

Chapter 371 - 367: Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation

There was a small continental flat earth within a quiet corner of Myriad Monarch Astral Territory. It extended nearly a hundred kilometers in length, being relatively small in size. It was often used to breed various beasts and herbs for taming and growth. It was named the Yellow Rain Continent.

It was dubbed this due to the unique phenomena of yellow rain drenching the continent during certain times of the year. This yellow rain lacked any uniqueness, mostly a chemical reaction from the dissipation of some type of harmless chemical element during the condensation process. Despite this, the ground, trees, homes, and mountains were tinted in shades of yellow.

At the moment, a tall and outstanding figure stood atop a flat mountain peak. Dressed in black, the figure stared at the sky in a blank daze. Their silver eyes were undergoing various transformations that seemed to grasp a hint of the world's truths and hidden secrets.

Wei Wuyin had arrived on the Yellow Rain Continent via a Void Gate. Due to the various complications brought about by his tribulation, he felt it was for the best that he left to somewhere secluded. As he peered into the endless flow of the world, he felt heading to this continent would have the best effects. It was a strange feeling, trusting the revealed truths of the world.

Regardless, considering Su Mei and the incident of his exploding Sky Palace, he felt it only right to avoid any further possible damage. Considering Wen Mingna, Lin Ziyang, Xiao Bing, Hong Ru, and Wu Baozhai, these five women, were cultivating within his Sky Palace in a diligent manner, he didn't feel right to move them.

He felt a rising sense of anticipation within his heart, within his Astral Souls, as he looked into the thin Sky Layer of the Yellow Rain Continent. He was about to commence his Third Astral Tribulation, the third tribulation of his life as a cultivator. It went by many names but when one felt its calling force, they could only regard it as one name: Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation.

This was the first tribulation that showed a clear display of foundation and cultivation advantages. Those who could construct their Soul Idol, establish their Soul Rings, can grasp a higher form of Spiritual Strength that exceeded the norm. According to the many records of ancient and recent cultivators, this trial was the first where an individual could simply stop at will.

It was almost extremely unlikely to die in this trial, having very little mortal danger, and that was all due to the ability to purposefully cease. But, ceasing inevitably meant a lesser state of Soul Idol formation. The casualties from this trial were from two unfortunate reasons: One, lacking foundation leading to an inability to pass the very first portion of the Astral Tribulation; or two, overestimating one's strengths and exceeding their limits.

As long as one remained cautious, succeeding this tribulation was relatively easy. This was one of the core reasons that a hegemonic force like the Myriad Monarch Sect classified those at the Soul Idol Phase within the Mortal Captain-Rank as Elders. Numerous of these so-called Soul Idol experts had completed the First Ring only.

Even Continental Guardians, those who oversee various continental flat earths, had a minimum of Two Rings formed. With each ring formed, the cultivator experiences an undeniable multiplicative leap in spiritual strength and quality of innately refined spiritual energies.

Those at One-Ringed Soul Idols might have spiritual strength a hundred times less than Nine-Ringed Soul Idols, creating an insurmountable chasm between them. These rings also had another name, another purpose. They were referred to as Soul Pulses. It was clear that the greater the number of pulses, the higher the spirituality of one's Astral Soul, the more vivid it becomes when manifested, the greater the space it occupies.

Wei Wuyin calmly inhaled and exhaled in a soothing rhythm. He had four independent Astral Souls, requiring four separate Astral Tribulations. He knew that with his Astral Souls high-level energies and qualities, the Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation was relatively easy to accomplish. He only wondered why miraculous changes would take place from this.

In his first Astral Tribulation, he had learned there was no mortal danger to the Mortal Star Formation Tribulation. It was merely a teacher that instilled the knowledge of whatever Astral Soul it faced, allowing them and its cultivator to glimpse at the truth regarding Intents. It formed a blueprint in one's mind.

For Ori, his Divine Elemental Astral Soul, it had given him the pieces to Elemental Origin Intent, and left the much larger, greater pieces for the Heart of the World, World of the Elements Intent. It was otherwise known as the Elemental Heart Intent.

It was the highest form of Elemental Origin Intent, requiring the merging of nine high-level elemental intents into one. He had six at the moment, gaining the Desolate Intent relating to the Earth Element after the tribulation. He still required high-level Intents for fire, water, and wind.

While he had tried to briefly search for these other high-level Intents for the basic elemental natures, he soon peered into the flow of the world, gleaming that what he desired existed within the Gateway Door. This was the greatest reason he intended to venture inwards. As for finding them in the outside world? He hadn't been able to.

The Desolate Intent had formed naturally due to aging and decay of an Ancient Void Gate. He didn't know how long it'd been there, preserved and undisturbed by all forms of life. He couldn't find any other Intents that fit with the other elements, even trying to comprehend Aquatic Intent wasn't appropriate. It seemed he had to find compatible Elemental Intents.

After a while, he decided to focus his attention elsewhere and strive to complete his Elemental Origin Intent in the Gateway Door.

"Let's start! Let's start! Let's start!" Ori rushed.

It was anxiously excited, wanting to ascend to the next level with greater enthusiasm than even him. He knew they were all waiting for him. They required his comprehension of the next realm, but their foundations with the various energies had already reached their limit, unable to be increased by a single iota more for more than a year now.

Due to their extremely fast refinement speeds, they absorbed endless alchemical products to grow until their limit. This was why they each had one centimeter-sized Astral Cores, the limit of a Sky Ruler. They had similarly done this in the World Sea Phase as well, reaching four millimeters.

"Okay!" He withdrew his Celestial Eyes and interfaced with Ori. The distinctive sensation of a tribulation trigger was present, wrapped within his endless insights into Soul Idol Formation. He unhesitatingly triggered it!

Fortunately, he made ample preparations to prevent the soiling of his pants in case his Astral Souls felt mischievous once again! He had learned his lesson! Therefore, when he was washed once more in that familiar feeling, he welcomed it with wide arms.

Lifting his head, he instantly felt the world go silent. As if he was isolated from existence, and an existence beyond his understanding had faintly decided to glance his way. His heart tightened. This familiar feeling existed in every trial.

He knew it was the world, maybe even the Heavenly Daos themselves, observing his state of cultivation to determine the Astral Tribulation needed. It exerted an oppressive force into the very mind, forcing one's thoughts and ideas to contort in unique ways. For some, fear might develop within their hearts. For him, a sense of fearless strength swelled within him.

"Yi! Yi! Yi!" This strength was the shared emotional connection he had with Ori. It was very animated as it excitedly shouted various noises. This caused Wei Wuyin to quietly await any changes with stability in mind and soul. In his Sky-World Lightning Tribulation, Ori and the others had somehow manipulated the Astral Tribulation to amplify itself. Then, they fused it into one to spontaneously refine their personalized mana.

Their Zenith Mortal States had evolved into Zenith Origin State. This higher grade of mana brought about numerous changes, including an increased control over his Intent, capable of exciting ambient mana into a frenzy, and capable of creating higher-quality products.

He hadn't explored all the benefits yet, but simply these three aspects of the Zenith Origin State were heaven-defying to him. He had his suspicions that the Zenith Origin State might involve the secrets of the Mystic Ascendant Realm, but even Wu Yu was clueless regarding its name. This surprised him, so he wasn't exactly certain. But, Wu Yu was merely a First Stage Mystic Ascendant, who hadn't yet explored the true depths of that realm. He was somewhat unreliable. No, extremely unreliable.

Uuuurrrrrnn!

A sound erupted, like the strange bellowing of a great aquatic beast. His heart pounded as he stared at the sky. He felt the world twist, contort, and change in an unpredictable fashion. He realized the colors of the world were changing and moving, forming a kaleidoscope-like effect of perfect symmetry. But this was only from his point of view.

All those present on the continent felt a looming pressure that pressed against their souls, their spirits, and their minds. Some, a few who were trying to reach the Qi Condensation Realm, unable to connect with their souls, throbbed intensely as they felt an enlightened sensation surge throughout their bodies. Immediately, they cultivated without hesitation and started to form their Heart of Qi.

Wei Wuyin's eyes shrunk to needlepoints. The world above him had changed in an instant. He was always watching the sky, but it was as if there was no indication of change as nine objects appeared. The sensation of watching something intently only for a new object to emerge without rhyme, reason, or indication caused his mind to stumble.

It was so disconcerting that even Ori went silent, feeling shocked to its core. Its playful yelps ceased entirely. Especially due to the sheer presence of these nine objects! The only thing that remained in his thoughts was one word: Incredible!

Up above, nine cyan-colored rings had appeared. They were of varying sizes, but their sizes were massive, with the smallest, the closest, being hundreds of thousands of kilometers in size! As for the one above, it was larger! It was thicker! It was more radiant than the three solar stars themselves!

It didn't stop.

As it got further away into an impossible distance, the size, thickness, and radiance of each following ring became even brighter forming what seemed to be a cone of rings with him, no, the continent, as the tip. He gawked, his heart beating with the might of a million drums pounding in unison!

The last ring seemed to encircle the starfield or perhaps even greater. He felt his mouth go dry as he recalled the details of Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation!

He had to race through each ring!!

His mind flared as he questioned Ori, "WHAT DID YOU DO?!"

"...Yi?"

Chapter 372 - 368: Whisked Away

"...Yi?" Ori's voice seemed to proclaim its innocence. But Wei Wuyin knew full well that was utter bullshit! Just like before, it had done something to invoke a tribulation far beyond its limitations, this is what he believed!

And he was mostly right!

"...I didn't. I didn't!" Ori tried to declare its innocence once more, but its tone was far too nefarious. The lies were leaking clearly from its voice, like a scolded child that had pressed the big red button with glee. Furthermore, Wei Wuyin was linked to it, and clearly felt the reverberations of its spirit. How could it even think it could lie?!

Wei Wuyin felt a wave of headaches. He looked at the first ring, how it exceeded the Sky Layer of the Yellow Rain Continent, and he inwardly groaned. This was impossible!

To overcome the Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation, one had to resist the spiritual pressure emitted by the Soul Pulse Rings, surpassing the created rings and absorbing it soon after. These Soul Pulse Rings would then become a part of his Astral Soul, used to form his Soul Idol at the end of it. They contained unique variant spiritual energies called Manifested Spirit Energy, suitable for forming Soul Idols.

To possess the qualifications to initiate the Soul Idol Tribulation, a cultivator has to comprehend the essence of this unique variant spiritual energy, this Manifested Spirit Energy. Then, they can use their

Astral Souls to call forth the world's powers to conjure them into existence via an indistinct law. The distortions of colors, space, and the world was due to these energies gathering at the greatest imaginable pace.

Typically, they're roughly a few tens of meters, maybe a few hundreds of meters at the highest! But, his Soul Pulse Rings were the size of the fucking continents, of planets, of the starfield!! Why?!

How?!

How was it possible for him to travel through them?!?!

"...I might've done something..." Ori folded like a stack of cards. It too was utterly shocked by the sheer size of it! Even it hadn't expected such a massive change! But from the tone of its voice, there seemed to be more to come.

"How?!" Just like before, his other three Astral Souls were dormant, allowing Ori to take the first shot at the Astral Tribulation. Their energies were being fed into Ori to bolster her abilities. It was this form of connective means that allowed them to instigate a greater Sky-World Lightning Tribulation.

His heart stopped for a moment. He recalled that the Soul Pulse Rings were a reflection of the amount of Manifested Spirit Energy required to form specific Soul Pulses. Due to the current era's severely lacking talents, it was likely that this wasn't actually an odd event.

He quietly pondered and Ori allowed him to with its silence. Wei Wuyin used his Celestial Eyes, peering into the nine Soul Pulse Rings that formed a conical shape with the largest ninth ring being the base of the cone. He could sense the Manifested Spirit Energy that he'd comprehended, understanding that the density and quantity of it exceeded any known records.

He recalled the uniqueness of his Astral Souls. Just from the size of their Astral Cores, it was clear their foundation of the four fundamental energies were utterly capped. This meant his physical, spiritual, mental, and essence energies were to their utmost limits. He hadn't thought about it before, but had any cultivator to date reached that limit?

The average size of Sky Ruler Astral Cores was about half a millimeter, and his current size was about twenty times that. The Astral Core was the reflection of one's Astral Force quantity and quality, its size meant its World Sea's size within and the outer shell was a direct correlation to physical, mental, spiritual, and essence energies within.

As he thought more, he felt that he'd never conceived the possibility that his Astral Souls were at the pinnacle of their limits in every way. He had fed them numerous eighth-grade alchemical products suitable for middle-phase Astral Core Realm cultivators at the Sky Ruler Phase, which was the mid lower-phase. Furthermore, their rapid refinements of products allowed them to consume thousands of these products.

Moreover, he could concoct thousands of good quality products for them to refine. This fact, a fact that he hadn't considered too much, had finally hit him. His eyes glowed with a brilliant radiance as he inspected the rings above.

"A one-centimeter sized Astral Core is said to be double the size of the greatest Purist of the Sacred Light Palace in this era." Wei Wuyin recalled this fact, his heart throbbing. That figure was at the Sixth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Gravity Emission Phase, yet it was merely half his Astral Core size!

If those Soul Pulse Rings were reflections of his Astral Souls, then this might be...

Then it hit him.

This wasn't the Soul Pulse Rings of one Astral Soul at the pinnacle, but all four! His eyes bulged slightly, now realizing how they were manipulating this Astral Tribulation! It was the same way they manipulated the Sky-World Lightning Tribulation! He felt the dormant Astral Souls in him, feeling a throbbing sensation in his heart that invigorated his body. For some odd reason, the feeling of shock started to dissipate, replaced by excitement and anticipation.

From the beginning, he felt he needed the greatest cultivation foundation to face the Heavenly Daos, the Calamities of Hell, and anything else this world or other worlds decided to throw at him! They truly pushed their limits, testing themselves in unison. But not only that, he could feel his four Astral Souls working as one, as a single family supporting each other in the best way possible.

He no longer held any fear or anger. His silver eyes reflected an unfathomably fierce spirit that radiated from his very soul. He wasn't alone either, and if they were willing to push the tribulation to this limit, then all he had to do was accompany them! If he failed, if he died, so what?

Even if the Soul Pulse Rings were the size of thousands of starfields into one, he would still race through them without hesitation!

"You ready?" Wei Wuyin sent to Ori.

"Yi?!" Shocked, Ori could feel the fierce spirit from Wei Wuyin and soon rumbled with blazing excitement. The elemental origin energies and powerful astral force within started to thrum with a unique frequency. These energies were further bolstered by the might of the other three.

"Yes!" Ori, King, Eden, and Kratos.

While dormant, they sent their voices through Ori at this moment. Wei Wuyin grinned, pressing his foot against the Yellow Rain Continent's mountain peak. With an explosive push, he shot into the air like a hypersonic missile. The mountain peak crumbled!

In moments, he broke through the flimsy Sky Layer of a Continental Flat Earth, entering into the Dark Void. Within a split second, he felt the chaotically hazardous environment envelop him, drenching him in a horrific coldness he'd never felt before. It didn't feel 'cold' but was extremely cold. Such a feeling was so hard to describe that it was impossible.

Because he could feel the heat rays of the three solar stars hitting his skin, but the coldness didn't dissipate. In fact, as he grew further and further away from the continent and deeper into the Dark Void, he felt this coldness increase until he felt it in his bones and spine.

He instinctively tried to breathe, finding a complete absence of oxygen or other breathable gaseous within the world. His eyes bulged outwards, but he soon regulated himself. He used the innate energies

within his body to sustain himself, and enveloped his body in Elemental Origin Force, creating a temporary atmospheric layer.

He could feel his astral force conjure an air-like substance within his lungs, feeling much relieved as a result. But he knew this was temporary as the astral force within him was decreasing at an extremely rapid rate! At this rate, even with four one-centimeter Astral Cores supporting him, he'd last less than two minutes!

No wonder the Dark Void was an absolute forbidden zone for all those beneath the Realm Lord level! The sustaining of atmospheric conditions was extremely difficult!!

He didn't hesitate to ramp up his speed. He became a white-colored comet that exuded various elemental images as he raced towards the first Soul Pulse Ring. As he got closer, he felt a distinct spiritual pressure exert itself upon his body and Ori. It was extremely oppressive!

He felt his body temporarily slow down as a result, but this only hastened his consumption of energies. For some reason, he felt a wave of dissatisfaction from the dormant Kratos, as if he was offended. Unable to dwell due to the precarious nature, he ignored it and shot off.

If he'd known that Kratos was frustrated that their Bloodline Source exhaustion made them look so fragile, panicked, and fighting against all odds, he wouldn't know whether to laugh or cry. But he'd also be a little shocked.

While his current form wasn't able to exist in the Dark Void, could his Draconified Void Form?

Unfortunately, he couldn't think about this as he reached a few kilometers away from the first ring. A wave of excitement entered his heart, but what happened next caught him off-guard.

Just as he was about to touch the ring, just a few brief moments away, his three dormant Astral Souls abruptly awakened!

"Finally! Our turn!" Kratos roared with excitement. Raging draconic void force circulated throughout his body, resisting the coldness to an even greater degree!

"Tch!" A surge of silver saber force flowed into Wei Wuyin's hands, forming Element without his will. Grasping the saber, his body instinctively released an extremely imposing and kingly aura, as if all things could be brought to the end by his word, by his edge!

"...It's time." Eden had remained completely silent since his decision to undergo his Astral Tribulation. For the first time, it had spoken! And Wei Wuyin could feel that it was the mastermind of what was about to come!

Suddenly, he felt the simultaneous triggering of three Astral Tribulations occur! The world shook for a fragment of a fragment of a second. He could very briefly see with his Celestial Eyes the eight other rings ahead of him vanish instantly without any sort of warning. He'd entered the first ring at this very moment, and he felt himself shift at an unimaginable speed in less than a fraction of a fraction of a second. This was not something he could react to!

He found himself in an unknown location in the Dark Void, carried away by the Manifested Spirit Energies! Before he could get his bearings, a surge of extremely potent spiritual pressure encapsulated him!

When that overbearing force pressured his body and spirit, he couldn't help but freeze in heart-sinking shock. This wasn't because of the pressure, but of what he was currently witnessing! If before the second Soul Pulse Ring was the size of a larger continent, now, he couldn't even see its edge! It was larger than the starfield!! As for the other seven?! He could see them being far larger, thicker, more radiant that he had no comparison of size.

When he realized this, a shiver coursed through his spine as he was reminded of being carried away. With shock and a tiny smidgen of fear in his heart, his head snapped backwards to see the situation behind him. When he did, his heart sunk into impossible depths.

There were three solar stars flickering in the far distance!!!

Chapter 373 - 369: An Audacious Plan!

"...!" Struck by a bout of disbelief, Wei Wuyin was utterly speechless. The triple solar stars of the starfield had suddenly become distant objects within his vision. His heart started to pound mercilessly and violently, causing even his ears to throb ceaselessly.

There was an ever-encroaching and suffocating spiritual pressure pressing against his body, breaching the atmospheric replication of his astral force with utter ease. He felt choked, his mind twisting, his blood and bones squashed by this forceful pressure.

He was currently experiencing the Spiritual Refinement of the Soul Pulse Rings! He swept his gaze around him instantly, noticing the extremely wide ring that encircled him that seemed to expand far beyond the distance of the starfield. Even with his far-seeing sweeping gaze, he still couldn't view the entirety of the cyan-colored ring.

He quickly realized that he was currently situated directly in the center of the Soul Pulse Ring, and his body subjected to its fearsome might without mercy. Fortunately, this level of power was only mildly uncomfortable allowing him time to think clearly.

The four Astral Souls of his were working in a coordinated effort, dispersing powerful spiritual strength outwards to resist. When he saw their current states, he couldn't help but be startled. The little time he had seemed to expand as he felt more comfortable about the situation.

When he recalled what had happened in a moment of spontaneity, he finally understood their plans and intentions.

"You four..." He couldn't help but reveal a wry smile, but it was suffused with a hint of pride at their calculated approach. If he had time to think about the circumstances, he might've launched a similar idea. Considering they were devised from his mind, their cunning and ingenuity originated from his own.

He calmed down, looking around as the fearsome spiritual pressure of the Soul Pulse Ring exerted its might onto him. Afterwards, he found that he was indeed outside the territory of the starfield. There was a blank space that numerous scholars referred to as the Dark Void Sea. If the starfield is centered

around its solar stars, orbiting them with calculated and continuous rotation, then the Dark Void Sea was the area where a solar star's inherent orbit ended.

There was no innate gravity subjected in this area, so it lacked a sense of motion and any object beyond or in it could only linger about until it entered their innate gravity or traveled elsewhere.

The distance from the three solar stars and this area was in the tens of billions of miles away. The sheer distance was inconceivable to basic mortals, and many cultivators would find it impossible to reach this location. Even Realmlords might take centuries to go from the sun to here in the Dark Void's uniquely cold-like environment.

He had somehow shifted billions of miles in mere moments, transported here by the Manifested Spirit Energy of the Soul Pulse Rings.

"I see," he bitterly smiled. Currently within the first Soul Pulse Ring of his Astral Tribulation, he discovered their intent. The spiritual pressure aside, the four clearly intended to invoke a Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation to a higher level, in a similar way as they did the Sky-World Lightning Tribulation.

During that tribulation, they shared their innate powers that fooled the tribulation into becoming four times as strong. This was definitely due to their unique circumstances, as they each had the 'same' soul origin but were 'independent' as well. They could share energies based on this principle, elevating each other's cultivation base.

This was something he learned very early on. After Eden and Kratos were born, King and Ori's innate energies were sent into them because their special states made it difficult for them to cultivate like them. It was only after the two became strong enough that they could externalize for longer periods and refine products themselves.

Ori had taken the lead, instigating the Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation using their four connective energies, causing the tribulation to be four times as strong, perhaps even greater depending on the rubric used by the tribulation. Regardless, this would usually make their manifested Soul Idol form and Soul Rings stronger than normal. This was already heaven-defying!

A Soul Ring was an expression of spiritual strength and quality of spiritual energies, so it being reinforced meant these aspects were enhanced. To even delve a little further, spiritual strength was the combined strength of physical, mental, and essence quality inherent within the Astral Soul and Cultivator's body. This would've allowed Wei Wuyin's fleshy body, mental capabilities, and innate energies to rise to extreme levels.

If they went by this, then all four would take their time and accumulate a four times higher standard of Soul Idol of the same level. Working together, he would experience a base enhancement of sixteen times his Soul Idol Rings!

The idea was incredibly brilliant!

But they were extremely brazen, extremely unsatisfied! More manic and relentless than he'd ever conceived! They were scheming for a greater foundation, something beyond what they'd performed for the Second Astral Tribulation. But there was an issue.

The concept of the Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation was set: Wei Wuyin had to travel through them. Of course, he merely needed to succeed the first, then he'd be propelled forward as long as he willingly continued the next tribulation. The size of the Soul Pulse Rings were reflections of its strength, the entire Manifested Spirit Energy gathered by laws of the tribulation.

But the Soul Rings were too large, too far!

If they decided to evoke the largest tribulation possible, they had no idea how far it'd be! It wasn't unthinkable that it'd be beyond their traveling means, no matter how strong they were. So they calculated, they planned, they deviously devised an extremely risky plan that could lead to the complete and total severing of their cultivation path!

To have the Manifested Spirit Energy carry Wei Wuyin to the full tribulation! But he had to come in contact with the first ring at the exact, the 'EXACT', time that they simultaneously merged their Astral Tribulation in unity, making four times into sixteen times! Just a picosecond off, and the tribulation might expand far beyond their means of travel, leaving them with tears but no one to pity them.

That's why they hadn't informed Wei Wuyin. Each cultivator is typically given a single chance at an Astral Tribulation. Even if a crippled cultivator were to be revived, the best that could be done is a reforging of their foundation, allowing their future tribulations to be adjusted, but they could never undergo these tribulations again.

If he failed this one, there was no way for him to proceed on the steps of cultivation.

Its all over...

Knowing Wei Wuyin's innately careful nature, how could he agree to this clearly risky plan! He would've settled for a four times increase in Soul Idol Rings power for each one of them, why forge onwards for an unlikely possibility?

But they were unsatisfied with this, wanting to strive for the best. They didn't want an individual increase of four times minimum, they wanted SIXTEEN! How could the children tell their father they were about to bet the farm in hopes of winning a kingdom?!

Fortunately!

Wei Wuyin's wry smile turned into an amused grin, feeling a sense of pride at the moment. They took a risk he wouldn't, but they knew that he'd want to. And seeing the distance the first ring had traveled, he knew their worries and his own wouldn't have been unfounded. If he had missed the transport shuttle that was the expanding wave of Manifested Spirit Energy, he could only watch from the Yellow Rain Continent in despair.

"I won't say anything because your plan worked. But, now we're faced with an issue." Wei Wuyin's grin slowly faded as his expression revealed a serious pair of eyes.

"What?" Eden was the first to question. Clearly, it had been the mastermind of this bet against all, likely using his unique Alchemical Energies to merge their auras and trick the Astral Tribulation. Now that he thought about it, Wei Wuyin was certain almost all of this was only possible with Eden present.

Wei Wuyin sniffed lightly, "The first Soul Pulse Ring is already this size, this far. Let's put aside the extreme spiritual pressure we'll have to resist as we ascend each ring, even if it'll transport me to the next ring after success, what happens after?"

King, Ori, and Kratos, "..."

Eden, "Hmm."

Wei Wuyin's heart sank once more, a feeling that these little children had tunnel visioned their goal without thinking of the consequences! Even if you bet the farm, can you at least know how you'll rule the Kingdom after?!

HOW THE HELL WAS HE GETTING BACK?!

"Tch," King gave a disdainful tisk, its signature characteristic sound that did little to help any situation. It seemed he wasn't willing to expand any brain power on this. Clearly, it wasn't the brains of the operation.

"We'll figure something out. There's no place I can not go and no cage that can trap me!" Kratos casually spouted some nonsense. The confidence in his voice, however, was quite infectious. Even Wei Wuyin felt that this Draconic Void Soul of his might be able to accomplish the task for a second, but he realized his Bloodline Source was exhausted and his eyelids twitched endlessly.

You're useless right now!

"Lost! Lost! Lost! Yep, we're D-O-O-M-E-D! But at least we have each other!" Ori's optimistic and excited attitude didn't falter for a single moment, but the spelling out their doom was a little worrying. He wasn't sure if it was joking or simply...he didn't even know how to finish that thought. He hoped it was joking!

"..." Eden remained silent. Whether he had a plan or not, Wei Wuyin truly didn't know. But if he knew the truth, that Eden was stumped, he wouldn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Wei Wuyin felt an extremely heavy headache start to pound, but he could do little to alleviate the issue. If they were still in the Dark Void or the Dark Void Sea after this, wouldn't they just die? He truly didn't know what to feel at the moment. On the bright side, he didn't feel as horrible and bleak as he did when he learned about the Calamities of Hell.

What was being lost and dying in the Dark Void in comparison to having one's soul rent into nothingness?! It truly seemed a little insignificant.

"Haha," he laughed heartily. All Wei Wuyin had to do at the moment was take one step at a time, since he was the father-figure of these four, he'll figure it out. It was his job to clean up their messes anyway, right? With this, he refocused his mind to the current task at hand: the Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation.

Chapter 374 - 370: Externalized Together

Feeling the immense spiritual pressure circulating around him, he recalled the characteristics of the Astral Tribulation. According to past records and retellings, to succeed in the Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation was relatively simple. Each Soul Pulse Ring radiated a powerful spiritual pressure that had to

be resisted. After a set period of time, a set time of nine seconds, the Soul Pulse Ring constructed from Manifested Spirit Energy would integrate into the Astral Soul.

Currently, he hasn't officially begun the tribulation. Firstly, he would have to manifest his Soul Idol. These Soul Idols, the amalgamation of his Physical, Mental, Essence, and Soul would be formed by absorbing the ambient Manifested Spirit Energy. Only after they've fully formed in this environment would they then resist the tribulation. This little spiritual pressure might be extreme, capable of crushing any Sky Ruler, but it wasn't even a 1% of the strength the Soul Pulse Ring will release when it truly begins.

This wasn't his tribulation, but the tribulation for his Astral Souls! They must overcome this challenge to determine the strength of their Soul Idols, their truest Spiritual Forms!

Wei Wuyin's eyes brightened. "It's time for you guys to get started. Whether we survive after this or not, what matters is overcoming this obstacle first. Who's first?" As he inquired, he felt the faint thrumming of all his Astral Souls. Instantly, he realized he was under the wrong assumption.

This wasn't an individual tribulation any longer! They were going to face it together!

Normally, his Astral Souls would require him to absorb the Manifested Spirit Energy into his body, refine it into his Astral Souls and slowly mould their forms based on their innate characteristics, but...

「Externalized Art: External Soul of Permanence」

By the power of his Zenith Origin State, he had fashioned and refined his Externalize Method to an extreme, allowing them to take form outside in the most stable manner. Normally, externalizing all four like this would be a vast danger, especially to himself, but he had long since possessed the means to regulate the innate energies within his fleshy body. There was no threat of a sudden explosion via cultivation deviation.

He spread out his arms, with four points in his body brilliantly shining with multicolored light. From his dantian, a white light and a silver light started to brightly glow. The white light was soft, hard, forceful, gentle, explosive, and tranquil! It contained all sorts of contradictory feelings from its brilliance, but it controlled them all in the most perfect manner. Its radiance was divine, brimming with a level of spirituality that could barely be rivaled!

"Ori!" Wei Wuyin shouted within his mind, feeling Ori, his Divine Elemental Astral Soul, start to undulate with a unique power. In a blink of an eye, he extracted itself from his dantian and left. He arrived at his left hand.

As he felt the smooth feeling of the object in his hand, he felt the one-centimeter Astral Soul playfully touch his fingers. It danced with excitement, and from his mind, he could hear Ori's yelps of joy. The spherical orb was extremely beautiful, exceptionally perfect, and seemed to contain a world of endless variation and creativity.

The other light, the silver-colored light, was more direct. Unlike the endless variations, it seemed to exist for the sole reason to slaughter all things by its inconceivably sharp edge. An edge that faced all things fearless without flinching. Be it gods, devils, ghosts, or the heavens, it was defiant to the extreme! With it, one could rule over all creation! With its edge, all things must face its end!

"King!" Wei Wuyin felt the numerous insightful memories of his Big Brother, causing him to subconsciously clench his right hand. When he did, he was shocked to find the King's Astral Core flickering with blazing light that pierced through the gaps of his fist. When he opened his hand, it somehow became a grip for a Saber.

King, his Divine Saber Astral Soul, had projected the exact image of his preferred saber. When he grasped it, he felt his secondary mind slightly tremble. Originally, it was designed as a sword, but it soon took the shape of a saber. It responded to King, causing a saber keen to resound!

Holding Ori in his left and King in his right, he felt incredible!

But it wasn't over!

THUMP! THUMP!! THUMP!!!

The vigorous pound of his heartbeats became increasingly intense as Kratos, his Draconic Void Astral Soul, was slowly awakening. Kratos was a unique cultivation product, similar to the default cultivation of beastmen, it resided within his heart, not his dantian. The heart was the central location of physical energies. It also contained the essence of one's bloodline, and Kratos was the manifestation of those in its most extreme sense!

Wei Wuyin knew that his heart wouldn't be ripped out of his chest, but it certainly felt like it! Slowly, from his chest, a faint scaly head phased through his chest like a ghost of legend. With closed eyes, it swept its tiny head around and pushed forward. It felt extremely strange!

"Kratos!" He called out. Kratos' closed eyes opened slightly. A ray of greyish light erupted and it instantly left Wei Wuyin's chest, floating before his upper torso. He could see a grey-colored Astral Core floating there. It, too, was one-centimeter.

It exuded a vague aura that seemed to be tyrannical yet ever-elusive. Wei Wuyin couldn't make out its form, making him very curious. How did a Draconic Void Astral Soul look?! Or a better question, how did a True Dragon look?! They were existences of myth. If it wasn't for using numerous years of lifeforce to refine it from three drops of its descendants blood essence, he would've never obtained it.

Unfortunately, Kratos was unlike King who projected his image. He could only see faint ripples undulating from its grey surface. But as he peered deeper into the Astral Core, he faintly saw a looming figure swimming within it. He vaguely saw its head and his heart shook. He wasn't certain if it was because he saw Kratos or because Kratos saw him.

After all, Kratos was in many ways his heart.

From his glabella, seven-colored light effused instantly. It exploded outwards like a raging volcano, releasing boundless light. He felt the three other Astral Cores tremble as the light swept them. This was the natural reaction of Astral Souls towards Alchemical Energies! It was tantalizing and nourishing, making it highly desirable!

"Eden!" He felt the light squirm and roots started to appear. It was stretching out from his glabella like hands trying to pull themselves out! Eden was the only Astral Soul that was interconnected with his Sea of Consciousness and Mind's Eye. It stabilized and regulated these two aspects, providing him endless benefits.

As the roots protruded out from his glabella, it soon pulled at the sides of his forehead and slowly caused something to escape! In a blink of an eye, it shot out!

Wei Wuyin felt dizzy. When he regained his sight, he noticed Eden! This Alchemic Eden Astral Soul's image was extraordinarily clear. It was extremely tiny, no bigger than a centimeter, and was the perfect reflection of the Tree of Eden that once stood tall as the Eden Earth Sect's main headquarters!

Despite its incredibly miniaturized state, Wei Wuyin couldn't help but marvel at its exact likeness. It faintly looked like an apple tree with distinct differences. Its trunk was more like a cypress tree often found in swamps, with chaotic roots of varying thickness below. While the crown was larger and had far thicker branches above.

At the edges of these branches were thin streams of vines, and that softly touched the various fruits that seemed to grow on it.

When Wei Wuyin saw those fruits that seemed like a mixture between an apple and mango, he felt melancholic. He had once felt the sentient feelings of the Tree of Eden and even saw its entire life. These fruits had brought it unwanted attention that eventually led to it being worshipped and the cause of endless deaths. It was later imprisoned and domesticated as it grew, wanting to grow so big that it'd reach what it believed to be its mother and father...the solar star and the lunar satellite in the sky.

It just wanted to live at peace away from the hateful things that sought to fight on its behalf, to kill on its assumed will, and enslave it.

His emotions were far too complex and chaotic.

Swish!

Wei Wuyin's eyes widened as he felt a small root rub against his face, wiping away a tear that he hadn't noticed was shed. He looked at Eden's branches and roots that were animatedly moving about. He felt a gentle warmth from its touch. When he looked more at Eden, he felt as if it was smiling and happy.

He couldn't help but smile brightly in return.

After a brief moment, he quickly gathered control of his emotions. With all four Astral Souls externalized, he felt an emptiness within him. This was the first time they had all left him. Like little growing children that had just taken their first steps, they were out on their own expressing their freedom!

Soon, he felt his hands lift as King and Ori left his grasp. Kratos floated alongside Eden. It wasn't long before they gathered together in a straight line at his eye level.

Together, they would face a Soul-Pulse Manifestation Tribulation that wasn't as simple as four times or sixteen times, but the largest tribulation in history of the cultivation world!

Together, they would face anything!

Together, they would face everything!!

Chapter 375 - 371: Racing Through Nine Rings (1)

Wei Wuyin's heart was filled with unfathomable pride at this moment. The four Astral Souls stood unified. It invoked various memories of his life, including how he'd felt when his older brother met his untimely end. He had lost his only true family at that moment, and with it, a portion of his heart. But that missing portion felt as if it was being slowly filled with the pouring image of these four Astral Souls.

Cultivation was a miraculous thing.

With his mind occupied with such thoughts, the four Astral Souls acted! They stood together at the central point of the first Soul Pulse Ring, swimming within the dark void, slowly observing the Manifested Spirit Energy that seemed to exist. It was extremely abundant and tantalizing.

The first to take action was Eden. Eden was the construct of Eden Energy, an existence of the Mind Dao, and Alchemic Energy. The latter energies allowed for great refinement abilities, far beyond what the other Astral Souls could compare. The others took a small step back, allowing Eden to begin.

Its one-centimeter tree body started to radiate seven-colored light as it erupted in the surroundings for hundreds of miles in an instant! Even Wei Wuyin was washed by the light, feeling invigorated and fiery. The Manifested Spirit Energy was present as a faint cyan glow, but as the seven-colored light swept this glow, it was rapidly transformed into billions of brightly cyan-colored orbs about a few meters in size each. They were all the same size and filled the surroundings in every direction.

Wei Wuyin gawked at wonder, seeing the Manifested Spirit Energy be rapidly refined. While the seven-colored light merely swept for a few miles, it lasted for several seconds. These seconds caused the entirety of the starfield's Manifested Spirit Energy to be refined.

He realized that the ambient energy was filling in at speeds that were inconceivable, so as it was refined, new and pure Manifested Spirit Energy would emerge and be refined as well. In the matter of seconds, all the Manifested Spirit Energy was drawn to the center and refined!

His heart pounded with amazement at this detail, realizing that Eden's ability to process the situation and circumstances were far, far faster than his own. While he had similarly reduced the unique speed of Manifested Spirit Energy thanks to him being carried away and his own Celestial Eyes, he hadn't yet reached the point of understanding to do something like this.

Observing the billions of Manifested Spirit Energy that filled the entire world, he felt intrigued.

Then Kratos took the stage. The other three clustered around it in a make-shift ring, their bodies emitting various light. Kratos' grey Astral Core started to ripple with nearly invisible waves that swept all the Manifested Spirit Energy Orbs. He couldn't even blink before he felt a depression form at the location they were and the Manifested Spirit Energy Orbs started to rapidly vanish with seemingly no reason.

'Void Force!' He mentally exclaimed, witnessing the unique aspects of spatial shifting and condensing that exceeded anything he'd read about before. While he knew Void Dao contained the grand profundities of space, time, and astronomical forces, he still found it shocking when he observed its abilities. Even if he'd traveled through the Void once before.

Those orbs vanished and the various lights surrounding the Astral Souls started to brighten and condense into a thicker, more viscous-like substance. They wrapped around their bodies and he could

see them refine the Manifested Spirit Energy at unimaginable speeds. Despite being extremely familiar with their abnormal refinement speeds, he still found their coordination to refine billions of Manifested Spirit Energy Orbs in moments shocking.

Also, he didn't need to wait long. Typically, it would require a few days for the body to refine the Manifested Spirit Energy into the Astral Soul, forming the primary Spiritual Form of the Astral Soul. This would be the base of their Soul Idol when manifested into existence.

He could only silently watch on the side, thankful for their swift speed. He was still within the Dark Void's hazardous environment, shrouded in astral force mimicking atmospheric conditions to sustain him. With its current remaining forces, it would only last a little under two minutes. This would be cutting it extremely close.

Without this protection resisting the unusual coldness of the Dark Void, he might plunder into the sweet embrace of death long before. But calculating the time of overcoming each Soul Pulse Ring, he felt it would be enough.

The first to finish their refinement was Eden. With his innate qualities, he could refine every type of energy far faster than his fellow brethren. Its tree body started to tremble with a faint cyan glow as its Astral Core released faint light. The tree started to experience rapid growth, going from one-centimeter to ten meters in a blink of an eye.

Then, the others followed suit. King became second, surprising Wei Wuyin, as its saber form expanded to ten meters. Ori and Kratos were seemingly spherical orbs, with the former being like a bright solar star and the latter like a dim lunar satellite. Ori emitted endless white light that revealed the spirituality of various elements, diffusing that light like a star into its surroundings.

But Kratos's transformation was slightly different. His Astral Core was still one-centimeter in size, seemingly containing a creature swimming within it. But the faint ripples it effused expanded to ten meters.

Wei Wuyin gasped slightly as he observed these ten meters of void ripples, feeling as if he was observing something unfathomable. With his Celestial Eyes, he swore he could see a pair of eyes opening and closing! He felt that the profound Void Dao exceeded the current level of his Celestial Eye, otherwise he would've been able to see Kratos's true body. A body that seemed to be hidden within the boundless and mysterious void.

When they finished their expansions, he realized from Kratos that their actual Astral Core hadn't enlarged by ten meters, but their Spiritual Forms had been constructed at that size.

Zuuung!

A sound erupted in the surroundings, causing his silver eyes to contract! The tribulation was officially starting! Preparing himself for the worse, he watched the four Astral Souls. The cyan glow started to condense into waves, liquid-like in form, and started to cascade upon them from all directions like a vicious waterfall.

The frightening collapse was shocking, causing his heart to race. The level of spiritual strength wasn't directed at him, but he could feel its immense strength. Just the first Soul Pulse Ring at this level was enough to crush any ordinary Soul Idol cultivator in mind, body, and spirit.

But to these four Astral Souls who've refined numerous eighth-grade products that enhanced their innate physical, mental, and essence energies while augmenting their spiritual strength, this was child's play! They gathered together and took up a direction each, seemingly trembling in laughter as they met the crushing force!

1...

2...

4...

7...

When the last ninth second of refinement was reached, his eyes widened as the first Soul Pulse Ring started to tremble. The sight was beyond majestic, witnessing the quiver of a cyan ring that encircled the entire starfield. The sheer vastness of it expanded his understanding of enormity and horizons of what was possible. But this enormous ring's trembling lasted for a brief moment before it shrunk around the four.

In a matter of a moment, it had become only a few hundred meters in size!

Wei Wuyin could now see his Astral Souls clearly. Their Spiritual Forms were more lifelike and exuded a unique spirituality. He recalled that with each refinement, a Soul Idol goes from being transparent to solid, until the Ninth Soul Ring that brought it to its full manifested form, even capable of temporarily merging with the cultivator in some exciting ways.

Zuhei had once demonstrated this ability to great effect.

The Soul Pulse Ring shattered into trillions of pieces and in a blink of an eye, was divided into four portions that were siphoned and refined by the four Astral Souls. He then saw a cyan-colored Soul Ring encircle their Spiritual Forms!

If he were to stop here, no longer willing to advance, he would be a one-Ringed Soul Idol, capable of activating its unique properties to exhibit extraordinary spiritual strength! But this was clearly not a possibility! He fearlessly interfaced with the four Astral Souls.

Despite their independent and audacious actions, they still needed him to steer the tribulation. The only reason they were capable of initiating their own tribulations was because he had done it on Ori and they were all connected. It was easy to use it to jumpstart their own, mimicking the resonance signal for the tribulation.

But without Wei Wuyin, they would still be incapable of advancing or cultivating, lacking the aspects that only a True Soul possessed: the right to cultivate.

Therefore, their existence was a shared one, especially on the path of cultivation.

"Go!" He exclaimed, but with the Dark Void's environment, it only sounded out in his atmospheric bubble. Still, it initiated a response from the second Soul Pulse Ring! It started to release Manifested Spirit Energy that encapsulated around him and his Astral Souls. In a blink of an eye, he was shifted into the center of the second Soul Pulse Ring!

When he turned to see behind him, his eyes shrunk. The distance between them and the starfield had become even greater! The three solar stars were now little specks in the distance, causing him to gulp involuntarily. The thought of never returning, lost in the vastness of the Dark Void, caused his heart to tremble.

By the time he finally calmed himself, turning around to see his Astral Souls. They had expanded to twenty meters in size, having thoroughly absorbed the Manifested Spirit Energy in the surroundings in the same manner as before. The spiritual pressure once more initiated, and the power of it caused him to be shocked.

If he had to compare the sheer strength of this force, he felt that only the most elite Soul Idol experts could resist. This caused him to pale slightly. If it was already this terrifying at the second ring, what about the ninth?!

But his Astral Souls were immensely powerful with the best foundation fueled by alchemical products! They were by no means fragile, and just a single one of them could decimate any Soul Idol cultivator with ease. This was clear when he struck down the three Gold-Starred Beasts in the Grand Spirit Trials with just Kratos, who still had an exhausted Bloodline Source!

They were fearless, yelping in excitement at the challenge. He had even felt as if he heard King 'tch' with disdain. A faint smile emerged on his face as the full nine seconds of spiritual refinement soon passed. With the subsequent shattering and absorption of the Soul Pulse Ring, a second Soul Ring formed around them!

Two-Ringed Soul Idol!

His eyes brightened. Once more, he unleashed his will to proceed! The four Astral Souls mimicked his will, releasing faint light effusing an intense spirit. As for traveling far, far beyond the starfield? That was something to worry about in two minutes!

Onwards!

In a split second, he was whisked away again!

Chapter 376 - 372: Racing Through Nine Rings (2)

The third Soul Pulse Ring's spiritual pressure was far beyond what an ordinary Soul Idol expert could unleash. But the now thirty meter-sized Astral Souls were unflinching, withstanding it with seemingly utter ease. The ring soon shattered, being wildly absorbed by the Astral Souls and forming a third Soul Ring around their Spiritual Forms.

They soon zipped far, far away, arriving at the center of the fourth Soul Pulse Ring. Wei Wuyin was somewhat startled at the moment. The size of this ring was dozens of times larger than the starfield. But even still, he had only seen the vast darkness of the Dark Void. It was seemingly endless. It was seemingly boundless.

Wei Wuyin felt that there would be a nearby starfield nearby, and the possibility of being carried to these starfields was a possibility. However, he saw nothing but darkness and in the faint distance behind him, the bright light emitted by the three solar stars of his own starfield. This shocked him somewhat.

But what happened next caused his heart to fiercely quake!

His Astral Souls withstood the fourth Soul Ring, which exuded a spiritual pressure that touched upon the next phase of power. He knew that Spiritual Strength wasn't determined by a cultivator's phase. In fact, most Soul Idol cultivators don't experience any upgrade in spiritual strength from the Soul Idol Phase to the Spatial Resonance Phase.

So, this 'phase' was like another tier of quality.

He didn't know how to describe its power, wishing there was a form of numerical depiction of spiritual strength. As he thought about this, Eden quivered slightly. He was instantly sent a transmitted thought, his eyes shining brightly as a result.

Was there a numerical depiction of Spiritual Strength? There wasn't! But Eden wasn't a part of the Mind Dao for nothing nor an Alchemic Astral Soul that possessed the extraordinary means of the Alchemic Dao for show. Seemingly bearing the same thought as Wei Wuyin, Eden started to measure the Spiritual Strength in much the same way as weight was measured.

Using the lowest portion of extractable yet fully stable spiritual strength within the lowest imaginable quantity of spiritual energy, it devised and determined it as spirit units. As these 'spirit units' combined together to form greater connective bonds, the 'total' power of Spiritual Strength was elevated.

By this seemingly conceived standard, the first Soul Pulse Ring that was slightly stronger than an ordinary Soul Idol Expert was measured as 1,200 Spirit Units of Spiritual Strength. The second ring, according to these described standards, was roughly 1,600 Spirit Units. It was four hundred units of strength beyond the first!

The third was 2,000 and this fourth ring exuded a strength of 2,800. He felt that beyond 2,000 units might've been the substantial difference of this 'new' phase of spiritual strength. His eyes widened at Eden's means, once more praising the Mind Dao's calculative abilities.

But the event that shook his heart finally occurred as he was whisked away to the fifth ring. While its strength was at the 3,600 level, that's not what shook him! What shook him was his current location!

His eyes widened as he saw a lifeless husk of floating rock in the Dark Void to his left. He was only a few thousand miles away from it, but he could see it! Furthermore, as he swept his Celestial Eyes across the world around him, he realized that he was surrounded by earthly debris! There were numerous bits and chunks of solid rock floating all around him.

They were all dim and dark grey, seemingly lifeless. He could see the coldness of the Dark Void had infected it, depriving it of any semblance of its original form. His heart was quaking as he inspected a portion of these chunks and found that their sizes could rival some continental flat earths of his starfield!

When his Astral Souls, now fifty meters in their Spiritual Form, completed their refinement in nine seconds, he was shifted away to the sixth ring. But his eyes widened in unbelievable shock! When he turned his head back, he saw it.

It was an utterly vast area filled with debris! The area was slightly the size of his own starfield, yet there was nothing but crushed bits of lifeless rock everywhere. When his Celestial Eyes peered into their existence, his entire existence shivered. A word left his lips...

"Planets..."

He had seen the fragments of planets! They contained faint traces of their previous star cores, once emitting vibrant and powerful energies. Even the numerous years of cold intrusion by the Dark Void could only lower it to the lowest level, not extinguish it entirely.

This was a starfield!!

A starfield that had all its Continental Flat Earths and Planets destroyed! Furthermore, as he swept his eyes for something, he paled in abject horror, even his complexion turned ashen like snow. He had experienced fear before, but his inability to find something within this starfield caused an untold level of it to surge in his heart.

"Where's...where's the Solar Star?!" A solar star was an existence that emitted heat and light, qualities needed for life. There was no way this starfield was destroyed without having a solar star. Furthermore, these things seemed to have been in a particular orbit, not floating endlessly in the Dark Void Sea.

He gulped. But before he could gather himself, he felt the pressing concern of his Astral Souls as they shouted for his focus. He issued a roar in his heart, and his body was whisked away to the seventh ring. While his Astral Souls raced through the Soul Pulse Rings with fearless vigor, Wei Wuyin felt his mind continuously tremble.

Not just because of the previous sight, but because he was shifted away even further. He had somehow gone even further than ever before, already leaving the crumbs of the former starfield behind, traversing an entire Dark Void Sea, and arriving at the edge of what seemed to be another starfield!

This starfield was even more devastated than before. There were barely any chunks of rock that were larger than a continental flat earth, but he saw a planet, no, a former planet that was fragmented perfectly. These tens of thousands of fragments floated with each other and could be easily pieced together with some effort.

His Celestial Eyes could view their former form, realizing it was larger than any planet in his own starfield. This caused him to gulp once more, trying to find the Solar Star but to no avail. For some reason, his heart was feeling incredibly tense.

He turned to his Astral Souls who now sported Six-Ringed Spiritual Forms, resisting the spiritual pressure with their unified effort. It seemed the power of this trial already exceeded their individual limits. Now they were thoroughly working in coordinated action, seemingly shifting the refinement pressure through each of them to lower the strain on each other.

If they failed to resist, they would shatter and his path of cultivation would end. But he could do nothing to help them but silently cheer them on. This was their tribulation. He had accepted this fact when they

revealed sentience long ago; this particular path of cultivation was theirs. His own path involved cultivating spells, arts, methods, alchemy, formations, and arrays. But the basic principles of this cultivation path were theirs.

They were the canvas and paint, he was the painter.

Now, they had to withstand the natural elements to prevent their ruin. He could only hope they could resist. If they could, they would be stronger than ever before.

As for his own dilemma, he was pondering about the destroyed starfields. He hadn't even known much about other starfields, simply that the King of Everlore had once ventured out in search for other starfields that contained what he needed to surpass his limits long ago.

He cursed himself for not bringing Wu Yu with him. He wished he could ask him questions, but he didn't wish to expose all his secrets to an outsider. In fact, a Mystic Ascendant might be able to help him overcome his current predicament. Unfortunately...

Well, there was no pill for regret, so he felt no need for it. With a quick second of a breath, he realigned his mentality and focused on what he could do rather than what he hadn't done or couldn't do. He had already formulated an idea. Whether it'll work will depend on his luck.

After the nine seconds were over, the Soul-Pulse Ring shattered, and was swiftly absorbed by his Astral Souls. With that, he urged himself to push forward. Tense heart aside, he needed to overcome this obstacle before him first.

The eighth Soul Pulse Ring was even further, bringing him into the Dark Void Sea that lacked any objects or obstacles. He couldn't help but praise his luck that he hadn't smashed into any objects along the way. He felt that this had somehow been due to his high Karmic Luck Value. Thinking of that, his eyes brightened.

Maybe...

The spiritual pressure of the eighth Soul Pulse Ring was extremely powerful! He felt choked to the maximum by it, his mind nearly turned dark. He wasn't even the target! Yet his Astral Souls had to experience this at full force. He wanted to ask Eden regarding the spiritual strength level of this one, but it was occupied fully with sending streams of seven-colored light into the other three. It was pulsating with so much power he felt awed by its efforts.

It was clearly working to refine the spiritual pressure that was integrating into their Spiritual Forms, trying to offset some of it. Even Kratos was releasing thundering ripples outwards that met the spiritual pressure. It was as if it was sending a portion of that force elsewhere.

King was releasing fierce saber light that seemed to dominate the world, swiping in all directions as it shielded its siblings. Ori wasn't doing much. Out of the four, it seemed to have the greatest troubles resisting. This shocked him considering the profound aspects of Elemental Origin Energy. As a Material Dao-based Astral Soul, could its spiritual aspects be weaker than the other three?

But after some thought, he also felt that shouldn't be right, considering she was a 'Divine' Astral Soul. In terms of Spiritual Strength, she and King were innately stronger than Kratos and Eden. This was quite puzzling to him. Fortunately, he soon found out the truth.

After the full nine seconds, completing the eighth ring, the other three were almost thoroughly exhausted. There was barely any time to waste, the atmospheric bubble was already reaching its utter limits, having a dozen or so seconds left.

He didn't panic, however.

Wei Wuyin calmly issued a command in his heart and they zoomed away! This time it was further than the total distance of one through eight, causing him to travel an untold amount of distance. When he arrived, his eyes widened once more.

What he saw shook him to his very core.

But his Astral Souls acted at this exact moment, especially Ori. It unleashed its elemental origin energy at the earliest moment, releasing these powers into the bodies of the other three. Somehow, their Spiritual Forms started to glow with a white brilliant, seemingly regaining their precious vigor! It had given them all its energy!

The other three roared in their own way, with a saber keen, a draconic shout, and twisting of roots and branches as they excitedly moved about. They took a triangle formation with Ori at the center, protecting their now weakest member.

They had Ori restrain itself, storing all its energy to share at the very last moment! This was extremely brilliant! The one thing about elemental energies was their easy to refine state, and this was even more certain with elemental origin energy. Its versatile nature and highly adaptable quality allowed for the quickest stim injection for them.

After all, since the Elemental Birth Phase of the Qi Condensation Realm, they had refined elemental energies into their very core!

While Void Energies, Draconic Energies, Saber Energies, and Alchemic Eden Energies were extremely powerful, they lacked that essential quality of easy conversion.

With this, they faced the greatest tribulation of a Soul Idol since ancient history till now together!

Wei Wuyin, however, was far too amazed to watch as they triumphed against all odds with their jointly exquisite planning. He trusted them entirely, so it didn't matter whether he observed. His eyes were unblinkingly watching the distance. He was still in the Dark Void Sea, but also at the very edge outside a starfield.

But this starfield...

This starfield had a solar star!

Furthermore, there was ONLY one!!

And...

When he saw the sheer enormity of it, his heart stopped beating for a moment. It must've been, from this distance, the size of half his starfield. To add to the already fascinating, it had a white-colored radiant ring circulating around it. Its yellowish-red surface was accompanied by that ring that seemed to be much larger than the star itself.

Within that ring, he could've sworn there was something swimming within, and it felt very, very, very close to a Soul Pulse Ring's Manifested Spirit Energy, but it contained something his Celestial Eyes had never seen before! He was rendered utterly breathless at the gorgeous sight of its brilliance.

He hadn't noticed the planets or the flat continental earth nearby, just that solar star that took up almost the entirety of one's vision. It seemed to invoke a sensation of desire from every ounce of his flesh, causing every cell in his body to shake, and every thought in his mind to thrum.

Before he could absorb more, lost in his own mental wonder, he felt the atmospheric bubble swiftly fade away. The unique coldness of the Dark Void started to invade and infect his flesh, entering his bones, and trying to freeze his thoughts. It was so extremely cold that his eyes nearly bulged out of their sockets!

Compared to the Dark Void coldness near his starfield, this one was far, far, far stronger. He reached out his hand towards the solar star surrounded by a ring as his vision started to darken. Fortunately, his Astral Souls had already finished their ninth refinement at this exact moment, re-entering his body in the blink of an eye.

The shock of Eden entering his mind shook loose the last bits of his consciousness. He felt the world start to fully blacken in all his senses, but he hadn't lost everything yet!

He connected with his heart, feeling Kratos' power. He withdrew a strange disk from his storage ring alongside numerous materials with indescribably and prepared quickness. He hadn't been completely lost, making plans on a way to return home. Regardless of anything, he didn't want to be a floating corpse in the Dark Void for all eternity.

There was but one way, no matter how unlikely!

Kratos!

'Use it!' He commanded in his heart, sending the now boundless draconic void force into the strange disk, connecting with the materials floating beside it. A slight pop sound could be heard. He felt his body move slightly as his consciousness quickly faded, frozen by the Dark Void's coldness...

Chapter 377 - 373: She Arrives

After the All-Alchemic Clash, the inhabitants of the starfield continued to simmer with the news of the upcoming new era. There was a stream of never-ending excitement, some even referring to this new era as the best era possible. With the Princess of Everlore and Ascendant Emperor of Neo-Dawn's joint birth during this time, the legacy of alchemy will certainly experience great leaps. It will likely exceed the now considered 'archaic' era of the King of Everlore.

The hope of ascending their phases and touching the realm beyond lit a burning fire within the hearts of numerous youthful geniuses. The idea of being the next Founding Monarch Wu Yu or Divine King Han Xei was infectious, spreading faster amongst these youths than a contagious virus.

There were an incalculable number of young men that sought to either be a subordinate to Wei Wuyin or obtain the Princess of Everlore's divine favor. There were countless women of outstanding status and beauty that sought to invest themselves into Wei Wuyin's lovelife. The very thought of becoming the wife, concubine, or even the mistress of such a figure was far too heavenly. Not only was he a talented

cultivator that awed the world with his strength, he was a man of unearthly handsome looks and skills. While numerous women desired with their hearts, there were a few women that actually had the opportunity to make this true.

On the Myriad Monarch Main Planet, the first level of the Extreme Imperial Mountain, was the sect's Void Gate for public usage. While it still required the overseer's, Mortal Captain-rank Elder Li Ling, permission to activate, it was regulated and used by the majority of those that needed to traverse the stars. While there were numerous personalized Void Gates in the Myriad Monarch Sect, few could ever use them unless connected to the owners.

At the moment, several figures were talking near the Void Gate. One of these figures was easily recognizable by the disciples and members of the sect as the recently declared Grand Prince of the sect, Long Chen. His dark eyes, black hair, and sharp eyebrows made his facial features rather distinct. This is especially so after the fiasco with Wei Wuyin where he seemingly challenged their Ascendant Emperor to Imperial Combat.

He was booed off stage, insulted by the crowd, and then taken away by Ji Changkong, the Grand Imperial Sage of the Extreme War Mountain. It was quite a humiliating affair. If it wasn't for Wei Wuyin diffusing the situation, silencing the crowd with simply his presence, who knows what other outlandishly vicious words would've been shouted at this so-called Grand Prince.

Due to this event, few even considered Long Chen an actual Grand Prince of the Sect. Of course, no one antagonized him directly, but the whispers and jeers in the surroundings were there. As a Grand Prince, he had similar authority as a Heavenly King, and few could withstand that Power of Authority. It wouldn't even be far-fetched to say that if Long Chen heard any insults towards him from a lesser ranked member, it was in his right to execute them.

It was quite a sensitive edge to walk, but there were still the brave few who took the challenge. Fortunately, Long Chen had grown used to ignoring the opinions of others from his early years. In fact, he used it as a fuel to empower himself further to give these people a resounding slap as their opinions would usually change after sometime. The thought of leaving them with red faces and bitter smiles was a natural tonic to Long Chen's thriving spirit.

Beside Long Chen there were other five figures, and they were discussing seemingly stressful matters. These five figures were Lian Yu, Long Tingyu, Xiang Ling, Na Xinyi, and Qing Qiumu.

Lian Yu's facial expression that was normally gentle like water was slightly unsightly, twisted in with a frustrated frown and a pair of furrowed brows. Her water-like pupils rippled with displeasure.

"How can you say this?! Especially after everything we've been through together!" Lian Yu didn't hide her anger. She spoke with a frank and aggressive tone. Her words were directed to Na Xinyi, the only figure that seemingly lost her right to be considered a beauty, with her sickly pale skin and dried hair. Even her normally bright grey eyes lacked any brilliance.

She was still dealing with the fallout of sacrificing her Primal Yins for Long Chen, extracting them using a very dangerous method. It had damaged her Yin Sources, causing a decline in her physique and difficulty in maintaining the quality of her skin and self. Her womanly charms were draining from the damage, still

continuously inflicting her with consequences. At the time, she hadn't regretted it, but now she was brought to the lowest form of acceptable beauty and felt the fierce difference.

To the eyes of the people around, they looked at her with faint hints of disgust and indifference. There was no more envy, desire, and appreciation. Even before she awoke her Three-Point Yin Physique, she was still an average looking woman.

She pouted her lips at Lian Yu's questioning, but remained silent.

Na Xinyi had decided to take Wei Wuyin's offer, to become his wife. This was a decision that had been made with much deliberation, an internal conflict that had eaten at her since before he was the Ascendant Emperor of Neo-Dawn, before he was the Prince of Everlore, before he was even a Heavenly King.

Wei Wuyin was her first man, and he had spared her life in a moment where there was no benefit in doing so, allowing her to live freely and cultivate with her newfound physique and talent. Others would have simply taken everything she possessed in her moment of weakness, and disposed of her corpse in the wild without a second thought.

In the beginning, she hated Wei Wuyin for forcing her to choose between freedom or death, feeling as if she didn't have a choice in the matter. She felt violated and her liberties had been taken away from her by a despicable man. Her hatred grew and even passed along to Long Chen who emotionally swore to get revenge on her behalf.

But after being exposed to the greater world, to seeing the true meaning of a 'vile and despicable' man or woman, she reflected on the event. Her emotions towards it changed to understanding the sheer amount of grace and mercy shown at that moment. Furthermore, he actually freed her. Most would've lied, kept her as a pet until her usefulness was over.

Furthermore, he didn't shy away from taking responsibility when confronted. This only served to better her thoughts of him. She at least wanted to give him a second chance. If they had met under better circumstances, who knew what could've happened?

When she informed Long Chen of her choice, he went deathly silent and stared at her with a blank and seemingly indifferent gaze. It shook her to the core. She was even frightened that he might harm her. Fortunately, she was with Qing Qiumu, Long Tingyu, and Xiang Ling. She felt comforted by her foresight to declare this in a public place with mutual friends.

His stare truly gave her dangerous vibes, like a beast about to be driven to the edge. Lian Yu, however, was rather vocal. This comforted her a little. After all, sound was much better than silence to the human psyche.

Lian Yu's berating hadn't stopped, "Do you think he'll treat you like an actual wife? He's merely using you to attack Long Chen! Are you truly too much of a fool to see this?" She had her opinion, and since Wu Baozhai and Lin Ziyang had left for Wei Wuyin, her calm and quiet demeanor had become corrupted by her dark emotions of rage and disgust.

One by one, all of Long Chen's female companions were leaving. Worse of all, they left for Wei Wuyin. Even Hong Ru and Xiao Bing, those two who should've owed Long Chen the world, were currently cultivating in Wei Wuyin's Sky Palace doing who knows what with him!

Her words caused Qing Qiumu and Xiang Ling's brows to twitch almost simultaneously. They both held an extremely high opinion of Wei Wuyin.

Qing Qiumu interjected, "You have no real evidence that Wei Wuyin even wants to attack Long Chen."

Xiang Ling added with a hint of frustration, "Wei Wuyin had spared Long Chen on many occasions, and has not once used his authority over him. You shouldn't slander others!"

Qing Qiumu fired off right after, standing by Na Xinyi, "It is Na Xinyi's choice if she wishes to take Wei Wuyin as her husband, and his choice whether he is willing to accept it. You have no right to interfere with or insult her choice. She's not Long Chen's wife, his woman, or his possession. Frankly, she's sacrificed much for Long Chen already. If this is what she truly wants, then we all should respect it."

While Qing Qiumu spoke words of defense for Na Xinyi, her heart felt conflicted. She didn't know why but she did.

Lian Yu was taken aback. The unified rebuttal caused her to be unable to speak further. She didn't know what to say, only looking at Long Chen in her shock as if seeking his support.

Long Chen's expression darkened. His eyes slowly roamed on Qing Qiumu's face. The two had known each other the longest, but she also seemed to have a very close relationship with Wei Wuyin. The fact she was speaking up for him, especially so that Na Xinyi could be taken by him, caused his heart to twist and distort. While others couldn't see, the latent rage hidden within his mind was burning without end. The fuel for this rage was an image of Wei Wuyin.

Na Xinyi felt warmth suffuse her heart after witnessing Qing Qiumu defend her. Just as she was about to say some words, a few gasps and exclamations of the surrounding crowd resounded, drawing away their attention.

"It's Grand Sage Tuo Bihan!" A voice pointed out, causing the heads of numerous others to shift. They saw a grey robed old man with a slight smile, who seemingly just exited out of a Void Gate transport.

"OH MY GOD, who's that?!" A male who wasn't really a member of the silent thought club shouted. His index finger trembled as he pointed to a figure that stood beside Tuo Bihan. While there were others nearby, this figure stood out far more than others. If this figure had to be summed up in two words, they would be: Breathtaking Beauty.

Dressed in a form-fitting crimson-colored phoenix cheongsam, with long sleeves. It hid the legs, but the exquisite shape and length was betrayed with every step. There were golden and red feathers on the lower edges of the dress, giving it an ethereal vibe. It almost seemed at times that the figure was being carried by a cloud of feathers.

But the magnificent dress was outshined by the one who wore it. Her waist-length silky hair was black as night and as wavy hair, like a cascading waterfall within the immortal world. Every shift of her head, of her body, caused it to produce a mesmerizing sight that snatched one's gaze. This was only further accentuated by her gorgeous countenance.

Thinly figured s-shaped brows alongside her teardrop face was already a prelude to an extraordinary image, but they were enhanced by her hazel eyes that contained faint navy blue flecks that seemed as if blessed by the Goddess of the Sea, and rich and smooth caramel skin. Coupled with her double-lobed full lips that seemed as soft as water, as sweet as immortal candy, and seemingly shaped by divinity to symmetric perfection completed her.

Her body was the last aspect individuals would be drawn to, but it was unforgettable no matter who saw it. Her slim, curvaceous bodily frame was supported by a pair of large, perky, and curvy breasts that seemed almost sculpted even through her brassiere. Even her romp wasn't lacking, accentuating her curves and having a firm, bounciness to it that invoked the hottest feelings in a man.

A breathtaking beauty might not even do her justice, but she certainly took everyone's breath away.

The gawking gazes of numerous figures focused on her, be it man or woman.

Tuo Bihan noticed this and faintly smiled, turning to the young woman and saying, "Xue Yifei, little lass, this is the Myriad Monarch Sect. What do you think?"

Chapter 378 - 374: Chill Of The Dark Void

Xue Yifei and Tuo Bihan weren't alone, having arrived with three others via the newly constructed Void Gate in the Bloodforge Continent. They were Ying, who was garbed in complete black, from head to toe, and even his eyes weren't visible. He quietly stayed behind Xue Yifei.

Despite his dark attire, his presence was extremely minuscule, and unless one was staring directly at his figure, they wouldn't be able to notice his existence. That shadowy-like presence was extremely particular, suitable for those of his occupation.

Xiao Bai, Wei Wuyin's pegasus, had returned! His arrogant smirk and imposing figure had grown considerably, reaching eighty meters in height. Despite his size, he still was unable to take the scene's attention due to Xue Yifei.

The last was Yu Beimei, a multi-colored robed female Heavenly Commander of the Myriad Monarch Sect. She was a middle-aged human with a disinterested gaze. Her slightly muscular form and imposing physical presence alluded to her physique being refined to an extraordinary extent.

She had been sent by Wei Wuyin to the Bloodforge Continent after the collapse of the Void Gate, designated as Xue Yifei's instructor. She had been brought to Wei Wuyin's side relatively early. As she was someone who was also a human and someone who cultivated her spirit of cultivation in her heart, she was extremely compatible with Xue Yifei.

Yu Beimei was known as being stoic and direct, but having a kindhearted nature hidden beneath her hardened form.

Xue Yifei glanced at the surroundings, awe in her heart as she observed the sky-reaching Penta Dao Extreme Mountains that defined the Myriad Monarch Sect. She had lived in the Bloodforge Continent since she was born, never getting the chance to explore the greater world. As for visiting the Myriad Monarch Sect? With her talent and status, she didn't believe she would ever have the ability to do so.

Her 'wowed' expression induced numerous gulps from the surrounding men, their hearts leaping out of their chest as they observed this astonishing woman take in the sights.

Long Chen's group was similarly shaken by her presence. Especially Long Chen. His eyes were extremely wide as he saw this gorgeous woman that didn't lose out when compared to Na Xinyi at her peak or Qing Qiumu at present. Furthermore, her presence was far more noticeable and aggressive than theirs, forcefully demanding attention. In fact, she might be slightly higher than them.

When he thought this, his eyes were burning with interest.

Lian Yu was startled, witnessing how all these men were losing themselves over some random woman. But she couldn't help but turn to Long Chen, observing his signature light of desire within his eyes. She couldn't help but frown, but she always knew that Long Chen wasn't a one-woman man, so she soon soothed out her expression.

Qing Qiumu's thoughts were slightly different, not intimidated by her beauty, but intrigued by her escorts. Yu Beimei was a well-known Heavenly Commander-rank Elder of the sect and Tuo Bihan was the strongest figure within the sect at the moment. Yet she was being brought here by those two, especially Tuo Bihan. Furthermore, he seemed to be rather amiable.

This pricked her curiosity.

As for beauty, she was never one to feel inferior. She was absolutely confident in her own looks, and Xue Yifei was a human, not an elf, so it was rather difficult to compare anyhow. They were physiologically and anatomically different, from body type to facial features. For example, her eyes were naturally sharper and she sported pointy ears. Even her figure was more slender than the other races.

Xue Yifei answered Tuo Bihan's question, revealing her soft and velvety voice: "This is amazing! I can't believe these mountains reach beyond the clouds, stretching to the highest heavens like the legends say!"

Tuo Bihan felt some pride. After all, these mountains were man-made, not naturally formed. The design was a product of their ancestors, and so he couldn't help but feel smug. He swept his eyes casually over the crowd when he paused his gaze on the group of six.

"Baby Prince?" He said aloud, not expecting Long Chen to arrive. His odd naming sense once more was revealed, but it caused the nearby crowd to hear it. They turned to Tuo Bihan, then to Long Chen, and then a few couldn't help but laugh. Some were so purposely loud that it felt fake, but they were truly laughing.

Xue Yifei was startled, turning to see Long Chen.

Long Chen's gaze became dark after being called Baby Prince, but when he felt Xue Yifei's gaze meet his body, his entire self started to faintly tremble. He faintly smiled, disregarding the laughter and Tuo Bihan's words. He seemed entirely undisturbed by the event.

Xue Yifei saw this and frowned slightly. She didn't get a good feeling from this man, but she didn't know why. After a brief moment, she turned away and asked Tuo Bihan, "Will we be going to the Sky Palaces?" Her hazel eyes brightened with excitement. She was particularly excited to meet Wei Wuyin again.

They hadn't seen each other for so long. While she frequently exchanged transmitted messages with him, it wasn't the same as in person. Furthermore, she still intended to change her title of concubine to wife one day. But she knew it might be far more difficult than before, especially with his newfound fame in the entire starfield.

She had not expected that this arranged union was to be a figure that will likely define the next era. She didn't know if she was lucky or...no, she was certainly lucky.

Tuo Bihan responded, "I'll let 'him' take you on that tour. For now, I'll take you to meet the various major figures of the sect, familiarize yourself with them." And, he quietly thought, they could have an opportunity to establish a relationship with one of the few women Wei Wuyin had a real relationship with. He knew many would kill for this opportunity. Furthermore, he owed some favors that had been cashed in by a few after learning he was going to retrieve Xue Yifei.

Xue Yifei's eyes brightened even more, intrigued by these major figures of the sect. These were characters that she might've never been able to even see in her lifetime before. She nodded with a hint of joy. But she still wondered where Wei Wuyin was. She was surprised that he hadn't picked her up personally.

Yu Beimei stayed close to Xue Yifei, especially as her instructor. She was waiting for Wei Wuyin to arrive, so she could be judged on her work and receive her rewards. Considering Wei Wuyin's status, it will likely be extremely rewarding.

Woosh!

A dark light shot from the distance, causing Xiao Bai to neigh in joy at the familiar sight. Su Mei shot through the skies and arrived, landing next to Tuo Bihan, Xue Yifei, and Yu Beimei. She calmly swept her gaze by Yu Beimei, inspecting Xue Yifei briefly, and then turned to Xiao Bai who was moving very animatedly.

She faintly smiled, reaching her hand out. Xiao Bai acted in the most practiced, most familiar manner and brought its large head forward to be caressed by Su Mei. After spending years with Su Mei, he had already recognized her as his true master.

'It's *her!*' Long Chen was startled by Su Mei's arrival. He knew she was Wei Wuyin's female companion. Thinking about her being his female companion, a dark thought emerged in his mind. A thought to allow Wei Wuyin to experience what it meant for a woman to leave him for another. Those thoughts were festering and fueled by his memories of Lin Ziyang, Wu Baozhai, Hong Ru, and Xiao Bing.

Xue Yifei had never met Su Mei before, so she observed this new woman who seemed overly familiar with Xiao Bai. She then recalled watching the Grand Spirit Trials and noticed her meeting Wei Wuyin. She was interested in who she was, especially the black ring that hung around her neck. She remembered seeing it around Wei Wuyin's during the All-Alchemic Clash.

"Lord Wei is currently preoccupied with some important matters. He's sent me to welcome you," Su Mei calmly explained.

Tuo Bihan's eyes brightened. This was a good opportunity. "I was intending to bring her around to meet some people, tour her around the mountains."

Su Mei glanced at Tuo Bihan, clearly knowing his intentions. But she didn't object, "If that's what she wants." As Xue Yifei was Wei Wuyin's concubine, she knew the level of importance she had to these old fogies and wily foxes. She was a perfect opportunity for others to establish closer relations than a mere subordinate or tool.

Na Xinyi was startled. *'That woman is here for Wei Wuyin?'* She felt a sudden crisis of threat for some reason. Just as she thought this...

Pop!

An unexpected popping sound erupted in the surroundings, causing numerous heads to toss and turn in shock, trying to find the origin of the sound. Before they could react, however, a black sphere emerged directly above the Void Gate. From the Void Gate, streams of silver steam-like gas were entering the black sphere.

Woosh!

BOOSH!!

An object shot out of the black sphere, causing it to instantly close. The object was rapidly moving, smashing heavily into the ground and directly caused a twenty meter crater to form. Even the Void Gate below was toppled, having some cracks form on it as its silver radiance seemingly dimmed.

Fortunately, everyone present was an expert. They conjured numerous qi and astral wards, with Tuo Bihan reacting the fastest, shifting away the weaker members with a flick of his finger. He then brought everyone else not at the Astral Core Realm or under their protection away forcefully. Xue Yifei was protected by Su Mei's darklight ward, thoroughly defended from everything.

"Urgh..." A faintly audible groan was heard from the crater.

"What the hell was that?!" An elder exclaimed, shocked by the abrupt popping sound and black sphere. But Tuo Bihan was familiar with both, realizing the possibility, he shot forward and arrived above the crater. When he saw the familiar figure laying in the crater, he couldn't help but arc his lips upwards.

He was just about to act when his eyes widened, "The Chill of the Dark Void?" His expression instantly distorted. He exclaimed with urgency, "Everyone leave, NOW!" His shout was fiercely explosive, but it was too late.

The faint eerie aura emitting from the figure started to permeate throughout the world, traveling extremely fast.

As the closest, he was infected by the coldness first. He had to instantly conjure his Worldly Domain, suppressing the Chill of the Dark Void, but he found it incredibly difficult. This coldness was far, far greater than the coldness in their starfield's Dark Void. But the others weren't at his cultivation level, having it enter their bodies in the blink of an eye with no defense.

They shivered uncontrollably, many losing consciousness instantly.

Long Chen's mind boomed with a sense of crisis, causing his Imperial Slaughter Sword Astral Souls to react. He and the others were immediately shrouded in a very unique aura, containing a strange power that deflected the coldness. However, whether intentionally or subconsciously done, he hadn't shielded Na Xinyi.

She immediately spiraled into unconsciousness, falling like a ragdoll.

The coldness touched Su Mei and Xue Yifei. When this happened, the figure within the crater opened his eyes revealing a silver radiance. The world erupted with cyan-colored light that traveled even faster than the Chill of the Dark Void. It swept the world, entering the bodies of everyone present, and vanished as swiftly as it emerged. It was as if it wasn't real to begin with.

Tuo Bihan was startled, noticing the coldness had left his body instantly. He looked towards Wei Wuyin then towards Su Mei and Xue Yifei, looking at the unassuming black ring that hung on Su Mei's neck. He had witnessed the cyan-colored flash, felt the light enter his body, and it had taken away the chill. He was utterly baffled.

What just happened?

Chapter 379 - 375: A Little Bit Grayer

"Na Xinyi!!" A nearly shrieking voice cried out in complete horror. An urgent and tense expression revealed itself on Qing Qiumu's face as she lunged at Na Xinyi's fallen body. Witnessing it ragdoll to the floor as if losing all motor functions, a characteristic often shown when someone dies abruptly, her heart was racing without end.

Unhesitatingly, Qing Qiumu clutched Na Xinyi's soft body into her arms, using her hands to inject wood force with Life Meadow Wood's rejuvenating and life-sustaining powers. She hadn't even sent her spiritual sense through Na Xinyi to determine if she was a corpse or not, not wanting to waste a second.

That grave mentality and swift action had saved Na Xinyi's life, grabbing hold of the faint embers of life that remained. Only after feeling the faint throbbing of her heart, signs of her shallow breathing, and warmth of her skin remain consistent did Qing Qiumu breathe a breath of incredible relief. Her astral force was continuously pumping into Na Xinyi's body in a gentle and direct manner, causing her skin to radiate a faint emerald glow.

The others hadn't fully reacted to the events yet, but Qing Qiumu's shout had shook them out of their stupor. Long Tingyu cried out, "Big Sis Xinyi!" Seeing Na Xinyi's corpse-like state scared her half to death. While Na Xinyi had decided to become Wei Wuyin's wife, she still held an emotional connection to Na Xinyi.

Furthermore, from the very beginning, Na Xinyi had been contemplating whether to accept Wei Wuyin's proposal. Whether it was obvious to others, she wasn't certain, but she was there when Wei Wuyin offered to take responsibility. She had later learned of what happened to her, and felt that it was only right for Wei Wuyin to dedicate his life to her. Considering he had saved her Big Sis Qiumu, her, and her ancestor was more than enough to redeem him.

At least a little.

Her thoughts were that simple. Even then, she also felt it was a pity that her Big Brother and Na Xinyi weren't destined to be an item. But to her, Long Chen could have any woman he wanted. He was that awesome!

Leaving her master's protective embrace, she hurried over with quick steps, peering at Na Xinyi's pale complexion with concern. "Is she alright?" This was a question on the minds of everyone. It was only with Qing Qiumu's faint nodding motion that they felt the lump of anxiety in their hearts dissipate.

Long Chen was startled by Na Xinyi's current state. He turned to see the other individuals nearby and witnessed that their state was deprived of life. The only ones to survive were those at the Astral Core Realm, but they were unconscious and nearing the precipice of their end. A few had even expired already. A ward of astral force originating from Tuo Bihan had engulfed the survivors, sustaining their lives.

'*What the hell was that?*' He calmly asked himself as he recalled how he reacted, unleashing the Imperial Heaven Aura to shield the others.

Whatever that was unleashed had been completely blocked out by his aura. He was thankful that it did, lest something happen to Qing Qiumu, Lian Yu, and Long Tingyu. He didn't know what he'd do if he lost them.

However, there was a voice that was filled with horror that would soon collapse his happiness into dust.

"You...you didn't shield her!" Xiang Ling was aghast. Whatever that had just assaulted the crowd, including them, had been fended off by Long Chen with ease. But when his aura erupted, he shielded everyone, including herself, but not Na Xinyi.

"...!" Long Tingyu heard the words spoken by her master and shot her a disbelieving look. Her first instincts were to reject that idea. The idea that Long Chen had allowed whatever came to strike Na Xinyi. The situation was too fast to react to, and Na Xinyi was...

She shook her head and pressed down the thought, creating a few other explanations in her heart.

Lian Yu was similarly shocked. She was nearest to Long Chen, so she felt his aura first. Furthermore, they were the only ones in the crowd that wasn't affected. Those closer to the crater and even behind them were smashed by that unknown force. If one had to speak about distance from Long Chen, then from closest to furthest it was: Her, Qing Qiumu, Na Xinyi, Xiang Ling, and Long Tingyu. The master and disciple were relatively some distance away, and behind Na Xinyi, who was directly behind Qing Qiumu.

Yet the aura had somehow zipped past Na Xinyi and shielded Xiang Ling and held Long Tingyu in her embrace after the crater fell who was further away. She couldn't help but think the only reason Xiang Ling was even protected was due to her holding Long Tingyu.

She had even witnessed the aura contort around Na Xinyi deliberately. This caused her heart to quiver intensely, shocking her thoroughly. She wasn't the only one. Xiang Ling's cultivation was at the Soul Idol Phase, so her senses were profoundly powerful. She had observed the aura twisting about and arrived to shield her and Long Tingyu, completely avoiding Na Xinyi.

It was clearly deliberate. She couldn't help but be shocked at the utter heartlessness of it. Her thoughts and impression that had formed about Long Chen, which was only formed after much convincing by her

little disciple, had shattered and fallen to the lowest point possible. Furthermore, she hadn't even known about Na Xinyi giving up her Primal Yins for him to ascend the Astral Core Realm and yet she felt this way.

But Qing Qiumu and Lian Yu did.

Long Chen was taken aback by Xiang Ling's accusing words. He spoke with a somewhat guilty heart, but concealed it all from his tone. He seemingly explained with sadness, "The situation developed so fast, I couldn't react in time."

Lian Yu, "..."

Xiang Ling was shocked by his excuse.

Long Tingyu felt this was likely, as the situation had happened so fast. They didn't even know what happened, so it must've been a shock. Even if the logic didn't hold up, she distorted it in her mind to be the truth.

As a Soul Idol Phase cultivator with such extreme talent, there was no way Long Chen couldn't react when they could. Furthermore, he would've had far more time to think.

Long Chen saw Lian Yu's odd expression and hurriedly explained himself further, "My aura could only extend to five people, myself included. I'm sorry." His words were apologetic as he glanced at the barely breathing Na Xinyi with remorse and sadness.

Lian Yu, "..."

"Yeah, see! Master, only five people. We're lucky Big Brother was capable of protecting us." Long Tingyu smiled, her beautiful face twisted slightly for some odd reason. From her expression, one truly didn't know if she wanted to laugh or cry.

Qing Qiumu finally stabilized Na Xinyi's condition. She sighed heavily with relief. It was fortunate that she had such pure life-type energies and Na Xinyi wasn't an ordinary Qi Condensation Realm cultivator. If she was, she would've ended up like the other Qi Condensation Realm cultivators—dead before she hit the ground.

Her emerald eyes then lifted upwards, betraying her rage. Her heart was in turmoil as everything in her mind was telling her that Long Chen wouldn't have deliberately shielded everyone else and allowed Na Xinyi to take the full brunt of that unknown force, but as she heard Xiang Ling and recalled what happened, how could she not?

While he couldn't have known of its lethal powers, he had to know it could've harmed her or was likely.

As for the five people max?

"Five people? Five?! FIVE?!?!" Qing Qiumu, for the very first time in her life, screamed viciously at Long Chen. Clearly, she didn't believe it. Likely for a number of reasons, but those reasons were entirely irrelevant. What was relevant was her exploding anger. She fiercely shouted, "She helped you! She gave up her physique for you! How could you do this to her? Why did you do this?! Is it because she wanted to marry Wei Wuyin?! Because she wanted to make her own choice and that choice WASN'T YOU!? WHY?!"

"..." Lian Yu pouted slightly but remained silent. Whatever her thoughts on the subject, she didn't feel her input would better the situation one bit. Furthermore, she similarly didn't believe in Long Chen's excuse. Five? Xiang Ling and Long Tingyu were chest to chest, fully embraced, and they could roughly be considered one person. It also seems very arbitrary for it to be five.

Even if, EVEN IF, you could only shield five, why avoid Na Xinyi? She was the weakest here, the only one not in the Astral Core Realm, and even her foundation was severely damaged. Xiang Ling could've defended herself. The chances of Na Xinyi suffering a negative result was higher than everyone present.

"..." Long Chen hadn't thought much about his responses, and he froze after being yelled at by Qing Qiumu. Unable to respond to such a question, he could only act mute at the moment, but that only revealed his guilt.

Xiang Ling looked at Long Chen, her normally seductive eyes trembling with surprise and disappointment. "I was convinced by Yu'er that you were different from other men, but it seems like you're not. You're just like 'him'. Someone who discards anyone that is no longer useful to you." Her words contained a sharp, hidden pain filled with an extremely gloomy air. Her eyes radiated disgust and contempt towards Long Chen.

Long Chen shivered at those words, feeling completely lost after hearing them. He wanted to argue, but for some reason, for some unfathomable reason, he couldn't.

Long Tingyu's face was streaming with tears, but she didn't know when it started. Was it when Qing Qiumu shouted or when Long Chen remained silent that she realized the truth of the situation. Despite being a young girl, her thinking was extremely simple and always has been. She never thought Long Chen would ever act in such a despicable manner, so much so that she was even willing to lie to herself.

She also knew of the past 'betrayal' her master suffered, recalling the time she told her that Long Chen would never do anything like that. That he was 'different'. In fact, he would give up his life for his friends with ease. As he always said: Repay kindness with ten times the kindness, repay enmity with ten times the enmity.

But when a moment came where he could've easily protected someone who supported him and helped him for over decade while never asking for anything in return, even gave up her talent and future for him, he nearly allowed her to die.

She was utterly speechless, feeling as if the world had just lost a little bit of color, looking a little bit more grey than before.

Chapter 380 - 376: Luck & Chaos Mana

While the heated and impassioned questioning was ongoing, Wei Wuyin was slowly waking up from his abrupt descent. His eyes that emanated silver radiance had slowly dimmed, revealing his regular pair of exquisitely silver-colored eyes. They roamed the skies as he laid within the crater, trying to grasp the events that had transpired.

Hurriedly, he lifted his upper body into an upright position as his hands roamed his body. He was unsure if he would end up nude or worse, experiencing a sort of lag still. But much to his excitement, his clothes

were intact and his current state was normal. Sighing with relief, he looked up to notice a grey-bearded face looking away.

'*Tuo Bihan?*' A surge of joy emerged in his heart as he quietly exclaimed, "It worked!" As if hit with a jolt, he quickly lifted his right sleeve and his excited expression was reduced to a wry smile.

Karmic Luck Value: 1,356.7 → 982.0.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Suppressed - 7 Years.

"Well, at least I'm alive," was his greatest consoling words he could tell himself at the moment. He had known that using the raw material to construct a Void Gate alongside a Void Disk interconnected with another Void Gate to create a temporary Void Portal was an extremely risky endeavor. But it was his only option at that moment.

Fortunately, using his Void Space which possessed the unique qualities of time and space, he forcefully conjured a portal and traversed through it. Furthermore, he had done so safely. But he decided to never try it again, not knowing the exact details that the Heavenly Daos had to go through to ensure his survival.

This was also a test. He wanted to know if a self-provoked calamity based on circumstances would force the Heavenly Daos to act. From what he originally gathered, as long as one's Karmic Luck Value was high enough, survival of a calamity was a certainty without any consumption of value. It was like a passive advantage for higher valued Blessed, and this came in tiers.

When the Black Skeleton had informed him of his lacking Karmic Luck, she also mentioned that he didn't even have enough to survive or benefit. This had verified to him that the Heavenly Daos can ensure one's survival.

This caused him to grow tense. What amount of Karmic Luck Value was needed to undergo Temporal Reincarnation yet similarly unable to allow the Heavenly Daos to forcefully intervene to assist you. He wasn't certain if the calamity was just far, far, far too great or if it was merely due to it being self-provoked while lacking the means for the Heavenly Daos to assist.

In the former case, it would be an utterly massive calamity that was brought by their own actions. In the latter case, then it was merely unfortunate. He felt more inclined to believe the latter, because the Heavenly Daos seemed to be trying to 'correct' their weakness by giving the Blessed a second chance.

In the end, he could only sigh at these unverified theories. With a loss of 374.7 Karmic Luck Value, this was the most costly use of his Karmic Luck, but also the greatest fortune. After all, what greater fortune was life?

"Little Boss!" Tuo Bihan's urgent voice resounded from above the crater's edge, peering over in shock. He seemed to be reluctant to rush downwards, still a wisp of fear flickering within his eyes. Wei Wuyin observed this curiously. What happened to make a Realmlord feel fear?

He slowly lifted his weary body upwards, feeling the newfound spiritual energies course throughout his body. He was momentarily shocked before he heard a spiritual transmission.

"What are you doing?!" A familiar voice shouted out in questioning. Wei Wuyin realized it belonged to Wu Yu, causing him to be somewhat shocked that Wu Yu was present. Wasn't the ring containing his spirit left with Su Mei.

Wei Wuyin looked upwards and lightly jumped, exiting the crater with ease and stretching his stiff bones and muscles. Tuo Bihan seemed to suffer from a fright at his arrival, flinching backwards but not fully retreating. Whatever he was expecting hadn't happened.

When Wei Wuyin saw Su Mei alongside Xue Yifei and Xiao Bai's massive form, he couldn't help but be a little surprised. He noted the flickering cyan-colored light hanging on Su Mei's neck.

'Xue Yifei?' His attention was focused on her, however. She was far more gorgeous than when he first met her, with those hazel eyes with specks of blue that radiated an unfathomable depth of intelligence and clarity. Those curiously roaming eyes of hers reminded him of Wu Baozhai.

Before he could say anything, the ring on Su Mei's neck flickered off it, arriving next to Wei Wuyin. He wasn't hiding his abilities any longer. "Do you know what you brought to MY Planet?!" A wave of exasperated rage emanated from his tone.

Wei Wuyin looked about, noticing several dead individuals. He spotted Qing Qiumu currently shouting at Long Chen with tears in her emerald eyes, clutching Na Xinyi's unconscious body. There were others engulfed in Tuo Bihan's barriers of astral force. They were being pumped with energies to sustain their fragile lives.

He frowned slightly, uncertain as to what just happened. Did something get brought here alongside him? But considering his karmic luck, should it have led to other people's deaths? He wasn't certain. In fact, he was slightly confused.

"What happened?" Wei Wuyin calmly asked Wu Yu.

Wu Yu's ring quivered slightly, but soon calmed down. "Where were you? How did you bring so much Chaos Mana to the planet? What was that Void Portal?" He fired off consecutive questions.

This prompted a frown from Wei Wuyin. "Chaos Mana? What's that?" He hadn't heard that term before.

"..." Wu Yu went silent for a moment, realizing that Wei Wuyin's cultivation base wasn't at the Star Core Phase nor beyond. Only those of that level would understand what Chaos Mana meant and how destructive it was to life. He still calmly explained, "Chaos Mana is the unrefined, unfiltered Mana produced by Solar Stars. Others often call it Chill of the Dark Void due to its extremely pervasive and cold-like qualities.

"It is an extremely deadly substance, unable to sustain life or the various energies produced by the Star Cores of Continental Flat Earths or Planets. It is the opposite of the Mana you're familiar with. It has other names, such as Dark Mana or Lifeless Air. Regardless, how did you bring so much with you through a Void Portal? More importantly, how did you survive?"

Wei Wuyin was enlightened. He ignored Wu Yu's two questions and looked at the sky, "How come Chaos Mana isn't here?"

"..." Wu Yu realized that Wei Wuyin was unwilling to speak on the topic, frustration emerging in his spirit. With a hint of reluctance, he quickly explained: "Chaos Mana IS present here. Chaos Mana is the unrefined and unfiltered state of normal Mana. It is filtered by Sky Layers of Continental Flat Earths and Planets, and further refined by their unique Star Core aura.

"This produces the state of Mana you're familiar with. But as long as you leave the Sky Layer protection, you'll enter the Dark Void and be washed with Chaos Mana. It invades and eradicates various energies and essences, but its refined version does the exact opposite. It nourishes energies and essences, allowing cultivation to thrive. It is because of this very reason the starfield has three solar stars, one of which was created by me. It's to better the quality of energies and essence born by all the Continental Flat Earths and Planets for the future generations.

"If it wasn't for us, the current era without the King of Everlore would've long been reduced to its original state—unable to produce a Fifth Stage Astral Core Realm cultivator, even with alchemy."

Wu Yu sighed a little as he said this.

Wei Wuyin was flabbergasted by this information. While he knew Wu Yu had conjured a Solar Star in the starfield from their conversation on Junia during the Grand Spirit Trials, he hadn't understood the exact motive behind it. It seemed it was done to improve the starfield's state.

When he thought of this, his heart started to quake slightly as he recalled the two starfields that lacked any semblance of a Solar Star. Was it...stolen? Could those two solar stars above be...

The thought flitted through his mind for a moment before he discarded it. Wu Yu had already said that Solar Stars can be created by some powerful Mystic Ascendants, so he didn't feel it was very likely.

While everything, their conversation and thoughts, seemed to have taken a long while, it had been completed in a few seconds through spiritual exchange. After he finished this conversation, Tuo Bihan similarly barraged him with questions and concerns. He was aware of the Chill of the Dark Void and its life-destroying properties.

Wei Wuyin inspected his body, realizing no damage was present. It was only after questioning Wu Yu once more that he learned what had happened. Wu Yu had to exercise a little, using his unique Imperial Heaven Aura and spiritual strength at the Mystic Ascendant Level to eradicate the chaos mana prevalent in the world. If he hadn't, the chaos mana would've infected everything, passing from one life to another until everything was extinguished.

A cold chill coursed through his spine, realizing how unfathomably lucky he had been. If he hadn't conjured a Void Portal directly here, directly where Wu Yu was present, he could've brought an end to all life on the planet. Of course, Wu Yu had only said it was like this due to the extremely high potency of the chaos mana he brought. If it was normal chaos mana of their starfield, it wouldn't have killed anyone.

The existing mana would've clashed with it and destroyed it, and many cultivators here could've withstood it until it dissipated on its own. As long as they had reached the Sixth Stage of the Qi Condensation Realm, establishing their own Personalized Mana, they would have resisted it with some loss of their cultivation base stability.

But the chaos mana he brought was simply far too strong, requiring a Starlord at least to quell it.
For once, he was thankful for the Heavenly Daos.