

ODYSSEY 1571

Chapter 1571: He's Here

Next, Lu Yin called Ban Jiu and asked the man to make another set of universal armor. In order to save some time, Ban Jiu sent Lu Yin the schematics and asked Lu Yin to melt down the materials before delivering them. The facilities at Black Street were advanced enough to melt down some of the materials. After all, Black Street existed because of the vast amount of nearby trash, and even though there were materials that could not be recycled, the place still had impressive capabilities.

Later, Lu Yin Disassembled the new batch of materials that Ming Yan had given him, gave the refined materials and schematics to Ming Yan, and asked her to find someone to process the materials. This would take a while, and Lu Yin intended to spend his time in the Daosource Sect's ruins.

He had never forgotten about the Ninesuns Cauldron Transformation, but he had not had an opportunity to return to the Daosource Sect's ruins in a while. Finally, he was able to go back.

Lu Yin pulled out his futon. It had been a long time since he had last visited the Daosource Sect's ruins, and he let out an emotional sigh before sitting down on it, reappearing in a plaza.

When he had last entered the ruins, it had been shortly before the Sixth Mainland abandoned their invasion of the Fifth Mainland.

The square that Lu Yin entered was quite a bit more lively than it was during his last visit. He altered his appearance a bit, stood up, and started making his way towards the First Divine Gate.

There was a group of people gathered outside the road to the First Divine Gate, and they glanced at each other while watching Lu Yin approach.

Just as Lu Yin was about to step onto the road, one of the people stepped forward to stop him. "Brother, the First Divine Gate Guardians are hard to deal with. Do you want to go with us?"

Lu Yin smiled but refused. "No need."

"Brother, I'm guessing that you're a Cruiser, which would make you only inferior to Realmings. You won't be in any danger if you team up with us, as Realming Di Luo is supporting us, which means that these Daosource Sect's ruins are safe for us." The man continued trying to persuade Lu Yin.

Lu Yin was surprised at this bit of news. "Di Luo? Isn't Di Fa the Realming?"

Several people's expressions changed, and they grew wary as they stared at Lu Yi. "Aren't you from the Sixth Mainland?"

"I'm from the Sage Martial Realm," Lu Yin explained.

Some of the crowd were surprised. "The Sage Martial Realm? Why has someone from there showed up here at the First Divine Gate?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "No idea, but here I am."

"My Bloodburn Realm's Realming is now Di Luo. Lord Di Fa is too old to be considered a part of the younger generation, so he's no longer a Realming," someone took a moment to explain, but after

speaking, he stared at Lu Yin and studied him. "You're from Sage Martial Realm? Then show us your imprint."

Lu Yin smiled. "Sure."

However, his body simply disappeared.

The entire crowd was startled; what had happened to him?

Lu Yin quickly passed through the First Divine Gate and stepped onto the Budding Terrace. He immediately continued traveling towards the region with the Nine Cauldrons.

Di Fa had grown older and was no longer a Realmling. In the same manner, most of the Realmlings that Lu Yin had been familiar with had also left the younger generation, just like the the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters. However, Lu Yin was still young enough to be considered a part of the younger generation. Well, as long as the time that he had lived as Lu Xiaoxuan was not included...

He could also be considered a member of that previous generation.

It did not take Lu Yin long to arrive at the region that held the Nine Cauldrons, only to find that it was still blocked off.

Long ago, after Lu Yin had absorbed all of the cauldron energy from the first cauldron, causing it to shatter. That incident had drawn the attention of many of the Sixth Mainland's older experts, and they had moved to investigate. Eventually, some of the Sixth Mainland's major powers had sealed off the Nine Cauldrons' region, and even though several years had passed since that incident, there were still some people paying attention to the region. It was impossible for ordinary cultivators to gain access to the region.

Lu Yin was different; he simply moved past the people standing guard in front of the region's entrance without any of them noticing anything at all.

The first cauldron had already shattered, so Lu Yin entered the second cauldron. There, he found that there were some people already inside it. They were most likely all descendants of Imprinters, but none of them were important. Thus, Lu Yin simply knocked them all out and began absorbing the cauldron energy.

Lu Yin's strength had completely transformed compared to when he had previously absorbed cauldron energy, and he was pleasantly surprised to discover that his absorption rate was much quicker.

A few days later, the second cauldron trembled before it shattered and collapsed, right in front of many people's shocked gazes.

"Hurry! Hurry up and let the family elders know that the second cauldron has shattered too!" someone exclaimed.

Many of the watching people started moving towards the shattered remains of the cauldron in hopes of finding something, but the people that Lu Yin had knocked out inside the cauldron had been awakened by the commotion, and they all glanced around in confusion. Not a single one of them had any idea of what had just happened.

"Someone knocked us out," someone quietly commented. As he spoke, he reflexively released his imprint and exerted his full strength. "The entrance to this place has already been blocked off, so no one can leave."

Not only were there people in the second cauldron, but also in the third, the fourth, and even the ninth. Sword Scholar actually emerged from the ninth cauldron, and his voice filled the entire region. "Everyone, don't do anything rash."

No one dared to retort. Even though Xiao Qing had defeated Sword Scholar and taken the position of Realmking, Sword Scholar was still a former Realmking. Also, he was no longer a part of the younger generation, so most of the youths saw Sword Scholar as a senior on the same level as their elders.

Even though many of the youths secretly despised Sword Scholar and the others of his age for shamelessly entering the Daosource Sect's ruins to compete with juniors, no one dared to speak up in front of the man himself.

Sword Scholar's eyes swept across the Nine Cauldrons Region. This place was not very big, so he could observe the entire place.

Finally, his eyes locked onto the third cauldron.

Since the first and second cauldrons had both shattered, the third cauldron should be next. Therefore, Sword Scholar jumped into the third cauldron.

That was the last thing that he remembered.

Lu Yin felt helpless. Why all the commotion? He just wanted to absorb the cauldron energy in peace, but every time he tried to do so, there would always be such a huge commotion.

Lu Yin checked the area outside the cauldron. All of the youths were waiting for Sword Scholar to report on what he found, and while Lu Yin could mimic Sword Scholar's voice to intimidate these youths, the experts from the older generation would arrive soon, and Sword Scholar was not enough to intimidate any of them.

Not knowing what else to do, Lu Yin let out a long breath and completely released his domain, enveloping the entire region.

One person's expression changed drastically. "What a powerful domain!"

Before anyone else could react, every single person in the region collapsed to the ground. Lu Yin had dealt with everyone with just his domain.

Lu Yin raised a hand, set up a Channeling Diagram to isolate the third cauldron, and then returned to absorbing the cauldron energy.

It did not take long for more people to enter the Nine Cauldrons Region, as they had received the news that the second cauldron had shattered. However, everyone passed out the moment they arrived, and unconscious people were strewn about the entire region.

People started to panic, but no one dared to make a move.

A powerhouse was soon dispatched to investigate: Hong Ying.

The Daosource Sect's ruins were treated as a battlefield where youths could compete for opportunities, but that was just tradition. Older people were also able to enter, and Hong Ying was no exception.

She entered the Nine Cauldrons Region and stared straight at the third cauldron before leaping in just like Sword Scholar.

While Hong Ying was still just a Hunter, she was at the cusp of becoming an Enlighter.

But right when Hong Yin was about to enter the cauldron, she was blocked by the Channeling Diagram, and she was forced to retreat dozens of meters.

Hong Yin stared at the Channeling Diagram. She felt that it looked a bit familiar, but thought nothing else of it. Next, she pulled out a spear and stabbed at the barrier hindering her. The tip of her spear stabbed through the sourcebox array, and Hong Ying's imprint appeared. The appearance of Madam Hong's imprint caused Hong Ying's strength to spike at the exact moment that she attacked.

However, the same scene as before repeated; her attack was useless.

Dismayed, Hong Ying landed on the ground. An older expert must have discovered something and taken the opportunity in the Nine Cauldrons. She glanced over at the first cauldron. It had shattered a few years ago, and the person behind that must have returned and made another move. Just who was it?

Fan Shun was also in the Daosource Sect's ruins, and as soon as he received word of what had happened in the Nine Cauldrons' region, he rushed straight over.

When he arrived, he found that there were no fewer than a hundred unconscious people strewn about the region. He looked around at them, but they were all silent.

Hong Ying looked back at Fan Shun.

In the past, no one had particularly cared about the Brahman Realm's Realmling, but he had revealed a terrifying level of strength, battle techniques, innate gift, and even a mastery over secret techniques during ZENITH. He had proven himself worthy of the title of Realmling. At the very least, Hong Ying had been fully convinced.

Fan Shun instantly released his imprint of the Herb Immortal, which caused all of the nearby vegetation to surge with life. Towering trees rose up from the ground and formed a massive treant that slapped a wooden hand against the third cauldron.

This attack had been used during ZENITH, and it was so powerful that Hong Ying viewed it as invincible.

The giant treant slapped the Channeling Diagram surrounding the cauldron, but the force of the impact spread out into lines of force that shot out in all directions.

Hong Ying's expression changed slightly. One of the redirected lines of force had shot straight towards her face, and she stabbed at it with her spear. The collision forced her back a hundred meters, and her

hands trembled as blood spilled from her mouth. She looked up, only to see that the third cauldron looked the same as before. Fan Shun's attack had failed.

Bang, bang!

The diverted force from the attack struck the Nine Cauldrons Region's border in every direction, and the impact twisted the void.

Hundreds of people panicked, terrified of being caught up in the attack.

All of the towering trees disappeared, and Fan Shun frowned and stopped attacking. Even his imprint vanished.

Hong Ying asked, "No use?"

"He's here," Fan Shun coldly announced.

Hong Ying's eyes sharpened into focus. "Who?"

Fan Shun looked at Hong Ying. "Don't you feel like this scene is rather familiar?"

Hong Ying looked back over at the third cauldron and recalled how the power from Fan Shun's attack had been dispersed. Suddenly, her expression changed, and her head whipped around to stare at Fan Shun. "It's a sourcebox array! Lu Yin?"

A smile appeared on Fan Shun's face. "He's been missing for two years, but he's finally back."

Hong Ying gritted her teeth as she stared at the third cauldron. "He actually managed to seize the Nine Cauldrons' hidden opportunity."

Fan Shun looked up. "Only a truly peerless person like him could possibly qualify to take this opportunity. You and I can't even break through his sourcebox array. Within our generation, not even the Daosource Three Skies can defeat him anymore. Only an Imprinter could possibly deal with him now."

He then turned to look at everyone else in the area. "Go and tell an Imprinter to come here as soon as possible. Let them know that Lu Yin is here."

"Wait." Hong Ying stopped them from moving. "If an Imprinter comes, you and I will get nothing from these Nine Cauldrons at all."

Fan Shun was in a helpless position. "Lu Yin's here, so even if all of the Sixth Mainland's Realmings and the Daosource Three Skies were here, it would accomplish nothing. Who can take this chance from him?"

Hong Ying wanted to disagree with Fan Shun's opinion, but then she remembered ZENITH's final battle. All of the top ten finalists had worked together against Lu Yin, but even their combined strength had not been enough to force Lu Yin to take a single step back. The gap in strength had been so vast that it could not possibly be filled. Numbers could not compensate for so much individual power.

Hong Ying was unwilling to accept her circumstances, but she was also helpless to resist. Why had such a freak appeared in her generation?

Inside the third cauldron, Lu Yin heard what Fan Shun and the others all said. Their conversation made Lu Yin a bit nervous, though Fan Shun and others were even more anxious. They had always seen the Daosource Sect's ruins as the Sixth Mainland's land of opportunity for their youths, but at this moment, Lu Yin had stolen the greatest opportunity that the ruins held. They simply could not accept this.

Fan Shen's Imprinter was more powerful than Hong Ying's, so Fan Shun decided to invite his Imprinter to step forward.

The Realmlyng just hoped that Lu Yin would not take too much away before the Imprinter arrived.

What inheritances did the Nine Cauldrons hold? It would be wonderful if Lu Yin could be captured and questioned, but, of course, that was nothing more than a dream. Given Lu Yin's status in the Fifth Mainland, even the three Progenitors would be cautious about moving against Lu Yin.

Chapter 1572: Unbeatable

One day later, Shang Rong arrived. He formed a brilliant sun that he used to try to break through Lu Yin's Channeling Diagram, but the attack ended up affecting the entire Nine Cauldrons region. Many people were injured.

Little Arrow Saint arrived shortly after, but his aura was much weaker than Fan Shun's. Little Arrow Saint had been badly wounded during ZENITH, and he had been lucky to even survive. At the moment, he was only slightly stronger than Hong Ying.

Little Arrow Saint had not traveled to the Nine Cauldrons region in order to try to take Lu Yin's inheritance away from him, but rather to watch the show. Little Arrow Saint knew that an Imprinter would soon arrive, and Lu Yin could not stand up to such a powerhouse.

Xiao Qing also arrived, and she looked very interested.

Even though Lu Yin was in a hurry, he did not panic. He had actually expected such a situation before even entering the Daosource Sect's ruins, and so he had already made his preparations. However, the moment that one Imprinter failed to move Lu Yin, he would be on borrowed time. If he ended up drawing out old monsters with truly impressive power levels, he would not be able to stop them without the help of power vessels and items.

Half a day later, the first Imprinter arrived.

The Sixth Mainland had many Envoys. However, due to the status that such powerhouses held, and the fact that they often focused on their training, it was usually very difficult for a member of the younger generation to get in touch with an Envoy. Such experts would not allow themselves to be easily disturbed.

The first Imprinter to appear was an old woman who came across the incident through pure chance.

"It's Senior Ling."

"Senior Ling's someone from the Di family, but she left her family after their ancestor died."

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The old woman ignored the youths' comments and focused on the third cauldron. "Junior from the Fifth Mainland, You have just this one chance to come out."

Everyone stared at the cauldron. An Imprinter had arrived, so no one believed that Lu Yin would be able to escape.

There was no response at all from the cauldron. Lu Yin continued to absorb the cauldron energy.

"Junior, don't make this old woman come after you. This will disrupt the harmony we have established with the Fifth Mainland." The old woman's tone grew much sharper.

Fan Shun spoke up in a respectful tone, "Senior Ling, please make a move as soon as possible. Lu Yin's time in the Daosource Sect's ruins might soon end, and if that happens, he'll be able to simply leave."

The old woman's eyes flashed, and she took a step forward and pressed down with a hand. The void shattered, and everyone saw her attack disappear.

At this moment, Lu Yin looked up, still unfazed. He watched as the old woman's attack entered the true universe. Her palm fell onto his Channeling Diagram, and the force of the attack was diverted into lines that shot out in all directions.

The old woman was startled; she was unable to break this sourcebox array? How was that even possible?

The old woman was not the only one surprised by the development, as Fan Shun and all of the nearby youths were absolutely shocked. This woman was an Imprinter! Dealing with someone from their generation should be nothing more than playing, so how could she possibly not have broken Lu Yin's sourcebox array?

The Nine Cauldrons region was already somewhere that space was unstable, and the old woman's attack disturbed the balance. Spatial cracks appeared everywhere, and one person was careless and ended up being swallowed by a crack. There was only a scream and a bit of blood that was quickly sucked into the void. It was a disturbing sight.

Everyone paled and slowly retreated.

The old woman gritted her teeth and the surface of her body changed. She had activated her bloodline, which was the Progenitor of Bloodlines Territory's unique cultivation method. She then once again attacked Lu Yin's Channeling Diagram, only to fail to break it a second time.

Lu Yin's eyes were cold. The Sixth Mainland's cultivators' greatest advantage over their peers in the Fifth Mainland was the natural suppression that existed. Furthermore, the Sixth Mainland had various unique methods of cultivation, including the imprints that had been spread by their three Progenitors. This made those from the Sixth Mainland appear to be much stronger, but once those few advantages were taken away, cultivators from the Fifth Mainland were actually more powerful on average.

The Sixth Mainland's imprints not only limited people's futures, they also made people become dependent upon the imprints. The old woman wanted to destroy Lu Yin's Channeling Diagram without using her imprint, but Lu Yin had become accustomed to the power of the Envoys from the Fifth Mainland and the Perennial World.

The old woman landed on the ground and solemnly stated, "Items. The child must have used some sort of power vessel."

Some distance away, the faces of Fan Shun and the others turned ugly. They had already guessed that Lu Yin was using a power vessel. After all, at best he had become an Enlighter, so how could he possibly defend against an Envoy's attacks? How much time had passed since ZENITH? No one would believe that Lu Yin had improved enough to resist an Envoy in such a short amount of time.

"Senior Ling, if we work together, we will definitely be able to break through," Shang Rong was solemn as he made the suggestion.

The old woman frowned. "If not even I can break through this barrier, what could you juniors possibly contribute?"

Shang Rong clenched his fists, but did not raise any objections.

"Forget it. We'll just wait for another Imprinter to arrive, and then this barrier will break," the old woman said.

"I'm afraid Lu Yin's time will run out." Shang Rong sounded anxious.

The old woman turned to stare at him. "Can't you just find him after he leaves the Daosource Sect's ruins?"

Shang Rong stayed silent after that. There were certain things that only they were aware of. After all, how could the Sixth Mainland be willing to remain in the Fifth Mainland's Outerverse? As long as they knew that Lu Yin had returned, they would be able to capture him in the outside world.

Lu Yin heard their comment, and his eyes flashed. Sure enough, the Sixth Mainland had not abandoned their desire to take over the Fifth Mainland. They had merely hidden their intentions.

Lu Yin had already discovered the existence of Qing Tan, but if there was one mole, there were another ten or even a hundred. Things were getting interesting, and Lu Yin wanted to see who played the game better.

More than a day passed, and during this time, more and more people arrived in the Nine Cauldrons region. Fan Shun, Shang Rong, and the others grew increasingly anxious as they waited for a second Imprinter to arrive. They were waiting for Senior Chao.

Fan Shun felt overjoyed when he saw Senior Chao arrive, and the youth quickly stepped forward to explain the situation. Fan Shun was the Brahman Realm's Realmking, while Senior Chao was from the Azure Realm, so Fan Shun knew the Imprinter.

The Envoy stared at the third cauldron. "You can't break through the barrier?"

He looked at Senior Ling. "Have you used your imprint?"

The old woman quietly replied, "Not yet."

When Ancestor Di had died, some of the Di family's powerhouses had died as well, while others had left the family. Only a few had been left behind.

Senior Chao sternly stated to Senior Ling, "You and I will work together to break through this."

Right after that, Senior Chao's imprint appeared. The image was of a sloppy looking old man who wore a blue robe and leaned on a wooden stick. This person was the master of the Azure Realm and was an Empyrean Imprinter. He was Master Qing Hua

Master Qing Hua's imprint instantly caused Senior Chao's strength to rise. He went from being a bit weaker than Senior Ling, to surpassing her. The woman watched in envy as the Imprinter attacked the Channeling Diagram, though she made sure to attack as well.

Inside the third cauldron, Lu Yin sighed to himself. It was already too late. The Imprinters had arrived quicker than he had expected, and while he had absorbed some of the cauldron energy from the third cauldron, there was still a bit left. It would have to wait for the next time.

There was a bang as the Channeling Diagram was broken, delighting Fan Shun and others.

Senior Chao and Senior Ling looked inside the third cauldron, ready to capture Lu Yin, but all that they saw were Sword Scholar and some other unconscious people. Lu Yin had vanished.

The two landed inside the third cauldron. Where had the youth gone?

"Blocked the exit!" Senior Chao suddenly thought of something, and he shouted, but, unfortunately, he was too late. Lu Yin had already moved past the crowd and left the Nine Cauldrons region.

The same moment that the Channeling Diagram had broken, he had used the Ce Secret Art to escape, and not even the two Imprinters had noticed anything.

Fan Shun and others quickly moved to block the exit, but Lu Yin had already left.

Lu Yin had absorbed all of the cauldron energy from two cauldrons, and a good bit from a third one as well, which meant that he was currently able to use three suns.

After leaving the Nine Cauldrons, Lu Yin realized that he had only used up half of his time in the Daosource Sect's ruins, so he decided to move on to Heaven's Pit.

More and more experts from the older generation would be drawn to the Nine Cauldrons, and it was possible that even old monsters who were Empyrean Imprinters would show up. Lu Yin had no intention of staying around.

Naturally, as Lu Yin left the Nine Cauldrons region, other people were entering, though none of them were able to sense Lu Yin's passing.

Lu Yin passed through one of the beams of light that worked as teleportation devices, and he entered the region that held Heaven's Pit.

Lu Yin looked up, but he did not see Heaven's Pit, but a massive spatial tear that looked like a stream of flowing water. Lu Yin had been shocked by the sight the first time he had visited, and space in this place had been severed in an odd manner. As soon as anything disturbed the space, everything would disappear.

The countless spatial cracks flowing overhead like water were enough to cause people to panic.

Heaven's Pit was a palm print that was said to have been left behind by Progenitor Chen. It was said that by observing and studying the palm print, one could comprehend Progenitor Chen's secret technique. However, no one had ever been able to achieve any bit of success even after so many years.

Lu Yin approached Heaven's Pit. There were five stone pillars in front of the pit that rose into the sky; one above each finger. Only from the tops of the pillars was it possible to clearly observe the palm print.

There were several people atop the pillars when Lu Yin arrived. The truth was that with the exception for when the Sixth Mainland had invaded the Fifth, these pillars had constantly been occupied by people.

Among those occupying the pillars, Lu Yin saw someone he knew: Di Luo, the person who had replaced Di Fa as a Realmking.

The Sixth Mainland suffered from diminishing talent. Ancestor Di had died, and yet Di Luo had still managed to triumph over his peers in the Bloodburn Realm to become the next Realmking.

Lu Yin quietly took over a pillar and started studying the palm print.

As he leisurely spent his time looking at Progenitor Chen's palm print that was known as Heaven's Pit, the Nine Cauldrons region grew increasingly busy. Powerhouses arrived one after another, and Senior Chao and Senior Ling bowed to many of their own seniors. After more than ten days passed, a nine-stage Augmenter from the Toolcasting family appeared. He was a World Imprinter, and everyone respectfully bowed when he appeared.

"Lu Yin? That child has returned after missing for two years? The first cauldron broke even before he disappeared, which means he was indeed the one who gained the opportunity hidden in these Nine Cauldrons, and it happened back when that first cauldron broke," the nine-stage Augmenter reflected.

Someone replied, "That's true. The youth's luck truly defies the heavens. During ZENITH, one of the Progenitors mentioned that he has likely received the legendary God of Death's inheritance, which would allow him to become invincible."

Everyone fell silent. Lu Yin's existence was like an overshadowing mountain that not only put pressure on his peers, but also on members of the older generation.

In particular, the image of the God of Death Transformation he had used during the final battle of ZENITH. At that time, he had demonstrated a perfect invincibility. No matter what level his cultivation reached, Lu Yin would always remain unbeatable within his cultivation realm.

"Don't overthink, seniors. The universe is fair to all. The stronger Lu Yin becomes, the stronger the stellar tribulation he will have to face. It's possible that he won't even be able to survive his tribulation," Xiao Qing spoke up with a clear voice.

Little Arrow Saint gloomily replied, "But if he can survive his tribulation, he'll become the most powerful Imprinter in history."

Xiao Qing rolled her eyes. "You're so dramatic. Are you just afraid you'll be beaten?"

Little Arrow Saint gritted his teeth, but denied nothing.

A gloomy light flickered through the eyes of the nine-stage Augmenter. He glanced over at the rest of the Imprinters and waved a hand. "It's time for everyone to leave. From now on, this place is off limits. We will take turns standing guard to ensure that the Nine Cauldrons region remains closed."

The youths who were present were all unwilling to accept this decision. Lu Yin had received an opportunity from this place, which made all of them want to stay. After all, maybe they could comprehend something?

The Daosource Sect's ruins had existed for countless years, to the point that its full history was not even recorded. There were very few opportunities remaining in the ruins, such as Heaven's Pit, the Scripture Pavilion, and the Platform of Inception. Rumors abounded regarding the opportunities hidden in those places, but who had ever received anything? However, Lu Yin had just confirmed for everyone that the Nine Cauldrons region truly did hold some sort of inheritance. Naturally the youths were reluctant to abandon the place.

Chapter 1573: The Mountains and Seas' Inheritance

"Senior, Lu Yin is able to comprehend the Nine Cauldrons, but I may have a chance as well. Please allow me to stay here and study this place. In doing so, I will also stop Lu Yin from obtaining this opportunity," Shang Rong pleaded.

The nine-stage Augmenter solemnly replied, "Leave. We will discuss later who will be allowed to enter and who will not. You will be given an answer."

Xiao Qing muttered, "How arrogant. Even I can't understand anything."

The nine-stage Augmenter instantly glared at the girl, startling her. However, she just stuck her tongue out at the man. "It's fine. I'll leave."

She then promptly turned around and left.

Xiao Qing had gained a special status within the Sixth Mainland because she had actually defeated Bu Kong during ZENITH, which meant that she was the best candidate to take his place as one of the Daosource Three Skies. If not for the fact that Xiao Qing was from the Progenitor of Combat's Territory, she would already have taken Bu Kong's former title.

At this moment, Bu Kong was dead, and both Wu Taibai and Zhi Yi had gone missing. Not one of the Daosource Three Skies was still around, which meant it was just a matter of time before Xiao Qing would receive the title.

The Nine Cauldrons Region drew everyone's attention, and as news about what had happened reached Heaven's Pit, many of the people started leaving, including Di Luo. In the end, Lu Yin was the only one who stayed behind to study the palm print.

Although Lu Yin felt like he had only taken a glance, ten days had already passed, but he still had not comprehended a single inkling from the palm print. He was truly eager to learn the Nine Clones Secret Technique, but unfortunately, his hopes were nothing but dreams.

After the Nine Cauldrons Region was sealed off, many people returned to Heaven's Pit. As they returned, Lu Yin had still gained nothing from his time observing the palm print. What was so good about this palm print? Who had claimed that someone could comprehend Progenitor Chen's secret technique from it? Had anyone ever received it? It better not be a scam!

"I haven't seen you before. Where are you from?" A voice entered Lu Yin's ears, and when he turned to look, he saw that Di Luo was speaking to him.

Di Luo had not initially noticed Lu Yin, but after hearing the news about what had happened in the Nine Cauldrons Region, everyone had left Heaven's Pit except for Lu Yin. After Di Luo had returned, he had found that this person had stayed here the entire time. What could this person have gained from Heaven's Pit?

"Is there something wrong?" Lu Yin asked.

Di Luo stared at Lu Yin. "Where are you from? What have you seen in this pit?"

"Bullshit!" Lu Yin spat out two words and disappeared.

Di Luo's pupils instantly constricted. What was this speed? How was such a thing possible? Who was that person? Wait, had anyone even been there in the first place? What the hell?

After leaving Heaven's Pit, Lu Yin considered visiting the Platform of Inception, as there was a chance of running into Xin Nü there.

He was free to do as he wished, as he really had nothing else to do with his remaining time in the Daosource Sect's ruins. After a moment, Lu Yin remembered that there was a portion of the Nine Mountains and Eight Seas here.

Suddenly, Lu Yin's eyes lit up. He remembered how, long ago, Ling Gong had tried to explore the Mountains and Seas region for an inheritance. At this moment, Lu Yin could do the same.

Long ago, Progenitor Hui had concocted a scheme spanning eons. The end result had been the detonation of the Mountain and Seas Zone, which had prevented Aeternus from invading the Fifth Mainland. At the same time, the Sixth Mainland had been almost completely isolated from the Fifth Mainland. The Mountain and Seas Zone had easily exploded, which had made it look like it was not something terribly important but rather just the first step of the implementation of Progenitor Hui's plan.

However, was that really the case?

The Nine Mountains and Eight Seas had existed during the Daosource Sect's peak, and that time was before the Sixth Mainland's invasion. In that case, why had Progenitor Hui created such an elaborate plan to deal with the Sixth Mainland's invasion? Besides, back then, Progenitor Hui had not been the only powerful Progenitor in the Fifth Mainland, and he would not have been able to casually move the Mountains and Seas that belonged to other Progenitors as though they were his own property.

There had to be some other, unknown aspect to the story, and so Lu Yin decided to go to the Mountains and Seas region to try to find out.

At that moment, Lu Yin suddenly remembered something else: Aeternus had invaded the Sixth Mainland, causing it to collapse. In that case, if Lu Yin could grab a futon from the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect, could he enter that place as well?

As soon as the idea popped into his head, Lu Yin dismissed it. Even if it did work, the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect was most likely full of Aeternus's monsters. Going there would be the same as asking to die.

The inheritances of the Mountains and Seas were also the inheritances of Progenitors. While many people knew this, very few were capable of searching through the Mountains and Seas region for those inheritances. Only the Realmlings, the Ten Arbiters, and others on that level were able to do so. Lu Yin had never seen anyone else in the Mountains and Seas region, so he did not know if this selectivity was due to a rule or some sort of restriction.

Lu Yin saw several people fighting above the sea, off in the distance. He leaned against a wall as he watched with great interest.

He had not expected to see old acquaintances fighting against each other the moment he entered the Mountains and Seas region to search for inheritances. The Ten Arbiters' Wen Sansi and War King were fighting against Di Fa and Nan Yanfei,

When Lu Yin had Possessed the Imprinter from the Sixth Mainland, he had overheard Nan Yanfei and Di Fa discussing the possibility of returning to the Daosource Sect's ruins to search for the Ten Arbiters. This was exactly what Lu Yin had stumbled upon.

The Ten Arbiters and the Realmlings were old enemies.

Neither the Ten Arbiters nor the Realmlings had greatly improved their strength during the two years that Lu Yin had been gone. But out of everyone, Lu Yin was the most curious about the War King's strength. He was the Arbiter that Lu Yin knew the least about, and the two had never fought. However, Lu Yin had heard of the War King's strength before.

Xing Kai was known by the moniker of War King. He was a physically powerful man who was a full three meters in height. Lu Yin's greatest impression of the man was the report that the War King had once killed a Realmling while fighting in the Daosource Sect's ruins. It was an amazing achievement.

Xing Kai and Nan Yanfei fiercely clashed with each other above the sea, and their battle caused waves to surge in the waters below. At the same time, Wen Sansi was doing his best to trap Di Fa. Di Fa's bloodline was truly difficult to deal with, as it allowed him to phase through anything.

It was impossible to know how long the four people had been fighting for.

Lu Yin's eyes wandered around, and he stared at the tall mountains on the other side of the sea. Most people believed that the Mountains and Seas' inheritances were false rumors, and the Fifth Mainland had even destroyed five mountains and five seas as a part of Progenitor Hui's grand plan. It seemed highly likely that people no longer believed that the Mountains and Seas region held any inheritances.

Regardless of how many times the Mountains and Seas region had been scoured by others, Lu Yin still needed to explore them himself.

Given Lu Yin's increased strength, it would not be a challenge for him to pass through the four-way battle and travel to the mountains without drawing any attention.

He soon moved past where the four people were fighting, and a tall mountain appeared before him.

Just when Lu Yin was about to start climbing the mountain, his body was suddenly pulled into the mountain, and he sank beneath the ground without the slightest ability to resist. As he sank down, he heard a loud voice echo in his mind. "Challenger, enter."

Lu Yin swayed, and he almost fell. When he looked up, he saw that he was surrounded by a ring of torches. Then, their flames suddenly rose and merged before his eyes. These flames possessed no color, and Lu Yin himself was no longer able to see any color.

The only thing that he could feel was the flames' unimaginable heat. They were hot enough to reduce his body to ashes just like how a star would incinerate an ordinary human. Lu Yin did not dare to approach the flames; if he were just a bit closer, he would be nothing but ash. All of his power vessels and items were completely useless at this moment.

This fire made Lu Yin feel like he was facing death.

The feeling lasted for no more than a moment, and the flames returned to the torches, reigniting them. Meanwhile, Lu Yin was completely drenched with sweat as more dripped down his fingers.

"Breakthrough failed." Another set of words entered Lu Yin's mind, and then he was back at the sea in front of the tall mountain. Far behind him, War King and the other three were continuing their fierce battle. Nothing had changed while Lu Yin had been thrust into a true life and death situation.

Lu Yin had not felt such an incredible sense of danger even against Shaman God or when he had been attacked by Wang Si. He had not actually felt despair when facing those flames, but rather a sense of awe at the raw power before him. Those flames had far surpassed Lu Yin's comprehension.

Even though Lu Yin could not even understand the power of a Semi-Progenitor, without understanding why, he felt confident that even a Semi-Progenitor would have been just as helpless as him before those flames.

Those flames had to have come from the power of a Progenitor! Lu Yin stared at the tall mountain in utter shock. Here, in this place, was a Progenitors' inheritance!

Lu Yin looked back at Wen Sansi and the others who were fighting. He was eager to know if any of them had ever experienced those flames.

The four were still fighting, and it looked like their battle would not end anytime soon.

However, Lu Yin had no desire to wait. He had less than ten days left in the Daosource Sect's ruins, and he intended to visit and explore another mountain.

There were only two mountains and one sea left within the Daosource Sect's ruins.

There was a bang as Xing Kai was knocked back. An imprint of the Bluedome Elder had appeared in the sky behind Nan Yanfei, allowing him to overpower Xing Kai. Nearby, the Bluedome Elder's imprint also appeared behind Di Fa, and he also activated his Demonfox bloodline.

"Xing Kai, when you sacrificed a finger to cut down Realmking Tang, you claimed that you could cut down all of the Realmkings if you cut off all ten of your fingers. Let's see it then!" Nan Yanfei shouted.

Xing Kai remained calm, and he simply raised a hand. In front of him, a Taotie appeared and let out a roar.

There was another bang as Xing Kai was smashed down to the bottom of the sea.

Wen Sansi used his Literary Prison to trap Nan Yanfei while simultaneously avoiding Di Fa's attack. He looked down at the bottom of the sea. "There's no need to push yourself."

Xing Kai charged up from the seabed. He looked very serious. "I know."

Nan Yanfei and Di Fa were both far wariier of Wen Sansi. He had performed brilliantly during ZENITH, and he had revealed an innate gift that would be difficult to overcome.

The four people were about to resume their battle when a breeze swept through the area. Both Nan Yanfei and Di Fa tumbled headfirst into the sea, only stabilizing themselves on the surface.

Wen Sansi and Xing Kai were startled by the sudden change. "Who?"

Neither of them had been attacked.

Lu Yin emerged from the void and smiled at the two Arbiters. "Long time no see, you two."

They both were surprised to see Lu Yin. "Lu Yin? Didn't you disappear?"

"I just got back."

Xing Kai was stunned. "Was that your attack?"

Lu Yin nodded. He had simply swept out with his star energy to instantly knock Nan Yanfei and Di Fa out of the sky. It was no longer difficult for him to accomplish such a thing.

Lu Yin was a Realmbreaker who had been able to defeat both Realmkings when he had still been a Hunter, so it was an easy matter to defeat them after his cultivation surpassed theirs now.

Wen Sansi and Xing Kai glanced at each other in complete amazement.

Neither of them had been able to detect any hint of an attack, but two experts as strong as them had been instantly defeated. This overwhelming power even exceeded what Lu Yin had revealed during ZENITH. Then, people had at least been able to fight back against him.

"What realm has your cultivation reached now?" Xing Kai asked.

"Enlighter," Lu Yin replied. He then pointed at the distant mountain. "Have you been over there?"

Wen Sansi nodded. "Of course I've been there. That's the place that holds the Progenitors' inheritances, though it's just a sham."

Lu Yin's eyebrows rose up. "There's nothing there?"

"While there've been a few inheritances that we've fought over, but nothing real has ever been found," Wen Sansi replied.

Lu Yin started thinking. Apparently, neither of the two had ever experienced what he had just gone through. At least, it did not look like Wen Sansi was lying.

"Brother Lu, where have you been? You've changed quite a bit in the last two years," Wen Sansi asked, feeling very curious.

Xing Kai's eyes blazed with fighting intent. He wanted to challenge Lu Yin.

Lu Yin felt curious about Xing Kai's missing finger. "He just said that you killed a Realmling after cutting off a finger. Is that your innate gift?"

"Do you want to find out?" Xing laughed. "I wasn't able to participate in the competition for the Astral Tower, and I've always wanted to have a match with you, Brother Lu."

A smile appeared on Lu Yin's face. "Sorry, but you don't stand a chance."

"What do you mean?" Xing Kai felt a bit confused.

Lu Yin's eyes grew focused. All he needed to do was release his domain, and he instantly and fully suppressed both Xing Kai and Wen Sansi, stunning the two. Lu Yin's domain even surpassed Unseen Light's, and the two of them struggled to even move.

"You can challenge me if you're able to go head-to-head against an Envoy, but you should just forget it otherwise. The gap between us is too big," Lu Yin said, partly to himself.

Chapter 1574: Aurora Fortress

Wen Sansi raised a hand and brought out his barrier, pushing it towards Lu Yin. He wanted to test how strong Lu Yin's attacks were.

Lu Yin raised a hand as well, but he merely flicked a finger. However, that single flick shattered the barrier, leaving Wen Sansi and Xing Kai staring at him in disbelief.

Shockingly, Lu Yin was strong enough to break Wen Sansi's barrier. Even though Wang Yi had been able to do the same during ZENITH, Lu Yin had done so with just the wind stirred up from a finger flick. This was just absurd.

Wang Yi had used a battle technique to break through Wen Sansi's barrier, but what about Lu Yin? There was just too big of a difference between the two.

"Like I said, there's no need to test things," Lu Yin said.

Wen Sansi was truly shocked. Each time he saw Lu Yin, the youth forced Wen Sansi to have an entirely new impression of him. At this moment, Wen Sansi felt as though he was facing the strongest person in all of existence. He would undoubtedly stand above all others in the future.

Lu Yin looked over at Xing Kai. "You still haven't answered my question. Does cutting off your finger have something to do with your innate gift?"

Xing Kai grew solemn. "Breaking a finger can allow me to perfectly duplicate an opponent's innate gift."

Lu Yin was blown away. This innate gift seemed very similar to the Xie family's secret technique, which allowed them to duplicate any technique that was used near them, and it even allowed them to attack with their opponents' techniques. However, removing a finger was something that could not be undone, which meant that this innate gift was equivalent to harming oneself to damage their opponent.

Lu Yin switched his attention to Wen Sansi. "Is the Wen family's Literary Prison only at the first layer?"

Wen San thought that this was a very strange question. "First layer of what?"

Lu Yin considered how to respond. "The Literary Prison can be layered—one level, two levels, three levels. Didn't you know?"

Wen Sansi grew increasingly confused. "Can it really be used like that?"

Lu Yin smiled. "You don't do that? Or are you saying that you've never heard of this before?"

Wen Sansi stared at Lu Yin. "Do you know this for certain?"

He was not quite able to believe Lu Yin's words. It sounded like Lu Yin was just speaking nonsense. After all, who could possibly understand the Wen family's Literary Prison better than the Wen family?

Lu Yin looked up and lifted a hand. He used his star energy to imitate Wen Diyi's seven-layered Literary Prison. Naturally, Lu Yin did not actually know the technique, but he could use his star energy to imitate its appearance.

Wen Sansi stared blankly at the seven-layered Literary Prison; could the technique really be used in such a manner?

Lu Yin was not at all afraid that Wen Sansi would be able to understand the more advanced use of his family's technique with just a glimpse. If that was possible, then the Wen family would have discovered this possibility long ago.

"Where did you see this?" Wen Sansi asked eagerly, excitement filling his eyes. This seven-layered Literary Prison was something that could open up an entirely new path for the Wen family. It could even be said that learning the seven-layered Literary Prison would allow the Wen family's strength to rapidly grow until they surpassed all the other Inniverse powers to become the most powerful force in the Inniverse.

The first layer of their Literary Prison might not even be capable of trapping a Realmling, but what about the seventh layer? Nan Yanfei would not be able to even dream of escaping, and it would instantly decide the outcome of a fight.

Lu Yin stared at Wen Sansi in a serious manner. He had been anticipating this moment ever since he had placed Wen Diyi in Zenith Mountain in the Forgotten Ruins.

Lu Yin had used up too many of his treasures and resources in the Perennial World, and he needed to start recuperating his stash.

"Looks like we'll need to find some time to sit down and talk. There are actually more than just seven layers to the Literary Prison," Lu Yin said with a smile. After that, he simply vanished.

He had no intention of starting negotiations with Wen Sansi just yet, mostly because Lu Yin had no idea what would even be needed.

Still, judging by Wen Sansi's reaction, the seven-layered Literary Prison was more than tempting enough, as it was able to clearly affect the Wen family's position in the Fifth Mainland. Thus, this matter required Lu Yin's careful consideration before proceeding.

However, Lu Yin did not even think about Wen Diyi's opinion, as the youth was nothing more than a prisoner.

Upon seeing the empty sea, Wen Sansi calmed himself down. He had already realized that seeing the seven-layered Literary Prison had caused him to lose his composure. This was a terrible mistake that had already placed his entire Wen family in Lu Yin's grasp. Given Wen Sansi's understanding of Lu Yin, the Wen family would have to pay an exorbitant price for this technique.

There were still two mountains and one sea in the Daosource Sect's ruins that Lu Yin had not visited yet. There seemed to be an innate connection between the mountains and the seas, but there was one mountain without a sea, and that was Lu Yin's goal.

As he approached the mountain, he was unexpectedly sucked into it.

"Challenger, enter." A voice entered Lu Yin's mind again.

Lu Yin opened his eyes, only to see something completely different compared to what he had seen at the last mountain. This time, there were no torches, just a pool from which spring water was gushing up without end. Despite the surging waters, the pool did not overflow or drain. It maintained its one meter radius even as the water continued to flow without end.

Lu Yin slowly approached the pool and looked at the spring water. He stared for a while but saw nothing. Then, he squatted down and stretched out a hand to touch the water. It was warm to the touch, but also somehow cold. It was quite strange.

Suddenly, the voice entered his mind once again. "Challenge failed." He then appeared outside the mountain.

Lu Yin was stunned; he had not even done anything!

He stared at the mountain in front of him and then charged straight at it once again. He was sucked into the mountain, saw the spring, and then failed again. He repeated this again and again, but he failed every single time.

Lu Yin tried multiple times in a row, but even when his time in the Daosource Sect's ruins ran out, he was failing.

If Wen Sansi had not lied to Lu Yin, then he was the only person who had been given the task of breaking through and entering the mountains. Did that mean that there really was a Progenitor's inheritance within each mountain? If that was the case, then how could the Fifth Mainland have been willing to destroy five mountains and five seas? While that action had indeed saved the Fifth Mainland, it had

required them to sacrifice five Progenitors' inheritances. No matter how hard Lu Yin looked at the situation, he could not see that option as one that Progenitor Hui would choose.

That was, not unless, the Mountains and Sea Zone that had exploded had been fake.

The scenery changed before Lu Yin's eyes, and he returned to Black Street. Besides absorbing more cauldron energy from the Nine Cauldrons, Lu Yin's greatest gains from this trip to the Daosource Sect's ruins was the discovery that the Mountains and Seas region did indeed contain Progenitors' inheritances. However, those inheritances would not be easy to obtain. Lu Yin did not even dare to return to the first inheritance, as he had been terrified that he would be completely incinerated. As for the second inheritance, he had not been able to understand a single thing about it.

He also had no idea which Progenitors had left those inheritances behind.

As for the Nine Cauldrons, that entire incident had given Lu Yin a massive headache due to the huge ruckus that he had caused. The Sixth Mainland would never willingly allow him to absorb more cauldron energy, and their wariness was high enough for them to station a World Imprinter as a guard at the entrance. Not even Liu Ye and Fei Hua would be able to do anything against such an opponent. Lu Yin had run into a problem where it would be difficult for him to absorb more cauldron energy, which was a problem.

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"Brother Lu, all of the materials that you gave me have been processed." Ming Yan was thrilled when she saw Lu Yin reappear.

Lu Yin greatly enjoyed his time with her, but unfortunately, it was time for him to leave.

"Yan'er, please listen to me and leave this place." Lu Yin tried one last time to convince Ming Yan, but he still failed. Ming Yan might be very gentle towards Lu Yin and listen to almost everything he told her, but then the white-haired Ming Yan would appear. Her appearance would cause Lu Yin to hang his head and act as though he had been caught misbehaving. He felt utterly helpless.

In the end, Lu Yin could only give Ming Yan the knife that he had taken from Wang Su for protection. Lu Yin had used the knife to kill many of his enemies, and the knife was capable of unleashing attacks that were comparable to those of an expert with a power level of almost 800,000. If Ming Yan used this knife together with her Moonstar battle technique and her ability to control Vitality Poison, then she should be able to stay safe.

Also, Lu Yin changed his itinerary.

He had originally intended to visit the Cosmic Sect after Black Street so that he could learn the next level of the Cosmic Art, but Ban Jiu had suggested that Lu Yin make a detour and visit Aurora Enterprises. This was because Aurora Enterprises had access to technology that surpassed what Ban Jiu could touch. They were more than capable of helping Lu Yin create a new set of universal armor.

Lu Yin constantly felt nervous and uncomfortable without a piece of protective equipment, so he was incredibly eager to obtain a new set of armor that he could Enhance. Thus, he made his way straight towards Aurora Enterprises.

What's more, Lu Yin needed to pass by Aurora Enterprises if he wanted to go to the Cosmic Sect anyways.

Aurora Enterprises lay at the northern edge of the Neoverse. After Lu Yin, Liu Ye, Fei Hua, and Ah Da reached the northern border, they once again used the spacecraft to travel.

Lu Yin also brought Luo Shen back out of Zenith Mountain.

Luo Shen made no attempt to ask Lu Yin anything about Black Street at all.

Before too long, they saw more ships traveling nearby. All that Lu Yin could recognize was the ships' grades, but he could not determine where they came from at all. Some of the vessels were incredibly bizarre, and they looked like they had been customized.

Lu Yin suddenly had an urge to customize an exclusive vessel for the Great Eastern Alliance.

"Lu- Big Brother Lu, is that Aurora Enterprises?" Luo Shen exclaimed as she stared at a monstrously large superstructure some distance ahead of them in space.

Lu Yin moved up next to her and looked at where she was indicating. There was a mammoth construction that looked similar to the forts in Ironblood Weave. "Yes. That's Aurora Enterprises' headquarters."

Aurora Enterprises was a giant in the Neoverse. Even though they did not have the same level of status as the Mavis family or the Cosmic Sect, they still qualified to rule over a portion of the Neoverse. Aurora Enterprises' ships sold very well throughout the entire Fifth Mainland—regardless of where one went, even the most out of the way, backwards galaxies would an Aurora, and each of their vessels was very expensive.

One could only imagine the wealth controlled by Aurora Enterprises. In fact, their wealth was second only to the Mavis Bank.

Liu Ye stared at the distant fortress, clearly amazed. "I actually feel threatened by that place."

Lu Yin glanced over at the Envoy. Even though Aurora Enterprises was a corporation, they were also a power with the strength to stand tall in Neoverse. This was something that ordinary people could not even comprehend. If an Envoy with a power level of just over 700,000 was able to look down on such an organization, it would be a real joke. Lu Yin was fully confident that Aurora Enterprises would be able to instantly annihilate Liu Ye and Fei Hua.

Lu Yin had already announced his visit before making his way to Aurora Enterprises' headquarters. Thus, he met Director Zhi upon entering. The most influential person in the entire company had personally stepped out to greet Lu Yin.

Their vessel docked, and Lu Yin stood at a window looking down, where he saw Director Zhi and a small group.

Director Zhi looked like an ordinary middle-aged man, and he had a smile on his face that seemed to exist on businessmen everywhere, though this smile also looked truly sincere. If not for Director Zhi's identity, one would never assume that he was in charge of Aurora Enterprises just by looking at him. He had not achieved his position through strength, as his cultivation was not impressive. So, from Lu Yin's perspective, the man seemed quite average.

There was a gentle sound as the spacecraft docked. Lu Yin led Luo Shen, Liu Yi, Fei Hua, and Ah Da out of the ship. At the same time, Director Zhi led the entourage from Aurora Enterprises closer as he smiled at Lu Yin.

"Welcome to Aurora Fortress," Director Zhi said enthusiastically as he stepped forward.

Lu Yin smiled. "Director Zhi is a gracious host. It is also my honor to be able to visit Aurora Fortress. I have long heard of Aurora Enterprises."

"Haha, My Aurora Fortress is just a little place in the face of your Great Eastern Alliance. Alliance Leader Lu, please let me show you around," Director Zhi replied with a smile.

"Many thanks, Director Zhi," Lu Yin smiled back, not refusing the offer. Given Lu Yin's position, it was only natural for Director Zhi to personally show him around during his visit. Lu Yin was the leader of the Great Eastern Alliance and lord of the Outerverse; he more than qualified for such treatment.

Lu Yin did not politely refuse anything, and although Director Zhi's smile was even brighter, caution and wariness hid in the depths of his eyes.

This was the young man who had personally stopped Shamrock Enterprise from moving their headquarters onto Mt. Microcosms.

Chapter 1575: Business Deal

Even though Director Zhi did not particularly care about Shamrock Enterprise, the mysterious Leaf King was still a terrifying individual. Despite that, Lu Yin did not seem to care about the powerhouse at all. The youth had secretly manipulated the Hall of Honor's overseers, which was essentially the same as taking control of Mt. Microcosms' authority.

This was what Director Zhi feared. Mt. Microcosms formed the core of the entire Human Domain. It was astronomically different from the authority that Lu Yin wielded over the Outerverse.

That was also not taking into account how Lu Yin was backed by the Chief Justice, Arch-Elder Zen, and Leon's Armada.

There were few people in the entire Fifth Mainland who were able to arouse Director Zhi's jealousy, and Lu Yin was by far the youngest of those few.

Neither Liu Ye nor Fei Hua received the attention that they had expected. They were Envoys, which made them true powerhouses in the Fifth Mainland, and yet they were far from the most powerful individuals at Aurora Fortress.

Aurora Fortress was mind-bogglingly huge, to the point where it would take several years to see every corner of the place.

Director Zhi led Lu Yin on a tour of the most important locations, such as where they manufactured radiant-grade and blackhole-grade Auroras. Lu Yin was even able to see where they built their newly developed blackhole-grade collapsible spacecraft.

"Can a collapsible vessel be upgraded beyond the blackhole grade?" Lu Yin was surprised by what he saw because he had only ever seen radiant-grade collapsible Auroras before. This restriction was because the vessel's collapsible sections were unable to withstand the forces induced when a blackhole-grade vessel reached its maximum speed.

Director Zhi shrugged. "The technology's been available for a long time, but we simply do not have enough of the required materials, so we're only able to produce a few ships. They are usually all custom orders, and the clients are required to supply the materials for the collapsible portions of the ship themselves."

"Speaking of materials—Director Zhi, I have some materials with me that I was hoping your company could help me with. I would like to use them to create a universal armor based off of this blueprint." Lu Yin took out the aforementioned blueprint.

Director Zhi checked the plans. "That would not be a problem. It's very simple to make universal armor, though might I ask, what materials does Alliance Leader Lu have on hand? There are certain materials that are difficult to process and combine."

Lu Yin took out the various materials and spread them across the ground.

One of the people behind Director Zhi suddenly exclaimed, "Rucen Gold?"

The man then stepped forward and picked up a piece of metal from the ground that glowed with a faint gray as his eyes blazed with excitement.

Lu Yin shot Director Zhi a curious look.

Director Zhi said, "Don't mind him, Alliance Leader Lu. He's one of the engineers here at my Aurora Fortress. He's obsessed with manufacturing, and he also has some level of understanding regarding all sorts of raw materials."

Lu Yin nodded.

"Lodestar, Orbit Thread, and even Pinglass? All of these things are extremely rare materials, especially that Lodestar. That shouldn't even exist anymore. How could it be here?" The man was incomparably excited as he muttered to himself.

Another person stepped forward from behind Director Zhi. He was an old man, and he hesitantly studied a thin bit of metal that looked more like a plant than metal. He squatted down to get a better look and then looked up at Lu Yin. "Is this still alive?"

Lu Yin arched a brow. Alive? What was with this question? Was the metal alive? Lu Yin did not understand the question, so he simply stayed silent.

"Alliance Leader Lu, is this living metal?" a man asked in disbelief after seeing the metal that the old man was holding in his hands.

The old man was similarly shocked. "I thought that living metal was something that only existed in ancient records. I never expected it to actually exist."

Director Zhi's eyes narrowed as he turned his focus back to Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu, all of these materials are invaluable."

Lu Yin smiled. "Their value is precisely why I want them to be used to make universal armor. After all, no matter how precious something may be, nothing is more valuable than life, right?"

"Universal armor? No." The man who had recognized the Rucen Gold was still excited, and he looked up to stare at Lu Yin. "You want to use Lodestar to make universal armor? That's a terrible joke! I refuse."

"Using living metal to make universal armor? I can't agree either," the old man spoke up.

One after another, various people who had accompanied Director Zhi and Lu Yin to tour around Aurora Fortress managed to identify some of the materials. Not everything was identified, but those that were absolutely shocked the engineers.

Lu Yin had actually asked Ban Jiu to identify these materials, but the man had not been able to recognize even a tenth of them. In comparison, the engineers from Aurora Enterprises had succeeded in identifying almost all of the materials.

As expected, even people who were not managers in Aurora Enterprises had incredibly in-depth knowledge.

Lu Yin remained casual as he watched the various craftsmen. No matter how valuable these materials might be, he was certain that he wanted them to be used to create a set of universal armor. With materials of this grade, he would be able to repeatedly Enhance the armor and make it absolutely amazing.

"Alliance Leader Lu, you have put me in quite a difficult position. Truthfully, these materials are invaluable, and using them to make universal armor is far too wasteful. Doing so would not allow the materials to be used in a manner that best takes advantage of their characteristics. For example, that one metal, the Lodestar—if the collapsible portion of a vessel is made with that, it would be able to reach the eonlight grade!" Director Zhi emotionally explained.

Lu Yin shrugged. "There's no other option, and it doesn't matter how many people get offended. Director Zhi, you should already know that I was chased after by Seven Skygods, and so I can't help but be concerned about my protection."

People who had reached the level of Director Zhi naturally knew of the Seven Skygods.

"It's just too wasteful! It's impossible to use these materials to make universal armor. And I won't agree! Doing so is an insult to these materials!" the old man shouted.

Even though the other craftsmen stayed silent, their faces showed their complete agreement with the old man.

Lu Yin also understood these people's feelings. "Director Zhi, I, Lu Yin, am willing to pay you well to produce this for me."

Everyone turned to look at Director Zhi, their eyes begging the man.

Director Zhi felt cornered. "Alliance Leader Lu, if my Aurora Enterprises wished to buy these materials, would it be possible? Of course, my Aurora Enterprises would also supply an appropriate defensive treasure that Alliance Leader Lu needs."

Lu Yin instantly refused. "This matter concerns my life and wellbeing. Even if it's a waste to use these materials, as long as the armor is even a little bit better, that's good enough for me."

Director Zhi felt helpless. If anyone else approached Aurora Fortress with these materials, no matter how high their status was, Director Zhi would be confident in being able to keep some behind. However, he really could not move directly against Lu Yin.

The other people all tried to persuade Lu Yin, but he remained steadfast. Even when Director Zhi offered a defensive treasure that could protect Lu Yin from attacks of a power level of 600,000, Lu Yin did not bat an eye.

Lu Yin believed a universal armor made with these materials could be Enhanced to the point where it would be comparable to the Cloudguard Robes that he had once worn.

"It's just too wasteful! Even if we use these materials to make universal armor, it would only be able to resist attacks at a power level of a bit more than 400,000 at best. It's very difficult to make something that can work against Envoys. Alliance Leader Lu, please reconsider! My Aurora Enterprises will provide you with a better defensive treasure than what you can get from using these materials. You've already said that protection is your entire goal," the old man begged Lu Yin.

"When Senior refers to a better defensive treasure, can its materials compare to these?" Lu Yin asked in response.

The old man was startled. "As long as the item has a better defense, why would it matter if the materials are better?"

No one could understand Lu Yin's thinking. They saw Lu Yin as a rich young master; he simply wanted the most expensive option, not necessarily the best.

Director Zhi stopped the craftsmen from continuing to badger Lu Yin. They had already said enough, and if they continued, it would just sour their relationship with Lu Yin.

"These materials are only a portion of what I have. If Director Zhi is willing, I am also willing to make a deal with Aurora Enterprises regarding materials of a similar quality to the ones that you see here," Lu Yin offered with a smile.

Director Zhi and others were all shocked. "You actually have more materials of this grade?"

Lu Yin nodded. "Not at the moment, but I will shortly."

Director Zhi did not quite believe Lu Yin's claim. Aurora Enterprises was constantly scouring the entire universe for rare materials, and when it came to such things, not even the Hall of Honor could compare to Aurora Enterprises' reserves. Aurora Fortress had the greatest concentration of rare materials in the entire universe. If Lu Yin's claim to have more such materials was true, then could the guesses that people had made about him actually be true?

When Lu Yin had been in the Outerverse, he had constantly revealed different power vessels and equipment that allowed him to challenge powerhouses far beyond his own cultivation, and he had also used various natural treasures to avoid certain crises. For a long time, people had guessed that Lu Yin must have found some ancient ruins and that everything that he had revealed so far had come from ancient times. If that was true, then these materials should be the same.

"Do you truly have more?" the old man asked, his eyes glimmering.

Lu Yin nodded. "I only said it because it's true."

"Very well. If Alliance Leader Lu has such materials, then you can sell all of them to my Aurora Enterprises, and we will make sure to offer you a satisfactory price," Director Zhi said with a smile.

Lu Yin had already considered what he would ask as payment: a customized spacecraft design that would be exclusively for the Great Eastern Alliance's use. He wanted to give the Great Eastern Alliance a unique look.

"Hey, it's still far too wasteful to make a universal armor from these things, so why don't we do this?" the man who had recognized the Rucen Gold paused as he looked over at Lu Yin, "We will make you a bodysuit armor."

"What's a bodysuit armor?" Lu Yin was curious.

"bodysuit armor is a type of battle armor, but it acts like a second skin. This kind of armor best fits the human body, and most people can't even notice that it's there, as it won't affect your movements at all. Universal armor is just something for ordinary humans to use to move about in space. It's a useless tool that actually gets in the way in combat."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "So is this better than universal armor?"

"An item's defensive abilities are based on the base materials. The advantage that bodysuit armor has is that ordinary people can't even see it."

Lu Yin nodded and smiled. "Alright, let's go with a bodysuit armor then."

It would take longer to produce a bodysuit armor than a universal armor, and Lu Yin planned to stay at Aurora Fortress until the manufacturing process finished.

"Brother Lu, aren't you afraid that they'll steal some of the materials?" Luo Shen murmured quietly as her eyes flitted about.

Lu Yin laughed. "No, I'm not worried at all."

Several days later, Director Zhi visited Lu Yin again. Lu Yin was very interested in Aurora Fortress.

"Director Zhi, what sort of power level can Aurora Fortress withstand?"

Director Zhi smiled. "A million."

An excited light filled Lu Yin's eyes. "A million? Are you saying that not even Yuan Shi could break through this place's defenses?"

Director Zhi smiled, but he stayed silent on the matter.

Lu Yin looked down and saw a sprawling city. No fewer than ten billion people resided in Aurora Fortress. All of them were the employees and families of the workers who ran Aurora Enterprises' headquarters, and they had created a massive city.

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Included within the city were corporate behemoths that spanned the universe, such as the Mavis Bank and Shamrock Enterprise.

A dazzling light shone out from a high point off in a distant part of Aurora Fortress in a corner of the city. Lu Yin looked over and heard a loud bang.

"It's that kid again. He's getting worse and worse," Director Zhi angrily complained.

Lu Yin grew curious. He focused on the distant location and saw that a group of people were racing with cars. Yes, they were really racing cars, the primitive, four-wheeled models.

"Are those race cars?" Lu Yin was stunned.

Director Zhi sighed. "It's my kid and a bunch of other layabout brats who only race cars. Every time they do this, the city's residents get nervous. But hey, this time, we can make him stop."

Lu Yin grew more interested. "Those cars look very old, and there's no excitement at all for a cultivator to drive them."

"They converted them to run on star energy and specially modified them. Those cars are fast enough to even give a cultivator a thrill."

"Director Zhi, please carry on with your work, though I would like to go see them." Lu Yin expressed his interest.

Director Zhi was momentarily surprised, but he soon smiled. "That's right, I forgot. Alliance Leader Lu is about the same age as my child. If you're interested in such things, my son has a race car at home. Would Alliance Leader Lu like to try it out?"

"Thank you, Director Zhi."

Chapter 1576: Bloodstains

These primitive race cars reminded Lu Yin of his early days on Earth. He had lived there for two years before starting his cultivation journey, and he had often raced against others in the suburbs of the city that he had lived in.

The city in Aurora Fortress had many bridges crisscrossing through the air, and the place was mostly illuminated by overhead lights that mimicked a sun. The lights lit up the cars and their drivers.

Countless people stood on both sides of a bridge, and even all of the nearby buildings were filled. The onlookers were shouting excitedly, and many beautiful women could be seen.

It was an exciting and public venue. The people at the center of it all were not afraid of being arrogant, but rather afraid of not being arrogant enough.

Each of the cars had four wheels, but their bodies' shapes varied with some being far more impressive-looking than others. Some looked like beasts, others looked more like spaceships, and there were even some that looked like swords. The most ridiculous one was shaped like a beautiful woman, and it was extremely eye-catching.

A whistle split the air, and hundreds of race cars rushed forward, completely disappearing in the blink of an eye.

The city was more than large enough to accommodate these street races.

Young Master Zhi charged to the front of the pack. A beautiful woman sat next to him, who was screaming incessantly. Each of the racers was accompanied by a beautiful woman.

After a while, crashes started to occur. These cars were not designed or programmed to avoid accidents, though that did not matter. No cultivator would die even if their car exploded.

The continuous crashes created a sort of rhythm in the night that prodded the entire city into a boil.

These races had occurred many times, but only a few people had ever won. Young Master Zhi had won the most races, though there were also very few cars capable of competing against him.

"Kid, your legs are limp like jelly! You aren't quick enough, hahahaha!" A car shot by, driven by a young man who was laughing arrogantly and wearing a tattered coat that had rust stains on it. He looked homeless.

Young Master Zhi became furious. "Wan Laoer, just you wait! I'll beat you to death!"

"Go ahead and try!"

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

More crashes soon rang out, and the sound made Young Master Zhi's companion even more excited. Several of the race cars crashed off-course as well.

Suddenly, a car crashed down from the sky. It smashed into another car and then shot forward to take the lead.

Chi Shao and the other drivers were all stunned. Since when did cars start flying? In particular, Young Master Zhi thought, Wait, why does that car look so familiar? Isn't it mine?

Young Master Zhi's eyes flushed red; someone had stolen his car!

Wan Laoer was startled. "Hey kid, wasn't that the car that you won your last race with? Someone stole your car!"

"You dare to come in front of your daddy after daring to steal your daddy's car? You clearly don't want to live any longer! Your daddy even participated in ZENITH!" Young Master Zhi was furious and he pushed forward even faster.

Wan Laoer was also instantly worked up. Someone participating with a stolen car was definitely an interesting development.

A smile spread across Lu Yin's face. For him, these cars were moving too slowly.

His co-pilot's chair was occupied by Luo Shen, and her face was flushed red with excitement. She flashed Lu Yin a brilliant smile, feeling amazing. No one else had ever done this with Lu Yin, which meant that this experience belonged to just the two of them!

"Boy, you better back down after daring to steal your daddy's car!" Young Master Zhi had caught up to Lu Yin, and he glared at him from the side.

Lu Yin just turned to look at the other driver.

Young Master Zhi was momentarily stunned; why did this face look so familiar? The moment he made the connection, his expression changed completely. "You? Why are you here?"

Lu Yin smiled.

Suddenly, something struck the side of his car. He turned to see that Wan Laoer had caught up as well and was looking at Lu Yin from the other side. He gave Lu Yin a thumbs up. "Boy, you've done quite well! You actually stole this dude's car while in Aurora Fortress?"

Lu Yin smiled indifferently, but just when he was about to reply, his pupils shrank. Right on Wan Laoer's collar, Lu Yin saw a very familiar symbol: the Hidden Earth Society. Why did this person have that symbol on his clothes? Also, the symbol was dark red, and it looked like a bloodstain.

"Hey Bro, what's your name?" Wan Laoer asked loudly.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "What's your name?"

Wan Laoer was caught off guard. "You don't know me? You actually don't know who I am even though you're in this race? You've got to be new."

Lu Yin carefully studied Wan Laoer, equally curious about why this person did not recognize him. Had this person not watched ZENITH?

"That's right, I'm new."

"Kids, this brat's new, so we need to teach him how things work around here! Hahahaha." Wan Laoer laughed as his car accelerated once again and shot forward.

Lu Yin turned the other direction to smile at Young Master Zhi. "I think I saw you on Supreme Mountain."

Young Master Zhi gulped. "Hello."

"This is quite a fun way to pass the time. I'll be back tomorrow," Lu Yin said with a smile before speeding up to chase after Wan Laoer.

Young Master Zhi just stared at the back of Lu Yin's car. The woman sitting next to him shouted at him to hurry up, but Young Master Zhi did not move, even as the cars passed him from behind.

"Young Master Zhi, are your legs that limp? It looks like that chick from yesterday took all the strength from your legs." Someone laughed loudly.

"Young Master Zhi, you're welcome to come back tomorrow!"

"Young Master Zhi, hurry up and modify your car."

...

It looked like Young Master Zhi heard none of the insults hurled at him. He searched to find Lu Yin, only to see that Lu Yin had already left.

"Master Zhi, what's the matter? Are ya stupid?" Wan Laoer stopped his car. He was very excited, as he had won that night's race.

Young Master Zhi looked over at Wan Laoer. "Where'd that person go?"

"Who? The kid who stole your car? I didn't see. Actually, that's pretty strange. Where did he go?" Wan Laoer wondered.

Young Master Zhi left immediately.

Aurora Enterprises was actually a collective interest. It was a giant company and was not owned by a single person. Director Zhi was merely the one at the helm of Aurora Fortress, and his position did not mean that Young Master Zhi was allowed to do whatever he wished. However, Young Master Zhi was not a wastrel, and his networking skills were very good, able to connect with people of different classes.

This night should have been one where Young Master Zhi was out partying and playing around, but he was not in the mood.

He went and found Director Zhi, the youth's face solemn. "Lu Yin's here?"

Director Zhi was studying a display, and he casually responded. "He arrived a few days ago. Have you seen him?"

"Lu Yin is not good news. Why is he here to see us?" Young Master Zhi asked.

Director Zhi was caught off guard, and he turned to look at Young Master Zhi. "Are you afraid of him? Are you worried about the company?"

Young Master Zhi sat down and took a sip of wine. His lackadaisical image was nowhere to be seen as he quietly said, "I don't care about the Ten Arbiters or the Cosmic Five. No matter how powerful they might be, they will only ever inherit the powers that raised them. However, Lu Yin is different. He is too ambitious, and he even managed to dominate the entire Outerverse. Now that he's returned, he's definitely eyeing the Innerverse. He doesn't do anything without a purpose."

Director Zhi dismissed the screen that he had been looking at and sat down across from his son. "You once asked me to give you some time to enjoy life. So, why are you asking about him now?"

"I'm afraid of us being swallowed by him," Young Master Zhi angrily declared.

Director Zhi laughed. "You don't know the foundation that Aurora Enterprises has! Let alone Lu Yin— even if the Seven Courts wanted to absorb this company, they would not have an easy time of it. While Lu Yin's ability to influence the Hall of Honor makes me wary, he will never pose a threat to Aurora Enterprises unless he unites the entire Inniverse."

"In that case, what the hell is he doing here?" Young Master Zhi asked.

"He wants us to use some rare materials to make him some armor," Director Zhi stated. He stared at his son. "Maintain a good relationship with him. Even if you don't become friends, absolutely do not become his enemy. He caused Shamrock Enterprise to lose their opportunity to move their headquarters to Mt. Microcosms."

"That's why I said that he's too ambitious." Young Master Zhi rolled his eyes.

Director Zhi remained unruffled. "Just play with him. No matter how ambitious he may be or how he might be able to sway the Hall of Honor, he certainly is not able to deal with my Aurora Enterprises. In fact, we've reached an agreement to cooperate: he'll provide us with rare materials, and in turn, we'll design and build vessels exclusive to the Great Eastern Alliance. It's just business."

Young Master Zhi nodded.

The next night, bright lights shot up all around the city on Aurora Fortress, illuminating the race cars once again.

Young Master Zhi, Wan Laoer, and the others were all waiting to start, and Lu Yin had also lined up. He was wearing a helmet.

ZENITH had publicized Lu Yin's face throughout the universe, and although he had no idea why Wan Laoer had not recognized him, Lu Yin felt it would be better to be careful.

"Hey, kid, did you get a kick out of racing against us with a stolen car?" Wan Laoer laughed.

Young Master Zhi looked over at Lu Yin, a rare glint of challenge appearing in his eyes. He was not able to compare to Lu Yin in strength. Young Master Zhi had not qualified to participate in the competition in the Mountain and Seas Zone, and he had been eliminated by a single attack from Little Arrow Saint during ZENITH. However, Young Master Zhi had every intention of winning this race.

There was a loud roar as all the cars shot forward.

Several hours later, Lu Yin looked back to see that Young Master Zhi was the closest to him, but he was at least five minutes behind. This was Lu Yin's level of ability.

Given Lu Yin's strength, it took him no time at all to leave the other racers in the dust.

Lu Yin's overwhelming victory sparked everyone's competitive spirit, and for seven consecutive days, there were races. But Lu Yin won every race, and no one could catch up to him.

Eventually, almost no one bothered challenging him anymore, as there was simply no hope of victory. The races ended with people getting bored of the competition.

During these seven days, Luo Shen was the happiest person, as she accompanied Lu Yin every night.

At the end, Wan Laoer returned home. He sat down, exhausted, and took a sip of water.

The door opened. "Did you go racing again? You aren't allowed to go tomorrow. Come learn with me. We're in Aurora Fortress! How will you ever survive without any practical skills?"

The person speaking to Wan Laoer was the craftsman who had recognized the Rucen Gold that Lu Yin had brought.

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Wan Laoer unhappily returned to his room while muttering something.

Lu Yin watched everything from the distance. He had not been racing just to play around with these people, but rather to find out where the symbol on Wan Laoer's clothes had come from. After this week, Lu Yin was certain that the clothes Wan Laoer was wearing belonged to his father; was that man a part of the Hidden Earth Society?

Lu Yin had stopped racing after figuring out where Wan Laoer's clothes had come from.

There were still a few days left to go before the bodysuit armor was completed, and Lu Yin was studying a star chart of the nearby area when a burst of pressure suddenly hit the area. As it fell, Lu Yin heard an excited voice. "Not good! I'm going to break through to the Envoy realm!"

Lu Yin was startled. Breaking through to the Envoy realm? Who?

He looked up and saw Ah Da racing into space, leaving Aurora Fortress in a flash.

Ah Da wanted to break through and become an Envoy?

Breaking through to the Envoy realm meant going through the first stellar tribulation. Each tribulation's strength was proportional to the amount of stellar energy that formed the tribulation. A stellar tribulation was a powerful event, and if Ah Da stayed on Aurora Fortress, the tribulation would most likely sense the nearby Envoys, causing the tribulation to grow even stronger. This was not something that Ah Da could afford to have happen.

It was impossible for Aurora Fortress to provide Ah Da with any assistance for him to survive his stellar tribulation. Even if the chances of another Envoy being detected by the tribulation were only one in ten thousand, that chance was risking total destruction.

Ah Da immediately left Aurora Fortress and stood in the emptiness of outer space. The void above his head warped and twisted into a circle. It gave off the impression that a massive beast was descending, and its suppressive aura was simply terrifying, as if it could shatter earth and sky.

Chapter 1577: A Successful Breakthrough

Director Zhi and the other Envoys all appeared in outer space one after another, though they stayed far away from Ah Da. Liu Ye and Fei Hua also showed up, as well as many more who were only Enlighters.

Watching someone pass through a stellar tribulation would be a great boon for Enlighters hoping to break through in the future.

Lu Yin also stepped into outer space, a solemn expression on his face as he quietly asked, "Liu Ye, in your opinion, will Ah Da be able to survive his tribulation?"

Liu Ye shook his head. "It's difficult to say. It all depends on what form the tribulation takes, as everyone's is different."

"The strength of a stellar tribulation is supposed to be determined by the amount of stellar energy that one steals from the true universe, no?" Lu Yin asked.

Liu Ye nodded. "Breaking through to the Envoy realm requires one to form a vortex of stellar energy within their body, and the strength of that vortex is determined by the amount of star energy within the person's body. The more star energy the person has, the more stellar energy their body will draw in, and this cannot be hidden from the true universe. Ah Da does not have an excessive amount of star energy in his body, so as long as he has properly prepared himself, he has a 20% chance of success."

"Only 20%?" Lu Yin was startled.

Fei Hua mockingly replied, "Do you think that stellar tribulations are a joke? Out of ten Enlighters, it would be lucky for even one to become an Envoy. He needs to overcome his stellar tribulation. This is not a fight against others. No matter how the tribulation suppresses him, he has to break through, and if he is even the slightest bit careless, success will be impossible. A 20% chance of success is already a very high probability."

"What about using external items?" Lu Yin asked in a low voice.

Liu Ye replied, "There are certain external items that can help a person pass through a tribulation—as long as they don't have any stellar energy, of course, as otherwise, it would just aggravate the tribulation. However, tribulations are incomprehensible things, and not all items are useful. If an item from another person is used, it's more easily detected by the tribulation, and if that happens, the tribulation will become much stronger. Then, there will be no hope of survival."

"A stellar tribulation can sense if an item's been borrowed?" Lu Yin was horrified. Was this tribulation sentient? No, this was beyond that. When Lu Yin used an item, nobody could tell if he had borrowed it or not.

Fei Hua rolled her eyes. "It's not easy to deceive a stellar tribulation. Envoys have tried all sorts of things, but there's nothing more to say. Any Enlighter breaking through to the Envoy realm would not have a stable tribulation if they stayed on that Aurora Fortress."

Lu Yin pursed his lips. What the woman said made sense. In essence, Ah Da had not fled from Aurora Fortress because he was worried that the tribulation would sense the nearby Envoys, but rather because he had been worried that the tribulation would sense Aurora Fortress itself and react as though Ah Da was using the fortress as a defensive item.

"One more thing: the strength of a tribulation is almost entirely determined by the strength of the stellar energy vortex, and that is something that no item can influence," Liu Ye warned.

Nearby, Director Zhi let out an emotional sigh. "It really does seem as though stellar tribulations are alive in some capacity. They can see through things that no living creature can, and no one can escape them, only survive them. Only by becoming stronger can a person hope to survive a stellar tribulation."

Everyone stared at Ah Da and his solemn expression. The vortex was growing larger and larger above his head. Thunder cracked, and sharp flashes of lightning occasionally cut through the void, illuminating the spatial tears.

"It's a knife. His tribulation will be related to a knife," a stoic-looking Envoy from Aurora Enterprises commented.

"He should therefore be an expert with knives," said Liu Ye.

The next moment, a violent explosion rang out that sounded like multiple knives clashing while sparks flashed in the void and illuminated the area. Right after that, two long knives formed and shot towards Ah Da. The first knife charged straight forward like an arrogant dragon as it unleashed a roar that shook space itself. On the other hand, the second knife flickered about unpredictably, constantly flashing as it was carried along by a strange power.

The tribulation was not just knives, but also battle techniques.

Star energy filled Lu Yin's eyes. He saw nearly as many runes in the two knives as he did from Ah Da. No, there were two knives attacking, which meant that Ah Da had to survive two attacks that matched his own level of strength. This was a stellar tribulation.

Ah Da pulled out a long, grayish-white knife from his cosmic ring and slashed upward to clash with the first knife. The second knife flickered, and Ah Da's chest was cut, coloring his clothes red with blood. He was not able to stop both knives at the same time.

A stellar tribulation was not some test, as it was the true universe putting forth a true effort to destroy an existence that had stolen from it. Such a thief was an unforgivable enemy.

Ah Da shoved the first long knife away and immediately tried to slash at the second knife, but the second blade contained a strange energy, and it blocked Ah Da's blade.

Everyone watching sighed. The chances of him surviving this tribulation had fallen very low.

At this time, a third knife appeared above the man's head.

Fei Hua shook her head. "He's dead."

Director Zhi similarly gave up hope. "This is a stellar tribulation."

Lu Yin's focus sharpened; sure enough, there was no way for Ah Da to survive.

Ah Da looked up and saw the third knife forming. Thunder echoed in his ears. He took out a strange item and other power vessels, but they were all useless. Nothing that he possessed was able to resist this stellar tribulation.

A crazed light entered Ah Da's eyes when he saw that the first knife was about to attack again. Suddenly, a voice reached him, and his knife shifted to chop at the second blade of the stellar tribulation. The second knife's movement was altered in an odd fashion, and it blocked the first knife's attack. Ah Da grew excited, and he once again attacked the first knife. The continuous flashing attacks surrounded him and made things unclear to the watching Enlighteners.

Not a single one of Ah Da's attacks was the same as the previous ones, and each attack caused the tribulation's knives to shift and move about differently. In particular, the strange energy carried by the second knife altered the first knife's movements every single time.

Director Zhi and others were stunned; how could a person change so drastically?

Liu Ye and Fei Hua glanced at each other before staring at Ah Da in utter shock. "Every time he moves his knife, it cuts through the best path, and he is essentially using the second knife to block the first! How is he doing it? Given his skills with a blade, this should be beyond him."

Nearby, Lu Yin was solemnly watching as he transmitted his voice.

He was the one helping Ah Da. Even if the stellar tribulation could sense when a person borrowed an item from another, it would not be able to sense when someone provided verbal help. After all, that was too far-fetched.

The stellar tribulations were sometimes able to sense if an item had been borrowed from another person, but it was impossible for it to pick up on help received through a sound transmission. This might be a possible lifeline provided by the tribulations.

If this particular tribulation had not been a knife, but instead another form, Lu Yin would not have been able to provide much assistance. However, since it was a weapon, he could. When he had received his inheritance from the Sword Monument, Lu Yin had learned how to use a scythe to destroy weapons, and he had experienced cutting down tens of thousands of opponents.

The time that Lu Yin had taken to receive his inheritance from the Sword Monument had even surpassed Bai Xian'er's record.

Finally, there was a gentle sound as the tribulation's second knife finally shattered. Ah Da let out a deep roar and attacked the first blade, shattering it as well.

He was panting heavily, and blood streamed down from his chest onto his hands. Ah Da looked up at where the stellar tribulation's third knife was forming just as it fell towards him.

This knife contained no battle technique, and it directly attacked him.

Lu Yin's pupils shrank. This was bad! The third knife had far more runes than the previous two. Lu Yin stared at Ah Da, but he was unable to help.

The power of this knife was not something that mere skill could overcome.

This was the end.

Director Zhi and other spectators all shook their heads. Ah Da had failed his tribulation.

Even the Enlighteners watching were able to feel the terrifying power of this third knife, and Ah Da's wounded state was clear for all to see. However, even in his peak state, Ah Da would not have been able to stop this knife.

Ah Da looked up and saw the knife fall towards him. At that moment, the long gray knife disappeared from his hand, and it was replaced by another that had the same shape. However, this new knife was sheathed, and that sheathe was Ah Da's innate gift.

As the third knife fell towards his head, Ah Da's eyes went wide. He clenched his knife in his right hand, pulled the blade free, and then slashed it overhead. At that moment, an incredible number of rune lines appeared, startling Lu Yin. Star energy surged, shaking everyone nearby.

This attack far exceeded the amount of star energy that Ah Da had in his body, and it was actually as powerful as if more than a dozen Ah DAs had attacked at the same time. Ah Da's knife smashed the stellar tribulation's third knife, shattering it. It even continued on to slash at the vortex that was the stellar tribulation.

Everyone was shocked, and many people sucked in sharp breaths; how could Ah Da have released such an attack?

Even Director Zhi was startled, and he blurted out, "An innate gift related to drawing a blade? He's Da Qiu!"

Lu Yin turned to look at Director Zhi. "You know him?"

The surprise still did not leave Director Zhi's voice. "Yes. I should have remembered him before. Previously, he was one of the Hall of Honor's enforcers, but there hasn't been any news about him for decades."

Lu Yin looked back at Ah Da; this man used to be one of the Hall of Honor's enforcers?

Off in the distance, Ah Da sheathed his knife, and then it slowly disappeared. He remained standing where he was. No one was able to see anything, though Lu Yin could see the man's rune lines continuously increasing. He had become an Envoy.

The vortex slowly disappeared from above Ah Da's head, and everyone stared at the man with evident envy. He had survived his stellar tribulation.

Liu Ye commented, "That innate gift of his is quite good, but his skills with a blade are even better."

"He was lucky. There was a good chance of him not surviving his tribulation," Fei Hua said.

Everyone stared at Ah Da as his body started to occasionally disappear from view. He was entering and exiting the true universe. The Enlighteners here were not able to see this, but the Envoys all knew what Ah Da was experiencing.

Weaker cultivators would not be able to see a person who had entered the true universe, and attacking such a person was even more impossible. This was the power of an Envoy, and they were practically gods to Enlighters.

The gathered crowd gradually dispersed, and Director Zhi also soon left. The birth of a new Envoy was certainly something worthy of his attention, but Ah Da was already someone who belonged to the Hall of Honor, and the Interstellar Supreme Court at that. Director Zhi had no connection with the new Envoy.

Director Zhi was not overly concerned about Liu Ye and Fei Hua, so there was no need to even mention a new Envoy.

Of course, there were also people who wanted to ask Ah Da about his tribulation.

Ah Da opened his eyes and looked down at his hand. Even though he was still seriously injured, it was not a huge issue at the moment.

He had survived his tribulation and formed a stellar energy vortex inside his body. He had become an Envoy. He quickly turned around and looked around for Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had not left yet, and so naturally, Liu Ye and Fei Hua had not either.

Ah Da approached Lu Yin and offered a very respectful bow. "Mr. Lu, thank you."

Liu Ye and Fei Hua both gave the two odd looks.

Lu Yin smiled. "It was nothing, just a bit of help."

Ah Da solemnly refuted, "It may not have been any great effort for you, but it saved my life. I, Da Qiu, wish to thank you."

Lu Yin expressed his curiosity, "Da Qiu? Director Zhi mentioned that you used to be one of the Hall of Honor's enforcers, right?"

Ah Da nodded. "I used to be, but I moved to the Interstellar Supreme Court after becoming an Enlighter, and I've changed my name until now."

Lu Yin laughed. "I never expected my luck to be so good! I really chose the right person to be my guide!"

Fei Hua sneered. "Chose the right one? You just looked for the most powerful person available. Your shamelessness is embarrassing."

Lu Yin was left speechless, as she had completely called him out.

Still, she was not wrong. When Lu Yin had visited the Arbitration World, he had chosen Ah Da because Lu Yin had seen that the man was on the cusp of becoming an Envoy, and everyone else had been much weaker.

"Since you were once an Enforcer, when you get back to Mt. Microcosms, will you become a Judicial Commissioner now that you've become an Envoy? Or will you leave the Interstellar Supreme Court?" Lu Yin asked.

Chapter 1578: Microarray Technology

Ah Da replied, "I haven't considered that yet as undergoing my stellar tribulation at this time was just an accident. I will first help Mr. Lu return to the Outerverse before making plans for the future."

Lu Yin nodded. "Alright. I know the Chief Justice quite well, so I'm happy to help."

Ah Da felt that this sounded quite strange. As far as everyone in the Interstellar Supreme Court was concerned, the Chief Justice was mysterious, majestic, and inviolable. He embodied the concepts of justice, judgment, and faith. Given all of that, why did Lu Yin's comment make the Chief Justice sound like a middle-aged neighbor? When Ah Da remembered the Chief Justice's emblem that Lu Yin was carrying, an odd thought popped into his head: was it really possible that this youth was the Chief Justice's illegitimate child?

Ah Da had always maintained a rather indifferent attitude towards Lu Yin, but after surviving his tribulation, the new Envoy's attitude had completely changed. Lu Yin had saved Ah Da's life, and he looked at Lu Yin with true respect.

Lu Yin was also someone who was a part of the Hall of Honor. He had never lost this status, and Ah Da suddenly took a closer look at Lu Yin after hearing his latest comment.

An Enlightener becoming an Envoy was a big event, and it became a popular topic at Aurora Fortress.

That night, Wan Lao'er was scolded once again. In his anger, he wanted to find Young Master Zhi's race car and challenge Lu Yin, but unfortunately, Lu Yin no longer had any interest in racing cars. He was far more interested in Wan Lao'er's father.

After Wan Lao'er stomped out of the house, his father, Wan Gong, let out a sigh. "Useless child."

He shook his head and returned to his room. Suddenly, the hall lights in the downstairs of the house turned on, and he glanced at the living room in an odd expression.

"Wan Gong, let's talk!" a voice called out. Wan Gong's expression instantly changed, and he instinctively wanted to call someone.

Many people had always wanted to steal Aurora Enterprises' technology, so all of the engineers had powerful bodyguards.

"Don't bother. I only came after preparing myself." The voice spoke again.

Wan Gong felt that this voice sounded familiar, so he slowly walked downstairs to see Lu Yin lounging on a sofa while looking at some sketches.

They were blueprints of just regular pieces of a spacecraft, so Wan Gong was unconcerned. He stared at Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu, is there something important enough for you to visit me so late at night? If you're curious about your bodysuit armor, you don't need to worry. You'll have it in just two more days. We're doing an excellent job."

Lu Yin set the sketch back down on the table. Next to the drawing were some raggedy old clothes.

Wan Gong's face fell when he saw the clothes.

Lu Yin picked up the shirt and flipped up the collar to clearly show the mark that looked like bloodstains hidden beneath a fold. "Can Senior Wan Gong tell me what this symbol means?"

Wan Gong stepped forward and asked, "What symbol? That's just a bloodstain."

Lu Yin stared at Wan Gong. "You, or your ancestors, should have come from Earth."

Wan Gong's fingers trembled, but his eyes were focused. "What's 'Earth?' I've never heard of it before."

A smile spread across Lu Yin's face. "In that case, there shouldn't be any issue with Director Zhi seeing this symbol. I've already spoken with Aurora Enterprises' senior management, so you should start thinking about how you can explain this to them."

Wan Gong's expression instantly changed. "Alliance Leader Lu, what are you saying?"

"Nothing much. I just want us to speak openly."

"There's really nothing to say. So what if my ancestors came from the Hidden Earth Society? Aurora Fortress won't care."

"I never mentioned the Hidden Earth Society. I just said 'Earth,'" Lu Yin said lightly.

Wan Gong grew solemn. "Aurora Fortress doesn't care about the Hidden Earth Society. To them, it's just a small and unimportant organization."

"That may be, but what if others find out that I, Lu Yin, have some connection to the Hidden Earth Society? After all, I'm from Earth, so if someone sees us talking late at night, just how will you explain that to Director Zhi?"

Wan Gong frowned. "Lu Yin, what do you want?"

Lu Yin stared at Wan Gong. "You betrayed the Hidden Earth Society."

"I didn't! I'll admit that my ancestors did come from Earth, but that was a long time ago. Those clothes aren't even mine, and they belonged to my ancestors. We never betrayed the Hidden Earth Society. But after settling down here at Aurora Fortress, we don't want to get involved with anything to do with the Hidden Earth Society anymore."

"Why?"

"This is my home," Wan Gong declared.

Lu Yin understood. "I get it."

He then stood to leave. There was no reason to continue speaking with Wan Gong. Lu Yin had sought the man out because he wanted to learn more about the Hidden Earth Society, but Wan Gong's family had left the society, and the man himself had never been part of it. Thus, there was no need to drag him into things that his ancestors had been part of. Wan Gong had nothing to do with the Hidden Earth Society.

Wan Gong did not seem to believe that Lu Yin would really just leave. "Lu Yin, what is that you want?"

Lu Yin's voice grew casual as he replied, "There's nothing to worry about. Since you're not a part of the Hidden Earth Society, then just have a good life."

"You didn't tell me about what will happen to me!" Wan Gong said nervously.

Lu Yin waved a hand. "Don't worry."

With that, he simply left.

Wan Gong stared at his empty living room and the clothes, complicated emotions surging within his eyes.

He had not heard this name for many years, but it had suddenly appeared in his life again. Long ago, his ancestors had been regarded highly by Aurora Fortress for their technical skills, and his ancestors had also wanted the comfort of a life in Aurora Fortress and not suffer like those in the Hidden Earth Society. The price to seek out people with ancient surnames was extremely high. However, they had not merely left the Hidden Earth Society, and they had truly betrayed it.

As a part of the betrayal, everyone who knew that Wan Gong's ancestor had been a member of the Hidden Earth Society had been silenced, and no fewer than ten members of the Hidden Earth Society had been eliminated. A blood debt had been formed.

The Hidden Earth Society was therefore ignorant that Wan Gong's ancestors had betrayed them, and that ignorance had allowed his family to live in peace for many years. Wan Gong had no desire to get involved with the Hidden Earth Society, but what was Lu Yin's motivation behind finding Wan Gong at this time? How had Lu Yin learned the truth of the past?

Wan Gong stared at the clothes still on the table and at the blood stains. Blood debt, bloodstains. Blood debt. Blood debt. Wan Gong's heart dropped, and his face grew pale. Lu Yin must have appeared to get revenge for those people from back then!

How could Wan Gong possibly enjoy a good life like Lu Yin had mentioned when all that awaited him was terrible vengeance?

Wan Gong had no fear of death, but he did not want his son to die as well. When Wan Gong's oldest son had died, the man had been pushed into despair for a period of time. His second child could not suffer any accident.

Wan Gong did not doubt Lu Yin's ability to uncover the truth of the past. The youth had been personally greeted and shown about Aurora Fortress by Director Zhi. It would be all too easy for such a person to go after Wan Gong.

No, no revenge could be exacted! If the ancestors had formed a debt, then that debt needed to be repaid.

At this thought, Wan Gong instantly left his home. He could not allow a tragedy to strike.

Shortly after Lu Yin left Wan Gong's home, the engineer found Lu Yin.

The man's arrival surprised Lu Yin, especially since Wan Gong looked as though his son had died.

Wan Gong dropped to his knees as soon as he approached Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu, I beg you to let my son go! You can do with me as you wish, but please, allow me to repay my ancestors' debt."

Lu Yin was startled for a moment, but then his eyes flickered. He let out a sigh and casually took a seat. "Why?"

When Wan Gong heard Lu Yin's reply, the engineer became fully confident that Lu Yin had visited him to exact revenge. "I will repay the blood debt that my ancestors owe the Hidden Earth Society! My family has stayed here in Aurora Fortress for many years, and we have gained great trust. I am actually one of the core engineers and am involved in some of Aurora Enterprises' most secretive research. I can only offer to tell Alliance Leader Lu of the technologies that I have developed and learned, and I can also tell Alliance Leader Lu everything that I know about Aurora Fortress."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "Technological research? Regarding what?"

Wan Gong instantly grew hesitant.

Lu Yin snorted derisively.

Wan Gong despaired, but then his determination firmed. "Microarray technology."

Lu Yin did not understand the term. "Explain it to me."

Wan Gong sighed. After mentioning microarray technology, there was nothing left to hide. "Ever since Aurora Enterprises was first founded, a tenth of the company's profits have disappeared every single year without any exception. This is an incredible expenditure, and while many people are curious about where the funds go, the truth is that no one knows. I was also unaware. That is, not until one day, when my skills and background were both acknowledged as meeting the requirements. At that time, I was brought in to a research project studying something called microarray technology."

Lu Yin was startled at this news, as Aurora Enterprises' annual profits made for an astronomical sum. The company earned no less than the entire Great Eastern Alliance. A tenth of those funds, from the time that the company had first been established, just what sort of funding was that? It was a truly unimaginable amount of wealth.

"The goal of microarray technology is to incorporate everything that can be observed in the visible universe together: items, living creatures, and even attacks. It aims to gather everything that is both visible and not into a small device that can be activated by anyone. This is the central goal of microarray technology. While it sounds similar to a cosmic ring, a cosmic ring can only store nonliving items; they can't store living creatures, let alone attacks. A microarray would be capable of doing both.

"No matter how crazy the idea sounds, Aurora Enterprises has always believed that such a thing is theoretically feasible, and thus, they have invested a great amount of money into the research. At the moment, the entire project has reached a bottleneck, and yet money is still being invested despite not a single bit of progress. In fact, the funds may have even increased."

Lu Yin leaned forward. There was something tickling his memory, but he could not quite remember what it was. "Keep talking."

Wan Gong continued, "Microarray technology is Aurora Enterprises' primary goal. If this research is successful, it will change things for the entire human race, as the technology would be applicable to every single aspect of life, even warfare! Think about it—if a person's attack could be stored away to be used at another moment, what would that allow?"

Lightning flashed through Lu Yin's mind as he suddenly remembered the sourcebox array that had held four Void Rip attacks.

That sourcebox array had managed to store a battle technique, allowing it to be used at any time! There were power vessels that could do the same thing, but those could only be made by people with special abilities whereas microarray technology could be used by absolutely anyone, even ordinary people.

If an ordinary person could have used the sourcebox array to release a Void Rip that could destroy an entire planet in an instant, then what sort of scene would that be?

Lu Yin shook his head. "Such a technology sounds unrealistic."

"I know, but Aurora Enterprises is completely confident that it can be developed. The bodysuit armor and the components of Auroras that decomposes materials to upgrade the ships were both developed while researching this technology. Aurora Enterprises makes its money through manufacturing spaceships. Thus, they invest heavily into research. Countless geniuses have been brought to Aurora Fortress for countless years to continue this research. Those researchers continue to pursue this research until the day they die of old age, as will I," Wan Gong stated.

Lu Yin took out the Void Rip sourcebox array and tossed it over to Wan Gong. "Look at this."

Even after Lu Yin had used up all four of the Void Rip attacks stored in the sourcebox array, he had not gotten rid of the array itself.

Wan Gong took the Void Rip sourcebox array and started carefully examining it. Suddenly, his expression changed completely, and he stared at Lu Yin in utter disbelief. "A- Alliance Leader Lu, where did this thing come from?"

"Is it useful?" Lu Yin was growing interested.

Wan Gong's excitement only grew. "It's useful! Very useful! This is nothing less than a model of working microarray technology! This could lead to incredible breakthroughs regarding microarray technology!"

Chapter 1579: Debt From The Past

Lu Yin's eyes grew thoughtful. He had not given Wan Gong a model, but rather a sourcebox array that was a working example of microarray technology. Even though it had been able to store four Void Rip attacks, it was a sourcebox array, not a form of technology. "Are there any Array Masters among the researchers investigating microarray technology?"

"There is indeed a powerful Realm Array Master."

Lu Yin let out a breath. This was not a surprising answer, as such a technology would have to be combined with the underlying principles of sourcebox arrays. Clearly, Aurora Enterprises was truly willing to freely invest into this research if they had their own Realm Array Master. Not even the White

Dragon Clan, one of the four ruling powers of the Perennial World, had been able to raise an Array Master, and the clan had been forced to hire such experts.

For them to have a Realm Array Master on the research team, this research was not something that Lu Yin could afford to invest in.

Wan Gong was excited by what he saw while examining the Void Rip sourcebox array. He had the same expression as when he had first seen the rare materials that Lu Yin had brought to be used for his universal armor. Wan Gong was completely absorbed in examining the sourcebox array, and it occupied his full attention. The man was a true engineer, and his essence could not be changed.

"If you have this, could your microarray research make more progress?" Lu Yin asked.

Wan Gong subconsciously responded, "There's no other option! Absolutely."

He then looked at Lu Yin and the sourcebox array, clearly unwilling to give the thing back.

"You've forgotten why you came here. Our matter is not yet settled," Lu Yin reminded the man.

Anyone who learned of microarray technology would become excited about it. Even if it sounded like an impossible goal, Aurora Enterprises had already poured so much money into the project, and their enthusiasm was clear to see.

Wan Gong had truly forgotten about why he had chased after Lu Yin after seeing the Void Rip sourcebox array, and Lu Yin's blunt reminder gave the man chills.

Lu Yin smiled casually and waved a hand, causing the sourcebox array to disappear from Wan Gong's grasp.

The man was still unwilling to give up such a treasure, and he stared at Lu Yin, pleading with his eyes.

"With how things are, is anyone keeping an eye on you?" Lu Yin wondered.

"Yes, but I'm able to lose them."

Lu Yin nodded. "I sought you out for an unpaid debt. You need to settle this account."

Wan Gong's face grew pale. "Alliance Leader Lu, I'll pay you back. Just please, let my son go! Let him go!"

Lu Yin stared at Wan Gong. "With this sourcebox array, how long would it take to develop the microarray technology?"

"I believe that we would be able to make a breakthrough within no more than ten years. However, I've been absent from this project for a long time, so I don't know what progress might have been made by now. According to the progress when I left, it should be about ten years."

Ten years was a long time to Lu Yin, but that was nothing compared to the time that had already been spent researching microarray technology.

Lu Yin longed for the day when the research would be completed and various attacks could be stored in a microarray. It would allow an army of hundreds of thousands of ordinary humans to instantly release

an attack with the power of an Envoy! What would such a thing look like? Forget the Sixth Mainland—even the Perennial World and Aeternus would be terrified!

After thinking about it, Lu Yin threw the Void Rip sourcebox array back to Wan Gong. "I'll give you the opportunity to stay here and research microarray technology. After the project's success, you will deliver the results to me, and your debt will be cleared."

Wan Gong was overjoyed. "Really?"

Lu Yin nodded. This person was clearly a gifted engineer, but he was also ignorant of the full implications that this microarray technology held for the future, or it might be that he simply had not thought that far into the future. Aurora Enterprises, on the other hand, was different; they had seen the potential for microarray technology, but they lacked the technical abilities to bring it into existence.

What intrigued Lu Yin the most at this moment was how the Celestial Frost Sect had even made the Void Rip sourcebox array. Regardless of whether or not the sect itself had developed this sourcebox array that was able to hold four Void Rip attacks, someone had still already mastered microarray technology.

This was not good news. Someone had developed microarray technology, but it was not being used against Aeternus. In that case, what was the technology being used for?

"You can return now, but remember: if Aurora Fortress develops any important technology, you must inform me," Lu Yin ordered.

These words meant that Wan Gong had betrayed Aurora Fortress.

In the past, his ancestors had betrayed the Hidden Earth Society to join Aurora Fortress, but at this moment, Wan Gong had betrayed Aurora Fortress and fallen under Lu Yin's command. The debt that he had inherited would soon be repaid.

Wan Gong sighed and stood up. He slowly started leaving, but just as he got to the door, he suddenly remembered something. "Aurora Enterprises might have some sort of connection to the Cosmic Sect."

Lu Yin was caught off guard. "What was that?"

Revealing the information about microarray technology meant that Wan Gong had already completely betrayed Aurora Enterprises, and there was no turning back. His new position caused him to want to earn Lu Yin's favor. "Some technology that I developed accidentally detected that more than one person in Aurora Enterprises uses the Cosmic Art. While I've never seen it myself, the instruments did. Still, I'm not completely certain."

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. There should be absolutely no connection between Aurora Enterprises and the Cosmic Sect. "I see."

Two days later, Lu Yin's bodysuit armor was successfully completed, and he reached out to touch it.

The bodysuit armor looked completely different from universal armor, and it looked like an exceptionally delicate piece of clothing. It was actually rather similar to the Cloudguard Robes in appearance, but while the Cloudguard Robes' defensive abilities came from a combination of its material and various sourcebox arrays, the bodysuit armor's defensive abilities stemmed exclusively

from its materials, which made it far weaker than the Cloudguard Robes, though that was only for the moment.

Across from Lu Yin, Director Zhi admired the bodysuit armor. "With so many rare materials and my Aurora Fortress's technological abilities, we managed to produce a bodysuit armor that can defend against attacks of a power level of more than 400,000. While it's very, very close to the power of an Envoy, though it falls to pass that specific threshold."

Lu Yin smiled. "This is enough. Thank you, Director Zhi."

Lu Yin watched as Aurora Fortress gradually faded into the distance as he and his party moved towards the Cosmic Sect.

Lu Yin's original destination had been the Cosmic Sect, as he wanted to study the next layer of the Cosmic Art. However, Wan Gong's comment had also piqued Lu Yin's desire to investigate that particular possibility.

For eons, the Cosmic Sect had existed in the western region of the Neoverse while Aurora Enterprises was in the north. There was no affiliation between the two, and Lu Yin had never heard of any rumors connecting the two before. Still, if what Wan Gong had detected was accurate, then the Cosmic Sect was indeed related to Aurora Enterprises. The combination of two such massive Neoverse powers would change the entire political landscape.

Such a thing seemed highly, highly unlikely, as how could the Hall of Honor have possibly not noticed anything after so many years?

"Mr. Lu, there is an abnormality up ahead," Ah Da said.

Lu Yin had been tasting some wine that Director Zhi had given him with Luo Shen, but he immediately appeared as soon as he heard the warning.

There was an interstellar city in front of their vessel. Such cities were common in the Neoverse, such as the Westgazing City he had once visited, Crimson Star, and many more. However, the city up ahead of them was actually cracking apart.

"Let's go take a look," Lu Yin said.

Each interstellar city was home to countless people, and they would struggle to survive if the city was destroyed. Naturally, Lu Yin would help if he could.

Their spacecraft moved above the interstellar city, and Lu Yin and the others looked down at it.

Two groups of people were engaged in a fierce battle in the city, and the fighting was causing the city to break apart. Innumerable people were fleeing in despair, but many of the vessels were not able to leave.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed; both sides were using Truesight in their battle.

"Those people are from Gods' Origin, and they're fighting against people from the Ignition Crew, one of the Cosmic Sea's Four Pirate Crews," Ah Da solemnly observed.

Jin He had been a part of the Ignition Crew, and he was the person behind the deaths of the 72 people with the Lu surname. Even though Lu Yin had killed Jin He during ZENITH, he had still been a part of the Ignition Crew.

"Liu Ye, please go ahead and suppress everyone," Lu Yin said.

Liu Ye and Fei Hua had a sourcebox array hidden within their bodies, and Lu Yin could cause their deaths at any moment with just a thought.

Ever since the two had started following Lu Yin, he had not once given the two Envoys a single order until this exact moment. Even though Fei Hua had constantly been rude to Lu Yin, he had never minded her attitude, and he had never once even asked for something until this moment.

Fei Hua wanted to talk back after hearing Lu Yin's request, but Liu Ye stopped her with a shake of his head.

During the time that they had followed Lu Yin, they had researched him on the Human Domain's network. They had already learned a bit about Lu Yin before this, and they knew about his personality. At this moment, if they went against him, they knew that Lu Yin would not hesitate to kill them both.

Most of the people fighting in the city were only Explorers, but there were also a few Enlighters as well as two Envoys.

"Get back! You bugs only know how to stay trapped in the Neoverse! The day will eventually come when my Ignition Crew will take everything from Gods' Origin, and you all become slaves!" A man laughed wildly as he raised a hand.

An arc appeared before him, but an old woman in beautiful robes who was from Gods' Origin snapped back, "Arrogant!"

She attacked even as she shouted.

Each of the two sides worked to reduce their opponents' runes, and they also attacked each other by creating attacks out of nothing with their mastery of runes. Occasionally, the Envoys would disappear into the true universe, and their battle was quickly destroying the entire city.

It was clear that not a single one of the combatants cared about the fate of the city or its citizens.

This was true for both sides of the battle, and the city's own cultivators did not dare to interfere in such a battle, as the small city could not afford to offend either side of the two powers participating in this fight.

Suddenly, a terrifying wave of energy swept out, and the two Envoys who had entered the true universe were forced back out. They looked up in awe and saw Liu Ye standing high in the sky.

Peace returned to the city, but then an explosion erupted, and flames shot into the sky. Many people watched on in despair, thinking that they were seeing their own deaths approaching, but suddenly, they were standing in outer space.

Both sides of the battle had been forced to stop fighting, and they all looked at Liu Ye.

The old woman said, "I don't know who this senior might be, but please help my Gods' Origin to destroy these traitors from the Ignition Crew."

The Envoy from the Ignition Crew also spoke up. "I don't know if Senior was just passing by and we disturbed you. If you visit the Cosmic Sea in the future, my Ignition Crew will definitely welcome you and show our appreciation."

Everyone stared at Liu Ye, waiting for him to speak.

Liu Ye did not move, but the void near him twisted. Lu Yin appeared and looked down at the various combatants.

"Lu Yin?" someone shouted as they recognized him.

Everyone stared at Lu Yin. "That's right, ZENITH's champion!"

"It's him! It's Lu Yin!"

...

Down in the city, the old woman was thrilled. Gods' Origin was not a popular place, as few people had any sort of affection for the organization. However, Lu Yin got along well with God Taiyi, and they could almost be considered friends. Even more importantly, Lu Yin had killed Jin He during ZENITH, who had been an incredibly talented youth who had managed to become one of the Inverse's Ten Arbiters. It was clear that Lu Yin and the Ignition Crew were enemies.

The moment he saw Lu Yin, the Envoy from the Ignition Crew did not hesitate to enter the true universe to try to escape.

After taking just a few steps, Fei Hua appeared in front of him. No matter what the man tried, he could not get past the woman.

Liu Ye looked dazed; the man was only a one-tribulation Envoy, and it even looked like the man had only recently become an Envoy, so how had the man managed to weaken his attack? It was not a small amount either. Liu Ye was a three-tribulation Envoy, but his strength had been weakened to the level of a two-tribulation Envoy, and he was unable to restore his strength despite his greatest efforts.

The Envoy who was trying to escape gritted his teeth and turned to look at Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu, what is it that you want?"

"What just happened? He has very bizarre techniques," Liu Ye asked in a low voice as he glanced over at Lu Yin with curiosity.

Lu Yin smiled and asked, "Have you ever heard of... the Rune Progenitor?"

Chapter 1580: Disciple

Liu Ye was confused. "Which Progenitor?"

Lu Yin's eye twitched. Apparently, the people of the Perennial World did not know of the Rune Progenitor. "The Rune Progenitor created rune technology, which allows its practitioner to create something out of nothing or weaken their enemy. He established a truly amazing civilization. This person used the Rune Progenitor's method to attack you, as the method can be used as a battle technique."

Lu Yin then redirected his attention to the Envoy from the Ignition Crew. ""Who ordered Jin He to target Big Sis's Soldier Crew for members with the Lu surname?"

The man solemnly replied, "Jin He did that on his own. Highsage Leon also questioned us about that matter, but my Ignition Crew had nothing to do with that matter."

Lu Yin's expression hardened. "Listen carefully. My question is who ordered Jin He to target Big Sis's Soldier Crew for members under the pretext that having the Lu surname is a crime."

The man clenched a fist. He had traveled to the Neoverse to recruit powerhouses to join the Ignition Crew. The incident that Lu Yin was referring to had actually led to a battle between Leon's Armada and the Ignition Crew. With the formation of the Great Eastern Alliance, the Ignition Crew had finally gotten some room to catch their breath. They wanted to use this time to grow as large as possible, but unfortunately, they had been discovered by people from Gods' Origin.

However, it was said that enemies walked a narrow road, and they had also run into Lu Yin.

"Alliance Leader Lu, I've already said that that matter was orchestrated entirely by Jin He and that it had nothing to do with my Ignition Crew," the man solemnly declared.

Lu Yin frowned. "Liu Ye, I'll have to trouble him to deal with him. You'll be able to completely experience the miraculous method that they use."

Liu Ye's eyes lit up. "Thank you."

The Envoy down below shot back into the true universe, but Liu Ye just sneered. Even if his strength had been weakened, he was still much stronger than his opponent. He truly did want to experience this incredible method for himself. Could something from this Forsaken Land possibly surpass anything from the Perennial World?

Liu Ye attacked. His opponent would not be a problem for him.

The rest of the members of the Ignition Crew were all terrified.

Lu Yin ignored everyone and descended into the city.

The old woman from Gods' Origin approached him. "Thank you for your help, Alliance Leader Lu."

An old man arrived from elsewhere. He was an Enlighter with a power level of about 300,000. After approaching, the man bowed to Lu Yin. "Many thanks, Alliance Leader Lu, for saving this city. This little old man wishes to offer you thanks on behalf of the millions of people here."

Lu Yin simply ignored the old woman and moved to help the old man stand. "There's no need for any thanks. Go and get busy—your city has been destroyed, and it will take you some time to clean things up."

The old man was again thankful, and he quickly left. He truly did have a lot that he needed to do.

The old woman's expression was quickly souring, but Lu Yin continued to ignore her and instead focused on an ant.

Finally, he looked over at the old woman. "I didn't do this to help you, and you don't even qualify to receive my help."

The old woman's eyes frosted over. "Alliance Leader Lu, are you unwilling to be friends with my Gods' Origin?"

Lu Yin laughed. "You aren't able to represent Gods' Origin."

The old woman was furious, but she suppressed her rage as she was actually scared of Liu Ye. "Since that's how it is, farewell. I will take the rest of the members of the Ignition Crew with me, unless Alliance Leader Lu feels differently?"

She did not ask Lu Yin to give her the Envoy from the Ignition crew, as she was not an idiot. Lu Yin had not given the people from Gods' Origin any face when he competed for the Astral Tower in the Mountains and Seas Zone. Aside from his relationship with God Taiyi, Lu Yin could only be seen as not having a hostile relationship with Gods' Origin. They were certainly not friends.

"As you wish." Lu Yin watched the old woman leave and then stared off into the distance.

It did not take long for Liu Ye to capture the Envoy from the Ignition Crew. The man was severely injured when he was dragged over in front of Lu Yin.

Lu Yin squatted down to look at the man. "Same question as before: who was it?"

The man's face was pale. Blood dripped from the corners of his mouth, and there was a gaping wound on his abdomen. However, he stared at Lu Yin with fierce eyes. "Jin He acted on his own! It had nothing to do with us!"

Lu Yin frowned. He then stepped forward and disappeared. "Get rid of him."

It was not long before their ship resumed its course for the Cosmic Sect.

There were many places in the Neoverse that Lu Yin wanted to visit. He wants to go to the Cosmic Sect to learn the next level of the Cosmic Art, and he also wanted to go see the Mavis family in order to see just how much wealth they really had. Could he get them to lend any to him? He wanted to visit the Seven Courts to see if he could find any records concerning Progenitors. And he also wanted to visit Gods' Origin to see if he could reach the next level of Truesight.

Lu Yin truly had no spare time, as there was simply too much for him to do.

However, he was not quite as eager to increase his mastery of Truesight, as the technique had many restrictions, and there were places where it could not be used at all.

If it was possible to use Truesight in the Perennial World, Lu Yin would have made sure to visit Gods' Origin long ago. Jin He had cultivated Truesight to the Knowing realm, and Lu Yin was still jealous of that achievement.

After some time, they arrived in the northern region of the Neoverse, and they soon saw the Cosmic Sect.

Luo Shen clasped a hand over her mouth as she stared on in shock.

Lu Yin had also been completely stunned the first time that he had laid eyes on the Cosmic Sect.

It looked as though countless stars were being held in a hand. This was the Cosmic Sect's layout, and while it could be described in such a simple manner, there was no way to describe its breathtaking beauty.

Liu Ye voiced his admiration. "It looks quite similar to the Wang family's home, and they are one of the four ruling powers. However, the Wang family's home looks as though a severed hand is holding up their land while here, it looks as though an invisible hand is holding the stars as they move through space."

Fei Hua nodded. "I had thought that the Forsaken Land was a cultivating wasteland, but it actually doesn't seem all that bad."

Liu Ye agreed, "Not only is it not that bad, but it's truly beyond our imagination. You didn't fight that man back there. He was able to create things from absolutely nothing, and he could also weaken my attacks. It's truly amazing. I've never even heard of such a method in the Perennial World."

After that, the man looked to Lu Yin. "Was the Rune Progenitor one of the Forsaken Land's Progenitors?"

"He was a Progenitor whom history dared not record down, and he created a civilization that was also not recorded."

Liu Ye grew emotional. "Creating a civilization is a feat worthy of a Progenitor. I would love to see this Truesight."

Lu Yin smiled. "That person that you fought only cultivated Truesight to the Clarity realm. I once saw a genius who was able to reach the Knowing realm while only an Enlighter. At that level of mastery, he was able to deny certain things from influencing him. Basically, even if he faced an attack that was too strong for him, he could ignore it. And I mean really and truly ignore it as though it did not exist."

Liu Ye's eyes blazed. "Where is that person? I really want to meet him."

"I killed him."

Liu Ye choked.

Fei Hua became upset. "Then what about everything that you said about him?"

"Just because I killed him doesn't mean that he wasn't skilled," Lu Yin retorted.

Luo Shen pursed her lips and snickered; Lu Yin was tooting his own horn, which was entertaining to watch.

With Lu Yin's present status in the Fifth Mainland, Sect Master Yuan Qiong personally greeted the youth when he arrived at the Cosmic Sect.

Yuan Qiong was accompanied by Elder Yuan Shou, Elder Yao Shan, Elder Yuan Ke, Elder Yuan Miao, and a group of core disciples who all greeted Lu Yin.

Lu Yin hurried over and bowed as soon as he saw Yuan Qiong and others. "Fifth Core Disciple Lu Yin greets the sect master and the elders."

Yuan Qiong was stunned for a moment. He was the sect master, and with his position, he had stepped out to greet the leader of the Outerverse's Great Eastern Alliance. Lu Yin was the most talented member of his generation in the entire Fifth Mainland. That was the status of someone who was worthy of having the sect master of the Cosmic Sect personally greet him. No core disciple of the sect deserved such treatment! How could the sect master move out for a mere disciple?

Yuan Qiong had moved to welcome Lu Yin on behalf of the Cosmic Sect as a show of recognizing Lu Yin's status as the leader of the Outerverse and the champion of ZENITH; how was he supposed to react to this greeting?

"Alliance Leader Lu, you were merely an exchange disciple that Eversky Island sent here to study. Your status as the fifth core disciple was forfeited when you left," Elder Yao Shan stated.

Lu Yin spoke in a sincere tone, "I was a disciple of the Cosmic Sect for a day, and so I will remain a disciple of the Cosmic Sect for my entire life. This disciple will never forget the sect's teachings. This disciple regrets not being able to save Senior Sister in that place."

"Well spoken, and from the heart too. I am also a disciple of the Cosmic Sect," Elder Yuan Shou praised.

Lu Yin bowed yet again.

Yuan Qiong's eyes flickered. No, this was all wrong. Lu Yin's attitude was too perfect, and he was acting too sincerely. Something had to be wrong.

Even though Yuan Qiong could not put his finger on what the problem was, he kept an eye on Lu Yin. "I won't discuss this matter today. Alliance Leader Lu, you've traveled far, so please enter my sect."

Lu Yin quickly responded, "How could I dare to trouble the Sect Master to lead the way for me? That would be inappropriate for this disciple."

Elder Yao Shan's eyes suddenly flickered as a thought occurred to him. "While Alliance Leader Lu is devoted to my Cosmic Sect, which gives me great comfort, you must not call yourself a disciple again, as you are not a real disciple of the Cosmic Sect."

Elder Yuan Shou sighed. "Yao Shan, what are you doing? Lu Yin is showing his sincerity to my Cosmic Sect, and yet you rebuff him? Is this how an elder of the Cosmic Sect should behave? Are you really an elder?"

Elder Yao Shan's face twisted. "Alliance Leader Lu is the leader of the Great Eastern Alliance, as well as the champion of ZENITH. While I truly wish for him to be a disciple of my Cosmic Sect, he is not. My Cosmic Sect does not treat such matters lightly."

"What are you talking about? Lu Yin cultivated in the Cosmic Sect, and he achieved the position of a core disciple through the third method. He is a core disciple of my Cosmic Sect."

"That was merely an exchange program with Eversky Island, and that time has already expired."

"But his heart belongs to my Cosmic Sect."

"There are many people who are devoted to my Cosmic Sect. Are all of them disciples?"

...

Lu Yin pursed his lips and silently listened as the two elders argued. He truly did regard himself as a disciple of the Cosmic Sect, though that was also because he wanted to learn the Cosmic Art. If he was not a disciple of the sect, why would they teach him anything?

"Enough. You are all elders. Be aware of the image that you are presenting!" Yuan Qiong shouted angrily.

Behind the elders, Mu Ziyang, Hua Xiao, and others were left completely speechless. Just how was Lu Yin able to stir up so much trouble so fast while also looking completely innocent?

Yao Ji stared at Lu Yin and started to feel twitchy; this bastard absolutely deserved a beating.

Yuan Ke regarded Lu Yin very highly. "Sect Master, it's rare for a child to show such devotion, and he has continued to be loyal to my Cosmic Sect. We can't treat such a person coldly."

Yuan Qiong looked over at Lu Yin. "Alliance Leader Lu, let's not discuss the matter of your status as being a disciple or not for the moment. Let's first enter the sect."

Lu Yin nodded. "As Sect Master wishes."

Yuan Qiong knew that Lu Yin could not allow the sect master to be an escort, and Yuan Qiong also wanted to find out what Lu Yin wanted from them. The sect master was assuming that Lu Yin was after the Cosmic Art, but that could not be possible. Forget the first three levels of the Cosmic Art—the fourth level required a person to gain access to the thirty six fatal energy centers of the human body, and that was not something that could be shared with outsiders. Quite a while ago, Smoke Eater Peaks had paid a steep price to gain the first level of the Cosmic Art in order to allow Gu Xiao'er to become a Lockbreaker. Who could have imagined that the kid would not live up to expectations and that he would even lose the copy of the Cosmic Art that he had been given?

The Cosmic Sect had always remembered that matter, and the Cosmic Art could not be allowed to spread.

"Who are these two?" Only at that moment did Elder Yuan Shou finally notice Liu Ye and Fei Hua.

Everyone had been so preoccupied with Lu Yin's disruption that not a single person had noticed Liu Ye or Fei Hua.

The Cosmic Sect was not the same as Aurora Enterprises. The latter was a massive corporation. Since neither of the two Envoys held any value for the company, Aurora Enterprises had not cared about the two. However, the Cosmic Sect was a sect.

"Yuan Qiong was rude and didn't notice the two of you. Please don't take any offense." Yuan Qiong grew solemn as he apologized to Liu Ye and Fei Hua. This demonstrated the difference between sects and companies.