

# **The Shining Star Above The Heaven**

## **#Chapter 1: Prologue - Read The Shining Star Above The Heaven Chapter 1: Prologue**

### *Chapter 1 - Prologue*

Year 6,000,000 of Zonastin calendar, Ancient Blue Gate World.

The Ancient Blue Gate World is a vast world with many empires, kingdoms, sects, and other forms of power that dominate their respective territories. Each of these powers has enough influence to affect countless lives, including matters of life and death. The existence of Qi, or Heaven and Earth energy, also supports its inhabitants in various ways, whether for good or bad. Qi strengthens their bodies, even if they do not know how to meditate or cultivate it.

The presence of Qi also indicates the existence of superpowers and supernatural beings that cannot be comprehended by common mortal sense in some places. In this world, where the system is based on Qi or Heaven and Earth energy, a person's power undoubtedly determines their status, except for those born into noble families.

In one part of the Ancient Blue Gate World, the continent of Barisan is no exception, where various empires, kingdoms, sects, and religious groups carve out their domains across the land. The continent, with its diverse landscapes, from the breathtaking scenery of sky piercing mountains to vast forests stretching beyond the horizon, delights anyone who sees it. Yet, despite its population of 150 billion, the continent still harbors mysteries that remain unresolved in some regions.

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The sun still shone so brightly in the sky, illuminating all life forms as they went about their activities. Various activities in the economy, politics, and military continued as usual, there was not much difference from each passing time. Whether from rivalry between countries, those with their own agendas, or those with their own problems and businesses, each of them kept thinking, 'another usual day is coming.'

In the city of Finna, the capital city of the Vindas Empire, the activities are the most bustling in the empire. The city, which has a population of 100 million people and covers an area of 130,000 km<sup>2</sup>, never rests from the movements of life, not even for a moment. In the middle of the city, there is a huge white castle with multiple towers and many guards walking and standing at their posts.

In one of the rooms in the castle, adorned with many hanging flags and ornaments, a middle age man sits at the end of the room on a throne decorated with golden

ornaments. He wears a beautifully crafted crown and a red cape that reaches his waist. His demeanor and aura make others cower and not dare to look into his eyes.

He is Herman Avandi, the emperor of the Vindas Empire. In front of him, one can see a kneeling man in knight's attire, bearing the symbol of the empire, a western dragon with two swords crossing each other, on the middle of his armor.

"Your Majesty, there is an unusual movement on the side of the Atria Empire. Our intelligence managed to observe it and is waiting for further movement from the other side."

"It looks like those bastards are starting to lose their patience."

"We presume that they will start to make their big move but we don't think it will be in short time."

*"As I thought, because of that prophecy from the 'Heavenly Direction' church they are trying to do something more reckless"* Herman thought. After a few moments of contemplation, he finally gave his order.

"If we don't act sooner, we will lose the momentum. Let's prepare our side to counter any movement. Starting today, I want you all to gather the necessary infrastructure, logistics, goods, and personnel. I want it ready as fast as possible."

"Yes, Your Majesty."

After the man received his orders, he retreated from the throne room, leaving Herman alone.

*"I hope we can still maintain the status quo, but... sigh I think that is just my dream."*

He sat on his throne with a crease on his forehead, thinking about the future of the continent. His worries could also be felt by other powers, on the eastern side of continent there is a vast forest with dense green trees, The lush foliage adds a refreshing coolness that makes people feel comfortable sitting beneath it. However, not everyone is willing to sit there without a clear reason, because that forest is part of the Ivory Empire, inhabited by the elves.

Deep within the dense forest, there are strangely shaped root and branch that do not appear to be naturally formed. These root and branch create a high wall about 70 meters tall, with a gate guarded by many elves. This is the capital city for the elves on this continent, in the Ivory Empire, the city of Evergreen. If someone enters the city through that gate, they will see an arrangement of houses shaped like igloos but made of wood, larger and in various sizes, covered with plants where the elves can live and carry out their activities.

In the center of the city, there is an enormous tree towering so high that its top pierces through the clouds. Beneath its lush canopy lies a grand palace, shaped like branching roots forming a spacious cage, connected to the giant tree. At this moment, inside the palace, specifically in the emperor's study of the elf nation, the emperor stands facing outward, looking at the view of the city with his hands clasped behind his back.

"This feeling is stronger as ever, something big will happen to this continent."

Some of the other powers on this continent also have their own worries and opinions, but not everyone cares enough about the continent and its fate. At the center of the continent, there is a small, unnamed village, far removed from the luxury and intrigue of high level society. The people there lead simple lives, with a peaceful atmosphere surrounding them and their way of life.

In this village, with a population of no more than 60 people, mostly elderly, there is a married couple living in one of the houses, a man with red hair and a handsome face sat next to a beautiful woman with long black hair. The wife was heavily pregnant, and it wasn't surprising that she could give birth at any moment. Currently, she was sitting on a wooden chair while her husband gently stroking her swollen belly.

"Our son will be born healthy and strong." said the man.

"I hope he will be like you, strong and responsible." answered the woman.

The two of them kept exchanging words of love, gratitude, and reminiscence, commemorating their adventures up until now, as they were about to complete their family with the presence of the result of their union.

"Honey, have you already decided on his name?"

"Yes, I hope with this name he will be a better person. I don't want him to bear our family's surname." her answer made the man stunned, but it wasn't surprising given their circumstances.

"Are you sure?"

"Yes, and I want him to be a person who stands out from the masses and shines wherever he goes, like stars in the night sky, and he will be the brightest one!"

"Oh..What is his name?"

The woman's smile was brighter than ever.

"Aldrian... Aldrian Aster."

When the woman said that name, the entire atmosphere suddenly became tense and the wind blew so strongly that the entire village was thrown into panic. The cattle also began making noises as they panicked. At the sky, clouds congregating at one point, forming a black mass as if a thunderstorm was imminent.

This phenomenon was visible not only from this village but across the entire Barisan continent and beyond. All kinds of life stopped their activities to look up at the sky, which gave them a foreboding feeling that something would come down from the heavens to judge them all.

"Dear, what's happening?" the woman cried, falling into panic and hugging her belly to protect the life inside her womb.

"I don't know! Stay here I will right back."

The man ran outside to look and was dumbstruck by what he saw. The sight etched itself into his memory for the rest of his life: a giant long dragon and a phoenix flying between dark clouds, dancing as if performing some sort of ritual with a beautiful choreography that mesmerized all who watched, despite the weather.

The two creatures continued their dance for a few moments when the next second the tense atmosphere disappeared and the dark clouds dissipated little by little, creating gaps through which rainbow clouds appeared, making the scene look like something from paradise. At that moment, all races, not only on the Barisan continent but across the entire Ancient Blue Gate World, fell silent.

The woman peeked through the gap between the door of their house and gasped at what she saw. She unconsciously stepped outside and stood beside her husband, looking up at the sky. They remained still when suddenly two creatures in the sky turned towards them and swiftly moved in their direction with a speed that was impossible to evade, the strange thing for the entire population of the world was that they just saw the dragon and the phoenix suddenly disappear, but not for the couple. Shocked, they didn't have time to react before the two creatures transformed into particles of light and entered the woman's body.

"IRENE!"

He hugged his wife to protect her and panicked when he saw her in pain, clutching her belly. She couldn't respond to her husband, only making muffled sounds from her mouth with cold sweat dripping from her pained face.

"Damn it! Hold on, honey, I'll be right back." He ran to the west side of the village where an elderly physician couple lived.

When he arrived, fortunately, the elderly physicians were standing in front of their home, looking at the sky like everyone else, so he didn't have to look inside the house.

"Hey, Aldrey, did you see—"

"Old man, I need your help, hurry!"

"Wha—"

"Irene! Something happened to her."

When the old couple heard that, their faces became solemn.

"Where is she? Let's go."

They rushed to Aldrey's home and found Irene still grimacing in pain on the floor. As they tried to help her, the old man injected his energy into Irene's body and was surprised by what he sensed.

*"What a huge concentration of energy! And this?!"*

"Your son! It's time for his birth!" said the old man.

The commotion they caused had already gained the attention of their nearest neighbors, who started to make their way to help with the childbirth.

After Irene was inside the house and the women began to help the childbirth process, Aldrey, standing outside, could hear their voices.

"Lady Irene, on the count of three, push! One... two... three, push!"

Irene's voice that struggling to give birth, made Aldrey more anxious. But a few moments later...

"Uwa! Uwa! Uwa!" The cries of the baby could be heard from inside, a sound that made Aldrey relax his nerves and rush inside to see his wife. When he finally reached her, he was stunned to see a tiny creature in the arms of one of the women who had helped with the childbirth. Unconsciously, tears started to drop from his eyes—tears of happiness that he had never experienced before. He then looked at his tired wife with her disheveled hair and sweat dripping from her face. They faced each other, smiling with tears brimming in their eyes. He approached his wife and son as the woman tried to hand the baby to him.

"Congratulations! Your son is so healthy! Look at his cute and handsome face! I think he looks more like you!" she praised.

Aldrey then hugged his little love, his own flesh and blood, with tenderness. "My son, who will shine like stars in the middle of the night... Aldrian Aster."

Today is the day a human named Aldrian Aster was born.

## *Chapter 2 - The Boy Named Aldrian Aster*

Six years later,

The sun started to appear on the eastern horizon, the roosters had already begun to crow. Some villagers had already woken up to begin their morning activities. Some were starting to prepare food, others were going hunting, some were searching for medicinal plants in the forest, and various other morning chores were underway.

In one of the houses in this humble village, a child had already woken up to start enjoying the morning breeze and begin his activities. He was seen lifting a bucket filled with water he had fetched from the river not far from the village. With red hair and blue eyes as blue as the ocean, his short body, around 130 cm tall, should have made him stagger while carrying the heavy water bucket, but what was seen instead were steady steps and firm hands for a child his age.

"Aldrian be careful!" His father warned him from behind, a man with red hair, brown eyes and handsome face that made him a lady killer. He had tall and sturdy body, each step he took was solid, but when he looked at his son and saw that he seemed fine, he was still worried about him.

"It's okay father, you don't have to worry." said Aldrian. It started a year ago when he suddenly decided to follow his father to fetch water from the river, at first his father forbade him from helping because he was still a small kid, but Aldrian was stubborn and keep nagging his father, he even sneaked out to follow his father and silently bring his own water bucket. Eventually he could only surrender and let his son follow him and let him fetched the water.

"*I don't know if this is a good thing but-*" when he looked at his son, he remembered an event from the past. Not long after his son's birth, when he checked his condition, he was surprised by the amount of energy inside the tiny body. The energy had already formed inside his dantian, but it was still dormant.

From the dense energy, it was already equivalent to that of a person starting their cultivation journey in the 'Beginner' stage. This was something impossible, as the usual age for beginning cultivation is 14 years old. Perhaps some exceptions, like geniuses and unique individuals can cultivate earlier, but never has there been a situation where a newborn possesses 'Beginner' stage energy.

Another miracle occurred when his son turned three years old. The energy inside his dantian started to spread into his meridians across his body. Even though it was only a minuscule amount, this was a sign that he had begun to cultivate his energy unconsciously, which was amazing because he had never taught his son any cultivation

technique or anything related to cultivation. All of that accumulation over the years until today has made Aldrian's body already stronger than that of a normal kid.

*"Sigh...I guess I can only hope for the best for my child."*

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The sun had already illuminated most of the land when they arrived at their home, where they were welcomed by a beautiful young woman. Her long black hair, which reached her waist, and her mesmerizing blue eyes could captivate any man who looked into them. Irene surely made many men fall in love at first sight.

"Welcome home, you can take a nap, breakfast will be ready shortly."

Irene skillfully cooked today's breakfast, which was the meat of the golden-backed deer they had caught yesterday. The aroma made the father and son drool as it spread through the house, causing them to rush to the dining table. Their house was not big, just enough for their small family: a wooden house with two bedrooms, a bathroom, and a dining room that also functioned as their family room.

After the dinner was ready, they started to eat with bliss filling their faces. The flavor was so good and the meat was so juicy, making them grateful for Irene's cooking. While they were eating, Aldrey talked with his wife using transmission technique so their child couldn't hear them.

"I think I can start to teach him cultivation."

"Are you sure? He is still too young to learn cultivation." Irene's voice sounded worried.

"No, I think it will be fine. You also know his special condition and our circumstances. The earlier he can protect himself, the better."

"Sometimes I wonder if that sign is a fortunate or unfortunate event, but I hope it is good fortune for our family."

"It's a fortune! He will soar onto the sky! I will protect him until he can protect himself!" said Aldrey.

*"Sigh... sometimes I wish for this peace to last for eternity, just our small family living peacefully here, but—"*

"It's okay. What we need is time! We will keep him hidden as long as possible. When we assume he is ready, it will be too late for 'them'."

They looked at their son eating greedily, which made them smile. After they finished their breakfast, Aldrey called his son.



"Aldrian, come with father."

Aldrian looked at him with a questioning face before following his father to the backyard of their house. Behind their house, there was an open space large enough for activities like gardening, with that much space it could also be used as a training ground. Aldrey and Aldrian stand face to face when Aldrey began to question him.

"Son do you want to cultivate?"

"Cultivate?" Hearing his father's question, at first he was puzzled, but then he felt a surge of happiness fill his heart. Of course, he knew about powerhouses like cultivators. He always heard about them in stories when he played in the village or sometimes at bedtime from his mother when he was younger.

The idea of having power so strong that a man can split a mountain in half, fly like a bird, and explore distant places made him wonder what it would feel like to have such power. Up to this point, because his father had never taught him anything related to cultivation, he didn't know that his body was already that of a cultivator.

"Yes father! Teach me how to cultivate! I want to become strong like father!"

For a child like him, it was an opportunity he never wanted to pass up. The image of his dream of roaming the world would come true! He didn't know exactly what kind of power his father had, but he knew his father was a cultivator and strong by his standards. One time, he watched his father chop down a tree with only his finger. Another time, he saw his father destroy a rock as big as their house or when he watched his father suddenly disappear in front of him, all of that made him want to be like his father and become a cultivator.

When he made up his mind and expressed his intentions, the energy inside him started to move much smoother, and the surrounding nature also made sounds as the blowing wind caused the leaves to rub against each other. It was as if heaven and earth themselves supported his decision.

When Aldrey heard his son's answer, he smiled with a satisfied expression. He knew that if he didn't optimize his son's potential now, it would be a waste of his talent. Just as he was about to start his teaching, he noticed his son's eyes looking unfocused, and his small hands reaching out to touch something in front of him. Aldrey was confused by Aldrian's behavior and tried to make sense of it.

"Son, what are you doing?"

"Hmm? Can't you see it, Father?"

"See what?" Aldrey looked puzzled.



When his father didn't understand what he was trying to say, Aldrian realized that "this" thing only appeared before his eyes. It made him wonder if it was just a hallucination. In front of him floated a transparent green screen with some text on it.

*I'm tied to the universe*

*I'm tied to nature*

*All of this is my own karma*

*Why I am different is also my destiny*

*My domain encompasses all things*

*There is nothing that can escape my view*

*There is nothing that can escape my sense*

*There is nothing that can escape my will*

Many incomprehensible words appeared before him, making him scared, but he tried to suppress it. He didn't know why, but he felt that this thing in front of him was not harming him. Something inside him seemed to tell him that it was a part of him, a part of his soul. This feeling was strange, but he began to calm himself and noticed the movement of a screen in front of him that always followed the direction of his gaze. He turned his head left and right, and the screen still followed him. The transparent screen allowed him to see what was behind it, so it didn't obstruct his view too much.

*Welcome admin Aldrian Aster!*

*Chapter 3 - The Way of Cultivator*

Aldreya watched his son's comical behavior, which made no sense to him, but he sensed something had changed, so he tried to take his son's attention again.

"Aldrian, are you okay? Why are you shaking your head?"

When he heard his father, he stopped what he was doing and looked at his father through the screen.

*"How do I make this thing disappear? Even though I can see what's behind it, it still feels uncomfortable to see it all the time."*

As if understanding Aldrian's feelings, the screen vanished as quickly as it had appeared, surprising him but also making him feel relieved. He then returned his focus to his father.

"I'm sorry, Father. I lost my focus. I just felt weird inside my body."

Hearing his son, Aldrey immediately touched his son's forehead to check if anything had happened to him, and the result almost shocked him to death.

*"How is this possible?! He's already entered the peak Beginner stage!"* The last time he checked him was a month ago and he was still at the Beginner middle stage! He almost staggered and slipped but quickly regained his balance and composure.

*"What a monster! Whoops... no, no, no, he is my son! He surely will achieve something big in the future! Yes, a genius!"* Aldrey kept calming his mind and looked at his son again.

"Aldrian, do you know what a cultivator is?"

"Hmm? Isn't that someone with superpowers?"

"Yes, but what kind of superpowers?"

"Oh... uh... I don't know."

Aldrey looked at his little love and smiled. "A cultivator uses the energy from Heaven and Earth to strengthen themselves. We can utilize this energy in various ways, but there are limitations based on our body's strength and our comprehension. Simply put, the more power you unleash in your attacks, the stronger your body needs to be."

Aldrian's eyes sparkled as he listened to his father, while Aldrey continued smiling.

"The stronger the body, the stronger your defense. The more comprehension you have, the more complex your techniques become, making them more difficult to counter or break." Aldrian kept listening attentively with a serious expression, which looked cute in Aldrey's eyes.

"Now, cultivation has its own stages to differentiate their prowess. This power ladder was established long ago, and the denizens of the world named each stage from the weakest to the strongest. These stages are:

Beginner stage

Disciple stage

Baron stage

Viscount stage

Earl stage

Marquess stage

Duke stage

Grand Duke stage

King stage

Emperor stage

Each stage is divided into low, middle, high, and peak."

Aldrey stopped his explanation to let his son absorb the information. The more Aldrian listened, the more something inside him was unleashed, and strange images started to appear in his mind. These images were incomprehensible to him, yet they felt familiar. He didn't know why, but it felt as though some of the information his father gave was already part of his memory, as if someone had already imparted it to him. It was a strange feeling, but he kept listening to his father.

"Cultivation can branch into two directions: inner cultivation and body cultivation. When you use a specific cultivation technique, it usually leans towards one direction. For example, your mother uses a technique inclined towards inner cultivation, so her body is less strong, but her inner cultivation compensates for it."

"Wait, Mother is also a cultivator?!" Aldrian's expression was one of shock. It wasn't surprising since he had never seen his mother demonstrate anything that indicated she was a cultivator. In his mind, his mother was a kind-hearted woman with a soft personality, and he couldn't imagine her fighting anything. Aldrey, hearing this, smiled to himself, thinking, *"If only you knew your mother's nickname by others."*

"Have you never heard or seen your mother being a cultivator?"

"No! I thought I knew everything about my family, but it seems there's much more." said Aldrian.

*"You will know more, but that's for the future, I hope you will be ready for any challenge."*

"Well, anyway, there are cultivation techniques that balance all branches of cultivation, but they are difficult to cultivate and only some noble families or huge sects have them."

Aldrian grew more determined as he heard this. *"I hope I can cultivate that kind of cultivation technique someday."*

"Also, cultivation techniques, offensive techniques, defensive techniques, and any other techniques have their own classes, ranked from lowest to highest as follows:

Earth grade

Sky grade

Heaven grade

There is one more, but it has been so long since its last appearance that many believe it is just a legend: the Divine grade. It is said that those who can cultivate Divine techniques will never experience bottlenecks in their cultivation. They have cultivation speeds incomparable to others in the same realm and almost never lose in terms of power and other aspects within that realm. Why do I say 'almost'? Well, that's unless a technique of the same quality appears, then you can forget about competing with Divine grade."

The information poured into Aldrian from his father incessantly, as his father spoke accompanied by a strange feeling that continued to arise in his mind, Aldrian's comprehension of cultivation skyrocketed, transforming the way he viewed the natural world around him, The information dump from his father had truly opened his eyes, making him realize how ignorant he had been of the cultivation world.

"Now I want to teach you the cultivation technique, it's called 'The wrath of the fire's spirit'. "

AldreY began teaching the cultivation technique to Aldrian, the young boy filled with enthusiasm after absorbing his father's information. He eagerly attempted to cultivate for the first time in his short life, sitting cross-legged with closed eyes. Following his father's instructions, he focused on controlling his breath and circulating energy within his body. Slowly but surely, the surrounding energy started converging towards him.

Amidst this process, Aldrian also concentrated on understanding his own body. As he explored within, he sensed his dantian and meridians. What puzzled him was that they seemed to already possess their own flow, operating independently of his awareness. When he applied his father's teachings, he managed to absorb the surrounding energy into his body. However, he felt no discernible change afterward. Deep inside, he sensed that this cultivation technique was not suitable for him.

And according to his father's explanation and teachings, isn't he already at the peak Beginner stage with this kind of energy inside him? He wondered how that was possible when he had never cultivated until today?

*"Uhhh... so I'm already a cultivator without even knowing it?"*- Aldrian thought.

He continued circulating the energy when suddenly the screen appeared again, this time showing his information:

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**Aldrian Aster**

**Domain** : Entire village.

**Age** : 6

**Cultivation** : Peak Beginner

**Current energy** : 22,065 (+1/15m)

**Energy needed for the next stage** : 25,001

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The information confirmed that he was already at the peak beginner stage also-

*"What is this (+1/15m) ?" he wondered.*

He continued to watch the screen, and a few seconds later, the current energy information rose to 10,066.

*"Oh it's increasing!"* He kept watching and waiting, after another 15 minutes, the energy increased to 10,067, and then again after another 15 minutes, after that he finally understood.

*"This is the rate at which my energy is increasing, my energy will increase 1 every 15 minutes!"*

Like a simple minded child, he was happy that he could become stronger. With the knowledge that he needed 15,000 energy of heaven and earth to break through to the Disciple stage, he continued to circulate his father's technique in hopes of speeding up his cultivation. Throughout all of this, his father kept a watchful eye on him, guarding against any potential mishaps.

An hour later

Aldrian opened his eyes. After a session of cultivation, his understanding of energy had increased, but he harbored doubts.

*"Why my energy absorption rate still the same? It's not increasing or decreasing."*

"How are you feeling?" Aldrian's thoughts were interrupted by his father's question, so he answered, "I'm fine, father. It feels great, but I have a question, why have I already reached the peak beginner stage? I've never cultivated until today."

"Because you are special, son, you are unique like no other." answered Aldrey with a proud expression.

"Can we change our cultivation technique after practicing one?"

"good question, It's not impossible to change your cultivation technique, but the downside is that you have to rebuild your foundation in other words, you have to dismantle your current cultivation and start anew, which is a dangerous and time-consuming task, especially for those at higher stages who have already spent a portion of their lifespan, dismantling their cultivation is akin to death because there's no support for their aging lifespan, Unless you have the resources to sustain your life, which is neither easy nor cheap." Aldrey responded with a smile.

"And remember this, son: don't always show off your power unnecessarily. Trouble will find you if you mess with the wrong person, but"

"but?"

"But you can do all of that, even without reason, to uphold your principles if you have the power to back you up."

Little Aldrian kept his father's advice in mind for the future.

"Come on, let's end it for today, tomorrow I will teach you how to use weapons"

Hearing this, Aldrian became ecstatic and stood up to follow his father back to the house, but not before he checked the green screen to see the energy part

*"Wait, Why is the energy increasing?! I already finished my cultivation."* In that moment, he discovered another mystery about his body through the 'thing' in front of him.

#### *Chapter 4 - The Training To Become a Cultivator*

"..."

Aldrian keep looking at the screen, after returning inside the house and chatting with his parents, he focused again on the screen. Now in his bedroom, the small room which was only 2.5 square meters—just enough for him to sleep and do some small exercises, now that he was alone, he could study the screen in front of him more closely.

*"The energy keep increasing even though I'm not cultivating."*

*"Does this mean my energy will keep increasing even in my sleep?"*

*"How can i increase my cultivation speed?"*

*"what is this domain? Is the entire village the domain?"*

Many questions popped up, overwhelming the six-year-old Aldrian but he couldn't ask his parents for answers because they couldn't see it.

*"Whatever, maybe i'll get my answers in the future."* With that, he tried to cultivate again, to comprehend more about cultivation.

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The next day

The sun was right above all beings, making the temperature hot, but Aldrian was in his house's backyard watching his father with a wooden sword in his hand.

"Now I will show you how you can utilize your energy in offensive technique, this is the way to use energy more efficiently in combat, now stand back because it will be a little dangerous."

Aldrian looked at his father attentively so he doesn't miss anything. His father started a series of sword dance with nimble footwork, sharp and steady swings, fast and precise stabs, every movement screamed effectiveness and the beauty of sword art.

Aldrey then added energy to his wooden sword and manipulating the element of fire to burn the sword's surface, the sight mesmerized Aldrian who was seeing this for the first time. After a few minutes his father finished his demonstration with his technique.

*"Autumn of Fire"*

He stab his sword upward and the fire suddenly burst from the tip of his wooden sword and creating many sparks of fire and shaped like autumn leaves, but made of fire. Before the fire started to burning everything it touched, Aldrey dispersed his technique.

Aldrian watched all of this with sparkling eyes and admiration on his face, Aldrey smiled, feeling proud to show off his skill to his son. However when he looked at his wooden sword which was charred beyond redemption, he knew he would need a new one.

"You can manipulate your energy into the elements of the world according to your comprehension of the said element, but it is more effective to shape it into a technique to maximize the power and efficiently use the energy inside your body. To put it simply, it will be more beneficial for you to use a technique than to just swing your sword with fire on it."

Aldrian nodded at his father's explanation.

"Now, do you want to try it?"



"Yes father!" He picked up his wooden sword and positioned himself like his father.

"Now, because you are my son and have already practiced the cultivation technique I gave you, you have compatibility with the fire element, adjust your breathing, feel the presence of the 'fire' in your dantian and your surroundings, and try to channel that energy into your sword."

Aldrian then concentrate to feel the fire energy but as he focused more, he found something strange.

"Uh which one is fire energy....oh it must be this, it feels hot, what about this one? this one is soothing, this one is sturdy, this one is refreshing, this one-"

Aldrian sensed many different kinds of energy stacking in his dantian, and he could also feel all kinds of energy in his surroundings. Well, not only in his surroundings but in the entire village. The different colors of energy that entered his senses made him wonder if this was the right path. Not forgetting his purpose, he just picked the fire energy and channeled it into his sword to create fire, and then—

Whoosh

The fire ignited the entire wooden sword with high intensity, instantly burning the sword to ashes.

"....."

Aldrian surprised by the result but but Aldrey's jaw dropped when he saw this.

*"Heavens! What a power! The intensity of that is like of a peak baron! I don't know but Irene, I think our son is a monster! Yes whatever, I can't describe it with any other word!"*

Aldrey wanted to scream with joy looking at his son, but he calmed himself and started to give advice.

"Try to control your energy output, don't let it out like a waterfall, adjust your energy so it only blankets the sword." Aldrey picked a new sword and handed it to his son. Aldrian then adjusted his position again and started to use his energy again.

Whoosh

Now the fire is not instantly burn the sword and the flames keep blazing as if they had their own life. Aldrey who is watching it almost literally dropped his jaw.

*"He already grasped the intricacies and output control by his second try?! When I first trained it, I have to train for a week to adjust my power!"*

Aldrian, unaware of how his father felt, was happy that he had succeeded. He started to swing the sword like a child who had found a new toy. After Aldrey calmed his mind for the second time, he said to his son.

"Now try to slash in that direction and blow your energy towards it, so it can create a slash of fire, it's not a technique but a raw force of fire energy." Aldrey point his finger towards the big rock about 2 meters high and 50 meters away from them. Aldrian then positioned himself and—

*SLASH! Whoosh!*

Big slash of fire unleashed from the sword and creating a curved blaze that flew towards the rock and

Krktaack...tack...tack

The slash slammed into the rock, creating a 30 cm deep depression and a meter long charred surface, Aldrey who already prepared himself for another shocking result, only showed a bitter smile, *"At this rate, I won't be teaching my son for long before he can train on his own, wait maybe I can teach him 'Autumn of Fire' instead of simple slash technique like 'Fire Slash'."* he said to Aldrian.

"Now I want you to try 'Autumn of Fire' on the same direction." Aldrey then taught Aldrian how to use the technique, the sequence of the energy flow, the breathing and the posture. After making sure that Aldrian could grasp the technique, he stood not too far behind his son, ready to intervene if something went wrong.

Once Aldrian ready and started his 'Autumn of Fire' the leaves of fire began to appear, 1, 2, 4, 7 the number keep increasing to the point the fire leaves covered the entire backyard, seeing this, sweat trickled down Aldrey's forehead even Irene came out of the house after she sensed that something happened in their backyard, when Aldrian directed the attack towards the rock,

*Whoosh! BOOM!*

The rock was almost obliterated into nothingness and the smoke rose upward, the nearest neighbors was startled by the sound and the tremor they felt, while Aldrey and his wife stood with their hairs moving in the wind from the aftereffect.

*"Dear, what have you been teaching our son?!"* Irene screamed through their transmission.

*"I taught him 'Autumn of Fire'."* Her husband said,

*"What? You already taught him Sky grade technique?! Are you insane?!"* Irene almost want to jump and strangle her husband, but her worries were justified because to

practice Sky grade technique someone needs a strong body and high comprehension mostly used by those at the Earl stage, a little mishap in forming the technique and you are hurting yourself and can be life threatening.

*"Relax dear, what if I told you I only taught him once?"* when Irene heard that she felt she must have heard wrong, "What?" Irene blurted out.

"I'm serious he is an absolute monster! His comprehension is incredibly high and the power that he unleashed are tremendous despite his age and stage"

"He is our son! Not a monster." Irene rebuke

"Okay okay I'm sorry but that's how I described him, I know he is our son." He raise his hands in surrender, they continue to watch Aldrian, their son's happy face visible to them, as the sword in his hand already crumble to pieces unable to hold Aldrian's energy. Still with a happy face, Aldrian turned his head and ran towards them.

"Father! Mother! I did it!"

Aldrey and Irene smiled, Irene resigned herself to her son enthusiasm, *"As long as you are fine"* her thought, she hugged her son and picked him up, "Yes because you are my genius son!" she said as she kiss his cheek. Aldrian giggled while his father looked at them fondly and proudly.

"Father, you said when you can sense and comprehend the elements you can use the said element right?"

"Hm? that's right, what about it?"

Aldrian then climbed down from her mother's hug and picked up a new wooden sword, "When I sensed the fire energy earlier I sensed other energy, so maybe I can use it like this."

"What—" before Aldrey could finish speaking, the sword in Aldrian's hand suddenly became covered in a water like substance, Aldrey and Irene widened their eyes in astonishment.

"Dual element cultivator!" Aldrey said shaking.

"AHH my son is a genius of dual element cultivator!" Irene hysterically, hugging her son again but more tightly" You are truly my beloved son, you inherited our talents, your father is fire element and mother is water element" Aldrian just giggled proudly when he suddenly said "not only that," he tried to channel another energy into his sword, The sword was then covered in mud, and next, it was surrounded by blowing wind.

" ... "

Today is the day that Aldrey and Irene started to look at their son differently, realizing that their common sense couldn't be applied to his capabilities.

#### *Chapter 5 - The Separation*

4 years later

In the middle of the Barisan continent, there is a vast forest called the Everlasting Silent Forest. With tall trees whose dense foliage envelops it, many wild animals and monsters dwell within it. This forest, covering an area of 100 million square kilometers, is a highly strategic location, so it's not surprising that it should have been controlled by some power or even divided into different territories.

However, in reality, this forest has no ruler and remains abandoned. Legend has it that any force attempting to conquer this forest, even Emperor stage cultivators, will mysteriously vanish and never return.

At one point on a high cliff that can be seen from 10 km away, the sound of the blowing wind is strong at the peak. At this moment, a young man with red hair is sitting cross-legged at the top, silent and unmoving like a rock. His handsome and refined face, though still youthful, is visible under the glaring sun. The energy surrounding him indicates that he is already at the Low Viscount stage, enough for the people of this continent to consider him at the starting point to become a powerhouse.

A few moments later, he finally opened his eyes, which no longer held the innocence of the past. In the last four years since he started his cultivation by his own will, many things have happened.

First the mysterious screen in front of him,

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**Aldrian Aster**

**Domain** : The entire secret realm.

**Age** : 10 years

**Cultivation** : Low Viscount

**Current energy** : 140,160 (+1,2/15m)

**Energy needed for the next stage** : 170.001

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From a few information the 'thing' gave him the first thing he didn't understand was the concept of the domain. Why did it initially cover only the entire village? He experimented for the last few years with this domain and discovered that outside of his domain, his control over energy was not as strong as inside it.

He still had his superior comprehension, but outside, it felt as if something was trying to obstruct his sense and control of the surrounding energy, though it wasn't much of a bother for him. As time went by and he became stronger, the domain also expanded until not long ago, it changed to 'The entire secret realm'.

The first time Aldrian learned that he was in a secret realm from his father's story, he was shocked because he had always thought the village was somewhere in an open field in the middle of the Barisan continent. His father had already explained the continent's power structures and locations to him.

In the middle of the continent is the vast Everlasting Silent Forest, where their village is located. To the north lies the Vindas Empire, to the northwest is the Atria Empire, to the west is the territory of the Buddhist sect, and to the southwest is the kingdom of the Dwarves.

To the south and southeast is the Demon territory, to the east is the territory of the Ivory Empire, and to the northeast is the Doria Empire. Lastly, far from the center of the continent in the northern part, bordered by the northern Vindas Empire and Doria Empire, is the Devil territory.

Actually, there is one more independent power that, although it doesn't have a large area like the surrounding empires, is also a crucial force on the continent, The 'Heavenly Direction' Church is located in the northern part of the Everlasting Silent Forest, bordered by the southern Vindas Empire and the western Doria Empire. These powers have dominated the continent for a long time, and Aldrian remembers this well.

Another thing he has learned is how to increase his cultivation speed by expanding his domain. If the domain expansion isn't too significant, the energy increase rate doesn't change. To boost his cultivation speed, he has to make a considerable expansion.

Currently, his domain encompasses the entire secret realm, which is about 1,000 square kilometers and surrounded by a thick, impenetrable fog. This fog deludes the senses, anyone who tries to enter it to find a way out ends up back at their starting point. Therefore, it's impossible to force a way out other than through the hidden exit portal.

However, Aldrian has a question in his mind: Is there any way to expand his domain besides increasing his cultivation? He feels that he will find out soon, as he suddenly frowns.

"The strange images are appearing again," he mutters.

This remains an unsolved puzzle for him. While some of the images are incomprehensible, some of them are the most gruesome things he has ever seen, somethings that should not be shown to a child his age. Initially, he was terrified and often cried by himself. Experiencing these images felt like living a thousand lives at once, but over time, he got over it. This ordeal caused his personality to mature quickly, making him more like an adult than a child.

He then stood up, tried to rearrange his thoughts, and slapped his cheeks with both hands.

"Well, let's keep training." he said to himself, moving to another location inside the secret realm.

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Meanwhile, in Aldrian's house, his parents sat face to face in the dining room, not for eating but for something else.

"Dear, I think it's time." Aldrey said to his wife.

Hearing this, Irene tightened her fist. "Is there no other way? Can't we just bring Aldrian outside? I think we can protect him while we solve our prob—"

"No, Irene, he will be safer here. He will also grow strong enough before he can go out by himself. Don't you see how fast he's cultivated? A 10-year-old at the Low Viscount stage? The world will turn upside down."

"But—" Irene tried to reason, but Aldrey cupped her face between his hands and smiled at her.

"Irene, do you trust our son?"

"Of course I trust him, he is our son after all!"

"Then we need to let him grow on his own! I know it's too early, but haven't we seen him train every day? He masters all our teachings with ease like a fish learning to swim. His comprehension is unmatched like reading a simple alphabet. Even I've started to think he's maturing too fast."

Irene still hesitated, so Aldrey continued to convince her. "If Aldrian comes with us, imagine what will happen if our family finds him. He will face unnecessary trouble and be dragged into our family's games. Remember, our family doesn't know about Aldrian's existence. Do you want that? What about the Devils? We can't always be there to protect him"

Irene bit her lower lip and tightened her fist, she hated that she had to separate from her son because she lacked the power to protect him entirely. After a few moments of contemplation, she finally gave in.

"Fine, I'll listen to you, husband."

Aldrey felt relieved when he heard that. It was also a tough decision for him, but it had to be made.

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The sun started to sink into the horizon, giving a beautiful end to the day and signaling the beginning of dinner time. Aldrian and his parents were already in the dining room. As they began to dig into the food, Aldrian noticed an unusual atmosphere between his parents. It wasn't the usual easy-going ambiance, something seemed to be bothering them. After they finished eating, Aldrey started to explain to Aldrian what was going to happen in the future.

"Son, I can't believe it's been four years since you started cultivating and you are already this strong... sometimes, i wish time would slow down so i can enjoy your childhood more."

Aldrian listened silently to his father.

"But we know we can't keep you forever. When we realized you were different from others, we knew you would soar high, higher than anything."

Aldrian sensed something was wrong with the way his father spoke.

"We have taught you everything we can, so i believe you can explore and develop much more on your own. We know our own limitations."

"Father, what is it? Why are you talking like this?" Aldrian asked.

"Son, i have to be honest with you. As you already know, we are in the secret realm. Your mother and I are here because of certain circumstances. Unfortunately, we still have unfinished business in the outside world."

Aldrian began to realize what was coming next.

"Son, tomorrow morning, when the sun rises, we will depart from here to take care of some business—"

"I'm going too, Father!" Aldrian burst out.

"No, Aldrian, you will stay here until we—"



"No, Father! I'm ready to—"

"I said no!"

"But why?"

"Sigh... you're still too weak, son. Don't think that just because you are at the Viscount stage, you are already an expert. No! You are still lacking! There are many enemies out there with higher stages than you. We can't always be there to protect you son!"

Hearing this, Aldrian clenched his fists. He felt so weak right now. The images that had appeared in his mind also showed the gruesome reality of the weak facing the strong, no resistance, no mercy. The weak are trampled, humiliated, and death is the end if you're not strong enough. Despite this, Aldrian still wanted to try to follow his parents outside, so he directed his gaze to his mother but she turned her face away, covering her mouth with her hand, tears brimming in her eyes.

In the end, Aldrian knew that with his parents already in agreement, it would be difficult to change their minds. He lowered his head, tears starting to roll down his cheeks. It would be the first time he would be apart from his parents for who knows how long, and he felt a deep sadness. Aldrey and Irene, seeing their son like this, walked towards him and hugged him from either side, seeking each other's warmth to get through the cold night.

The next day, when the sun started to rise, they were already at the outer part of the village. The villagers, having heard the news of Aldrian's parents' departure, had gathered to bid their farewell. Aldrian was accompanied by the old physician couple, who wished Aldrey and Irene good luck.

When it was finally time to depart, Aldrey and Irene started walking and looking back at their son's face one last time. They waved their hands towards him and the villagers and then walked further and further away. Despite his sadness, Aldrian watched his parents' silhouettes with a determined expression.

*"Father, Mother, the next time we see each other, I promise I will become your pillar, someone you can rely on, someone who will shine and make you proud. This is my promise—no, it's my oath to you!"*

The wind blew and the heaven and earth energy resonated as if they had heard his oath with the heaven as his witness, Aldrian Aster would fulfill his oath!