

## **Paragon Of Sin #Chapter 1031: EnlightenedScholarly Mist - Read Paragon Of Sin Chapter 1031: EnlightenedScholarly Mist**

### Chapter 1031: EnlightenedScholarly Mist

Cultivators rarely slept, an activity meant only for the deprived of mental energy, needing a swift method of replenishment. It was the most natural state of recovery for the mind, body, and senses, yet cultivators rarely slept. As one approached the limits of the Mortal Dao, so did critical defining aspects of being a mortal fade away, such as eating, breathing, and sleeping.

Wei Wuyin finally woke up from his slumber after several days of deep sleep, his body and mind were in an inactive state, essentially defenseless. For the longest time, he had forgotten what it felt like to genuinely fall asleep in the most natural manner possible.

"You're really odd," were the first three words he heard as roused himself awake, rubbing the leftover sleep from his eyes, and lifting his upper body slightly. Higheater was sitting beside him in a comfortable-looking wooden chair, his mouth in constant motion, as Wei Wuyin lay on the floor. "Quite odd, haha. But I've always liked oddities," Higheater chortled.

"How long was I out?" Wei Wuyin instinctively asked this despite being a True Void Dragon, slowly growing in touch with his truly mortal side. With his current powers, it was merely a thought before he could accurately determine the eclipsed time down to the milliseconds.

"A few days. You've actually exceeded your three-month limit. The Envoy was quite ticked off, but I thought it'd be best for you to recover naturally. She stomped off back to the Voyage Tower, and told me to alert her after you've woken up." Higheater smilingly said, as if amused by something.

"Uh," Wei Wuyin finally lifted himself completely upright, stretching as the last vestiges of exhaustion were strained away, "thanks."

"No problem, no problem. It's rare for us cultivators to sleep, but when we do, it's typically a natural miracle that shouldn't be disrupted. At least, that's what I believed. I don't think I've slept since I was at the Temporal Eye Phase, and oh boy! That was thousands of years ago, haha." Higheater had a personality that Wei Wuyin truly felt at ease being around. Since they first met, he's never

once felt uncomfortable around him, an innate sense of trust swelling within his mind.

"Yeah," Wei Wuyin smiled.

"Check it! Check it! Check it out!" Ori's excited voice thundered. Wei Wuyin started slightly before inspecting its origins, finding himself in his Sea of Consciousness as a mental incarnation. When he arrived, he was absolutely stunned to the point his jaw dropped in shock. His Sea of Consciousness' limits had expanded by roughly twenty-five percent, and Eden's size had grown along with it. While the size of Eden's Astral Soul in his Sea of Consciousness wasn't directly relative to its strength, the world of his Sea of Consciousness represented his limits of mental energies.

He's taken countless alchemical products to strengthen his mental energies, expand his Sea of Consciousness, and harden its outer shell and inner walls—a feat that Eden actively played a part in, and ensured that it was at its limits before each breakthrough. Yet after his sleep session, it od Wuyin inspected the Palace of Eden in all its eighteen-story glory.

"What's that?" Wei Wuyin flitted over to the entrance as he noticed a translucent mist exuding from the palace's walls. This mist was imbuing itself into his Sea of Consciousness' inner walls and foundation causing various changes. Eden's roots were attracting them as well. It gave off a light commonly sensed from enlightened sages, and while it felt imaginary to others, it was clear to those with keen senses.

Instinctively, Wei Wuyin sought out the Heavenly War Spirit for an explanation, yet the egg was within Eden's roots, wrapped to the utmost limits, and besides a piercing golden radiance exuding from its shell, he couldn't see it. Fortunately, his Astral Souls were not simply there to look pretty and ignorant while things were happening in their domains. They had always been the most reliable when it came to their cultivation.

"It's knowledge," Eden answered. Stunned, Wei Wuyin analyzed the Palace of Eden. Knowledge? "The mist has a similar composition to Utmost Purity Mist of the Alchemic Dao, and I believe it's generated by your Second Mind's degree of knowledge, and the recognition from the Mind Dao."

"Mind Dao? Recognition?" Wei Wuyin's surprise soon gave way to realization as he flashed inside the Palace of Eden to meet his Second Mind, who was on the third floor, reading a scroll with the utmost solemnity, but the depths of

its manifested eyes were gleaming with roaring excitement. Mysteriously, the translucent mist resembling a scholarly aura was pouring out of its mental incarnation without restraint.

"..." Eden was right; this mist had a similar consistency as the Utmost Purity Mist of the Alchemic Dao. If Utmost Purity Mist can elevate a product's quality and ease of refinement, then this mist could elevate the quality of his mental energy and aspects of his Sea of Consciousness.

When Wei Wuyin arrived, his Second Mind's incarnation ceased its reading, and then with bright eyes, sent a ray of gushing light into Wei Wuyin. Within moments, waves after waves of filtered knowledge were being transmitted between them. After a while, Wei Wuyin's aura began to subtly change, growing more sage-like, resembling a traveled scholar.

He knew its name!

Enlightened Scholarly Mist.

"...!" Wei Wuyin's eyes in real life contracted. Higheater was in the middle of speaking, "-ntacted the Envoy, she'll be here in a few minutes. Yo-" Higheater instantly stopped as he noticed the glint within Wei Wuyin's eyes, exuding a light that represented refined intelligence as if everything Wei Wuyin saw was known and could be explained. A rare sensation, causing his heart to quiver.

"Yo-you okay?" He asked in befuddlement.

Wei Wuyin regained himself soon enough and sighed as his eyes closed. When he reopened them, the scholarly light had been concealed deeply, replaced by his Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity's typical aura. It seems that recognition of success from a Dao manifested in many ways, as Utmost Purity Mist for successful concoctions, as a Blessed for surviving Hell, and now...

Just then, loads of knowledge originating from the Free Study and Sealed Tower had entered his mind in the most comprehensive and organized fashion, a clearly orchestrated set of knowledge by himself. At that moment, his entire Sea of Consciousness began to emit this translucent mist alongside the Palace of Eden in equal measure, both originating from the origins of his minds.

While the naming sense for these mists was a little...iffy, he didn't mind. After all, his own naming sense was equally suspect.

"I'm fine," Wei Wuyin reassured. His plan to form the Palace of Eden and 'acquire' all the information he could have yielded unexpected results. The continuous expansion of his Sea of Consciousness was bound to produce an unimaginable effect on his cognitive abilities and mental prowess. Was this why those who pursued knowledge were always so intelligent and refined?

Eventually, a strange silence unfolded between the duo as minutes passed before Liu Suyin finally returned from the Voyage Tower. Her indifferent expression somehow relaxed Wei Wuyin unlike the times before. When Wei Wuyin and her eyes met, he captured a faint glimmer of anticipation. It seemed that their discussion had lit a fire within her, slowly melting away her shell of indifference.

"Brother Chi, I hope we meet again under less burdened conditions." Wei Wuyin honestly spoke from his heart. It was genuinely unfortunate that their next meeting was marred by the plots and schemes of others, placed on a time limit where he couldn't simply have a relaxed conversation.

"From War Devil Realm to the World Between the Fold, we have some fate between us, so I definitely believe we'll meet again," Higheater smiled. While Wei Wuyin was less than a thousandth of his age, he couldn't deny that they had an innately friendly connection that was rather rare for most cultivators. Despite the power dynamics, both felt at ease and equal. It was truly strange.

"Let's go. We're already late," Liu Suyin was expectedly unmoved by their goodbyes.

"Yeah," Wei Wuyin held out his hand. Higheater chortled, entering into a firm handshake as they exchanged gazes. They didn't need to say anymore as their eyes revealed all the words unspoken between them.

They didn't know that the next time they met, their connection of friendship would be heavily threatened by forces and choices beyond their control.

A few days later, Wei Wuyin and Liu Suyin were on another Skyship. The latter was endlessly debating the aspects of spatial profundities. She had gotten ammunition from the Voyage Tower and had shot them off at Wei Wuyin in an aggressive fashion. Yet Wei Wuyin was entirely unshaken by those questions and responses, meeting each with carefully curated and accurate answers that left Liu Suyin's eyes constantly shimmering with an exuberant light.

While the Voyage Tower might contain 'higher' levels of information, it still paled in comparison to someone who was a True Void Dragon that personally received the recognition of the Laws of Space. Liu Suyin was left humbled but also equally excited.

At one point, she had grasped Wei Wuyin's arm in a "Eureka!" moment, losing herself for a brief period, and her indifferent visage vanished into a lively animated version of her. That smile of triumph after discovering a solution to a pesky problem of years forced her emotions to the surface. Of course, when she realized that she initiated contact, she pulled back and once again regained her apathetic shell. Unfortunately, there was no bashful blushing.

Wei Wuyin was both confused by and deeply interested in Liu Suyin. He had originally thought her flat indifference was a byproduct of a specific spiritual cultivation method affecting her Sea of Consciousness, perhaps suppressing her emotions, but it seemed to be a product of her own will. A defensive shell? Trauma? He couldn't quite tell.

There was one thing that was beyond any doubt: when Liu Suyin genuinely smiled and engaged in discussion about the profundities of space, she was endlessly attractive and exuded an alluring charm. Even Wei Wuyin was stunned after her beauty leaked, finding himself enthralled to see more. It was the only reason he kept the discussion going, solely to see how she'd react, catching a glimpse of the 'beautiful' Liu Suyin that hid behind the 'indifferent' Liu Suyin.

The Skyship came to an abrupt end after four days. A wisp of dissatisfaction from the stop leaked from Liu Suyin's eyes. She looked outside and slowly said, "We're here." There was a brief pause of reluctance before she continued: "Let's go."

Wei Wuyin asked as he followed her out of the Skyship, "What's this next stop? Another library?"

Liu Suyin was a little more amenable to questions now, no longer giving off this forced and reluctant feeling to answer. "No. It's the stop that every talented Destined goes to after they've completed their three Trials of the Three Voyages—The Time Vortex."

"Time Vortex?"

She nodded, "the location where you'll become a Timelord."

## Chapter 1032: The Time Vortex

"The location where you'll become a Timelord."

The statement felt as if a foretelling of Wei Wuyin's future, completely causing him to pause in contemplation. Wei Wuyin interfaced with his Second Mind, seeking out an elaboration of this Time Vortex, any records or experiences of cultivators, and perhaps educated assumptions on its origins and function.

Within moments, waves of information were transmitted into his Sea of Consciousness, filtered, processed, and then properly etched into his memory by Eden's arduous efforts. From the Free Study and Sealed Tower, he was now aware of everything regarding the Time Vortex, and he instantly realized where the certainty of Liu Suyin's voice originated from.

The Time Vortex was a location within a part of the City of Guardians, located within a disrupted and chaotic region where time was at a constant fluctuation of flow, inducing a Time Vortex, otherwise known as a Temporal Anomaly. It was said to have existed since the World Between the Fold was first created by the Ascended Sovereigns. At the time, it was a region of death and despair that even Ascended beings would avoid lest they were Earthly Saints that had grasped the Temporal-type Mystic Rune, and even then, they would only stay at the edge, never entering or touching.

Due to the constant fluctuation of various flows of times, those who entered it either aged extremely fast until death, experienced regressions that reverted their cultivation efforts or were permanently frozen in a perpetual stasis field. However, there was a vicious detail that made its reputation as a region of death and despair fully warranted: it didn't affect soulspans.

Whether one de-aged, rapidly aged, or was stuck in a stasis field, their soulspan will continue to decline at a standard pace in accordance with the laws of the heavens. It was harrowing regardless of which of the three states you experienced. You either lost your cultivation, lost lifespan, or were unable to live out your life and thus lost the time to live.

Roughly fifty thousand years ago, the previous leaders of the Endless Void Mirror had worked together to stabilize the chaotic region, transforming it from a region of death and despair to an opportunity for those at the Realm World Phase of the Astral Core Realm seeking to ascend to the Temporal Eye Phase or to Ascended beings trying to comprehend the essence of time for their Temporal-type Mystic Rune manifestation.

Now, Destined and Seekers at the appropriate stage were allowed to peer into the Time Vortex or dive into it for their cultivation needs. For those Destined seeking to become Timelords, they were encased in a protective shell and dropped into the Time Vortex. In this shell, they would be entirely safe. Furthermore, the shell will weaken the time energy to a lesser degree, allowing one to comprehend time energies, learn how to fend against it, and gain confidence to challenge their Temporal Eye Astral Tribulation.

It wasn't simply this—those in the shells can conduct their Temporal Eye Astral Tribulation inside the Time Vortex, and doing so allowed their shell to similarly protect them should they fail their tribulation, preventing it from ending their fragile mortal lives. The lethal tribulation feared by trillions in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region had simply become a simple process of trial and error in the World Between the Fold.

Wei Wuyin felt amazed by the advancements of cultivation and miraculous powers that the World Between the Fold possessed. Moreover, they were that powerful fifty thousand years ago! If the three City Lords had Worldly Saint cultivation bases then, then this was utterly astonishing to learn. After all, the first recorded Earthly Saint of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region was the Aeternal Sky Divine Emperor twenty thousand years ago.

'The Sealing Array must've prevented those from the World Between the Fold from entering. Or perhaps it was the Tiangou that they feared?' Wei Wuyin mused at the likely might of the Sealing Array and Tiangou.

Because Wei Wuyin grasped the details and experiences of the Time Vortex, he didn't continue to question Liu Suyin about the Time Vortex. However, he could tell from her sidelong glances as they walked that she was waiting for him to ask. She seemed to have gotten into the groove of exchanging words, conducting discussions, and answering questions—a strange dynamic had unknowingly formed.

"What's so special about this Time Vortex?" After those words left his lips, Liu Suyin immediately went into explaining all that he already knew. In fact, there were details that she had left out or glossed over. She was deliberately leaving out these details for him to ask about.

Wei Wuyin had a strong urge to roll his eyes. In their discussions, he was always leading, proving her thinking flawed, or expanding on her thoughts. Clearly, she developed a sense of inferiority and ignorance, so this was her way of easing her heart and regaining some sense of superiority. If Wei Wuyin

wanted to know more, he would have to come to her, not the other way around.

Helplessly, Wei Wuyin kept asking until all the information was known, if only to waste time.

Disregarding Liu Suyin's recently developed habit, Wei Wuyin began to realize that Liu Suyin's personality began to loosen, losing a lot of the discomfort brought about by her indifferent voice, as excited energy began to bleed through from time to time. Perhaps it was his knowledge of the profoundness of space that lessened her dislike towards him for taking the position she longed for. Perhaps, within her heart, she accepted that she wasn't destined for it.

Unfortunately, Wei Wuyin also believed he wasn't destined for the title of Void Voyage Sect's Sect Master or a True Destined Voyager.

Hearing about the Time Vortex, he knew that this was Liu Yinlan's second bait. She had now revealed two: the first was a peek at unimaginable knowledge beyond his means—meant to foster a thirst for more; the second was an opportunity to advance his cultivation base fearlessly—a display of the World Between the Fold obscenely powerful methods. Together, they were bait that no one could ever resist.

Knowledge.

Power.

Life.

Status.

Just these two tantalizing previews of the World Between the Fold depths had alluded to all those grand prospects that could have any man or woman frothing at the mouth.

To be honest, Wei Wuyin was expectant of what was next, but he had a sinking feeling in the depths of his stomach signaling that his time was slowly running out to formulate a plan of escape. A difficult feat to achieve after learning of all this, but one that he intends to strive for.



The two soon arrived at their designation on foot. Wei Wuyin had seen it from afar, a cliff that descended into a dark-grey haze of light, distorted and chaotic, but when he arrived at the edge alongside Liu Suyin, the grand chasm that extended for tens of thousands of miles left his heart racing uncontrollably. At the seeable edges were numerous cultivators cultivating silently, tens of thousands of them.

Beyond the cliff-like edge was a literal world of dark-grey light. This was time energy, visually perceivable to every type of existence. To reach such a tangible state, Wei Wuyin realized that time energy was incomparably thick and pure. While he's used various temporal abilities before by deploying Void Energy, they were minor, and there was never evidence of time energy.

When the skinny old man saved He Yanglei's life in the War Devil Realm, using Temporal Reversion, there was no indication of time energy. It was the hardest type of energy to perceive, and only those who've formed their Temporal Eye can visibly see it.

But Wei Wuyin, a mere mortal yet to reach the Temporal Eye Phase, was not able to perceive the flow of time energy despite his True Void Dragon Bloodline, was able to visually see this mass of time energy! It would be a gross understatement to say that this time energy was just 'thick' and 'pure'. Gazing into this endless abyss of time, twisting and churning like a hurricane seeking to end all lives, Wei Wuyin's breathing quickened.

Within his heart, the connection to the Seed of Law that was time and Kratos began to thrum.

A hunger, an unimaginably painful, twisting, and ravenous hunger, began to roar from his heart! It originated from Kratos! Wei Wuyin instantly understood its deepest desires. To Kratos, this frightful location was a tonic for its bloodline, and it exhibited an unmatched desire. The lust to enter was almost unbearable for Wei Wuyin as his heart thumped fiercely!

Ba-dum! Ba-dum! BA-DUM!

Each thump was accompanied by a terrifying draconic roar that resounded throughout Wei Wuyin's Sea of Consciousness. The urge to leap was barely resisted. Fortunately, he was the cultivator, and his impulses weren't as straightforward as Kratos'. Taking an incredibly deep breath, his silver eyes flashed rapidly until they dimmed into a serenity.

Without hesitation, Wei Wuyin interfaced with the Nexus War Flag, connecting with Legion Commander Zhan Zheng

In a stasis field somewhere in the World Between the Fold, the dragon helmet wearing War Spirit's eyes radiated a pulse of time, gaining life and activity.

Back at the cliff, staring at the endless chasm of time, Wei Wuyin couldn't help but wear a faint grin as a plan inevitably formed. Liu Suyin had been observing Wei Wuyin's reactions and felt that it was appropriate given this space.

"Unlike those at the edge, only capable of sensing the time energies from afar, you'll be able to safely experience the fluctuations of past, present, and future from within, and learn to resist its flow, even affect its flow slightly. This is how Ascended beings learn how to manipulate the flow of time using Temporal Revisions, and you'll be given the opportunity to grasp this principle before you ever step foot into that realm—a blessed opportunity only meant for Destined." Liu Suyin's words were glamorous, but they came off as stiff and indifferent once more, clearly read from a script of some sort, likely from Liu Yinlan.

Wei Wuyin nodded absentmindedly.

"When can I enter?" He asked.

"...I'll send word to prepare your Protective Flowshell. Then, you can enter whenever you want. But remember, you have less than seven months. Don't waste it."

Chapter 1033: Academy? Myriad Transformations!?

Liu Suyin's dutiful reminder to not waste this opportunity and the approaching deadline for his upcoming life-changing decision was met with solemn silence and dignified expression. Inwardly, she ruefully sighed and felt conflicted. Just a few months ago, she was dissatisfied with events, but just spending the briefest time with Wei Wuyin had sparked her inner curiosity, interest, and sense of respect.

He hadn't done much, simply discussing the principles of space, voicing his opinions, facts, and insights into the Law of Space and all it involved, yet it was enough for her to slowly but surely change her own emotions towards Wei Wuyin's True Destined Voyage title. To her, he was worthy of this title, his

attainments exceeded hers in terms of a foundational substance despite being a mere mortal yet to touch upon the greater Mystic Dao.

However, this astonishing young talent was now forced to carry the responsibility and safety of the entire Sealed Regions, the World Between the Fold, and the world beyond. While some might consider this the greatest honor, this show to tantalize his taste buds for more, to draw him into the fold with the allure of greater promise, wasn't entirely as it seemed.

She sought to become a True Destined Voyage since she could crawl, born and trained as a disciple of her ancestor with this sole purpose, yet fell short despite the hopes and dreams placed heavily upon her shoulders. Amidst her failure, she grasped the title of Envoy of the City of Endless, the ambassador of the Sealed Region and the City of Endless' Void Voyage Sect, the makeshift masquerade of the wardens of the Sealed Regions.

From her very early years, she was fully aware of the ultimate sacrifices and utmost duties of a Destined who took the mantle of an Endless Void Mirror controller. Because of her understanding, she adapted to a persona to best protect her sanity and naturally distance herself from others by exuding a demeanor inducing discomfort. Unable to fully comprehend or assess his situation, Wei Wuyin was being tricked into this decision, lured with grand prospects of his future—while true, was predicated on unseen stipulations, and forced with his life threatened in a rather blunt manner. She felt guilt.

It was barely a discernible throb of guilt in her heart, but it was there. It was enough to make her heart ache ever-so-slightly, an extremely rare event. When she saw that Wei Wuyin wasn't going to respond, his mood set and his thoughts concentrated as he gazed unblinkingly into the Time Vortex, she decided to remain silent and await the Protective Flowshell to arrive.

Wei Wuyin, however, was entirely unbothered, unaffected, and completely unaware of Liu Suyin's thoughts or minor shifts in her emotional state. His entirety was focused on communicating with Legion Commander Zhan Zheng to the point that he'd forgotten Liu Suyin's existence. He approached this situation with the utmost severity he'd ever taken, not neglecting to distract himself in the slightest.

The upcoming events will determine the next sequence of events. If he could pull it off...

The harvest would be incalculable.

"I...bring...Alchemic...Knight," Legion Commander Zhan Zheng's communication was choppy and slow, but it directly entered Wei Wuyin's soul. Despite the stasis field and an unimaginable distance, their connection was as mighty and unbreakable as a billion tiny sticks banded together. At the very least, this situation wasn't enough to sever it.

Wei Wuyin received the confirmation he needed, so he decided to speak to Kratos, grasping the feeling to be certain it was exactly what he was thinking. His Second Mind delved into overdrive, entering the obscure and minor mentions of the Time Vortex in all materials of information, even if it was the slightest sentence or description. He had always been cautious, but this time he took it a step further than usual.

After a long time, Liu Suyin's eyes abruptly lit up. "Your talents in the Alchemic Dao are exceedingly rare for your age; were you looking for a specific concoction method?" She asked, merely out of abrupt curiosity. She was fully aware that Wei Wuyin had very little relation to that legendary being, not of his bloodline or his disciple, as many in the outside world might think. Moreover, Wei Wuyin's soul aura was fully accustomed to the Sealed Regions; he wasn't an offspring born after the fact and brought here, so he couldn't be of his direct bloodline lineage.

That said, there was the slightest possibility that they belonged to the 'same' lineage, their silver eyes being their sole genetic connection from a long line of ancestors predating them both, but certainly not of direct descent born after his departure.

"..." Wei Wuyin slowly crawled out of his critical thoughts. This was because it actually struck a curious question in his heart. He had scoured the entire Free Study and Sealed Tower with a fine comb, copying and duplicating every piece of material, experience, and recording, yet the information of the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists was almost depressingly bare.

Still, he had read personal experiences of Mortal Sovereign Alchemist encounters, specifically their usage of using Alchemic Spirit Remnants to induce something called: Rousing Spirit, Erupting Potential. Additionally, there were unique products known as Spirit Pills that were concocted. Those who encountered these pills all regarded the experience as majestic, bringing forth their life's effort and granting them a second chance through the vast and limitless Alchemic Dao. Each account was extremely reverential and flowery in its descriptions, eerily so.

Moreover, there was a singular first-hand experience to a survivor of a fearsome skill of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist roughly seven to six thousand years ago, originating from a former Destined turned irredeemable cripple. They had met a powerful young alchemist in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region and their arrogance led to their cultivation collapsing at its seams from a single glance after offending this figure.

In a matter of a few breaths, he lost it all—everything. They described it as the most terrifying breaths they'd ever breathed in the five hundred years of their life. After finishing the record, leaving behind some obscure poetry, the pages were dyed in blood. The cultivator had ended their lives then and there.

Wei Wuyin felt that from the various descriptions, such as the eyes like the silver moon, it was none other than the King of Everlore. When Wei Wuyin read this, he unintentionally thought of Wang Yutian's quivering words of how terrifying Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were. However, throughout the entire record of the True Element Sect, no recording of an event like this had happened before.

Could it have been an advanced ability of the Alchemic Dao or a power of the King of Everlore's Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity version? He genuinely didn't know.

"Is the knowledge regarding the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists and the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality within the Voyage Tower?" Wei Wuyin asked, a faint disgruntled pout in his tone.

"Mortal Sovereign Alchemists?" Liu Suyin wasn't shocked by the question. She shook her head, "that information isn't kept in the Sacred Library."

"Oh? Why?" Interest piqued, Wei Wuyin pursued.

"It's too dangerous," Liu Suyin bluntly stated. Her words even carried the faintest wisps of gloom and solemnity that felt heavy amidst that indifference.

"Too...dangerous?" Wei Wuyin's heart trembled; the knowledge of Mortal Sovereign Alchemists was 'too' dangerous? How dangerous? Why was it dangerous? He wanted to excavate more.

But Liu Suyin swiftly followed with, "I can't tell you why," and her mood seemed to have subtly shifted, continuing: "but I will say that the information is stored and kept secure in the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations. I

was going to suggest that after you've reached the Temporal Eye Phase, our third planned stop will be there if you finish within the time frame. Regardless, if you don't, after you become a True Destined Voyager, you'll be able to access the V.A.M.T without issue."

"..." Wei Wuyin's breathing stilled. Instinctively, he looked at the Time Vortex, then turned to Liu Suyin in disbelief. He urgently had his Second Mind scour for information about the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations! His Second Mind doubled its efforts, flickering through the eighteen floors at unsettling speed.

Soon, a burst of mental strength was emitted and Wei Wuyin lost a portion of his mental energy as this information was shared between them, his eyes brightened instantly. After a heavy breath, he stared into the Time Vortex.

Woosh!

A figure descended; it was a spindly human male, his blue robes sported a strange dark-grey vortex emblem on his upper-right torso, and his eyes carried a lifeless indifference. It was different from Liu Suyin, as if he was refined as a puppet and forced to exist. However, this cultivator's aura was unfathomable! An Earthly Saint!

Wei Wuyin felt as if his horizons were being overturned being here. There were just too many Earthly Saints acting as workers here, even guards, shaking him deeply. How many Earthly Saints must the three cities possess to delegate these figures to these tasks? Or perhaps their cultivation bases were absolutely required?

Above the man's head was a translucent and hollow sphere large enough to fit two grown men. Its thin outer shell exuded strange energy that felt aggressive towards the natural erosion of time. This was the Protective Flowshell!

Liu Suyin glanced at the shell, giving a satisfied nod. She was about to reach out when Wei Wuyin exclaimed! It was a soft shout, but it took her attention away from the Protective Flowshell. What happened?

After getting her attention, Wei Wuyin said gloomily: "I'm not ready to enter the Time Vortex."

"...?" Liu Suyin was stunned. She said as if knowing Wei Wuyin's current thoughts, "It'll be fine; the shell might look thin, but it has unique properties

that can slow down the erosion and influences of all time—past, present, and future forces."

However, Wei Wuyin shook his head with a face of extreme fear and unwillingness. "No. I can't."

"..." A long moment of silence followed, and the scrawny Earthly Saint frowned. He didn't wait, "Others need this shell. Come back in six months," then he left without a word, vanishing from sight as if he didn't exist. This wasn't the first time he'd met a terrified youth afraid to enter the vortex. The Protective Flowshell was a valuable resource, so it wasn't best to waste a single second of its usage.

This caused Wei Wuyin's heart to shiver slightly, but he was stunned by this immediate reaction. Was it the Heavenly Daos influence or coincidence?

Liu Suyin's left eye spasmed slightly. She wanted to send word back to the Guardian of the Vortex for another chance, but he was already gone, and knowing his personality, his word was essentially law. If he told Wei Wuyin to come back in six months, then he'd never use it until six months had passed!

She felt an urge to grit her teeth.

"How about we go somewhere less dangerous? Like the Voyage Academy you mentioned earlier," he then smiled, not a single trace of fear on his face. Liu Suyin was speechless.

Far away, Liu Yinlan's gorgeous eyes erupted in light. It seemed what Wei Wuyin was looking for was a Concoction Method! No wonder he spent months scouring the libraries, and after learning the scant information in the libraries, he must've realized there would be nothing in there further. She felt as if he had pegged Wei Wuyin instantly, amusement in her eyes.

"Then go. Let's see what you're looking for, my True Destined Voyager." She was curious as to what could have made this handsome mortal scheme and search so aggressively!

Liu Suyin's eyes flickered when she received a spiritual transmission. "Fine."

Chapter 1034: A Familiar Tower

Deeply pleased by Liu Suyin's agreement, Wei Wuyin fixed a stare at the chasm of time and chaos churning about endlessly at the edge. With every heavy throb of his heart, he resisted the urge to leap into this abyss. An act that brought Kratos a bellyful of roaring discontent.

'It's only because of those seniors' scathing rants and raging frustrations that I can twist this to my favor, otherwise, I'd have made a huge misstep.' While evading this laid-out bait might have seemed easy at a glance, merely revealing a bit of fear and the Guardian's reaction was swift and decisive, it was anything but.

The Time Vortex was a place written about in many personal scrolls detailing the journeys of seniors who've left this world. Most of them described the giant Guardian of the Vortex in great detail, including no small number of those who had their opportunities revoked due to displaying fear for the briefest of time, decided in a few seconds, and no begging gave them this opportunity again.

According to those records, the guardian was a special status that existed on par with the City Lords of the Three Cities, and even Liu Yinlan herself can't do more than assign certain cultivators the right to enter the vortex. His jurisdictional authority exceeded theirs here, and there have been times when he'd outright banned certain cultivators from entering the vortex, occupying one of the limited numbers of Protective Flowshells.

The man himself was strict and concise, acting instantly and treasuring every second of his time. To those who wasted their time in their refusal to seize this opportunity now, then it'll only result in forever losing this opportunity. If Wei Wuyin was unaware of this personality trait, he might've simply directly rejected the opportunity outright after hearing about the academy and been banned for life, rather than show a quivering fearful expression and shaking heart for the guardian to see, only delaying his entry rather than the depressing alternative.

Essentially, he used the words 'not ready' initially to garner this result. It showed self-awareness, and the guardian was known to provide leeway to those who weren't ready and aware of this. A senior had detailed in his journal how she was given a few months to think it over after proclaiming her preparations weren't enough, and then fearful after almost being forced to do so.

It led to this exact result.



Liu Suyin and Wei Wuyin left the Time Vortex and entered another Skyship in a nearby docking area. During this, Liu Suyin's expression was impassive and she remained silent. Despite her act, the glimmer of curious light would flicker from time to time within her eyes.

After they found their seating yet again, Liu Suyin flatly admonished: "You almost lost a rare, heavenly opportunity with that stunt of yours." Her words were backed by her understanding of the guardian and his strict attitude. It seemed she wanted to say this earlier but hadn't due to being fearful of the guardian overhearing.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled at her consideration. He stared out at the window as the Skyship was preparing to take off, changing the topic: "Is the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations the only academy in the City of Guardians?"

Liu Suyin gave Wei Wuyin a long look, an urge to pelt him with rebukes surged in her heart, but observing his handsome side profile stifled that desire in its cradle. "No, but it's the only academy for Creationists within the World Between the Fold. At least, the one strictly regulated and given certain permissions."

"Permissions? Like access to higher-grade alchemic information?" Wei Wuyin probed.

Liu Suyin slightly nodded, "there are other organizations and clans established in the World Between the Fold, especially amongst the three cities. The overall situation is far too complex to explain in one sitting. In a way, it's a cultivation society fully functioning in its own right with its own set of laws. These organizations and clans established their legacies, but eventually, these legacies will be seized, copied, and regulated."

"That seems tyrannical," Wei Wuyin commented. The City Lords seized legacies and restricted what can and can not be trained in, known, or cultivated. But considering their mission, it might be to prevent threats from erupting without any oversight or security in place.

"Are the Sealed Regions under similar regulations?" Wei Wuyin asked. The Sealed Regions were overseen by the City of Endless and the Void Voyage Sect, and it was clear they were its warden, but they've never involved themselves openly in the development or history of the Sealed Region. At least, Wei Wuyin hadn't found any records yet.

"No, not similar or the same. The Sealed Regions have certain restrictions, yes, but these are more so guidelines of how the World Between the Fold and the Sealed Regions should conduct themselves, and we don't extend ourselves in their affairs unless it's absolutely needed." At the end of her words, her eyes flickered and she added: "At least Destined, Seekers, and assigned members of the sect don't."

"So, you're saying that alchemic information is unregulated in the Sealed Regions? And that those like the Firstborns can interfere freely?" Wei Wuyin's mind stirred.

"It's not, but under certain circumstances, the World Between the Fold will involve themselves to ensure the stability of the Sealed Regions. And yes, the Firstborns can act freely, but their knowledge is restrained by oaths to prevent unnecessary dissemination and induce widespread panic."

"Panic or rebellion?" Wei Wuyin inwardly sneered. If cultivators knew they were locked in against their will, the first instinct would be to escape, and if they were aware that they were engaged with a beast capable of threatening the safety of the world beyond, they'll struggle in their fear.

"Both." Liu Suyin didn't deny it. She was, however, stunned by Wei Wuyin's swift understanding of the situation.

"These restrictions, do they involve the existence of Worldly Saints or Worldly Saint Alchemists?" Wei Wuyin was curious about quite a few things, and there had always been a few suspicions in his heart after hearing about how the King of Everlore had escaped the Sealed Regions, leaving shortly after becoming a Worldly Saint Alchemist. It was abrupt, and not a single one of his entourage was brought with him.

Wu Yu had remarked on the King of Everlore's heartlessness, and Wei Wuyin had the belief that it was due to the innate flaws of his first investments, seeing them as failures, but now knowing about the World Between the Folds and the truth about the Sealed Regions, the story no longer made sense.

Liu Suyin knew that Wei Wuyin was referring to that legendary figure that shook the entire Sealed Regions, the King of Everlore, and she didn't shy away from answering. "Yes, they do."

"So they're expelled? Allowed freedom outside the Sealed Regions?"

"Worldly Saint Alchemists are," Liu Suyin blandly stated. Wei Wuyin's eyes shone slightly, asking: "And those who reach Worldly Saints?"

"Not possible," Liu Suyin shook her head. Shockingly, she didn't elaborate on this despite him constantly seeking out answers. Despite her silence, likely the result of it involving core secrets, he wasn't too dim to not understand the bread crumbs: there was something about the Sealed Regions, likely relating to the Sealing Array, that prevented Worldly Saints from rising. If so, what about the Aeternal Sky Divine Emperor? For the longest time, Wei Wuyin had the suspicion that the Sealed Regions believed that the Imperial Clan's Emperor was a Worldly Saint.

Why?

Because he was listed as the 'strongest' expert but not within the top three of the Earthly Saints. The top three were the Soul Saint King of the Ninestar Starfield, the Imperial Advisor of the Imperial Clan, and the Boundless Martial High King of the Boundless Martial Sect. If Liu Suyin was adamant that Worldly Saints weren't possible within the Sealed Region, then what was this?

Yet again, Wei Wuyin found himself confronted by a wall of distorted mystery. This trip to the World Between the Fold had answered many, many questions, but also added far more to his heart.

"..." Liu Suyin saw Wei Wuyin's question spree had ended and her indifference gave way to interest. Before long, she slid a question regarding spatial energies his way, and they once again began discussing this profound topic.

Within Wei Wuyin's Sea of Consciousness, he manifested a mental incarnation with his primary mind, arriving at the base of Eden's roots that were enveloping the Heavenly War Spirit's egg. He had a few things to ask.

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Three days passed before Wei Wuyin and Liu Suyin left the Skyship. When they exited, Wei Wuyin's eyes widened uncontrollably, besieged by shock as a burst of familiarity surged through his mind. The Academy was a magnificent silver tower that was heaven-reaching! While there were countless buildings of lesser grandness surrounding it, the tower was clearly its center.

'The Myriad Tower of the Seven Paths?!' Wei Wuyin's heart fiercely shook as the Alchemist Association's true headquarters in the Everlore Starfield overlapped with this tower in his mind. Not only did it resemble it exactly in design, it gave off a similar aura of prestige and purpose, but the size and intensity of this aura were a thousand-fold!

Liu Suyin gave Wei Wuyin a sneaky sidelong glance, seeing his shock and awe gave her a sense of pleasure and satisfaction, a strange feeling for her. It even led to a slight, faint smile that was as rare as a supernova, and as swiftly vanishing as smoke in a hurricane.

"The Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations," she introduced.

## **Paragon Of Sin #Chapter 1035 1029:The Academy's Uniqueness - Read Paragon Of Sin Chapter 1035 1029:The Academy's Uniqueness**

"...!" An explosive wave of realization and astonishment battered Wei Wuyin's heart as his mind made a distinct connection between the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations and the Myriad Tower of Seven Paths of the Alchemic Associations. Details regarding the latter's history surged to the forefront of his memory, and he recalled the second most prominent figure of the Alchemic Dao within the Everlore Starfield—Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist.

A figure that rose up after the King of Everlore's disappearance in the starfield, he was renowned for his amazing skill in concocting all four types of alchemical products with astonishing success. Even the King of Everlore was prestigious because of his pills, and while he dabbled in other types, his pills eclipsed everything else.

The Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist not only had astonishing ability in the Alchemic Dao, but he also had innovative brilliance, foresight, intelligence, and the gumption to act on his visions. The Alchemist Association was established as a safeguard for alchemists after the King of Everlore's era had passed, knowing that cultivators might take advantage of their weakness, establishing a strong form of protection.

He was entirely right to take such precautions. The War Devil Realm was a piece of untouched society by the outside, grown in a way that would be natural in the case of alchemists not rivaling the skills of the top-tier

cultivators, creating a lesser need and a weaker foundation for their power. To clarify, the War Devil Realm had no Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, only Emperor Alchemists at best, capable of concocting eighth-grade products suitable for middle-stage Astral Core Realm cultivators, but it had Starlords.

Due to this, the value of alchemists slowly dwindled for the top cultivators, and they sought alternatives such as forcefully enslaving alchemists to concoct quantity over quality, even introducing Alchemic Proxies into society. The Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist had prevented this development in the Everlore Starfield despite similar circumstances.

Wei Wuyin harbored a heavy degree of respect for this figure. Now, it was clear that there was an undeniable connection between the Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist and the World Between the Fold's Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations.

"That gate..." Wei Wuyin muttered as he remembered the Alchemist Association's Master, Qingye Yun, desire to send Qingye Ying through a gateway within a tower called the Gate of Myriad Excellence Tower. It was built for the purpose of sending through an Alchemic Soul cultivator with appropriate talent, an action reportedly done by the King of Everlore after his departure. Qingye Ying had ruined her Alchemic Talent by consuming an impure Everlore Ascension Pill and eliminating her chances of entering.

There were a lot of inconsistent things regarding the story that felt sketchy.

°From the very beginning, I've been coming into contact with great matters and legacies of the World Between the Fold.° Wei Wuyin briefly mused at how even in the Myriad Yore Continent, a small continent in a small corner of a vast sealed region of a much greater external world had allowed him to come into contact with so many things.

Liu Suyin allowed Wei Wuyin to bask for a while before proceeding to introduce the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations. "The Voyage Academy is not the only academy of the world, but it's for those who study to become Creationists."

She gestured slightly as she began to move towards the academy's gates. At the edges of the academy, the foot traffic was extremely high, with a lot of cultivators scurrying to and fro with purpose. They seemed like servants in fancy robes performing tasks.

Wei Wuyin followed along and once again was reminded of how weak the Vice-Sect Master position was in terms of prestige and recognition. While they received gazes, most of them were directed at Wei Wuyin with the typical emotions of curiosity and heat.

Liu Suyin wasn't bothered before, but when she saw all the fiery gazes of these women directed at Wei Wuyin, almost drolling and panting like dogs, her irritation levels rose. She, uncharacteristically, mockingly commented: "You should consider wearing a veil."

"..." Wei Wuyin nearly tripped. Hurriedly catching himself, he awkwardly chuckled. Veils were often used to conceal women of unimaginable beauty to prevent troubles, and they can give an air of mystery and allure. It was also a little too prideful as if telling the world you're a nation-toppling beauty and don't want to deal with it.

In the Myriad Yore Continent, girls took to wearing it for the sake of elevating their image, even if their beauty was middling. It soon skewed towards those with lofty status rather than genuine beauty, losing a portion of its original function. But, the veil can still be used for its initial purpose.

Seeing Wei Wuyin's reaction, Liu Suyin realized her comment was out-of-pocket, especially towards a man. She added, "A mask works too. It'll just save you a lot of trouble at being stared at. Isn't it troublesome?"

Seeing her try to explain with that indifferent tone amused Wei Wuyin. "Not really," he shrugged. "My mother and father gave me this face, so I'll be letting them down by hiding it for fear of public reactions." Of course, if he was a criminal or acting in the capacity of an assassin, he wouldn't hesitate to wear a mask.

"..." Liu Suyin's eyes flickered slightly upon hearing those words from Wei Wuyin. When Wei Wuyin spoke of his mother and father, the leakage of emotion, intermixed with joyful pride and depressing sadness, was extremely apparent. An untold sad story was behind that unearthly handsome face and alluring silver eyes.

They stayed silent until they arrived at the crowded entrance of the academy. Shockingly, there was a thick line of people that were shoulder to shoulder blocking the way inside, a literal sea of people extending for miles. There was pushing, thrusting, grunting, and shouting that caused the scene to be chaotic.

Despite that, it didn't devolve into a fistfight as cultivators struggled to push forward but with patience.

"What's this?" Wei Wuyin was taken aback by the sight.

"The line to enter the academy," Liu Suyin flatly answered.

"For what?"

"The Academy has a year-round training agenda for its students of every grade, and this service is provided for free—a part of their practical curriculum. Those here are striving to obtain the free services of these students." Liu Suyin said as she paused at the edge of the thick line. There were cultivators of all ages and cultivations, except Ascended beings, who were within this line.

Wei Wuyin was stunned to sense a few Starlords at the forefront. They had clearly used their refined physiques to push their way to the front, and no one could really stop them. The services of Creationists were always highly valued, and free services would be to die for, definitely to kill for.

"So...we wait for someone to bring us in?" Wei Wuyin asked curiously. There were males and females in this line, and he wondered if they would experience various assaults on their persons considering the close proximity of these cultivators, all striving to push closer. It was inevitable for some hands to roam about with lascivious intentions.

"No; we go in through here." After saying that, she gave Wei Wuyin a glance. Clearly, Wei Wuyin caught on to the fact that they weren't there with a special status nor were going to be treated well. It seems Liu Yinlan's power was limited, and the Voyage Academy was beyond her means to influence.

Liu Suyin walked forward. She warned, "Don't use your aura or astral force." Then, she sliced into the crowd with ruthless momentum, causing quite a few cultivators to tumble and fall as she shot forward. When others sensed her Mysticism of the Soul Phase cultivation base, they paled and kept their curses in their throat.

She was surprisingly quick. It was clear this was not her first rodeo, and seeing that there were no Ascended beings in the crowd, they must've entered with a quickness. Wei Wuyin soon lost Liu Suyin as she was sucked

into this sea of people. He could only see evidence of her rampage by the grunts and shouts in the distance.

Wei Wuyin sighed. Everything about the World Between the Fold was novel as if it was a different society. Wei Wuyin felt an urge to experience the grandeur of the outside world, not simply upon a blood-soaked battlefield, but how different everyone and everything was. The desire burned furiously in his heart.

With a steady breath, Wei Wuyin pushed onward. When he came in contact with the first person, it was an old man who tumbled to the side for several feet, pushing others along with him. Of course, this opening swiftly was closed by opportunists.

With his refined body, it was easy to pierce through this crowd. And he was right, there were some figures who would use their hands to inappropriately take advantage of others, but the first sight of it wasn't towards a man to a woman, but a woman to a woman, as she grabbed with a hefty snap on the other's groin area.

A wail later, the woman used that opportunity to push ahead and then proceeded to sneakily give certain men and other women in her way the same experience. She waded through with experience until someone grabbed her, but she gritted her teeth and didn't make a sound as she viciously retaliated. A man cried out in pain, and then she pushed forward again.

The entire experience left Wei Wuyin speechless. Were the services of these students worth it?

Pa!

Wei Wuyin instinctively slapped away a man's hand that reached out for his groin. His eyelid twitched slightly before he decided not to linger. With invincible momentum, Wei Wuyin barreled through like a rhino, lowering his posture and protecting his nether regions. With accurate slaps, he remained unmolested by the vicious crowd.

After traveling for miles, he finally arrived at the gate of the academy. When he did, a hand shot out and pulled him out of the crowd. It was Liu Suyin. Her indifferent expression was rather strange as Wei Wuyin could've sworn he could make out a smug smile.



Wei Wuyin's expression darkened. As an Ascended being, none of those mortals would dare try to take advantage of her, but as for him...if it wasn't for his senses and ability to detect mental intentions, he might've lost a portion of his innocence in that hungry and hectic crowd.

Looking back, Wei Wuyin realized there was a thin film that blocked the crowd from approaching. Liu Suyin had brought through it. The Starlords he sensed were pressed against the thin film like glass, their expressions awkward, but their gazes were heated as they begged Liu Suyin. It was a little unnerving.

"The Academy only allows entry at certain times where a limited number can enter, but Ascended beings can come in and bring a few over into this small area, obtaining priority." Liu Suyin's explanation lifted the confusion in Wei Wuyin's mind. This made sense that there were no Ascended beings in the crowd. Looking at the small gap between the crowd and entrance, he saw a few Ascended cultivators with some haughty mortals by their side. The disdain in their eyes as they observed the struggling crowd wasn't concealed in the slightest.

Wei Wuyin shook his head. This was how people who believed themselves better often acted. "So what now?" The entrance to the academy was closed by a grandiose gate forged from gold and silver, etched with designs that lent it a unique beauty.

"We wait until the gate opens," Liu Suyin replied.

"We're really not entering as guests, are we?" Wei Wuyin could tell that his expectations of being highly treated and given astonishing levels of free access were dashed.

"We're here for you to experience the academy's means and purpose. A tour, so to speak."

Wei Wuyin heaved a sigh.

Creak! Creak!

The gate began to move, releasing creaks that caused one's heart to throb with anticipation. It seems they were lucky!

Suddenly, a soft, feminine voice resounded which caused Wei Wuyin's expression to dramatically change. "We apologize, but the academy will be delaying their next acceptance due to an ongoing Alchemic Clash."

It seems they were unlucky!

A wave of disappointment flowed in the eyes of many cultivators, but no one left. They were here for the long haul! Days? Weeks? Months?! They were fine with being here for years!

The gate fully opened and revealed a petite young human woman. She stood with pride despite her soft, gentle voice, and the air about her was enriched with an alchemical aura.

"Let's go," Liu Suyin said. This stunned Wei Wuyin. They're leaving? But when he saw Liu Suyin walk towards the woman that was seemingly prepared to give an in-depth explanation to the Ascended beings waiting, he immediately realized she wasn't leaving! Excitedly, he followed.

The young woman was quite pretty with delicate features and a slender body. She smiled after seeing Liu Suyin's approach. Wei Wuyin immediately realized this young girl that seemed no more than sixteen years old was an Ascended being as well, her cultivation base equal to Liu Suyin.

"Envoy? Surprised to see you here. How may I help you?" She asked with the bare minimum of respect, clearly, she didn't consider Liu Suyin with any degree of importance. Liu Suyin pointed toward Wei Wuyin, "this is a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, and he's seeking to discuss the Alchemic Dao with the instructors of the Academy."

"...?" Wei Wuyin didn't expect her to put him on blast. The gazes of everyone instantly attracted to him, suffused with doubt and surprise.

The woman glanced at Wei Wuyin, her eyes shocked by his visage. Her gaze flashed with spiritual light for a fraction of a second and her expression changed. There were no lines of falsity on Wei Wuyin's face and he was a mortal! The former was more shocking than the latter to her.

"Don't waste time; show her," Liu Suyin urged impatiently.

Wei Wuyin sighed inwardly. Was he the key all along? Without hesitating, his eyes morphed into the manifestation of the Alchemic Stars of Spiritual

Mortality, seven stars of seven colors in each eye, signifying his status as a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist approved by the Alchemic Dao!

"Alchemic Stars!" The woman exclaimed in abject disbelief.

The doubtful expressions of those surrounding him instantly evolved into heated and desirous gazes that bore into Wei Wuyin's body from every angle. When he glanced at Liu Suyin, she nodded as if this was the way.

And it was.

The woman bowed respectfully, despite the difference in their states of existence and strength, and said: "Please, Lord Alchemic Sovereign, come in."

Liu Suyin kept true to her intentions to not waste time, grabbing Wei Wuyin's wrist and pulling him into the gate. The woman ignored everyone else, no longer offering an explanation, as she followed after them and the door closed amidst the envious gazes of others with a heavy thud. Discussions soon became rampant amongst the crowd.

Wei Wuyin was helpless as Liu Suyin brought him animatedly into the Academy's grounds. She held his wrist tightly, and from the side, Wei Wuyin could see her pupils shine with barely concealed eagerness. Immediately, Wei Wuyin realized the privilege of entering the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations was one that even the Vice-Sect Master of the Void Voyage Sect and Envoy of the City of Endless wasn't granted.

It wasn't hard to notice this due to how lukewarm her reception was by the female announcer earlier, and how zealous and reverentially respectful she was to him—a genuine Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. It seemed here skills of a Creationist were valued far more than position in regards to status and earned respect.

Before the gate closed with a thud, Wei Wuyin had looked behind him to see the countless cultivators waiting obediently outside, including those Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivators, some of which were Demi-Mortal Lords. A strange feeling emerged in his heart, besieged by numerous questions.

"Lord Alchemic Sovereign," the petite, pretty, and pristinely dressed woman called out in a delicate voice, a tinge of bashfulness within. Liu Suyun halted.

For a reason she couldn't quite define or pinpoint, her good mood soured a little.

Wei Wuyin felt relieved to not be tugged by Liu Suyin, inwardly thankful to the woman. After composing himself, his Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality within his eyes slowly vanished. When he faced the young woman, he saw the unconcealed desire and shyness, her cheeks carrying the faintest of pink blushes, and her countenance gaining an additional alluring charm.

He was stunned on the spot. Did she just use some type of spiritual charm spell? Almost immediately, Wei Wuyin was baffled as his Sea of Consciousness felt the most subtle waves impact his external layer, blocked off, yet his mind still felt its effects. The only issue was that he was fully aware of it being used.

"..." Liu Suyin's indifferent eyes grew slightly darker, slightly colder. However, she was disallowed from using her mystic power or spiritual strength within the academy's sacred territory, unable to interfere in this blatant manipulation attempt, lest she willingly give them a reason to remove her from the premises and revoke her riding in on Wei Wuyin's coattails, and she was aware there were several spiritual senses actively waiting for just that.

Wei Wuyin might be a mortal, but his Spiritual Strength was a monstrous abnormality that vastly exceeded the expectations of what a 'mortal' should have. He had four Spirits of Cultivation, and their cultivation was thoroughly cultivated to the maximum, pushed to the literal edge of Realm World Phase, and conjoined together harmoniously.

Just earlier, a genuine Ascended being, careless and forceful, had met a premature death due to this terrifying aspect of his. Moreover, his mental fortitude and Sea of Consciousness were fully guarded by Eden. While the spiritual charm spell of the woman could affect mental perception and emotions through Spiritual Power, it couldn't work on him.

Still, he was curious and played along. With an expression of adoration and a tinge of lust, he gently asked: "Is there something wrong?" His voice carried the patience reminiscent of a young man speaking to his lover.

Seeing his enamored expression, the woman's eyes shined and she smiled beautifully. "No, of course not. It's just that the academy is currently sealed off due to an Alchemic Clash, and as such, we'll have to travel there to meet the other Alchemic Sovereigns you wish to discuss the Dao with." She explained

but added shyly: "But if you want, I can show you around the academy's outer area. The clash will definitely take quite a while, and there are things...we can do while we wait."

"Absolutely not. We'll go to the Alchemic Clash—no delays." The woman's tantalizing offer was immediately interfered with by Liu Suyin after Wei Wuyin's eyes brightened with excitement. If she allows this, it'll be fortunate if Wei Wuyin's mind isn't conditioned and controlled by this vixen. The young woman pouted slightly, putting on a cute appearance before Wei Wuyin, but those eyes of hers felt like vicious daggers to Liu Suyin.

Wei Wuyin was curious, "Things?"

"...!" Liu Suyin's eyes widened slightly. Was Wei Wuyin so weak-willed?! She was frustrated at Wei Wuyin falling victim to a charm spell, but it was infused with the spiritual power of a Soul of Mysticism Phase expert. She hadn't realized how unreasonable it was to be vexed that Wei Wuyin, a Seventh Stage Astral Core Realm junior, was unlikely to defend against an Ascended being's mental assault.

The woman blushed slightly as she glanced slightly at Wei Wuyin's groin, "things...yes." Her bashful and seductive expression told of her intentions. While Ascended beings couldn't dual cultivate safely with mortals without specific conditions, there were other ways to serve someone, especially a beautiful woman to a hot-blooded, virile young man.

Wei Wuyin's mind was thoroughly shaken. In truth, he didn't understand why this woman was being so forward, resorting to using a charm spell. While he was a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, the outside world had alchemical legacies of cultivators like the King of Everlore, a Heavenly Alchemic Saint!

What would a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist be worth in a cultivation society like that? The World Between the Fold had at minimum three Worldly Saints, and the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations certainly had access to the world outside through Seekers and the City of Voyage. Was it due to his age? His existence as a mortal? He couldn't wait to learn why he was receiving such 'amazing' treatment.

Liu Suyin began to panic. If Wei Wuyin agreed, this was all but done. Moreover, they were in the academy's inner grounds. Not even Liu Yinlan dared to interfere. And it was true, Wei Wuyin hadn't immediately noticed, but the inspective force that enveloped him had vanished immediately after

entering the academy. That said, it wasn't as if she didn't have any eyes or ears.

Abruptly, Wei Wuyin's enamored expression vanished, replaced with a sharp pair of narrowed eyes. The silver glimmer within them was exuding terrifying prestige, the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality once again manifested, but the seven-colored light was like a beam, inundating the woman in its dignified might. "You dare use a charm spell on me?!"

"Huh?" The young woman was astonished by Wei Wuyin's sharp tone, but as an Ascended being, she reacted quite swiftly. She didn't skip a single beat, lowering her head and apologizing. "Forgive me, Lord Alchemic Sovereign! I acted wrongly, taken over by my heartfelt admiration for your looks and ability." While her tone sounded genuine, it also felt practiced. A weird mixture that caused both Liu Suyin and Wei Wuyin to be astonished.

How many times has she tried this? Been caught? Or maybe she always expected it?

Liu Suyin's emotions soothed after seeing that Wei Wuyin hadn't fallen for such a low-tier seduction spell. She inwardly harrumphed, at least he was worthy of being a True Destined Voyager.

"...Let's see this Alchemic Clash then." Wei Wuyin said, realizing that his status and authority were extremely high despite not being a member of the academy—an unexpected outcome. And the young woman gave a pitiful, pleading smile, and nodded obediently. She led the two through the academy's grounds. The streets were bereft of anyone, the buildings empty and closed, and the air had a lingering scent of alchemical concoctions and metal.

"Be careful of those with ill-intentions here," Liu Suyin warned after they walked for roughly five minutes. She couldn't help but speak, her heart feeling slightly restless at the prospect of Wei Wuyin being taken elsewhere. After all, the World Between the Fold was complex, and the City of Endless or the Void Voyage Sect that operated out of it wasn't the only force present.

The City of Guardians had the Lunar Librarians, the Voyage Academy, the Guardians of Time, and the City Lord's Estate. Just these four, not a single one was inferior, and only the Guardians of Time couldn't acquire Wei Wuyin, making him equivalent to a True Destined Voyager with a different destiny. The fact that Liu Yinlan gave the okay to be here despite Wei Wuyin's

outstanding talent in alchemy left her with a lump of curiosity. It was a little too risky.

The corner of the young woman's lips twitched imperceptibly.

Wei Wuyin gave Liu Suyin a reassuring smile. Wasn't he on guard against everyone with ill intentions? Including Liu Yinlan! "So, how come I can enter the Voyage Academy simply because I'm a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist?" Wei Wuyin realized that this walk was going to be long since they were literally trekking slowly towards the tower. It'll likely take three hours to get there, the most frustrating detail about the World Between the Fold's culture: walking.

"Oh?" The young woman was taken aback by Wei Wuyin's question. Shouldn't he know? She turned to Liu Suyin, whose expression was unreadable, and then turned to Wei Wuyin and smiled. She showed off a good angle of her face with this movement and smile, explaining: "All Creationists are members of the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations by default within the World Between the Folds.

"Your position is dependent on your level of skill; Mortal Sovereign Alchemists are all Dao Instructors, the highest level of an instructor's status within the sect. To put it simply, they're like head teachers of normal academies. They have their own building, their own practice, can take students, teach a crafted curriculum tailored by themselves, and even compete using their students for additional benefits and prestige.

"All those of a certain status automatically receive a base stipend, including rights to use certain formations and arrays for their concoctions, forging, or studies. Within the World Between the Fold, there's no greater place for Creationists than the academy."

"Dao Instructor?" Wei Wuyin was intrigued by this prospect. Moreover, this was such a novel approach towards teaching, essentially making all those within the world skilled enough teachers, luring them in with status, resources, and power.

"What about Alchemic Saints?" Wei Wuyin inquired.

Liu Suyin chimed, "Those who become Alchemic Saints are sent out of the World Between the Fold; they aren't allowed to stay here unless under a special circumstance, to which an Ascended Sovereign must grant an

exemption." As if her position as head explainer was threatened, Liu Suyin clarified Wei Wuyin's question.

The young woman was unbothered by the interruption, nodding after Liu Suyin's explanation. "I didn't expect that a Destined could become a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist; they typically focus on the Law of Space, losing their brains' ability to think of anything else."

"..." Liu Suyin's eyes squinted. The shade thrown was quite clear in those words.

Wei Wuyin frowned, "Wasn't it only Worldly Alchemic Saints who are granted the ability to leave? When did it become all Alchemic Saints?" Since the Sealed Regions had three Earthly Saint Alchemists, it contradicted his belief. Unless the three all decided to voluntarily stay?

"That's only for Destined, Seekers, and those within the Sealed Region; the general populace of the World Between the Fold isn't governed by such elevated restrictions." The young woman answered with a tinge of pity. "Those Destined and Seekers who become Alchemic Saints, they are 'bestowed' the duty of nurturing the future defenders of the greater world."

"..." Wei Wuyin understood the implications in her words. Those Destined and Seekers were forever shackled by their obligations and oaths, even if they become Alchemic Saints, and they'll be reduced to using their talents to nurture the future generation. Just from the implied direction of the conversation, there was no Alchemic Sovereign in the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations, at least none with the status of a Dao Instructor.

They must've been pulled away by their City Lords, segregated from the academy.

"Is the head of the academy not an Alchemic Saint?" Wei Wuyin asked curiously.

"Hm?" The woman exclaimed amusingly, answering with: "Lord Alchemic Sovereign, this is an academy for 'Creationists', not just Alchemists." It was hard to hold a grudge as she brightly smiled. "The Head of the Academy is Scholar of the Myriad Transformations, expertly gifted in the study of the various Daos of Creationists, renowned for creating unique concoction methods, cultivation methods, spells, arts, formations, arrays, and armament designs. She's not singularly focused."



Wei Wuyin's heart was swiftly brought to awe by the description and was blessed with a reminder that this was an academy, not an Alchemist Association. For so long Alchemists reigned supreme in the societies he was exposed to and this inadvertently led him to believe in his heart that its leader must be an alchemist.

"I see..." Wei Wuyin was happy that his horizons were expanded here, but also felt a sense of inferiority swelling within his heart.

"A dabbler of the theoretical, be mindful of this as well." Liu Suyin softly reminded Wei Wuyin, breaking him out of a reverie of awe and amazement. Instantly, he realized that the Head of the Academy was studying these things, not actually practical experience. Even if she understood the principles to conceive an effective ninth-grade product, she might not be able to create it herself.

His expectations of the loftiness of that type of occupation were lowered to realistic levels thanks to Liu Suyin. He gratefully nodded to her. Thanks to the Sacred Library, as long as he had time, wouldn't he similarly obtain the title of a Scholar of Myriad Transformations? At least to a certain extent.

They continued to talk for quite a while and Wei Wuyin learned the name of the woman—Cao Cuifen.

Wei Wuyin learned a lot more about what it meant to be a Dao Instructor and even learned that his badge of proof was his Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality. Since it cost nothing to evoke it, he could show it freely. Typically, Mortal Sovereign Alchemists have it constantly manifested as their show of status and position.

He also learned that the academy will give him back pay in wages for the number of months he's been a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. So in a way, Wei Wuyin had a hump of wealth simply laying around waiting for him to claim it.

Wei Wuyin also learned that he wasn't the only 'mortal' Mortal Sovereign Alchemist in the World Between the Fold, and while he was a rarity due to his young age, it wasn't much as each of those mortals all had Alchemic Astral Souls and outstanding Alchemic Talent.

In fact, the current Alchemic Clash was a battle between two Alchemic Astral Soul possessing Alchemists, both mortals, and they were fighting for the right to earn the 13th Rank of Dao Sovereign Ranking, a list ranking the top twenty

Mortal Sovereign Alchemists based on points gained from their clash victories, successful concoctions, and their students' test scores.

Soon, after walking for hours, Wei Wuyin was shocked that they detoured, not arriving at the tower, but at the grand coliseum at its side. It rumbled slightly as voices echoed out. It was clear discussions were running rampant.

The size was gargantuan, capable of containing millions comfortably, but it was easily missable from a distance due to the sheer magnitude of the silver tower's sky-reaching grandeur.

When they entered, they were only allowed in by the Demi-Mortal Lord guards after Wei Wuyin revealed his Alchemic Stars, and their expressions became immensely respectful. It was still strange to see this reaction from Ascended beings given that Mortal Sovereign Alchemists could only concoct ninth-grade products.

It was only when Liu Suyin reminded Wei Wuyin that Alchemists can, in a joint effort, concoct pills greater than their ranking suggested. This was something Wei Wuyin already knew but never tried, always relying on himself, and so it was always a lingering shadow, unnoticed in his thoughts. But, he knew he had to start trying to utilize this united power one day.

If he could use the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists of the Ma Clan and True Element Sect to concoct a Mystic-Earth grade product, this could have great implications for his cultivation when he ascended beyond the Mortal Dao and his study of the Alchemic Dao.

As they were escorted inside by the armored guards, they entered the coliseum stands to witness a large, excited crowd that was discussing animatedly amongst themselves as the center platform was flowing with Utmost Purity Mist. Two figures were concocting, and a thin film of energy, likely a one-way ward blocking off sight and sound, was erected over the entire platform in a wide dome.

When Wei Wuyin saw those two figures, his expression dramatically changed. "It's her?!"

The two figures on stage exuded unique bearings, dignified and focused; their expressions were solemn, invested, and reflected their lifetime of knowledge and experience. They brought to bear their utmost skills, conducting a myriad

of transformations within their cauldrons without any external assistance. It was hard to pry one's eyes away.

Moreover, they were both breathtaking beauties of the highest echelons of their gender. One, a human; the other, an elf. The first had induced Wei Wuyin's change of expression, not expecting this woman to be here of all places.

Her hair was waist-length in length, full and flourishing, mystifyingly wavy, glistening with health, and a gorgeous sheen of navy blue color that softened in shade at the edges. The woman had a figure that wasn't too overbearing, being slender yet not skinny, fit yet not too muscular, voluptuous yet only in the perfect locations. But her figure wasn't solely enough to satisfy her birthright by the creator as a top-tier member of her species, gender, and race.

Her complexion was impeccable, smooth, and clear. A set of eyebrows that were big, bold, yet oddly refined complemented her light-blue eyes that contained an inextinguishable self-confidence and wit. Her nose, ears, and mouth felt as if they were delicately picked to suit her entirety. It was hard to find any imperfections or aspects that didn't belong, from head to toe this remained true.

It was none other than Tian Xiaolu!

Wei Wuyin never expected that the Blessed of the Tian Clan, the niece of Tian Muyang, and fellow Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, would be here in the World Between the Fold of all places, and she would be participating in an Alchemic Clash!

But she wasn't the only surprise! Wei Wuyin saw her opponent, and it brought him an equal amount of shock! Once again, he thought of his first impression of meeting this elf:

"Luscious, silky, warm golden-blond hair adorned her head and reached mid-way to her back, paired perfectly with a set of bright golden eyes that seemed to contain unfathomable purity within. It was a purity that one could easily lose themselves in for days, and willingly do so for life. Her slim body had curves that seemed far too perfect, seemingly unreal even. With her ample breasts that seemed to be more than a handful for any man, she possessed an astonishing sexual appeal that was impossible to ignore.

Just these could cause many men to devolve into their most primal instincts."

Those words refreshed him, realizing that in his younger days, he was quite lustful with his descriptions.

The elf that was fully focused on her cauldron, mobilizing her pure alchemic force to the greatest extent, was the one and only Qingye Ying! The only one known as the Princess of Everlore! They had met in an alchemic clash where he gained the title of the Ascendant Emperor of Neo-Dawn, a play on the world's belief of him as the bringer of a new era, his Alchemic Emperor's title, and the organization that he spent years forming. It perfectly summed his existence at the time, and that moment played a heavy part in reinforcing his Heart of Cultivation.

It was a shocking coincidence to meet one, let alone both, and they were currently in a contest of skill, adaptability, and will, which was an unimaginable event. Wei Wuyin can scarcely believe it or reason it out, but here they were.

"You recognize her?" Liu Suyin, by his side, asked, her eyebrows wrinkled as those eyes of hers reflected Tian Xiaolu's perfect image of beauty, talent, and effort. It was difficult to grasp what she was thinking.

"I recognize them both," Wei Wuyin admitted. Then, shockingly, he looked at Liu Suyin and said questioningly: "You don't recognize the blue-haired one?" Wasn't she the Void Voyage Sect's Vice-Sect Master?

Liu Suyin blinked, giving the faraway Tian Xiaolu a piercing stare. She scoured her memory banks yet found nothing regarding this woman who possessed an outstanding, nation-toppling, envy-summoning appearance. Eventually, a full minute later, she shook her head. "I don't. Who is she?"

"She was introduced to me by Tian Muyang as Tian Xiaolu, a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of the Imperial Clan." Wei Wuyin recalled that time, but then his heart remembered the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists in the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit. Did the Everlore Association not know her status, was she a secret or did they not expect her to arrive?

"Tian Xiaolu?!" Liu Suyin softly exclaimed, revealing a rich surprise that was unlike her typical indifference and flat expression. "That Tian Xiaolu?"

"That?" Wei Wuyin didn't expect that. Was Tian Xiaolu special?

Liu Suyin soon settled down, explaining: "I've never seen her before, but I know of the name. She's the disciple of one of the Alchemic Saints in the Sealed Regions, the only disciple she has taken since that figure became an Alchemic Saint."

"What?! Which Alchemic Saint? The Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint?" Wei Wuyin would be lying if he said he wasn't shocked by her words, but only for a moment. She was a Blessed after all, so this type of fortune was to be expected.

"Yes." Liu Suyin nodded.

The Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint was rumored to have been the disciple of the King of Everlore, an unverified rumor, and she was known for following the King of Everlore's exact path, cultivating an Alchemic Soul, and entering the Mystic Ascendant Realm despite the absurdly high difficulty to do so.

To explain the difficulty of this, one can simply look at the throne-sitting Mortal Sovereign Alchemists of the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit—not a single one cultivated an Alchemic Soul. They were all at the Mystic Ascendant Realms, and the only Alchemic Soul cultivators amongst Ascended that attended the event, only the 'false' Ascended at the Mystic Star Phase had them.

Liu Suyin curiously glanced at Tian Xiaolu's competitor. She immediately realized it was a female elf. She was the first elf she'd seen in the World Between the Fold, giving her a burst of shocking surprise. Indeed, the Elven Race's population wasn't suitable to become Destined or Seekers because it was largely considered an 'inferior' race, unable to ascend, and was mostly enslaved in the outside world.

They, alongside beastmen and two other races, were met with this gruesome fate of inferiority, restricted by shackles of their origins that even the Ascended Sovereigns never addressed or attempted to rectify. Even in the Sealed Regions, they were inflicted with this issue, labeled as inferior, and protected by the goodwill of the Everlore Association.

Similar to the Devil War Realm's Alchemic Culture, the Elven Race was spared from such a humiliating fate in the Sealed Regions thanks to outstanding alchemists laying them the bricks of their freedom and safety. Their inability to ascend limited their rights to having rights, lacking the strength to uphold their racial honor in a world as vicious and dominating as a cultivation society.

"She is?" Liu Suyin asked. At this point, Wei Wuyin was searching for a row of seats to sit in. The entire place was immensely crowded. Cao Cuifen was shocked after hearing their exchange. She was aware of some things, but she didn't know that Tian Xiaolu was a disciple of an Alchemic Saint of the Sealed Regions. No wonder...

When she saw Wei Wuyin looking about, she immediately realized he was searching for a seat. She hurriedly spoke, "Lord Alchemic Sovereign, your seating arrangements is there." She pointed at a luxuriously large rectangular box that protruded out of the seats, with a large screen of reinforced half-silvered glass facing the platform.

The reflective surface was one-way, with those inside capable of perceiving outside without any issue. There were many boxes scattered throughout the coliseum, having the best angles and locations. Truly deluxe.

"Let's go then," Wei Wuyin said. The trio walked through the seated crowd, eliciting a few responses, and the typical shocked reactions. Wei Wuyin was intrigued by a few cultivators looking at the sky, their eyes flashing with spiritual light. Were they not watching the stage? Or was this a spiritual spell that enabled a greater viewing experience?

They made haste, entering the box through the side door and the diagonal step ladder. Wei Wuyin felt an urge to roll his eyes. Was flying disallowed? Even a little? Can one not levitate?

While going, Wei Wuyin was curious about one thing: "Why do you call me 'Lord' and Alchemic Sovereign? Why not Dao Instructor?" He asked Cao Cuifen. Since all Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were Dao Instructors and she was an assistant of Dao Instructors, shouldn't she refer to him as one?

But she embarrassingly replied, blushing slightly: "Lord Alchemic Sovereign, you haven't told me your name..." Her bashful appearance was quite stimulating to the mind.

"..." Liu Suyin.

"..." Wei Wuyin.

"Right...My name's Wei Wuyin." After introducing himself, she now referred to him as Dao Instructor Wei with a bright smile. Wei Wuyin took her advice, keeping his Alchemic Stars active as they walked into the box. When he

arrived inside, he found that the box was empty with drinks, food, and two beautiful human women attendants that were present yet silent.

They gave accommodating smiles to Wei Wuyin, respectfully greeting him as Lord Alchemic Sovereign. He realized this was the social norm.

"An empty box?" He expected other Dao Instructors. But Cao Cuifen hurriedly explained: "It's a private box, but-" she pointed above the stage, a thick, rhombus-shaped crystal spun softly, exuding spiritual light that cascaded downwards, "-you can connect with a spiritual network of Dao Instructors that can view the concoctions and discuss amongst yourselves, even comment on the event, errors, speculations of the outcome, and praise. You noticed there are cultivators with spiritual light emitting from their eyes, they have the right to view the event and listen in on the Dao Instructors."

The curiosity that Wei Wuyin held in his heart was answered.

After finding a comfortable seat, Liu Suyin followed without seeking permission, while Cao Cuifen was standing awkwardly. Wei Wuyin faintly smiled, "Do you have anywhere to go?" She was only tasked with informing those waiting for the acceptance of students' free services of the delay, and then she was left to her own devices. She acted as an escort and brought them here, but she likely didn't have the right to enter the spiritual network without accompanying someone.

Cao Cuifen softly shook her head, "Dao Instructor Wei, I-"

"Then sit, enter with us." After saying that, Wei Wuyin grasped the means to access the network. Liu Suyin waited for Wei Wuyin, and when he entered, so did she, following his spiritual light that was infused with the half-silvered glass using hers. Cao Cuifen happily smiled, sitting beside Wei Wuyin, and entering as well.

WHOOSH!

Wei Wuyin felt as if his entire spiritual strength was sucked into the glass, slowly jacked in as his mind vibrated intensely, and he felt himself surf through an endless stream of spiritual light. As he traversed further along the light, he found himself gaining a humanoid form that resembled his mental incarnations.

Beside him, two gorgeous, exquisitely nude bodies of women were forming too. They were Liu Suyin and Cao Cuifen. Their shape formed first, revealing all their most detailed curves, sensitive areas, and even the size of the areolas, and then the clothes that they were wearing formed next. Their spiritual strength seemed to be occupied with readying themselves, their eyes shut.

Wei Wuyin wasn't used to this experience. He had missed the Golden Auction before, and so was ignorant of this type of projection, and so he got distracted by their salivating transformations. A brilliant show, he must say.

An outburst of flashing spiritual light temporarily blinded him as he felt his spiritual incarnation stop moving.

"GASP!"

"Oh my heavens!!"

"You disgusting perve-oh my...It can be like that?!"

Wei Wuyin was met with all sorts of exclamations of shock, his 'eyes' burning. Due to his ignorance, he hadn't expected the sharp flash that overwhelmed his spiritual senses. No wonder the two girls had their 'eyes' tightly shut. When he finally regained his senses, he discovered himself surrounded by a crowd of individuals, all spiritual incarnations of themselves, all cyan-colored.

"Dao Instructor Wei!" A familiar voice cried out in shock. Taken aback, Wei Wuyin found Cao Cuifeng staring disbelievingly at his lower groin. His first thought was she was being overly obvious about what she wanted.

He soon discovered Liu Suyin, whose eyes were no longer apathetic, and despite her cyan-colored skin and complexion, there were signs of a shocked blush on her face, granting her a unique allure.

Suddenly, Wei Wuyin felt eyes all on him. A series of gasps, exclamations, and strange stares besieged him.

With his mind as fast as he was, he immediately recalled the two girls forming clothes with their eyes closed. With a deep breath, he looked down and, yes, saw 'little Wuyin' hanging out proudly. And shockingly, it was a flag at half-mast.



"Shit." Wei Wuyin abruptly vanished!

"..." The atmosphere was stirred in a sauce of silence, disbelief, and still lingering exclamations suffused with surprise, amazement, and even interest.

After a few seconds of this atmosphere, Wei Wuyin reappeared in the spiritual network as a Spiritual Incarnation. This time, fully clothed; his bearing was carefree and neutral as if he hadn't just exposed himself to all those in the vicinity of the spiritual network's entry point.

A Spiritual Incarnation was a manifestation of one's spiritual strength, which inherently contained information regarding their physicality, mentality, personality, and innate aura. This information was collected at its purest state and formed into a type of avatar that perfectly reflected a cultivator's state via the network's arrays.

The stream of spiritual light, that deliberate delay between entry and arrival, was meant to offer a cultivator the ability to alter this state such as adding clothes or exuding a unique aura that might not originate from their spiritual strength, such as an alchemical aura that isn't innate to anyone except Alchemic Soul cultivators. However, adding this reflected one's status as an alchemist to all those who viewed your avatar.

Wei Wuyin was reasonably distracted by Cao Cuifen and Liu Suyin's exceptional bodies and the novel experience of entering the spiritual stream, and as such hadn't changed his avatar to reflect what he wished to show. After disappearing, Wei Wuyin swiftly sent his Second Mind to work, finding information regarding a Spiritual Network, and imprinting it into his primary mind.

He was no longer ignorant of the details of the Spiritual Network's functions and intricacies. This served as a great lesson for him. A lesson that will benefit him so much that it'll help him pave his way beyond the Sealed Regions.

But as there was a lesson here, there must have been a fault to learn from. Despite this, Wei Wuyin was not embarrassed or bothered by his accidental display of nudity. If there was an aspect of him he was most proud of as a man, it would be his physique and all things included in it.

"...!" When Wei Wuyin reappeared, there were all sorts of gazes on him, and then exclamations of shock swept through the crowd. After returning, Wei Wuyin had infused his Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality into the avatar,

including a strong, imposing alchemical aura. It was so strong that his mortal aura was almost entirely eclipsed.

"Dao Instructor?!" A middle-aged woman cried out as she saw the seven stars within each eye. A sign of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist and thus a prestigious Dao Instructor of the academy.

Liu Suyin was stunned; Wei Wuyin's alchemical aura exceeded these other alchemists present, those without Alchemic Souls, yet there were some others here that had Alchemic Souls and they weren't nearly at the level of Wei Wuyin. Was it the Alchemic Stars? Or was it a reflection of his overbearing spiritual strength? However, she unintentionally thought about his exposed body and her thoughts were shadowed to the point she had to take a breath.

"Are you okay?" Cao Cuifen got closer to Wei Wuyin, her eyes failing to conceal her heated excitement, and tried her best to reveal a look of 'genuine' concern. Only then did Liu Suyin find reprieve, realizing that Wei Wuyin had arrived without clothes for a reason, and her attention focused.

The desire in this woman's eyes was so apparent that Wei Wuyin was a little taken aback. Perhaps it was due to her spiritual avatar having a more difficult time concealing her mental fluctuations than her real body, but Wei Wuyin could spot it a thousand miles away.

"I'm fine; I was distracted by the network's infusion stream. An accident, that's all." He didn't lie, but he also didn't dwell on all the bits of details. Fortunately, Liu Suyin and Cao Cuifen didn't think that Wei Wuyin had seen their complete bodies during the infusion process, largely because the infusion had protective safeguards.

Many wanted to take advantage of one's spiritual avatar, see what Wei Wuyin saw, and what type of expert would allow that? As such, the infusion stream was imbued with a raw source of spiritual power that could infect the senses and spirits of others, even shatter the spirit if they tried to 'view' anything. This would inevitably lead to even Ascended beings turning into cripples at best, suffering immediate death at worst.

The blinding light that Wei Wuyin experienced was that safeguard, and Wei Wuyin had been hit by it in full! But his Spirit Units were far too terrifyingly firm, absolutely unshakable, and had naturally defended against the assault. As a possessor of four Astral Souls, four thirteen-ringed Soul Idols, an evolved

Divine Spirit that was King, and a normal Divine Spirit that was Ori, his Spiritual Strength was his greatest aspect without a shadow of a doubt.

"It's good as long as you're okay," Cao Cuifen joyfully smiled. The corner of Liu Suyin's lips twitched a little, irritation emerging in her heart for a reason she couldn't fathom.

Wei Wuyin decided to focus on other things. The crowd was all staring at him, but he ignored it as he gave them a show of a smile, no apology whatsoever, and began to scour for the viewing point. Within the Spiritual Network, there was a specific viewing point that could project the myriad of changes and permutations through a special formation to the viewers within, revealing the efforts of the two combatants on the platform.

Right now, the coliseum wasn't used to scatter blood and wage a war of life and death but hosted two nation-toppling beautiful women that were fully focused on their concoctions. Cao Cuifen followed along, her eyes imperceptibly glancing at Wei Wuyin's lower body from time to time.

Fortunately, only a very, very small portion of attendants in the spiritual network bore witness, and they were those that had to stay at the edges of the entry point. As a Dao Instructor and Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, Wei Wuyin was allowed to weave through without being stopped or questioned. Moreover, those who subconsciously followed him deeper had stopped after a while, their expressions strange, returning back to where they were before.

When Wei Wuyin found a small crystal floating amongst a group of individuals, he knew this was a viewing point that projected the scenery of the clash. He was about to make his way over, but Cao Cuifen hurriedly interjected. "Not here, Dao Instructor Wei."

"Not here?" Wei Wuyin was taken aback.

Cao Cuifen nodded, "this is only the outer area of the Spiritual Network, the viewing crystal functions, clarity, and immersion levels won't be enough to satisfy you." While she said this, she gave an urgent look in the hopes for Wei Wuyin to continue deeper into the network. It was clear from her expression that this area could be considered the 'worst' seats.

Seeing how this wasn't the best viewing point, he decided to let Cao Cuifen lead the way.

°The status of these Dao Instructors really is crazy high in the academy,° Wei Wuyin thought as fresh faces gave him reverential looks filled with respect and courtesy. Those who he had initially met were unqualified to go deeper, left behind, and unable to spread the word of his 'incident'. For now, at least.

He soon realized why Cao Cuifen decided to come with him and why she was unwilling to settle on the viewing point. They were all linked by a thread of spiritual light, thin and barely perceptible, but it allowed her to follow along into the depths of the spiritual network. Despite being a Dao Instructor's assistant, she didn't have the status or authority, just like the others behind them.

,m As they went deeper, he felt that his avatar was thoroughly scanned by several external powers briefly. Then, they each departed as if successfully verifying his qualifications to go further.

Cao Cuifen's excitement grew as she saw those of equivalent status and cultivation look on with envy, a light of pride in her eyes. If the Sealed Regions knew that a 'genuine' Ascended being was so happy riding the coattails of a mortal, they would be deeply shaken.

"Why is this clash happening?" Wei Wuyin asked, unable to suppress his curiosity. He would never have guessed that the Princess of Everlore—Qingye Ying, and Tian Muyang's Blessed niece—Tian Xiaolu, would be in the World Between the Fold of all places, clashing in a battle of the Alchemic Dao.

Liu Suyin was also interested in why the Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint of the Sealed Region's disciple was facing an elf, which was largely considered an 'inferior' race with limited potential. Moreover, this clash invited so much attention that the academy's curriculum practices of volunteering for experience were delayed.

Just from a glance at the countless spiritual avatars present, it was clear that far too many were invested in this clash's outcome. But why exactly?

Cao Cuifen's eyes brightened with an invigorated light. She explained: "I guess I'll have to start from the beginning since many outside of the academy don't know. That elf you saw clashing with the human, she has an Alchemic Soul, and her name is Qingye Ying; she's the in-name disciple of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint.

"She arrived almost a decade ago, overturning the entire academy after she entered through the Void Gate of Excellence, a trial set up by the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint nearly five thousand years ago. No one has ever arrived through the gate before, but it was inscribed in the Laws of Myriad Transformations that whoever passes through that gate, be it male or female, human or beast, demon or spirit, will be allowed to become the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint's legacy disciple and receive their inheritance. Something left untouched in the last five thousand years.

"Unfortunately, no one knew where the other side of the gate went or how to get there, so the opportunity was truly left to those who were fated for it." Cao Cuifen said, a little depressed. As an Alchemist, how could she not harbor desires for the legacy inheritance of an Alchemic Saint?

Wei Wuyin swiftly scoured his knowledge of the academy from the Palace of Eden but was unable to find any information about the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint, but he had a sneaky suspicion that it might be the Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist that was renowned in the Everlore Starfield shortly after the King of Everlore's departure, forming an extremely healthy culture for alchemists.

"Who's the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint?" Shockingly, it was Liu Suyin who asked this question. Wei Wuyin didn't expect that even she didn't know.

"Right! You're not natives of the City of Guardians." Cao Cuifen remarked before saying: "The Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint comes from the World Beyond the Fold; she's a prestigious figure who was, at the time, a world-renowned Worldly Saint Alchemist. She had stayed in the academy for a brief spell, expounding on the foundation of the Academy's Alchemic Dao legacies with the Principal of the Academy. Uhm, there are rumors that they're biological relatives."

"She?" Wei Wuyin quietly mused. All the records suggested that the Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist was a male, not a female. This was an undeniable point too as there were pictures and spiritual recordings of him. Moreover, it was said he died. So perhaps...they weren't the same. But, they definitely had a connection considering this Gate of Excellence bore similarities to the Myriad Tower of Excellence and the Void Gate within, especially the requirements to enter that seemed like prerequisites to take a trial.

Liu Suyin was born in the Sealed Regions and raised in the Void Voyage Sect whose primary goals focused on protecting and securing nodes in the Sealed Regions, so she was largely ignorant of figures and details of the World Beyond the Fold.

"So why is the elf clashing with Tian Xiaolu?" Liu Suyin asked.

Cao Cuifen regained her train of thought, "Tian Xiaolu, the human, is a Dao Instructor of the Academy that is challenging Qingye Ying for the legacy inheritance's treasure. More specifically, the Pure Excellence Cauldron—it's said that the legacy is contained within. She won against dozens of other renowned Dao Instructors in a Swift Dao Clash and claimed an unquestionable victory each time, earning the right."

"Swift Dao Clash?" Wei Wuyin's interest was piqued. He hadn't heard of that before.

"A Swift Dao Clash is when two or more Creationists battle it out using three days to concoct the same product, find some flaws in methods and offer improvements, or forge a specific armament or talisman. Typically, for alchemists, it uses a rule of four-grades lesser. So Mortal Sovereign Alchemists use three days to concoct fifth-grade products to their greatest limits. The winner produces the better product. It's generally won by the narrowest of margins, making it extremely intense." Cao Cuifen had opened Wei Wuyin's eyes to a new type of contest, rapid and efficient.

Wei Wuyin asked, "Would the Cauldron be contestable if Qingye Ying didn't become an in-name disciple?"

"Huh?" Cao Cuifen felt odd hearing the question, but she answered nevertheless: "The Pure Excellence Cauldron is a sign of true discipleship and said to contain the legacy of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint; according to the rules left behind, the in-name disciple must prove themselves the best Alchemic Soul of their generation amongst those in the academy to possess it. If not, it will go to the capable, so no—without Qingye Ying, the Pure Excellence Cauldron would still be gathering pitiful dust."

Liu Suyin didn't find this strange or unfair. It was another trial for Qingye Ying to prove herself, and considering the status of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint, there were bound to be many layers after.

"..." However, Wei Wuyin's eyes glinted with profound light. Qingye Ying was destined to lose here. After all, Tian Xiaolu was a Blessed with an absurd amount of Karmic Luck. How could this not be a heavenly-designed opportunity?

Wait.

"What if it's a tie?" Wei Wuyin suddenly asked.

"A tie?" Cao Cuifen reeled slightly, startled by the question as it had never occurred to her that something like that could or would happen. It was extremely, extremely difficult to reach a tie in an All-Alchemic Clash due to how it was structured, but not impossible.

She recalled all the details she knew and then hesitatingly said, "Uh, they'll both have the cauldron and perceive the legacy? If only until one proves themselves better than the other. But that should be unlikely.."

"..." If Wei Wuyin was to find a fated disciple, during the trial, he would've left a critical 'key' to the true inheritance to the in-name disciple, only leaving a surface-level inheritance for those who obtained it first. Why? Because this would serve as motivation for the disciple in question to continue pursuing greatness amidst defeat. Perhaps this was just his way of thinking, but the added fuel and setback would certainly cause those destined for success despite failure to come back stronger than ever before.

If so...if he had to predict the Heavenly Daos' intentions...

Finally, the trio entered the depths where dozens of supremely rich alchemical auras were present, including those that emitted a scholarly and refined aura, and the hardened aura of forged metal, as if being tempered incessantly by flames.

Cao Cuifen's eyes lit up. They were in the furthest depths! The Dao Center! Her excitement was bubbling at this point and she fidgeted with her fingers.

"WHAT?!"

Just as they arrived, several surprised gasps of unimaginable shock resounded!

At the moment, the trio had entered into the depths of the Spiritual Network where the elite of the academy, those with genuine authority and ability was present, and while scattered, they were all sitting, floating, or standing around a single crystal that exuded a calming light. The 'eyes' of their avatars and wisps of their spiritual strength poured into the crystal.

Wei Wuyin spotted men and women with rich alchemical auras like his, all with the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality manifested; those who emitted a scholarly light bearing a similar yet slightly different aura as the Enlightened Scholarly Mist, clearly having studied and honed their mental prowess; those who radiated an intense heat and metallic scent, as if they were freshly tempered armaments.

They were all Dao Instructors amongst Creationists, skilled and knowledgeable in their field of study. None of them were mortals, however. The intrinsic nature of their spiritual energy carried the profoundness of the Mystic Dao. Excluding them, there were beautiful young-looking women dressed exquisitely, young men of dashing looks and vibrant vigor, and some that simply had a Spiritual Strength so terrifyingly powerful that their avatars caused the space they inhabited within the Spiritual Network to shake. Those who had that ability were all unfathomable Earthly Saints, especially those who grasped the Spirit-type Mystic Rune—they were monstrous.

The commotion had originated from this crowd.

"They finished at the same time!" A comment from a young man who couldn't keep his surprise and disbelief in.

"They're so terrifying! In just a month, they completed an entire Alchemic Clash. Haaaaa..." An old alchemist wistfully sighed in praise and lamentation at the youths' astonishing talents these days. Most Alchemic Clashes lasted years. The lengthy period was why Swift Dao Clashes were invented and deployed more often than Alchemic Clashes. Only when two alchemists needed to settle a major difference, grudge, or bet did they result in this form of competition.

Wei Wuyin was curious about the happenings, so he didn't hesitate to send his spiritual strength into the large floating crystal. After a sudden burst of spiritual light, Wei Wuyin saw the scene the others had. Two gorgeous figures split in his vision. It was like seeing a split-screen, both sides occupying a portion.



They were standing over their respective cauldrons, light sweat dripping from Qingye Ying's thin brow, and an exhausted pair of eyes on Tian Xiaolu as if she had just fought a devastatingly brutal and lengthy battle. It was clear that neither was willing to hold back in this fight. There was too much on the line, too much at stake that could redefine their entire future.

Wei Wuyin was amazed at the level of detail, depth, and angle this type of viewing crystal granted. He could even 'sense' the wisps of lingering alchemical auras, traces of remnant refined materials, and the Utmost Purity Mist that enveloped both areas. It was almost as if he was actually there, yet it was clear that they couldn't 'sense' him. A marvel of a formation, truly bringing one to the forefront of the event.

He had already missed the great majority of the Alchemic Clash, and they had just completed the final step of completing their respective products, the fusion process. When Wei Wuyin sensed the auras emitting from those products, two greyish-colored pills that levitated above their cauldrons, he was puzzled.

Liu Suyin had joined him, and she too was stunned. "Eighth-Grade?" Her words brought Cao Cuifen out of her excitement. Despite all three of them viewing the event in such a manner, they could still openly communicate using their avatars despite not exiting the viewing experience.

"Right. This Alchemic Clash is based on the rules established by the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint, including the rapid clashes," Cao Cuifen explained. "It's a part of the trial she set up, allowing even Mortal Sovereign Alchemists to participate against her in-name disciple. After all, it would be quite unfair and kind of predictable if an alchemist under the age of five hundred had to face seniors with thousands of years of experience and a Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivation base. Let alone Qingye Ying, who was less than two hundred years old and an el-at the Astral Core Realm."

She almost pointed out Qingye Ying's race but caught herself. Despite her actions, it was clear that Qingye Ying was facing these trials as if it was a game set to the highest difficulty given her race's notable inferiorities and limitations.

"Also, Dao Instructor Wei, Qingye Ying might have an Alchemic Astral Soul, but she hasn't manifested her Alchemic Stars yet. Officially, she's not a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist." Cao Cuifen's words made Wei Wuyin recall his own clash with Qingye Ying, including its one-sided nature. If it wasn't for the

Temporal Reincarnator's existence, he might've decided to tie it. He wondered how they would've changed their paths, but only for a moment.

According to Cao Cuifen, the Alchemic Clash was meant to be a difficult challenge, not an impossible hurdle. As such, the in-name disciple had to prove themselves, but not against elite monsters with cultivations far surpassing them. If Wei Wuyin thought about it, the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint must've given a portion of her legacy to Qingye Ying and felt confident that whatever that was, if grasped to the fullest extent, or even to a certain extent, will allow her to sweep against all challengers given the rules.

"So the Alchemic Clash is for eighth-grade products? What about the rapid clash? Did it use fourth or fifth-grade products as the standard?" Liu Suyin asked as the pills of both contestants were undergoing final inspections and verification by the judges of the event.

"Fourth, of course. She's an Emperor Alchemist," Cao Cuifen answered. Since the rule was four grades lower, then Qingye Ying had been the standard for it.

Soon, an hour passed. It would've been a boring hour if it wasn't for the incessant discussions amongst the elites. Wei Wuyin, Cao Cuifen, and Liu Suyin listened as they learned about the events over the month. From what Wei Wuyin gathered, the competition was extremely fierce with the margins for victory being narrow in each category.

They went 2-2; Qingye Ying had claimed close victories in the pill and paste categories while Tian Xiaolu took the elixir and pellet categories. In each category, every product was at least high-quality, shaking the entire crowd as they were both in the younger generation, and their concoction speeds were phenomenal for their cultivation bases. Typically, alchemists discarded quality for speed, so this was quite a shocker.

With the tie set, a random product was decided by the judges, obscure, difficult, or never-before-seen, and then the two were forced to concoct with no experience. They both completed the product at low-quality, once again shaking everyone.

Another product was used, and another, but the product was once again even in quality, down to its effectiveness, so the judges were left to defer to an archaic rule that had set precedent for clashes. If the third challenge was a tie in quality, then time will be the deciding factor. Furthermore, a time limit was

set based on the average time used on all seven concoctions so far, adding another layer of pressure on the participants.

Yet the crowd was left baffled and awed as the two had completed their products at the exact time. An unsettling yet exciting possibility flowed through their minds! What if they were equal in quality?!

"When has this ever happened before?" An old, wizened alchemist tugged his long beard, unable to hide his smile despite shaking his head.

"A tie? In the Dao of Alchemy? It's almost unprecedented."

"We don't know if it'll be a tie, the judges are still using every metric available to determine the differences between both products. A fair score will be given, and even the tiniest margin of difference can decide a winner between them." A beautiful woman that seemed to have a high status, and an even higher cultivation base, spoke heavily. Her words were taken seriously as many decided to wait.

"A tie..." Cao Cuifen was equally as shaken as the rest, perhaps even more so.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled. He didn't know if his Bloodline of Sin or sensitivities to the Heavenly Daos due to his original Blessed status allowed him a greater insight into the Heavenly Daos' intentions. But in truth, given Tian Xiaolu's Karmic Luck, her greatest outcome wouldn't be victory but shared victory. If Qingye Ying's initial legacy truly held the key, then befriending her was better than beating her.

And the best way to do that would be to be her rival, an equal in beauty, talent, and gender. This way they could form a bond with neither suspecting the other to have any...intentions...in mind. Their actions would be automatically given a pure belief, and it was then reliant on if their personalities were like water and sugar, not water and oil.

Suddenly, given the deliberation was still ongoing, Wei Wuyin asked Liu Suyin: "Why was this the third stop on our trip?" What was Liu Yinlan intending for him to see? He expected unrivaled access like the Sacred Library, and certain privileges, but Liu Yinlan's sphere of influence clearly didn't reach here.

"To see that it exists," Liu Suyin answered.

"..." Wei Wuyin went silent for a moment, and then accepted this with a nod. While it was an abrupt question, the answer made sense after thinking about it. The Sacred Library showed Wei Wuyin's ignorance and the inferiority of the Sealed Regions, the Time Vortex was meant to show the potential for growth with tools that vastly exceeded the Sealed Region's means, and then the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations was meant to show him, a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, the depths of his potential.

Moreover, as a Dao Instructor, he might be able to access information without Liu Yinlan's power and authority. He just needed to wait for this clash to end.

"Haaaa...if only I could grasp the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint's legacy, I could easily become a Saint Alchemist." A defeated Mortal Sovereign Alchemist sighed depressingly, still lamenting his defeat at the hands of Tian Xiaolu.

"You still have a shot," a male scholar with an erudite bearing said lightly, causing the various elites to focus on him. A shot? The scholar contained their happiness after becoming the center of attention, and the sight of realizing something before everyone else made him feel superior. He subconsciously corrected his posture, exuding an enlightened bearing, "The rules set by the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint states that until an owner of the cauldron is within the hands of 'an in-name disciple', it is open for competition."

A sneer immediately resounded. A female scholar with thin circular glasses pushed it up the bridge of her nose, her eyes emitting a wisp of ridicule. "So? The rules also state that to challenge ownership, the competitor has to prove themselves superior to all other alchemists in the academy. Dao Instructor Tian Xiaolu has thrashed everyone else once, and she'll easily do it again. Only an idiot would think there's a shot." Clearly, she was a loving fan of Tian Xiaolu and a hateful fan of the male scholar.

"But that challenge must be a Swift Dao Clash," an Earthly Saint chimed in, suggesting that there was a chance for everyone.

"Hmph!" The male scholar scoffed disdainfully. "Blind and loose," he spat vulgarly, unbecoming of his appearance. The female scholar glared at him with murderous intent, almost losing her bearing as an enlightened figure knowledgeable and wise in the eyes of billions.

The situation was heating up!

"Please explain your thoughts clearly, Dao Instructor Hua." The wizened alchemist with a long beard tried to pacify the situation and alleviate everyone's thoughts. Despite her anger, the female scholar reined in her piercing gaze and waited. She waited for an opportunity to pounce and denounce this idiot that she regretted spending a night with.

However, the male scholar would not give her the chance! "If there's a tie, while not explicitly stated, the cauldron will definitely belong to both and also neither of them—shared property. This is the chance to exploit a loophole. According to the academy's rules, the shared property can be contested over, but not claimed outright, through certain contests. And for alchemists, Alchemic Clashes is the contest of choice, specifically Swift Dao Clashes."

The scholar paused, his eyes bright. This rule was created after many fights against Creationists regarding ownership of usage of special locations, cauldrons, forges, etc., that belonged to the academy and were shared among its students and instructors. But things had limits, and deadlines were tight, so the shared property was regulated and established with all sorts of rules and laws.

"Oh!" The wizened alchemist rubbed his long beard vigorously while the female scholar's expression changed. If the Pure Excellence Cauldron was declared as 'shared property' then it would be open to these laws...circumventing certain restrictions.

"So you wouldn't have to defeat them in a genuine Alchemic Clash," the old alchemist said with widened eyes of inspired realization. "Or defeat Tian Xiaolu..." It was this portion that caused everyone to realize a particular law! To claim shared property, you just had to defeat an owner of that property, not every owner. It was a little unfair, but Dao Instructor Tian Xiaolu was too terrifying! She smashed everyone mercilessly, so if they can circumvent her, then they have confidence!

But Qingye Ying wasn't a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, and she lacked the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality! While in a genuine Alchemic Clash they had total confidence of victory, they'd have to beat Tian Xiaolu in a Swift Dao Clash first to gain that right. With their Alchemic Stars, a limit of three days, and their higher cultivation base, they had great belief in snatching victory against Qingye Ying!

"We just have to win a Swift Dao Clash against her!" A renewed light emerged in their eyes. Now, they hoped and prayed that it'll be a tie!

"Wait...can't shared property only be split among three people at most? And there's a three-year-period rule between each challenge..." The young man from earlier who couldn't contain his surprise and disbelief asked curiously.

"..."

"..."

"..."

A wave of deafening silence crashes the entire atmosphere. The jubilation in everyone's eyes faded away. For alchemists, gloom and darkness enveloped their expression. For everyone else, amusement and interest! The alchemist all eyed a single figure first—a handsome man that seemed to be in his late twenties, his eyes growing increasingly bright and excited.

Cao Cuifen felt this heavy atmosphere filled to the brim with tension. When she saw the shift in attention, she turned to Wei Wuyin instead of the handsome man. Wei Wuyin was listening with rapt attention, amused by all this. It seems the challenges for those two weren't over yet.

"Dao Instructor Wei..." Cao Cuifen tugged softly at Wei Wuyin's sleeve, her eyes giving off a soft light, her cheeks slightly blushing, and her posture looking a little meek and submissive. Her entire existence at the moment was enough to throttle the lust in many men, bringing forth an urge to dominate her in every conceivable position. He couldn't help but find her sudden change shocking. Was she trying to seduce him?

Liu Suyin saw Cao Cuifen's current posture and felt an urge to toss her out of the Spiritual Network. Why was she acting like a cat seeking milk from her owner? How infuriating! She couldn't help but look at Wei Wuyin to see if he's degenerated into a mess due to her act. If he did, she'll certainly think less of him.

"What is it?" Wei Wuyin asked, unfazed by Cao Cuifen's act, much to Liu Suyin's happiness. In truth, if Cao Cuifen wasn't an Ascended being and he was a mortal, Wei Wuyin would've been tempted easily and...and never mind, it's best not to think about such frustrating limitations.

"Dao Instructor Wei...the youngest challenger has priority for shared property." she pointed out, allowing both Liu Suyin and Wei Wuyin to realize

why the youngest-looking figure with a strong alchemical aura was being eyed enviously and hatefully at this moment.

"Oh?" Wei Wuyin's eyes lit with a raging brilliance.

At that exact time, the judges made a decision!

"Equal!" The sonorously harmonious voices of three judges—two men and one woman—resounded throughout the coliseum and spiritual network. It shook the hearts of everyone without end. A stifled atmosphere instantly formed as bated breaths were held.

"This Alchemic Clash has been deemed, unequivocally and unchangeably, a tie!" The official announcement was like a form of release. A sensation of amazement, disbelief, uncertainty, and fascination surged throughout the viewers' hearts. Since the founding and creation of the World Between the Fold all those years ago, when has there ever been a record of an Alchemic Clash ending in a tie?

Within the Spiritual Network's depths, Wei Wuyin amusingly rubbed his chin; his thoughts towards the Heavenly Daos' intentions were growing keener. Unlike others, he could see the invisible strings pulling the pieces. Formless confidence manifested in his heart, reinforcing his will to cultivate. With each passing day, the Heavenly Daos that were originally unimaginably unfathomable were slowly being understood.

"This is unprecedented!" Cao Cuifen exclaimed with shock. Then, she turned to Wei Wuyin, her thoughts seemingly swift as can be, and she placed a delightful smile on her face and directed it all towards him. "Dao Instructor Wei, this is your chance!"

While she said those words, the inner circle of elites that were nearby was in an uproar. The male scholar had revealed a major flaw in the rules that could be exploited. Even if the Pure Excellence Cauldron was shared between them, this meant for the next three years, they would have an undeniable connection with Tian Xiaolu and Qingye Ying, and likely learn the inheritance with them. At least, what could be learned.

If they take another step, they might be able to defend their position and keep it going for decades. To these Mortal Sovereign Alchemists with Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivation bases, they had full confidence that if Tian Xiaolu wasn't considered, including her abnormally extreme skill in lesser graded

products, then they would've dominated Qingye Ying in the true Alchemic Clash.

Unfortunately, Tian Xiaolu might be impressive in lower-graded products, but she was still a mortal, and she clearly devoted too much time to mastering the concoction of those lesser grades to the extent that she couldn't defeat the Emperor Alchemist of the Elven Race. A sacrifice for her success. But, her luck hadn't faded as she pulled off a shocking tie against Qingye Ying!

This, while a little displeasing, was far better for them. This gave them a chance to spread the brilliance of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint in accordance with the rules and laws in place. An unexpectedly joyful surprise!

Liu Suyin frowned; this opportunity was a little dubious to her. She was an outsider, and this all felt too fortunate. Skepticism was her first instinct. She couldn't explain why, but as she thought more about it, that feeling gnawed further.

Wei Wuyin was aware of the existence of karmic luck, the hand of the Heavenly Daos directing others to fortune, so he had fewer suspicions. Still, he didn't expect to have this opportunity fall in his lap. Instinctively, he checked his right arm but realized he was a spiritual body at the moment, and the Bloodline of Sin tattoo wouldn't be present.

In a bizarre twist of discovery, when he lifted his sleeve to inspect the state of his Karmic Luck Value, it was unbelievably there! Wei Wuyin was thunderstruck! This wasn't his first type of incarnation, but it was his first pure spiritual incarnation.

Karmic Luck Value: 41,555.3.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Suppressed - 11 Years.

"Assistant Cao?" The male scholar had exited out of his spiritual observations, finding Cao Cuifen standing beside two others. His eyes brightened when he saw Liu Suyin. That calm indifference that repulsed others and brought them discomfort was causing his body to tingle a little. "Come, Assistant Cao."



Cao Cuifen looked at the male scholar with an amicable smile, her attitude was beyond reproach as she apologized to Wei Wuyin, only leaving after he acknowledged her and didn't show any disapproval, and she walked over. Cao Cuifen was well-received, even by the female scholar, as they began to talk amongst themselves.

"Assistant Cao's knowledge of shared property laws is amazing; she handled Dao Instructor Jian Lihei's ownership matter with the Supreme Aqualake last year. So, tell us: is this so-called loophole of Dao Instructor Shui correct?" The female scholar spoke out, causing Dao Instructor Shui Lun, previously referred to as the male scholar, to form a grim look.

"Dao Instructor Mo, Dao Instructor Shui's idea is pretty sound to my knowledge." Cao Cuifen answered respectfully. This caused the female scholar, Dao Instructor Mo Shishi, to pout slightly in discontent. If there was something wrong, she could humiliate him a little.

"Hmph!" Shui Lun coldly snorted. °As if she'll disagree with me! If it wasn't for Assistant Cao, I wouldn't-I would've found out eventually, right?° The instructor's thoughts were kept concealed, and his interest was elsewhere, so he didn't bother with Mo Shishi. He gave Cao Cuifen some visual cues, directing her to Liu Suyin.

"She looks familiar." Since they were all spiritual incarnations on the spiritual network, transmissions could be easily sensed and traced to both or all parties, so Shui Lun only spoke in a hushed tone. He tried to gain an understanding of who she was since Liu Suyin could reach the depths of this place, so she was bound to be connected to someone equivalent in status to himself or be someone of equivalent status.

"Fairy Cao! Haha!"

Cao Cuifen was about to reply when a peal of boisterous laughter resounded, taking everyone's attention away. Gazes filled with envy, rage, thoughtfulness, and distaste were flung at the origin of this voice. It belonged to none other than the youngest Mortal Sovereign Alchemist present, Qiao Leng!

He was only three thousand and seven hundred years old, having manifested his Alchemic Stars sixty years ago, and his cultivation base was at the Soul of Mysticism Phase. His handsomeness was clear, and his youthful talent showed as well. Not only was he an Ascended, but he was a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist at an exceptionally young age.

That said, he didn't have an Alchemic Soul, so the 'exceptionally young' was based on the scale of non-Alchemic Soul alchemists. Tian Xiaolu had an Alchemic Soul, and while she was extremely young, she had an innate advantage, a hefty sacrifice for having no tangible power, and an exceptionally difficult cultivation road ahead of her.

While she was only at the Realm World Phase, there were quite a few treasures, tools, or alchemical products that could assist cultivators during their lethal tribulations without causing irreparable damage to their path, and a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist could afford them. Not easily, but barely affordable. Just that statement alone made it clear how rare and expensive those types of treasures and tools cost that even Mortal Sovereign Alchemists could barely afford these special objects.

Even if she reached the Star Core Phase, the peak of the Astral Core Realm, using special methods that dominated the Mortal Dao, the Mystic Ascendant Realm's Second Ascension was a gate of hell, absurdly difficult, and unimaginably impossible to overcome without serious help. Help that Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, even Earthly Saint Alchemists and Worldly Saints powerhouses, would find abnormally difficult to obtain.

Qiao Leng walked happily to Cao Cuifen's side, excitedly about to touch her lower back with his palm, a sign of intimacy. But Cao Cuifen's movements were swift like a cat and smooth like butter, evading that touch with breathtaking ease, and positioning herself in a way that he'd find it difficult to pursue her.

"...hm?" Stunned, Qiao Leng was unable to comprehend why he hadn't felt a soft body in his palm. His words that were about to celebrate his future access to the Pure Excellence Cauldron were severed then and there, stifled by the awkward situation. "Fairy Cao, I'll-"

Shui Lun furrowed his brows slightly. "Assistant Cao, Dao Instructor Qiao has priority for the upcoming challenge, so he'll definitely possess the Pure Excellence Cauldron in the future." He warned her and cursed in his heart. Why was his assistant acting so foolishly? If she got into Qiao Leng's good graces, wouldn't she and himself come in contact with the secrets of the Pure Excellence Cauldron? Don't spoil this for me, Cao Cuifen!

Qiao Leng's eyes brightened. With this card up his sleeve, wouldn't he be able to use this to finally bring Cao Cuifen to his bed? Perhaps they'll become husband and wife, and if he truly played his cards right, they could simply be

lovers! This was a double opportunity! How many young beautiful alchemists will seek him out as the sole male with access to the greatest alchemic legacy in the academy? Moreover" wouldn't he be in close contact with two mortals? While Qingye Ying was an elf, she was top-tier in looks.

Hehe! His excitement was rampaging in his heart and mind, and even his lower body felt burning blood rushing into it. Fortunately, he was a spiritual incarnation, so as long as he willed it, it wouldn't reflect in this avatar.

Cao Cuifen's smile didn't lessen, "Oh? Is that so?" She said this, but there was a clear skepticism in her voice that everyone could hear.

"Is there something we don't know?" The wizened alchemist kept rubbing his long beard with intense emotion, reflecting his anxiousness and frustration.

"There is; there's someone younger amongst Dao Instructors who also cultivates the Alchemic Dao. This person has priority first, before Dao Instructor Qiao." She politely informed them with a steady voice, directing her gaze towards Wei Wuyin. The entire group became shaken instantly after seeing Wei Wuyin's Alchemic Stars, alchemical aura, and mortal-grade spiritual strength!

Another Tian Xiaolu?!

Wei Wuyin didn't mind the gazes sent his way. His thoughts were elsewhere as all this happened, and he was trying to figure out why the Bloodline of Sin tattoo manifested on this avatar. More importantly, looking at Karmic Luck Value, he felt that this could be a ploy of the Heavenly Daos, but his heart was telling him that this opportunity was his by the Heavenly Daos design. Moreover, it didn't feel like the result of the Bloodline of Sin either.

This was all instinctual, so he could be speaking total nonsense, and it could be genuinely coincidental. But, he felt a strange hand guiding him here. So this brought intense confusion as it'll be easier to explain it as part of the over 3,000 Karmic Surge or the Bloodline of Sin's influence to clash with Blessed.

Did Liu Yinlan influence this outcome somehow? While he pondered, Cao Cuifen slid smoothly back to his side. "Dao Instructor Wei, shall I handle the process of filing for a shared property claim of challenge?" By this point, the judges were announcing the results of the tie including the circumstances regarding shared ownership of the Pure Excellence Cauldron for the next

three years, giving many alchemists growing hope of being able to claim the Pure Excellence Cauldron from Qingye Ying.

"Hm? Please do." Wei Wuyin was unfamiliar with all these laws and rules. He decided to allow Cao Cuifen, an assistant to Dao Instructors, to handle this task. Since this was a chance to take this benefit, he was willing to do so regardless of his feelings. Why else did he come to the Voyage Academy if not to obtain more knowledge about the Alchemic Dao?

She brightly smiled, sweet and direct, before nodding her head and vanishing abruptly. Exiting the Spiritual Network, she returned to reality. She saw the closed-eyed Wei Wuyin and Liu Suyin, and a complex emotion flickered in her gaze. She sighed softly and then left soon after.

Not long after, Wei Wuyin's eyes opened, gazing in Cao Cuifen's direction. Unlike others, Wei Wuyin had two minds, so he didn't have to focus entirely on one area, and he was extremely sensitive to mental fluctuations. However, he couldn't quite pinpoint what Cao Cuifen felt at that moment, but it was certainly powerful enough to sense.

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Beyond the City of Guardians, Liu Yinlan was standing beside a seated and cultivating Ye Ziling. The Lord of the City of Endless and Sect Master of the Void Voyage Sect had her delicate eyebrows scrunched in thought.

She had just received news about the Alchemic Clash for the Pure Excellence Cauldron's result. To think that it would be a tie, such a strange sequence of events. As the City Lord of one of the three cities, her knowledge of various laws and rules was unquestionably among the highest, so she swiftly realized the possibility of the Pure Excellence Cauldron having another co-owner. Additionally, Wei Wuyin was in the perfect position to claim it!

It would be an understatement to say she was shaken by the event. This was a coincidence of insane proportions. But she knew that Wei Wuyin's goal couldn't have been that, so her interest was still piqued. Despite that, she was even more excited. If he claimed the cauldron, his will to leave would be snuffed out instantly. After all, he couldn't take the cauldron out of the World Between the Fold.

She might not even have to resort to her plans. Perhaps, just perhaps, that simple ultimatum and everything thus far is enough to have him take the mantle of True Destined Voyager!

"But...he has to win first. Without an Alchemic Soul, younger, and in a location deprived of sufficient knowledge of the Alchemic Dao, will he have the means to face Qingye Ying?" She was highly skeptical and concerned. An Alchemic Soul was almost unbeatable in a Swift Dao Clash of the Alchemic Dao, with the only proven counter being mystic-graded alchemical energies and absurd amounts of experience.

"Should I assist? Hm..." She touched her index finger to her soft lips, tapping it lightly.

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The three judges were Mortal Sovereign Alchemists with Earthly Saint Phase cultivations. They were well-renowned, highly revered figures with the potential to become genuine Alchemic Saints in the future. While the chances were extremely slim, they met many of the requirements, and only luck, effort, and practice will open that gate.

They weren't just judges, but Head Dao Instructors, each voted by the majority to hold that position, proven by their skill in a certain category. Each is skilled in one of the four main types of the Dao of Alchemy—Elixir, Pill, Paste, and Pellet, widely considered the best Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of their type. They occupied one type, excluding paste.

When Cao Cuifen bowed before them, talking clearly and reciting certain laws, the entire crowd was allowed to listen. She stood on the stage, a little behind her were Qingye Ying and Tian Xiaolu, their expressions dignified and dumbfounded. There was such a thing?

Cao Cuifen finished her words with, "Per Article 3, Section 17 of the Shared Property Laws of Endless Voyage Realm, I invoke the right of proper challenge on behalf of Dao Instructor Wei Wuyin!"

Wei Wuyin?!

Both Tian Xiaolu and Qingye Ying's expressions drastically changed, and confusion besieged countless audience members as they never heard of that Dao Instructor!

One of the judges frowned, his aura imposing yet stable. "The youngest has the right of priority to contest for shared property. From what I know, amongst Mortal Sovereign Alchemists of our Academy, Qiao Leng has that title."

The other two judges nodded. Who was this so-called Wei Wuyin?

Cao Cuifen's momentum didn't falter, continuing: "Dao Instructor Wei is less than a hundred years old." She directed her gaze towards Wei Wuyin's box, causing the three judges to send their spiritual senses there. Instantly, the reflective concealment was lifted as a silver-eyed was shown behind the glass. Within those pupils of his, seven stars rested in each, each exuding a profound will of the Alchemic Dao.

"..." The three judges were stunned.

"He's here!" Qingye Ying's heart was thoroughly shaken.

"So it is him..." Tian Xiaolu's expression grew dignified, lending her a unique beauty that could ensnare the heart.

It seems the plan of that figure could be met with an unexpected variable...

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1036 1030: Dao Instructor Wei



Wei Wuyin was helpless as Liu Suyin brought him animatedly into the Academy's grounds. She held his wrist tightly, and from the side, Wei Wuyin could see her pupils shine with barely concealed eagerness. Immediately, Wei Wuyin realized the privilege of entering the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations was one that even the Vice-Sect Master of the Void Voyage Sect and Envoy of the City of Endless wasn't granted.

It wasn't hard to notice this due to how lukewarm her reception was by the female announcer earlier, and how zealous and reverentially respectful she was to him—a genuine Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. It seemed here skills of a

Creationist were valued far more than position in regards to status and earned respect.

Before the gate closed with a thud, Wei Wuyin had looked behind him to see the countless cultivators waiting obediently outside, including those Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivators, some of which were Demi-Mortal Lords. A strange feeling emerged in his heart, besieged by numerous questions.

"Lord Alchemic Sovereign," the petite, pretty, and pristinely dressed woman called out in a delicate voice, a tinge of bashfulness within. Liu Suyun halted. For a reason she couldn't quite define or pinpoint, her good mood soured a little.

Wei Wuyin felt relieved to not be tugged by Liu Suyin, inwardly thankful to the woman. After composing himself, his Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality within his eyes slowly vanished. When he faced the young woman, he saw the unconcealed desire and shyness, her cheeks carrying the faintest of pink blushes, and her countenance gaining an additional alluring charm.

He was stunned on the spot. Did she just use some type of spiritual charm spell? Almost immediately, Wei Wuyin was baffled as his Sea of Consciousness felt the most subtle waves impact his external layer, blocked off, yet his mind still felt its effects. The only issue was that he was fully aware of it being used.

"..." Liu Suyin's indifferent eyes grew slightly darker, slightly colder. However, she was disallowed from using her mystic power or spiritual strength within the academy's sacred territory, unable to interfere in this blatant manipulation attempt, lest she willingly give them a reason to remove her from the premises and revoke her riding in on Wei Wuyin's coattails, and she was aware there were several spiritual senses actively waiting for just that.

Wei Wuyin might be a mortal, but his Spiritual Strength was a monstrous abnormality that vastly exceeded the expectations of what a 'mortal' should have. He had four Spirits of Cultivation, and their cultivation was thoroughly cultivated to the maximum, pushed to the literal edge of Realm World Phase, and conjoined together harmoniously.

Just earlier, a genuine Ascended being, careless and forceful, had met a premature death due to this terrifying aspect of his. Moreover, his mental fortitude and Sea of Consciousness were fully guarded by Eden. While the spiritual charm spell of the woman could affect mental perception and emotions through Spiritual Power, it couldn't work on him.

Still, he was curious and played along. With an expression of adoration and a tinge of lust, he gently asked: "Is there something wrong?" His voice carried the patience reminiscent of a young man speaking to his lover.

Seeing his enamored expression, the woman's eyes shined and she smiled beautifully. "No, of course not. It's just that the academy is currently sealed off due to an Alchemic Clash, and as such, we'll have to travel there to meet the other Alchemic Sovereigns you wish to discuss the Dao with." She explained but added shyly: "But if you want, I can show you around the academy's outer area. The clash will definitely take quite a while, and there are things...we can do while we wait."

"Absolutely not. We'll go to the Alchemic Clash—no delays." The woman's tantalizing offer was immediately interfered with by Liu Suyin after Wei Wuyin's eyes brightened with excitement. If she allows this, it'll be fortunate if Wei Wuyin's mind isn't conditioned and controlled by this vixen. The young woman pouted slightly, putting on a cute appearance before Wei Wuyin, but those eyes of hers felt like vicious daggers to Liu Suyin.

Wei Wuyin was curious, "Things?"



"...!" Liu Suyin's eyes widened slightly. Was Wei Wuyin so weak-willed?! She was frustrated at Wei Wuyin falling victim to a charm spell, but it was infused with the spiritual power of a Soul of Mysticism Phase expert. She hadn't realized how unreasonable it was to be vexed that Wei Wuyin, a Seventh Stage Astral Core Realm junior, was unlikely to defend against an Ascended being's mental assault.

The woman blushed slightly as she glanced slightly at Wei Wuyin's groin, "things...yes." Her bashful and seductive expression told of her intentions. While Ascended beings couldn't dual cultivate safely with mortals without specific conditions, there were other ways to serve someone, especially a beautiful woman to a hot-blooded, virile young man.

Wei Wuyin's mind was thoroughly shaken. In truth, he didn't understand why this woman was being so forward, resorting to using a charm spell. While he was a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, the outside world had alchemical legacies of cultivators like the King of Everlore, a Heavenly Alchemic Saint!

What would a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist be worth in a cultivation society like that? The World Between the Fold had at minimum three Worldly Saints, and the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations certainly had access to the world outside through Seekers and the City of Voyage. Was it due to his age? His existence as a mortal? He couldn't wait to learn why he was receiving such 'amazing' treatment.

Liu Suyin began to panic. If Wei Wuyin agreed, this was all but done. Moreover, they were in the academy's inner grounds. Not even Liu Yinlan dared to interfere. And it was true, Wei Wuyin hadn't immediately noticed, but the inspective force that enveloped him had vanished immediately after entering the academy. That said, it wasn't as if she didn't have any eyes or ears.

Abruptly, Wei Wuyin's enamored expression vanished, replaced with a sharp pair of narrowed eyes. The silver glimmer within them was exuding terrifying prestige, the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality once again manifested, but the seven-colored light was like a beam, inundating the woman in its dignified might. "You dare use a charm spell on me?!"

"Huh?" The young woman was astonished by Wei Wuyin's sharp tone, but as an Ascended being, she reacted quite swiftly. She didn't skip a single beat, lowering her head and apologizing. "Forgive me, Lord Alchemic Sovereign! I acted wrongly, taken over by my heartfelt admiration for your looks and ability." While her tone sounded genuine, it also felt practiced. A weird mixture that caused both Liu Suyin and Wei Wuyin to be astonished.

How many times has she tried this? Been caught? Or maybe she always expected it?

Liu Suyin's emotions soothed after seeing that Wei Wuyin hadn't fallen for such a low-tier seduction spell. She inwardly harrumphed, at least he was worthy of being a True Destined Voyager.

"...Let's see this Alchemic Clash then." Wei Wuyin said, realizing that his status and authority were extremely high despite not being a member of the academy—an unexpected outcome. And the young woman gave a pitiful, pleading smile, and nodded obediently. She led the two through the academy's grounds. The streets were bereft of anyone, the buildings empty and closed, and the air had a lingering scent of alchemical concoctions and metal.

"Be careful of those with ill-intentions here," Liu Suyin warned after they walked for roughly five minutes. She couldn't help but speak, her heart feeling slightly restless at the prospect of Wei Wuyin being taken elsewhere. After all, the World Between the Fold was complex, and the City of Endless or the Void Voyage Sect that operated out of it wasn't the only force present.

The City of Guardians had the Lunar Librarians, the Voyage Academy, the Guardians of Time, and the City Lord's Estate. Just these four, not a single one was inferior, and only the Guardians of Time couldn't acquire Wei Wuyin, making him equivalent to a True Destined Voyager with a different destiny. The fact that Liu Yinlan gave the okay to be here despite Wei Wuyin's outstanding talent in alchemy left her with a lump of curiosity. It was a little too risky.

The corner of the young woman's lips twitched imperceptibly.

Wei Wuyin gave Liu Suyin a reassuring smile. Wasn't he on guard against everyone with ill intentions? Including Liu Yinlan! "So, how come I can enter the Voyage Academy simply because I'm a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist?" Wei Wuyin realized that this walk was going to be long since they were literally trekking slowly towards the tower. It'll likely take three hours to get there, the most frustrating detail about the World Between the Fold's culture: walking.

"Oh?" The young woman was taken aback by Wei Wuyin's question. Shouldn't he know? She turned to Liu Suyin, whose expression was unreadable, and then turned to Wei Wuyin and smiled. She showed off a good angle of her face with this movement and smile, explaining: "All Creationists are members of the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations by default within the World Between the Folds.

"Your position is dependent on your level of skill; Mortal Sovereign Alchemists are all Dao Instructors, the highest level of an instructor's status within the sect. To put it simply, they're like head teachers of normal academies. They have their own building, their own practice, can take students, teach a crafted curriculum tailored by themselves, and even compete using their students for additional benefits and prestige.

"All those of a certain status automatically receive a base stipend, including rights to use certain formations and arrays for their concoctions, forging, or

studies. Within the World Between the Fold, there's no greater place for Creationists than the academy."

"Dao Instructor?" Wei Wuyin was intrigued by this prospect. Moreover, this was such a novel approach towards teaching, essentially making all those within the world skilled enough teachers, luring them in with status, resources, and power.

"What about Alchemic Saints?" Wei Wuyin inquired.

Liu Suyin chimed, "Those who become Alchemic Saints are sent out of the World Between the Fold; they aren't allowed to stay here unless under a special circumstance, to which an Ascended Sovereign must grant an exemption." As if her position as head explainer was threatened, Liu Suyin clarified Wei Wuyin's question.

The young woman was unbothered by the interruption, nodding after Liu Suyin's explanation. "I didn't expect that a Destined could become a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist; they typically focus on the Law of Space, losing their brains' ability to think of anything else."

"..." Liu Suyin's eyes squinted. The shade thrown was quite clear in those words.

Wei Wuyin frowned, "Wasn't it only Worldly Alchemic Saints who are granted the ability to leave? When did it become all Alchemic Saints?" Since the Sealed Regions had three Earthly Saint Alchemists, it contradicted his belief. Unless the three all decided to voluntarily stay?

"That's only for Destined, Seekers, and those within the Sealed Region; the general populace of the World Between the Fold isn't governed by such elevated restrictions." The young woman answered with a tinge of pity. "Those Destined and Seekers who become Alchemic Saints, they are 'bestowed' the duty of nurturing the future defenders of the greater world."

"..." Wei Wuyin understood the implications in her words. Those Destined and Seekers were forever shackled by their obligations and oaths, even if they become Alchemic Saints, and they'll be reduced to using their talents to nurture the future generation. Just from the implied direction of the conversation, there was no Alchemic Sovereign in the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations, at least none with the status of a Dao Instructor.

They must've been pulled away by their City Lords, segregated from the academy.

"Is the head of the academy not an Alchemic Saint?" Wei Wuyin asked curiously.

"Hm?" The woman exclaimed amusingly, answering with: "Lord Alchemic Sovereign, this is an academy for 'Creationists', not just Alchemists." It was hard to hold a grudge as she brightly smiled. "The Head of the Academy is Scholar of the Myriad Transformations, expertly gifted in the study of the various Daos of Creationists, renowned for creating unique concoction methods, cultivation methods, spells, arts, formations, arrays, and armament designs. She's not singularly focused."

Wei Wuyin's heart was swiftly brought to awe by the description and was blessed with a reminder that this was an academy, not an Alchemist Association. For so long Alchemists reigned supreme in the societies he was exposed to and this inadvertently led him to believe in his heart that its leader must be an alchemist.

"I see..." Wei Wuyin was happy that his horizons were expanded here, but also felt a sense of inferiority swelling within his heart.

"A dabbler of the theoretical, be mindful of this as well." Liu Suyin softly reminded Wei Wuyin, breaking him out of a reverie of awe and amazement. Instantly, he realized that the Head of the Academy was studying these

things, not actually practical experience. Even if she understood the principles to conceive an effective ninth-grade product, she might not be able to create it herself.

His expectations of the loftiness of that type of occupation were lowered to realistic levels thanks to Liu Suyin. He gratefully nodded to her. Thanks to the Sacred Library, as long as he had time, wouldn't he similarly obtain the title of a Scholar of Myriad Transformations? At least to a certain extent.

They continued to talk for quite a while and Wei Wuyin learned the name of the woman—Cao Cuifen.

Wei Wuyin learned a lot more about what it meant to be a Dao Instructor and even learned that his badge of proof was his Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality. Since it cost nothing to evoke it, he could show it freely. Typically, Mortal Sovereign Alchemists have it constantly manifested as their show of status and position.

He also learned that the academy will give him back pay in wages for the number of months he's been a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. So in a way, Wei Wuyin had a hump of wealth simply laying around waiting for him to claim it.

Wei Wuyin also learned that he wasn't the only 'mortal' Mortal Sovereign Alchemist in the World Between the Fold, and while he was a rarity due to his young age, it wasn't much as each of those mortals all had Alchemic Astral Souls and outstanding Alchemic Talent.

In fact, the current Alchemic Clash was a battle between two Alchemic Astral Soul possessing Alchemists, both mortals, and they were fighting for the right to earn the 13th Rank of Dao Sovereign Ranking, a list ranking the top twenty Mortal Sovereign Alchemists based on points gained from their clash victories, successful concoctions, and their students' test scores.

Soon, after walking for hours, Wei Wuyin was shocked that they detoured, not arriving at the tower, but at the grand coliseum at its side. It rumbled slightly as voices echoed out. It was clear discussions were running rampant.

The size was gargantuan, capable of containing millions comfortably, but it was easily missable from a distance due to the sheer magnitude of the silver tower's sky-reaching grandeur.

When they entered, they were only allowed in by the Demi-Mortal Lord guards after Wei Wuyin revealed his Alchemic Stars, and their expressions became immensely respectful. It was still strange to see this reaction from Ascended beings given that Mortal Sovereign Alchemists could only concoct ninth-grade products.

It was only when Liu Suyin reminded Wei Wuyin that Alchemists can, in a joint effort, concoct pills greater than their ranking suggested. This was something Wei Wuyin already knew but never tried, always relying on himself, and so it was always a lingering shadow, unnoticed in his thoughts. But, he knew he had to start trying to utilize this united power one day.

If he could use the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists of the Ma Clan and True Element Sect to concoct a Mystic-Earth grade product, this could have great implications for his cultivation when he ascended beyond the Mortal Dao and his study of the Alchemic Dao.

As they were escorted inside by the armored guards, they entered the coliseum stands to witness a large, excited crowd that was discussing animatedly amongst themselves as the center platform was flowing with Utmost Purity Mist. Two figures were concocting, and a thin film of energy, likely a one-way ward blocking off sight and sound, was erected over the entire platform in a wide dome.

When Wei Wuyin saw those two figures, his expression dramatically changed.  
"It's her?!"

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1037 1031:A New Experience



The two figures on stage exuded unique bearings, dignified and focused; their expressions were solemn, invested, and reflected their lifetime of knowledge and experience. They brought to bear their utmost skills, conducting a myriad of transformations within their cauldrons without any external assistance. It was hard to pry one's eyes away.

Moreover, they were both breathtaking beauties of the highest echelons of their gender. One, a human; the other, an elf. The first had induced Wei Wuyin's change of expression, not expecting this woman to be here of all places.

Her hair was waist-length in length, full and flourishing, mystifyingly wavy, glistening with health, and a gorgeous sheen of navy blue color that softened in shade at the edges. The woman had a figure that wasn't too overbearing, being slender yet not skinny, fit yet not too muscular, voluptuous yet only in the perfect locations. But her figure wasn't solely enough to satisfy her birthright by the creator as a top-tier member of her species, gender, and race.

Her complexion was impeccable, smooth, and clear. A set of eyebrows that were big, bold, yet oddly refined complemented her light-blue eyes that contained an inextinguishable self-confidence and wit. Her nose, ears, and mouth felt as if they were delicately picked to suit her entirety. It was hard to find any imperfections or aspects that didn't belong, from head to toe this remained true.



It was none other than Tian Xiaolu!

Wei Wuyin never expected that the Blessed of the Tian Clan, the niece of Tian Muyang, and fellow Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, would be here in the World Between the Fold of all places, and she would be participating in an Alchemic Clash!

But she wasn't the only surprise! Wei Wuyin saw her opponent, and it brought him an equal amount of shock! Once again, he thought of his first impression of meeting this elf:

"Luscious, silky, warm golden-blond hair adorned her head and reached mid-way to her back, paired perfectly with a set of bright golden eyes that seemed to contain unfathomable purity within. It was a purity that one could easily lose themselves in for days, and willingly do so for life. Her slim body had curves that seemed far too perfect, seemingly unreal even. With her ample breasts that seemed to be more than a handful for any man, she possessed an astonishing sexual appeal that was impossible to ignore.

Just these could cause many men to devolve into their most primal instincts."

Those words refreshed him, realizing that in his younger days, he was quite lustful with his descriptions.

The elf that was fully focused on her cauldron, mobilizing her pure alchemic force to the greatest extent, was the one and only Qingye Ying! The only one known as the Princess of Everlore! They had met in an alchemic clash where he gained the title of the Ascendant Emperor of Neo-Dawn, a play on the world's belief of him as the bringer of a new era, his Alchemic Emperor's title, and the organization that he spent years forming. It perfectly summed his existence at the time, and that moment played a heavy part in reinforcing his Heart of Cultivation.

It was a shocking coincidence to meet one, let alone both, and they were currently in a contest of skill, adaptability, and will, which was an unimaginable event. Wei Wuyin can scarcely believe it or reason it out, but here they were.

"You recognize her?" Liu Suyin, by his side, asked, her eyebrows wrinkled as those eyes of hers reflected Tian Xiaolu's perfect image of beauty, talent, and effort. It was difficult to grasp what she was thinking.

"I recognize them both," Wei Wuyin admitted. Then, shockingly, he looked at Liu Suyin and said questioningly: "You don't recognize the blue-haired one?" Wasn't she the Void Voyage Sect's Vice-Sect Master?

Liu Suyin blinked, giving the faraway Tian Xiaolu a piercing stare. She scoured her memory banks yet found nothing regarding this woman who possessed an outstanding, nation-toppling, envy-summoning appearance. Eventually, a full minute later, she shook her head. "I don't. Who is she?"

"She was introduced to me by Tian Muyang as Tian Xiaolu, a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of the Imperial Clan." Wei Wuyin recalled that time, but then his heart remembered the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists in the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit. Did the Everlore Association not know her status, was she a secret or did they not expect her to arrive?

"Tian Xiaolu?!" Liu Suyin softly exclaimed, revealing a rich surprise that was unlike her typical indifference and flat expression. "That Tian Xiaolu?"

"That?" Wei Wuyin didn't expect that. Was Tian Xiaolu special?

Liu Suyin soon settled down, explaining: "I've never seen her before, but I know of the name. She's the disciple of one of the Alchemic Saints in the Sealed Regions, the only disciple she has taken since that figure became an Alchemic Saint."

"What?! Which Alchemic Saint? The Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint?" Wei Wuyin would be lying if he said he wasn't shocked by her words, but only for a

moment. She was a Blessed after all, so this type of fortune was to be expected.

"Yes." Liu Suyin nodded.

The Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint was rumored to have been the disciple of the King of Everlore, an unverified rumor, and she was known for following the King of Everlore's exact path, cultivating an Alchemic Soul, and entering the Mystic Ascendant Realm despite the absurdly high difficulty to do so.

To explain the difficulty of this, one can simply look at the throne-sitting Mortal Sovereign Alchemists of the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit—not a single one cultivated an Alchemic Soul. They were all at the Mystic Ascendant Realms, and the only Alchemic Soul cultivators amongst Ascended that attended the event, only the 'false' Ascended at the Mystic Star Phase had them.

Liu Suyin curiously glanced at Tian Xiaolu's competitor. She immediately realized it was a female elf. She was the first elf she'd seen in the World Between the Fold, giving her a burst of shocking surprise. Indeed, the Elven Race's population wasn't suitable to become Destined or Seekers because it was largely considered an 'inferior' race, unable to ascend, and was mostly enslaved in the outside world.

They, alongside beastmen and two other races, were met with this gruesome fate of inferiority, restricted by shackles of their origins that even the Ascended Sovereigns never addressed or attempted to rectify. Even in the Sealed Regions, they were inflicted with this issue, labeled as inferior, and protected by the goodwill of the Everlore Association.

Similar to the Devil War Realm's Alchemic Culture, the Elven Race was spared from such a humiliating fate in the Sealed Regions thanks to outstanding alchemists laying them the bricks of their freedom and safety. Their inability to ascend limited their rights to having rights, lacking the

strength to uphold their racial honor in a world as vicious and dominating as a cultivation society.

"She is?" Liu Suyin asked. At this point, Wei Wuyin was searching for a row of seats to sit in. The entire place was immensely crowded. Cao Cuifen was shocked after hearing their exchange. She was aware of some things, but she didn't know that Tian Xiaolu was a disciple of an Alchemic Saint of the Sealed Regions. No wonder...

When she saw Wei Wuyin looking about, she immediately realized he was searching for a seat. She hurriedly spoke, "Lord Alchemic Sovereign, your seating arrangements is there." She pointed at a luxuriously large rectangular box that protruded out of the seats, with a large screen of reinforced half-silvered glass facing the platform.

The reflective surface was one-way, with those inside capable of perceiving outside without any issue. There were many boxes scattered throughout the coliseum, having the best angles and locations. Truly deluxe.

"Let's go then," Wei Wuyin said. The trio walked through the seated crowd, eliciting a few responses, and the typical shocked reactions. Wei Wuyin was intrigued by a few cultivators looking at the sky, their eyes flashing with spiritual light. Were they not watching the stage? Or was this a spiritual spell that enabled a greater viewing experience?

They made haste, entering the box through the side door and the diagonal step ladder. Wei Wuyin felt an urge to roll his eyes. Was flying disallowed? Even a little? Can one not levitate?

While going, Wei Wuyin was curious about one thing: "Why do you call me 'Lord' and Alchemic Sovereign? Why not Dao Instructor?" He asked Cao Cuifen. Since all Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were Dao Instructors and she was an assistant of Dao Instructors, shouldn't she refer to him as one?

But she embarrassingly replied, blushing slightly: "Lord Alchemic Sovereign, you haven't told me your name..." Her bashful appearance was quite stimulating to the mind.

"..." Liu Suyin.

"..." Wei Wuyin.

"Right...My name's Wei Wuyin." After introducing himself, she now referred to him as Dao Instructor Wei with a bright smile. Wei Wuyin took her advice, keeping his Alchemic Stars active as they walked into the box. When he arrived inside, he found that the box was empty with drinks, food, and two beautiful human women attendants that were present yet silent.

They gave accommodating smiles to Wei Wuyin, respectfully greeting him as Lord Alchemic Sovereign. He realized this was the social norm.

"An empty box?" He expected other Dao Instructors. But Cao Cuifen hurriedly explained: "It's a private box, but-" she pointed above the stage, a thick, rhombus-shaped crystal spun softly, exuding spiritual light that cascaded downwards, "-you can connect with a spiritual network of Dao Instructors that can view the concoctions and discuss amongst yourselves, even comment on the event, errors, speculations of the outcome, and praise. You noticed there are cultivators with spiritual light emitting from their eyes, they have the right to view the event and listen in on the Dao Instructors."

The curiosity that Wei Wuyin held in his heart was answered.

After finding a comfortable seat, Liu Suyin followed without seeking permission, while Cao Cuifen was standing awkwardly. Wei Wuyin faintly smiled, "Do you have anywhere to go?" She was only tasked with informing those waiting for the acceptance of students' free services of the delay, and then she was left to her own devices. She acted as an escort and brought

them here, but she likely didn't have the right to enter the spiritual network without accompanying someone.

Cao Cuifen softly shook her head, "Dao Instructor Wei, I-

"Then sit, enter with us." After saying that, Wei Wuyin grasped the means to access the network. Liu Suyin waited for Wei Wuyin, and when he entered, so did she, following his spiritual light that was infused with the half-silvered glass using hers. Cao Cuifen happily smiled, sitting beside Wei Wuyin, and entering as well.

WHOOSH!

Wei Wuyin felt as if his entire spiritual strength was sucked into the glass, slowly jacked in as his mind vibrated intensely, and he felt himself surf through an endless stream of spiritual light. As he traversed further along the light, he found himself gaining a humanoid form that resembled his mental incarnations.

Beside him, two gorgeous, exquisitely nude bodies of women were forming too. They were Liu Suyin and Cao Cuifen. Their shape formed first, revealing all their most detailed curves, sensitive areas, and even the size of the areolas, and then the clothes that they were wearing formed next. Their spiritual strength seemed to be occupied with readying themselves, their eyes shut.

Wei Wuyin wasn't used to this experience. He had missed the Golden Auction before, and so was ignorant of this type of projection, and so he got distracted by their salivating transformations. A brilliant show, he must say.

An outburst of flashing spiritual light temporarily blinded him as he felt his spiritual incarnation stop moving.

"GASP!"

"Oh my heavens!!"

"You disgusting perve-oh my...It can be like that?!"

Wei Wuyin was met with all sorts of exclamations of shock, his 'eyes' burning. Due to his ignorance, he hadn't expected the sharp flash that overwhelmed his spiritual senses. No wonder the two girls had their 'eyes' tightly shut. When he finally regained his senses, he discovered himself surrounded by a crowd of individuals, all spiritual incarnations of themselves, all cyan-colored.

"Dao Instructor Wei!" A familiar voice cried out in shock. Taken aback, Wei Wuyin found Cao Cuifeng staring disbelievingly at his lower groin. His first thought was she was being overly obvious about what she wanted.

He soon discovered Liu Suyin, whose eyes were no longer apathetic, and despite her cyan-colored skin and complexion, there were signs of a shocked blush on her face, granting her a unique allure.

Suddenly, Wei Wuyin felt eyes all on him. A series of gasps, exclamations, and strange stares besieged him.

With his mind as fast as he was, he immediately recalled the two girls forming clothes with their eyes closed. With a deep breath, he looked down and, yes, saw 'little Wuyin' hanging out proudly. And shockingly, it was a flag at half-mast.

"Shit." Wei Wuyin abruptly vanished!

## PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1038 1032:A Clash For A Legacy



"..." The atmosphere was stirred in a sauce of silence, disbelief, and still lingering exclamations suffused with surprise, amazement, and even interest.

After a few seconds of this atmosphere, Wei Wuyin reappeared in the spiritual network as a Spiritual Incarnation. This time, fully clothed; his bearing was carefree and neutral as if he hadn't just exposed himself to all those in the vicinity of the spiritual network's entry point.

A Spiritual Incarnation was a manifestation of one's spiritual strength, which inherently contained information regarding their physicality, mentality, personality, and innate aura. This information was collected at its purest state and formed into a type of avatar that perfectly reflected a cultivator's state via the network's arrays.

The stream of spiritual light, that deliberate delay between entry and arrival, was meant to offer a cultivator the ability to alter this state such as adding clothes or exuding a unique aura that might not originate from their spiritual strength, such as an alchemical aura that isn't innate to anyone except Alchemic Soul cultivators. However, adding this reflected one's status as an alchemist to all those who viewed your avatar.

Wei Wuyin was reasonably distracted by Cao Cuifen and Liu Suyin's exceptional bodies and the novel experience of entering the spiritual stream, and as such hadn't changed his avatar to reflect what he wished to show. After disappearing, Wei Wuyin swiftly sent his Second Mind to work, finding information regarding a Spiritual Network, and imprinting it into his primary mind.

He was no longer ignorant of the details of the Spiritual Network's functions and intricacies. This served as a great lesson for him. A lesson that will benefit him so much that it'll help him pave his way beyond the Sealed Regions.

But as there was a lesson here, there must have been a fault to learn from. Despite this, Wei Wuyin was not embarrassed or bothered by his accidental display of nudity. If there was an aspect of him he was most proud of as a man, it would be his physique and all things included in it.



"...!" When Wei Wuyin reappeared, there were all sorts of gazes on him, and then exclamations of shock swept through the crowd. After returning, Wei Wuyin had infused his Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality into the avatar, including a strong, imposing alchemical aura. It was so strong that his mortal aura was almost entirely eclipsed.

"Dao Instructor?!" A middle-aged woman cried out as she saw the seven stars within each eye. A sign of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist and thus a prestigious Dao Instructor of the academy.

Liu Suyin was stunned; Wei Wuyin's alchemical aura exceeded these other alchemists present, those without Alchemic Souls, yet there were some others here that had Alchemic Souls and they weren't nearly at the level of Wei Wuyin. Was it the Alchemic Stars? Or was it a reflection of his overbearing spiritual strength? However, she unintentionally thought about his exposed body and her thoughts were shadowed to the point she had to take a breath.

"Are you okay?" Cao Cuifen got closer to Wei Wuyin, her eyes failing to conceal her heated excitement, and tried her best to reveal a look of 'genuine' concern. Only then did Liu Suyin find reprieve, realizing that Wei Wuyin had arrived without clothes for a reason, and her attention focused.

The desire in this woman's eyes was so apparent that Wei Wuyin was a little taken aback. Perhaps it was due to her spiritual avatar having a more difficult time concealing her mental fluctuations than her real body, but Wei Wuyin could spot it a thousand miles away.

"I'm fine; I was distracted by the network's infusion stream. An accident, that's all." He didn't lie, but he also didn't dwell on all the bits of details. Fortunately, Liu Suyin and Cao Cuifen didn't think that Wei Wuyin had seen their complete bodies during the infusion process, largely because the infusion had protective safeguards.

Many wanted to take advantage of one's spiritual avatar, see what Wei Wuyin saw, and what type of expert would allow that? As such, the infusion stream was imbued with a raw source of spiritual power that could infect the senses and spirits of others, even shatter the spirit if they tried to 'view' anything. This would inevitably lead to even Ascended beings turning into cripples at best, suffering immediate death at worst.

The blinding light that Wei Wuyin experienced was that safeguard, and Wei Wuyin had been hit by it in full! But his Spirit Units were far too terrifyingly firm, absolutely unshakable, and had naturally defended against the assault. As a possessor of four Astral Souls, four thirteen-ringed Soul Idols, an evolved Divine Spirit that was King, and a normal Divine Spirit that was Ori, his Spiritual Strength was his greatest aspect without a shadow of a doubt.

"It's good as long as you're okay," Cao Cuifen joyfully smiled. The corner of Liu Suyin's lips twitched a little, irritation emerging in her heart for a reason she couldn't fathom.

Wei Wuyin decided to focus on other things. The crowd was all staring at him, but he ignored it as he gave them a show of a smile, no apology whatsoever, and began to scour for the viewing point. Within the Spiritual Network, there was a specific viewing point that could project the myriad of changes and permutations through a special formation to the viewers within, revealing the efforts of the two combatants on the platform.

Right now, the coliseum wasn't used to scatter blood and wage a war of life and death but hosted two nation-toppling beautiful women that were fully focused on their concoctions. Cao Cuifen followed along, her eyes imperceptibly glancing at Wei Wuyin's lower body from time to time.

Fortunately, only a very, very small portion of attendants in the spiritual network bore witness, and they were those that had to stay at the edges of the entry point. As a Dao Instructor and Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, Wei Wuyin

was allowed to weave through without being stopped or questioned. Moreover, those who subconsciously followed him deeper had stopped after a while, their expressions strange, returning back to where they were before.

When Wei Wuyin found a small crystal floating amongst a group of individuals, he knew this was a viewing point that projected the scenery of the clash. He was about to make his way over, but Cao Cuifen hurriedly interjected. "Not here, Dao Instructor Wei."

"Not here?" Wei Wuyin was taken aback.

Cao Cuifen nodded, "this is only the outer area of the Spiritual Network, the viewing crystal functions, clarity, and immersion levels won't be enough to satisfy you." While she said this, she gave an urgent look in the hopes for Wei Wuyin to continue deeper into the network. It was clear from her expression that this area could be considered the 'worst' seats.

Seeing how this wasn't the best viewing point, he decided to let Cao Cuifen lead the way.

°The status of these Dao Instructors really is crazy high in the academy,° Wei Wuyin thought as fresh faces gave him reverential looks filled with respect and courtesy. Those who he had initially met were unqualified to go deeper, left behind, and unable to spread the word of his 'incident'. For now, at least.

He soon realized why Cao Cuifen decided to come with him and why she was unwilling to settle on the viewing point. They were all linked by a thread of spiritual light, thin and barely perceptible, but it allowed her to follow along into the depths of the spiritual network. Despite being a Dao Instructor's assistant, she didn't have the status or authority, just like the others behind them.

,m As they went deeper, he felt that his avatar was thoroughly scanned by several external powers briefly. Then, they each departed as if successfully verifying his qualifications to go further.

Cao Cuifen's excitement grew as she saw those of equivalent status and cultivation look on with envy, a light of pride in her eyes. If the Sealed Regions knew that a 'genuine' Ascended being was so happy riding the coattails of a mortal, they would be deeply shaken.

"Why is this clash happening?" Wei Wuyin asked, unable to suppress his curiosity. He would never have guessed that the Princess of Everlore—Qingye Ying, and Tian Muyang's Blessed niece—Tian Xiaolu, would be in the World Between the Fold of all places, clashing in a battle of the Alchemic Dao.

Liu Suyin was also interested in why the Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint of the Sealed Region's disciple was facing an elf, which was largely considered an 'inferior' race with limited potential. Moreover, this clash invited so much attention that the academy's curriculum practices of volunteering for experience were delayed.

Just from a glance at the countless spiritual avatars present, it was clear that far too many were invested in this clash's outcome. But why exactly?

Cao Cuifen's eyes brightened with an invigorated light. She explained: "I guess I'll have to start from the beginning since many outside of the academy don't know. That elf you saw clashing with the human, she has an Alchemic Soul, and her name is Qingye Ying; she's the in-name disciple of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint.

"She arrived almost a decade ago, overturning the entire academy after she entered through the Void Gate of Excellence, a trial set up by the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint nearly five thousand years ago. No one has ever arrived through the gate before, but it was inscribed in the Laws of Myriad Transformations that whoever passes through that gate, be it male or female, human or beast, demon or spirit, will be allowed to become the Myriad

Transformations Alchemic Saint's legacy disciple and receive their inheritance. Something left untouched in the last five thousand years.

"Unfortunately, no one knew where the other side of the gate went or how to get there, so the opportunity was truly left to those who were fated for it." Cao Cuifen said, a little depressed. As an Alchemist, how could she not harbor desires for the legacy inheritance of an Alchemic Saint?

Wei Wuyin swiftly scoured his knowledge of the academy from the Palace of Eden but was unable to find any information about the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint, but he had a sneaky suspicion that it might be the Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist that was renowned in the Everlore Starfield shortly after the King of Everlore's departure, forming an extremely healthy culture for alchemists.

"Who's the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint?" Shockingly, it was Liu Suyin who asked this question. Wei Wuyin didn't expect that even she didn't know.

"Right! You're not natives of the City of Guardians." Cao Cuifen remarked before saying: "The Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint comes from the World Beyond the Fold; she's a prestigious figure who was, at the time, a world-renowned Worldly Saint Alchemist. She had stayed in the academy for a brief spell, expounding on the foundation of the Academy's Alchemic Dao legacies with the Principal of the Academy. Uhm, there are rumors that they're biological relatives."

"She?" Wei Wuyin quietly mused. All the records suggested that the Myriad Transformations All-Alchemist was a male, not a female. This was an undeniable point too as there were pictures and spiritual recordings of him. Moreover, it was said he died. So perhaps...they weren't the same. But, they definitely had a connection considering this Gate of Excellence bore similarities to the Myriad Tower of Excellence and the Void Gate within,

especially the requirements to enter that seemed like prerequisites to take a trial.

Liu Suyin was born in the Sealed Regions and raised in the Void Voyage Sect whose primary goals focused on protecting and securing nodes in the Sealed Regions, so she was largely ignorant of figures and details of the World Beyond the Fold.

"So why is the elf clashing with Tian Xiaolu?" Liu Suyin asked.

Cao Cuifen regained her train of thought, "Tian Xiaolu, the human, is a Dao Instructor of the Academy that is challenging Qingye Ying for the legacy inheritance's treasure. More specifically, the Pure Excellence Cauldron—it's said that the legacy is contained within. She won against dozens of other renowned Dao Instructors in a Swift Dao Clash and claimed an unquestionable victory each time, earning the right."

"Swift Dao Clash?" Wei Wuyin's interest was piqued. He hadn't heard of that before.

"A Swift Dao Clash is when two or more Creationists battle it out using three days to concoct the same product, find some flaws in methods and offer improvements, or forge a specific armament or talisman. Typically, for alchemists, it uses a rule of four-grades lesser. So Mortal Sovereign Alchemists use three days to concoct fifth-grade products to their greatest limits. The winner produces the better product. It's generally won by the narrowest of margins, making it extremely intense." Cao Cuifen had opened Wei Wuyin's eyes to a new type of contest, rapid and efficient.

Wei Wuyin asked, "Would the Cauldron be contestable if Qingye Ying didn't become an in-name disciple?"

"Huh?" Cao Cuifen felt odd hearing the question, but she answered nevertheless: "The Pure Excellence Cauldron is a sign of true discipleship and

said to contain the legacy of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint; according to the rules left behind, the in-name disciple must prove themselves the best Alchemic Soul of their generation amongst those in the academy to possess it. If not, it will go to the capable, so no—without Qingye Ying, the Pure Excellence Cauldron would still be gathering pitiful dust."

Liu Suyin didn't find this strange or unfair. It was another trial for Qingye Ying to prove herself, and considering the status of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint, there were bound to be many layers after.

"..." However, Wei Wuyin's eyes glinted with profound light. Qingye Ying was destined to lose here. After all, Tian Xiaolu was a Blessed with an absurd amount of Karmic Luck. How could this not be a heavenly-designed opportunity?

Wait.

"What if it's a tie?" Wei Wuyin suddenly asked.

"A tie?" Cao Cuifen reeled slightly, startled by the question as it had never occurred to her that something like that could or would happen. It was extremely, extremely difficult to reach a tie in an All-Alchemic Clash due to how it was structured, but not impossible.

She recalled all the details she knew and then hesitatingly said, "Uh, they'll both have the cauldron and perceive the legacy? If only until one proves themselves better than the other. But that should be unlikely.."

"..." If Wei Wuyin was to find a fated disciple, during the trial, he would've left a critical 'key' to the true inheritance to the in-name disciple, only leaving a surface-level inheritance for those who obtained it first. Why? Because this would serve as motivation for the disciple in question to continue pursuing greatness amidst defeat. Perhaps this was just his way of thinking, but the

added fuel and setback would certainly cause those destined for success despite failure to come back stronger than ever before.

If so...if he had to predict the Heavenly Daos' intentions...

Finally, the trio entered the depths where dozens of supremely rich alchemical auras were present, including those that emitted a scholarly and refined aura, and the hardened aura of forged metal, as if being tempered incessantly by flames.

Cao Cuifen's eyes lit up. They were in the furthest depths! The Dao Center! Her excitement was bubbling at this point and she fidgeted with her fingers.

"WHAT?!"

Just as they arrived, several surprised gasps of unimaginable shock resounded!

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1039 1033: An Exploitative Chance Remains



At the moment, the trio had entered into the depths of the Spiritual Network where the elite of the academy, those with genuine authority and ability was present, and while scattered, they were all sitting, floating, or standing around a single crystal that exuded a calming light. The 'eyes' of their avatars and wisps of their spiritual strength poured into the crystal.

Wei Wuyin spotted men and women with rich alchemical auras like his, all with the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality manifested; those who emitted a scholarly light bearing a similar yet slightly different aura as the Enlightened Scholarly Mist, clearly having studied and honed their mental prowess; those who radiated an intense heat and metallic scent, as if they were freshly tempered armaments.



They were all Dao Instructors amongst Creationists, skilled and knowledgeable in their field of study. None of them were mortals, however. The intrinsic nature of their spiritual energy carried the profoundness of the Mystic Dao. Excluding them, there were beautiful young-looking women dressed exquisitely, young men of dashing looks and vibrant vigor, and some that simply had a Spiritual Strength so terrifyingly powerful that their avatars caused the space they inhabited within the Spiritual Network to shake. Those who had that ability were all unfathomable Earthly Saints, especially those who grasped the Spirit-type Mystic Rune—they were monstrous.

The commotion had originated from this crowd.

"They finished at the same time!" A comment from a young man who couldn't keep his surprise and disbelief in.

"They're so terrifying! In just a month, they completed an entire Alchemic Clash. Haaaaa..." An old alchemist wistfully sighed in praise and lamentation at the youths' astonishing talents these days. Most Alchemic Clashes lasted years. The lengthy period was why Swift Dao Clashes were invented and deployed more often than Alchemic Clashes. Only when two alchemists needed to settle a major difference, grudge, or bet did they result in this form of competition.

Wei Wuyin was curious about the happenings, so he didn't hesitate to send his spiritual strength into the large floating crystal. After a sudden burst of spiritual light, Wei Wuyin saw the scene the others had. Two gorgeous figures split in his vision. It was like seeing a split-screen, both sides occupying a portion.

They were standing over their respective cauldrons, light sweat dripping from Qingye Ying's thin brow, and an exhausted pair of eyes on Tian Xiaolu as if she had just fought a devastatingly brutal and lengthy battle. It was clear that

neither was willing to hold back in this fight. There was too much on the line, too much at stake that could redefine their entire future.

Wei Wuyin was amazed at the level of detail, depth, and angle this type of viewing crystal granted. He could even 'sense' the wisps of lingering alchemical auras, traces of remnant refined materials, and the Utmost Purity Mist that enveloped both areas. It was almost as if he was actually there, yet it was clear that they couldn't 'sense' him. A marvel of a formation, truly bringing one to the forefront of the event.

He had already missed the great majority of the Alchemic Clash, and they had just completed the final step of completing their respective products, the fusion process. When Wei Wuyin sensed the auras emitting from those products, two greyish-colored pills that levitated above their cauldrons, he was puzzled.

Liu Suyin had joined him, and she too was stunned. "Eighth-Grade?" Her words brought Cao Cuifen out of her excitement. Despite all three of them viewing the event in such a manner, they could still openly communicate using their avatars despite not exiting the viewing experience.

"Right. This Alchemic Clash is based on the rules established by the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint, including the rapid clashes," Cao Cuifen explained. "It's a part of the trial she set up, allowing even Mortal Sovereign Alchemists to participate against her in-name disciple. After all, it would be quite unfair and kind of predictable if an alchemist under the age of five hundred had to face seniors with thousands of years of experience and a Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivation base. Let alone Qingye Ying, who was less than two hundred years old and an el-at the Astral Core Realm."

She almost pointed out Qingye Ying's race but caught herself. Despite her actions, it was clear that Qingye Ying was facing these trials as if it was a

game set to the highest difficulty given her race's notable inferiorities and limitations.

"Also, Dao Instructor Wei, Qingye Ying might have an Alchemic Astral Soul, but she hasn't manifested her Alchemic Stars yet. Officially, she's not a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist." Cao Cuifen's words made Wei Wuyin recall his own clash with Qingye Ying, including its one-sided nature. If it wasn't for the Temporal Reincarnator's existence, he might've decided to tie it. He wondered how they would've changed their paths, but only for a moment.

According to Cao Cuifen, the Alchemic Clash was meant to be a difficult challenge, not an impossible hurdle. As such, the in-name disciple had to prove themselves, but not against elite monsters with cultivations far surpassing them. If Wei Wuyin thought about it, the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint must've given a portion of her legacy to Qingye Ying and felt confident that whatever that was, if grasped to the fullest extent, or even to a certain extent, will allow her to sweep against all challengers given the rules.

"So the Alchemic Clash is for eighth-grade products? What about the rapid clash? Did it use fourth or fifth-grade products as the standard?" Liu Suyin asked as the pills of both contestants were undergoing final inspections and verification by the judges of the event.

"Fourth, of course. She's an Emperor Alchemist," Cao Cuifen answered. Since the rule was four grades lower, then Qingye Ying had been the standard for it.

Soon, an hour passed. It would've been a boring hour if it wasn't for the incessant discussions amongst the elites. Wei Wuyin, Cao Cuifen, and Liu Suyin listened as they learned about the events over the month. From what Wei Wuyin gathered, the competition was extremely fierce with the margins for victory being narrow in each category.

They went 2-2; Qingye Ying had claimed close victories in the pill and paste categories while Tian Xiaolu took the elixir and pellet categories. In each category, every product was at least high-quality, shaking the entire crowd as they were both in the younger generation, and their concoction speeds were phenomenal for their cultivation bases. Typically, alchemists discarded quality for speed, so this was quite a shocker.

With the tie set, a random product was decided by the judges, obscure, difficult, or never-before-seen, and then the two were forced to concoct with no experience. They both completed the product at low-quality, once again shaking everyone.

Another product was used, and another, but the product was once again even in quality, down to its effectiveness, so the judges were left to defer to an archaic rule that had set precedent for clashes. If the third challenge was a tie in quality, then time will be the deciding factor. Furthermore, a time limit was set based on the average time used on all seven concoctions so far, adding another layer of pressure on the participants.

Yet the crowd was left baffled and awed as the two had completed their products at the exact time. An unsettling yet exciting possibility flowed through their minds! What if they were equal in quality?!

"When has this ever happened before?" An old, wizened alchemist tugged his long beard, unable to hide his smile despite shaking his head.

"A tie? In the Dao of Alchemy? It's almost unprecedented."

"We don't know if it'll be a tie, the judges are still using every metric available to determine the differences between both products. A fair score will be given, and even the tiniest margin of difference can decide a winner between them." A beautiful woman that seemed to have a high status, and an even higher

cultivation base, spoke heavily. Her words were taken seriously as many decided to wait.

"A tie..." Cao Cuifen was equally as shaken as the rest, perhaps even more so.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled. He didn't know if his Bloodline of Sin or sensitivities to the Heavenly Daos due to his original Blessed status allowed him a greater insight into the Heavenly Daos' intentions. But in truth, given Tian Xiaolu's Karmic Luck, her greatest outcome wouldn't be victory but shared victory. If Qingye Ying's initial legacy truly held the key, then befriending her was better than beating her.

And the best way to do that would be to be her rival, an equal in beauty, talent, and gender. This way they could form a bond with neither suspecting the other to have any...intentions...in mind. Their actions would be automatically given a pure belief, and it was then reliant on if their personalities were like water and sugar, not water and oil.

Suddenly, given the deliberation was still ongoing, Wei Wuyin asked Liu Suyin: "Why was this the third stop on our trip?" What was Liu Yinlan intending for him to see? He expected unrivaled access like the Sacred Library, and certain privileges, but Liu Yinlan's sphere of influence clearly didn't reach here.

"To see that it exists," Liu Suyin answered.

"..." Wei Wuyin went silent for a moment, and then accepted this with a nod. While it was an abrupt question, the answer made sense after thinking about it. The Sacred Library showed Wei Wuyin's ignorance and the inferiority of the Sealed Regions, the Time Vortex was meant to show the potential for growth with tools that vastly exceeded the Sealed Region's means, and then the Voyage Academy of Myriad Transformations was meant to show him, a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, the depths of his potential.

Moreover, as a Dao Instructor, he might be able to access information without Liu Yinlan's power and authority. He just needed to wait for this clash to end.

"Haaaa...if only I could grasp the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint's legacy, I could easily become a Saint Alchemist." A defeated Mortal Sovereign Alchemist sighed depressingly, still lamenting his defeat at the hands of Tian Xiaolu.

"You still have a shot," a male scholar with an erudite bearing said lightly, causing the various elites to focus on him. A shot? The scholar contained their happiness after becoming the center of attention, and the sight of realizing something before everyone else made him feel superior. He subconsciously corrected his posture, exuding an enlightened bearing, "The rules set by the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint states that until an owner of the cauldron is within the hands of 'an in-name disciple', it is open for competition."

A sneer immediately resounded. A female scholar with thin circular glasses pushed it up the bridge of her nose, her eyes emitting a wisp of ridicule. "So? The rules also state that to challenge ownership, the competitor has to prove themselves superior to all other alchemists in the academy. Dao Instructor Tian Xiaolu has thrashed everyone else once, and she'll easily do it again. Only an idiot would think there's a shot." Clearly, she was a loving fan of Tian Xiaolu and a hateful fan of the male scholar.

"But that challenge must be a Swift Dao Clash," an Earthly Saint chimed in, suggesting that there was a chance for everyone.

"Hmph!" The male scholar scoffed disdainfully. "Blind and loose," he spat vulgarly, unbecoming of his appearance. The female scholar glared at him with murderous intent, almost losing her bearing as an enlightened figure knowledgeable and wise in the eyes of billions.

The situation was heating up!

"Please explain your thoughts clearly, Dao Instructor Hua." The wizened alchemist with a long beard tried to pacify the situation and alleviate everyone's thoughts. Despite her anger, the female scholar reined in her piercing gaze and waited. She waited for an opportunity to pounce and denounce this idiot that she regretted spending a night with.

However, the male scholar would not give her the chance! "If there's a tie, while not explicitly stated, the cauldron will definitely belong to both and also neither of them—shared property. This is the chance to exploit a loophole. According to the academy's rules, the shared property can be contested over, but not claimed outright, through certain contests. And for alchemists, Alchemic Clashes is the contest of choice, specifically Swift Dao Clashes."

The scholar paused, his eyes bright. This rule was created after many fights against Creationists regarding ownership of usage of special locations, cauldrons, forges, etc., that belonged to the academy and were shared among its students and instructors. But things had limits, and deadlines were tight, so the shared property was regulated and established with all sorts of rules and laws.

"Oh!" The wizened alchemist rubbed his long beard vigorously while the female scholar's expression changed. If the Pure Excellence Cauldron was declared as 'shared property' then it would be open to these laws...circumventing certain restrictions.

"So you wouldn't have to defeat them in a genuine Alchemic Clash," the old alchemist said with widened eyes of inspired realization. "Or defeat Tian Xiaolu..." It was this portion that caused everyone to realize a particular law! To claim shared property, you just had to defeat an owner of that property, not every owner. It was a little unfair, but Dao Instructor Tian Xiaolu was too

terrifying! She smashed everyone mercilessly, so if they can circumvent her, then they have confidence!

But Qingye Ying wasn't a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, and she lacked the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality! While in a genuine Alchemic Clash they had total confidence of victory, they'd have to beat Tian Xiaolu in a Swift Dao Clash first to gain that right. With their Alchemic Stars, a limit of three days, and their higher cultivation base, they had great belief in snatching victory against Qingye Ying!

"We just have to win a Swift Dao Clash against her!" A renewed light emerged in their eyes. Now, they hoped and prayed that it'll be a tie!

"Wait...can't shared property only be split among three people at most? And there's a three-year-period rule between each challenge..." The young man from earlier who couldn't contain his surprise and disbelief asked curiously.

"..."

"..."

"..."

A wave of deafening silence crashes the entire atmosphere. The jubilation in everyone's eyes faded away. For alchemists, gloom and darkness enveloped their expression. For everyone else, amusement and interest! The alchemist all eyed a single figure first—a handsome man that seemed to be in his late twenties, his eyes growing increasingly bright and excited.

Cao Cuifen felt this heavy atmosphere filled to the brim with tension. When she saw the shift in attention, she turned to Wei Wuyin instead of the handsome man. Wei Wuyin was listening with rapt attention, amused by all this. It seems the challenges for those two weren't over yet.



"Dao Instructor Wei..." Cao Cuifen tugged softly at Wei Wuyin's sleeve, her eyes giving off a soft light, her cheeks slightly blushing, and her posture looking a little meek and submissive. Her entire existence at the moment was enough to throttle the lust in many men, bringing forth an urge to dominate her in every conceivable position. He couldn't help but find her sudden change shocking. Was she trying to seduce him?

Liu Suyin saw Cao Cuifen's current posture and felt an urge to toss her out of the Spiritual Network. Why was she acting like a cat seeking milk from her owner? How infuriating! She couldn't help but look at Wei Wuyin to see if he's degenerated into a mess due to her act. If he did, she'll certainly think less of him.

"What is it?" Wei Wuyin asked, unfazed by Cao Cuifen's act, much to Liu Suyin's happiness. In truth, if Cao Cuifen wasn't an Ascended being and he was a mortal, Wei Wuyin would've been tempted easily and...and never mind, it's best not to think about such frustrating limitations.

"Dao Instructor Wei...the youngest challenger has priority for shared property." she pointed out, allowing both Liu Suyin and Wei Wuyin to realize why the youngest-looking figure with a strong alchemical aura was being eyed enviously and hatefully at this moment.

"Oh?" Wei Wuyin's eyes lit with a raging brilliance.

At that exact time, the judges made a decision!

## PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1040 1034: Youngest Dao Instructor



"Equal!" The sonorously harmonious voices of three judges—two men and one woman—resounded throughout the coliseum and spiritual network. It

shook the hearts of everyone without end. A stifled atmosphere instantly formed as bated breaths were held.

"This Alchemic Clash has been deemed, unequivocally and unchangeably, a tie!" The official announcement was like a form of release. A sensation of amazement, disbelief, uncertainty, and fascination surged throughout the viewers' hearts. Since the founding and creation of the World Between the Fold all those years ago, when has there ever been a record of an Alchemic Clash ending in a tie?

Within the Spiritual Network's depths, Wei Wuyin amusingly rubbed his chin; his thoughts towards the Heavenly Daos' intentions were growing keener. Unlike others, he could see the invisible strings pulling the pieces. Formless confidence manifested in his heart, reinforcing his will to cultivate. With each passing day, the Heavenly Daos that were originally unimaginably unfathomable were slowly being understood.

"This is unprecedented!" Cao Cuifen exclaimed with shock. Then, she turned to Wei Wuyin, her thoughts seemingly swift as can be, and she placed a delightful smile on her face and directed it all towards him. "Dao Instructor Wei, this is your chance!"

While she said those words, the inner circle of elites that were nearby was in an uproar. The male scholar had revealed a major flaw in the rules that could be exploited. Even if the Pure Excellence Cauldron was shared between them, this meant for the next three years, they would have an undeniable connection with Tian Xiaolu and Qingye Ying, and likely learn the inheritance with them. At least, what could be learned.

If they take another step, they might be able to defend their position and keep it going for decades. To these Mortal Sovereign Alchemists with Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivation bases, they had full confidence that if Tian Xiaolu wasn't considered, including her abnormally extreme skill in lesser graded

products, then they would've dominated Qingye Ying in the true Alchemic Clash.

Unfortunately, Tian Xiaolu might be impressive in lower-graded products, but she was still a mortal, and she clearly devoted too much time to mastering the concoction of those lesser grades to the extent that she couldn't defeat the Emperor Alchemist of the Elven Race. A sacrifice for her success. But, her luck hadn't faded as she pulled off a shocking tie against Qingye Ying!

This, while a little displeasing, was far better for them. This gave them a chance to spread the brilliance of the Myriad Transformations Alchemic Saint in accordance with the rules and laws in place. An unexpectedly joyful surprise!

Liu Suyin frowned; this opportunity was a little dubious to her. She was an outsider, and this all felt too fortunate. Skepticism was her first instinct. She couldn't explain why, but as she thought more about it, that feeling gnawed further.

Wei Wuyin was aware of the existence of karmic luck, the hand of the Heavenly Daos directing others to fortune, so he had fewer suspicions. Still, he didn't expect to have this opportunity fall in his lap. Instinctively, he checked his right arm but realized he was a spiritual body at the moment, and the Bloodline of Sin tattoo wouldn't be present.

In a bizarre twist of discovery, when he lifted his sleeve to inspect the state of his Karmic Luck Value, it was unbelievably there! Wei Wuyin was thunderstruck! This wasn't his first type of incarnation, but it was his first pure spiritual incarnation.

Karmic Luck Value: 41,555.3.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Suppressed - 11 Years.

"Assistant Cao?" The male scholar had exited out of his spiritual observations, finding Cao Cuifen standing beside two others. His eyes brightened when he saw Liu Suyin. That calm indifference that repulsed others and brought them discomfort was causing his body to tingle a little. "Come, Assistant Cao."

Cao Cuifen looked at the male scholar with an amicable smile, her attitude was beyond reproach as she apologized to Wei Wuyin, only leaving after he acknowledged her and didn't show any disapproval, and she walked over. Cao Cuifen was well-received, even by the female scholar, as they began to talk amongst themselves.

"Assistant Cao's knowledge of shared property laws is amazing; she handled Dao Instructor Jian Lihei's ownership matter with the Supreme Aqualake last year. So, tell us: is this so-called loophole of Dao Instructor Shui correct?" The female scholar spoke out, causing Dao Instructor Shui Lun, previously referred to as the male scholar, to form a grim look.

"Dao Instructor Mo, Dao Instructor Shui's idea is pretty sound to my knowledge." Cao Cuifen answered respectfully. This caused the female scholar, Dao Instructor Mo Shishi, to pout slightly in discontent. If there was something wrong, she could humiliate him a little.

"Hmph!" Shui Lun coldly snorted. °As if she'll disagree with me! If it wasn't for Assistant Cao, I wouldn't-I would've found out eventually, right?° The instructor's thoughts were kept concealed, and his interest was elsewhere, so he didn't bother with Mo Shishi. He gave Cao Cuifen some visual cues, directing her to Liu Suyin.

"She looks familiar." Since they were all spiritual incarnations on the spiritual network, transmissions could be easily sensed and traced to both or all parties, so Shui Lun only spoke in a hushed tone. He tried to gain an

understanding of who she was since Liu Suyin could reach the depths of this place, so she was bound to be connected to someone equivalent in status to himself or be someone of equivalent status.

"Fairy Cao! Haha!"

Cao Cuifen was about to reply when a peal of boisterous laughter resounded, taking everyone's attention away. Gazes filled with envy, rage, thoughtfulness, and distaste were flung at the origin of this voice. It belonged to none other than the youngest Mortal Sovereign Alchemist present, Qiao Leng!

He was only three thousand and seven hundred years old, having manifested his Alchemic Stars sixty years ago, and his cultivation base was at the Soul of Mysticism Phase. His handsomeness was clear, and his youthful talent showed as well. Not only was he an Ascended, but he was a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist at an exceptionally young age.

That said, he didn't have an Alchemic Soul, so the 'exceptionally young' was based on the scale of non-Alchemic Soul alchemists. Tian Xiaolu had an Alchemic Soul, and while she was extremely young, she had an innate advantage, a hefty sacrifice for having no tangible power, and an exceptionally difficult cultivation road ahead of her.

While she was only at the Realm World Phase, there were quite a few treasures, tools, or alchemical products that could assist cultivators during their lethal tribulations without causing irreparable damage to their path, and a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist could afford them. Not easily, but barely affordable. Just that statement alone made it clear how rare and expensive those types of treasures and tools cost that even Mortal Sovereign Alchemists could barely afford these special objects.

Even if she reached the Star Core Phase, the peak of the Astral Core Realm, using special methods that dominated the Mortal Dao, the Mystic Ascendant

Realm's Second Ascension was a gate of hell, absurdly difficult, and unimaginably impossible to overcome without serious help. Help that Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, even Earthly Saint Alchemists and Worldly Saints powerhouses, would find abnormally difficult to obtain.

Qiao Leng walked happily to Cao Cuifen's side, excitedly about to touch her lower back with his palm, a sign of intimacy. But Cao Cuifen's movements were swift like a cat and smooth like butter, evading that touch with breathtaking ease, and positioning herself in a way that he'd find it difficult to pursue her.

"...hm?" Stunned, Qiao Leng was unable to comprehend why he hadn't felt a soft body in his palm. His words that were about to celebrate his future access to the Pure Excellence Cauldron were severed then and there, stifled by the awkward situation. "Fairy Cao, I'll-"

Shui Lun furrowed his brows slightly. "Assistant Cao, Dao Instructor Qiao has priority for the upcoming challenge, so he'll definitely possess the Pure Excellence Cauldron in the future." He warned her and cursed in his heart. Why was his assistant acting so foolishly? If she got into Qiao Leng's good graces, wouldn't she and himself come in contact with the secrets of the Pure Excellence Cauldron? Don't spoil this for me, Cao Cuifen!

Qiao Leng's eyes brightened. With this card up his sleeve, wouldn't he be able to use this to finally bring Cao Cuifen to his bed? Perhaps they'll become husband and wife, and if he truly played his cards right, they could simply be lovers! This was a double opportunity! How many young beautiful alchemists will seek him out as the sole male with access to the greatest alchemic legacy in the academy? Moreover" wouldn't he be in close contact with two mortals? While Qingye Ying was an elf, she was top-tier in looks.

Hehe! His excitement was rampaging in his heart and mind, and even his lower body felt burning blood rushing into it. Fortunately, he was a spiritual incarnation, so as long as he willed it, it wouldn't reflect in this avatar.

Cao Cuifen's smile didn't lessen, "Oh? Is that so?" She said this, but there was a clear skepticism in her voice that everyone could hear.

"Is there something we don't know?" The wizened alchemist kept rubbing his long beard with intense emotion, reflecting his anxiousness and frustration.

"There is; there's someone younger amongst Dao Instructors who also cultivates the Alchemic Dao. This person has priority first, before Dao Instructor Qiao." She politely informed them with a steady voice, directing her gaze towards Wei Wuyin. The entire group became shaken instantly after seeing Wei Wuyin's Alchemic Stars, alchemical aura, and mortal-grade spiritual strength!

Another Tian Xiaolu?!

Wei Wuyin didn't mind the gazes sent his way. His thoughts were elsewhere as all this happened, and he was trying to figure out why the Bloodline of Sin tattoo manifested on this avatar. More importantly, looking at Karmic Luck Value, he felt that this could be a ploy of the Heavenly Daos, but his heart was telling him that this opportunity was his by the Heavenly Daos design. Moreover, it didn't feel like the result of the Bloodline of Sin either.

This was all instinctual, so he could be speaking total nonsense, and it could be genuinely coincidental. But, he felt a strange hand guiding him here. So this brought intense confusion as it'll be easier to explain it as part of the over 3,000 Karmic Surge or the Bloodline of Sin's influence to clash with Blessed.

Did Liu Yinlan influence this outcome somehow? While he pondered, Cao Cuifen slid smoothly back to his side. "Dao Instructor Wei, shall I handle the process of filing for a shared property claim of challenge?" By this point, the

judges were announcing the results of the tie including the circumstances regarding shared ownership of the Pure Excellence Cauldron for the next three years, giving many alchemists growing hope of being able to claim the Pure Excellence Cauldron from Qingye Ying.

"Hm? Please do." Wei Wuyin was unfamiliar with all these laws and rules. He decided to allow Cao Cuifen, an assistant to Dao Instructors, to handle this task. Since this was a chance to take this benefit, he was willing to do so regardless of his feelings. Why else did he come to the Voyage Academy if not to obtain more knowledge about the Alchemic Dao?

She brightly smiled, sweet and direct, before nodding her head and vanishing abruptly. Exiting the Spiritual Network, she returned to reality. She saw the closed-eyed Wei Wuyin and Liu Suyin, and a complex emotion flickered in her gaze. She sighed softly and then left soon after.

Not long after, Wei Wuyin's eyes opened, gazing in Cao Cuifen's direction. Unlike others, Wei Wuyin had two minds, so he didn't have to focus entirely on one area, and he was extremely sensitive to mental fluctuations. However, he couldn't quite pinpoint what Cao Cuifen felt at that moment, but it was certainly powerful enough to sense.

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Beyond the City of Guardians, Liu Yinlan was standing beside a seated and cultivating Ye Ziling. The Lord of the City of Endless and Sect Master of the Void Voyage Sect had her delicate eyebrows scrunched in thought.

She had just received news about the Alchemic Clash for the Pure Excellence Cauldron's result. To think that it would be a tie, such a strange sequence of events. As the City Lord of one of the three cities, her knowledge of various laws and rules was unquestionably among the highest, so she swiftly realized



the possibility of the Pure Excellence Cauldron having another co-owner. Additionally, Wei Wuyin was in the perfect position to claim it!

It would be an understatement to say she was shaken by the event. This was a coincidence of insane proportions. But she knew that Wei Wuyin's goal couldn't have been that, so her interest was still piqued. Despite that, she was even more excited. If he claimed the cauldron, his will to leave would be snuffed out instantly. After all, he couldn't take the cauldron out of the World Between the Fold.

She might not even have to resort to her plans. Perhaps, just perhaps, that simple ultimatum and everything thus far is enough to have him take the mantle of True Destined Voyager!

"But...he has to win first. Without an Alchemic Soul, younger, and in a location deprived of sufficient knowledge of the Alchemic Dao, will he have the means to face Qingye Ying?" She was highly skeptical and concerned. An Alchemic Soul was almost unbeatable in a Swift Dao Clash of the Alchemic Dao, with the only proven counter being mystic-graded alchemical energies and absurd amounts of experience.

"Should I assist? Hm..." She touched her index finger to her soft lips, tapping it lightly.

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The three judges were Mortal Sovereign Alchemists with Earthly Saint Phase cultivations. They were well-renowned, highly revered figures with the potential to become genuine Alchemic Saints in the future. While the chances were extremely slim, they met many of the requirements, and only luck, effort, and practice will open that gate.

They weren't just judges, but Head Dao Instructors, each voted by the majority to hold that position, proven by their skill in a certain category. Each is skilled

in one of the four main types of the Dao of Alchemy—Elixir, Pill, Paste, and Pellet, widely considered the best Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of their type. They occupied one type, excluding paste.

When Cao Cuifen bowed before them, talking clearly and reciting certain laws, the entire crowd was allowed to listen. She stood on the stage, a little behind her were Qingye Ying and Tian Xiaolu, their expressions dignified and dumbfounded. There was such a thing?

Cao Cuifen finished her words with, "Per Article 3, Section 17 of the Shared Property Laws of Endless Voyage Realm, I invoke the right of proper challenge on behalf of Dao Instructor Wei Wuyin!"

Wei Wuyin?!

Both Tian Xiaolu and Qingye Ying's expressions drastically changed, and confusion besieged countless audience members as they never heard of that Dao Instructor!

One of the judges frowned, his aura imposing yet stable. "The youngest has the right of priority to contest for shared property. From what I know, amongst Mortal Sovereign Alchemists of our Academy, Qiao Leng has that title."

The other two judges nodded. Who was this so-called Wei Wuyin?

Cao Cuifen's momentum didn't falter, continuing: "Dao Instructor Wei is less than a hundred years old." She directed her gaze towards Wei Wuyin's box, causing the three judges to send their spiritual senses there. Instantly, the reflective concealment was lifted as a silver-eyed was shown behind the glass. Within those pupils of his, seven stars rested in each, each exuding a profound will of the Alchemic Dao.

"..." The three judges were stunned.

"He's here!" Qingye Ying's heart was thoroughly shaken.

"So it is him..." Tian Xiaolu's expression grew dignified, lending her a unique beauty that could ensnare the heart.

It seems the plan of that figure could be met with an unexpected variable...