PARAGON OF SIN



Ba-dum! Ba-dum!

Wei Wuyin's true dragon heart pounded fiercely as if responding to his words, ensuring that it was here, that it was ready!

This was the last piece of the puzzle, capable of not just sealing the fate of overcoming this calamity, but the prospect of 'conquering' this Calamity of Hell!

As an Exploitative Blessed and ambitious cultivator, Wei Wuyin's instincts had always been to take the most out of any situation, and the Heavenly Daos accommodated that personality trait of his perfectly. While Calamities of Hell were not part of any Karmic Fortune, in Wei Wuyin's eyes, they were the greatest sources of fortune that held the greatest risk!

Step!

He walked a few dozen steps, and the heat rose! Flames burst out, rushing towards him like a flood of reckoning with no escape in sight, and he was drowned once again by them! They emitted a temperature that was a few thousand degrees higher! Wei Wuyin's physical body was already like molten steel, and this only pushed it towards the edge of melting but not quite!

If it wasn't for his innate Absolute Hot Fire Energies, Scorching Ash Magma Energies, and Absolute Zero Ice Energies that were joined by Elemental Origin Energy, that refined his physical body for the last three decades, he would've already had his physical body melted and his soul exposed!

SOUL EXPOSED!

As an Inheritor of Sin, his physical body was an additional shell of defense. Typically, an Inheritor should have three layers of protection against the cleansing power of Hell and these flames—the physical body, the Outer Shell of the Soul, and the refined True Soul of Sin!

Unfortunately, Wei Wuyin only had two! And his physical body wasn't remotely close to being as powerful and resilient as a Realm of Sage cultivator's physical body. Even if the Realm of Sages began at the True Sage Phase of the Mystic Ascendant Realm, the Eighth Stage of the Realm, the comparison would be laughable.

Even right now, Wei Wuyin had merely taken a little over a thousand steps in a 108,000,000 steps journey, but he was already pushed to the brink of his physical body melting! If his physical body melted, his soul would be exposed, and no divergence of pain could be performed, so he would either be incinerated by the fires of Hell or cleansed by Hell's power.

There was no other outcome.

Soon, the flames abated once again, doused by some natural function of Hell.

Wei Wuyin looked at his hands, seeing his skin and muscles literally melt as his bones became visible was strange. This was especially so when he felt none of the soul-rending pain that he should experience by such an event. Simultaneously, his Secondary Mind was violently thrashing in his Sea of Consciousness, spiraling as if mad, unable to do anything but unleash a screeching howl in a hellishly soul-trembling tone.

Wei Wuyin kept moving!

Step! Step!

The molten road burned the soles of his feet, and he left behind a melting portion of flesh with each step, sticky and twisted, as he stepped forward. At some point, he was walking with just his leg bones.

Two thousand steps!

Periodically, a storm of flames would rage and devour him. Then, it would dissipate until he either traveled a certain number of steps or a certain amount of time was eclipsed. This type of hellish experience would force anyone to rush ahead out of raging fear of dying, but Wei Wuyin remained absolutely calm and took a single step at a time with an expressionless face!

Wei Wuyin could be said to no longer have any flesh! What little remained melted into his molten bones that exuded a reddish-gold glow! Shockingly, there was a burst of silvery light now and then as mucus seemed to continuously be produced, even from his bones! This mucus melted into his bones!!

"Inexhaustible?" Wei Wuyin realized that the silvery mucus was exhibiting characteristics that he predicted the Neo-Dawn Paragon-Forging Pill would have. The mucus was replenishing itself if removed by some unnatural power, much like the Renewal Yang or Renewal Yin Physiques' Primal Sources!

Moreover, he felt that his flesh and blood had been replenishing without any action, largely contributing to why he could walk this far. Two thousand steps! He didn't stop despite his current situation, and calmly took each step as the flames of Hell raged!

Three thousand steps!

Four thousand steps!

Wei Wuyin now heavily resembled the first time he traveled through a Void Portal; he was a bare skeleton with silver eyes exuding an eternal aura, three dangling lumps of flesh between his legs, a grey-ish heart that was several times the size of a normal human's, and his seven-colored throbbing brain! Even his bones were burnt a turbid black, giving one a strange, uncomfortable feeling.

Looking at his bony hands, Wei Wuyin smiled with no lips, "I probably look like the Black Skeleton, huh? Well, that was a female skeleton, so probably not with this thing dangling about." Despite being on the verge of total collapse, his bones already showing signs of melting, Wei Wuyin still could think and joke. It was a coping mechanism to wrestle with his rising fear despite his firm confidence.

HUM!

A blade hum once again resounded, and his silver eyes brightly lit as he held steady. This was it! He was waiting for this moment! The blade hum was the second part of the Calamity of Blade and Fire, and it was the most dangerous portion of this Calamity of Hell! If one didn't run at the sound of it, they would meet the blade! Either you rushed forward towards the end of the Agonized Road to dodge or experience the edge of this blade! And the further you went, the stronger the flames, the sharper the blade!

Either scenario would lead to your inevitable cleansing!

Wei Wuyin didn't feel anything, but a blade had lodged itself into his glabella! If he was a soul, this would be a crucial and fatal location that would end his life! His skull was pierced!

"Now!" Wei Wuyin's mind still reacted despite having his brain sliced into, slowly being cut into pieces as the blade vibrated out a hum of its hell-slicing sharpness, and his heart began to beat like raging thunder!

MARK OF EDEN!

Wei Wuyin tapped into the latent unrefined lifeforce within the Mark of Eden, sending out seemingly endless strands of life-replenishing power!

Within a picosecond, the damage to his brain was healed!

A nanosecond later, his brain was sliced almost entirely in half!

A picosecond later, his brain was HEALED!

He was healing faster than the blade could cut! Unable to slice into his brain's glabella where his Mind's Eye existed, it wasn't capable of piercing into his soul! It was stuck! Stuck in his brain!

The pain should've been so unbearable that no one could perform any activities while suffering it, but Wei Wuyin's Secondary Mind took it all without the slightest complaints!

With heaven-defying speed, his flesh instantly regrew. Then, the heat proceeded to melt it! Then, his muscles, skin, and every ounce of flesh REGREW!!

HOLD!!!

It kept happening endlessly and Wei Wuyin took a slow breath as his eyes focused intently on the Agonized Road before him.

"RUN!" Wei Wuyin lowered his posture like a predator as the cycle of destruction and regrowth happened over and over again without end! There was a ferocious intensity in his eyes that could shake demons and divinities alike, and then, with unrivaled willpower, he pressed his sometimes bony, sometimes melting, sometimes whole feet against the road and—

WHOOSH!!!

PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1142 1136: Third Calamity, RUN!

Fast!

Wei Wuyin's body kicked off explosively, his legs pumped, his heart throbbed, and his arms swung as he ran violently across the surface of the Agonized Road. Each stride propelled him hundreds of steps, and a torrential outpour of hellfire followed after. The raging storms of flames were mercilessly swift, and despite Wei Wuyin's greatest efforts, they continuously devoured him after each of his steps.

WHOOSH!

He blitzed out of each storm a literal skeleton with only a few meaty bits that were extra resilient! Then, almost instantly, Wei Wuyin's blood, muscles, skin, and hair regrew to a complete recovery. The surface of which had a silvery glow that lingered.

Almost immediately after, those fleshy parts of him melted down by a ravenous tempest of hellfire, seeping into his jet-black bones with a reddish-golden molten glow.

HUMMM!

The hums of a blade were incessant! Wei Wuyin's brain was spurting out blade light that could cut souls apart, yet it refused to allow the blade lodged into it to escape! It healed, was destroyed, and healed again!

Wei Wuyin's thoughts were blank; he moved solely on instinct as his ability to properly convey a meaningful thought was continuously eviscerated by the blade light. In fact, Wei Wuyin wasn't moving his body at all.

The four Astral Souls tethered to his soul were acting!

"Move the left leg! Left leg! Now, swing the right arm! Right leg next! REMEMBER NOT TO BREATHE!" Eden led the three other Astral Souls to orchestrate Wei Wuyin's sprint.

"Oops!" Ori exclaimed as she regulated Wei Wuyin's bodily balance to sustain his condition, such as moisture, heat, and bio-electrical impulses through lightning. Unfortunately, she caused Wei Wuyin to instinctively breathe in as he shuttled through a storm of hellfire around the 200,000th step. The hellfire rushed into his lungs to burn them to a crisp, influencing his heart which remained one of the few constants of his endlessly healing body.

"King!" Eden shouted urgently.

King's Omega Saber Soul Light flared out as it rushed into the heart, causing the grayish heart to violently throb as it entered. Using the annihilative properties of Omega Saber Soul Light, King handled the excess hellfire to prevent it from overwhelming Wei Wuyin and unintentionally killing Kratos.

"Sorry!" Ori said earnestly. Unfortunately, the hellfire was becoming increasingly pervasive and kept infiltrating Wei Wuyin's lungs. While these lungs were burnt, they hadn't been incinerated into nothingness but melted away instead. Then, the Mark of Eden would revitalize these melted organs while under Ori's Wood Origin Growth properties and Eden's ability of transformation and fusion would reshape it. As such, every burnt lung was always his original lung.

This was an incredibly complex process that Wei Wuyin, no, a peak Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivator, wouldn't be able to perform with their limited conscious thought. The entire process required the Spirits of Cultivation's near-instantaneous ability to react and manipulate their powers without obstructions while being able to perform their jobs independently. Eden led the three others, managed the Mark of Eden, and assisted the regrowth process.

Ori was tasked with stabilizing Wei Wuyin's physical condition and handling the regrowth process.

King eradicated any excess hellfire and blade light that invaded vital areas that could affect the brain, heart, genitalia, or Outer Shell of the Soul.

Kratos controlled the body's movements! Without its incredible effort, Wei Wuyin would be standing still, unable to think with a blade embedded into his brain! He might as well be dead!

Wei Wuyin had complete trust in his four Astral Souls!

Long ago, Wei Wuyin had learned a little about the Calamities of Hell, obtaining slight clues from that Heavenly Seer that followed Long Chen—Ming Shufeng. Since then, he's been plotting this exact strategy with continuous practice!

Furthermore, Wen Mingna had allowed him to make it less of a race to the finish line with unknown variables to a race with all variables known and able to devise appropriate strategies. It was her amazing gift of knowledge that allowed Wei Wuyin to have 100% confidence in overcoming this Calamity of Hell! Moreover, he was striving to conquer it!

400,000 Steps!

The heat at the moment was at such a level that Wei Wuyin's bones were melted liquid after exiting the various storms. If it wasn't for him tethering the blade to his brain, it would've returned to its home and, after a certain number of steps, would have grown stronger and cut with an even greater ferocity! If it did, just once, Wei Wuyin wouldn't be able to stop it from ending his life! Unlike normal Sinner Souls experiencing the cleansing of Hell, Wei Wuyin was here via the Bloodline of Sin's profound powers, and Hell would eradicate him if he failed!

True death!

The Calamities of Hell weren't meant to be survived! They were meant to be resisted!

600,000!

Wei Wuyin hadn't even exceeded the 1% mark, but the blazing heat was so unbearably intense that each time Wei Wuyin leaped out of these maelstroms of hellfire, he would be in a semi-melted state. If it weren't for his Astral Souls ensuring his bones didn't drip off him in their liquefied state, he would've long become a puddle! Of course, this was his physical body, and hellfire was meant to target Souls. If not for this characteristic, Wei Wuyin's body wouldn't have the slightest chance of survival.

Mark of Eden!

By the 1,000,000th step, the Mark of Eden was carrying Wei Wuyin's survival by itself! The seemingly endless amounts of lifeforce were poured out at lightspeed, swiftly repairing the damage that was inflicted by the melting storms. One second, Wei Wuyin was a mostly melted skeleton, and the next second, he was completely normal with a three-foot blade embedded into his skull!

Again! Again! Again!

3,000,000 steps!

The Second Mind was no longer howling; it simply twitched erratically as it lay there in his Sea of Consciousness. The Second Mind's manifestation was highly unstable as it shifted from Wei Wuyin's human form to a mass of mental energy as swiftly as a flick of a light. Whenever it returned to its human form, it violently clutched its head as its mouth was wide open, yet no screams could be heard!

However, it held on!

It had to!

Should it fail to feel the pain for Wei Wuyin, then Wei Wuyin's Primary Mind would have to feel the pain, and not just Wei Wuyin would be affected but the four Astral Souls as well. Without the Astral Souls' delicately precise control over the recovery of his body, it would've long since been destroyed and his soul exposed, cleansed out of existence soon afterward.

No more Wei Wuyin.

No more Second Mind.

No more anything.

10,000,000 steps!

30,000,000 steps!

50,000,000 steps!

"AAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!" The howl returned! The Second Mind was only a lump of mental energy at this point, teetering at the edge of complete dispersion, yet it howled! This wasn't out of pain, albeit the pain had reached a point where death felt sweet and comfy, but it was a howl of sheer unyielding willpower!

70,000,000 steps!

At this point, Wei Wuyin would become an amalgamation of melted bone, brain, heart, and genitalia! Each time he left a hellfire storm, he was a lump of remnant material that was no more than two feet tall with a blade stabbing through it. If it wasn't for the silvery light that glowed ferociously on the surface of this lump, it would have been impossible to tell it apart from the flames.

Then, his Mark of Eden would roar to life, and his flesh, bone, and blood would return as good as new! With the little time he had, he propelled himself forward before his foot melted entirely.

Wei Wuyin hadn't calculated that each time his body melted and regrew that his body would experience a type of metallic-like tempering that gave exceptional stability of shape and form! In fact, his body was growing resistant to hellfire and its absurdly high temperature! While having a fleshy body had its advantages, he couldn't fly in this strange dimension and felt incomparably heavy. If he was a soul, he would've been a hundred times faster!

100,000,000!!!

If the blade wasn't lodged into him, if it returned to the Agonized Road Dimension and grew stronger, Wei Wuyin's life would've been over in an instant! Even if he wanted to run to escape its edge, he simply wouldn't be fast enough. Only a True Soul of Sin with an Outer Shell of an existence at or beyond the Realm of Sages would have a chance of survival, and that depended on the level of progression their True Soul Refinement had reached!

Wei Wuyin was unaware of just how many Bloodline of Sin Inheritors had fallen to this Calamity of Hell! Those who were stronger than him, those who were more talented than him, and those who had far more Karmic Encounters than him! But they fell!

On this Agonized Road, they fell.

107,999,999!

The last step!

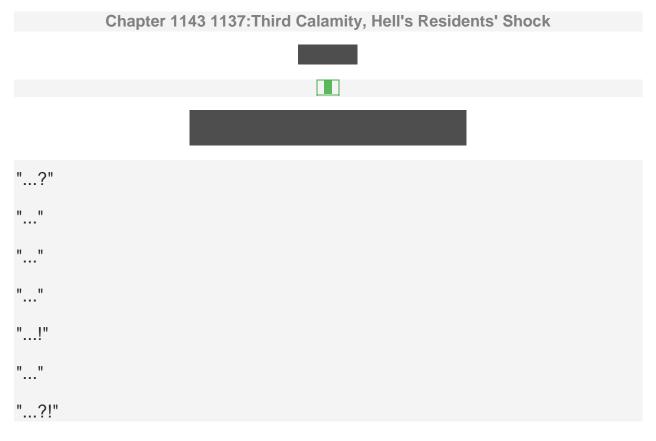
Wei Wuyin landed as the Mark of Eden dimmed considerably.

It didn't dim because of the lack of lifeforce; no, the Mark of Eden's reserves of lifeforce was indescribably vast. Wei Wuyin had to have expended at least tens of millions of years of unrefined lifeforce strands, yet he could feel that the Mark of Eden's reserves were still over half-full! It had dimmed because its job was over!

Wei Wuyin stood at the end of the Agonized Road; the blade embedded into his skull dissipated, the hellfire storms vanished, and the Agonized Road rapidly cooled into an inactive state.

Wei Wuyin stood upright without a scrap of cloth, infected by an unseen aura of pride and accomplishment. He looked back at the Agonized Road. It was extremely quiet.

PARAGON OF SIN



"?!?!"

"!!!!"

The spectators hovering beneath the looming shadow of immeasurableness remained silent from beginning to end. Initially, the crimson-winged figure was about to speak, seeing Wei Wuyin walk forth, feeling that with a Mortal Soul, this decision was the nail that'd seal this Sinful Pride's fate. And yet, before he could utter a single word, he found the abnormality of Wei Wuyin's slow trek on the long stretch of the Agonized Road.

Despite his stable and sturdy steps, the Agonized Road Dimension had not generated any Soul Absolving Mist! The rules of the Agonized Road Dimension were inviolable, and should any type of agony be felt by those trudging through it, they would have to face the Soul Absolving Mist's cleansing power that Wei Wuyin feared. It would tether to the soul of the inflicted, consuming itself to thoroughly cleanse the soul of any Sin or Karma gained through their lifetime. Then, they would be sent forward anew through Samsara, making their way to the Yellow River.

He wasn't the only one to notice, which sent everyone into a bout of confusion. They watched quietly, refusing to miss even a moment as they attempted to deduce what was happening.

Was he severing his sensation of pain? No! The Agonized Road Dimension ensured that should pain occur, it must be felt. It was a very vague rule, likely with questionable loopholes, but not for a single person. This was a tried and tested method!

Pain must be felt—this rule was inviolable.

So how?

These observers wouldn't be shaken if this was a typical Inheritor of Sin. Some beings could traverse tens of thousands of steps before feeling the slightest wisp of pain, instigating the cleansing powers of Hell to act, but this was a mortal! A mere mortal!

But when Wei Wuyin dodged the Blade of Mountains, a heavy weight that pressed the soul of any Sinner, cutting their defenses should they refuse to courageously rush forward and then slice towards them endlessly! Also, the blade's size would continuously grow with each subsequent strike until it could cover the entire Agonized Road Dimension!

Countless have fought valiant battles with the Blade of Mountains, enduring the endless storms of hellfire while resisting its continuous attempts to pierce them!

However, they were once again stricken with shock! Wei Wuyin was consumed by a storm of hellfire, but not a single ounce of Soul Absolving Mist was released! Not a single WISP!

They stared intently as the atmospheric aura of the vast space outside tensed.

4,000 steps!

Not. A. Single. Wisp.

How? Wei Wuyin's body was literally melting at this point while hellfire scorched his bones!

HUM!

The second strike of the Blade of Mountains was unleashed, a tad bit heavier, a little bit larger, and certainly sharper than the previous attack! When it pierced Wei Wuyin's glabella, they all felt as if the world made sense once again. If this mortal could resist the Blade of Mountains, they would have to question if the Agonized Road Dimension was malfunctioning!

It was finally over...

...or so they thought.

Wei Wuyin, with the Blade of Mountains embedded into his glabella, piercing into his mortal brain, began to run! He ran! And ran! And RAN! They witnessed the unbelievable as a mortal rushed forward across the hellscape of the Agonized Road, continuously burned by storms of increasingly violent hellfire while keeping the Blade of Mountains entrapped by his head.

Impossible!

Insane!

Genius?

They saw as the Blade of Mountains, a progressively insidious part of the Agonized Road, was restrained by this ingenious tactic, leaving their minds throbbing with disbelief and thundering shock. They didn't even know THIS was possible!

The rules of the Agonized Road were inviolable. This included the process of progression, and for the Blade of Mountains to eventually grow into a blade as great as the Agonized Road Dimension itself, it needed a natural progression, an accumulation of power that followed a set pattern. This pattern was disrupted and thus led to the Blade of Mountains' unchanging state despite this mortal traversing hundreds of thousands of steps!

The hellfire followed this logic, but hellfire was more effective towards things related to the soul than towards the physical body. Moreover, they discovered an irregularity as Wei Wuyin kept being melted down into an indistinguishable lump of molten flesh, bone, and organs.

The faintest aura of inexhaustible eternity exuded from his body, ensuring that Wei Wuyin's physical body could survive for the briefest of moments as its utmost limits were reached. This aura would normally be obliterated after the slightest stress placed upon it after its limit was reached, but every time, without fail, in the most timely manner, Wei Wuyin's body would recover and push that line back once again!

It didn't take long for this to continue until 107,999,999 steps had been reached by this mortal, leading to the conclusion of the Agonized Road Dimension's Calamity!

They watched as the Sinful Pride Mortal looked back upon his conquest, silently absorbing his experiences. There was a clear light of pride within his eyes, the pride of accomplishment and satisfaction after completing an arduous task!

Wei Wuyin took that final step.

108,000,000!

"He finished." The looming shadow's soul-piercing voice declared, causing the wings of those observers to all tremble slightly out of disbelief. "Send him back." The titanic shadow commanded, mechanically and automated-like as always.

The silver-winged and crimson-winged figures glanced at each other, awe raging in their hearts. Wei Wuyin had made it through the entire Agonized Road without generating a single strand of cleansing power! They had never witnessed this before—NEVER!

They wanted to speak, but one of the Infinite arms of the shadow moved slightly, and they immediately acted without exchanging a single word. They placed each other's hands together, interlocking fingers, and emanated two lights from their wings, one jet-black, and the other bright-white, which released a harmonized aura that merged profoundly.

Wei Wuyin was sent back.

But they knew that this Sinful Pride Mortal would one day return.

Wei Wuyin's body returned to the cocoon, and his consciousness was once again plunged into a fuzzy state. However, on his right arm, a sinful light flickered as the Bloodline of Sin tattoo began to change!

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Claimed - 3/3.

Claimed! Wei Wuyin hadn't experienced any agony under the rules of the Agonized Road, essentially conquering pain itself!

In the first Calamity of Hell, Wei Wuyin hadn't overcome loss but had outright ignored it. This was why he was given the rating of 'survived'! But in the Second Calamity, he defeated regret. He sought to overcome it in his own way, and while he had suffered from the cleansing power twice, he had eventually conquered it!

This Third Calamity revolved around withstanding pain, but not entirely; it was about experiencing agony and fear of pain, inducing cleansing power in response. This was far more complex than simply withstanding pain, and Wei Wuyin had conquered experiencing agony in the face of hellish pain or death and showed no hesitation as he rushed forward fearlessly for 108,000,000 steps. In this way, he conquered the Third Calamity of Hell!

While Wei Wuyin had abused several loopholes in the vague rules of the Third Calamity, he had found those loopholes and could abuse them. This was enough for the Agonized Road Dimension to be 'claimed'.

Unfortunately, Wei Wuyin couldn't yet tap into the advantages of claiming a Calamity of Hell. At least not all of the benefits.

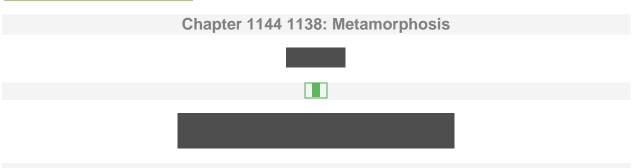
Karmic Luck Value: $41,132.3 \rightarrow 95,372.3!$

"In six months, we will strike." Within a Shadow Egg somewhere within the Sealed Regions, Yun Che, the Evil Blessed, stood amongst numerous other uniformed Ascended as they stared at a tall, violet-robed masked figure.

"For Trueborn!" The violet-robed figure shouted.

"FOR TRUEBORN!" Yun Che and the other Ascended beings echoed passionately!

PARAGON OF SIN



"Kree!"

In the last couple of months, Bai Lin guarded Wei Wuyin's cocoon. At random times, she would caress the squishy texture of the cocoon with her wings, hugging it gently while softly releasing clarion cries that she hoped he could hear. It was all so he'd know that she was here, that she wouldn't go anywhere.

Entrusted with this important task, she diligently and dutifully guarded his body and soul. She wouldn't even allow those persistent women that kept coming to visit anywhere close nor touch the cocoon. They were even unable to send their Spiritual Sense near. Even when Wu Yu returned with a bevy of talents and subordinates, Bai Lin refused to allow the Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn access. She cried out domineeringly, with wisps of Nirvanic Flames surging across the walls, floor, and ceiling to the point where Wu Yu was forced to retreat. He could only act on his own, and by Wu Baozhai's suggestion, those talents were all led to the Eternal Monarch Sect to continue their cultivation until further notice.

While the Eternal Monarch Sect was still based on New Everlore within the Everlore Domain, a uniquely constructed World Realm produced by Wu Yu and a few other Earthly Saints had become their true home. Members stayed there while various formations drew over greater quantities of the Aeternal Sky Solar Star's Solar Essence and refined it to higher levels.

The last nine years since the end of the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit had been the greatest foundation-building period of the Eternal Monarch Sect since its inception. Under Wu Baozhai's leadership, the sect was growing with no signs of losing momentum. There were avid discussions of relocation, moving the Eternal Monarch Sect to one of the lower-ranked Starfields to establish themselves. Eventually, they might have an Eternal Monarch Starfield!

Wu Baozhai's ambitions were clear. Suitable locations had already been scoured and selected, and it was merely a matter of resources, timing, and ability. With the Everlore Association distracted by their joint-concoction efforts, Wu Baozhai sought to seize the initiative to make a clean breakaway, especially considering the recent conflicts between Golden Life Pavilion and, by extension—Wei Wuyin and the Everlore Association.

The Original Dawn Palace soon became quiet, empty, and peaceful as the seven beauties were taken away by Wu Yu despite their protests, leaving only Bai Lin and the cocooned Wei Wuyin. Like this, months passed.

Since Wei Wuyin took the Neo-Dawn Paragon-Forging Pill, eight months came and went. Since entering the Third Calamity, a total of five months had

passed. It was at this time that the cocoon that housed Wei Wuyin's body began to tremble.

"Kree?" Bai Lin was instantly alerted, her golden eyes flaring with radiant excitement. She could feel the mental connection between them growing stronger by the moment, and even her phoenix blood was stimulated. Wei Wuyin was waking up!

Her excitement was not without payoff; Wei Wuyin's right hand moved, pressing firmly against the squishy exterior of the cocoon. Then, his left hand pressed beside it. With a movement of his fingers, the cocoon was dug into until enough force was applied and—

RIP!

Wei Wuyin pulled apart the cocoon! A gushing flow of embryonic liquid spewed out alongside his naked body. He rolled on the floor, only stopped by Bai Lin's gentle wings blocking his path. After escaping the cocoon, Wei Wuyin coiled into a fetal position, seemingly like a newborn baby, as his breath came exceptionally slowly as if unaccustomed to his lungs.

"Wei Wuyin!" Bai Lin called out gently, using their mental connection. Wei Wuyin's body slightly quivered in response, clearly having heard and understood the emotions carried by her message. Unfortunately, his eyes were closed shut, and his limbs were stiff.

Wei Wuyin's limbs kept trembling as if he was trying to summon the strength to move them but to no avail. This kept happening for at least twenty seconds until his fingers moved. The fingers were just the start as the toes began to wiggle. Bai Lin was unable to understand, but Wei Wuyin's physique had changed entirely, including the pathways of his nervous system and bodily process. He was initially finding it difficult to adjust, only finding some success with careful experimentation. His movements of escaping his cocoon were instinctual and without conscious control, as if performed by a profound law managing the process, and it was this instinctual process that helped to serve as a basis for Wei Wuyin to adjust and understand how his physique functioned.

Wei Wuyin's entire body had transformed; the average mortal could have as many as a quadrillion synapses and a hundred billion neurons, but Wei Wuyin's neurological structure had vastly exceeded that, having nearly eighty quintillion synapses and a hundred trillion neurons, all extremely condensed and individually far more effective than the largest potential neuron of a mortal!

This was merely the start.

Wei Wuyin, however, was entirely focused on adapting to this significant change, especially the divergent pathways of his nervous system, clearly forged in a way that perfected the inherent flaws of a human. Soon, he found the outlet to breathe.

"Huuu! Haaa!" Every exhale and inhale felt extremely precious, and his birth contained a unique type of Nascent Energy that was only found in babies. If Wei Wuyin's bone age were to be measured, he would be one day old. Fortunately, cultivators inspected Spiritual Aura to determine the age of other cultivators, lest Wei Wuyin be mistaken for a toddler in the coming days.

Slowly, Wei Wuyin opened his eyes, once again blessing the world with his silver irises. Bai Lin grew increasingly excited!

"Wei Wuyin! Are you okay?" She asked as she carefully approached.

Wei Wuyin's silver eyes roamed about until he pressed his arms against the floor, slowly moving to his palms and lifting his body until he stood upright. Soon, he grasped all the motor functions of this newly established nervous system. He knew that this was a sign of physique change—Mind! Qing Qiumu had a Violet Forestry Palace of the Psyche, a type of innatelyborn talent. This was reflected by her mental connection with plant life, wood energies, and wood essences, and if one surgically extracted her brain, they would find that the Violet Forestry Palace was a unique set of neurons in her brain that affected her Sea of Consciousness to allow this to be possible.

There were Alchemic Products that could change the composition of the brain, granting certain unique psyches like this, but they were incredibly dangerous to refine. Wei Wuyin didn't dare to do so because while the Alchemic Dao was limitless unless the alchemist had an in-depth understanding of the Mind Dao and anatomy, it was best not to consume products devised by other alchemists in this field. There were endless examples of products rotated out due to how they affected the mind and even prevented cultivators from manipulating their Spirits of Cultivation.

There was a recommended warning on products like this across the board: ONLY use on non-cultivators, preferably infants. Essentially, those who've yet formed their Spirits of Cultivation or whose bodies have yet to fully adapt to their minds.

Wei Wuyin knew that his current change of neurological structure meant his physique-establishment pill had bestowed him with some kind of Psyche Talent, but he was unable to pinpoint its exact qualities. This wasn't the only thing that had changed within him; Wei Wuyin's meridians had changed, effusing the faintest silvery glow that possessed an aura of inexhaustible eternity that he had felt before.

While it wasn't the same, having an additional air of eternity, the aura of inexhaustibility was the same as what the Renewal Physiques possessed! At the very least, the Neo-Dawn Paragon-Forging Pill had accomplished his intentions, especially seeing how his Primary Light Source, Bloodline Source,

Primal Yang Source, and the other sources of his cultivation base were all emitting similar auras!

HE DID IT!

He closed his eyes as a wave of indescribable relief flowed through his newly established fleshy body, clenching his fist with a sense of pride. Decades of effort had paid off! It was a feeling that very, very few would ever feel, especially among the Mortal Dao.

"Your skin looks like a baby's," Bai Lin said as she gently moved her head to rub against Wei Wuyin's clenched fist. She could see how fresh Wei Wuyin's skin looked.

Wei Wuyin found the sequence of nerve signals to his lips, controlling it as he attempted a smile. He actually formed a grin! He was adapting extremely quickly, but he still had much to learn.

Habitually, after concluding the success of his pill, he opened his eyes and shifted his head to glance at his right arm to find that the Bloodline of Sin was still present. His heart began to race slightly.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Claimed - 3/3.

Fourth Calamity: Suppressed - 49 Years.

Karmic Luck Value: 95,372.3.

His Karmic Luck had doubled! The increase was nearly quadruple what the Second Calamity had given him! Additionally, this confirmed that his method of passing the Third Calamity was enough to conquer it! As he reveled in his success, he received a hectic, choppy message from his Sea of Consciousness. Shaken, he hurriedly entered to find his Second Mind had transformed into a mass of mental energies. Shockingly, however, this mass was absolutely freaking titanic!

While his Sea of Consciousness was massive by ordinary standards, it covered about a third of the space and stayed at the edge, seemingly fearful of crushing the Palace of Eden or Eden's Astral Core. It wiggled weirdly as Enlightened Scholarly Mist was exuding out in large quantities, only to be reassimilated shortly after. A process that kept increasing the Second Mind's mass!

"Is this Mental Deviation?" Wei Wuyin was thunderstruck, but he didn't hesitate to act. While normally, one should be cautious when finding such a disturbing thing, the message he received was one for help! It begged for HELP! Wei Wuyin's mental incarnation hastily re-established his Soul's connection with his Second Mind's manifestation, once more becoming one, as this was the only way t9 understand and assist.

Then, uncontrollably, he began to feel every...last...feeling!

EVERYTHING!

EVERY LAST OUNCE OF PAIN!!!

AGONIZING, SOUL-RIPPING, BLADE-SPLITTING PAIN!!!

His Primary Mind's manifestation instantly exploded into a mass of mental energy!

PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1145 1139:Two Fire Calamity

"Guh!" Wei Wuyin instantly fell to the floor with a heavy, resounding thud, his voice spewing chaotic mutterings and ramblings. Froth formed at the edge of his lips, and his body twisted oddly. Even his eyes rolled backward.

"Master!" Bai Xiu instantly manifested from her slumber within the Neo-Dawn Ascension Cauldron with an expression smeared with anxiety and fear. She hovered over Wei Wuyin's seizing body, unsure of what to do as her hands and body were shivering.

"AH!" She tried to connect with Wei Wuyin through their mental connection but received a backlash that caused her to wail in agony, her spiritual form shimmered on the verge of collapse, and she slumped back into the Neo-Dawn Ascension Cauldron as a defensive mechanism of self-preservation, severing her connection to all things.

Bai Xiu had felt great, hell-raising, soul-rending pain that was indescribable. The moment they formed a connection, Bai Xiu begged for the sweet relief of death. This was something she hadn't ever sought or thought about before, knowing full well that Spiritforms were practically immortal existences without a lifespan or soulspan; they existed as long as their Daos remained.

Currently, the internal activity within Wei Wuyin's body and mind was extreme to the limit. His neurons were firing at a rate that even Ascended beings wouldn't have been able to endure, with their psyche collapsing by now, but the trait of inexhaustibility born from the Neo-Dawn Paragon-Forging Pill activated and maintained their stability and core structure.

"Kree!" Bai Lin cried out in panic. In that panic, she gingerly used her wings to hold Wei Wuyin, unleashing her Nirvanic Flames with pure, bursting life energy to envelop him. Wei Wuyin's seizing body didn't stop despite her attempts to placate his condition. Unaware of the cause of it, she could only unsparingly exert her Nirvanic Flames life-infusing to their limits.

Wei Wuyin's condition hadn't improved, but something within him did react!

Years ago, Wei Wuyin faced Trueborn as they launched an operation to seize Yue Songli. In the process, he learned about their self-detonation mechanism, including its nemesis—Nirvanic Flames. As a result, he decided to cultivate Nirvanic Flames to better equip himself against them. Ma Zheng had once studied the Blazing Unity of Twin Flames Method's Phoenix portion and passed on the method to cultivate Nirvanic Flame Intent, a Unique Intent.

Shortly after acquiring the method, Wei Wuyin discovered that he was unable to cultivate it largely due to missing the Vermillion Physique Cultivation Method that enabled the safe birth of Nirvanic Flames Intent without the risk. This wasn't an issue that had a complex solution. Wei Wuyin concluded that after his Earth-Refined Astral Physique form, the properties of his Elemental Origin Starforce would grant him the ability to do so.

Due to placing it aside, Wei Wuyin sealed a condensed drop of Bai Lin's Essence Blood inside his Dantian, kept under control by Ori's Astral Core in the hopes of using a fusion method to merge the Essence Blood into Ori's Star Core Formation. Even during the metamorphosis, the drop of Essence Blood remained sealed.

Ori, King, Kratos, and Eden were all connected to Wei Wuyin's Primary Mind, so the backlash from the hell-rising agony that he felt was violently sent into them, causing their Astral Souls to fiercely distort and their Astral Cores to experience intensely brutal quakings that led to surface fractures! The drop of condensed Essence Blood reacted to Bai Lin's actions, no longer actively sealed, and escaped! Ori's Astral Core was instantly ignited with Nirvanic Flames! They flowed across the Dantian—its home, but the Essence Blood no longer contained Bai Lin's gentle will, defaulting to incineration due to existing in a foreign body!

Wei Wuyin's Dantian glowed with scarlet-golden light! If it wasn't for the faint silvery glow of inexhaustibility preserving his Dantian's existence, keeping the Nirvanic Flames trapped in a cage, Wei Wuyin's recently forged physique would've ignited into ash.

Despite its often energetic and chaotic personality, Ori was one of the most stable of the four Astral Souls. Ori was the first, after all. In terms of soul connection with Wei Wuyin, it was the strongest that not even Kratos and Eden could match. Furthermore, it was the most reliable!

With the utmost haste, Ori exerted her spiritual strength to instantly push King's Astral Core out of Wei Wuyin, forcefully externalizing it as the Nirvanic Flames encroached. Despite being similarly plagued by the chaotic implosion of Wei Wuyin's minds, its reaction was exceptionally swift to the point that she acted before the Dantian went aflame.

Whoosh!

King externalized!

It incessantly trembled beside Wei Wuyin as Bai Lin enveloped it with her gentle, life-infusing Nirvanic Flames. While Wei Wuyin's newly refined physique could resist the incineration might of the Nirvanic Flames, this was only temporary, as the inexhaustibility of its structure had a limit, as all things did.

Ori continued to act; it exuded Elemental Shifting Soul Light by the ocean-full, pouring all it could into Wei Wuyin's Dantian as it tried to seize control of the rampant Nirvanic Flames by exerting control over its fire principles. Ori

flooded Wei Wuyin's entire body as a safety precaution! It needed to step up and ensure that Wei Wuyin and its siblings didn't die today!

SIZZZZZ!!!

Wei Wuyin's flailing increased as a familiar burning sound resounded; it originated from his bones! Not only had Bai Lin caused her Essence Blood to react with good intentions, but Ori had also similarly caused something else latent, yet to dissipate, to react as well!

Wei Wuyin's body glowed with a fiery dark light that was as black as night yet as brilliant as the stars in the vast Dark Void.

HELLFIRE!

From within his bones, Hellfire was born anew by Ori's Elemental Shifting Soul Light, prodding its soul and fire properties all at once. With time, the Hellfire would've been naturally refined, but Ori's Elemental Shifting Soul Light was incredibly special in its way of instigating infinite transformations and endless permutations of the elements, including awakening and suppressing!

The Nirvanic Flames' might of incineration might be heavily suppressed, but Hellfire's soul-burning properties went awry!

"!!!" All three Astral Souls painfully screamed, Ori included, as Wei Wuyin's entire bone structure ignited violently with Hellfire affecting his brain, heart, and Dantian. One problem was dealt with, and another arose! Ori lost itself, unable to control her Soul Light. Spiraling out of control, both Nirvanic Flames and Hellfire verged on complete chaos, and should they happen, Wei Wuyin was finished.

They all were.

"Tch!" King had been pushed out by Ori, saved from the incineration and soulburning might of the two flames, and while the excruciating mental pain that Wei Wuyin felt still affected it, the screaming cries of its siblings had caused its spirit to gather together with urgency, regaining clarity of self.

"By my edge, all things end!" King ferociously roared out its greatest mantra of will, what defined its Saber Will, and forcefully unleashed its Omega Saber Soul Light to sever his and Wei Wuyin's mental connection! Instantly, it freed itself from the agony, only capable of hearing the soul-rending screams of its siblings at this point.

"Tch!" Seeing the predicament they were in, King was not an Astral Soul who panicked or stalled out! As an Omega Saber, it acted! While it wasn't as versatile as Eden, Kratos, or Ori, it had something none of them had: AN EDGE! Its Astral Core exuded a faint Spiritual Light with profound Saber Intent, unleashing its strongest saber!

Its target?

Eden!

While it had its edge, it wasn't stupid to believe it could solve this issue. So it brought an end to Eden's mental connection with Wei Wuyin, severing their bond, and this caused Eden to instinctively externalize. The Astral Core shot out of Wei Wuyin's glabella, enveloped in Hellfire. Seeing this, King didn't hesitate to strike out once again! It attacked the hellfire and, by its annihilating principles, as it had done many, many times in the Calamity of Blade and Fire, destroyed it!

Eden was instantly freed from the dual affliction of mental implosion and Hellfire.

"Eden!" King exclaimed.

If Ori was the most reliable, then Eden was irrefutably the most responsible and an innately gifted problem-solver. While it was the third sibling born, it acted with the poise of the eldest sibling and often was the main contributor to their planned chaotic antics that caused Wei Wuyin to nearly die again and again. Of course, they were all from the same soul, so innately, they all had the nature of an Exploitative Blessed!

"This?!" Eden spun with endless cracks on its surface, which spewed out astral force and alchemic eden energies like wild.

"No!" Of course, despite its escape, the situation hadn't been solved or even remotely close to being over. While Eden was now free, King's actions led to Wei Wuyin's mind losing a safeguard and layer of stability. If it weren't for Eden and the Heavenly War Spirit working in unison when Wei Wuyin's Primary Mind collapsed, both Secondary and Primary Minds of Wei Wuyin would've long since exploded.

But it knew that King's action wasn't wrong; unfortunately, it needed to act quickly! With a constant gushing flow of its Seven Source Soul Light, it began to pour all it had into Wei Wuyin's glabella, entering his Sea of Consciousness, and providing aid that it couldn't have before due to Hellfire's soul-burning and suppressing might! The rate at which both minds exploded and reformed due to their Enlightened Scholarly Mist had slowed down considerably. The situation had somewhat stabilized, but only temporarily, and Eden knew that!

A band-aid wasn't a solution.

"What do I need to do?!" King asked urgently, his Astral Core exuding ferocious saber light.

"..." Eden didn't respond, trying to think while sending stabilizing power into Wei Wuyin's Sea of Consciousness. One of its thoughts was to forcefully externalize the other two Astral Souls, but given Wei Wuyin's current situation of unregulated control, doing so would instigate a Cultivation Deviation Event. If Wei Wuyin exploded, none of them would survive. Then, it saw how Ori's Soul Light interacted with the Nirvanic Flames and Hellfire despite Ori's agonizing screams. While it wasn't suppressing it, the flames weren't burning it either. Hellfire was capable of burning and suppressing souls, it was designed for that purpose, but Ori's Elemental Shifting Soul Light wasn't burning! It wasn't affected!

"Orianna! Do you hear me?!" Eden sent Ori a message but received no reply. It could only push through and hope, "You need to absorb all Elemental Energy around you, Ori! Absorb it! ABSORB ALL OF IT!"

After understanding Eden's intent, King also exclaimed, "TAKE IT ALL!"

Ori's fractured Astral Core trembled violently.

If Kratos was the most domineering, if King was the most decisive, if Eden was the most responsible, then Ori was the most RELIABLE!

PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1146 1140: Purpose; Ori's Transformation



Absorb!

Ori heard their shouts loud and clear; it harnessed its greatest strength, exerting a kind of exceptional spiritual will of affinity and control over the elements—all elements! Trusting its siblings' orders, despite the agonizing pain and heart-throbbing fear that it felt, an extraordinary suction force erupted from its Astral Core!

Every iota of elemental energy present stirred, especially the innate energies within Wei Wuyin, even those that laid dormant after refining his physical cells,

especially the Hellfire imbued within Wei Wuyin's bones and Nirvanic Flames emanating from Bai Lin's condensed drop of Essence Blood. These energies began to flow into Ori's Elemental Origin Core at a stupendously fast pace. In the blink of an Ascended's eye, Wei Wuyin was sucked almost entirely dry.

His body was extracted of all its latent and innate water energies, transforming his newly forged physique into a disturbing example of a desiccated corpse; everything, including his body heat and the icy aura, was siphoned out. In the briefest of times, he resembled a long-deceased corpse; he wasn't even breathing.

The air in his lungs had been stripped too, and all the ambient atmospheric gas in the room was sucked entirely toward Wei Wuyin. The Original Dawn Palace was heavily fortified by Elemental Forces and proceeded to collapse with Wei Wuyin as the epicenter.

The glorious palace couldn't last one second before all of it was sucked into Wei Wuyin! Fortunately, only Bai Lin and Wei Wuyin were present. The latter enveloped Wei Wuyin protectively despite her body experiencing an unfathomable degree of discomfort! Bai Lin was a Fire Phoenix—an literal Embodiment of Flames, and her innate energies were being siphoned all the same. Despite her terrifying strength, the desperate suction power of Ori was unstoppable!

It didn't stop at the Original Dawn Palace!

The beginning of a Stellar Region was prompted by an explosion of profound laws, and of those laws beneath the heavens, the laws of the Nine Elements were crucial. The Heavens could not do without it! The Mortal Dao thrived on it! Ori's desperation and single-mindedness to follow its siblings' orders were driven to the point of madness as it tapped into a latent potential that was terrifically divine!

It was said that Elemental Origin Energy, true Elemental Origin Energy, only existed at the beginnings of a Stellar Region and that it could be found no other way. Shortly after a Stellar Region's initial formation, the Elemental Origin Energy would have already divided itself into profound and exceptional proportions, creating Solar Stars, Planets, Lunar Satellites, and other types of Celestial Bodies. This was commonly known, and yet it was incorrect.

It was incorrect to say that true Elemental Origin Energy only existed at the 'birth' of a Stellar Region; it always existed because it was the foundation by which the Stellar Region thrived!

Ori's suction began to spread out to lengths that went far beyond what Wei Wuyin's Spiritual Sense could reach. As if summoned by an Imperial Edict, the Elemental Origin Energy of the Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region, every ounce of it, began to heed Ori's call! EVERY LAST BIT!

"Kree?!" Bai Lin's body quivered as she felt the Dark Void warp, twist, and distort until signs of a vortex of white mist began to form with her at the center. Her heart raced as she witnessed a magical sight. Twinkling lights manifested within the white mist, resembling the starry night skies she would often see from a planet's surface, and they flowed around her beautifully.

The Tiangou's ears twitched slightly, but she remained largely unbothered, currently in a state of deep hibernation. However, except for that tiny movement, the Star-Devourer was unaffected by the surging white mist that came from millions of miles in every direction, all gathering into a single location—Wei Wuyin! The purest energies within the deepest folds of the Dark Void began to appear. If a Mystic Overlord had seen this phenomenon, they would be gawking without words!

The heavens governed many laws, and these laws were adapted into various Daos seamlessly. One of these laws, one of the greatest and most essential laws used by the Mortal, Mystic, and Immortal Daos equally, was none other than the Laws of the Elements. This was not a single law but a collection of laws that included but were not limited to, the four basic elements—Water, Earth, Wind, and Fire, and the five advanced elements—Metal, Lightning, Wood, Magma, and Ice. Additionally, there was Light, Darkness, Decay, Rejuvenation, and many, many others.

Even the War Dao included the Laws of the Elements within itself.

However, these collections of Laws were varied, and while they could be comprehended individually, they weren't what Ori was calling upon at this moment. Ori was calling upon the Law that allowed those varied Laws to merge, to have many variations, endless permutations, and countless transformations—the Law of Origin!

It was one of the most abstruse Laws in existence, nearly impossible to come into contact with. However, at this very moment, Ori was doing so!

"What's happening?" King asked as it spun with Omega Saber Light, primed to strike.

Eden was similarly awed by the events happening. It was as if Ori was absorbing, no, as if the entire Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region's innate energies were rushing toward Wei Wuyin out of their own will. "This...? Do you remember this?" Eden asked instead, reveling in the latent will permeating the Stellar Region.

"..." King quietly sensed, and then a splash of saber light later, it shockingly said: "Origin State?"

Eden's Astral Core spun as if nodding, "Origin State! It reminds me of how it felt while we were transforming, this feeling of unity in Spirit."

"But...but it's in everything? Unity of the world?" King was, for the first time, extremely stunned by this discovery. During their Sky Ruler Astral Tribulation, they had transformed from Zenith Mortal State to Zenith Origin State. This was later discovered to be the key component to reach the Heavenly Saint Phase of the Mystic Ascendant Realm, but they had done so largely out of Ori's urging of condensing the Sky-World Lightning! It was the start of their reckless antics to manipulate the Astral Tribulations for their benefit!

If Wei Wuyin knew who was responsible, he wouldn't know whether to praise or berate, surely not whether to laugh or cry, as the siblings took equal blame.

"Not all of it," Eden clarified in awe.

"I can feel Ori's Spiritual Aura everywhere!" King remarked. By now, an absolutely monstrous amount of energy had gathered around Ori, spinning into a vortex no bigger than thirty meters. Wisps of pure white energy flowed after it spun a certain number of times as if expelling out all the impurities.

"Orianna's Spiritual Aura?" Eden questioned, confused. Then, it suddenly shone a glow of seven-colored light. "Divine! It's the Divine Core!" Unlike King, who 'evolved', Ori was still a Divine Soul, and this characteristic allowed it to connect its Spiritual Attributes perfectly with its other qualities, and it seemed to be deeply connected to its Origin State, spreading to all its core powers!

To put it simply, Ori's Divine Soul perfectly connected its Origin State and Elemental Origin Intent, producing this event to which the entire world was reacting! To which the entire world answered its call! It only took three minutes.

The entire Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region had vanished; it became a dead region without anything but Chaos Mana and could no longer be officially classified as a Stellar Region! Even those hidden Solar Stars undergoing the Star Ascension, awaiting their chances to be born in this region, began to move away to a proper Stellar Region by the heavens.

The Mortal Dao, Mystic Dao, and Immortal Dao abandoned it.

Shockingly, the Tiangou grew increasingly relaxed. Her breathing steadier and less forceful. Bai Lin similarly felt strange. She didn't know how to describe it.

While this was happening, Wei Wuyin was writhing in pain, but not waiting to be saved! Moreover, this wasn't something his Astral Souls could save him from. His Primary and Secondary Minds were in extreme agony, and the only way to survive could be described in a single word: Persevere!

Stay alive!

Just stay alive!

Wei Wuyin's Primary Mind manifested into a solid form, shivering in and out as if on the verge of inevitable collapse, but with gritted teeth and shocking mental strength, he accepted the agonizing, soul-rending pain and strode towards his Second Mind with heavy steps that shook his Sea of Consciousness. Eden was currently reinforcing it, so he had some stability, and he used this to approach the growing mass that was his Second Mind.

In its current state, his Second Mind could be described as having acquired a type of Mental Cancer, an amalgamation of stressed mental energies that attacked or was attacked by the standardized, healthy mental energy. It was a fierce battle of trying to either survive the pain or lose oneself to it.

Wei Wuyin soon trudged over and placed his hand on the mass that had already grown to cover half his Sea of Consciousness. Wei Wuyin's plan had ingeniously bypassed the Third Calamity's rule, but it caused his Second Mind to suffer all this unfathomably horrific pain. It was enough to break any mortal mind.

The fact that his Second Mind was still present was evidence of his abnormally terrifying willpower and mental strength that it inherited.

"Give. It. To. Me!" Wei Wuyin cried out, exerting his mental strength to extract the cancerous portions of mental energy from his Second Mind. Of course, there was some resistance from his Second Mind; the last trace of conscious will knew that this action would bring immense damage to Wei Wuyin.

"GIVE IT!" Wei Wuyin's shout boomed throughout his Sea of Consciousness. He didn't have time to explain, but he had devised the Neo-Dawn Paragon-Forging Pill for this exact reason! So that he would never be crippled again! If this continued, his Second Mind would become permanently disabled, if not destroy itself entirely. It knew that mental surgery was impossible! If it could be likened to real life, the Second Mind had terminal cancer across 99% of its body!

"...!" The amalgamation of mental energies twisted and hesitated for a while until Wei Wuyin clawed at it viciously, and then using its last ounce of remaining strength, it began to transfer the experiences to Wei Wuyin! It had to trust itself!

"..." Wei Wuyin closed his eyes, gritted his teeth, and accepted all the cancerous mental energy into his Primary Mind's Incarnation, and then sat down and stayed completely quiet.

Right now, Wei Wuyin was experiencing Hell—quite literally. The slicing pain from the Blade of Mountains and the soul-searing heat of Hellfire were all funneling into his mind.

Wei Wuyin didn't try to resist; Wei Wuyin didn't try to erase it; Wei Wuyin accepted it all!

The countless neurons within his brain were hyperactive, reflecting every ounce of the pain that could make one wish for death! The desiccated, flailing limbs of Wei Wuyin kept going, but despite the horrific experience, the inexhaustible eternity of his newfound physique was unable to be broken!

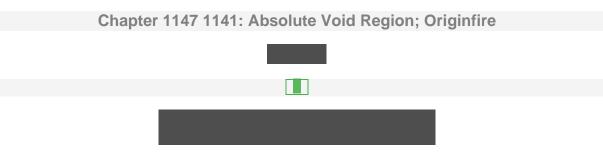
While Wei Wuyin was experiencing such torture, Ori was undergoing its own experience!

A Law Seed had formed!

And its Astral Soul was transforming!

Currently, its Astral Core was surrounded by white flames that contained endless starry light, all its cracks had healed, and it no longer trembled!

PARAGON OF SIN



"It's finally over."

Wei Wuyin comfortably laid against the warm, soft, feathery embrace of Bai Lin as the two floated across the Dark Void that contained no essence or energy, simply Chaos Mana in its purest form. Should the outside world view the once-known region of the Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region, they would see a dark blot of nothingness, absent of life and light.

Even the Tiangou's humongous form would be difficult to sense while immersed in Chaos Mana. However, she was unaffected by the environment change; her breathing had grown smoother, and her body more relaxed.

The last two months were absolute hell for Wei Wuyin, as if he was plunged into a cycle of never-ending pain that originated from his body and mind. The plight of his Second Mind was taken upon himself, shared through their connection. Fortunately, he withstood the terrible agony without shattering his psyche.

In fact, his psyche might have shattered if not for-

"It seems I didn't need either of my plans, thanks to the Neo-Dawn Paragon-Forging Pill's effects," Wei Wuyin gleefully thought as he stayed in Bai Lin's gentle hug. It continuously soothed his slightly trembling body which was still suffering from the aftereffects of the pain.

The newly established physique had circumvented his need for his initial plan or his contingencies. Since the beginning, Wei Wuyin knew that his Second Mind was likely to suffer sequelae from its experiences, including a type of self-imploding degradation. With Eden as his Astral Soul and an Alchemic Eden Astral Soul no less, a Spirit of Cultivation of the Mind Dao, Wei Wuyin was astutely aware of the consequences, and so was his Second Mind.

They understood that for the sake of survival, there was a high chance that his Second Mind might be sacrificed due to the circumstances, and this was something the Second Mind had knowingly accepted. They hadn't expected Wei Wuyin to still be in the process of transforming his physique when the Third Calamity initiated. Wei Wuyin had long since expected his Second Mind to have perished during those months after returning and was unimaginably startled by the Second Mind's manifestation remaining, especially since it was segregated from his soul, unable to harness any of his cultivated power to protect itself. However, much like himself, his Second Mind was intelligent, resourceful, and swiftacting.

It had somehow galvanized the Enlightened Scholarly Mist to maintain itself until Wei Wuyin finished his physique transformation. This allowed Wei Wuyin to deploy their original plan. Wei Wuyin would reconnect their souls, and then both would withstand the pain together, using Ori, King, and Kratos to jointly resist the impact while Eden expelled the sensation from their minds little by little so as to not accumulate the pain into a genuine soul-tearing experience.

The second contingency plan was to sever the Second Mind's quintessential mental strength and re-cultivate it, essentially expelling everything except the most crucial aspects of the Second Mind. It would lose all its accumulated knowledge and be considerably weaker for a long, long time. There were three other contingency plans as well, but after connecting with the Second Mind's cancer-like abnormal state, Wei Wuyin had taken the entirety of the pain at once, a huge unexpected outcome.

But the outcome, nevertheless, had left Wei Wuyin vulnerable. He hadn't expected that the Hellfire that had essentially etched itself into his bones had carried over post-calamity and was reignited by Ori's Soul Light. At the moment, his bones no longer contained any traces of Hellfire, but they were unimaginably pure, vastly different from his grey bones; their translucent crystal-like appearance left him feeling bewildered and awed.

"It was really intense," Wei Wuyin remarked emotionally.

"Sorry," Ori's voice spoke out apologetically.

Wei Wuyin's heart raced slightly from hearing the earnest-sounding self-blame contained within its voice. Ori was partially at fault; it failed to control the Essence Blood of Bai Lin and then caused the Hellfire to ignite within his bones. After all, if Ori hadn't lost control, then Wei Wuyin would've overcome this unexpected calamity with an equal amount of ease as he already had. The perilous sequence of events was unexpected, consisting of various unpredictable circumstances, but that failure had unleashed all of it onto Wei Wuyin, nearly claiming his and the lives of their siblings.

Having said that, Ori had rectified its mistake in a massive way and greatly benefited from the calamity itself. The other portion of the blame was solely upon Wei Wuyin, carelessly connecting with the Second Mind and causing his Astral Souls to suffer heavy consequences that led to it all. They were both twin dominoes that fell at the same time, leading up to this result.

Wei Wuyin could only console Ori by owning up to his mistake: "It's not just your fault; most of it is mine. I panicked at the opportunity to save the Second Mind and didn't think too deeply about the consequences of connecting with its bloated state. I should've slowed down and considered it from more angles, and for that, I nearly got all of us killed." Pausing for a moment, he let loose a sigh of emotional guilt.

"I'm sorry." While they were only two words, Wei Wuyin conveyed all his apologetic feelings without holding anything back. If they had died after surviving the Third Calamity, that would be the biggest joke in the world.

"It's my fault too," Eden echoed their emotions, feeling equally responsible. If it had stayed a little aware, it could've contained the Nirvanic Flames with ease before it could erupt. "I'm sorry."

"Tch," King didn't shy from taking responsibility. It could've annihilated the Essence Blood of Bai Lin with its edge, severing the fuel for the Nirvanic Flames, but it, too, had lost itself in the pain and couldn't react.

"Hmph!" Kratos released a snorting roar, clearly trying to convey that they should feel sorry!

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"..."
"..."
"..."
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Kratos felt all their senses on it; it released a small roar. Bullies, all of them! "Sorry! Happy?" After exploding with its apology, it slunk into the heart with an aggrieved roar. But it knew in its heart that it was in the best position to avert any disaster. As a Draconic Void Astral Soul, capable of grasping Time and Space, and had the greatest number of ways to prevent all of this, it had been the worst out of all of them and hadn't even helped out to solve the crisis.

"Hehe!" Ori giggled. The self-blame within its tone and spirit was completely erased. "It's fine! We all messed up, right? So it's okay because we're all still here!" Ori's words caused the three Astral Souls and Wei Wuyin to pause instantly, stunned by those simple words.

Because we're all here!

Wei Wuyin couldn't help but form a warm, grateful smile. That was right! It didn't matter if they made a mistake; it didn't matter if they barely survived; all that mattered was they were all here—together. It was a simple sentiment, but one that echoed throughout their True Soul.

After talking a little more, the atmosphere between them had returned to a steady normal, absent of guilt or frustration, and they soon focused their attention elsewhere. At that moment, Bai Lin hugged him tightly with her body and two overlaid wings, and she was currently sleeping.

Wei Wuyin's experience had lasted two months before he could extricate himself from the agony and placate the growing mass that was the Second

Mind's manifestation, settling it in the Palace of Eden to recuperate. Bai Lin had never left his side since.

"What is this space?" Wei Wuyin didn't wake Bai Lin, instead focusing on this strange area of only Chaos Mana. Normally, as a mortal, the Dark Chill of the Void would've left him deader than dry wood, but his Mana Dominance of the Origin State and True Void Dragon-Hybrid body allowed him to safely exist alongside Chaos Mana.

This area, however, was inhospitable. The Chaos Mana here was unbearably dense, blocking off all forms of light and Spiritual Sense. Without his Mana Dominance, Wei Wuyin wouldn't be able to sense anything, even with his True Void Dragon's innate senses.

"This Chaos Mana...can an Ascended being survive here?" Wei Wuyin was genuinely curious as the environment felt extremely hazardous. He did not doubt that a Heavenly Saint or a cultivator with an Origin State Spirit of Cultivation, like himself, could survive. Still, the sheer density of Chaos Mana felt abnormally vicious.

While it was purely a feeling, he felt that if he could condense Chaos Mana to this point, he could harm Earthly Saints, perhaps even Worldly Saints. This came from the experience of his alternative self's memories, a genuine Earthly Saint, and certainly not an ordinary one. While the debonair Wei Wuyin had jetted forward in his cultivation, his comprehensive combat strength was toptier amongst Earthly Saints.

"You're finally awake," the Heavenly War Spirit said weakly. Wei Wuyin could feel that it was also affected by the pain, especially since it housed itself at Eden's base. Even Bai Xiu had forcefully entered his Saint Ring after returning to the Neo-Dawn Ascension Cauldron.

"Are you okay?" Wei Wuyin asked with concern.

"...I am, but I-" The Heavenly War Spirit halted her words, pausing unnaturally as she thought for a moment, but decided to not say what she was going to say, instead asking: "What was that fire that was released from your bones?"

"..." Wei Wuyin frowned slightly; unfortunately, he didn't think he could tell her about the Hellfire without consequences, especially since his instincts were telling him never to disclose this to any other living soul that wasn't attached to himself and the Bloodline of Sin, such as his Astral Souls, about the details of Hell. "I don't know," was all he could say.

Shockingly, the Heavenly War Spirit didn't press for an answer. She explained in a feeble tone: "You're in an Absolute Void Region; no, you created an Absolute Void Region."

Absolute Void Region? Wei Wuyin had never heard that term in either of his lives, so he couldn't help but feel intrigued, and the Heavenly War Spirit didn't keep it from him, but it started to speak in the language of Mysticism. Fortunately, Wei Wuyin fully understood her.

"An Absolute Void Region is an area of the Dark Void that has been abandoned by the heavens, lacking all essential energies and essences that stabilize it, and even isolated from the outside world. Of course, it still has spatial and time properties, but life-granting qualities have been entirely stripped away and can not support the Daos."

Wei Wuyin was thunderstruck. Abandoned by the heavens? Oddly enough, he instantly frowned. "Isn't this a contradiction? If it's abandoned by the heavens, how can other energies exist? If space and time energies don't exist here, how can this area have properties relating to them?"

"I...don't know." The Heavenly War Spirit was stunned for a long while, seemingly realizing that her knowledge conflicted with reality. This was

unexpected. This meant she didn't quite understand the principles of the Absolute Void Region! Moreover, she might even be entirely wrong!

Wei Wuyin, however, knew that she was wrong. Ori answered what he felt in his heart: "I think crucial Laws are absent here, and the path of cultivation can not be supported because of this. But...the heavens are present and haven't left."

"What Laws?" Wei Wuyin asked curiously. He, too, felt that there was something absent here, but he didn't know why he felt that way.

Then, Ori giggled energetically. "My Law!"

"Your Law?" Wei Wuyin was taken aback. Then, as if struck by a lightning bolt, he delved into his Dantian and discovered a glob tethered to Ori. She grasped a Law Seed too?! Furthermore, his eyes widened in disbelief as her Astral Core was no longer just a perfect spherical white orb without any flaws.

IT WAS BURNING!

"WHAT?!" Wei Wuyin nearly acted to douse the flames when he realized that the flames were a part of Ori! They were pure white and seemed to contain a type of endlessly transformative quality, making it difficult for Wei Wuyin to properly grasp if it was a blazing fire or spiraling wind, sometimes even felt like crackling lightning or swirling light!

"You've...changed?" Wei Wuyin had just woken up after experiencing two months of tortuous pain, and he hadn't taken the time to inspect everything properly, but he now realized that Ori had changed! It wasn't a regular change either, but a tremendous one! An evolution!

"Hehe!" Ori excitedly laughed, ecstatic about its new transformation. "I did what King did! Hehe!"

"What King did?" Wei Wuyin was unable to comprehend that for a long while until he felt it. There was a feeling from Ori's Astral Core that resembled the Imperial Heaven Aura, the Elemental Origin Aura, and another aura that felt as if it was the beginning of all things, bringing forth unity, transformation, and connection—an Aura of Origin.

Did Ori emulate King and transform itself?! Ori did!

"You can call me...Uhm, I don't really know..."

"..." Wei Wuyin, King, Kratos, Eden, and the Heavenly War Spirit.

PARAGON OF SIN





While Ori struggled to define herself, Wei Wuyin inspected Bai Xiu's condition. After connecting with Wei Wuyin two months ago, she had suffered a backlash and hastily retreated to the Neo-Dawn Ascension Cauldron. She was currently residing in his Saint Ring.

"Her aura is weak. Bai Xiu!" Wei Wuyin called out as he projected himself into the Saint Ring, his voice rippling throughout the isolated dimensional space. The cauldron shook slightly. There was a feeble response, and Wei Wuyin released a sigh of relief. Without thinking much, he exuded dozens of thin strands of alchemical energies from his projection, sent from his real body.

She had suffered damage to her Spirit Body, and as a Spiritform of the Alchemic Dao, she simply needed to be infused with a sufficiently compatible energy source or Utmost Purity Mist. Unfortunately, the latter had been

exhausted thoroughly in his concoction and upgrade of the Neo-Dawn Paragon-Forging Pill.

"I...need...more...more..." Her soft voice resounded, pitiful and hungry. Wei Wuyin didn't hesitate to think about his backup plan, and began to scour for his secondary cauldron he used for matters where his Utmost Purity Mist levels were intended to be concealed or could lead to troubles throughout the years. But shortly after looking, his expression changed as he found a crumbled pile of rubble that was once a cauldron.

Bai Xiu had already devoured the Utmost Purity Mist within that cauldron and its innately refined alchemical energies, and it was why she had recovered to this point, and Wei Wuyin swiftly deduced this as he felt helpless. There wasn't another cauldron, so he could only heave a wry sigh and tell her: "You'll have to wait for a little while."

After confirming her condition was stable, Wei Wuyin infused a little more into her before turning his attention to the slumbering Bai Lin. She was peacefully resting in this Absolute Void Region in a way that he'd never seen her do before. There was a kind of true serenity and comfort in her sleeping body, unimaginably relaxed. Bai Lin was like a divine beast of legend, beautiful and majestic as the heavens themselves. It felt blasphemous to disturb her.

Wei Wuyin frowned; he soon discovered his bloodline energy flowed smoothly here, extremely, incomparably smooth.

"Kratos, do you feel this?" Wei Wuyin asked as he placed his hand to his heart, realizing the chaotically pounding intensity of a dragon's heart was absent, replaced by a steady, thunderous rhythm.

"I do," Kratos replied. "It feels like a shackle inside me had been removed." It spoke of its earnest feelings in the best possible description it could come up with, and Wei Wuyin closed his eyes and nodded, agreeing with that

sentiment. However, he also felt as if there was an absence. It didn't bring him any discomfort.

"I feel as if this area should bring me unbearable discomfort," Wei Wuyin remarked as he felt his body's reaction or lack thereof. "But it doesn't. Is this what you guys are feeling too?"

"Tch." King agreed but similarly voiced its suspicions. What Wei Wuyin felt, it felt too. However, it hadn't experienced what it felt it 'should' experience. The clash of feelings was baffling.

"No. I don't feel any discomfort at all," Eden answered honestly.

"What will it be...?" Ori was completely distracted.

The Absolute Void Region was a unique environment that had been abandoned by the Mortal, Mystic, and Immortal Dao, lacking the Laws of Elements after the Law of Origin had been taken away by Ori. This space could be considered a tragedy of the world depending on who you asked. While others might call it a blank sheet untainted by the typical Dao Aura—a paradise.

"..." Wei Wuyin couldn't pinpoint it, but if he had to guess by how King, Eden, and Kratos reacted, then it was likely due to their Daos. Eden was involved with the Alchemic Dao, and it wasn't affected by the Law of Origin's absence while King was a Saber Soul, and that could have been affected by it a little, but as an Omega Saber Soul, it could still function without any issue.

Kratos, however, was different. It felt a positive influence from this space as if it had lost a set of chains on itself, and from how Bai Lin was sleeping, it seemed she felt similar. This brought several questions to mind, and he couldn't help but think about a few things for a long, long while. In the end, he had to shelve those thoughts for now. "I feel as if I can advance," Kratos said sternly. There was a seriousness within its voice that made Wei Wuyin's heart throb, likely because it reflected Kratos' excitement.

"Advance?" Wei Wuyin was taken aback. "Are you talking about your Divine Mark of Myth?" The Divine Mark of Myth was the foundation or quintessence of Kratos' existence and had been formed by the True Dragon Transmutation Method to manifest a Spirit of Cultivation. Kratos started as a Heart of Blood and slowly grew into what it is today from that state.

The Divine Mark of Myth had three grades, each divided by seven levels of progression. They were the Mortal Myth, Mystic Myth, and Immortal Myth grades, and they reflected two qualities of the Bloodline—Purity, and Energy. Each Level was generally accompanied by Bloodline Abilities, such as Wei Wuyin's Infinite Void Wings, Void Crystallization, and Void Flames.

It had been a long, long time since Wei Wuyin reached the Seventh Level of the Mortal Myth, having entered into the absolute peak of Kratos' Mortal Limits. It was highly unlikely that Wei Wuyin would be able to perform any of his current feats with his True Void Dragon Bloodline Abilities if it wasn't for him reaching this limit.

To put it simply, the foundation of his heart had always been at the level of profundity as the Star Core Phase of the Astral Core Realm. Unlike Genesis Beasts or ordinary Spirits of Cultivation, the Divine Mark of Myth was a hybrid-type cultivation path that brought the unimaginable into existence, reimagining Divine Myths of Heaven such as True Dragons of legends with the Spirit of Cultivation's path, and didn't adhere to normal standards of progression or limits.

"For a while, I was unable to reach the Mystic Myth grade for a while despite possessing Mystic Energy from the Mystic Rune Seeds, and I've tried a few times to ascend, but I always felt as if a shackle prevented me from doing so," Kratos explained solemnly, and one could feel the frustration within its tone.

"The absence of the Mortal and Mystic Daos..." Wei Wuyin absorbed Kratos' experiences and concluded: the Mortal or Mystic Dao had likely kept Kratos suppressed! This was likely due to its Existential Framework being within the Mortal Dao.

"If you're free now, then go! Go! Go!" Ori snapped out of its thoughts and heard what Kratos said, excited and happy that the big-hearted spirit could advance alongside it.

"..." Kratos.

"What? What's wrong?" Ori could feel that its urging wasn't well received, but was unsure why. Did Kratos not want to advance?

"We can't; if we did so, it would be no different than taking a Mystic-Refined Divinity-Forging Pill, bypassing the Mortal Dao's will, and unfairly entering the Mystic Dao without permission." Wei Wuyin calmly explained, and Ori released an 'oh' and then apologized.

"It's fine. I can wait," Kratos gravely said, but anyone could tell that they felt aggrieved.

"..." Wei Wuyin thought for a long time in silence as the atmosphere grew increasingly heavy. Eden aside, Ori and King had undergone evolutions, and Kratos had always been the most competitive. It, too, wanted to advance to another level of power.

Wei Wuyin decided in his heart, but he didn't console Kratos because it would be disingenuous. After all, he wanted to advance too, and any type of comforting words would be untrue, so he could only think of alternatives. Being a parent wasn't easy, especially not for these four.

Parent?

Wei Wuyin couldn't resist warmly smiling as his instinctive thought brought to light his truest feelings.

After ensuring that everything was perfectly functioning with his body, Sea of Consciousness, and the four troubles, Wei Wuyin finally woke Bai Lin with a gentle nudge.

"...kree...kree? KREE!" Bai Lin slowly woke up and realized that Wei Wuyin was awake. She immediately began to communicate mentally, almost in tears, "You're awake! You're awake!" She hugged Wei Wuyin tightly in her feathery wings as she spun in the Dark Void excitedly. Fortunately, Wei Wuyin's body was abnormally tough for a mortal and withstood the imposing strength that Bai Lin possessed.

He felt an indescribable degree of warmth suffusing his heart after seeing her joy and excitement. This was love, born from concern and hope that grew into rampant happiness. It was the purest form of love, earnest and true without a shadow of a doubt. So he allowed Bai Lin to tussle him about to her heart's content.

"I was so worried! Your body went up in flames and I felt as if I was burning you. I...I thought..." Her voice slowly turned sad as she remembered what had happened all those months ago after she attempted to help. She didn't recognize the Hellfire, but she felt the Nirvanic Flames that had been ignited in Wei Wuyin's Dantian, and it contained pure incineration power, so she was horrified that she was harming Wei Wuyin.

Wei Wuyin caressed Bai Lin's wings, "I'm fine and that's all that matters, right?" He didn't tell her it wasn't her fault to comfort her, because he didn't wish to lie to her. After pondering the events that happened, Bai Lin's actions directly led to Ori's response, and then the Hellfire scorched into his bones reignited.

"I actually made a breakthrough in my cultivation because of it, so I actually have to thank you." Wei Wuyin smiled as he slowly wiggled his way out of Bai Lin's embrace, swimming in the sea of extremely dense Chaos Mana without being harmed in the slightest. The Chaos Mana was extremely obedient, a sign of his Zenith Origin State's Mana Dominance at its peak established by four Spirits of Cultivation.

Bai Lin's eyes widened as she tilted her head curiously, "Breakthrough?"

Wei Wuyin nodded with a big, wide smile. With a wave of his hand, he tapped into Ori's new powers, drawing a wisp of that strange flame through his meridians and projecting it outwards.

BURN!

The Chaos Mana instantly began to burn despite its density as a white flame hovered on his palm. It was only the size of a fist, but it caused Bai Lin's eyes to widen abruptly. "That's...!" She cried out in shock.

Wei Wuyin nodded again and then began to exert some force into his fingers, and the white flame exuded rich life energy!

"Nirvanic Flames?!" Bai Lin was initially unsure, but seeing how it shifted its qualities from burning to life-giving was the characteristic of the Nirvanic Flames. It possessed a type of duality that allowed this perfect transition, born from the Unique Intent that contained several laws.

Suddenly, Wei Wuyin's fingers moved strangely and the white flame transformed.

CRACKLE!

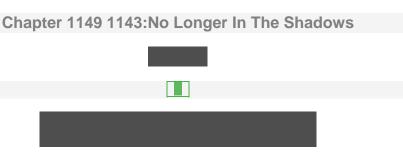
A ball of condensed lightning formed. It seemed to be slightly burning as if it was both lightning and fire, but it once again exuded the aura of life energy!

"Nirvanic...Lightning?" Bai Lin was so shaken that she reeled back, and then pressed her head forward with abundant curiosity. The crackling ball of lightning gave her both a feeling of unfamiliarity and familiarity.

Then, Wei Wuyin frowned as he took a deep breath and his fingers moved again! The lightning began to rapidly crackle at ten times its original pace, and if it could be heard, it would sound like the chirping of a thousand birds! There was an electrifying power contained that felt extremely potent!

Wei Wuyin waved his hand and the lightning swooshed into a ball of water! Wei Wuyin's hand dipped as the weight was unbearable, and only after allowing it to exude life energy did the weight seemingly disappear, and he could control it with ease. The surface of the water, however, was burning with white ghastly flames.

PARAGON OF SIN



"This! What is this?!" Bai Lin was now completely baffled by this unique flame that became lightning and water! Was this still Nirvanic Flames?

"It's all fire, don't let it fool you. Haha," Wei Wuyin answered the question that was plaguing her heart. The ball of water transformed into a radiant glow of light that seemed to be burning, resembling a Solar Star. "I'll call it Originfire. It can emulate various elemental forces and retain its powers, and I wouldn't have it if it weren't for you."

"Originfire?"

"Mhm, Originfire." Wei Wuyin didn't reveal everything, however.

Originfire wasn't limited to just this, and could emulate Hellfire! Burn with its soul-burning might! Additionally, Wei Wuyin had the feeling that Originfire had a power that had yet to be explored, but he couldn't quite test it until he found another Unique Intent.

The two discussed excitedly about this newfound power, but then Wei Wuyin frowned as he inspected his Saint Ring's Spiritual Transmission Formation. He found several messages from Wu Yu, the Ascendants, and his Agents of Information, but they were all old; the last message he received was about two months ago.

"It's been so long, but why haven't I received any new messages? Does the Absolute Void Region prevent Spiritual Transmissions?" His heart began to race slightly as he told Bai Lin about his intentions to leave, and Bai Lin looked slightly reluctant. He deeply understood why because this place felt freeing even to him, but he had responsibilities to fulfill and plans to enact.

"This is our home. We can come back anytime we wish, whenever we have free time." Only by saying this did Bai Lin accept it, and they started their journey to leave. Wei Wuyin saw the Tiangou resting in the distance, and the extreme ease of her expression caused him to frown slightly.

Was it in pain before?

Unfortunately, he couldn't ask her that question, nor did he have the qualifications to do so. He had other things to focus on.

The journey to leave the Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region on Bai Lin's back took two whole weeks. Ori's absorption only targeted the Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region, which was an unimaginably vast territory, and it ended perfectly at its borders. Despite the Chaos Mana feeling very freeing, Bai Lin's top speed was reduced to about 5% while within it. As for using Void Portals, Wei Wuyin didn't dare to use them while that creature prowled for him.

This downtime allowed him to study the Absolute Void Region, his newly established physique, psyche, and meridians and evaluate his recent gains. Most importantly, he examined his Hellfire refined bones that were as translucent as crystals and incredibly sturdy. He tried to use his greatest strength and couldn't even produce the tiniest of fractures!

He also gathered some of this highly dense Chaos Mana and used Void Crystallization on it, storing it in his Saint Ring for further study and possibly a pellet.

When he finally left the boundary of the Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region, Wei Wuyin found his Saint Ring flaring with a bombardment of delayed spiritual transmissions. It seemed the transmissions weren't erased but were all blocked by the layer of dense Chaos Mana at the border.

Wei Wuyin didn't find this to be unexpected, given that he received roughly a thousand messages every day regarding various updates before, so he read them from oldest to newest.

"An attack?!" Wei Wuyin found from several messages that there were consistent whisperings from his spies that Trueborn was preparing an attack! This came from multiple sources from Trueborn operatives spread throughout the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. It was this same network, now much, much greater in reach, that allowed him to catch on to Yue Songli's attack.

Was Yue Songli attacked again? But considering his contingencies in place for such an event, he wasn't worried that any harm would come to her, and if it had, Trueborn was bound to suffer a heavy loss! He glanced at his Bloodline of Sin tattoo and slightly frowned. If Yue Songli was assaulted, he would feel a little dissatisfied by not being able to maximize his gains by dealing Trueborn an unforgiving blow in retaliation.

He kept reading.

The Ninestar Starfield's Nine Solar Stars experienced a temporary dimming, but nothing else was reported! There were thousands upon thousands of these reports throughout his information network's agents. They were all extremely diligent with their reporting, but besides a few, most repeated the same details.

Unfortunately, that was all that was said. Wei Wuyin, however, found a report from Legion Commander Zhan Zheng that stated the situation clearly: "The Earthly Saints and other Ascended sealed within the Solar Stars of the Ninestar Starfield have been transported out by a uniquely powerful Spatial Art. I attempted to interfere with it, but they seemed to have expected it and sent seven Earthly Saints to prevent me from doing so. I crippled two and severely injured the rest, but they got away using strange talismans imbued with Void Energy.

I did, however, hinder it for a few seconds, but the Ninestar Starfield's leaders never reacted. It seemed the Saint Soul King and the other Soul Monarchs were also hindered in various ways. An extremely calculated operation."

"..." Wei Wuyin realized that Trueborn had acted and taken back their Earthly Saints, which was to be expected, and they had planned thoroughly for it. Wei Wuyin already knew that Trueborn wasn't inferior to any of the three Cities in the Endless Voyage Realm, and they likely had dozens of Earthly Saints in reserve. Their unique Necro Energy allowed them to find recently deceased, undiscovered, and neglected talents and then somehow bring them to higher levels, such as Liao Shuyu. This was one of their greatest strengths.

Wei Wuyin's eyes narrowed as he kept reading. He didn't think that this was the attack that his agents reported, and he was right!

Wei Wuyin had spread his influence far and wide, the greed of cultivators for resources was indescribable, and at the opportunity for products or resources that they would otherwise never be able to touch in their lifetime, many would sell out their spouses, parents, and close friends in a heartbeat. Each step in their cultivation would likely result in an unimaginable jump in status, wealth, and power.

Looking at things from his height, where Earthly Saints dominated the scene on a stellar regional scale, then it was easy to forget that cultivation in the Astral Core Realm was difficult! Extremely difficult! Many cultivators would never step into the Astral Core Realm or were stopped for a thousand years at the World Sea Stage, all because they couldn't grasp the profoundness of Mana or die earlier than their lifespan allowed them to live because they had consumed far too many impure products leading to their combat strength being too weak to survive the tribulation or developing various illnesses that degraded their bodies.

Countless died this way each day.

Countless!

If a city's strongest cultivator only had a Sky Ruler Phase cultivation base, then becoming one meant rivaling the strongest, enjoying all the benefits that the top dog could receive. How many wanted to be the top dog?

In these eight years, Wei Wuyin had silently bought many organizations' leaderships with oaths of secrecy established or helped establish new leaders from the shadows. This was thanks to the Golden Life Pavilion's reach and connections, especially their recent expansion due to the debt accumulated by the world.

As such, his network was incredibly widespread. From starting with a pirate ship to now, this was Wei Wuyin's best investment by far.

"Reporting! There's significant movement happening. They're planning something major in the coming weeks. My wife seems to be preparing for a long voyage!" A report from a month and two weeks ago, belonging to a husband whose wife was suspected of having worked with Trueborn.

Reports similar to this came in by the thousands, all detailing that Trueborn was making some major move, but none of them was clear about the target until Wei Wuyin realized a connection between some of the messages. Movement! A long voyage!

"Many of these reports come from those who've worked with Trueborn, or have contact with suspected Trueborn sleeper agents or verifiable active agents. So the gathered intelligence is certainly actionable. What are they planning? There's a clear dividing disparity between these reports. From what I can assume: A huge migration and a massive attack on the horizon?" Wei Wuyin pondered this as he kept reading the reports, but he didn't need to wait for long to find his answer.

"Lord Wei! The Great Desolate Starfield is under attack!" This came from Highlord Bluecloud.

"Reporting! I believe the Verdant Starfield is currently in turmoil! There are splashes of chaotic lights in their area of the Dark Void!"

"The starfield-wide defensive array of the Beyond Light Starfield, the True Light Endless Radiance Array, is activated! I believe they're under attack!" "...!" Wei Wuyin's heart was racing as hundreds of thousands of messages, all saying similar things erupted in his senses. Three neighboring Starfields were attacked!

The culprit?!

Trueborn!

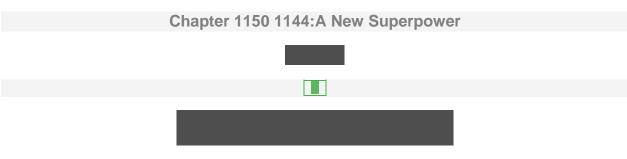
Wei Wuyin's breathing grew heavy as he clenched his teeth. This didn't happen in the debonair lifetime, but this was likely due to the Chaosnova being far earlier and more explosive than before, a clear sign of heavy deviation. What were they planning?

By the end, Wei Wuyin finally knew as a report from Wu Yu came in:

"Young Lord, a mysterious force—likely Trueborn, attacked the Great Desolate Starfield(6th), Beyond Light Starfield(9th), and Verdant Paradise Starfield(19th) and laid claim to their land and territory, exterminating all the experts that refused to submit. They acted too swiftly, establishing powerful arrays and strongholds. I believe this has been planned for a long, long time."

Trueborn was no longer hiding in the shadows.

PARAGON OF SIN



The strike was abrupt, and despite all his intelligence gathering, there was never an indication that Trueborn's intentions were three Starfields of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. However, hindsight was twenty-twenty, and Wei Wuyin could now see the signs that were as obvious as can be. The attack and migration were an act of preparation for a siege and station operation.

The Great Desolate Starfield(6th), Beyond Light Starfield(9th), and Verdant Paradise Starfield(19th) were all neighbors separated by Void-Blank Space, and with the Great Blue Starfield(20th) and All-Fury Starfield(8th), they formed a type of pentagram-shaped structure, all closer to each other than the other starfields by a considerable distance.

For an average Voidship's top speed, it would take at least three whole months to cross each starfield's Void-Blank Space without stopping—borderto-border; without using Void Gates, it would take at least two years minimum to go to the other nearest starfields. Their locations relative to the Supermassive Solar Star, the Aeternal Sky Solar Star, could easily be guessed based on their rankings, with the Verdant Paradise Starfield(19th) and the Great Blue Starfield(20th) being at the furthest distance from the Aeternal Sky Starfield, while the Great Desolate Starfield was the closest, directly neighboring the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

This was a strategic location that Wei Wuyin had eyed before, so he knew full well the benefits of seizing it.

"But why?" Wei Wuyin wasn't bothered by them delivering a decisive blow to the three starfields, conquering them, and establishing strongholds without pause, but why did they do so? Trueborn was a clandestine organization with unclear motives and hooks attached to many forces, both openly and discreetly. It was hard to think they'd lose that anonymity and elusiveness for three starfields.

"..." Wei Wuyin began to ruminate for a lengthy period; the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region had a complex astronomical orientation that wasn't as twodimensional as planets, composed of solar stars, lunar satellites, and planets. The Aeternal Sky Starfield acted as the nucleus of the Stellar Region by a neutral default, and if neighbors were considered by proximity, then the Aeternal Sky Starfield had seven of them divided by Void-Blank Space of varying depths.

The Great Desolate Starfield was one of them.

"Prelude to a proper declaration of war?" The possibility of Trueborn intending to declare war against the Aeternal Sky Starfield was there, but...

"The last core node they seek wouldn't be close to the last one near the Aeternal Sky Starfield; they had already destroyed the one closest to them in their recent attack. They should know this, so why? The last core node isn't located in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region." Wei Wuyin had the memories of his alternate self who had become the Void Voyage Sect Master by force and was thus privy to extensive knowledge of the Sealing Array's vulnerability and functions. While this wasn't given knowledge, the debonair version of himself was in heavy pursuit of knowledge to escape his predicament.

He had a good idea of where the last core node was, and it should be outside the borders of what's defined as the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. If his other self's guess was correct, it was somewhere at the edge of the Sealed Regions.

Trueborn's goal had never been to conquer but to shatter the Sealing Array; it didn't make sense for Trueborn to declare war against the Aeternal Sky Starfield and likely all of its allied forces without a specific purpose that suited that goal. In fact, it was detrimental to their plans should they do so. Furthermore, he was acutely aware that Trueborn's hooks hadn't grasped every top-tier organization.

Despite his knowledge of two lives, he couldn't quite grasp their thought process. He kept reading the messages in an attempt to glean something

useful to formulate a reasonable theory. The next important message came from Wu Yu again, and it caused him to smile in amusement.

"Young Lord, there was an attempt to siege the Great Blue Starfield that involved five Earthly Saints, fifty Highlords, and two thousand Venerables. However, after Ma Zheng and I showed ourselves, they fled despite having the numbers advantage. It seemed they planned to assault the Great Blue Starfield as well but turned tail after seeing us. They fled fast, so I wasn't able to reduce their strength. Unfortunately, they have completely turtled themselves in the three starfields. However, if you receive this, by your order, I can lead an assault team to deal with their strongholds and root them out entirely." Wu Yu's voice was incredibly domineering, brimming with confidence. It seemed their last assault was exciting for Wu Yu.

"Trueborn doesn't want to fight against me, or did they simply retreat because any losses were intolerable? The more I learn, the less I can comprehend their intent. Since I've made my intentions clear about war, they should've launched an offensive to eliminate Wu Yu and harm Ma Zheng. Strange." This event showed that they didn't just want three starfields but likely all five. But why didn't they attack the fifth starfield—All-Fury Starfield?

"Ah!" Wei Wuyin realized how and why the assault was so sudden and coordinated without any actionable signs of the strike. They had long since completely conquered the All-Fury Starfield, and it was likely their base of operations within the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. This allowed them to quietly establish Void Gates at crucial locations and use them to place their units without alerting anyone at the quickest speed.

"They have Void Energy Talismans, so their Void Gates should be able to bypass restrictive starfield-wide formations. Dangerous," Wei Wuyin thought. This was a strategic advantage that he possessed as well with Void Anchors. "Young Lord Wei, there's been a development; the organization that's conquered the three starfields of the Pentastar Cluster is attempting to open a line of communication with the Golden Life Pavilion. They seem to be seeking a business contract to maintain the Golden Life Pavilion's imports, exports, and businesses, desiring to pre-order certain products and resources within their territory. They even offered to voluntarily add a thirteen-percent additional tax to their purchases for the next decade." Ma Zheng spoke; his voice carried a hint of grimness that Wei Wuyin easily pinpointed.

"I'll await your thoughts on the topic before making any decision. Until then, I'll stop all operations of the Golden Life Pavilion and keep the members on standby."

The Pentastar Cluster was the name used to describe the five neighboring Starfields that were shaped in a pentagram in the starry sky of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region from almost every angle.

Two days after that message: "The unknown organization, which I strongly believe to be Trueborn, has decided to announce something in three days. The entire world will be watching.

"...I'm uncertain when you'll get this message. Wu Yu and I investigated the Desolate Dragnet Stellar Region, but it turned into a land of death that even I don't dare to enter. We found the spiritual transmissions we've sent lingering at the edge but considering their idle nature, it seemed they were waiting for you to receive them.

"I searched for your armored Earthly Saint and found him in the Ninestar Starfield, and when I inquired about your situation, he said you were currently preoccupied but alive, and he didn't seem too worried, so perhaps I shouldn't be either, but I do hope you extricate yourself safely from whatever you're endeavoring. "Also, Grand Knight Wu Yu is quite a domineering figure. He likely hasn't made a report, but he chased, no, hunted a group until they returned to the protection of their arrays. I can see why you chose him as an Alchemic Knight, a valiant figure indeed." Ma Zheng's message ended here.

Wei Wuyin felt warmth suffusing his heart. While Ma Zheng had invested in him early on and received exceptional returns as a result, Wei Wuyin felt that Ma Zheng was someone he could genuinely call a reliable ally and friend. At the very least, there was a kind of mutual trust and belief that both had in each other.

It was different from his other relationships because Ma Zheng had never explicitly submitted to him. Ma Zheng operated the Golden Life Pavilion as a separate entity, a power that he wielded, and only assisted as much as possible. It was clear that Ma Zheng was a deeply prideful figure that refused to surrender his efforts to another. Still, he was willing to form a tight cooperation without hesitation and devote his fullest to it.

A sign of a good business partner.

This was the basis on which genuine friendships formed, not a type of subordinate-master relationship.

The following message read:

"The announcement...I can't believe it, but they've merged the four Starfields as one. Furthermore, they've declared themselves a World Sect—the Unchained Heart Sect. Their starfield will now be named the Born True Starfield!"

"..." Wei Wuyin's eyes constricted slightly. They're actually doing this? They're putting themselves out in the open and establishing a World Sect! The next Superpower of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region!

The Unchained Heart Sect!

Wei Wuyin's eyes soon regained their calm, and a smirk slowly surfaced on his face.

Bai Lin, feeling his simmering killing intent, asked excitedly: "Where to next?!"

Wei Wuyin laughingly answered, "To find out why the change, and then...to kill!"