#### STAR ODYSSEY 1041

#### Chapter 1041: Miserable Duel

Lan Si stood above the surface of Planet Fleabane's sea as he looked up at Lu Yin with an arrogant expression. Truthfully, the Arbiter had not believed that Lu Yin would be able to force him to use his Vacuum Palm.

Fatesand disappeared from in front of Lan Si's chest; he also possessed fatesand. Initially, he had believed that the combination of that and his One Hundred Fifty Stacks would be enough to defeat Lu Yin. Lan Si had not expected Lu Yin to be so hard to deal with.

Lu Yin's strength allowed the Arbiter to understand why Lu Yin had been willing to appear and participate in their appointed battle. Still, Lu Yin would inevitably taste defeat.

Above the planet, countless eyes stared at Lu Yin, but they were unable to determine anything from his expression. Lu Yin did not appear to be discouraged or terrified, but neither was there any sign of excitement or overflowing battle intent that usually appeared when one faced a powerful foe. All anyone saw was his calm mien.

Lu Yin stood high up in space as he gingerly moved his arms, which hurt quite badly. His bones had probably been broken. This was Lan Si's Vacuum Palm, and the technique was much more complicated than merely being invisible. Each palm print contained over One Hundred Fifty Stacks; this was a battle technique that allowed a person to use the Overlaying Stacks Path to the extreme, and this was the strength that Lan Si had been hiding.

It was no wonder why Lan Si had cultivated the Overlaying Stacks Path from beginning to end, as there was no need for him to cultivate anything else. His Vacuum Palm alone was enough for him to dominate the universe. An invisible palm imprint that could not be evaded even if one was capable of seeing rune lines. This attack could not be easily withstood by facing it head on, as one would need a monstrous defense to survive unscathed. This was an unexplainable battle technique.

Lu Yin raised a foot and tore through the void to return to Planet Fleabane, where he appeared a thousand meters away from Lan Si.

"That's a rather powerful battle technique. It's no wonder why you've always been cultivating the Overlaying Stacks Path," Lu Yin marveled.

Lan Si glanced down at his right hand. "I coincidentally obtained this technique through a twist of fate. After obtaining it, I've never even thought of cultivating anything else, as this battle technique is innately suited for me."

Lu Yin solemnly stated, "It's a simple and pure attack that is also unexplainable. It's absolutely terrifying."

Lan Si stared at Lu Yin, incredulous. "You aren't going to admit defeat?"

Lu Yin grabbed his arm. "I can still take it."

Lan Si laughed. "My Vacuum Palm places no burden on my body, so don't expect me to wear out first. How long can your nine lined battle force endure for?" Lu Yin looked serious.

Lan Si stared into Lu Yin's eyes. Suddenly, the Arbiter's figure vanished, and Lu Yin's pupils shrank as he checked his surroundings. Rune lines were rapidly descending at him from above.

Lu Yin felt his scalp go numb, and his fatesand appeared once again as nine lined battle force shrouded his entire body. There was a loud bang as, this time, his body was smashed beneath the ground. He pierced all the way through Planet Fleabane and was blasted back out into outer space on the other side as the planet began to shatter apart due to its core breaking apart.

Blood could be seen at the corner of Lu Yin's lips when he stood up in space. The fractures in his arm had become even more severe. Then, Lan Si suddenly reappeared directly behind Lu Yin as he unleashed yet another Vacuum Palm.

Lu Yin was able to see the rune lines, but he could not evade this attack. If Lan Si's Vacuum Palm appeared, then all he could do was try to endure the attack.

The Vacuum Palm was the best representation of Lan Si's overwhelming mastery of the Overlaying Stacks Path, and it was also Lan Si's most powerful attack. It was extremely difficult to defend against this attack, even for Lu Yin who had his fatesand alongside his nine lined battle force. Lu Yin was sent flying for a third time, and an intense pain erupted from his arms. Each time he was struck, his fatesand would be forced back into his body, and he believed that his nine lined battle force would not be able to last for much longer either.

Lan Si did not speak at all, as he had already been extremely considerate towards Lu Yin. As Lu Yin flew away, another Vacuum Palm was shot out without any hesitation.

A forcefield sprang up around Lu Yin's body and formed the Towering Tree. This forcefield was able to protect the area around it, but the tree was still pierced through by Lan Si's Vacuum Palm. Lu Yin was beaten back down onto Planet Fleabane yet again, and he landed with a crash.

Above Planet Fleabane, everyone in both the Innerverse and Outerverse who were watching felt a chill run down their spines. This was too horrifying an ability, and Lu Yin simply had no means of retaliating. Lu Yin had revealed a strength that could be considered unrivaled, but he was fighting against Lan Si, who was an unexplainable existence.

The Yu Secret Art was simply unable to divert Vacuum Palm, and Lu Yin was not even able to dodge the attack, much less try to divert it. Whenever he saw Vacuum Palm appear, it meant that he would have to passively endure it.

In the Great Yu Empire, countless people clenched their fists and felt so nervous that they could hardly breathe.

Wendy Yushan was also in the crowd above Planet Fleabane. Her fingers were pale; just what was Lan Si doing? None of them could tell what was going on; all they could see was that Lu Yin was being beaten like a punching bag without any way to retaliate.

At this time, even the other Arbiters in the Innerverse were watching seriously. Lan Si's hidden battle technique was simply too terrifying, and it could even perfectly showcase the strength of his Overlaying

Stacks Path. His speed was also impeccable—even Lu Yin, who possessed a defensive secret technique, was unable to dodge Lan Si's attack. The other Arbiters would be no different.

On the shattered remnants of Planet Fleabane, Lu Yin spat out a mouthful of blood. His left arm was already crippled from trying to block the Vacuum Palm, so he moved it in front of himself. At this time, he could not feel anything from his left arm at all. This was the price that he had to pay just for... observation.

There was another explosion as another Vacuum Palm landed on him. At this moment, Lan Si looked like a celestial being.

Lu Yin raised his left arm once more. His physical body was being torn apart, and scarlet blood flowed down the exposed bone before dripping onto his clothes.

Lan Si looked down. "Still not admitting defeat? How many more attacks can you take? I do have to say that you've shocked me. There aren't that many even among the Ten Arbiters who can take this many of my attacks."

Lu Yin suddenly grinned, and blood flowed from his mouth. "The surprise is behind you."

His forcefield reformed into the Towering Tree, and it shrank down until it was small enough to stand in front of Lu Yin and block the path before him. Lu Yin also closed his eyes at this moment.

Lan Si was bewildered. "Since you're not admitting defeat, then don't blame me."

His hand fell once more, using the Vacuum Palm once more.

Lu Yin's eyes remained tightly closed as the Vacuum Palm pierced through his domain, and at that instant, Lu Yin's eyes opened wide as his left arm moved to protect the rest of his body. His nine lined battle force emerged to strengthen his defenses along with his fatesand. At the same time, he struck out with his right hand: One Hundred Stacks, Spacerender Palm.

### Boom!

Lu Yin's entire body was sent flying underground, and he once again pierced through Planet Fleabane and shot out into space. However, this time, Lan Si was similarly struck by Lu Yin's Spacerender Palm, which caught the Arbiter off guard and similarly threw him into space.

An intense explosion erupted on Planet Fleabane, and flames filled the sky as both Lu Yin and Lan Si tumbled into outer space on the opposite sides of the planet.

Lan Si was overwhelmed; had Lu Yin noticed it?

The Vacuum Palm put no strain on Lan Si's body, which meant that, in theory, as long as his physical strength was sufficient, he could use the technique without limit. However, each time he used the Vacuum Palm, there would be a single moment where his body stiffened. This was because of the momentum transfer that occurred whenever such a tremendous force was unleashed, and it was unavoidable unless Lan Si's physical strength increased by about fivefold. Otherwise, this momentum transfer would always cause him to pause for a moment.

Also, even if the Arbiter's physical strength increased by fivefold, the strength of his Vacuum Palm would increase at a similar rate, which meant that the momentum transfer's pause would still exist unless he decreased the strength of the attack by fivefold. Only then would he be able to avoid the momentary freezing effect. However, if he did that, the Vacuum Palm would be too weak, and there would be no reason to even use it.

The pause caused by the momentum transfer was the Vacuum Palm's greatest weakness, but it also was not really a weakness. From what Lan Si knew, practically no one within the same generation could endure that many Vacuum Palms, so just who would be able to discover this tiny detail of the technique?

However, Lu Yin's physical strength was too formidable, and he had forcibly endured Lan Si's Vacuum Palm multiple times. As a result, he had been able to use his domain to discover the technique's weakness despite how badly he had been injured by the attacks.

Lu Yin panted heavily as he stared through Planet Fleabane. He had been struck by the Vacuum Palm multiple times, but he had finally discovered it. There was no such thing as a perfect battle technique, and the stronger the battle technique was, the greater the likelihood of it containing a fatal flaw was. This momentary freezing was Lan Si's fatal flaw.

Each time he used his Vacuum Palm, he would be unable to mount any sort of defense for a moment, such as using his fatesand. The Arbiter's body would completely freeze during that moment, and this freezing would ultimately spell his doom.

Now, everything depended on their resilience and who could endure the most punishment.

The Great Yu Empire was suddenly thrust into high spirits as the countless people in the Outerverse who were supporting Lu Yin began to cheer. Lan Si had been struck, which meant that the one-sided beating was over. Lu Yin could retaliate now.

Lu Yin spread out his domain, and his gaze trembled. Then, he shot back towards Planet Fleabane.

Lan Si similarly charged towards the planet.

The two collided at the planet's core, where Lan Si used his Vacuum Palm while Lu Yin shouted and used Night Advent. Darkness covered Lan Si's vision, and he paused for a moment before continuing to unleash his Vacuum Palm. However, this attack was delayed by a single moment due to Lu Yin's Night Advent. During this time, Lu Yin was still able to see, and his pupils transformed into runes as he quickly weakened Lan Si's palm attack. The approaching Vacuum Palm's rune lines shot out, but this time, Lu Yin waved a hand and activated the Yu Secret Art. The Vacuum Palm was diverted.

This was the first time that Lu Yin had managed to successfully divert a Vacuum Palm, and he also took advantage of Lan Si's body freezing up due to the momentum transfer to appear right in front of the Arbiter, where Lu Yin pressed his hand against his opponent. "One Hundred Stacks, Six Hundredfold Shockwave Palm."

There was another thump as more shockwaves blasted Planet Fleabane apart. Lan Si spat out a mouthful of blood, and his body was thrown back into outer space.

Countless people were recording this battle, as they had thought that Lu Yin would be the one flying away, or perhaps that both sides would suffer injuries. However, nobody had imagined that the only one sent flying by this exchange would be Lan Si.

Lan Si's body had forcibly endured Lu Yin's attack, but there was still an indent on the Arbiter's chest, and it looked like a palm imprint.

Lu Yin hurriedly gave chase, as Lan Si could not retaliate at this moment. Although Lan Si's body was tough enough to use One Hundred Fifty Stacks, if he received an attack during an unprepared moment, he would still be injured. Even if the Arbiter's body was more robust, his organs would not be able to withstand such a blow, and he would end up losing.

Night Advent, Yu Secret Art, Truesight, his nine lined battle force, domain, and Overlaying Stacks Path— Lu Yin had used everything that he was capable of, all for just this moment.

All for a moment to decide the victor.

In outer space, Lu Yin suddenly appeared behind Lan Si, and star energy converged over Lu Yin's right hand. "Twin Suns."

The burning suns illuminated the entire region, and countless grew afraid.

At this moment, even the people from Mt. Stacks Dojo who held absolute confidence in Lan Si were stunned. How was this possible? Had their young master actually been injured?

Lu Yin's Twin Suns consumed all of the remaining star energy in Lu Yin's body before shooting towards Lan Si. Lu Yin did not believe that Lan Si was capable of blocking such an attack at this moment.

Lan Si truly did not block the attack. Instead, he unleashed his own attacks.

Despite being bombarded by Lu Yin's Twin Suns, Lan Si did not actually seem to be injured, and he used his Vacuum Palm once again.

This time, Lu Yin was unable to anticipate Lan Si's attack, but fortunately, he had already unleashed Twin Suns, and they clashed with the Vacuum Palm that had been released just like the first time.

Space rippled, and the fluctuations spread out in all directions, tearing through the void.

The spectators above Planet Fleabane retreated yet again, and even some hidden Enlighters among the crowd were overwhelmed.

They had all watched as Lan Si had been severely injured by Lu Yin, and logically, the Arbiter's body should have reached the limit, preventing him from retaliating this quickly. Even if his thoughts were still clear, his body should not be able to respond. Despite that, he had still retaliated with a Vacuum Palm.

No matter whether it was offense or defense, Lan Si left everyone feeling perplexed.

Lu Yin was similarly unable to understand how Lan Si had recovered so quickly; his rune lines had clearly weakened by a great deal, which was proof that Lu Yin's attack had left the Arbiter severely injured. Just how had he been able to retaliate so quickly?

Planet Fleabane shattered. It was not too far from being completely destroyed now.

Lan Si panted heavily and looked down at the palm imprint that had sunk deep into his body. This was the mark that Lu Yin had left on Lan Si's body, and it was the Arbiter's most severe injury to date.

Lu Yin's left arm seemed to only be connected to his body by bone, his body had been torn apart, and his blood was drying. He looked the more miserable of the two.

## Chapter 1042: A Ruthless Person

At this moment, nobody could deny Lu Yin's strength, as he was indeed qualified to fight against the Ten Arbiters head on.

Lan Si had not relied on the Vacuum Palm to become an Arbiter, only the Overlaying Stacks Path. Lu Yin had already shown that he had the strength to hold the seat of one of the Ten Arbiters, but what he needed to do now was defeat Lan Si.

However, Lan Si himself was still a mystery, as Lu Yin could not figure out how the Arbiter had managed to retaliate so quickly after being seriously injured. At this rate, Lu Yin would lose.

He had been able to endure Lan Si's Vacuum Palm in order to observe the technique, find its weakness, and retaliate. This had allowed Lu Yin to set himself up for what seemed to be a guaranteed victory. However, if he could not accurately gauge Lan Si's full strength, then Lu Yin would not be able to win no matter how hard he fought, as all of his efforts could be overturned by Lan Si.

Lu Yin looked over at Lan Si, and something suddenly occurred to him. "That was your innate gift."

Lan Si panted heavily, and each time he took a breath, the palm imprint on his chest recovered a little. "My innate gift allows me to block out all pain."

Lu Yin's pupils shrank, and his face went pale.

Blocking all perception of pain might seem like a useless innate gift, as it did not help a person in attacking or defending. However, to someone who was adept at physical battles, this innate gift was incredibly powerful.

Pain was the human body's instinctive way of protecting itself. Only through the feedback of pain would one learn the limits of their physical body. Once pain was felt, no matter how firm a person's resolve might be, their actions would still be hindered. This was one of the body's instinctive reactions, and it could not be avoided.

During a battle, any hint of carelessness could become the basis for the opponent's victory.

Being able to block off all perception of pain meant that there would be no restrictions. Even if a person was severely injured, unless their body was completely destroyed, they would still be able to remain clear headed, and their body would move without any delays, just like what Lan Si had just done. Under normal circumstances, even if Lan Si wanted to retaliate, his body's limits would not have allowed him to do so. At best, he would have been able to defend himself. But because of his innate gift, Lan Si had blocked off the pain and retaliated.

Doing something like this might lead to more severe injuries, but it was still much better than directly suffering another attack from the Twin Suns.

Since the physical body was not sapient itself, it was unable to differentiate between good pain and bad pain; there was only the pain of injuries. Only the brain had any intelligence.

Lan Si had screened off his body's pain, which allowed him to use his unclouded intelligence to perfectly control his body. This allowed him to do things that were impossible for normal people.

Lu Yin instantly understood all of this. It was no wonder how Lan Si had cultivated the Overlaying Stacks Path and the Vacuum Palm. Everything had been established upon his foundation of having an innate gift that blocked off pain.

"Seventh Bro, this person is clearly ruthless if he can block out all perception of pain. That's simply disregarding his body—even if he falls apart, he'll still be able to retaliate. Seventh Bro, stop fighting! This guy's a freak!" the Ghost Monkey screamed.

Lu Yin clenched his fists, as this was a very tricky situation. He could defeat someone who was even stronger than Lan Si or who had a more powerful innate gift. However, it would be incredibly difficult for him to defeat a person who longed for death.

Lan Si had removed all perception of pain, and to a certain extent, he was essentially a person seeking death. Without any sense of pain, Lan Si would not be defeated unless he was killed.

"Now do you understand why I want you to admit defeat? I admit that your strength is impressive, and you're almost on par with me. However, you'll never be able to defeat me," Lan Si calmly said.

He also looked calm despite the deep palm imprint on his chest. It should have left him in agony and even possibly ruptured his organs, but he could not feel the pain.

Lu Yin's gaze sharpened, as he also had an innate gift. He was fully confident in defeating Lan Si if he could use his die. No matter how much Lan Si blocked off his pain perception, as long as Lu Yin was able to hide in the Timestop Space, he would be able to take medicines and naturally recover from all of his injuries.

However, Lu Yin could not use his innate gift. At this moment, the entire universe was watching him, and he did not know if anyone would be able to recognize his innate gift that was a die.

The universe had developed for countless years. Who knew what bizarre events had taken place in the past?

Still, there was no need to ponder all this right now. Clearly, it would be far too difficult for Lu Yin to defeat Lan Si.

This was quite a dilemma; using his innate gift would reveal the die, and Lu Yin was hoping to only reveal it if it was absolutely necessary during his battle with Nightking Zhenwu. If not for Nightking Zhenwu ambushing Lu Yin with his Heart Seeker secret technique, Lu Yin would not have been defeated so easily, especially with his die.

The next time Lu Yin encountered Nightking Zhenwu, as long as he was not ambushed by the Heart Seeker secret technique, he would not lose as easily. After all, Lu Yin had the Stonewall Scriptures, and he could use it to resist the Daynight clan's spiritual force attacks.

"Seventh Bro, are you going to fight or not? If you're not, then hurry up and leave. Stalling is just helping this guy," the Ghost Monkey asked.

Lu Yin was stunned, and he heaved a sigh of relief. He had been distracted and had actually started thinking about Nightking Zhenwu even though he still had not found a way to deal with Lan Si, who he was currently fighting.

The monkey was right. The longer Lu Yin stalled for, the more Lan Si would benefit.

As he thought about this, Lu Yin tore through the void and threw a palm attack at Lan Si.

Lan Si's gaze trembled, and he vanished. Lu Yin spread out his domain, and Lan Si appeared as he emerged from the void. At that moment, Lu Yin suddenly unleashed his spiritual force: Night Advent.

This was the only way for Lu Yin to defeat Lan Si. He had to use his domain to keep track of Lan Si's whereabouts while using Night Advent at opportune moments to slow down how quickly the Vacuum Palm could be unleashed.

When Lu Yin released Night Advent, the members of the Daynight clan in the Innerverse were stunned. Night Advent was a powerful battle technique that only a few in the entire Daynight clan had comprehended, and it was no weaker than the Daynight Restoration Technique; Night Advent was merely not as famous. The moment Lu Yin used their technique, the Daynight clan grew furious.

Nightking Zhenwu's face looked as gloomy as water; Lu Yin had actually comprehended Night Advent.

Earlier, Lu Yin had used Night Advent while hidden in the core of Planet Fleabane, but this time, he was using it in the middle of outer space.

When Night Advent was unleashed, it manifested as an expanse of darkness in front of Lan Si. However, he did not use Vacuum Palm. Since he had already been ambushed once by Lu Yin, Lan Si would not allow himself to be ambushed a second time. Instead, he tore through the void to move to a new location.

Lu Yin unleashed his domain to continue searching for Lan Si.

Lan Si appeared behind Lu Yin with a hand raised high and ready to attack.

Lu Yin could not use Night Advent repeatedly, but when Lan Si appeared, Lu Yin tapped out and used his Dream Finger.

Although Lu Yin's Dream Finger did not suppress an opponent's spiritual force, it had the special property of solidifying the void, and it was a battle technique from beyond the Upper Three Gates. Unless the disparity of strength was too great, there was no way that Lu Yin's opponent would be able to stop the void from being frozen, and Lan Si was no exception.

The Arbiter had never expected Lu Yin to still possess such a battle technique, but even though Vacuum Palm had been delayed for a moment, it was still released. However, the moment Lan Si released the Vacuum Palm, Lu Yin used the Yu Secret Art to divert the attack. Still, this time, Lu Yin had not used Truesight to erase some of the rune lines, and he only shifted the attack. Hence, he did not manage to completely divert the attack, and his body was still forced to endure half of the attack.

The half was something that Lu Yin was willing to endure, and at this moment, his pupils transformed into runes as he weakened the rune lines on Lan Si's right hand. He did this right as his Dream Finger pierced through the void. The finger instantly penetrated through Lan Si's right hand, and the power behind this finger attack continued on after that, ripping open Lan Si's right arm.

The two were both thrown back, and half of Lu Yin's body had gone numb. His nine lined battle force had reached its limits and was about to collapse, and he could no longer release his fatesand.

Lan Si's right arm had been shattered, and fresh blood pumped out, flowing into space. He was almost unable to stand at this moment.

This was a pyrrhic battle, and they were competing in terms of endurance.

There had never been such a miserable battle involving the younger generation of the Outerverse.

Beyond the battle, countless people had already guessed at the outcome of this battle. The majority had favored Lan Si, expecting him to easily defeat Lu Yin. There had also been some who favored Lu Yin, but they had only expected him to lose graciously.

Instead, the two were having a bitter fight.

Countless people silently watched the battle on their screens from within the Innerverse.

Liu Shaoqiu, Mu Rong, Ling Que, Wen Qian'er, and the others who sat at the very top of the Top 100 Rankings like Xia Tian, Tai Yuanjun, as well as many others, all watched on in silence.

At this point in the fight, the two had finally revealed all of their trump cards, and many people no longer cared about who won this fight. All that mattered was that these two were among the most powerful people of their generation.

Even the other Ten Arbiters had to admit that Lu Yin had reached the same level as them.

Off in the distance, the energy that made up the Astral River continued to recede.

Planet Fleabane was still breaking apart, and explosions from its core continued to spread outwards. This moment was coincidentally the planet's most glorious moment, as it was ending its existence with a literal bang.

The two youths charged at each other once again without any hesitation.

Neither was willing to admit defeat, as the battle would have ended long ago if either had been willing.

Thump

Thump

Thump

Thump

•••

There was another explosion, and the two were both thrown down onto the last remnants of Planet Fleabane. It had almost completely shattered by now, but they had managed to land on a continent that had been sent flying into space. Rivers of boiling lava snaked across the land, and there were some strange creatures twisting about desperately.

Lan Si raised his hand: Vacuum Palm.

Lu Yin's domain had been fixated on Lan Si this entire time, and when the Arbiter moved, Lu Yin used Night Advent again. However, after multiple uses, Lu Yin's spiritual force had been greatly depleted. Not only was he unable to injure Lan Si this time, but Lu Yin also suffered repercussions since his body was no longer able to endure Lan Si's Vacuum Palm.

At this moment, his nine lined battle force finally collapsed. It had endured being struck by at least ten Vacuum Palms from Lan Si. Even the other Ten Arbiters might not be able to endure such abuse, as Lu Yin's battle force had already reached nine lines, which was the limit.

Lu Yin was knocked into the lava, and when he spat out fresh blood, it was instantly vaporized by the lava's intense heat.

Lan Si's left palm was trembling, and he dropped to the ground. When his hand met the earth, it sank down deeply as his sweat and own blood dripped down. Lan Si's blood was also being burned away.

He stared intently at the bottom of the lava; had Lu Yin been defeated? Was he still able to stand?

Countless eyes focused on the fragment of a continent from the destroyed Planet Fleabane, specifically at the lava on the landmass.

Lu Yin's eyes opened wide within the lava. His left arm was completely powerless by now, and his nine lined battle force had been shattered. His fatesand could no longer be released, and his spiritual force was almost completely exhausted. Even his right hand was no longer able to unleash his more powerful attacks while one finger had been crippled from the use of the Dream Finger and the Overlaying Stacks Path. Lu Yin had seldom ever been beaten into such a miserable state, and throughout his nearly twelve years of cultivation, he had experienced very few battles as bitter as this one!

The red lava obstructed his vision, but it also blocked the vision of the people observing Planet Fleabane.

Lu Yin slowly opened his right palm. Since he was facing one of the Ten Arbiters, it would not be very respectful if he still held back with any of his abilities. After considering this, he screened off the Ghost Monkey, brought out his die, and tapped it with a finger. This was not cheating, as the die was Lu Yin's innate gift, just like how Lan Si had an innate gift that allowed him to block off all sense of pain.

If Lan Si had not used his innate gift to block his pain, then this battle might have already ended.

The die slowly stopped spinning, and Lu Yin stared at it with high expectations, hoping to roll Timestop. As long as he could enter that isolated space, everything would be within his grasp.

At that moment, Lu Yin's expression suddenly changed. Through his domain, he could sense that Lan Si had appeared directly above him, and the Arbiter's star energy was surging as he pushed the lava aside.

Lu Yin hurriedly gathered his forcefield around him, forming a large tree to stop this attack, but he failed. Lan Si's gaze trembled, and he raised his left hand to slap out with an attack. This time it was not the Vacuum Palm but rather One Hundred Stacks.

At that instance, Lu Yin's die slowly stopped spinning. Five pips: Gift Copy.

There was a thump as the attack struck Lu Yin head on, sending his body flying away from the landmass and back into outer space. Lu Yin tumbled through space as he spat out another mouthful of blood.

Lan Si stood on the landmass and stared at the distant Lu Yin. "I don't want to kill you, but it's time to admit defeat! Your body has already reached its limit."

# Chapter 1043: Lu Yin's Smile

With great difficulty, Lu Yin managed to stabilize himself. He coughed twice as he continued to pant heavily. His die had already vanished, but his lips were curling upwards. Was this the innate gift of blocking off pain? How interesting.

Five pips: Gift Copy allowed Lu Yin to borrow another person's innate gift, and whenever he rolled it, if he touched someone with an innate gift within ten seconds, he would be able to borrow their innate gift.

Ever since he had discovered this aspect of his die, Lu Yin had not found it to be very useful. He had never expected that it would come in handy at this moment.

The moment the die had landed on five pips: Gift Copy was coincidentally the same moment when Lan Si's attack had fallen upon Lu Yin. Lan Si had been the one to take the initiative to touch Lu Yin, and although the attack had harmed Lu Yin, it had also granted him Lan Si's innate gift.

Lan Si thought that there was something strange about Lu Yin at this moment; was he smiling?

Lu Yin was indeed smiling, and countless people saw this scene. Everyone felt confused. Smiling? Why? How could he smile at a time like this?

Someone with a crippled left arm who could not even stabilize his battle force was still able to smile?

Lan Si suddenly felt uneasy, and he subconsciously raised his left hand to unleash another Vacuum Palm.

Lu Yin's eyes went wide, and his left arm that should have been crippled rose up. He tapped out at the exact same moment that Lan Si was about to use Vacuum Palm. Lu Yin used Dream Finger, and through the perception of his domain, he solidified the void one step ahead of Lan Si's Vacuum Palm, delaying it. Meanwhile, Lu Yin's pupils transformed into runes and weakened Lan Si's left hand, just like what he had done to Lan Si's right hand earlier.

Lan Si still managed to release his Vacuum Palm, as even he was not able to stop it. Once again, Lu Yin diverted the attack with the Yu Secret Art, and just like when he had crippled Lan Si's right hand, the Dream Finger pierced through Lan Si's left hand and smashed Lan Si's entire left arm to pieces.

Lu Yin had assumed that the Yu Secret Art would not be able to completely divert Lan Si's Vacuum Palm and that he would have to endure half of the attack. However, to everyone's surprise, the Yu Secret Art had completely diverted the Vacuum Palm this time. Lan Si had also reached his limit, or rather, he had reached his limit long ago. It was just that he had managed to continue fighting on by blocking off his pain receptors. It looked like he was still able to fight, but in reality, Lan Si's body was already unable to move.

With both of his arms crippled, Lan Si had a stupefied expression on his face. He stared at Lu Yin in disbelief as he slowly fell down.

Lu Yin's left arm was trembling intensely, as he had only been able to use Lan Si's innate gift once. After that, the pain had flooded back like a tsunami, nearly knocking Lu Yin unconscious.

He was barely able to stand in place right now, and he watched as the landmass drifted further and further away into space.

Everyone's focus had shifted from Lu Yin over to the landmass where Lan Si had fallen. The Ten Arbiters' Lan Si had been the first to fall.

Standing above the Top 100 Rankings, the Ten Arbiters had dominated their entire generation from high above.

They were the Ten Arbiters, and they held complete authority over the younger generation with their unrivaled legend. Since ancient times, these ten freaks from this generation were the only ones who had earned the name of the Ten Arbiters, and they were completely unprecedented.

Everyone had accepted that it was common sense that nobody could defeat the Ten Arbiters.

However, at this moment, the Ten Arbiters' Lan Si had, truly and completely, fallen.

This scene left the entire universe utterly speechless.

If Lan Si had won, then the outcome would have been accepted as proper. However, his defeat created a huge commotion, and this battle seemed to raise the curtains on a new era, one in which a new Arbiter would be born: Lu Yin.

In the Outerverse, the entire Frostwave Weave began celebrating; the entire Great Yu Empire was excited, and countless people were cheering.

The Vastdearth Sect, Neo-Vestige Sect, Six-Fingered Tribe, Tri-Banner Federation, Evenground Palace, and other powers that were a part of the Great Eastern Alliance suddenly felt a strange mixture of pride and bitterness surge within them as countless complex and ineffable emotions raged through their hearts.

Some people felt relieved of their burdens, as they saw a hope for the future in Lu Yin, as this giant ship would continue to sail onwards.

Some felt that they no longer had any hope of ever getting off of this ship.

The battle on Planet Fleabane had been more than a battle between two members of the younger generation, as the measured power levels of the attacks unleashed in this battle had actually gotten close to 300,000. In the entire Outerverse, the attacks of these two youths could place them within the top twenty most powerful experts, and this was without using any items. If items were allowed, then nobody knew exactly how powerful these two youths would be.

On Zenyu Star, Wei Rong heaved a sigh of relief. Lu Yin seemed unstoppable at this moment.

In Millions City, Qiong Xi'er covered her head; what a monster.

Madam Nalan smiled faintly, as her decision in the past had proven to be correct. This person was even fearless of the Ten Arbiters now, and he had emerged victorious in a fair fight against one of them.

On Skylush Planet, Zi Tianchuan felt helpless, and he immediately banished his former delusions. From this point forward, they would forever live under this person's shadow.

In Aegis, Black Mask closed his eyes. They would remain on this ship and carry on. It did not matter what the outcome might turn out to be.

Acquaintances and strangers all sighed as they stared at Lu Yin standing high above the shattered planet. No one knew what to think at this moment.

At this moment, Lu Yin was dazzling beyond belief.

Even the other Ten Arbiters in the Innerverse were completely focused on Lu Yin at this moment, as this person had already been putting some pressure on them before this fight.

Nightking Zhenwu's expression was icy, and he did not say a single word. He simply turned to look at the ancestral grounds and the stone plaque standing there. This person had to die, as he would bring about a disaster if he was left alone.

Above Planet Fleabane, Wendy Yushan heaved a sigh of relief. She thought back to when she had been able to simply disregard Lu Yin; how many years had passed since then? To them cultivators, it was just a flash, but Lu Yin now stood at a height far above Wendy, and he had climbed up to that position step by step. It had been difficult and bitter, but he had steadily continued.

The bespectacled Mistchild fearfully looked at Lu Yin, as he had transformed yet again compared to when they had first met. He had become terrifying and immeasurable beyond comparison.

Alone in space, Lu Yin was aware that the entire universe was focusing on him at this moment, and he slowly flew to the landmass. Lan Si opened his eyes, but he did not even know what he was seeing.

He had regained consciousness, but his body was unable to move as he had surpassed his limits. Although blocking off his perception of pain had allowed him to draw out much more power, it had also left him unable to sense his body's limits. Lu Yin's final blow had just been a normal palm, but just that had been enough to bring about Lan Si's downfall.

Covered by a shadow, Lu Yin walked over next to Lan Si and looked down at the Arbiter. "You've lost."

Lan Si looked calm. He was not unwilling to accept this outcome, as he had truly done his best, and a defeat was a defeat. He had nothing left to say. "Congratulations, you've won."

Lu Yin sat down cross-legged next to Lan Si, took out a pot of wine from his cosmic ring, and passed it over to Lan Si.

Lan Si merely stared at Lu Yin in a calm manner.

Lu Yin was stumped. He had actually forgotten that Lan Si was unable to move. So, Lu Yin opened the wine and set it down next to Lan Si.

Lan Si used his remaining star energy to take control of the pot, and he moved the wine to flow into his mouth.

Lu Yin was in so much pain that his entire body trembled, but he was still in much better shape than Lan Si, as Lu Yin's physical strength had already surpassed Lan Si's.

At this moment, Lu Yin felt even more grateful to Nightking Zhenwu. If the Nightking hadn't severely injured Lu Yin and left him in a near-death state, then how could he have used the Arcane Art, Fatal Revival to improve his physical body even further?

If not for that encounter, Lu Yin definitely would have lost to Lan Si in this battle, as Lu Yin would not have possessed as much physical strength.

He had succeeded because of Zhenwu, but he had also failed because of Zhenwu.

"How does it feel to beat me?" Lan Si asked while calmly surveying the sky.

Lu Yin smiled bitterly. "I never thought that you would be so powerful."

Lan Si was astonished. "Those should be my words! I never thought that I would lose."

Lu Yin sighed. "One Hundred Fifty Stacks. There aren't many in the younger generation who can receive that attack, and on top of that, you also have your Vacuum Palm and an innate gift that blocks off your perception of pain. You certainly live up to the reputation of being one of the unrivaled Ten Arbiters."

Lan Si commented, "Are you just flattering yourself?"

Lu Yin shook his head and took a mouthful of wine. "I've fought many battles, and there have been many times where my life was left dangling by a thread, and there were even some times where I could be considered dead. However, the most refreshing battle I've ever had was with you, as we are the same kind of person."

"That's why I looked for you after you matched my record from the Astral Combat Academy. You and I are the same kind of person," Lan Si replied.

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Off in the distance, there were countless people watching, but none of them dared to approach.

A spacecraft arrived, and on it was Elder Tie as well as the experts from Mt. Stacks Dojo, though they were stopped by a group of people. Lan Baobao herself made a move, but the person blocking their way was not weak. It was the old woman from the Nalan family.

Lan Baobao's attacks were completely ineffective.

"Move!" Lan Baobao screamed. She was anxiously looking into the distance, as she was afraid that Lu Yin would do something to Lan Si. Next to her, Elder Tie was far calmer, as he was not worried that Lu Yin would do anything to his young master with so many eyes watching. Lan Si had already been defeated, so if Lu Yin did anything further, the universe would see it as unacceptable. All Elder Tie wanted to do was simply hurry over and treat his young master.

The old woman shook her head. "I've been given orders to ensure that the two have a fair fight. Before they speak up, you cannot approach."

Elder Tie anxiously asked, "Young Master has already been defeated, so what more do you want?"

The old woman's face showed her determination.

At this moment, quite a few other experts appeared, and there were more than five Enlighters who stepped up, including the Moke Sword Sect Leader Ke Yun, Mafioso Planet's Topmist, and many other experts who had been hiding.

These experts all belonged to the Great Eastern Alliance, and now that Lu Yin had achieved victory, it had cemented their determination to protect the Great Eastern Alliance.

If the people from Mt. Stacks Dojo were allowed to approach Lu Yin, then these experts would be seen as having no worth, and their so-called "Great Eastern Alliance" would be treated as a joke.

Elder Tie grew sullen. Before the battle in the astral cemetery, when he had wanted to cause trouble for Wei Rong, he had also faced a similar situation. Lu Yin's influence was too impressive, and he had bodyguards wherever he went.

On the landmass that floated through space, Lu Yin took out a pill and offered it to Lan Si. "Do you dare to take it?"

Lan Si opened his mouth, and Lu Yin tossed the pill in.

Many saw this from a distance, and Elder Tie was stunned. "Young Master, be careful of tricks!"

"Lu Yin, what did you feed my brother?" Lan Baobao screamed.

Lu Yin laughed and looked off into the distance. "I, Lu Yin, have already emerged victorious, so what else would I do? What are you guys afraid of? Hahaha."

When Lu Yin started laughing, the countless people from the Great Eastern Alliance who were above the shattered Planet Fleabane also began to laugh, not even knowing why. They merely wanted to laugh with Lu Yin.

Watching from their screens, countless people throughout the Outerverse also laughed in delight.

In the Innerverse, anyone who saw this scene had an unspeakable feeling; they felt oppressed and sullen. It was as if the Outerverse already belonged to Lu Yin. If he laughed, then others would laugh. If he cried, then countless people would face a calamity.

This was Lu Yin's authority at this moment. He represented countless other people, and he was currently in control of the largest ship in all of history.

Elder Tie and the others from Mt. Stacks Dojo were like a lone vessel in the middle of the sea, and they looked around blankly. A formless pressure had enveloped them, and they could not even move.

At this moment, Lan Si's shattered arm gradually started recovering, and he painfully moved his finger. It was almost unbearable, but he could still move it.

He raised his hand and waved. "Step aside and let us have a chat."

Elder Tie and the others stopped speaking.

Lan Baobao stared at Lu Yin with a complex expression, and it was impossible to know what she was thinking at this moment.

Lu Yin smiled in a very carefree manner, as he had finally overcome an immense pressure. He had freely used his strength however he wished while fighting against Lan Si, and it had been too liberating of a feeling. At this moment, he could only release his emotions by laughing.

Lan Si looked up at Lu Yin. He slowly moved into a sitting position, drained the wine pot, and then coughed a few times.

#### **Chapter 1044: The Restored Astral River**

Lu Yin looked at Lan Si, who was coughing. "Don't drink too fast. The pill is effective, but it still needs some time to work."

"Thanks," Lan Si said. "Defeating me means that you can replace me as one of the Ten Arbiters. You're certainly qualified in terms of strength."

Lu Yin stared off into the distance. "I don't want to replace you—I want to replace someone else."

Lan Si's gaze shifted, but he did not reply.

Lu Yin wiped his lips, which had had some leftover dried bloodstains on them. He had also swallowed a pill already, one that had been upgraded until its rune lines almost matched those of an Enlighter with a power level of 300,000. Naturally, it was amazingly effective.

Lan Si looked down at his own arm and smiled bitterly. "I never imagined that I could lose."

"You've already said that several times," Lu Yin observed.

Lan Si shook his head. "But I truly never even considered it."

Lu Yin's lips curled up. "Each of us is confident in our own strength, and we almost came out even. If you had been just a little luckier, I would have lost, and if I had been a little less luckier, then you would have won. This is quite normal."

Lan Si seriously answered, "This was not just a matter of luck. You were able to withstand more than ten Vacuum Palms, which is something that I never expected. When we competed outside of the ruins, I was able to sense your physical strength, and I am confident that, at that time, you could not have even received three Vacuum Palms. Who could have guessed that, in such a short amount of time, you would improve by so much. You were even able to upgrade your eight lined battle force to nine lines, and your physical strength is strong enough to compensate for a difference in realms, even surpassing mine. Along with your secret technique and Gods' Origin's methods, your improvement was just too much."

Lu Yin nodded. "That's true. If I hadn't been able to improve my eight lined battle force to nine lines, then there's no way I would have been able to receive so many of your Vacuum Palms, and I would have definitely lost in that case."

"Lu Yin, the difference between us will only grow more in the future," Lan Si said seriously.

Lu Yin did not understand. "What do you mean? That I'll pull ahead, or you will?"

Lan Si laughed. "Of course you'll be the one to pull ahead! You've only cultivated for twelve years, but me? I'm close to forty years old, and I've been cultivating ever since I was young. I was given the Mt. Stacks Dojo's best resources, and I even obtained the Vacuum Palm by chance. But you walked out of the Outerverse, step by step, and although many say that the Hall of Honor is your true background, I have the feeling that you've never received any guidance from them, as your battle style is very feral."

Lu Yin's brows rose up, as this was the first time anyone had called his style feral.

"What? You're not convinced?" Lan Si retorted. He then continued, explaining, "You have many methods, and they are all quite complex. The higher you climb, the more these things will burden you. You have a domain and battle force, and you've cultivated them decently. However, you also use battle techniques, your physical body, and spiritual force. Such diversity is taboo among cultivators, or at least, it is according to the education that I've received."

Lu Yin muttered to himself, deep in thought. He had considered this before, and it was true that his strength was complex with many different techniques. However, there was nothing that he could do about it. He had not put much effort into improving his domain, and he had never specifically trained his physical strength either, but they had both been miraculously upgraded as he naturally cultivated. Lu Yin was quite helpless about the process, but of course, he enjoyed the results.

If he hadn't been able to use his domain to sense Lan Si's location during this battle, then Lu Yin would not have had enough time to react to the Arbiter's sudden movements and seize the advantage. Having more varied fighting methods in battle was not necessarily bad, as they provided him with more flexible attack patterns.

Still, Lu Yin did not say any of this to Lan Si, as the Arbiter would not possibly believe Lu Yin. His abilities had been miraculously upgraded? Only a fool would believe that such things were possible.

"You said that you're almost forty, but I've heard that two of the Ten Arbiters are already older than forty. Do you know which ones they are?" Lu Yin asked.

Lan Si replied, "Xing Kai and Serati Phoenix."

Lu Yin was not surprised to hear that Xing Kai had already surpassed forty years of age, as his appearance looked like a fifty year old's. On the other hand, judging by his appearance, Serati Phoenix did not look older than forty at all.

Still, it was quite normal for a cultivator's age to be drastically different from what age they physically appeared to be.

"What'll happen when the Ten Arbiters surpass the age limit?" Lu Yin asked.

Lan Si set the wine pot down. "What do you think?"

Lu Yin shook his head. "I'm not sure."

Lan Si thought about it and then replied, "We'll see if anyone can replace them." After saying that, he looked at Lu Yin and commented, "Your position right now is pretty awkward."

Lu Yin also had thought about this, as his strength was strong enough to replace either Xing Kai or Serati Phoenix. If anyone wanted to use age as an excuse to remove them from their positions, then Lu Yin would definitely be used in the negotiations.

Lu Yin did not have much of an impression of Xing Kai, but it was different for Serati Phoenix. Even though Lu Yin had never really encountered the Arbiter, just the Undying Bird's reputation was enough to make people wary. The family's ability to survive within Daynight Flowzone without caring much about what the Daynight clan thought was indicative of the Phoenix family's strength.

Lan Si stared at the distant Astral River. He seemed to be speaking to both himself and Lu Yin as he said, "The Ten Arbiters are ten extraordinary people, and not a single one of us can be underestimated."

Lu Yin's heart twitched. "Have you traded blows with any of the other Arbiters?"

Lan Si thought about it and nodded. "Yes."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "Who? And what was the outcome?"

Lan Si thought back, and his brows involuntarily rose up. "Wen Sansi, outcome-" He paused as he took a long drink of wine from the pot. "Lost."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "How?"

Lan Si looked at him. "If you fight against him one day, you'll understand what it truly means to be exasperated. Even if he just stands there and doesn't attack you, you still won't be able to think of winning."

Lu Yin did not understand. "Unable to be attacked?"

Lan Si shook his head. "The one who can't be attacked is Jin He. Wen Sansi is even more disgusting, and you'll understand when you eventually face him. Actually, I didn't exactly lose, but regardless, I can't beat him."

"Do you know about Jin He?" Lu Yin asked, his expression growing a bit colder.

Lan Si shook his head. "Not really. He usually seems pretty laid back, but he enjoys killing too much."

The two chatted for a long time. By the end, Lan Si's injuries had recovered a bit, and he was barely able to stand up.

"For our battle, I lost. According to our wager, from this day forward, the Mt. Stacks Dojo's Lan family will unconditionally support you," Lan Si solemnly said to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin grew emotional, as the Lan family's strength was rather significant. Also, Lan Si was one of the Ten Arbiters. This meant that, before Lu Yin had even become an Arbiter himself, he was already able to influence one of the Ten Arbiters.

Lu Yin also stood up. The feeling in his left arm was slowly returning, and he was recovering from his other injuries as well.

Off in the distance, away from the ruins of Planet Fleabane, the crowd gradually dispersed. At the same time, the Great Eastern Alliance established a perimeter and prevented anyone from recording Lu Yin at this moment.

Lu Yin extended his hand towards Lan Si.

Lan Si smiled bitterly, but then he grabbed Lu Yin's hand to stand up.

Upon seeing this, Elder Tie and the others approached the two, and Lan Baobao glared fiercely at Lu Yin, but she quickly looked at Lan Si with concern.

"Young Master, how are your injuries? Let's go and get you treated first," Elder Tie said.

Lan Si shook his head. "It's not a big deal."

Elder Tie was not reassured with Lan Si's answer, and he quickly found a cultivator with an innate gift of healing to treat Lan Si.

Lan Si said, "Starting today, our Mt. Stacks Dojo will join the Great Yu Empire and unconditionally support Lu Yin."

Elder Tie and the others fell silent, as they had all been aware of the wager.

Actually, they had never considered the possibility of their young master losing, and like Lan Si, they had only believed in his victory. Their mindset had matched the thoughts of most people in the universe, but ultimately, Lan Si had lost. Thus, it was difficult for them to accept the outcome since everything had happened so suddenly.

Lan Baobao glared at Lu Yin. "Did you use any dirty tricks?"

"Baobao, shut up!" Lan Si growled.

Lan Baobao was unsatisfied. "How could he win if he didn't use any dirty tricks? You're one of the Ten Arbiters!"

Lu Yin smiled and did not bicker with the girl. "Everyone, pack up for now. Actually, it's not too bad to stay on Zenyu Star. I'll make arrangements for everyone."

Elder Tie and the others looked to Lan Si.

He nodded.

Lu Yin grew excited. With this group of experts from the Mt. Stacks Dojo staying on the planet, Zenyu Star's safety was essentially guaranteed, especially since Elder Tie already had a power level of more than 300,000. The planet would be well protected now.

In the distance, various experts bowed to Lu Yin before leaving.

Lu Yin similarly expressed his thanks to the old woman and several other experts.

He was quite clear on his position. Even though he was the Outerverse Allied Forces' Commander and the Great Eastern Alliance Leader, he still needed the support of the people. They had shown him enough face, and they were all experts as well. Even if these people left the Great Eastern Alliance, he would still have to show them an appropriate amount of respect.

After the battle, Lu Yin activated his gadget, and countless messages continued to pour in, each one congratulating him for defeating Lan Si.

Planet Fleabane had completely disappeared from the universe due to this battle, but its name would be forever recorded down in history.

Wendy Yushan moved over, and she looked at Lu Yin with concern.

Lu Yin's gaze swept past her, and he saw that the Astral River's energy was dissipating at an unprecedented speed. A gaseous energy was constantly being released that flooded space in a rarely seen cloud that billowed towards them.

Everyone stared at the Astral River, as if they were all forming a guess at something.

Lu Yin's eyes went wide when he felt the spreading star energy sweep through the area. He activated the Cosmic Art and quickly began absorbing the energy as a vortex formed around him.

All of the cultivators in the area instinctively began to absorb the surging star energy.

Gradually, the star energy cloud swept by them, and the Astral River's surging energy that had once connected heaven and earth and obstructed passage between the Outerverse and Innerverse vanished.

Lu Yin had known that this day would eventually come, but he had never expected that it would be so soon.

The Outerverse had been isolated from the Innerverse for eighty months. Eighty entire months had passed, which was six and a half years. Finally, the connection had been reestablished.

As the energy dissipated, the various strange fish that had once roamed the Astral River's energy fell out, making for a magnificent sight. Some of the strange creatures' rune lines even caused Lu Yin to shudder.

Fortunately, these creatures did not leave the Astral River, as that would be too terrifying.

Countless cultivators dashed toward the border of the Astral River.

Elder Tie and the others had complex expressions. Now that the Astral River had returned to its normal state, they would be able to return to the Starfall Sea. However, nobody knew what had happened to Grayweed Continent, not to mention Mt. Stacks Dojo.

"I might simply abdicate from the Ten Arbiters," Lan Si suddenly mentioned, which caused a great number of gasps of surprise.

Lan Baobao felt aggrieved, as the Ten Arbiters were synonymous with unrivaled. A defeated Divine Fist would indeed find it hard to continue being an Arbiter, though he was still fully strong enough to remain an Arbiter.

"Young Master, the position of the Ten Arbiters was given by the Hall of Honor. Even if Lu-" Elder Tie caught himself before continuing, "Even if Alliance Leader Lu beat you, he cannot immediately become an Arbiter himself."

Lan Si shook his head. "This is unrelated to this fight. Rather, it's because the influence behind me has disappeared."

Elder Tie and the others looked aggrieved, but they fell silent.

Lu Yin instantly understood. The Ten Arbiters represented more than ten inconceivably powerful youths—more importantly, the title represented the powers behind them.

Lan Si had represented Starfall Sea's Grayweed Continent.

Grayweed Continent had been home to seventy two dojos and a dozen Enlighters. Besides Dojo Master Lan, there had also been Tian Yanzi, another Envoy, and that wasn't even mentioning its unique geographic location. With this power supporting him, Lan Si had been able to become one of the Ten Arbiters, wielding matchless authority. Otherwise, just based on his power level, how could he be qualified to command the younger generation?

No matter how powerful Lan Si might be, he was still just a youth, and any random powerful member of the older generation from an Innerverse power would be able to erase him.

Becoming one of the Ten Arbiters who had the authority to make decisions required one to also have a powerful strength supporting them from behind.

### Chapter 1045: Achieved It

Now that Mt. Stacks Dojo had been destroyed along with almost all of the seventy two dojos from Grayweed Continent, there was nobody left to support Lan Si. Even if he was able to retain his position as one of the Ten Arbiters, he would have no authority. Rather than staying behind and being humiliated, he felt that he might as well voluntarily abdicate.

Elder Tie and the others were still unwilling to accept their young master's defeat to Lu Yin, and they could not accept Lan Si abdicating his position of Arbiter. If this truly took place, then along with the calamity that had befallen Grayweed Continent, their lives would be in a very dark place.

"I might actually have a way to help you," Lu Yin offered.

Lan Si was astonished. "You want me to keep my position as an Arbiter so that I can support you?"

Lu Yin nodded, as this was one of the primary reasons why he did not want to take Lan Si's seat. Lan Si was an upright person, and he would definitely follow through on his agreement to unconditionally

support Lu Yin. Since that was the case, then it would be a waste of Lu Yin's efforts if Lan Si was no longer one of the Ten Arbiters.

"How so?" Lan Si asked..

Lu Yin explained, saying, "If the Sea King's Dome supports you, then your status shouldn't be much lower than when you had Grayweed Continent behind you."

Lan Si thought about this proposal. "Although no one knows where the Sea King is at the moment, the Sea King's Dome's influence within the Starfall Sea is immense. They still have an Envoy in Elder He, and they even have a bit of influence within the Hall of Honor. So yes, that would indeed be enough."

Lu Yin nodded. Now, he needed to check and see what response the people from the Sea King's Dome's would have to such a proposal.

The moment the networks in the Innerverse and Outerverse reconnected, they should have been able to sense if the Sea King was dead or alive.

If the Sea King was not dead, then that would be great, as the Sea King's Dome would be able to maintain its influence. Otherwise, even if they retained their influence at this moment, they would still be bullied by the other various great powers of the Innerverse sooner or later.

Within the Innerverse's Daynight clan, Nightking Zhenwu stood at the border and activated his gadget to call someone.

After some time, a gloomy voice was heard from the gadget. "The Hall of Honor is unable to judge Lu Yin at the moment."

Nightking Zhenwu frowned. "Why? He is a traitor to our Fifth Mainland."

"He is an Honor Chosen, and he has Yuan Shi vouching for him. Lu Yin is not a traitor to our Fifth Mainland. Nightking Zhenwu, please be careful with what you say."

Nightking Zhenwu was surprised. "What? He's an Honor Chosen? Impossible!"

"As an Honor Chosen, Lu Yin also qualifies to compete for an inheritance at the Astral Tower. Nightking Zhenwu, if you do not have concrete proof of your accusations, then do not use the Daynight clan's influence to condemn Lu Yin as a traitor. Otherwise, your actions will affect the Hall of Honor's prestige."

Nightking Zhenwu became so furious that he immediately hung up.

He had never even dreamed that Lu Yin would obtain such a status. When Nightking Zhenwu believed that he had killed Lu Yin, he had not been overly concerned about any possible repercussions from denouncing Lu Yin as a traitor. His only intentions in doing so were to demonstrate the Daynight clan's power.

But now that Lu Yin had been revealed to still be alive, and especially after he had managed to defeat Lan Si, this matter had become far too important. Even if the people from Leon's Armada or the Astral Combat Academy continued to pressure Nightking Zhenwu, he was still determined to deal with Lu Yin. Otherwise, the Nightking would never be able to relax. Lu Yin defeating the Ten Arbiters' Lan Si had shocked the entire universe, and within the Daynight clan's ancestral grounds, countless people stared at Lu Yin's image, which was at the top of their stone plaque in a daze. They simply did not know what to think.

Hui Daynight had a calm look, but in the depths of his eyes, there was a glimmer of expectation and hope.

Nightqueen Yanqing opened her eyes, and she instinctively glanced at the top of the stone plaque. She could not progress any higher. She was not the only person who had made incredible improvements during the Sixth Mainland's invasion, as Zhanlong Daynight had also improved drastically. It was not very realistic for her to surpass him.

Besides that, there were also two others above Zhanlong Daynight: Lu Yin and Nightking Zhenwu.

Out of everyone in the entire Daynight clan, there was nobody who could surpass these three.

Nobody knew if Lu Yin was capable of surpassing Nightqueen Yanqing's elder brother.

Upon thinking of this, Nightqueen Yanqing shook her head. She was thinking too much. Even though Lu Yin had managed to defeat Lan Si, it did not mean that he could beat her brother. The Mt. Stacks Dojo and the Daynight clan were on different levels; if not for Grayweed Continent having seventy two dojos, then even with its special location, Lan Si would not have been qualified to even be mentioned as being on an equal level as her brother.

There were different levels of power and influence between the Ten Arbiters, and her brother had the full support of the Daynight clan. How could he be someone whom Lan Si could compare to?

The fact that an outsider like Lu Yin had advanced to such a level was already very impressive, but there was no way for him to surpass her brother on the stone plaque.

Nightqueen Yanqing decided to take a break, as comprehending inheritances was not an easy process, and she was beginning to feel a bit light-headed.

Suddenly, shouts were heard, and Nightqueen Yanqing even heard her own name mentioned.

"Surpassed! Zhuo Daynight has surpassed boss Nightking Xiong. Now, she's just below Nightqueen Yanqing."

"She actually surpassed boss Nightking Xiong? She's gonna be in trouble! Boss Xiong is not one to be messed with."

"Shh- Boss Xiong is right there!"

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Nightqueen Yanqing looked up at the stone plaque in the ancestral grounds again, and she saw that Nightking Xiong, who had previously been just below her, had suddenly fallen to sixth place. Surprisingly, Zhuo Daynight had surpassed him.

Nightqueen Yanqing was slightly shocked, as she had a very clear understanding of Zhuo Daynight's talent. The girl had already surpassed Yanqing's expectations when Zhuo Daynight had managed to

reach the top ten of the ancestral grounds' stone plaque, and at this moment, she had actually surpassed Nightking Xiong.

Nightking Xiong and Nightking Zhenwu were from the same generation, which was one generation above Nightqueen Yanqing. Thus, the two were almost old enough to no longer be considered a part of the younger generation. In terms of strength, Nightking Xiong should be at about the same level as Nightking Gu. This person had not chased after fame, and he had never even left the clan's ancestral grounds. Still, he was ranked thirty seventh on the Top 100 Rankings, which was quite impressive.

Zhuo Daynight had barely managed to surpass Nightking Xiong with the experience that she had gained during the Sixth Mainland's invasion. This was how she had managed to step past him.

There was a shout, and Nightqueen Yanqing frowned as she looked off into the distance, where she saw a robust-looking man looking in all directions. Finally, he stared directly at Zhuo Daynight and walked towards her step by step. "Woman, fight me!"

Zhuo Daynight opened her eyes, and they started to flash.

Beneath the stone plaque, where the ancient figures were gathered, a person spoke up. "Do not act impudently within the ancient inheritance grounds."

Nightking Xiong bowed low. "Senior, this junior just wants to help those in our clan comprehend and consolidate the battle techniques that they have just comprehended. I wouldn't dare be impudent."

Before the figure could speak up again, another voice called out from the distance, "Back off."

Nightking Xiong's expression changed tremendously. He did not dare to utter even a single word more, and he immediately retreated.

Of the members of the Daynight clan, Nightking Xiong was unafraid of the older generation since they were all members of the same clan, and those old folks would not argue with him. However, Nightking Zhenwu was the one who had given that order, and his status was different. Offending Arbiter Zhenwu would lead to a life even worse than death.

Zhuo Daynight looked calm as she glanced at the peak of the stone plaque, at Lu Yin. Congratulations on defeating Lan Si and formally joining the top of the universe.

But please, don't underestimate Nightking Zhenwu.

Even though Zhuo Daynight had not spoken with Lu Yin very often, she understood him quite well. She knew that he would definitely try to take revenge for the grudge that had formed when the two had fought atop the Champions' Stage.

Do your best to endure!

However, if Zhuo Daynight ever met Lu Yin again, they would likely be enemies, as by that time, she would likely already have been married to Nightking Zhenwu and become his glorious puppet.

Zhuo Daynight closed her eyes and returned to reenter the corridor of inheritance.

Off in the distance, Nightking Zhenwu had been staring at Zhuo Daynight from start to finish. After he learned that Lu Yin was an Honor Chosen, the Nightking's unpleasant emotions had grown even darker after glancing at Zhuo Daynight. However, his lips mysteriously curled up in a manner that inspired fear in anyone else.

To Nightqueen Yanqing, Nightking Xiong was just a clown. Although he was indeed powerful, he had reached the limits of his potential and did not have much room to grow.

However, Yanqing also disregarded Zhuo Daynight. Even though she was unsure as to why her brother valued this girl so much, Yanqing believed that it was impossible for Zhuo Daynight to surpass her.

Right as this thought passed through her mind, shouts entered Nightqueen Yanqing's ears once again, and these cries completely overwhelmed the ones from before.

Nightqueen Yanqing looked back up at the ancestral grounds' stone plaque, and her pupils shrank. Zhuo Daynight's image had actually surpassed the Nightqueen's, becoming the image that stood right below Zhanlong Daynight.

How was such a thing possible? Nightqueen Yanqing suddenly stood up to take a closer look at Zhuo Daynight off in the distance.

She was not the only one, as many people were looking over.

Within the inheritance corridor, Zhuo Daynight had continued to press forward after surpassing Nightking Xiong. Shockingly, the battle technique that had appeared before her was actually Night's End, Daybreak!

Within the Daynight clan, there were numerous battle techniques, but very few people could obtain them, and even fewer were able to cultivate the techniques.

Since Zhuo Daynight had already comprehended Night's End, Daybreak due to the Dayking bloodline's crisis and had spent an exorbitant amount of time within the corridor of inheritance, it was quite normal for Night's End, Daybreak to appear before her.

Night's End, Daybreak was one of the most powerful battle techniques of the entire Daynight clan, and it belonged to the same tier of battle techniques as Skybreaker as it had beaten an entire era into submission. The moment the battle technique appeared in front of her, Zhuo Daynight had surpassed Nightqueen Yanqing on the stone plaque.

Besides everything else, Zhuo Daynight had cultivated Night's End, Daybreak for more than six years, and she had already achieved a bit of comprehension regarding this battle technique. She had even first comprehended it at the edge of life and death, so her understanding of it was not shallow at all.

After just a few minutes, she suddenly passed Zhanlong Daynight and reached a height that placed her only below Nightking Zhenwu and Lu Yin.

She had successively surpassed three people, which would ordinarily not be that shocking. However, she was now at the peak of the stone plaque.

All of the members of the Daynight clan stared at Zhuo Daynight with fervent eyes, each of them wanting to know exactly what battle technique she had obtained.

Even the most ancient figures who remained beneath the stone plaque had opened their eyes.

One of them had a complex expression while also having an expectant gaze similar to Hui Daynight's.

Lu Yin had been able to reach his height on the stone plaque because he had penetrated deeply into the corridor, almost reaching the end. His image's height was not because of any deep understanding towards the battle technique that he had received.

The only battle technique within the corridor that was suitable for him was Night Advent, which rivaled the Daynight Restoration Technique. However, it could not compare to Night's End, Daybreak or Skybreaker.

One day later, Zhuo Daynight demonstrated the results of her past six years' effort of comprehending Night's End, Daybreak. She suddenly surpassed Lu Yin's image and became the second ranked image on the plaque. She was now second only to Nightking Zhenwu.

Everyone was stunned, as Zhuo Daynight had just made history by consecutively surpassing four people at the top of the plaque within a single day.

Quite a few eyes were staring intently at Zhuo Daynight, and the expressions among the descendants of the Dayking bloodline were even more heated. Although they knew that such a thing was not possible, they still hoped that Zhuo Daynight would somehow surpass Nightking Zhenwu and truly create history.

Ever since the Dayking had died, another Dayking descendant had never reached first place on the stone plaque, and they hoped that Zhuo Daynight would be able to do so.

However, reality left them disappointed, as Zhuo Daynight opened her eyes at that moment. There was no need for her to continue comprehending the inheritance.

Someone could not stop themselves from speaking up, "Zhuo Daynight, keep it up—you can create history!"

The words of that one person caused the entire Nightking clan to grow unhappy, but they represented countless years of the Dayking clan's dreams.

Zhuo Daynight calmly stood up and left.

Create history? How was that possible? They did not understand the true terror of Nightking Zhenwu, and Skybreaker was in no way inferior to Night's End, Daybreak. Zhuo Daynight did not believe that she could surpass Nightking Zhenwu when it came to comprehending a peerless battle technique.

The more one understood Nightking Zhenwu, the more desperate they would feel, at least that was the case for Zhuo Daynight.

If she had not witnessed that battle, then she would have been able to dedicate her utmost to comprehension and come up with all sorts of ways to surpass Nightking Zhenwu. At least in her heart, she would have been able to believe that there was some bit of hope.

However, it was also a good thing that she had seen that battle. Now, she knew that the more effort she put forth, the more laughable Nightking Zhenwu would find it.

Step by step, she walked towards Nightking Zhenwu.

It did not take her long to reach him, and she spoke to him in an indifferent tone. "I did it."

## Chapter 1046: Lu Yin And Nightking Zhenwu

Nightking Zhenwu revealed a slight smile when he looked at Zhuo Daynight. "Congratulations."

There was absolutely no emotion in Zhuo Daynight as she grunted in affirmation while exchanging glances with Nightking Zhenwu.

Nightking Zhenwu told her, "Relax, I'll remove the Sealed Cage Technique from the Dayking bloodline in just two more months."

Zhuo Daynight heaved a sigh of relief. She had been clenching her hands so hard that they had gone pale, but they finally started to relax after hearing those words.

Nightking Zhenwu watched as Zhuo Daynight left before activating his gadget and making a call.

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Somewhere else in the universe, Lu Yin had not headed back to Zenyu Star yet. The Innerverse had reconnected to the Outerverse, but there was still no way to travel between the two regions.

When the Outerverse had been isolated from the Innerverse by the overflowing energy of the Astral River, the Astral River Ark had been torn apart and split in two. Thus, Lu Yin's foremost priority was to take a look at the ark and see if there was any chance of restoring it.

Obtaining control of the Astral River Ark held a significant meaning for Lu Yin. According to Lilyrose, the backup ark in the Innerverse had been hidden in the Blazing Mist Flowzone. Regardless, Lu Yin wanted to take a look at the edge of the Astral River.

Lan Si had already gone to Zenyu Star, and he had been accompanied by Elder Tie and the others.

Lu Yin was staring at the depths of the Astral River when his gadget suddenly rang. He glanced at it, and his gaze trembled; it was Nightking Zhenwu.

The gadget's screen rose into the sky, and Nightking Zhenwu's image appeared with a smile on his face. "Congratulations on defeating Lan Si. You can now be considered to be on par with the Ten Arbiters."

Lu Yin had expected Nightking Zhenwu to contact him. After all, the Daynight clan's stone of inheritance was still in Lu Yin's possession.

"Are you trying to show off your own superiority by saying such a thing?" Lu Yin replied coldly.

Nightking Zhenwu chuckled. "You can treat it in that way, but even if you become one of the Ten Arbiters, there will still be a disparity between you and me. I forgot to tell you this, but I'm the leader of the Ten Arbiters now."

Lu Yin's gaze grew sharp. "What do you mean?"

"It's what it sounds like. The contest for the Astral Tower is not simple, and nobody knows exactly how many experts will appear to take part. When the Sixth Mainland invaded the Fifth Mainland, those experts from the Neoverse who appeared might have just been sent out to probe the Innerverse's strength. Thus, the Ten Arbiters must unite for the Astral Tower's contest, and I'm currently leader of the Ten Arbiters," Nightking Zhenwu proudly explained. His eyes showed his contempt for Lu Yin.

Whether it was in terms of strength or attitude, Nightking Zhenwu always desired to look down upon others, as only by doing so could he directly attack their convictions.

When experts competed, the resulting battle would not just be physical, and it would involve their attitudes as well. Zhenwu wanted his image in Lu Yin's heart to be that of an unrivaled opponent.

If Lu Yin had lost to Lan Si, then Nightking Zhenwu could have said anything, not having to be too worried. However, since Lu Yin had won, Zhenwu intended to use the battle with Lan Si to demonstrate the terrifying abilities level of the Ten Arbiters. This was so that the unrivaled image of being the leader of the Ten Arbiters would become even more resplendent.

Humans could not compare to gods. No matter how powerful a human became, even if their power surpassed that of a god, against true divinity, a human would always have to lower their attitude one notch.

Lu Yin had never expected that Nightking Zhenwu would actually become the leader of the Ten Arbiters, as not a single one of the Ten Arbiters were simple. Unseen Light had been able to fight on par with Zhi Yi, Wen Sansi was unfathomable, Ling Gong was amazing, and Liu Tianmu felt like a truly unrivaled person. Lu Yin truly did not believe that any one of these people would be willing to pledge their allegiance to Nightking Zhenwu.

However, this was clearly something that Nightking Zhenwu would never lie about, as such a lie would be instantly discovered.

"What? You don't believe me?" Nightking Zhenwu's lips curled up as he looked at Lu Yin with evident disdain.

Lu Yin muttered to himself and then looked up. "Since you're the leader of the Ten Arbiters, then doesn't that mean that, once I defeat you, I'll become the leader of the Ten Arbiters?"

Nightking Zhenwu's expression sank, as he had not expected Lu Yin to react like this. He had wanted to use his rising momentum to break Lu Yin's mental state, but Lu Yin was not an easy person to deal with.

Nightking Zhenwu responded in an icy tone, "Defeat me? Do you think that I'm trash like Lan Si?"

Lu Yin's brows lifted up—trash? Lu Yin truly did not think that that was the case. Lan Si had been able to receive multiple Night Advents and had not collapsed, which showed that his spiritual force was not weak. Even if Lan Si might not be able to match up to Nightking Zhenwu's strength, Lan Si would be able to survive the match at the very least, and Nightking Zhenwu's physical strength might not actually be enough to take Lan Si's Vacuum Palm.

Still, the most difficult thing about fighting against Nightking Zhenwu was his secret technique, Heart Seeker. That technique could not be guarded against, and once a person was struck, their defeat was already ordained.

There were too many factors that could influence a battle. Nightking Zhenwu had shown his disregard for Lan Si, and Lu Yin did not have much more to say. The Nightking could continue on with his arrogance!

"There's no way that you called me just to say that," Lu Yin commented.

Nightking Zhenwu looked sullen. He then shared the image of the stone plaque in the Daynight clan's ancestral grounds through the screen. "Do you see that stone plaque? Your image is ranked third."

Lu Yin looked at the image, and sure enough, his image was right below Nightking Zhenwu and Zhuo Daynight's images. This proved what Nightking Yuanjing had told Lu Yin. Only by entering the Daynight clan's corridor of inheritance and comprehending battle techniques could a person have their image appear on the stone plaque within the Daynight clan ancestral grounds. Lu Yin had obviously been exposed the moment he stepped foot within the corridor of inheritance.

"Don't you find it strange that Zhuo Daynight surpassed you? Clearly, you're already aware that she's comprehended Night's End, Daybreak," Nightking Zhenwu continued to say.

Lu Yin silently stared at the Nightking, a sense of unease rising within his heart.

Night's End, Daybreak was the absolute battle technique of the Dayking bloodline. Thus, Zhuo Daynight comprehending Night's End, Daybreak represented the emergence of the Dayking bloodline's hopes whereas Nightking Zhenwu represented the Nightking bloodline's hopes. In other words, the two were mortal enemies.

Nightking Zhenwu looked over towards the stone plaque in the ancestral grounds. "I've promised Zhuo Daynight that, as long as she puts in the effort to climb up and become ranked second only to me on the stone plaque, I would give her a chance to represent the Dayking bloodline and win them their freedom. She managed to seize this opportunity. Do you know what it means now that she's managed to climb her way up?" Nightking Zhenwu stared at Lu Yin, and his tone suddenly grew incredibly haughty. "She will become my, Nightking Zhenwu's, wife."

Lu Yin's expression transformed, and his face gradually turned green as he clenched his fists. His rage soared.

He was aware of just how much Zhuo Daynight hated Nightking Zhenwu, but now, she had been forced to work so hard just to climb up beneath him. Worst of all, her goal was actually to become this man's wife. To Zhuo Daynight, this was the worst tragedy, and she likely no longer saw any hope for her life.

For her, this was a fate even worse than death.

"Are you angry? Furious? Hahaha!" Nightking Zhenwu laughed in a carefree manner.

Lu Yin's expression grew frosty. "So is this what you wanted to say?"

Nightking Zhenwu grinned, a cruel smile on his lips. "What I wanted? Wrong! She's just a slave, some trash from the Dayking bloodline. Do you really think that such a creature is suitable to become my, Nightking Zhenwu's, wife? My goal is to obtain Night's End, Daybreak. To that end, the mind of the cultivator who comprehended the technique must collapse after encountering a huge setback. I've given Zhuo Daynight hope, and soon, I will personally destroy it. This is what I want to do in two months' time.

"In two months' time, on the day of my promise to remove the Sealed Cage Technique from the Dayking bloodline to her, I will throw her to the depths of the abyss. In fact, it won't just be her. Everyone she knows, her clanspeople, parents, and everyone else, will all be forced into the abyss."

Lu Yin felt his scalp go numb, and he stared at Nightking Zhenwu in disbelief. How could a human be so black-hearted?

"Seventh Bro, kill him! You have to kill him!" Ghost Monkey shouted. He had become so furious that he could not hold himself back anymore. "Ever since this monkey was born, I've never run into anyone like this. He's too evil and shameless, and he's actually willing to use such methods to deal with a person! How hateful!"

Lu Yin lowered his head and did not speak.

Nightking Zhenwu was still maniacally laughing. "Lu Yin, I gave you an opportunity to follow me and wait for the day when I eventually become one of the Cosmic Five. You would have been able to shine brilliantly in the universe, but you rejected my offer! Do you really believe that unifying the Outerverse will allow you to stand against my Daynight clan? Or that you have the necessary clout to contest me? Let me tell you right now—you can't do it! I want you to know that you can't even save a single girl! You will never save this girl, who revealed her cultivation of Night's End, Daybreak for you, thereby forcing her entire clan into the abyss. She did all this for you, and I want you to watch as she sinks into despair while you swim in hatred for the rest of your entire life."

Each one of Nightking Zhenwu's words reverberated through Lu Yin's head. He could picture Zhuo Daynight's desperate and agonized expressions, eyes filled with bewilderment and suffering for the future. She had done everything for him, and if not for him, then Zhuo Daynight would have never exposed the fact that she had comprehended Night's End, Daybreak, become Nightking Zhenwu's plaything, or inadvertently sent her clanspeople to their graves.

"Seventh Bro, don't be fooled! All this has nothing to do with you. You've saved Zhuo Daynight's life several times, and she was the reason why you even went to Planet Pyrolyte. She's the one who decided to stall Nightking Zhenwu for you. You don't owe her anything!" Ghost Monkey shouted, as he was afraid that Lu Yin would become addled by Nightking Zhenwu's words.

A cultivator's state of mind was extremely important. If their thoughts were thrown into chaos, then their entire being would also become chaotic.

This was Nightking Zhenwu's true objective, as he wanted to disturb Lu Yin's frame of mind while also implanting an image of him being an unrivaled being within Lu Yin's heart. Furthermore, Zhenwu hoped to tempt Lu Yin into going to the Daynight Flowzone, which would give him an opportunity to completely eradicate the hidden danger that Lu Yin represented.

Lu Yin truly gave Nightking Zhenwu a feeling of danger, as Lu Yin was someone who had not even cultivated for twelve years yet, but he was already able to defeat one of the Ten Arbiters in a fair fight. This was a terrifying person. Lu Yin was the reason why Nightking Zhenwu had chosen to deal with Zhuo Daynight two months in the future, as he wanted to take care of Lu Yin before heading towards the Neoverse.

Nightking Zhenwu had never put in so much effort to deal with just one person before, and he had even shared the most important details of his plan with Lu Yin. Still, that was fine. Over the next two months, Zhuo Daynight would not be allowed to see anyone, and nobody would be allowed to contact her either.

Nobody could stop the Nightking's plan from progressing.

At the edge of the Astral River, Lu Yin's head was still hung low, and it was impossible to tell what he was thinking.

Ghost Monkey was still shouting in Lu Yin's mind. "Seventh Bro, you don't owe Zhuo Daynight anything! Don't be tricked! When you become stronger, you can deal with Nightking Zhenwu then! This bastard has to die!"

Lu Yin loosened his clenched fists. His gadget had disconnected from the call for quite some time already. When he looked up, he stared across the Astral River and at the opposite side. His vision seemed to transcend an endless distance, and he felt like he could see Nightking Zhenwu as they exchanged glances.

"Don't owe her? That's not right. I owe her a promise, and I've agreed that, no matter when it may be, I will help her complete one lockbreaking job. I have to fulfill this promise," Lu Yin stated gravely.

Ghost Monkey was confused. "When did that happen?"

Lu Yin calmly moved away. It was useless to feel upset. Nightking Zhenwu was someone whom Lu Yin already had to kill, as the Nightking's methods were so twisted that they could petrify others.

Zhuo Daynight had already stepped into a beautiful dream that Nightking Zhenwu had weaved for her, and the more real it became, the more beautiful it would feel. But at the same time, the despair she would feel at its inevitable collapse also increased.

Lu Yin did not even dare to imagine what Zhuo Daynight would do when Nightking Zhenwu revealed his true plan. Not even an extraordinary person would be able to deal with such a huge mental shock.

Two months? Lu Yin was tight on time.

As soon as Lu Yin returned to Zenyu Star, Huan Sha and the others hastily approached him. "Your Highness, the Blaze Realm, Ross Empire, Sylvan Dragon clan, Xun family, Dire Barbarian clan, Daynight clan, and other powers from the Innerverse have all announced to the Outerverse that Your Highness is a traitor to the Fifth Mainland. Additionally, anyone who has even the slightest bit of connection to you will become enemies with the various great powers of the Innerverse. As a result, many weaves in the Outerverse are feeling anxious, and many of the powers that were originally going to join the Great Eastern Alliance have backed out. Also, many of the powers from the western region want to withdraw."

Lu Yin calmly replied, "Make some announcements: the Innerverse has suffered greatly due to the Sixth Mainland's invasion. During the invasion, their resources were raided and are at disastrously low levels. Thus, they intend to raid the Outerverse to replenish their reserves. The Great Eastern Alliance will use the Allied Forces to defend against this common enemy."

Huan Sha and the others were all shocked. "Your Highness, is this true?"

Lu Yin replied, "It doesn't even matter. Rather, what matters is that the others will believe it. Now run along and take care of this."

# Chapter 1047: The Gasfire Alliance

The Daynight clan was trying to destroy Lu Yin's reputation, but Lu Yin had expected such a move a long time ago. As long as the Hall of Honor had not released any announcements to the entire universe, anything that targeted Lu Yin was nothing but slander, and he held control of the Outerverse's media. Also, he was the Outerverse Allied Forces' Commander, so he was completely unafraid of these accusations.

The various powers had wanted to withdraw from the Great Eastern Alliance primarily because they were afraid of offending the Innerverse's great powers.

With his reply, Lu Yin had suddenly reclassified the powers from the Innerverse as plunderers, which meant that they were the Outerverse's enemies. This caused all of the methods that the various great powers of the Innerverse had employed against him to fall apart, and Lu Yin was even able to expand the Allied Forces.

The main goal of growing of the Allied Forces was to further increase their influence.

Any random great power from the Innerverse could sweep across the Outerverse, as the Outerverse truly lacked for top experts, as most of them were in the Innerverse.

The Outerverse alone was not capable of stopping great powers like the Daynight clan, but if the Outerverse united as a single entity, then such a fight would no longer be as simple as a conflict between certain powers from the Innerverse and Outerverse. Rather, it would drag in the Hall of Honor itself into the fray. Once they intervened, Lu Yin refused to believe that the Innerverse would continue to dare to act against the Outerverse.

Lu Yin had never expected the Outerverse to have the strength to resist the Innerverse. However, a united Outerverse allowed him to move about as he wished, and his influence within the Hall of Honor had thus risen as a direct result of his efforts. This was the most important detail.

Right, there were also all sorts of resources available to him now.

If Lu Yin had not managed to unite the Outerverse, then there would not be three thousand androids at his disposal. The benefits of unifying the entire Outerverse were only just beginning to appear.

However, the troublesome aspect was that the Outerverse had declined for far too many years. Once they encountered any strong forces from the Innerverse, some of the Outerverse powers might instantly switch sides, and they might even trigger a catastrophic chain reaction.

At this time, he really wanted to know just where the backup Astral River Ark hidden within Blazing Mist Flowzone would appear.

As he thought about this, Lu Yin's domain swept across the planet, looking for Lilyrose.

When Lilyrose felt Lu Yin's domain, she reluctantly made her way to King Zishan's palace.

In the past, she had had many thoughts concerning Lu Yin. She liked powerful men like him, but she no longer dared to make any moves on him. There were some men whom she could approach and others whom she could not.

Lu Yin belonged to the latter group, as he stood in a position that was far too elevated above her. In fact, he could already be ranked among the Ten Arbiters.

"I wonder, what has Alliance Leader Lu sought out this little girl for?" Lilyrose tried to maintain a calm expression in front of Lu Yin.

Lu Yin answered, "I want you to find a way to discreetly dig up the location of the backup Astral River Ark."

Lilyrose grudgingly answered, "Alliance Leader Lu, I'm willing to help you if it's possible, but I truly don't have what you seek. The Astral River Ark doesn't belong to the Blaze Realm, but rather to the Hall of Honor."

"Still, the Blaze Realm has the authority to move the ark around, especially since the previous Astral River Ark was destroyed," Lu Yin pressed.

Lilyrose grew upset.

Lu Yin calmly said, "If you help me, then I can also help you. It's not impossible for me to make you the master of the Blaze Realm. You should understand that I have the ability to do so."

Lilyrose was stunned. "The Blaze Realm's master?"

Lu Yin stared at her. "Didn't your mother do what she did because that person is the master of the Blaze Realm?"

The moment Lu Yin mentioned this, Lilyrose's expression fell, and she fell into silent thought.

"I know you don't trust me, but I, Lu Yin, was able to unite the Outerverse in just a bit over six years. It wouldn't be that hard for me to deal with just a Blaze Realm, and my understanding of the Blaze Realm is not inferior to your own." Lu Yin clapped his hands, and suddenly, fog swirled into the office and formed words: Smoker greets you.

Lilyrose was shocked. "Smoker?"

Lu Yin waved a hand, and the smoke dissipated.

Lilyrose stared at Lu Yin, completely bewildered. "Is that the same Smoker who tried to assassinate the master of the Blaze Realm and escaped unscathed?"

"He's now the captain of my Great Yu Empire's Second Squadron," Lu Yin replied.

Lilyrose was astonished. Everyone from the Blaze Realm knew about Smoker, as that assassination attempt had shocked the entire universe.

The eight great flowzones represented the Innerverse's greatest strength. Although Blazing Mist Flowzone was the weakest of those eight and bordered the Outerverse, and although the Blaze Realm

only took up a third of Blazing Mist Flowzone, it was still a power that belonged to one of the eight great flowzones.

Over the course of countless years, nobody had ever gotten as close to assassinating a master of a great power that ruled over one of the eight great flowzones as Smoker, let alone escape unharmed.

That assassination attempt had propelled Smoker to become the Outerverse's greatest assassin. Nobody could take his place.

Nobody knew how Smoker had accomplished such a thing, but he had been able to safely retreat from the Blaze Realm, which was enough to prove that he had an incredibly deep understanding of the Blaze Realm. Thus, this claim of Lu Yin's was not illogical at all.

Lilyrose was moved—if she could be seated in that position, then she would not mind paying any price.

Lu Yin sat in silence as he sipped his tea. Although he could coerce Lilyrose into helping him, he would not receive her sincere assistance by doing so, which would render any such help useless.

After a long period of silence, Lilyrose said, "Alliance Leader Lu, I truly can't find out where the Astral River Ark is hidden, and you should be well aware of my position within the Blaze Realm. On the surface, I'm the first ranked heir, but I have also been utterly denied by the Blaze Realm. Most of those in power are not pleased with me."

Lu Yin did not speak. Instead, he silently listened.

Lilyrose glanced over at him and continued. "However, I do know a few people, and they might be able to help you."

She then gave Lu Yin some contact information.

Lu Yin watched Lilyrose leave, after which he glanced at the contact information and called the person.

Before long, a man appeared on a screen before Lu Yin.

"Who are you?" The man looked young, but his bearings belonged to someone much more experienced. His mannerisms indicated that he had gone through the vicissitudes of life, and his eyes stared directly at Lu Yin, as if he was trying to see something from the youth's expression.

Lu Yin frowned, as this person looked very familiar. "Who are you again?"

The man stared closely at Lu Yin, and although he seemed fierce, there was a trace of apprehension and unease in the man's expression. "If you don't recognize me, then how did you call me?"

Lu Yin replied, "Lilyrose gave me your info."

The man's expression changed slightly, and at that moment, a middle-aged man walked out from behind the young looking man. When the middle-aged man saw Lu Yin through the screen, his expression changed immensely the moment he saw Lu Yin. The call instantly ended afterwards.

Lu Yin set his gadget down and had Zhao Ran serve him one of her special drinks while he patiently waited.

On the other side of the call, the youth felt that the situation was a bit strange. "Uncle Meng, what just happened?"

The middle-aged man who was known as Uncle Meng had a solemn expression as he looked at the youth. "How did you get into contact with that person?"

The youth's face went pale, and he nervously answered, "He called me. Lilyrose passed my information to him."

Uncle Meng's expression was perfectly serene, and nobody could tell what he was thinking.

The youth looked uneasy; he had lived like a street rat for many years, and he was worried about surviving through each day. Now that he had received such a call, did it mean that Lilyrose had betrayed them? The longer he thought about it, the more afraid the youth became.

After a long while, Uncle Meng solemnly said, "Paige, do you know who just contacted you?"

Paige shook his head. "He looked a little familiar."

Uncle Meng sighed. "For all these years, we haven't allowed you to come into contact with the outside world. Even when the Sixth Mainland invaded, you were kept hidden. As a result, it turns out that you can't even recognize that person." He paused for a moment before continuing, saying, "Remember this—he's called Lu Yin, and he is one of the most powerful members of the younger generation in the current universe. He just defeated one of the Ten Arbiters."

Paige was shocked. "He defeated an Arbiter?"

Uncle Meng nodded. "Do you know what it means to defeat an Arbiter?"

Paige's face turned pale. "I do."

Although Paige had not come into contact with the outside universe himself, his few experiences meant that he had learned some common knowledge that had been repeatedly drilled into him. For example, the Ten Arbiters were invincible and could not be defied.

Even the Lilyrose, who Paige worshiped, was nothing more than an ant before the Ten Arbiters.

The most important detail to them was that their greatest enemy, the Blaze Realm, did not have even a single one of the Ten Arbiters. They knew that the Blaze Realm was a terrifying power, but even they did not have an Arbiter, which showed just how powerful those ten youths truly were.

However, the person who had just called Paige had apparently defeated one of the Ten Arbiters. Paige could not even imagine such a thing.

"Uncle Meng, what should we do?" Paige was puzzled, and although he managed to maintain a facade of composure, uncertainty could be clearly seen within his eyes along with confusion and doubt.

Uncle Meng saw Paige's emotions and sighed. They had sacrificed many people to protect this child, and had kept him completely hidden. They had not even allowed him to connect to the network. Thus, he had basically been brought up crippled without any opinions of his own.

"Call him back. Lilyrose won't betray us. Since he contacted you, then there must be a reason."

Paige swallowed his saliva, slowly lifted his gadget, and then solemnly dialed the last contact that had called him. He felt extremely nervous, especially since he now knew that he was about to speak to one of the top people in the current universe, and Paige did not know how he should present himself.

Lu Yin did not have to wait for very long before his gadget rang, and he answered the call. Paige's image appeared on the screen. "Hi, I'm Paige."

Lu Yin looked at the youth. "Have we met somewhere before?"

Paige felt confused and did not know how to respond.

Uncle Meng moved next to Paige and responded to Lu Yin. "Mr. Lu, it's an honor to meet you. I'm known as Meng, and I am from the Gasfire Alliance."

The Gasfire Alliance? Lu Yin felt that he had never heard of this group before.

"What's your relationship with Lilyrose?" Lu Yin asked.

Uncle Meng said, "Cooperation. We have a common enemy: the Blaze Realm. The name of the Gasfire Alliance represents the blaze that is passed down from one generation to the next."

Lu Yin smiled. "What a coincidence, the Blaze Realm is also my enemy."

Uncle Meng heaved a sigh of relief, as he had heard of the problems between Lu Yin and the Blaze Realm before. Otherwise, he would not have even dared to allow Paige to call Lu Yin. "I wonder, what requests might Mr. Lu have for you to contact us?"

"I wouldn't dare to make a request, but I asked Lilyrose a question. Since she doesn't know the answer, I approached you guys," Lu Yin said.

Uncle Meng was puzzled. "What's the question?"

"Where's the backup Astral River Ark?"

Uncle Meng was surprised, but he quickly thought things through. Although the Blaze Realm had gone to great lengths to chase down their Gasfire Alliance, they had been able to persist for so long because they had their own methods of survival, and their intelligence network was not shabby either. They were very clear on the fact that Lu Yin had already unified the Outerverse.

Since he had united the Outerverse, he would definitely face pressure and opposition from the Innerverse, and the various great powers would attempt to cross the Astral River to pressure him. The best way for them to do so was naturally to use the Astral River Ark.

This meant that whoever gained control of the ark would hold the advantage.

"I won't hide this from Mr. Lu; we can indeed discover the location of the Astral River Ark, and we have even already received news that it will appear in a certain location, as it will ferry a group of people to the Outerverse," Uncle Meng said.

Lu Yin nodded. "You can propose your conditions now."

Paige swallowed his saliva again and kept staring at Lu Yin, not understanding how this person had managed to reach his current position.

Uncle Meng initially wanted to exaggerate their conditions. After all, Lu Yin had unified the Outerverse, which meant that he had control of tremendous resources as well as the Outerverse Allied Forces.

However, he suddenly looked into Lu Yin's eyes, and Meng felt a mysterious chill go through his body. He suddenly considered Lu Yin's experiences.

## **Chapter 1048: Invitation**

The Blaze Realm was not Lu Yin's only enemy, as the Daynight clan's grudge against him was even greater. In fact, in the past, Lu Yin had even built up his reputation by taking action against the Daynight clan. At present, the Blaze Realm had gathered several other powers to try to slander Lu Yin by claiming that he was a traitor of the Fifth Mainland, and they had taken these actions precisely because they were afraid of his abilities.

Even the Blaze Realm and Daynight clan had to be wary of Lu Yin. After all, was there anything that they could be certain that he would not dare to do?

Uncle Meng hesitated again and again, but eventually, he came to a decision. "To be able to help Mr. Lu would be an honor for our Gasfire Alliance. There are no conditions. Mr. Lu, you can rest assured that our Gasfire Alliance will find a way to ascertain the location of the Astral River Ark and provide some humble contributions to Mr. Lu's cause."

Paige was surprised; when had his Uncle Meng been such a generous person?

Lu Yin was also astonished, but then he laughed and nodded. "Then, I'll just say thank you very much. Gasfire Alliance, I, Lu Yin, will remember this, and you will be given just rewards in the future."

Uncle Meng smiled. "Mr. Lu is too courteous. If you have any further requests, then you can just contact Paige directly, and our Gasfire Alliance will do its best to help."

Lu Yin smiled. He then spoke a few more pleasantries before ending the call.

"Seventh Bro, that fellow's quite smart. If he dared to attempt negotiating conditions with you, then it would have just ended as just a one-off, shortsighted deal where nobody owed anyone anything. But now, you owe him a favor," Ghost Monkey commented.

Lu Yin smiled. "I don't owe them anything."

"What do you mean? They're helping you unconditionally, so how can you say that you don't owe them a favor? Seventh Bro, I find that you've changed—your skin has become even thicker," Ghost Monkey said, mocking Lu Yin.

Lu Yin smiled. "Monkey, do you remember the first time we saw a corpse king transform?"

The monkey tried to recall the scene. "Yeah. At that time, we were being pursued by that Hunter, and we ended up falling into deep space. Afterwards, we crashed into a spacecraft that a corpse king was raiding. Why?"

"At that time, there was a corpse king on the spacecraft that had severely injured a woman. There was also a youth on that vessel, and the youth from back then was Paige," Lu Yin explained. He had only remembered this person after looking at Paige for a bit. Lu Yin would not baselessly have a sense of familiarity, so he knew that there was a reason behind it.

Ghost Monkey cried out, "Are you sure?"

Lu Yin was certain. "Absolutely."

"How interesting. So the kid from just now was rescued by you." The monkey sniggered.

Lu Yin calmly replied, "I seem to remember that the woman from back then didn't die. Thus, as long as she's still alive, when she hears about me, they will discover just who owes who a favor."

"Since they have a previous connection with you, Seventh Bro, then this group is destined to be the vanguard that deals with the Blaze Realm for you," Ghost Monkey said.

Lu Yin's gaze trembled, if they could successfully deal with the Daynight clan, then the next on his list was the Blaze Realm. However, he could not rely on just the Gasfire Alliance for this endeavor. One other person came to mind: Yan Yan, who was currently one of the appointed captains of the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons. He was from Royal Frost Continent, which was located in Blazing Mist Flowzone.

Ghost Monkey suddenly spoke up again. "How strange. Seventh Bro, since this Gasfire Alliance is the enemy of the Blaze Realm, then why were they being pursued by the Neohuman Alliance? And they even send a corpse king capable of transforming. Those beings are rare even within the Neohuman Alliance."

Lu Yin had also considered this, as the corpse king Transformation was not an ordinary battle technique. Not every corpse king could use it, and those that could would only be mobilized for especially important missions. So, what was the reason behind sending such an elite corpse king to kill Paige?

Perhaps the Gasfire Alliance was hiding something.

There were too many secrets in the universe, and there was no need for Lu Yin to learn all of them. For him, it would be fine as long as this group helped him deal with the Blaze Realm.

Lu Yin's foremost priority at the moment was to uncover the location of the Astral River Ark.

The Innerverse would not send the ark across the Astral River in the normal place, as they would definitely want to catch him off guard. Right now, it all came down to who would catch who unprepared.

Before much more time passed, the universal armor that Lu Yin had been waiting for was finally fully assembled.

The model that was presented to him looked quite simple, but it had been made from many different rare materials, and Lu Yin was quite satisfied with it. This was his best universal armor to date.

Ban Jiu himself was very proud of the armor and of the effort that he had poured into it. "Your Highness, this universal armor was created from an alloy containing over a hundred different materials, and only through precise calculations were they able to be perfectly integrated together. Their various natures do

not conflict at all, and also quite a few of them actually came from that strange machine that you provided.

"It can defend against a Hunter's attacks, and moreover..."

Ban Jiu rattled off many details of the armor, and he wanted to continue boasting, but Lu Yin eventually chased the researcher away.

If not for his die's three pips: Enhance, there was no way Lu Yin would use this universal armor, as its defense could not even compare to just his physical body. It would only become useful after he upgraded it with his die's Enhance.

After chasing Ban Jiu away, Lu Yin entered the secure room, screened Ghost Monkey off, and then began rolling his die.

His first roll was one pip: Pilfer, which yielded a useless weapon. The second roll was two pips: Blackhole Disassembly, which was also useless at the moment. His third roll, surprisingly, was three pips: Enhance.

Lu Yin sighed emotionally. If he could control what he rolled on his die, then things would be much easier. But as they were, Lu Yin had no confidence in rolling what he wanted on his die.

At the least, he had still rolled three pips: Enhance.

Lu Yin quickly placed the universal armor on top of the light screens and then began to throw out star essence in a frenzied manner. It was as if he was completely unafraid of spending money.

At this moment, he truly was unafraid of spending too much money, as he had more than twenty million star essence, making him quite wealthy.

If the armor's base materials were of a high enough quality, then Lu Yin might be worried about not having enough money to fully upgrade it. However, while the materials used in constructing this universal armor were quite decent, they were still within Ban Jiu's ability to work with. Additionally, the materials salvaged from disassembling the mechanical creature's corpse had not been thoroughly studied yet.

Still, Lu Yin was satisfied.

Once.

Twice.

Thrice.

After upgrading his armor seven times, Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief when he saw that the universal armor could not be upgraded any further. It had managed to undergo seven upgrades, and Lu Yin smiled upon seeing its rune lines he saw, as they were about comparable to the massive mechanical right arm's. This meant that this universal armor was almost able to defend against an Envoy's attacks.

So far, Lu Yin had upgraded three different sets of universal armor. The first had been infused with the precious metals that he had obtained after joining the Lockbreaker Society. That had allowed his universal armor to be upgraded to the point where it could defend against attacks with power levels of

around 400,000, which had allowed Lu Yin to forcefully receive Millions City's cannon strike. His second set of armor had been able to defend against attacks with power levels of about 260,000, but this third armor was the best so far.

Since this universal armor could withstand an attack from an Envoy level powerhouse, it meant that there were only one or two individuals in the entire Outerverse who could breach Lu Yin's defense now.

However, those one or two people were already on his side.

In other words, Lu Yin could wander anywhere he wished in the Outerverse without fear.

However, this round of upgrades had also cost him a ridiculous sum of star essence: around three million. If he hadn't recently acquired almost twenty million star essence, he might not have been able to afford fully upgrading the armor.

When he put on the universal armor, Lu Yin suddenly felt like the entire universe belonged to him.

Eh? His gaze suddenly trembled as he looked beyond the three rings of mainland, where he saw an incomparable amount of rune lines appear. They numbered no less than what he had seen on Yu Mu.

Lu Yin's gaze grew sharp. There should not be a powerhouse of such strength this close to Zenyu Star, and this person was most likely an enemy since they had arrived unannounced.

After thinking about it, Lu Yin decided to keep his universal armor on as he headed out to take a look.

However, right when he decided to leave, a person arrived outside of King Zishan's palace: Ku Wei.

Lu Yin had actually forgotten about this person who was from the Ku family of the Seven Courts.

What had he come here for?

Lu Yin was in no hurry to leave, as the powerhouse above Zenyu Star had hidden themselves, and their rune lines had reduced to number those of an ordinary cultivator. Lu Yin would no longer be able to find the person even if he moved out.

Since that person had not immediately barged into Zenyu Star, it showed that they had a few misgivings. Thus there was no hurry.

Within the palace's garden, Lu Yin ordered some of Zhao Ran's special drinks. Ku Wei entered, and he revealed a full smile the moment he saw Lu Yin. "Your Highness, congratulations on defeating one of the Ten Arbiters! Your name will be known throughout the universe from now on. Even the Neoverse will learn of your great name. It's quite impressive."

Lu Yin smiled faintly at Ku Wei. "What did you come here for? Aren't you staying with the Tenth Squadron to drill the new recruits?"

Ku Wei moved closer and rolled his eyes. "About that, Your Highness, have you ever considered going to the Neoverse to play around?"

Lu Yin replied, "As an Honor Chosen, I'm qualified to join the Astral Tower's competition."

"Let's go together! We can compete for the Astral Tower and then take a tour of the Neoverse. We two can also go look for graves while on our tour—just think of how satisfying that would be, right?" Ku Wei's voice betrayed his expectations despite his best efforts to put on a harmless expression.

Lu Yin's expression grew bizarre. "Graves? Are you talking about Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum, which your Seven Courts are guarding?"

Ku Wei nodded. "Let's go together! You can treat it as a tour while representing the Yu family. Nobody will make things difficult for you."

Lu Yin had learned that it wasn't the Court of Seven Names that had pursued the Yu family, but rather the Neohuman Alliance. The so-called "Seven Courts" were actually separate families that had united to resist the Hall of Honor and maintain control of Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum. If Lu Yin could represent the Yu family and visit that place, then nobody should make trouble for him.

Also, Lu Yin knew Brother Hui Kong. Although the old man had not explicitly stated that he was from the Hui family, they should be one and the same.

"Why would I need to go to that place? Didn't the Yu family already give you their quota to enter the tomb?" Lu Yin asked.

Ku Wei felt embarrassed. "That- Well, actually, the quota was given to me, but I'll do my best to win the Ku family's space for you. If the two of us go in there together, then we wouldn't need to be afraid of anyone."

Lu Yin grew amused. "You want me to help you fight for the Ku family's spot and then give me the Yu family's so that I can take care of the others for you while we're in the tomb?"

Ku Wei nodded and helplessly said, "Each of the Seven Courts' heirs has a secret technique, and their power levels are unbelievable. They are not people that an average cultivator can deal with. So even if I have the Yu family's spot, I'll be out of luck the moment I enter the tomb, which is why I need to find a helper."

"The Ku family's heir for this generation can't help you?" Lu Yin was puzzled.

Ku Wei grinned. "As long as they don't try to seize my spot, you can help me take his instead. Then, the two of us can head in together. After all, we're on the same side, hehe."

Lu Yin shook his head. "Let's discuss this in future."

Ku Wei replied, "No, Your Highness, you don't understand what Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum represents! There are arts, battle techniques, secret techniques, and even Progenitor level power vessels inside! Anything that you could find in there would be unmatched in the current universe."

"Then why haven't your Seven Courts ever defeated the Hall of Honor?" Lu Yin retorted.

Ku Wei was left speechless. "We have! Do you think that those people in the Neoverse are all as limited in experience as you people from the Innerverse and the Outerverse? Many people in the Neoverse have secret techniques, just like those invaders from the Sixth Mainland. And once they use a secret technique, nobody can survive. Your Highness, your secret technique must have also saved you countless times." Lu Yin understood this quite well, as the people from the Sixth Mainland's Progenitor of Secret Arts' Territory were all disgusting. With their Secret Technique Reversal Cycle, it was basically impossible to kill any of them. On top of that, they also had their secret technique, Power Transfer, which caused their strength to increase drastically. There were definitely other even more shocking secret techniques.

## **Chapter 1049: Daynight Strikes**

"Does the Neoverse have a lot of powerful experts? Why didn't I see any of them during the battles in the Cosmic Sea?" Lu Yin was curious.

Ku Wei rolled his eyes. "Those bastards like to be all mysterious, so they won't show up until the very last moment. It would actually be strange if you had seen them."

"We'll talk about your suggestion in the future. For now, I'm going to take a trip and take some stuff." Lu Yin clenched his fist and grinned.

Ku Wei blinked. "Take some stuff? What?"

Lu Yin revealed a strange smile. "The Dark Phoenix family has decided to seal itself for a hundred years, and they've sealed their mainland with the Sixteen-Layered Dark Flames. I've already taken fifteen layers of it, so I'm going to grab the last layer now."

Ku Wei was shocked. "Are you really that morally bankrupt?"

Lu Yin's brows rose, and his expression became decidedly unfriendly.

Ku Wei hurried to correct himself and he smiled drily. "I misspoke. I mean, that sounds so fun! Too much fun, haha."

Lu Yin lifted a hand and put it on Ku Wei's shoulder. "Since it sounds like so much fun, then let's go together."

Ku Wei's eyes flitted about. "Alright, I'll accompany Your Highness, but let's come to an agreement first. Please accompany me to Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum."

"We'll talk about that some other time," Lu Yin said.

"Isn't Your Highness curious about Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum? I've heard that Progenitor Chen once wrote a love poem to a girl there, but who knows if that's true."

"Of course it's fake. I knew that it was a false rumor as soon as you mentioned it."

"Not necessarily. There's an order to how people say it, and they also don't even understand the words."

"And yet they know that it's a love poem when they don't even understand the writing?"

"It's implied, and you can tell with just one look."

"That's still not certain. Maybe it's some kind of peerless battle technique."

Ku Wei fell silent for a while and then seriously said, "Your Highness, you must accompany me. We'll copy down all of the words that we don't understand, and eventually, we'll find someone who recognizes them. Your Highness, I'm begging you."

Lu Yin was rendered speechless.

"Seventh Bro, let's go! It's a tomb, so there has to be some value to exploring it. Besides, it's Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum on top of everything! Let's just treat it as an experience before we head to Progenitor Wushang's Tomb," Ghost Monkey urged Lu Yin.

Lu Yin felt that the monkey was talking too much.

It would be perfectly fine for the two of them to travel with the collapsible spacecraft. However, Ku Wei insisted on traveling in a luxurious spacecraft, claiming that Lu Yin should have an extravagant entrance. However, Lu Yin summarily rejected the idea.

He looked behind at Zenyu Star, and he vaguely saw the enormous amount of rune lines flash.

Lu Yin became absolutely certain that this powerhouse was targeting him.

The speed of the collapsible spacecraft was very fast, and after just an hour, a meteorite whistled past the vessel as it cruised along through space. The spacecraft easily evaded it, but it was actually unnecessary as the collapsible spacecraft was more than sturdy enough to ignore such obstacles.

However, one of the meteorites had to be avoided, as it was not just a meteorite. There was a long spear within it that shot towards the spacecraft.

Within the vessel, Ku Wei was still talking nonstop about the glorious deeds of Progenitor Chen when Lu Yin kicked the man out of the vessel. He then stored the collapsible spacecraft away while simultaneously putting on his universal armor. "Take care of yourself."

Ku Wei was caught a bit off guard when Lu Yin kicked him out, and Ku Wei was even more confused after hearing Lu Yin's words.

Suddenly, the entire region of space changed, and an enormous pressure descended upon the two youths with enough power to cause their brains to shudder. It was a spiritual force attack.

Lu Yin's expression changed. Sure enough, this person was an expert from the Daynight clan, and his power level was no less than 400,000. Lu Yin quickly glanced over at Ku Wei, afraid that the youth would have been killed outright.

However, when Lu Yin looked over, he saw that Ku Wei's entire body was hidden within what looked like a piece of rotten wood. Lu Yin did not even know when Ku Wei had hidden himself, but he seemed quite practiced at it. More importantly, the rotten wood's rune lines were essentially on par with that of the powerhouse who had ambushed them. What the heck? When did Ku Wei obtain such a strong power vessel?

In the distance, the Daynight elder glanced over at Lu Yin and then at the piece of rotten wood hiding Ku Wei. The elder was clearly amazed. "That's the Ku family's power vessel, the Withered Bark. Is that kid, Lu Yin, connected to the Ku family? If so, it's no wonder why he could reach his realm after just twelve short years of cultivation. This kid must be from the Seven Courts."

Two Enlighters attacked Lu Yin from both sides, completely ignoring Ku Wei.

Lu Yin had duped Ku Wei into traveling along with him, as Lu Yin had wanted to uncover Ku Wei's hidden trump card. At this moment, he had succeeded.

Lu Yin did not avoid either of the two attacks from the Enlighters. Instead, he focused solely on the rune lines of the terrifyingly powerful Daynight expert in front of him. The distance separating them was not enough to escape Lu Yin's domain, and he could see an old man who had black-and-white hair with a touch of grey in the middle. This was someone from the Nightking Clan.

## Thump! Thump!

There were two loud bangs as the two Enlighters of the Daynight clan directly struck Lu Yin with their attacks. However, his body did not budge at all, and in response, Lu Yin raised his hands, grabbing the two Enlighters. He then unleashed the Overlaying Stacks Path that was reinforced with his nine lined battle force, causing the two Enlighters to wail in agony. They immediately unleashed their spiritual force attacks.

However, their spiritual force attacks were ineffective against Lu Yin, and he exerted more force through both of his hands, tearing off their arms. Now free, they both withdrew as fresh blood drifted away into the emptiness of space.

Lu Yin's eyes were cold, and his body flashed as he appeared in front of one of the Enlighters. The experty fiercely howled, which was actually the Nightking's Roar. However, Lu Yin slapped down with his hands, unleashing an enormous pressure that was joined with his nine lined battle force. Lu Yin forcibly dissipated the Nightking's Roar before his palm landed on the Enlighter's chest, cracking the expert's chest open as they were sent flying into the distance.

Behind Lu Yin, the other Enlighter whose arm had been torn off fiercely charged towards Lu Yin. The man's eyes had taken on an extremely sinister and terrifying look, and an attack with a power level close to 250,000 swept out, enveloping the area.

Although Lu Yin could not see a defined attack, its rune lines were still clear as day; he did not need to even consider any other possibilities—this was definitely a spiritual force attack. The man's eyes had taken on a sinister look, and Lu Yin's pupils transformed into runes as he erased a portion of the runes in the man's eyes.

The Enlighter wailed and screamed in agony.

Lu Yin panted slightly. These two Enlighters could not compare to him, but it had still taken him quite a bit of effort to deal with them.

If these attackers were not from the Daynight clan, but were rather experts from the Sword Sect or the Blaze Realm, then Lu Yin might have struggled even more. But in this case, his resistance towards spiritual force attacks made him the Daynight clan's natural nemesis.

He looked over at the old Nightking expert who had not moved the moment the attackers had appeared. Even against him, Lu Yin was not flustered. With his universal armor and the Stonewall Scriptures, this person was truly unable to harm Lu Yin.

"Kid, you're pretty good, but unfortunately, you've offended my Daynight clan," the Nightking elder said as he moved closer.

Lu Yin sneered. "You all act the same—Nightking Zhenwu, Nightking Changfeng, and Nightqueen Yanqing. You guys are all so detestable."

The elder's eyes grew cold. "A loose tongue causes trouble. Child, don't make a mistake."

"Didn't you come to kill me? Or could it be that you're here to provide me with an opportunity?" Lu Yin ridiculed.

The elder's face twisted into a bizarre expression. "Yes."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "What do you mean?"

The elder raised three fingers. "First, return the stone of inheritance to my clan. Second, publicly apologize to my clan. Third, tell us everything you know about the Third Nightking. As long as you agree to these three things, I will promise not to kill you."

Lu Yin laughed and looked at the elder in a mocking manner. "Aren't you going to demand that I pledge my allegiance to the Daynight clan?"

The elder frowned. "Kid, are you mocking me?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "Before you came here, did you discuss those conditions with Nightking Zhenwu? The conditions that he offered me were much better than yours. He promised me that, in future when he becomes a Progenitor, he will provide me with eternal honor. You are too insincere."

The elder's voice grew frosty. "It looks like you're chasing after death. Since that's the case, then I'll oblige you."

The already dark region of space suddenly darkened even further, and frost actually started appearing in the void before extending towards Lu Yin.

Was this ice? No, it was spiritual force. Actually, that was also wrong. This ice was formed from star energy, and it assisted this powerhouse's spiritual force whenever he unleashed an attack. In other words, the elder wanted to use this ice to freeze Lu Yin's spiritual force.

Lu Yin did not dare to directly fight against an old fogey with a power level of 400,000 with his own spiritual force, and thus, he quickly began to recite the Stonewall Scriptures. At the same time, he raced towards the elder at top speed, and the massive mechanical right arm appeared right as Lu Yin unleashed a punch.

The elder had not expected Lu Yin to be foolish enough to seize the initiative to attack. However, Lu Yin had actually managed to break through the old man's battle technique. How was that even possible? Even Nightking Zhenwu would not be able to do such a thing!

Lu Yin's actions had far surpassed the elder's expectations, but he was an old expert whose power level was approaching 400,000, and his battle experience was extremely rich. Lu Yin wanted to approach and

engage in close combat. However, even if the old man was unafraid of Lu Yin, he still instinctively dodged the youth's attack. Then, a longsword appeared in the older man's hands at the exact moment that he stabbed out. The attack tore open the void. Not only did it have an extremely sharp sword qi, but it also unleashed an even more terrifying spiritual force.

Against the old man, Lu Yin was only capable of enduring the attacks, completely unable to dodge or retaliate.

The sword qi pierced through the void to stab into Lu Yin, and the impact sent Lu Yin flying. The frost even caused him to freeze over as the overwhelming spiritual force swept out in an attempt to destroy Lu Yin's mind.

Lu Yin's eyes went wide: Night Advent.

Off in the distance, the elder was stunned. "You actually comprehended Night Advent? Child, I must admit that your talent is quite impressive, but you've offended some people who you shouldn't have."

Lu Yin had struggled to reduce the strength of the attack, and he eventually managed to stabilize himself in space. However, intense pain was erupting from his abdomen.

The universal armor had managed to block the elder's sword qi, but the pure sharpness of the attack had managed to pierce through the armor and wound his abdomen, though the injury was not serious.

The old man had not expected Lu Yin to endure the sword thrust, but there was not even a single drop of blood on the youth's body, and his spiritual force was also stable. Just what was going on?

Without the Daynight clan's incredible arrogance, they would have long since learned about everything related to Lu Yin. In the Outerverse, there was some common knowledge about Lu Yin: he had an endless supply of powerful external items, and fighting against Lu Yin was simply seeking trouble for oneself.

Nearby, Ku Wei was still hiding within the Withered Bark. He had assumed that Lu Yin would definitely die after receiving the sword attack, and Ku Wei had never considered that the youth would be able to withstand such an attack. Could Lu Yin truly have been nurtured by the Hall of Honor? But that could not be the case, as the information regarding Lu Yin had been quite straightforward.

Lu Yin did not hesitate to boldly charge at the elder again. Lu Yin knew that, against such a powerhouse, he would fall to more and more of a disadvantage the longer the fight dragged out.

The elder grew very cautious, and he refused to fight Lu Yin at close quarters. Even if Lu Yin was nothing but a Cruiser, the old man intended to evade all of attacks, which left Lu Yin feeling rather sullen. "You old bastard! You hid here and even ambushed a junior, but for what? You must have learned all of your battle techniques from a wuss!"

The elder sneered. "Before I was sent out, someone informed me that you are extremely cunning and are quite adept at traps. Forget about you being a Cruiser—even if you were just a Limiteer or Melder, I still wouldn't give you any opportunities!"

Lu Yin believed the man. There was no way for Lu Yin to win against such an opponent, as no matter how Lu Yin fought, he had nothing in his possession that would allow him to fatally wound this old man.

Lu Yin could do nothing other than continue enduring the elder's attacks, and Lu Yin soon lost count of how many times he had been beaten away.

The Daynight elder was even more sullen than Lu Yin. He was an expert with an impressive power level of 400,000, an expert from a powerful clan of the Innerverse, and yet despite all his accolades, he could barely do anything to a puny Cruiser. Nobody would believe the man if news of this leaked out.

The old man suddenly understood what Nightking Yuanjing had said: this person was truly difficult to deal with. He suddenly felt that it had been a tremendous waste of effort to bring two Daynight experts across the Astral River.

## Chapter 1050: Henchman

The commotion from the cosmic battle between Lu Yin and the Daynight elder was too great, and it quickly attracted the attention of the troops stationed in the nearby weaves.

The Daynight elder had spent twenty minutes trying to deal with Lu Yin, but he could not breach the youth's defenses. In the end, the elder could only helplessly leave. "Child, you won't have a good ending after becoming enemies with my Daynight clan. You'd best consider your next moves carefully."

Lu Yin silently watched as the Daynight clan members left, and even the corpses of the dead Enlighters were taken away.

The Daynight clan did not want anyone to know about this matter, and Lu Yin shared that opinion. His status had not been stabilized yet, so if it was revealed that the Daynight clan was his mortal enemy, then the Great Eastern Alliance's cohesiveness would fall even more.

Everyone knew that Lu Yin had a conflict with the Daynight clan, but outsiders were under the impression that this was not a terrible grudge.

After the Daynight clan elder left, Ku Wei put away his Withered Bark and rushed over to Lu Yin, seething. "You knew that we were going to be ambushed! You deliberately tricked me into coming out here!"

Lu Yin answered in a brusque tone. "Where's your evidence?"

Ku Wei was enraged. "Bullshit, what evidence? You kicked me to the side a moment before their attacks arrived, which proves that you knew about them beforehand. So why didn't you tell me?"

"I'm not able to discover such experts. You saw for yourself how incredibly strong that old fart was," Lu Yin said.

Ku Wei gritted his teeth and stared at Lu Yin. "Only an idiot would believe you."

"That's up to you." Lu Yin paid him no mind.

Ku Wei was so furious that he ground his teeth. However, there was nothing that he could do to Lu Yin. In truth, Ku Wei was still reeling in shock from the attack, as he had almost died. The attacker had been an old freak with a power level of more than 400,000, but fortunately, Ku Wei had brought his Withered Bark along. Otherwise, a single spiritual force attack would have left him braindead if not outright killed him. In that scenario, regardless of if it was Progenitor Chen's Mausoleum or the great plans of the Ku family, everything would be finished for Ku Wei. What a bastard.

Of course Lu Yin had deliberately taken action. Since there was someone from the Seven Courts beside him, it was necessary to test this person from time to time. Lu Yin had thought that when Ku Wei encountered grave danger, some older experts from the Seven Courts would appear. He had never even considered that Ku Wei would be able to save himself.

These ancient powers truly did have unfathomable foundations.

"What's that piece of dead wood you were hiding in just now?" Lu Yin asked curiously.

Ku Wei replied in a nasty voice, "Something that I picked up. I don't know what it is."

Lu Yin's gaze grew sharp. "Is that so? Why don't you think about your answer again."

Ku Wei was about to open his mouth and vent some of his anger. However, after he saw how cold Lu Yin's expression had become, he paused. Lu Yin looked as though he wanted to beat someone, and Ku Wei panicked, scared that he had lost his reasoning. He had actually nearly forgotten that this person had defeated one of the Ten Arbiters and that he did not pale even when compared to the top heirs of the Seven Courts. Ku Wei could not beat Lu Yin, and he was even hoping that Lu Yin would help him.

In but a moment, Ku Wei suppressed all of his anger and barely managed to force out a smile. "Forgive me, Your Highness. I've thought it through again, and I've remembered that it's a power vessel unique to my Ku family. Throughout the ages, it's been called Withered Bark, and although I don't know the principles behind its manufacturing process, this toy has an extremely robust defense, and the elders gave me one for when I'm out on missions."

"How many of these Withered Barks does your family have?" Lu Yin asked.

Ku Wei hurriedly shook his head. "Very few."

He saw that Lu Yin did not really believe this claim, and Ku Wei became flustered. "Your Highness, there truly are only very few remaining. How many power vessels could we have that can withstand attacks with power levels of 400,000? I trust that even Your Highness does not have more than two."

Lu Yin replied, "Don't worry, I don't want to take it from you. What are you so nervous about?"

Ku Wei pursed his lips, as he did not trust Lu Yin's character. This fellow had a special fondness for wealth, which was something that many people were aware of.

"Since your Ku family has this Withered Bark, what about the other families from the Seven Courts?" Lu Yin asked.

Ku Wei thought about it. "All of them basically have something like it. For example, the Ce family has their Immovable Chessboard and the You family has the Netherworld River. Since we're able to contest the Hall of Honor, it's impossible for us to not have something like this hidden."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and he became even more certain of certain elements behind the scenes. The Neoverse definitely had not put forth its full efforts during the Sixth Mainland's invasion.

If the Sixth Mainland was able to fully dominate the Fifth Mainland, then it would have relied upon that strange suppression they had on the Fifth Mainland cultivators, their imprints, and the specialties of their three Progenitors: bloodlines, martial imprints, and secret techniques.

The Seven Courts' background was related to a Progenitor, and each family should have a similar level of strength. Since the Hall of Honor was able to suppress the Seven Courts, then they must have an even stronger foundation. And yet, he had not seen them during the battle in the Cosmic Sea.

Just what exactly was the Neoverse planning?

While Lu Yin was ruminating over these thoughts, Ku Wei grew more nervous the longer he watched, as he was afraid that Lu Yin would force him to hand over the Withered Bark. He hurriedly spoke up. "Your Highness, will that old fart from the Daynight clan come back? Should we report this to the Hall of Honor?"

Lu Yin replied, "Even if we report it, there's no point. The Hall of Honor oversees the entire human race, but they would require evidence to act on something like this. Besides, I wasn't killed, so the Hall of Honor has no reason to act."

"These fellows are outrageous! They actually dared to attack you. If they had killed you, then the Daynight clan would be out of luck," Ku Wei said hatefully.

Lu Yin shook his head. "It depends on the circumstances. The possibility of Nightking Zhenwu becoming one of the Cosmic Five is quite high because of what happened with the Champions' Stage, which means that the Daynight clan will likely become a privileged family. They've reached the point where even the Hall of Honor needs to show the Daynight clan some face."

After the discussion reached this point, Lu Yin suddenly reacted. What was the point of discussing such things with Ku Wei?

"Let's keep going towards the Dark Phoenix family," Lu Yin said.

Ku Wei was surprised. "We're actually heading to the Dark Phoenix family's territory?"

"Obviously."

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The Dark Phoenix family had previously announced that they had sealed themselves away for the next hundred years, and every power had received this notification.

The Sixteen-Layered Dark Flames was enough to intimidate the entire Outerverse, and nobody could break through it. It was powerful enough to even make the Phoenix family wary.

However, after Lu Yin's visit, everything had changed.

Only the final layer of the Sixteen-Layered Dark Flames remained now, and even though this layer was the most powerful one and could even deter Envoy-level powerhouses, a single layer of Dark Flames was just too thin. People could even peer through it and see the Darkflame Continent.

The Dark Phoenix family felt as though they were wearing invisible clothing. They wanted to cover themselves up, but it was impossible to do so properly. This was an extremely embarrassing situation for a large clan like the Dark Phoenix family.

The entire Dark Phoenix family had been cursing Lu Yin recently.

At this moment, the Dark Phoenix family was confronted with an awkward situation. They had announced that they would seal themselves away for a hundred years, but the last layer of Dark Flames was not able to fully conceal them, which was rather humiliating. However, if they did not continue to seal themselves away, then they would be going back on their previous announcement.

This was a matter that the Dark Phoenix family had discussed for a long time.

On one particular day, just as Tanno Phoenix was about to continue the clan's discussion once again, the final layer of Dark Flames began to distort.

They could never forget this scene, as this exact phenomenon had occurred on the day when the other fifteen layers of Dark Flames had vanished.

Tanno Phoenix and the others rushed to the edge of Darkflame Continent, and there they saw Lu Yin once again. This time, they were separated only by a single layer of Dark Flames.

An ineffable mixture of frustration, hatred, helplessness, and remorse whirled about in Tanno Phoenix's heart. Finally, he snarled, "Lu Yin, what the hell are you trying to do?"

Lu Yin pursed his lips even as the Skyblaze Stone continued to absorb the final layer of the Dark Flames. Ku Wei stood beside him, and behind Ku Wei were the few Dark Phoenix family members who had been standing guard outside of the continent.

Since they were only separated by a single layer of Dark Flames, Lu Yin was able to see the hatred in their eyes, and he was actually a little embarrassed.

His current actions were no different from directly stealing from these people. No, he was not stealing, but pillaging.

Ku Wei moved forward. "His Highness saw that this continent was being burned by this Dark Flames, and he could not allow the citizens here to be in such agony. Thus, he came to rescue them. There's no need to thank us."

Upon hearing Ku Wei's words, Lu Yin was amazed. This person was quite well spoken; he had indeed come here to rescue the ordinary people living on the Darkflame Continent who were suffering from the high temperature. He was doing a good deed.

Tanno Phoenix became so furious that his body trembled, and the other Dark Phoenix family experts who were present were similarly enraged. Quite a few of them even cursed Lu Yin under their breath. "Shameless, despicable, nasty."

"This thief, how can he even say such words?"

"Only a fool would believe him."

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Lu Yin proudly raised his head and revealed a serene expression. "Patriarch Tanno, I heard that the Darkflame Continent is being roasted by these flames and that you guys have been suffering from a horribly high temperature. As the Outerverse Allied Forces' Commander and the leader of the Great Eastern Alliance, I, Lu Yin, cannot just let this go."

Ku Wei loudly continued, saying, "Why are you all still not rushing to thank Alliance Leader Lu? Hurry up and prepare a banquet to welcome the Alliance Leader!"

Another round of curses emerged from the Dark Phoenix family, and they all charged towards Ku Wei. This person was the very definition of a henchman.

Lu Yin suddenly realized that this fellow had tremendous potential.

The wrath of all the Dark Phoenix family members had been diverted from Lu Yin to Ku Wei, as he was simply too infuriating.

"Alliance Leader Lu, please show mercy," Tanno Phoenix hurriedly said, as he did not want the last Dark Flames layer to be absorbed by Lu Yin.

However, Lu Yin continued on as though he had not heard anything.

Ku Wei shouted, "There's no need to be courteous. For your safety, Alliance Leader Lu will not rest until he's completed his duties. Rest assured, all of this Dark Flames will be absorbed, and we will find a way to track down the person who released these flames and force the culprit to apologize to the entire Darkflame Continent."

Tanno Phoenix was growing frantic now. "Alliance Leader Lu, this is my Dark Phoenix family's Dark Flames! Please show mercy."

Ku Wei shouted, "It's alright, Patriarch Tanno. You're being far too polite."

"Alliance Leader ... "

"Patriarch Tanno..."

Countless members of the Dark Phoenix family ground their teeth upon hearing Ku Wei's words, and the hatred that they felt for him had already surpassed everything else.

Ku Wei completely ignored them, as they were just an Outerverse clan. They had even been chased out of the Innerverse, and just his title was enough to scare these people.

No matter how much Tanno Phoenix shouted, all of his efforts were disturbed by Ku Wei. Then, finally, the last layer of Dark Flames was absorbed into the Skyblaze Stone.

This layer of Dark Flames had been powerful, and Lu Yin felt a scorching sensation as he held the Skyblaze Stone.

He felt that, if he had not upgraded the Skyblaze Stone with his die, it was possible the fiery dragon might have already emerged.

When the Dark Flames completely vanished, Tanno Phoenix and the others all felt their hearts fall. The protection that their ancestor had arranged for them in the form of the Sixteen-Layered Dark Flames was completely gone now. Along with it disappeared their Dark Phoenix family's ability to seal themselves away and the ability to defend themselves against any Envoy-level powerhouse.

In just a few short years, all three of the Outerverse's powers that should not be provoked had been pulled down from their exalted position by Lu Yin. The Neo-Vestige Sect even belonged to him, as they had lost the protection of the Arrow Mountain Elder, rendering them no longer able to stand up to Lu Yin.

Millions City did not dare to offend Lu Yin either. No matter how wealthy the city was, since it was a mobile fortress, it fell under the command of the Outerverse Allied Forces' Commander. As long as Lu Yin was willing, he could order Millions City to appear at any location in the Outerverse at any time. The only reason he would need to give was that a powerful foe might possibly invade from there.

Finally, the Dark Phoenix family had had its Sixteen-Layered Dark Flames completely absorbed by Lu Yin. That, coupled with the death of their ancestor, Yen Phoenix, meant that they had lost any and all ability to intimidate anyone in the Outerverse.

The three formerly glorious powers had fallen one by one, and the Great Eastern Alliance had stepped up to replace them.

The screen of protection had disappeared, and the Dark Phoenix family no longer was willing to provoke Lu Yin. They were not even able to act logically at this moment, and they could only helplessly follow Ku Wei's suggestion and host a banquet to welcome Lu Yin.

Ku Wei was thrilled, as he loved to watch others who clearly wanted to take advantage of him and his people be forced to put on smiling faces and welcome them. This was a very refreshing feeling.