping their attack and ignoring such a rare opportunity. It almost felt as if an agreement had been made in the past, as the entire situation felt very odd.

However, the destruction of Xiang City also caused a vast number of cultivators to escape from their fate of being transformed into corpse kings beneath the city. Xiang City was incredibly vast, and the number of captured humans naturally scaled according to the city’s size. An estimated six million people or more were rescued. The red sphere was inevitably forced to expand yet again, but luckily, nearly 10 million cultivators were eventually able to pass through Xiang City under the protection of the two Semi-Progenitors.

Everyone entered the Stacking Mountain Range. They had managed to escape from Xiang City, which was a place described in the legends of the Perennial World, and all of the survivors followed behind the Forsaken Soldiers.

Chapter 1516: The Stacking Mountain Range

More than 10 million people had escaped from the monsters, which was an impressive scene to witness. However, even more impressive was Xiang City's crippling defeat. The Forsaken Soldiers had never managed to achieve such a thing before, and this military victory was sure to be carved down in history.

Due to the overwhelming number of refugees, it was quite a hassle to settle everyone in, and it took several days for the situation to stabilize.

The Stacking Mountain Range was extensive, and there were more than 20 million Forsaken Soldiers stationed within the mountains. This was the largest army that Lu Yin had ever seen. Well, it would be difficult to call them an army, as cultivators did not easily accept the rigid discipline and structure that an army required.

As he looked out at the Forsaken Soldiers surrounding him, all that Lu Yin could see was their desire to survive. They did not possess the unyielding spirit and toughness that was usually found in soldiers.

As Mr. Guo had mentioned before, the Forsaken Soldiers were mostly criminals who had been exiled from the Perennial World and sent down to the New World. These people did not follow formal regulations, and each one had their own means of survival.

"Brother Long Qi, Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng wishes to see you," Brother Hong approached to inform Lu Yin.

Lu Yin nodded and followed Brother Hong to the highest peak of the Stacking Mountain Range.

Because most of the members of the Forsaken Soldiers stationed in the Stacking Mountain Range were condemned criminals, the "survival of the fittest" theory manifested in a primitive and instinctive manner in this place. The closer to the peak a person lived, the safer they would be. On the other hand, the nearer one lived to Xiang City, the more danger they would face.

The weak could only stay in the lower regions, where they were constantly at risk of being slaughtered by corpse kings while the strong were able to protect themselves.

As a Semi-Progenitor, it was natural for Ji Feng to live at the very peak of the Stacking Mountain Range.

"Brother Hong, what kind of person is Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng?" Lu Yin asked.

Brother Hong replied, "I can't say that I know him myself, but since he became a Semi-Progenitor, he must have lived for far too long. He's certainly not from our era, though Mr. Guo might know something about him."

However, Mr. Guo was nowhere to be found.

After the survivors had arrived at the Stacking Mountain Range, everyone had been separated. This was not because of infighting, but rather because the Forsaken Soldiers had deliberately separated the refugees. They had done so to investigate if there were any traitors within them. This was actually normal protocol.

As they approached the peak of the Stacking Mountain Range, the suppressive aura of a Semi-Progenitor became more pronounced. After all, there were two Semi-Progenitors present.

Located just beneath the Semi-Progenitors were a large number of Envoys.

Lu Yin had seen no fewer than ten Envoys during the attack on Xiang City, and all of them had been more ferocious and unapproachable than any Envoy he had seen before.

Even though their numbers were mostly composed of criminals and they were unable to take a single step beyond the Stacking Mountain Range, the Forsaken Soldiers could still be considered to be one of the most elite armies in existence, and they were even capable of taking on the array bases.

Before long, Lu Yin arrived at Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng's place. Sure enough, he was the old man who had saved Lu Yin and the others at Xiang City.

"Junior Long Qi pays his respects to Senior Ji Feng." Lu Yin quickly bowed and greeted the expert with evident gratitude and delight.

Brother Hong did not enter the room, as all of the Envoys like him had already met Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng, and they were the ones who had explained the recent series of events to Ji Feng, whose curiosity regarding Lu Yin had been stoked. Thus, the old man had wanted to meet Lu Yin.

As he stared at Lu Yin, Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng exclaimed, "You've only just cultivated to the Enlightener realm!? Where did you get the power necessary to save Zhou Tang and the others? How in the world did you accomplish such a thing?"

Lu Yin replied in a respectful tone, "Everything simply stemmed from my desire to continue living."

Ji Feng nodded and gave the youth a slight smile. "You don't claim credit for yourself, and you're honest with your words. Not bad at all, child."

Lu Yin felt taken aback. Why did every old fart call him 'child'? It was really grating on the ears.

"If not for Senior's timely rescue at that critical moment, we would have had no chance of surviving at all. This junior once again wishes to express his deepest gratitude to Senior Ji," Lu Yin said as he bowed low.

Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng was moved, and he sighed. "To be able to force your way here to the Stacking Mountain Range from where you all fell while also destroying two cities, risking discovery, and even saving more than three million people... Child, your behavior is very commendable. There aren't many like you within all of humanity. I heard that you even repaired the sourcebox array, no? Are you an Array Master?"

Lu Yin answered, "I have comprehended two sourcebox arrays, but because I have been unable to unlock many sourceboxes, I still can't be considered a true Array Master yet."

Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng smiled gently. "Being able to comprehend sourcebox arrays is enough to qualify you as an Array Master. There are many Lockbreakers out there who have managed to reach the required level but are unable to comprehend a sourcebox array, leaving them forever stranded as five star Boundless Advanced Lockbreakers. Your talent is truly extraordinary. It's no wonder why General Xia Yan insisted that we rescue you."

It was only then that Lu Yin understood that the Forsaken Soldiers' large-scale assault on Xiang City was something that had been ordered by Xia Yan.

“The terrain of the Stacking Mountain Range is quite precipitous, which means that it complements our defenses quite well and makes this a strategic location that is well-protected, but as a result, it is difficult to launch attacks from here. This place is relatively safe, so if you wait here for General Xia Yan’s reinforcements, you’ll most likely be able to return to the second array base quite soon,” Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng said.

Lu Yin asked, “Senior, what of Senior Zhou Tang and the others?”

Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng explained, “They might be forced to stay here and become a part of the Forsaken Soldiers, or they might be allowed to return to the Star Alliance. We’ll have to see how things go.”

“Can’t we return on our own?” Lu Yin asked.

Ji Feng laughed. “Naturally, we aren’t able to do so on our own. You can think of this place as the Lower Realm of the Mother Tree. So if we want to return to the second array base, we’d have to climb up the Mother Tree’s trunk. Even ignoring the vast distance that we would need to cover, there’s no way that Marquis Xiang would ever allow anyone to leave this place so easily. He periodically attacks the Mother Tree’s trunk without fail. This causes the death rate of those trying to climb up the trunk to the second array base to be over 90%. That is, unless they are accompanied by a Semi-Progenitor.

“Also, we have to stay here and protect this place, and we are not allowed to leave. Essentially, the only way for you to escape from this place is for the higher-ups to make a decision to send out reinforcements to help you ascend.”

Lu Yin bowed. “I understand.”

Semi-Progenitor looked at Lu Yin with sympathy. “For you to receive so much attention from General Xia Yan, it means that you are a person worthy of his admiration with or without your identity as a part of the White Dragon Clan. Child, continue doing your best to live.”

Lu Yin bowed once more. “Thank you, Senior Ji, for your guidance.”

After Lu Yin left Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng’s room, Brother Hong spoke up when he saw Lu Yin. “The people that we saved are only able to settle down at the foot of the mountain for now. It’s very close to Xiang City, but they won’t be allowed any higher up the mountains.”

Lu Yin replied, “There’s no helping it. Those are the rules of this place, and we have no right to break them.”

Brother Hong continued on with a solemn expression. “Once the corpse kings push over here, those people will most likely struggle to survive.”

Lu Yin did not know how to respond. After all, this place was still a battlefield, and anyone could die here. He had no way to further help the people whom he had rescued. Saving them from the underground chambers where they had been trapped was already the best that he could do for them given his own circumstances.

High above, the second array base had shifted slightly from its original position, and even further away, the vague silhouette of another array base had appeared.

Lu Yin started living inside the Stacking Mountain Range. While he was some distance below the peak, he was still quite close. He had earned this location, and while some people would show up to stir up trouble now and again, they were all easily dealt with by Che Zhan.

In the blink of an eye, they had already spent ten days at the Stacking Mountain Range. The battle that had been launched against all five of the array bases continued without ebbing.

On the tenth day, numerous black dots could be seen descending from up above. When Lu Yin saw them, he was completely surprised. Were those... humans?

Plop plop plop...

The Forsaken Soldiers did not act like the falling humans were an unfamiliar sight, because all of the soldiers assigned to the Forsaken Soldiers had arrived in this manner. There were no teleportation devices in the Stacking Mountain Range, and as long as a cultivator had reached the Limiteer realm, they would not die no matter what height they fell from.

Tens of thousands of people descended together at once, and all of them grimaced in pain when they crashed onto the ground. Despite their pain, they were all fine.

As the cultivators fell down onto the Stacking Mountain Range, they were separated from each other as they had fallen in different places.

Lu Yin saw at least ten people crash to the ground right in front of him, and each of them cursed under their breath.

Dozens of people stood up and started examining their surroundings. A burly, four meter tall man pushed aside the people surrounding him and rudely shouted, "Scram! Don't you dare to block me!"

The others who had fallen with the man within the same area did not respond kindly to his rudeness, and they all gave him frosty glares or bloodthirsty stares. However, no one retaliated, as they were wary of the tall man's impressive strength.

Humans lived everywhere throughout the massive Perennial World. For example, the peak of White Mountain was akin to the size of a large planet. All types of people lived in different places of the Perennial World. Even in the Fifth Mainland, there were even giants and humans who had evolved to have scales. The four meter tall man was actually quite close to what was commonly referred to as a giant.

That man looked around before finally focusing on Lu Yin. The man asked in a bland manner, "Hey man, is this New City? Where's the actual city?"

Lu Yin stared back at him and inquired, "Were you all sent down here to serve out sentences?"

"I'm the one asking the questions here!" The man leaped at Lu Yin in one swift motion and raised his hand to grab Lu Yin. The man was violent and had a terrible temper, and a single look was enough to see that he was not a pleasant person. He looked just like a criminal who had been banished.

The other people who had fallen down with the tall man all started moving back out of fear of getting caught up in a possible fight. When they had been locked up together on the second array base, this giant had already been a tyrant, and the rumors claimed that his crimes were numerous. When the monsters had launched their attack, everyone had gotten caught up in the defensive efforts, so nobody had time to watch the prisoners. Due to that, they had been simply and conveniently thrown down to join the Forsaken Soldiers.

The man's hand smashed down from above, and with his four meter tall height, he was more than capable of picking Lu Yin up with a single hand.

That man's palm fell towards Lu Yin, but just when he was about to grab the youth, Lu Yin raised a hand and flicked a single finger, striking the giant's palm. The tall man's hand suddenly stopped falling, and the ground beneath his feet began to shatter without anything even touching it. The giant's pupils shrank from his absolute shock as he stared at Lu Yin in utter disbelief.

Lu Yin stretched out his hand and grabbed the giant by his finger. "Be polite."

With that, Lu Yin squeezed down, which caused the man to cry out in pain. His finger had just been broken, and the man fell to the ground, where he caught himself on a knee. Before he could even realize what was happening, his entire body was lifted from the ground and thrown down to the foot of the mountains.

At the same time, many other people were also being thrown to the foot of the mountain from both above and below Lu Yin. These criminals had been sent to join the Forsaken Soldiers, mostly for being dismissive of any sort of law or authority. Arriving at the Stacking Mountain Range would always be a humbling experience for them.

The rest of the people who had fallen were still cowering a short ways away, and they were all staring at Lu Yin in terror.

"Get the hell out of here right now," Lu Yin said emotionlessly.

All of the people quickly fled without daring to say so much as a word.

Most of the people who had fallen ended up getting slapped in the face by the harsh new reality of things in the New World, but there were also a few powerhouses who had been sentenced as well. There was an Envoy who had been sent down to the New World, and he fought an impressive battle with one of the Forsaken Soldiers' powerhouses. Unfortunately, the newcomer was still forced to move down the mountain after a defeat. Even Envoys were forced to abide by the rules of the mountains, as this was just how the Forsaken Soldiers ran things.

The following day, one of the Envoys who had been forced down the mountain began climbing up the Mother Tree, intending to return to the second array base. His mind was filled with nothing but himself, and such self-serving people were unqualified to join the Star Alliance, which was the precise reason why he had been ultimately sentenced to the Forsaken Soldiers.

No one stopped the man from climbing up the trunk. Everyone allowed the man to do as he pleased.

The Envoy was still immersed in his own delight, thinking that everyone was leaving him alone, possibly because none of the Forsaken Soldiers' powerhouses wished to fight him directly. He believed that he was actually lucky enough to escape.

Before long, a massive humanoid figure appeared in the direction of Xiang City, and it looked straight at the Envoy who was scaling the Mother Tree's trunk. The Envoy caught sight of the figure, and stared on blankly. The man's eyes turned lifeless, as though his soul had been sucked away. After that, his body went completely numb, before an explosion erupted in his mind, causing his head itself to explode. He died instantly.

Lu Yin and the others watching were all dumbfounded; had an Envoy really died just like that?

"What a pity. Marquis Xiang is back. It looks like that man had rotten luck. The assault on the array bases has likely ended," Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng's voice echoed and resonated throughout the entire Stacking Mountain Range.

Those who had intended to climb up the Mother Tree from the New World in the same manner as the now-dead Envoy no longer dared to even move a muscle. If even an Envoy had been killed, then how could small cultivators like them handle an attack from one of the Twelve Marquises?

It was no wonder why nobody had tried to stop him from climbing up the trunk: doing so meant facing a terrible risk.

Chapter 1517: Young Master Tu

An Envoy's death served as a wonderful deterrent. All of the cultivators who had been recently sentenced instantly became more serious, and they quickly started thinking of a way to move up the mountain.

Meanwhile, Lu Yin was sitting cross-legged in his room, slowly absorbing star energy. His last breakthrough had taken him all the way to the thirty second cycle of the Enlighter realm. At this moment, he was working towards his thirty third cycle. Unfortunately, no matter how hard he tried, regular cultivation was just too slow, and it actually felt like a waste of time. It would be more useful to spend his time cultivating his battle force.

Upon thinking of battle force, Lu Yin immediately recalled Zhou Tang's aurelian force.

Cultivating battle force required spirit. Lu Yin had surpassed nine lined battle force and reached ten lines because of his invincibility during ZENITH. At that moment, he had surpassed all of his peers in his generation. At present, if Lu Yin wanted to improve his battle force even further and turn it into aurelian force, he needed to have the ambition of one who ruled the entire world.

He did not know when that would happen.

Cultivating battle force required courage whereas cultivating a domain required cultivation and more comprehension. He had already reached the realm of being able to predict attacks and had even reached the spiritual manifestation realm. Next was the void god realm, though that realm was rather vague and inexplicable.

Wen Diyi had mentioned that there was a domain master at Virtue Archives who had reached the void realm of domains, so perhaps Lu Yin should visit them when he had the time. At the very least, he might be able to discover the threshold needed to touch upon the cusp of the void realm.

At the moment, Lu Yin's most powerful attack was his Vacuum Palm, followed by his spiritual force technique that he had learned from the Nightking clan. Also, he had his Champions' Stage and die innate gifts, as well as the God of Death Transformation. He actually had many other techniques, including the Cosmic Art, the Ninesuns Cauldrons Transformation, and the dream finger. He actually had so many techniques that he was not able to properly practice them all.

After returning to the Fifth Mainland, Lu Yin really needed to return to the Cosmic Sect and learn the complete Cosmic Art. While the technique might not be able to reach the same level as what the Perennial Realm's four ruling powers used, the Cosmic Art was still very useful.

What he regretted the most was the Ninesuns Cauldron Transformation. He had never been able to go back to the Daosource Sect's ruins and finish learning it. The legendary combat skill was said to be invincible. After returning to the Fifth Mainland, Lu Yin felt that he absolutely had to absorb all the energy from the remaining cauldrons.

Lu Yin mentally reviewed every technique he had learned. While it did not take a great deal of time to do so, it was also not brief either. Lu Yin had picked up too many techniques.

As he sat in contemplation, a stream of water trickled by and continued down the mountain. Lu Yin noticed the color and temperature of the stream. Is that urine?

He immediately became angry, and his domain swept across the mountainside. Soon, he found a young man up and a bit off to the side from his location. This person had a blade of grass in his mouth and was leisurely... urinating. Even though it was not landing on Lu Yin or even touching where he was sitting, it still felt disgusting.

The young man noticed Lu Yin's domain, and he looked up and frowned. "Who is it? How daring! You dare to peek at this master as he pees? I'll show you if you want to see!"

Lu Yin's expression froze. The void trembled, and spatial cracks spread out from the shouting man. The man became enraged as he spat out the grass from his mouth, fixed his pants, and clenched his teeth. "Which one of you bastards dares to attack this Master Tu? Show yourself to Master Tu! Your father will absolutely beat you until you apologize!"

The young man shouted in a very loud voice, and he drew many people's attention, most of whom lived further down the mountain. The place where the youth resided was close to the top of the mountains, but more importantly, he was not an Envoy.

Lu Yin stepped forward with an ugly expression on his face as he stared at the man. "You'll eat the words that you just said."

When the man saw Lu Yin, he was right about to scold the youth, but then, a stunned look suddenly appeared on his face, and he blankly stared at Lu Yin. "Bo- Boss?"

Lu Yin frowned.

The man quickly shook his head and vigorously rubbed his eyes. "No. Even though you look like him, you're not the boss. The boss isn't as despicable as you! No, that's not right—the boss is more despicable than you. Kid, who are you? You dare to attack Master Tu? Do you even know what Master Tu's status in this place is? Go ask. Do as Master Tu tells you."

Lu Yin stepped forward and approached the man. "I hope that you remember your own words."

After speaking, Lu Yin immediately started fuming. He did not know why, but he had felt a strong urge to beat up this man after just a look at him.

The man looked a bit older than Lu Yin, and he was clearly not from the same generation as Lu Yin. Although the man had an average body and face, his eyes gleamed so brightly that Lu Yin felt an overwhelming urge to punch the man right in the eyes.

The punch stopped less than ten centimeters from the man's face; a palm had appeared to block Lu Yin's fist.

An indifferent-looking middle-aged man had appeared, and he stared at Lu Yin. Surprise flickered through the man's eyes, but he still curled his fingers and roughly grabbed Lu Yin's fist. Lu Yin frowned, and his arm trembled as he unleashed 350 Stacks, which propagated forward. The middle-aged man in front of Lu Yin was caught off guard as the void twisted and a spatial tear appeared. Both of their arms disappeared due to the excessive strength that they were using, and it had caused their arms to enter the true universe.

There was a bang, and Lu Yin retreated by more than ten steps. He was barely able to remain standing, and he looked up at the middle-aged man in shock. This person was very strong.

The middle-aged man also stared back at Lu Yin in surprise. "Are you new here?"

Before Lu Yin could even reply, the young man shouted, "Uncle He, beat him! This bastard had the audacity to attack me! Beat him up!"

Uncle He glanced back at the young man. "Don't stir up needless trouble. This person is not simple, and not even I can break through the armor that he's wearing."

The young man was taken aback. "It's that powerful?"

Lu Yin said to the middle-aged man, "You should know what the person behind you did. I want him to apologize to me."

The middle-aged man replied in a light tone, "Little brother, in the Stacking Mountain Range, you can die at any moment. If you care about every small matter, then you'll never be able to relax. Can you let this go for my sake?"

Lu Yin nodded. "In that case, I'll show senior some respect."

"Wait, you may not care, but this Master Tu still does!" The young man butted in.

Uncle He frowned and looked back at the young man. "I already told you to not make any trouble. No one this high up is an easy opponent."

The young man snorted derisively. "Then I'll let it pass since we're all going to die anyway. However, don't you think that this kid looks like a certain someone?"

Uncle He's expression grew complicated. "That person is gone and will never be seen again."

"I know. That's why seeing this kid made me want to beat him up." The young man gritted his teeth. Pain flashed across his eyes, and something seemed to be throbbing in his forehead, clearly causing him an unbelievable amount of pain. He clenched his fists and glared at Lu Yin before shouting out, "Kid, if you're confident, get rid of your items and let's have a fair fight. One-on-one! If you dare back out you're the 'grandson.'"

Uncle He instantly blew up at the young man. "Don't make trouble! You can't beat him! Your cultivation has been ruined, and you can't even stand up to the most average of Enlighteners anymore."

But when Uncle He saw the throbbing object in the young man's forehead, the middle-aged man was startled, and his expression instantly changed. He sullenly said, "I'll support your choice."

The young man trembled from the pain of the object in his head, but he continued to stare at Lu Yin. "Kid, do you dare?"

Lu Yin had become amused, and he removed the Cloudguard Robes. "Alright, I'll give you a chance."

There was a boom, and Lu Yin punched at the young man, who fell to the ground. Lu Yin was taken aback; this person was too weak! With such skills, how could he have the courage to challenge anyone? How was he able to live so high up the mountains?

After being punched, not only did the young man not get angry, but he actually laughed. "Again!"

Boom!

"Again!"

Boom!

One punch after another—Lu Yin lost count of how many attacks he threw out. But the more the young man was struck, the happier he became, and the bulge on his forehead slowly shrank down. During this entire time, Lu Yin remained on guard for any surprises.

A long time later, the young man was finally unable to regain his feet. Blood spilled from his mouth, and his face had swollen up like a pig head. However, the bulging part of his head had completely disappeared.

Uncle He stepped forward and bent down to give the young man some medicine before leaving. The older man never spoke another word.

"Again... Again if you can! I'm not afraid of you! Don't think that I'll ever call you boss..." the young man muttered something unintelligible to Lu Yin, and his voice eventually faded away.

Lu Yin thought that the entire incident was quite odd, and he felt rather confused by what had just happened. Just what was going on?

Elsewhere, Uncle He lowered the young man down into a resting place. The older man then sighed. "You're very happy today."

The younger man grinned. He had clearly been badly beaten, but he was delighted beyond words at the moment.

"You have persevered through many years of mental torture. Don't give up! Next time the pain returns, go back to him and treat him as if he's that person. Even if he beats you up, you'll still be very happy." Uncle He sighed before slowly walking away.

The next day, Lu Yin was once again resting when a stream of liquid rained down from up above him on the mountain. This time, the stream was much closer to him.

When Lu Yin walked up, he saw the young man who called himself Master Tu with a big grin. The man's injuries had already completely healed, and he looked quite lively.

"Do you want to die?" Lu Yin asked in a cold voice.

Young Master Tu snorted in response. "I won't fight you today, so let's be reasonable."

Lu Yin's mouth curled up into a smile. "Sorry, but don't talk such shit. Or at the very least, keep it to yourself until after you've been beaten."

Even as he spoke, Lu Yin approached Young Master Tu and released a punch. Once again, his attack was stopped by Uncle He.

Lu Yin was annoyed by the obstruction. "Senior, he is clearly looking to cause trouble for me. Yesterday, I let things go out of respect for you, but I'll have to ask you to step aside today."

Uncle He felt helpless. "Little Brother, please forgive me, but I can't ignore this matter."

Lu Yin was so angry that he started laughing. "It would seem that the seniors are determined to interfere with the juniors. Since that's the case, this junior will have to do what he needs to."

As he finished speaking, Lu Yin intended to use the spherical red sourcebox array. He could not believe what these two people were trying to pull over him, but he would not allow himself to be stepped on in the Stacking Mountain Range.

"Hey, don't be rash! Be reasonable! We're all intelligent people, so don't screw around," Master Tu quickly tried to calm Lu Yin down.

Lu Yin stared at the young man. "First let me kick his ass, and then we can talk about things."

Young Master Tu's eyes flitted about. "Wait- wait a month, and then I'll fight you."

Lu Yin frowned and gave Young Master Tu an odd look before looking back at Uncle He. These two people gave him a very odd feeling, but neither of them seemed to hold any malice towards them. Sure, they were infuriating, but his irritation stemmed more from disgust than anything else. "What the hell are you talking about? What do you want?"

"Just to talk." Young Master Tu smiled.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "I don't have any time to waste."

Young Master Tu sneered, and then pulled at his pants. He looked as if he was about to start urinating again, so Lu Yin immediately lashed out with a Vacuum Palm. But Uncle He was constantly on his guard towards Lu Yin, so the older man attacked in the same instant that the Vacuum Palm was released, and Lu Yin's attack was not able to touch Young Master Tu.

"Little brother, we really just want to talk. We have no bad intentions, and he will definitely fight you in a month. A month or not—does it really matter when you two fight?" Uncle He quickly spoke up.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. He felt like he was punching air at this moment. If he tried to fight, then he would not be able to defeat this Uncle He. Escape? The Stacking Mountain Range was only so big, so unless Lu Yin hid behind the Semi-Progenitor, he would not be able to hide, and there was no way a Semi-Progenitor would get involved in this trifling matter. Lu Yin was still considering using the Red Beam array to deal with Uncle He; otherwise, he would just be letting others walk all over him.

"What is it that you want to talk about?" Lu Yin asked emotionlessly as he calmly stared at Master Tu.

Chapter 1518: Seven Heroes

Young Master Tu was a proud individual, but as he looked at Lu Yin's face and powerful build, it was as though Young Master Tu was looking at a dream come to life after so many years. Even though he was certain that what he saw was nothing more than a similarity, he could not stop himself from asking, "What's your name? Where are you from?"

Lu Yin frowned. "I'm Long Qi, and I'm from the White Dragon Clan's Dalian Mountain branch family."

"You're from the White Dragon Clan?" Young Master Tu was stunned for a moment, but then his expression quickly became unsightly.

Uncle He's expression also twisted.

The smug expression that had just filled Young Master Tu's eyes changed to a gloomy expression, and he even radiated a bit of killing intent as he stared at Lu Yin's face. "The White Dragon Clan? You don't deserve to look like that."

Lu Yin's hands balled up into fists. "What did you just say?"

Uncle He's attitude had also changed, and he gazed at Lu Yin with cold eyes that blazed with hostility.

It was at this time that Brother Hong, Che Zhan, Mr. Guo, and the Matriarch of the Eastern Mountains all arrived. Yesterday, they had noticed that Lu Yin had kicked up a fuss, but none of them had cared after seeing Lu Yin beating someone up. However, they had noticed that the troublemaker had returned once more, and there were very few individuals who qualified to live this far up the Stacking Mountain Range.

Young Master Tu stared at Lu Yin's face for a moment before letting out a cold snort. "Disgusting! One day, I'll peel that face off of you."

He turned and left without looking back.

Lu Yin's expression grew cold, and he looked at Uncle He. "What does that mean?"

Uncle He replied in an indifferent tone, "Excuse me."

He left.

Che Zhan felt that the entire exchange was odd. "Who are those two?"

Lu Yin shook his head. "I don't know, but they're crazy."

"Was that Senior He?" Mr. Guo hesitantly asked as he stared at the back of the departing Uncle He.

Several people looked over at Mr. Guo. "You know him?"

Lu Yin answered Mr. Guo, "He's called Uncle He."

Mr. Guo grew quite excited. "It really is Senior He!"

"You know him?" Che Zhan grew curious.

Mr. Guo explained, "He's a member of the Qiming family."

"The Qiming family?" Che Zhan, Brother Hong, and the Matriarch of the Eastern Mountains all shouted.

Lu Yin was completely clueless. "Who're the Qiming family?"

"You don't know?" Everyone showed even greater surprise at Lu Yin's ignorance.

Lu Yin shrugged. "I grew up in Dalian Mountain and stayed there my entire childhood, never leaving. The first time I left there was when Long Xi announced that the clan was searching for a son-in-law."

Mr. Guo stared at Lu Yin. "Brother Long Qi, you have a great deal of respect towards Zhou Tang, and also towards the Lu family?"

Lu Yin's eyes flashed as he solemnly replied, "Very much so."

Mr. Guo nodded and then explained in an emotional voice, "In the past, the Lu family ruled the Higher Realm while the current four ruling powers were restricted to the Middle Realm. However, the Lu family did not live alone in the Higher Realm, as their vassals lived there with them. There was the All-Dao family and also the Qiming family. That person is a powerhouse from the Qiming family, and if he is that young man's guardian, he must be someone very important to their family."

Lu Yin felt shocked; those two were from the Qiming family?

He had heard that some of the Lu family's retainers had been recruited into the Forsaken Soldiers before he had arrived at the Stacking Mountain Range. However, he was worried that a Semi-Progenitor was watching him, so he had not actively sought out such people. Naturally, he had not expected two such people to actually have been so close to him this entire time. So those two were former vassals of the Lu family? It was no wonder why Young Master Tu's attitude had changed so drastically after learning that Lu Yin was a part of the White Dragon clan.

At that moment, Lu Yin's attitude towards the two changed in a fundamental way, and he unconsciously turned to stare at the two who had just left.

Those two were followers of his own family.

"Brother Long Qi, do you know what that young man's name is?" Mr. Guo asked.

"Uncle He called him Young Master Tu."

Mr. Guo felt shocked. "Unbelievable! Qiming Tu?"

Brother Hong was equally surprised. "The Qiming family's talented young master from back then?"

"How is that even possible? Are you sure that you heard right? Did Uncle He really call him Young Master Tu?" Mr. Guo reconfirmed as he stared at Lu Yin in blatant disbelief.

Lu Yin replied, "That's right, Young Master Tu."

The Matriarch of the Eastern Mountains murmured, "Is he really Qiming Tu? How is that possible? Even though this old woman seldom wanders out, even I've heard of the Seven Heroes of the Higher Realm, as they were famous throughout the entire universe. If not for Qiming Tu being too young, his cultivation would not have been any worse than theirs, and he could have almost been considered an eighth hero. He was even acknowledged by the Lu family's young master."

Lu Yin's finger suddenly twitched. Seven Heroes? The image of a paper contract appeared in his mind. On the paper were the palm prints of seven sworn siblings, and the faint trace of their oaths with each other.

'Third Bro, you're the smallest, so from now on, you're Seventh Bro. Come, talk to your elders!'

'Big Sis, Second Bro, Third Bro, Fourth Sis, Fifth Bro, Sixth Sis, hello.'

'Good, Little Seven. Whoever bullies you from now, we'll all help you get revenge.'

'You'll be called Little Seven from now.'

'Little Seven, are you happy? You have so many older siblings watching over you, so nobody will dare to bully you.'

'Your elder siblings will take care of you.'

Little Seven, your elder siblings will take care of you. Lu Yin's head suddenly exploded with pain. Blurred appearances emerged in his mind, giving him a splitting headache that forced him to his knees. As the pain intensified, he was assailed by sorrow that seeped out of his heart, and his eyes flushed crimson.

The people around Lu Yin were all startled by his sudden reaction. "Brother Long Qi, what's wrong?"

"Brother Long Qi?"

Lu Yin put a hand on the ground to support himself as he gasped for breath. Sweat poured from his forehead, and his vision blurred. However, those fervent oaths still echoed in his ears.

He took some time to recover.

Mr. Guo checked Lu Yin's eyes. "Do you have an injury that hasn't healed?"

Lu Yin sucked in a breath. "I'll be okay. It's an old issue."

Mr. Guo was solemn as he replied, "If you're suffering from a problem, then you should treat it as soon as possible. Given your cultivation, if you are suffering from that much pain, then something is terribly wrong."

Lu Yin nodded. "Don't worry, I know the reason behind it."

He then changed topics. "Who are the Seven Heroes?"

In a very deliberate and obvious manner, not a single one of the people present answered Lu Yin's question.

Che Zhan patted Lu Yin on the shoulder. "Brother Long Qi, there are certain things that can't be spoken. There are eyes observing us in the dark, and speaking some names would invite terrible disasters."

He then left after dropping this warning.

Mr. Guo, Brother Hong, and the Matriarch of the Eastern Mountains also slowly took their leave.

However, Mr. Guo departed in a different direction from the rest; he went after Uncle He.

...

Elsewhere, Young Master Tu had a miserable expression on his face, and he kept muttering curses about something.

Uncle He followed behind the younger man.

Young Master Tu's expression turned grim. "It's all because of him. Just why does someone from the White Dragon Clan look like that? That ugly mug can only belong to one person! So why does he have the same face? Why?!"

Uncle He looked at his ward. "At best, he only has a quarter of similarity."

"That's not good enough! Let alone a quarter, even a hundredth is too much!" Young Master Tu roared in anger.

Uncle He sighed.

A voice came from outside their quarters. "The All-Dao family's Guo Hai is honored to see Senior He."

Young Master Tu and Uncle He were startled for a moment, but then they suddenly shot to their feet while staring at each other. The All-Dao family?

Uncle He casually walked over to the entrance, but when he saw Mr. Guo waiting outside, Uncle He frowned. "Weren't you one of the people standing next to that kid from the White Dragon Clan?"

Mr. Guo respectfully responded, "Mr. Guo Hai, a teacher from the All-Dao family, greets Senior He. We met once before, at the Food Paradise."

Uncle He stared at Mr. Guo for a moment before suddenly making a connection. "I remember now. When the Food Paradise was built, you and I both contributed to it. I did see you there."

"Food Paradise? The Lu family's island of food? I went there frequently," Young Master Tu interjected. After speaking, he stared at Mr. Guo with cold eyes. "Since you're a member of the All-Dao family, why were you speaking with one of the White Dragon Clan? Did you betray us?"

Uncle He stared at Mr. Guo in a similar manner. It was not impossible for some of the Lu family's former vassals to have betrayed the exiled family or have been recruited by the four ruling powers. However, if this Mr. Guo was one of those people, Uncle He would have no reservations in killing the person. After all, they were the Forsaken Soldiers, and people here were expected to die, so no one would be concerned about such deaths.

Mr. Guo stared at Master Tu, clearly excited. "You really are the Qiming family's Master Qiming Tu! Only he could have frequently visited the Food Paradise."

Young Master Tu grew impatient. "Answer my question! Why are you spending time with that kid from the White Dragon Clan?"

"Come in and explain," Uncle He said quietly.

Mr. Guo followed the two men in.

After half an hour passed, Young Master Tu was shocked. "Such a person still exists? In order to expose a Redback, he didn't hesitate to offend the four ruling powers, and he was even chased after by a few Semi-Progenitors?"

Mr. Guo smiled. "Long Qi is just that sort of person. He greatly respects the Lu family, and he fell down to the New World because of Zhou Tang. He actually hates the four ruling powers' control, and he was the one who saved all of us. If not for him, we would have all died."

Uncle He was taken aback. "The child has already built up quite the legend."

"I don't believe it! The four ruling powers are all traitors! How old is Long Qi? He's never seen the majesty of the Lu family, and his childhood education would have included nothing about the Lu family at all. How could such a person possibly feel anything for the Lu family at all?" Young Master Tu angrily retorted.

Uncle He looked at his ward. "You forget the fourth hero."

Young Master Tu's body went stiff, and he gradually calmed himself down. "Four- Fourth Sister is different."

Mr. Guo's voice was thick with emotion, "Every group has both good and bad people—Light and darkness have always coexisted. We have watched Long Qi for a long time, and we have determined that he is different from the current four ruling powers. If it were not so, we would have never gotten close to him."

As he spoke, the man's smile grew bitter. "Besides, given our identities, why would the White Dragon Clan even bother with us at all? All of the people who mattered disappeared with the Lu family long ago. We're nothing but relics of the past, nothing more."

Uncle He turned his head as he recalled the past. "Sometimes, I wish that I had gone with the Lu family instead of staying in this Perennial World to be humiliated by people."

Young Master Tu's expression grew gloomy, and he slowly walked out of the room.

Mr. Guo had grown curious. "How could such a thing have happened to Young Master Tu? Back then, his talent was enough to shock the universe as well. It was said that when he grew older, he would become the eighth hero. What happened?"

Uncle He grew melancholic. "His cultivation was destroyed."

Mr. Guo's pupils instantly constricted. "Who did that?"

Uncle He clenched his hands into fists. "Who else?"

Mr. Guo punched the ground with a fist. He was a man with a refined bearing and a teacher, but at the mention of that person, he could not suppress his anger. "If possible, I really wish that I could kill her with my own hands."

Uncle He's clenched fists were actually trembling. "Not only did my young master lose his cultivation, but he also suffers from a form of mental torture every month. It's enough to even drive an Envoy crazy, but the young master has persevered despite enduring such agony every month. He's living an existence that is more painful than death. There are times when I truly wish to help the young master by ending his life, but the young master wishes to continue living. Only by doing so can he possibly wait for them to return. The young master has always held onto this hope."

Mr. Guo closed his eyes to hide the pain buried deep within his eyes. "Honestly, is there any hope?"

Uncle He solemnly replied, "By staying alive, there is always the future. If you die, there is nothing left."

Mr. Guo's eyes opened back up as he let out a sigh. "I hope so."

Mr. Guo left soon after. He had received a message from someone, and he raced away.

Chapter 1519: Lu Bastard

Uncle He watched Mr. Guo's back as the man left with a complicated expression. "Waiting for death is actually a greater agony than just dying, but there is also greater hope. How many of the Lu family's former retainers are also waiting with the same hope? Who can endure?"

Two days later, Mr. Guo approached Lu Yin. "Brother Long Qi, thank you so much. If not for you, I would have never been able to speak with a senior from my family."

Lu Yin was curious. "A senior from which family?"

Mr. Guo explained, "I am the teacher from the All-Dao family, and there are still some seniors from my family who are around."

Lu Yin was surprised to learn that Mr. Guo was another person from one of the Lu family's vassal clans who had been sent to the New World.

"Mr. Guo, it's not really a good thing to find members of your family here. After all, this is the New World," Lu Yin reminded the older man.

Mr. Guo sighed. "I had thought that everyone was already dead, so it's enough to know that there are others who are still alive."

Lu Yin could tell that Mr. Guo had been suppressing some issues deep in his heart for too long. He needed to vent his burdens to someone, and Lu Yin just happened to be the person present to listen.

Although the older man took a while to speak, Lu Yin came to understand that the Forsaken Soldiers were home to more than just one or two people from the Lu family's former vassal families. There were many people from the All-Dao family and the Qiming family present, but few of them had the strength to live far up the mountains.

The two Semi-Progenitors did not care about such things. Many other members of the Forsaken Soldiers had been sentenced here after committing a serious crime or after offending one of the four ruling powers, and such people had no connection to the Lu family's former vassal families at all. However, the former retainers actually represented the most powerful group within the Stacking Mountain Range.

Lu Yin also learned that the Forsaken Soldiers had another powerhouse just beneath that of the two Semi-Progenitor was someone known as Big Sister Luo Sha, and she was actually someone who did not come from the Perennial World. No one knew precisely where she was from, only that she hailed from a parallel universe.

As for why such a person had been sent to the Forsaken Soldiers, Mr. Guo had not investigated, and his senior did not know either.

Two days later, Lu Yin emerged from his quarters. When he looked up, he saw a bored Young Master Tubai off in the distance. Once again, there was a casual blade of grass in his mouth, and he looked both relaxed and irritating.

When Young Master Tu noticed Lu Yin, he let out a snort and deliberately turned to face another direction.

Lu Yin was left speechless, but he really wanted to beat this person within an inch of death.

Lu Yin leaped up so that he could look down at the Folded Mountains.

Young Master Tu commented, "That's right, living is too painful, and it's better to just die. The higher you fly, the easier it'll be for those monsters to see you. Then they'll focus you down or come out to play with you."

Lu Yin returned to the ground. "Thanks for the reminder."

"Remind your grandpa!" Young Master Tu instantly became upset, and he turned around to leave.

Lu Yin frowned; that guy really liked to mouth off.

Lu Yin spent some time studying a sourcebox array. The Stacking Mountain Range were also protected by a sourcebox array, though it had been damaged beyond the point of functioning for a long time. However, it also happened to be a sourcebox array that Lu Yin was familiar with: it was the same array of cones that also protected the second array base's headquarters.

This array had also been used by the second array base's headquarters, Xiang City, and even the Stacking Mountain Range. It seemed that this array was quite popular. However, Lu Yin remembered that Master Zan had claimed to be the only person who could repair this sourcebox array even though that was clearly nonsense.

Lu Yin wanted to repair this sourcebox array. After all, he had nothing to do at the moment, and fixing the sourcebox array would be rendering a great service to the Forsaken Soldiers.

After a while, Lu Yin raised his head to look up. He had no idea when the massive assault on the five array bases would let up, but once the fighting stopped, he was confident that Xia Yan would send someone down to the New World to collect Lu Yin. Thus, his time here in the Stacking Mountain Range was limited.

The sourcebox array protecting the Stacking Mountain Range was about the same size as the array protecting the second array base's headquarters, and both were powerful enough to threaten Envoys, even powerhouses who had survived several stellar tribulations.

However, the array that Lu Yin was examining had suffered much more damage than the sourcebox array that he had repaired before. Several of the sourceboxes were out of place, but no one cared about them. Naturally, no one was foolish enough to step anywhere close to the sourceboxes or the damaged array.

Lu Yin moved closer to one of the cone-shaped sourceboxes, but when he was still thousands of meters away, several cultivators noticed him, and one of them warned him. "Brother, don't wander around over there. That thing can't distinguish between enemy and ally."

Lu Yin looked at sourcebox. "No one has any plans of repairing it? With this sourcebox array functioning, the Stacking Mountain Range will be much safer."

"Fix it my ass! How would any Lockbreaker be willing to come down here? We haven't had any Lockbreakers come here for years. Just stay away from it," someone commented.

Lu Yin stared at the cone-shaped sourcebox. Even though all of the sourceboxes in this array were shaped like cones, each one produced a different danger field.

No two sourceboxes in the entire universe were identical, which meant that no two danger fields were identical either. Naturally, this also meant that no two sourcebox arrays were the same, but the same array could still be set up with different sourceboxes through adjustments and modifications, though that also meant that the power of each array would vary.

Lu Yin questioned whether or not he was capable of arranging this sourcebox array in the optimal setup, but even if that was impossible, he should still at least be able to repair it.

Higher up the mountain, Young Master Tu was looking down and watching as Lu Yin moved into the sourcebox array. "That kid really is an Array Master. He repaired the spherical red sourcebox array before, and now he wants to repair this one."

Although there were not many people near the sourcebox array, Lu Yin's actions nonetheless attracted a great deal of attention.

Even Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng and Semi-Progenitor Liu Hua took notice.

Semi-Progenitors were true powerhouses, but that did not mean that they could be Lockbreakers much less Array Masters. The two of them also wished for the mountains' defensive sourcebox array to be repaired, but they had zero expectations that an Array Master would descend down to the New World to help them.

Any Array Master was an invaluable treasure for humanity, and even if such a person committed a heinous crime, they still would not be sent down to the Forsaken Soldiers.

No one caused any problems for Lu Yin after seeing that he was able to enter the array without triggering it. Many people even started to hope that he would be able to repair the array.

As for Che Zhan and the others, they had great confidence in Lu Yin.

Up above, the assault on the array bases continued unabated, and corpses occasionally fell down to the New World.

Lu Yin had already found all of the sourceboxes, so he was currently studying them and spending his days rearranging and adjusting them.

In the blink of an eye, half a month passed.

The fighting on the battlefield behind the Mother Tree never paused. Part of it was that it was not easy to put an end to a large-scale battle like the one that had been launched on the array bases.

Lu Yin had no idea when things would let up.

Marquis Xiang once again left Xiang City to rejoin the war efforts, though it was possible for him to return at any moment. After all, Xiang City was a vital geographic location.

Lu Yin spent his time repairing the sourcebox array, and as he worked, Young Master Tu spent his time spouting nonsense at the side. He did not particularly like Lu Yin, but Young Master Tu continued to stare at Lu Yin and try goading him into beating him up. After ten days, Lu Yin obliged the man.

"Come on, can't you even fight?!" Young Master Tu taunted. There was something inside his head bulging out, and it caused him excruciating agony, and it even caused him to suffer from visions. In particular, whenever he looked at Lu Yin, Young Master Tu seemed to see that person from the past.

"Whoever wins will call the other grandson! I can call you boss, but I want to be the eighth hero! I want to travel throughout the Perennial World..." Young Master Tu shouted, his eyes bloodshot as he was already delusional. He was suffering from a torture that no one could endure. And it was all to guarantee that he would stay alive.

With a single punch from Lu Yin, Young Master Tu was smashed into the ground. Lu Yin calmly bent over, grabbed Young Master Tu's shoulder, and whispered, "Who am I?"

Young Master Tu's nose had been smushed, and his face was swollen, though Lu Yin was not as ruthless as last time. After Mr. Guo informed him of Young Master Tu's situation and learning that Young Master Tu was from one of the Lu family's vassal families, Lu Yin was some sympathy for the youth. Thus, Lu Yin struck out with still powerful, but not ruthless attacks to relieve Young Master Tu's mental pain with

some physical pain. Still, it was clear that Young Master Tu was seeing someone else in Lu Yin and that he would much rather be beaten by that other person. This was what was helping Young Master Tu through his ordeal. "Lu- Lu- Boss Lu."

"My name," Lu Yin eagerly asked. However, he saw Uncle He approaching them.

Young Master Tu hoarsely answered, "Lu- Lu Bastard."

Lu Yin was left speechless; he should have beaten this person far harder!

After arriving, Uncle He took Young Master Tu with a nod to Lu Yin. "I'm sorry."

With just those words, the older man picked up Young Master Tu and left.

Lu Yin's mood was ruined. It was clear that Young Master Tu had been an old friend of Lu Yin's back when he had been the seventh sibling and that Lu Yin had called himself Young Master Tu's boss. Young Master Tu would also rather endure this mental torture every month as he waited for the Lu family to return. This was honorable, and it also demonstrated incredible loyalty. Such behavior reminded Lu Yin of Luo Shen. Being the target of such honor and loyalty was a heavy weight.

It had become clear to Lu Yin that many of the Lu family's former retainers had survived. How many of them were still waiting for Lu Yin? Waiting for the Lu family?

Lu Yin looked up at the second array base, and his eyes seemed to pierce through it to the rest of the Perennial World and up to the four ruling powers in the Higher Realm. Lu Yin also wanted to bring the Lu family back, as well as all of their surviving vassal powers.

"Just wait. I will return this pain to the four ruling powers a hundredfold times over," Lu Yin muttered to himself. He shook off the heavy emotions weighing his heart down and returned to studying the sourcebox array.

The very next day, Young Master Tu returned, though he was in the same miserable state that he had been in the day before. He occasionally sneered or taunted Lu Yin, and the moment that Lu Yin showed any sign of discomfort, Young Master Tu seized the opportunity to schedule another duel for the following month.

"Brother Long Qi, don't be too rough," Mr. Guo cautioned. He was afraid that Lu Yin would end up killing Young Master Tu.

Lu Yin asked, "What was his previous cultivation?"

Mr. Guo brushed the question off in a regretful tone. "Why bring up such matters from the past?"

"Is there no way for him to recover?" Lu Yin asked. His voice was casual, but his eyes were serious.

Mr. Guo shook his head. "There's no way. I actually don't even know how to ruin someone's cultivation, let alone restore it. It's possible that a Progenitor might have the means."

Lu Yin nodded.

He was about to finish repairing the sourcebox array.

A few days later, a loud vibration echoed out overhead, and the gears on the second array base that had been turning throughout the entire assault slowly stopped turning. Everyone in the Stacking Mountain Range looked up. The assault had ended.

The all-out attack had not lasted for long, but there had been terrible casualties on both sides. Corpses had rained from the sky without end, including both humans and corpse kings.

Young Master Tu looked up. "If Ceaseless Impetus ever breaks in the future, I don't know who will be capable of fixing it."

Lu Yin glanced over. This person really did have a way of bringing up the worst possibilities.

With the assault on the array bases over, Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng spoke up and spread his voice throughout the Stacking Mountain Range. "Everyone needs to prepare themselves. With the battle above us over, the war will soon return to us. We can be attacked at any moment."

Lu Yin quickly resumed working on the sourcebox array.

The following day, just as the Semi-Progenitor had warned, the fighting returned to the Forsaken Soldiers. Countless corpse kings poured out of Xiang City and charged towards the Stacking Mountain Range.

A disturbing and massive figure stood above Xiang City as it stared at the distant Stacking Mountain Range.

Semi-Progenitors Ji Feng and Liu Hua stepped forward, and all three figures entered the true universe. Lu Yin sped up, and he also entered the true universe to watch the battle. He still had almost no understanding of the power that Semi-Progenitors wielded.

Countless corpse kings had reached the foot of the mountains. Of the nearly 10 million people who had been rescued by Lu Yin and the others, most had already recovered, and they formed defensive lines at the front and did not back down. They had resisted the corpse kings at this place for countless years, and it was littered with dry bones by now.

Lu Yin saw Big Sis Luo Sha in the true universe. She was an ordinary-looking woman, though her appearance was very young. Currently, she was moving straight at Xiang City with her robust body, but she was shrouded by a dark cloud that made her look like a ghost. Every so often, strange cries could be heard from the dark cloud, which was very disturbing.

Chapter 1520: Knows One

Lu Yin also noticed the person that Mr. Guo had mentioned earlier had taken action, a senior from the All-Dao family. This man was named Wan Sen, and he was a powerhouse who had survived his fourth tribulation. When the battle started, he had immediately made a move to confront a massive corpse king.

Zhou Tang had also recovered by this time. Lu Yin had not seen the man in a while, but as the corpse king attack force approached, the void warped as though a fire was boiling it. Zhou Tang's aurelian force spread out and covered hundreds of kilometers in an invincible manner.

Zhou Tang's cultivation was not as impressive as Wan Sen's, not to mention Sister Luo Hua. However, Zhou Tang was the most powerful when he used his aurelian force. His invincible battle force made him the most conspicuous individual on the entire battlefield, and he instantly drew the attention of several corpse kings that had the strength of Envoys. One was even as powerful as an Envoy who had survived five tribulations, and the creature instantly sent Zhou Tang flying.

Fortunately, Zhou Tang was strong and did not die.

Wan Sen moved to block off that particular corpse king. Even though the Envoy's cultivation lagged behind by a stage, his battle techniques were anything but weak. Even Lu Yin could tell that the man's techniques seemed to be of higher quality than many of the four ruling powers'. With his abilities, Wen San successfully stopped the corpse king.

"Hey, are you just going to hide in there and not fight? Come out and fight me! Whoever wins calls the other grandson!" Young Master Tu taunted Lu Yin as he jumped about.

Lu Yin frowned and pressed a hand to the ground. Suddenly, the sourcebox array formed from the cone-shaped sourceboxes flew into the air. He was done.

With a single thought, the array spread out and enveloped the entire battlefield that had engulfed the mountain range. Countless corpse kings were pierced through by the cone-shaped sourceboxes, even the one fighting Wan Sen. The five corpse kings with the strength of Envoys were all struck as well, and they were forced back several steps.

Many of the corpse kings looked up to see that Lu Yin was the one controlling the sourcebox array.

One of the Envoy-level corpse kings roared as wings appeared behind its back and flapped as a strange blue flame lit up from within the void. This was the creature's innate gift.

Lu Yin tossed Young Master Tu to the side before turning to face the blue flame that was shooting through the air. He had his Cloudguard Robes on, so this blue flame was completely unable to harm Lu Yin at all. Once the corpse king was in range, Lu Yin raised a hand and released a Vacuum Palm.

The attack forced back this corpse king that had the strength of an Envoy.

Lu Yin leaped towards the location of the spherical red sourcebox array. His current plan was to use both sourcebox arrays in unison. That way, his opponents would be forced to push into two offensive sourcebox arrays at the same time.

The winged, Envoy level corpse king was incredibly fast, and it caught up to Lu Yin in the blink of an eye as it swung a hand at him.

Even though this corpse king was not as fast as the one that Lu Yin had fought against before, it was not far behind. Zhou Tang, Mr. Guo, and the other Envoys were all unable to help Lu Yin, as were the other Envoys among the Forsaken Soldiers; none of them could catch up to this corpse king.

Lu Yin was in danger, but he had already decided to take a risk. He activated a Teleportation Formation just as the winged corpse king's claws tore through the void and slashed down at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin pulled out the long spear that he had taken from Long Tian, and he quickly covered the spear shaft with its sticky green substance. This was the same method that Lu Yin had used to defeat the

previous, even faster corpse king, and if it had worked against that opponent, then why not employ it against this one?

A powerful blow hit Lu Yin from the side before he could even respond. He was smashed down to the ground by the winged corpse king, and the creature pursued its target to the ground. In retaliation to the previous attack, Lu Yin lifted the spear and stabbed out with its tip aimed overhead.

Right after Lu Yin lifted his spear, the winged corpse king appeared and smashed Lu Yin into the mountain side.

Some distance away, Young Master Tu was startled by what he saw. "Uncle He, go help."

Closeby, Uncle He was about to step in when he suddenly noticed that the green goo on the ground was wrapped around the corpse king's arm. Meanwhile, an unscathed Lu Yin was pulled out by the corpse king.

Uncle He was surprised, but Young Master Tu was even more startled. He suddenly remembered what Uncle He had mentioned about this kid having amazing equipment.

The winged corpse king was fast but not particularly powerful, and it was completely unable to break free of the sticky green substance. Lu Yin seized this opportunity to drag the corpse king back to the sourcebox array with the cone-shaped sourceboxes. The corpse king desperately fought back and savagely roared. There were less than three meters separating its scarlet irises from Lu Yin's eyes. The cold and silent stare was frightening.

There was finally a bang. A cone from the sourcebox array left behind a hole in the chest of the corpse king, tearing it apart.

Lu Yin put his spear away and then continued making his way towards the Red Beam

Before long, red beams of light swept across the entire mountain range, slaughtering even more corpse kings.

Once the two sourcebox arrays started attacking, the flood of corpse kings from Xiang City were completely restrained.

Even Marquis Xiang's attention was drawn to the arrays, and he was furious by what he saw. "Is that kid new here?"

Across from the corpse king, Semi-Progenitors Ji Feng and Liu Hua warily glanced at each other. Even though there were Semi-Progenitors on both sides of the battle, they were not on the same level. The two humans had only cultivated for a fraction of the time that the corpse king had existed for, and Marquis Xiang was as old as some Progenitors. Also, corpse kings generally held the advantage against opponents with the same level of cultivation, and the two Semi Progenitors could only handle Marquis Xiang when they joined forces.

"You just launched an all-out attack on the array bases, and now you're attacking the Stacking Mountain Range. You really are full of energy," Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng commented.

Marquis Xiang sneered back. "We have no need for something like energy. That's something that only you humans have. Energy, aging, pain and emotions. These are the things that will lead to your defeat."

"Which of your eyes sees us as defeated? If not for the fact that there have been a lot more of you monsters in recent years, the battlefield would still be in the same state as before. Honestly, you should be embarrassed," Semi-Progenitor Liu Hua mocked.

Marquis Xiang glanced at the two Semi-Progenitors. "You two can work together to defeat me, but what part of that is worthy of pride? It won't be long before I manage to break your inner world. Do you intend to stay here or run away like those fear-shriveled turtles from before? Will you flee to the Perennial World? Well? Hahahaha!"

Semi-Progenitors Ji Feng and Liu Hua glanced at each other, their expressions growing more and more vigilant.

"That's it! Why don't we take you back and convert you? That will give us two more experts." Marquis Xiang suddenly changed the conversation, but then he looked up. "Come on out. What are you waiting for?"

Semi-Progenitors Ji Feng and Liu Hua were both startled, and their heads were forced away from each other as shoots of green bamboo appeared out of the ground and stabbed into the sky. The attack came out of nowhere, and in an instance, almost a million people had died. Their blood pooled together to form a river of blood.

High up the Stacking Mountain Range, Lu Yin trembled; had Marquis Green Bamboo been waiting in ambush this entire time? Why would he show up now?

The Stacking Mountain Range only had two Semi-Progenitors, and they had always needed to work together to restrain Marquis Xiang. With Marquis Green Bamboo added to the battlefield, the situation had instantly reversed.

Sister Luo Hua grew pale as she stared at Marquis Green Bamboo. This was not an expert whom she could handle.

Uncle He and Zhou Tang were similarly able to do nothing more than simply watch.

Marquis Green Bamboo's eyes wandered across the Folded Mountains, though they briefly paused on Lu Yin. Suddenly, the marquis attacked the sourcebox array with the cones. A massive bamboo shoot sprouted in the void and struck the array at full force.

A Semi-Progenitor was powerful enough to easily destroy such a sourcebox array, and the strength of this particular array was not enough to make the corpse king personally move.

However, just as the massive, green bamboo was about to strike, a palm shot up from underground and grabbed a hold of the bamboo. It squeezed, and the bamboo cracked.

Everyone was stunned; was there someone underground?

Marquis Green Bamboo's eyes narrowed, and he pressed down with a hand. Rays of light radiated from the green bamboo, and it instantly recovered before continuing to barrel down towards the sourcebox array.

The hand maintained a firm grip on the bamboo. "Marquis Green Bamboo, I have not seen you for many years, but are you still using this same method?"

The voice boomed with power, and its owner seemed to be someone in his twilight years, and yet his tone overflowed with confidence and arrogance.

Marquis Green Bamboo was actually shocked to hear this particular voice, but then he laughed. "The Lu family was exiled, and I was actually wondering what had happened to my old friends from back then. I never expected you to be here, Wan Zhiyi."

All across the Stacking Mountain Range, Mr. Guo, Zhou Tang, and the others were all stupefied; Wan Zhiyi? That was the name of the All-Dao family's grand elder!

The various Envoys were not the only ones shocked, as Wan Sen and the other members of the All-Dao family who had been banished to the Forsaken Soldiers had also been ignorant to the fact that their family's grand elder had been underground. Wan Sen started trembling from anger.

How majestic had the All-Dao family's grand elder been when the Lu family had still been around!? Even the four ruling powers' Progenitors had needed to show respect to Wan Zhiyi back then. He had been allowed to freely come and go from the Lu family's territory, and yet he had actually been exiled underground, beneath the Folded Mountains, stepped upon by everyone who tread upon the mountains. How humiliating!

Young Master Tu's eyes turned bloodshot. The All-Dao family had an inseparable relationship with the Qiming family. Overflowing with rage, Young Master Tu muttered to himself, "Grandpa Zhiyi? Grandpa Zhiyi? Is that you?"

Hidden in the void, Semi-Progenitors Ji Feng and Liu Hua had been unaware that anyone had been beneath the mountain range. These arrangements had been made back when the Lu family had still been in power before their exile. The two Semi-Progenitors had been told that there was a powerhouse supporting the Forsaken Soldiers, but despite the many years that had passed, they had never seen or spoken to anyone. They had never considered that the All-Dao family's grand elder, Wan Zhiyi, would be their secret support in the dark. This old man had long been famous throughout the Perennial World.

"I really can't understand it. Just why are they keeping you old retainers alive? The Lu family will never be able to return. They've been destroyed! You should have gone with your master back then."

Lu Yin's eyes turned cold as he stared at Marquis Green Bamboo.

"My master's family will not die so easily, and they will return sooner or later. For now, begone," the ancient voice ordered. The hand rising out of the ground opened and slapped at Marquis Green Bamboo with an open palm that contained an indescribable power. It was clearly just a single slap, but anyone who saw it would feel as if they had seen ten thousand strikes.

One silhouette after another passed through the void. They surpassed the ages as they came until they became a barrage of palm prints that shot towards Marquis Green Bamboo one after another.

The marquis's scarlet eyes changed dramatically, and his body transformed into a shoot of green bamboo that shone brightly as the ten thousand palm strikes smashed against the bamboo in the void.

The next moment, space itself tore open. Everyone felt a terrible pressure beat down upon their heads, and this was because beyond the spatial tear was not the void, nor anything else. However, a terrible pressure descended upon the entire mountain range, as well as Xiang City. Countless individuals vomited blood and passed out.

Even Lu Yin found himself lying on the ground due to the pressure of the collision. He was unable to exert the slightest bit of control over the star energy in his body right now. With great effort, Lu Yin looked up, but all that he could see was a cracked green bamboo shoot retreating. After that, Marquis Xiang also retreated, along with the countless corpse kings. All of the monsters left the Stacking Mountain Range and returned to Xiang City.

As Lu Yin looked around, he saw that more than half of the humans occupying the Folded Mountains had fainted.

Semi-Progenitors Ji Feng and Liu Hua landed on the ground and bowed towards the ground. "Thank you for your help, senior."

Wan Zhiyi did not reply. All that he had done was thrust a hand out of the ground, and yet that had been enough to repel Marquis Green Bamboo.

Semi-Progenitor Ji Feng was absolutely shocked. He thought back to the glory that the All-Dao family had enjoyed in the past. They had truly been qualified to reside in the Higher Realm alongside the Lu family. If one discounted the Progenitors, then the All-Dao family had been strong enough to equal even the current four ruling powers.

Back then, the person in the All-Dao family who had been the closest to the Progenitor realm had been the family's grand elder. There had been some rumors that Wan Zhiyi might be able to break into the Progenitor realm, but he had later suffered a drastic setback.

At this moment, that great powerhouse was actually trapped and imprisoned beneath the Stacking Mountain Range, which was truly a pitiful end.

Wan Sen, Mr. Guo, and the other descendants of the All-Dao family who had been exiled to the Stacking Mountain Range all knelt down. "We greet the Grand Elder."

"We greet the Grand Elder."

"Junior Wan Sen is honored to see the Grand Elder."

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There was no response at all, and it seemed as though Wan Zhiyi had entered a deep slumber. No matter how Wan Sen shouted, there was not a single word of response.