

Chapter 1381: Time Needed For Retirement

Not long after Lu Yin left the Yinshan District's Humility's Gate, the fatty went and found Unseen Light. The fatty's motivation was very simple, as he did not want Unseen Light to get involved in Lu Yin's problems. The fatty hoped that Unseen Light would sit tight and wait for an answer from the Wang family and then make a visit to the Wang family to meet with Junior Progenitor Wang Su.

Unseen Light refused to agree. This was not because he wanted to help Lu Yin, nor because of any sense of comradery among those from the same home, but because Unseen Light would not be able to accomplish his own goals without help. If anything happened to Lu Yin, it would be unfortunate for everyone.

Unseen Light greatly regretted not changing his appearance or his name when he had first arrived, but how could he have known that he would run into Lu Yin in such a place?

The Perennial World was massive, and the ten youths had been scattered across the Middle Realm. This alone meant that the first time that any of them met would be in the Dominion Realm or when they prepared to leave for home. As for changing their names or appearance, Arch-Elder Zen had mentioned before they had left that he would not force any decision onto them, but they were the top youths of the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands, and all of them had built up some degree of arrogance. Changing their names or appearances in the Perennial World could actually affect their future chances of breaking through to the Progenitor realm.

Given the size of the Perennial World, it was nothing but pure luck that Unseen Light had run into an acquaintance so soon after his arrival.

There was nothing that Unseen Light could do, but he felt he needed to help even if it was beyond his abilities.

The fatty gave Unseen Light a thumbs up and praised him, "It's rare to find someone willing to go so far for their brother! Starting today, you're also the brother of the Great Captain Wang! Don't worry, as soon as this matter gets settled, I'll definitely get you to see the Wang family's Junior Progenitor and put in a few good words for you. Even if you don't make the cut, you can still join my family."

Unseen Light felt curious. "Don't make the cut for what?"

The fatty deflected, "Nothing you need to worry about for now. I'll tell you if things work out, and you'll definitely die from excitement! It's a place that everyone in the Perennial World dreams of."

Unseen Light lifted his head as though staring off into the distance. The horizon was cut off by the massive trunk of the Mother Tree, and above was a canopy and the Higher Realm. Beyond that was the most important place in this entire universe. No matter what it cost, Unseen Light would absolutely find a way to get to that place.

After Long Xi ended her call with Lu Yin, she immediately reached out to Long Tian. Long Tian also felt that something was not right with the situation. Clearly there was someone interfering in the matter between the White Dragon Clan and the Celestial Frost Sect. At the moment, things were looking to favor Long Qi. He had earned merit points. However, what was the motivation of the hidden hand? Long

Tian could not begin to guess, and he did not have even the slightest clue as to who the third party even was.

Given his doubts, Long Tian called the supervisor of Humility's Gate's nine Middle Realm Gates. He wanted to beg for Long Qi to be allowed to retire early.

Long Tian had initially planned to have Long Qi retire after gaining some merit points, and he had come up with a plan to make it happen. However, Long Qi had gained some achievements before Long Tian had even had a chance to start his plan. Now, the kid just had to retire from Humility's Gate.

You needed to stay with Humility's Gate for a certain amount of time before you would be allowed to retire. For example, Uncle Kuai was an interrogator and had no background. Someone like him needed to wait until his full time ran out before he would be able to retire. As for Lu Yin, even with Long Tian's help, he still needed to endure for at least two months before being allowed to retire. He had only been in Humility's Gate for a bit more than a month, so he still had more than half a month left.

However, Long Tian could not afford to wait any longer. He was quite familiar with Yu Chen, and there was no way that the woman would give up. Also, there was the mystery person who had been providing Long Qi with the names of traitors. Long Tian could not afford to wait any longer.

The supervisor of the Middle Realm's nine Humility's Gate Gates was named Qing Chen. He looked to only be in his early 40s, and he had an aloof demeanor that made him seem above the mundane things. His appearance was nothing that anyone would attribute to a person famous for being a butcher. Still, all those he had killed had been traitors and Redbacks.

"Junior Long Tian greets Senior Qing Chen." Long Tian was a Junior Progenitor, and he could afford to be arrogant when speaking to almost anyone, but he could not do so to Qing Chen. This was not only because of the man's position, but also his strength. Qing Chen was a Semi-Progenitor.

Qing Chen calmly looked back at Long Tian. It was perfectly normal to refer to a powerhouse like Qing Chen as 'senior,' but it had an extra meaning coming from Long Tian. All of the Junior Progenitors were also captains of Humility's Gate, and so Long Tian's reference to himself as a junior instead of Qing Chen's subordinate, which indicated which position he wanted to take when speaking with Qing Chen at this moment. "So it's Junior Progenitor Long. What happens to be the problem?"

Long Tian explained in a respectful voice. "My sister recently got married, and my father wishes to invite Senior Qing Chen to go to Dragon Mountain for a gathering. The two of you haven't seen each other for many years, and my father misses Senior a great deal."

Qing Chen smiled gently. "Since it's an invitation from Brother Long, I'll naturally intend. It's true we haven't seen each other for a long time; it's already been a thousand years."

Long Tian smiled. "My father often mentions Senior and claims that Senior will definitely be the next person to become a Progenitor and raise the honor of the human race."

"Haha, like your father would say that about me? I'd be lucky if he didn't curse me to fail at the next breakthrough."

"This junior would never lie."

Qing Chen laughed. "You must have something else that you need from me. Speak."

Long Tian continued in the same respectful tone. "There are three steps that must be taken when someone marries into the White Dragon Clan's main family. The first is to worship the ancestors. The second is to worship the Ancestor Python, and the third is to add the person's name to the main family's registry. My brother-in-law has already completed the first two steps, but not the third. My father hopes to bring my brother-in-law to Dragon Mountain to finish the third step."

Qing Chen's eyes flashed. "Your brother-in-law? Long Qi? Yes, he's in the Yinshan District."

Long Tian bowed. "This junior begs Senior to allow my brother-in-law to retire early so that he can visit Dragon Mountain to finalize their marriage."

Qing Chen stared at Long Tian. The Junior Progenitor remained bowed and did not move.

After a while, Qing Chen finally spoke, "Do you know who holds the record for retiring from Humility's Gate the fastest?"

Long Tian's fingers twitched as he replied, "Senior Shu Yuan."

"Why did he retire?"

"After he was with Humility's Gate for one month and twenty-two days, he happened to find a Redback. He fought desperately, and all of his limbs were broken. Still, he managed to hold out until reinforcements arrived, and he then retired due to his serious injuries."

"So you do know the story. Despite this, you are still asking me to let Long Qi retire early? Do his achievements surpass those of Senior Shu Yuan?"

Long Tian stayed silent, as this was an impossible hurdle to surpass. No one could retire from Humility's Gate faster than Shu Yuan, no matter their background. To do otherwise would be disrespectful of the predecessors and the sacrifices that had been made.

This was also the reason why Long Tian had initially intended to have Long Qi retire from Humility's Gate after giving six months of service. As long as six months passed, it would be easy to have Long Qi retire. However, doing so in less than two months was nearly impossible. This was why Long Tian had sought out Qiong Chen.

"Senior, there is no way that Long Qi's achievements will ever be able to surpass those of Senior Shu Yuan, and my White Dragon Clan also has no intention of disrespecting Senior Shu Yuan," Long Tian hurriedly spoke up.

Qing Chen interrupted, "Since that's the case, don't bring it up again."

Long Tian felt helpless. "Senior, please listen to what this junior has to say."

He then proceeded to tell Qing Chen about the list that Long Qi had been given, as well as the deductions Long Tian had made. Someone was interfering in a matter between the four ruling powers, and in the Middle Realm, only a Semi-Progenitor would dare do such a thing.

Furthermore, Qing Chen had a feud of his own with the Celestial Frost Sect, so Long Tian had no concerns that Qing Chen might help the Celestial Frost Sect deal with the White Dragon Clan.

After hearing Long Tian's explanation, Qing Chen felt quite surprised. "His accomplishments weren't arranged by your White Dragon Clan?"

Everyone had assumed that Lu Yin's exploits had been given to him by the White Dragon Clan, and that included even Zhuo Si and the others in Humility's Gate. Long Tian felt completely helpless. "My White Dragon Clan has provided him with no information, and Long Qi himself does not know who gave him the list of names, which is what concerns us the most. This is also why I hope to allow him to retire as soon as possible with his current achievements and come to the Higher Realm. As long as he is in Dragon Mountain, there is no need to fear any accidents."

Qing Chen was taken aback. "There's actually someone willing to get involved in the matter between your White Dragon Clan and the Celestial Frost Sect?"

His first thought was of the Wang family, as there was a child from the Wang family also in the Yinshan Mountains.

"Senior, I wonder if there is any possibility of my brother-in-law retiring early?" Long Tian asked again.

Qing Chen shook his head. "There's no way to allow him to retire early, no matter what the situation. Unless he is able to surpass Senior Shu Yuan's achievements and has a valid reason to retire, he will have to stay with us for at least two months."

Long Tian's face turned ugly; Qing Chen was not giving the Junior Progenitor any face at all. This person was old friends with Long Tian's father, and Long Tian had been wondering why his father had been reluctant to approach his old friend. "Senior has his own priorities, and this junior does not dare press this issue. Given the situation, might I ask Senior to properly look into this matter? My brother-in-law is only a Hunter, so he is not powerful. He can easily be used by others, and could die without even knowing what happened."

Qing Chen agreed. "I will do my best."

"Thank you, Senior. This junior will go now." Long Tian reluctantly ended the call.

Qing Chen looked away. He had actually already known of the circumstances in the Yinshan Mountains, and was also aware of Lu Yin's accomplishments, but had simply assumed that the White Dragon Clan was behind everything that Lu Yin had achieved. He had not considered any other possibility. Someone else was actually getting involved?

Qing Chen's eyes flickered, and he re-read the report from the Yinshan District regarding the recent events. Once again, Qing Chen felt that something was being overlooked.

Elsewhere, Long Tian let out a long breath. Qing Chen refused to give him any face at all. Though Long Tian had already guessed that this would be the result of his call, the old man had still promised to keep an eye on things. As long as Long Qi remained safe, there should be no issue.

Just as Long Tian was thinking about this, an old servant approached and whispered something to the Junior Progenitor.

Long Tian grew furious at what he heard. "Bastard! You can't even take care of yourself, and yet you have the balls to make a bet with the three Guan brothers? You're just trying to die, aren't you?"

The old servant bowed his head, but said nothing.

Long Tian's anger raged. He truly wanted nothing more than to rush to the Yinshan District and flay Lu Yin's hide. Long Tian was humiliated by Long Qi's behavior. The Junior Progenitor had bowed his head and begged for help. Everything had been done in order to convince Long Xi to accompany him to the Dominion Realm. Not only did Long Tian not care if Long Qi lived or died, he actually was eager to kill the bastard himself.

Long Tian was one of the Perennial Realm's four Junior Progenitors; when had he last undergone such a humiliating ordeal? That bastard kept creating more and more trouble, and the stress was even causing Long Tian's cultivation to slightly destabilize.

The more Long Tian considered the current situation, the more out of control he felt. Finally, he angrily ordered, "Go to Red Orchard City and drag that Long Qi back here! If anyone dares to try to stop you, tell them that he has broken the rules of my White Dragon Clan and is to be punished. After he has been disciplined, we will send him back to the Yinshan District."

This was the worst option Long Tian had previously considered, as dragging Long Qi away from Humility's Gate without permission would not only offend Humility's Gate, it would also humiliate the White Dragon Clan. Still, Long Tian could not just sit back and allow Long Qi to die. That would be even more humiliating for the clan, and it would also mean that Long Xi would not accompany Long Tian to the Dominion Realm, and his sister might even be forced to marry Bai Shaohong, which would spell disaster for the entire White Dragon Clan.

The Celestial Frost Sect could not be allowed to influence the power of the White Dragon Rolls Over, especially not that woman.

That could not be allowed, no matter what the price may be.

Actually, did that old fart Qing Chen already know about this bet? Long Tian's eyes flickered. The supervisor had to know, and yet the old bastard had not said a thing.

Elsewhere, Yu Chen lowered her communication crystals after speaking with Guan Tong. She could not help admiring the brothers' ruthlessness, as they wanted to directly eliminate Long Qi.

No one could blame the brothers if Long Qi died to a monster, and besides, Long Qi had already agreed to the wager on his own.

Chapter 1382: Evidence

Even though Long Qi had already accepted the wager, Yu Chen still felt that something was off. She considered the matter from Long Qi's perspective: how would he go about turning this situation into a victory? Despite spending a lot of time thinking about the options, Yu Chen felt that it was impossible for

Long Qi to come out on top. After all, no one aside from the three Guan brothers knew of the true reason for them making the bet, as no one knew that there was a monster in Red Orchard City.

This was an inescapable trap unless Long Qi possessed the strength needed to defeat the monster, but that was impossible. After all, that monster had the strength of an Envoy.

The Guan brothers had hidden their attack. Long Qi might want to break the game, and he might be able to ask a powerhouse for help, but it would be his loss even if he managed to stay alive.

No matter what Yu Chen considered, the outcome was already determined.

Yu Chen dismissed her thoughts of Long Qi. The matter was already settled, so she needed to move on to the next important task: recruiting powerhouses to accompany the Junior Progenitor to the Dominion Realm.

The Young ancestors had to be accompanied by those of the same generation, as this was a rule set in place by Progenitors. Unfortunately, this meant that very few people qualified to join the Junior Progenitors, and there were only two such qualified people in the entire Celestial Frost Sect.

Even though the Yinshan District bordered Huaiyuan, the Middle Realm was simply too vast, and it took seven days to travel between the two Humility's Gate gates, even when a person used a mount.

A call came in from Long Xi while Lu Yin was traveling, but he did not answer the call. After all, he would just be yelled at if he spoke to the woman.

Off in the distance, Lu Yin could see rivers that formed rings in the sky that swirled around and connected the ground to the sky. There were landmasses, cities, and even a military in those islands. They were also the site of Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate.

Even after Lu Yin saw the Huaiyuan Gate, it still took him another half a day to arrive at Humility's Gate's local Gate.

Lu Yin did not get too close to the Huaiyuan Gate, and instead stopped in a distant city. He was already close enough.

He had never actually considered entering the Gate himself to search for the evidence he needed. After all, it was Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate. Even if the three Guan brothers were currently absent, Lu Yin would not have an easy time trying to enter the Gate, and he would never be able to access the place where the evidence proving the Guan brothers to be Redbacks could be found.

The three Guan brothers had long been extremely careful. Despite the many years that they had led one of Humility's Gate's Gates, they had never been revealed as Redbacks, so they clearly were quite capable.

Lu Yin was not naive enough to expect that simply gaining access to Guan Yun's memories would be sufficient evidence for such an accusation.

However, Lu Yin did not actually need any evidence, as he already had what he needed.

He raised a hand, and a scarlet eye with a slitted pupil appeared in it. This was the evidence he needed.

Lu Yin had found out from Guan Yun's memories that humanity faced the same enemy in the Perennial World as they did in the Fifth Mainland. In both places, humanity faced zombies. Also, there was a common symbol that represented the zombies: a scarlet eye with a slitted pupil.

Only Redbacks would be given the scarlet eyes. It was proof of their identity, as well as a means to communicate with humanity's enemy.

The Guan brothers had hidden their scarlet eyes in the most protected place within Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate. Lu Yin knew exactly where the eyes were, but they were somewhere he could not reach. Fortunately for him, he already had more than one scarlet eye.

Lu Yin actually had two of the eyes. He had gotten one from Silver back on Earth, while he had picked up the second from Wu Shang, who had tried to kill Ming Yan on Shenwu Continent. Also, Lu Yin had the stone table with the image of the scarlet eye on it. He had plenty for what he needed.

The three Guan brothers were just too unlucky.

Lu Yin was in no hurry for the time being. If he immediately pulled out his evidence, even a fool would know there was something wrong with it.

Was there any chance that the Guan brothers would have anything that could reveal them as Redbacks in an easily accessible place?

Lu Yin quietly stayed in the city closest to Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate for five days.

Over in the distant Red Orchard City, Unseen Light kept a fake Lu Yin company as they wandered around the city. Zhuo Si had helped to keep Lu Yin's absence hidden, so not even Guan Tong had realized that the Lu Yin they were seeing was fake.

However, Guan Hai gradually realized that something was wrong. The 'Lu Yin' he was observing was too calm, and also behaved a bit strange. Not once during his time in Red Orchard City had his facial expressions changed, and that was impossible.

It was impossible to change subconscious habits. Guan Hai had investigated the places where Lu Yin had been in the Yinshan Mountains, and found that the person he had investigated was completely different from the 'Lu Yin' wandering about Red Orchard City.

The man immediately moved to block 'Lu Yin' and Unseen Light.

"You are not Long Qi!" Guan Hai barked as he stared at 'Lu Yin.'

'Lu Yin' remained as calm as ever.

Unseen Light frowned. This was a problem.

Zhuo Si suddenly appeared and placed himself in front of 'Lu Yin.' "Guan Hai, there's still time before the conclusion of the bet, so what are you doing? Are you trying to take back your wager?"

Guan Hai stared at Zhuo Si and sneered. "That is not Long Qi! You've brought out a fake Long Qi for this bet! The real Long Qi might have already escaped long ago."

Zhuo Si Li shouted back, "Guan Hai, I show your elder brother respect for his position as Humility's Gate's gate master in Huaiyuan, but I'm losing my patience! Don't overstep yourself!"

At this moment, Guan Tong, Guan Yun, and Yuhua Mavis arrived. "Second brother, what's going on?"

Guan Hai whispered to Guan Tong.

Guan Tong smiled and directed his attention to Zhuo Si. "Gate Master Zhuo, there's no need to bother hiding anything. This fake is a fake and is not the real person. But don't worry, I won't force the matter about the person being real or fake. After all, you'll have to explain the matter to me when the time runs out."

Guan Tong actually preferred if Lu Yin had escaped, as that would save him the need to argue the matter with the supervisor of the nine gates. Even though this would not have Long Qi die in Red Orchard City, this option would still fulfill Yu Chen's goals, so the brothers' objectives would be achieved.

As for Red Orchard City, it could remain the brothers' hidden option. Long Qi running was a better result than they had hoped for, as they would not do anything that might offend the White Dragon Clan itself.

Zhuo Si did not lose his calm after it was revealed that Lu Yin was absent. His goal had always been to keep the Guan brothers in Red Orchard City, and he had done just that.

The Guan brothers had questioned Lu Yin's ability to find and arrest traitors, and in doing so, they had hoped to lead Long Qi over to Red Orchard City where they could arrange his death. However, Lu Yin had taken advantage of this situation to keep the brothers away in Red Orchard City so that he could move about in Huaiyuan.

Both sides were trying to out-maneuver each other, but Lu Yin had a distinct advantage. After all, his die's Possession ability had allowed him to literally get inside his opponent's mind, which allowed him near omniscience and omnipotence.

At this time, Lu Yin called Zhuo Si from where he was outside of Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate.

Zhuo Si looked down as his communication crystals vibrated, and his eyes lit up as he connected to the call. Lu Yin's image appeared before everyone. Everything was put out in the open.

Guan Tong sneered, "Sure enough, this one's a fake."

Lu Yin looked over at Guan Tong. "Gate Master Guan, you certainly are cruel enough."

Guan Tong felt puzzled. "What do you mean by that? You dare show yourself after escaping? If I were in your shoes, I'd stay hidden for the rest of my life and make sure that no one would ever find me."

Lu Yin looked helpless. "While this junior did have that desire, I had to consider humanity, and so I could not just escape."

He lifted a hand and brought out a scarlet eye.

Everyone momentarily felt a cold wind hit their backs as they dumbly stared at the scarlet eye.

Members of Humility's Gate were all familiar with this sight, as it was the symbol of humanity's worst enemy, and was also the sign of a Redback.

The three Guan brothers were utterly shocked at seeing Lu Yin holding a scarlet eye. Could Long Qi be a Redback? No, that was impossible. If he was a Redback, he would never deliberately reveal himself. However, if Long Qi was not a Redback, then where had he gotten that eye?

"Gate Master Guan, you three Guan brothers have betrayed mankind! What do you have to say for yourself? This eye was found in Humility's Gate's gate here in Huaiyuan!" Lu Yin shouted loudly, and his voice echoed through the area.

Zhuo Si locked cold eyes onto Guan Tong.

Guan Tong's scalp had gone numb. Even if he were beaten to death, he still would never be able to imagine Long Qi claiming that the scarlet eye belonged to the brothers. While it was true that they had such scarlet eyes, they were hidden in a place that could never be found. Guan Hai spoke up and shouted back at Lu Yin, "Long Qi, how dare you try to slander us! My big brother is one of Humility's Gate's gate masters, so how could he possibly be a Redback? Are you trying to make a joke of Humility's Gate's screening processes?"

Guan Yun roared, "Long Qi, you're asking to die!"

Lu Yin replied in a cold voice, "This insignia was found in Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate. Gate Master Si, please contact the Middle Realm's supervisor and arrest those three. Now that there is conclusive evidence, they can't deny the truth."

Zhuo Si immediately moved to call Qing Chen.

The three Guan brothers all looked at each other. They felt confused and torn. They could not figure out what to do. If they did nothing and allowed Zhuo Si to call the supervisor and it was discovered that they were all Redbacks, they would all die. However, was it really irrefutable proof? What if Long Qi was trying to trick them? What if that insignia he held was fake? If they reacted now they would be exposed for real.

At this time, even the normally calm Guan Hai was in a state of complete shock and did not know how to respond to this development.

Though he had hesitated for a moment, Zhuo Si had already contacted Qing Chen and delivered Lu Yin's information to the supervisor of Humility's Gate's nine gates in the Middle Realm.

Qing Chen was flabbergasted at the news. He had already known that there was a Redback hidden very deep inside Humility's Gate, but he had never considered that it might be one of the nine gate masters. His instinctive reaction was that such a thing was impossible, but it was also impossible to lie about such a thing.

Also, Long Qi had been the one to obtain the evidence, and that made Qing Chen remember the unknown hand that had provided Long Qi with a list of traitors.

This was news that shocked everyone.

No matter what, I need to go to the Huaiyuan Gate and investigate this matter for myself. Qing Chen did not hesitate to think further, and he stepped into the void and disappeared.

Back in Red Orchard City, Zhuo Si dismissed everyone else and remained alone to confront the three Guan brothers. Zhuo Si had a stern expression. "The evidence is concrete, so I will be taking you all in."

Guan Tong shouted back, "I am Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan gate master! How could I be a Redback? Zhuo Si, how dare you work with that Long Qi to ruin us!"

The truth was that Zhuo Si was very hesitant at this moment. Given Long Qi's strength, there was almost no chance of him being able to enter the Huaiyuan Gate to retrieve the needed evidence. However, the White Dragon Clan was also behind Long Qi, and the White Dragon Clan would never allow Long Qi to make baseless accusations against the three Guan brothers. Such an incident would be a terrible scandal that would humiliate the White Dragon Clan. In the end, Zhuo Si placed his faith in the White Dragon Clan, not Long Qi.

All Redbacks are hidden exceptionally well. Back then, there was a Redback who managed to infiltrate the top of the four ruling powers, so what's so impossible about you three being Redbacks?" Zhuo Si challenged.

Guan Tong was furious. "Fine! You're a survivor of the Lu family, not only did you not hide your sorry asses, you dare accuse us of being Redbacks. You're seeking death!"

The Envoy's body disappeared. Across from him, Zhuo Si's eyes had filled with killing intent as he heard Guan Tong's words and remembered the past. Zhuo Si waved a hand and slashed straight through the void.

A massive spatial tear split all of Red Orchard City, and Guan Tong was instantly blasted back, stunned. "You..."

Zhuo Si had revealed a level of strength that had far exceeded Guan Tong's expectations. Guan Tong was an Envoy with a power level of more than 600,000, but Zhuo Si definitely surpassed a power level of 700,000! Everyone had been certain that Zhuo Si was an Envoy who had just barely surpassed a power level of 500,000.

"We all underestimated a bastard child like you!" Guan Tong shouted, and Guan Hai leaped into the air behind his big brother. The middle brother waved a hand down from up high, and the void condensed into streams, and the compressed space formed an indescribable attack that shot down towards Zhuo Si.

Zhuo Si dodged.

The attack smashed into the ground and shattered the earth. The attack continued deep underground, tearing the terrain apart.

Chapter 1383: Supervisor Of The Nine Gates

Zhuo Si's palm was covered with a dim luminescence. He stared at Guan Tong, and Zhuo Si's eyes swept over his opponent's body before ultimately locking onto Guan Tong's right shoulder. Guan Tong was horrified; Zhuo Si had actually seen through Guan Tong and found the location of his stellar energy vortex.

Just when Zhuo Si was about to attack, an unbearable cry was heard from beneath the ground. It sounded like nails on a chalkboard, and it caused all of the buildings in Red Orchard City to shatter. Countless people covered their ears as they fell to the ground, trembling.

Everyone looked down.

Unseen Light frowned, and he felt a sense of cold from beneath his feet. He felt a sense of danger threatening his life.

Yuhua Mavis shot off into the distance, as she felt like there was a monster beneath her feet.

As the bizarre cry echoed out, a creature rose into the sky that looked like an earthworm that was larger than all of Red Orchard City. It formed a black line that connected the sky to the ground, and it released its strange cry. The sound echoed in all directions, and it pushed at the void and created ripples that spread out.

The thing was even stronger than Zhuo Si, and it clearly had a power level higher than 700,000. Where had this monster come from?

The three Guan brothers looked at each other. They had clearly underestimated the monster, as it was much stronger than the three of them.

The monster's body twisted and it lashed out, reducing half of Red Orchard City to ruins. Zhuo Si quickly took action. If the beast was allowed to continue moving about, the millions of people in Red Orchard City would die without even being buried.

The monster shrieked at Zhuo Si, and Zhuo Si was forced to retreat. "Guan Tong, if you want to remove all suspicions on you, then you first need to help deal with this monster."

"Brother, the storage room in the Huaiyuan Gate is not somewhere Long Qi can access. Even if the entire Gate is destroyed, I am absolutely certain that Long Qi never stepped foot in that place. That insignia he pulled out isn't enough to ruin us." Guan Hai had regained his calm, and he quickly reasoned some things out.

Guan Tong immediately jumped up. "Let's deal with this monster."

"Wait, Big Brother!" Guan Hai stopped Guan Tong from moving towards the monster. "You need to get back to our Gate and destroy those things so that the supervisor can't find anything when he tries to search."

Guan Tong came to his senses as though waking from a dream. He then turned around and immediately made his way towards Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate.

Zhuo Si wanted to stop Guan Tong from leaving, but the monster was in his path. Zhuo Si was not able to get past the monster without great difficulties, and then there was also Guan Hai.

"Gate Master Zhuo, I, Guan Hai, will help you."

"Guan Tong wants to get rid of the evidence?"

"You still want to try to frame us? You're screwed once Supervisor Qing Chen finds out that you and Long Qi tried to ruin us brothers!"

Zhuo Si's expression grew solemn, but he still teamed up with Guan Hai to deal with the monster.

Guan Yun had already retreated far away, as he was not strong enough to be able to have anything to do with a battle at this level. Yuhua Mavis stood behind him, but he could not see anyone from the Yinshan District anywhere in Red Orchard City.

Guan Tong raced back towards the Huaiyuan Gate.

At the same time, Supervisor Qing Chen was also making his way towards Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate.

At this same time, Lu Yin was simply waiting outside the Gate.

It took several days to travel from Red Orchard City to Huaiyuan with the mounts provided by Humility's Gate, but Envoys could make the trip in just a few hours. This was because they were able to freely travel through the void.

Although Guan Tong had been much closer to the Gate, Qing Chen was a Semi-Progenitor, and his speed could not compare to Guan Tong's. In the end, the supervisor arrived at the Huaiyuan Gate one step ahead of Guan Tong.

Lu Yin had seen an image of Qing Chen, so he immediately showed himself when Qing Chen arrived.

This was also Qing Chen's first time seeing Lu Yin.

"Long Qi, captain in Humility's Gate's Yinshan District, greets the supervisor." Lu Yin gave a respectful bow.

Everyone stationed inside Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate also noticed Qing Chen arriving, and they all bowed as well. "We greet the supervisor."

Qing Chen waved a hand and asked the members of Humility's Gate in Huaiyuan to step back. He then landed on the ground and looked at Lu Yin with a serious expression. "Are you Long Qi?"

"Yes, this subordinate is Long Qi," Lu Yin replied.

Qing Chen looked at the youth. "Show me what you find."

Lu Yin immediately handed Qing Chen the scarlet eye with the slitted pupil. Because of accessing Guan Yun's memory, Lu Yin was absolutely certain that the scarlet vertical eye was the insignia of a Redback in this universe.

Qing Chen stared at the scarlet eye in his hands, and a matchless killing intent flashed through his eyes. This thing was the real deal. It was authentic.

Guan Tong finally arrived at this moment, and his heart sank when he saw that Qing Chen had already arrived. He quickly landed on the ground and saluted the supervisor, "Huaiyuan Gate Master Guan Tong greets the supervisor."

Qing Chen stared at the man with cold eyes and lifted the scarlet eye. "Is this yours?"

Guan Tong replied in a low growl that was filled with his anger, "Supervisor, Long Qi is trying to ruin us! That does not belong to this subordinate."

Qing Chen looked back at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin calmly explained, "Supervisor, this subordinate managed to find this insignia in this Humility's Gate Gate in a secret room that no one other than the gate master and his brothers are even aware of. If the supervisor has any doubts, this subordinate can lead you there to see for yourself."

Guan Tong's eyes looked dazed and uncertain. He instantly thought of a certain location, but that was impossible. How could this child know about that place? It was impossible for even the White Dragon Clan to find it.

Qing Chen glanced at Guan Tong before gently agreeing, "Then lead the way."

Lu Yin immediately began walking. Qing Chen stayed next to Lu Yin, and Guan Tong followed behind the two.

Qing Chen was not at all worried that Guan Tong might try to escape, as it was impossible to even dream of escaping from a Semi-Progenitor. Even if it was an expert with a power level of more than a million, they still would not be able to escape Qing Chen.

Lu Yin was not able to sense Qing Chen's power, but had already guessed that the supervisor could not be any weaker than Arch-Elder Zen, Highsage Grandmaster, and the other Semi-Progenitors he had met. Those people stood at the top of the Fifth Mainland, and yet one of their peers only qualified to be the supervisor of Humility's Gate's nine Gates in the Middle Realm in the Perennial World.

The Perennial World was stronger than the Fifth Mainland, and it was not by just a single level.

There were some rivers that surrounded Humility's Gate's Huaiyuan Gate. Each one looked small from a distance, but they connected the earth to the sky, and once they were approached, a person would realize that each of the rivers was larger than a sea and was filled with inhabited islands, cities, and strange aquatic creatures that lived in the water.

Anytime the three Guan brothers had needed to discuss matters that could not be overheard, they would go through a passage that was on the other side of one of these islands.

Once Lu Yin led the two older men to the particular island, Guan Tong went completely pale. Lu Yin entered the water, but Guan Tong was powerless to do anything at all. Unconsciously, his eyes started to dart about.

Qing Chen was able to see this change, and a terrifying cold light appeared in the depths of the Semi-Progenitor's eyes.

It did not take long for Lu Yin to lead Qing Chen and Guan Tong under the island to a channel that led up into the island from the water.

Guan Tong's pupils shrank to pinpricks, and he whirled around, hoping to flee, but was instantly caught by Qing Chen. "Gate Master Tong, where are you wanting to go?"

Guan Tong had been grabbed hold of like a chicken, and he was completely unable to resist.

Lu Yin took a deep breath and entered the tunnel that led into the island. They came upon a rather luxurious building, and on the floor, there was a scarlet eye with a slitted pupil, as well as a great deal of information that Guan Tong had gathered.

Lu Yin did not even look at the information, but Qing Chen did, and what he saw caused his face to turn ashen. "Alright, I really never expected for one of the Middle Realm's nine gate masters to be a Redback. This is absurd! It's absolutely ridiculous, and it's an embarrassment."

Guan Tong's legs had gone weak, and his face had turned utterly white. Everything was over. It was completely finished.

Qing Chen cleared away all of the evidence. "Let's go to Red Orchard City."

With that, he grabbed Guan Tong with one hand and Lu Yin with the other before instantly tearing through the void and disappearing.

This is not Lu Yin's first time being carried through the void by a powerhouse who exceeded the realm of an Envoy.

When Lu Yin next opened his eyes, he was already just outside Red Orchard City. Qing Chen's speed could not compare with what Guan Tong was capable of, and the distance had been covered in just the blink of an eye.

Red Orchard City had been reduced to ruins long ago, despite Zhuo Si cooperating with Guan Hai to fight the monster.

The monster seemed to sense something the moment that Qing Chen arrived, and it dove into the ground in fear.

Qing Chen frowned. "A mere beast."

He raised a hand and pressed down. The monster that looked like a giant earthworm released a mournful wail as its body rotted away one layer at a time until it completely disappeared.

Everyone went silent. The moment that a Semi-Progenitor moved, their invincible power left everyone watching breathless.

Guan Tong was smashed to the ground, his meridians completely destroyed. Even more importantly, his right shoulder had been shattered. An Envoy's critical stellar energy vortex had leaked away, and he had been left a cripple.

Guan Yun shouted "Big Brother!" the moment he saw Guan Tong's miserable appearance, and he rushed over.

In contrast, Guan Hai made the exact opposite decision, and tried to flee away from the city.

Unfortunately for Guan Hai, escape was impossible. Qing Chen casually wagged a finger, and Guan Hai's right leg was severed and his stellar energy vortex was dispersed, just as Guan Tong had suffered.

Guan Yun was not as lucky as his brothers, and Qing Chen simply smashed the Enlighter and left him as a puddle of blood.

Lu Yin felt this death was a pity, as he had wanted to raid more of Guan Yun's memories to see what could be learned about the Lu family. Lu Yin felt that he could have learned a great deal about the Perennial World from Guan Yun's memories, but unfortunately, that option had already been lost.

"This one is Zhuo Si, the gate master of Humility's Gate in the Yinshan District. I greet the Supervisor." Zhuo Si stepped forward and respectfully introduced himself as he bowed. The moment he had seen Guan Tong's state, Zhuo Si had known that his bet had paid off. The White Dragon Clan had not let him down.

All of the other members of Humility's Gate greeted the supervisor as one.

Qing Chen nodded, and then glanced to see the state of Red Orchard City. He sighed. A monster had appeared, and hundreds of thousands of the city's residents had died. Such an incident was not uncommon, for even though there were many powerhouses in the Perennial World, there were also many powerful monsters and the Progenitors could not simply take care of all of them. The environment frequently could not survive the damage it was subjected to.

Qing Chen had been around for countless years, and he had seen far more tragic sights. This was a small incident.

A wave of the supervisor's hand moved Guan Hai over next to Guan Tong. Both of the surviving brothers were in terrible condition.

Qing Chen spoke in a light tone, "Since everyone is now here, do you have anything else to say?"

Guan Tong's face was still ashen. The evidence had been found and verified. There was nothing more to say.

On the other hand, Guan Hai still could not accept his situation. He glared at Lu Yin. "Supervisor, it's true that us three brothers are all Redbacks. Since this has been discovered, I know we'll all die, but I can't just accept this!"

Qing Chen looked at Guan Hai. "What do you mean?"

Guan Hai suppressed the pain from his injuries and gritted his teeth to explain. "The insignia that Long Qi gave you does not belong to us three brothers."

Qing Chen looked over at Lu Yin, as did Zhuo Si and everyone else.

Lu Yin had not expected Guan Hai would try to drag Lu Yin into trouble even when facing death, but fortunately, Lu Yin had a solution after a thought. Guan Yun was already dead, so Lu Yin did not need to worry about anyone proving him wrong. "You're right, that insignia didn't belong to you or your older brother. It belonged to your third brother, Guan Yun."

"What did you say?" Guan Hai was momentarily stunned, but then grew angry. "You still want to lie about my brother? I have no complaints about our fate. We turned to the enemy for help; we were blind. Still, I can't let you frame people! We three brothers are one unit, and we only had the one insignia, so where did the second one come from? We only ever had one!"

Lu Yin spoke with brimming confidence, "Guan Hai, did you really even know Guan Yun?"

Chapter 1384: Stubborn To The End

"Are you trying to say you knew him better than me?" Guan Hai scoffed.

Lu Yin smiled and replied, "I don't know about that, but while Guan Yun seemed rude and rash, he was actually thorough and cautious. He hid the second insignia in—" Lu Yin whispered the name of a certain place.

Upon hearing the name, Guan Hai acted as though he had been struck by lightning. Lu Yin had mentioned a place that only the three brothers had ever known about. There was nothing there and it was a useless place, except for the fact that the brothers had decided to use it as a place to flee to in the event they were ever discovered as Redbacks. It was their plan for the worst future, though they had never even had the opportunity to use the hideaway. They had not thought to hide before everything had been revealed, let alone the possibility of Guan Yun hiding a second insignia in that place.

Still, Guan Hai had no choice but to believe Lu Yin, given that he knew of a location that only the three brothers had ever known about.

Guan Tong closed his eyes. He had had nothing to say at all from the moment the evidence had been discovered.

"Even if you did manage to find where our third brother hid the insignia, how were you ever able to find the hiding place in the Gate? It's impossible you did that on your own." Guan Hai still could not accept his situation, and he just wanted to drag Lu Yin down with him. At this moment, all of Guan Hai's hatred had been put onto Lu Yin, as there was no way the brothers would have suffered such a miserable downfall without Lu Yin.

Lu Yin laughed. "You really don't give up! Alright, since you're so stubborn, I'll tell you."

He waved a hand. "Come on."

Yuhua Mavis stepped forward from nearby. She walked over next to Lu Yin and bowed to Qing Chen. "Yu Hua, of the Huaiyuan Humility's Gate, greets the supervisor."

Even an idiot would understand that Yuhua Mavis had worked with Lu Yin when they saw this.

Guan Hai's eyes went wide as he stared at Yuhua Mavis in disbelief. "Yu Hua, you- you betrayed us?"

Yuhua Mavis frowned. "I'm a human, so how could I be loyal to Redbacks like you?"

"Well said," Zhuo Si praised.

Guan Hai became so enraged that his blood backed up in his heart. He spat out a mouthful of blood and nearly passed out.

Learning of Yuhua Mavis's betrayal had made Guan Hai irrational, and so he never even considered how the girl might have found their hidden location. Lu Yin had not actually answered Guan Hai's question directly, but no one was going to press the issue. Everyone was aware of Long Qi's accomplishments, and they all knew that there was someone supporting him.

Qing Chen appraised Long Qi. This child had purposely agreed to a bet with the three Guan brothers in order to keep them in Red Orchard City and away from Huaiyuan so that he could retrieve the insignia that Guan Yun had hidden. Long Qi had searched for evidence, and by doing so, he had thrown the three Guan brothers into the abyss. Long Qi had been in control of the entire situation from the start, and he had led the Guan brothers by their noses.

Such scheming was not bad, but the most important matter was just how had Long Qi managed to discover where Guan Yun had hidden the insignia?

Qing Chen had his own suspicions, and so did everyone else who was listening; all of them assumed that the White Dragon Clan was supporting Long Qi. After all, everything he had accomplished were matters that only one of the four ruling powers could possibly pull off, such as the White Dragon Clan.

As far as everyone was concerned, Lu Yin was nothing more than the White Dragon Clan's puppet.

Was it possible that this was the accomplishments that Long Tian intended to give to Long Qi? Qing Chen considered this possibility, but instantly dismissed it. Long Tian had not even seemed to know of Long Qi's wager with the Guan brothers. Long Tian had only wanted to arrange for his brother-in-law to retire from Humility's Gate a bit quicker, but arranging for Long Qi to capture Redbacks was too much. How could anyone give up credit for such an achievement to this child.

Qing Chen had too many questions regarding what had happened, but it was not yet time to start digging into things.

Long Qi had arranged for Redbacks to be captured, which was a massive accomplishment. It could even be said that Long Qi had surpassed the record set by Shu Yuan. If Long Tian again addressed the matter of allowing Long Qi to retire from Humility's Gate, Qing Chen would not be able to refuse.

Long Qi had gathered a tremendous number of accomplishments in the very brief time since he had joined Humility's Gate. No matter who was behind Long Qi's achievements, the fact was that everything had been done to the benefit of Humility's Gate and the entire human race. Qing Chen did not want Long Qi to retire so soon.

There was an old man off in the distance who was quietly watching events unfold. He was the old servant Long Tian had ordered to retrieve Lu Yin. The old man had borne witness to an incredible scene when he had arrived, and he stared at Lu Yin with pure amazement.

The old man was completely confident that the White Dragon Clan had not been behind anything that Long Qi had accomplished, so who had been? Was there another power behind this youth? Was it an unknown player? The Junior Progenitor was very wary of an unseen hand interfering in matters, as it was impossible to know if this mysterious power was friend or foe.

Also, even though Long Qi had clearly been helped by an unknown force to uncover the truth about the Guan brothers, it was still true that he had handled the brothers and cooperated with Zhuo Si to get the supervisor involved. These were things that could be accredited to Long Qi and no one else. This showed a decent ability, and there was nothing to be ashamed of.

As the old man was lost in thought, Qing Chen's eyes swept over to the old servant.

The servant slowly bowed.

Qing Chen looked away and focused back on Lu Yin. He praised the youth, "Long Qi, you revealed the three Guan brothers as Redbacks, which is a tremendous benefit for Humility's Gate. After I go back and consider this matter, you will be given appropriate rewards. For the moment, you can return to the Yinshan Mountains to wait."

Lu Yin replied in a respectful tone, "This subordinate only wishes to serve Humility's Gate, and I don't need any credit. I simply wish to do what I can for Humility's Gate and resist the foreign enemies."

Yuhua Mavis rolled her eyes. This guy was still disgusting.

Zhuo Si pursed his lips. This was going overboard.

Unseen Light's brows rose up.

Qing Chen's eyes lit up. "You wish to do what you can for Humility's Gate? You want to help humanity?"

Lu Yin was accustomed to making such flowery phrases, and so he replied out of reflex, "This subordinate will never give up!"

"Hahaha, well said! My Humility's Gate doesn't have enough motivated youths like you. Well, after I go back and consider the matter, I'll assign you a new task that will definitely satisfy your desires." With that, Qing Chen immediately left with Guan Tong and Guan Hai.

Lu Yin felt taken aback; why had Qing Chen looked so happy? Wait, had Lu Yin said something wrong? He thought about it, but his response seemed perfectly normal!

Zhuo Si gave Lu Yin a strange look. "Long Qi, don't you want to retire?"

Lu Yin suddenly remembered his situation; damn, he had forgotten! Long Xi had told Lu Yin that he would be able to retire from Humility's Gate after making some contributions. While his earlier achievements had likely not been enough to warrant an early retirement, this latest matter had been too much. If Long Tian spoke up, it might even be possible for Lu Yin to immediately retire from Humility's Gate, but his words to the supervisor had closed that door. Qing Chen would refuse to let Long Qi go from Humility's Gate no matter what Long Tian said.

Lu Yin licked his lips. He felt rather speechless; he had spoken too quickly.

"Serves you right," Yuhua Mavis mocked.

Unseen Light smiled. "This is interesting."

Lu Yin was helpless. He suddenly thought of something terrible: he had accepted the wager without Long Xi's knowledge. Once she learned that Lu Yin had managed to block his own retirement, Lu Yin could not even imagine the woman's anger. Lu Yin thought of Guan Hai and then Mo Gaohe. Had Lu Yin developed a stronger ability to infuriate people?

"Let's head back to the Yinshan District. Other people will come to handle things here in Red Orchard City," Zhuo Si said.

Lu Yin looked over at Yuhua Mavis. "You can't go back to Humility's Gate in Huaiyuan, so why don't you go with us to the Yinshan District?"

Yuhua Mavis nodded. "Okay."

Unseen Light smiled as he commented, "The Wang family invited me to meet their Junior Progenitor, Wang Su."

Yuhua Mavis' eyes flashed. "Looks like you're a step ahead of the rest of us."

"Not necessarily," Lu Yin interjected. "Fatty invited Unseen Light just because he was strong enough to fight you. If you come back with us, you might get invited as well."

Yuhua Mavis's eyes lit up.

Unseen Light thought for a bit. "That should work; the two of us will be able to take care of each other. It's said that even the Junior Progenitors are at risk of dying in that place."

The trip to the Dominion Realm was the goal of everyone from ZENITH's top ten. They had all come to the Perennial World to travel to the Dominion Realm in order to find something called Origin Matter.

This was their most important goal.

Lu Yin felt that he was the one furthest from the opportunity that everyone was chasing. Everyone else was allowed to reveal the strength in order to reach the Dominion Realm, but what about him?

No, he had to find a way to reach the Dominion Realm. Strength was still the foundation of everything, and Lu Yin could not forget his roots.

...

A great deal of time had passed since the last time such a major event had rocked Humility's Gate. One of the nine gate masters in the Middle Realm was actually a Redback! This news left countless people feeling like they were hearing a story, despite the information being true.

This matter was a slap in the face to Humility's Gate in the Middle Realm, as well as the entire organization.

After it was discovered that the three Guan brothers were Redbacks who had infiltrated Humility's Gate, the supervisor was absolutely furious and he ordered an internal investigation throughout the entire organization. Everyone, no matter if they were a gate master, a captain, or a grunt, they all needed to be investigated so that the entire Humility's Gate could be proven clean.

Naturally, the name Long Qi spread throughout Humility's Gate.

In the Higher Realm, the Celestial Frost Sect's Yu Chen had cut all lines of contact she had had with the three Guan brothers. After that, she studied the information in front of her, in particular, she went over the details of the events from the moments leading up to the wager being agreed upon, up to when Guan Tong and Guan Hai had been taken away by Qing Chen. .

The more Yu Chen read, the more wary she became.

If an ordinary person discovered that the Guan brothers were Redbacks, it would be a challenge to expose them, and yet Long Qi had taken advantage of a bet to reveal the brothers' true colors. This was not a simple scheme, as there was much more to it that could be readily seen.

It seemed that Yu Chen would need a long-term plan in order to deal with Long Qi.

However, Long Qi had accomplished something massive, and the White Dragon Clan had clearly not paid a small price for this matter, so Long Qi would soon be able to retire from Humility's Gate.

This thought put a bit of a frown on Yu Chen's face. Things would become quite tricky once Long Qi retired from Humility's Gate.

"For the moment, there's no need to even think about the White Dragon Clan. The trip to the Dominion Realm is fast approaching, and though there's no problem with me going, I still need some people who can handle certain matters for me. Find me two companions as soon as possible." A gentle voice spoke from behind Yu Chen.

Yu Chen gave a small bow. "Yes, Junior Progenitor."

Lu Yin felt a change after returning to the Yinshan District, particularly the way that the people around him looked at him. He could see caution, vigilance, envy, and many combinations of emotions that he had never seen before. These people all saw themselves as being ignorant in the past.

Lu Yin could only imagine how big of a commotion this incident would raise within Humility's Gate, and it was certain that many people would start to put eyes on him.

The fatty had been waiting outside the Yinshan District Gate for a long time. As soon as Lu Yin and the others returned, the fatty was ready to drag Unseen Light to the Higher Realm, and he was clearly excited.

"My Junior Progenitor wants to see you, so let's hurry up!" the fatty said anxiously.

Unseen Light turned to Lu Yin. "Then I'm leaving."

Lu Yin nodded.

Finally, the fatty saw Yuhua Mavis, and he asked, "What's she doing here?"

Unseen Light smiled. "She's the one who found where the Guan brothers hid the evidence Brother Long used. That's also why she can't go back to Humility's Gate in Huaiyuan."

The fatty stared at Yuhua Mavis, clearly thinking about something.

"Brother Wang, should we go?" Unseen Light pressed.

The fatty asked Yuhua Mavis, "Would you like to go visit the Wang family with me and meet our Junior Progenitor?"

As he spoke, he quickly turned to Unseen Light, and said, "Brother, don't worry about her. We need several people, so there's no risk of her replacing you."

"I don't mind at all," Unseen Light reassured the fatty.

Chapter 1385: The Fourteenth Gate

Yuhua Mavis felt curious. "What's this all about?"

The fatty did not know how to explain the matter. The Dominion Realm was not common knowledge, and not many people were allowed to know about it. If things did not work out, then Unseen Light and Yuhua Mavis might not qualify to know about the Dominion Realm, either.

"Regardless, the Wang family is one of the four ruling powers, and they would never treat you badly," Lu Yin spoke up.

Yuhua Mavis nodded.

The fatty shot a grateful look towards Lu Yin. "Bro, I'm going to take them to the Wang family home, and it'll be a while before they come back. Bro, you need to work hard while we're gone! Also, make sure you visit Inner Scent; I'll cover your tab!"

Lu Yin smiled. "Thanks."

"Haha, who are we?" The fatty was very happy. His Junior Progenitor Wang Su had ordered the entire Wang family to find powerful youths who might qualify to travel with Wang Su to the Dominion Realm, and the fatty had found two at the same time! This would get him a great deal of credit with the Wang Su, so the fatty was thrilled.

The fatty quickly left the Yinshan Mountains with Unseen Light and Yuhua Mavis, and the three made their way towards the Higher Realm.

Lu Yin returned to his quarters, and waited there quietly.

Less than half an hour passed when his communication crystals vibrated. He felt helpless; he had been dreading this unavoidable moment.

Long Xi's beautiful image appeared in front of Lu Yin, but her expression was cold and fury filled her eyes. "Anything you want to say?"

Lu Yin pursed his lips. "I'm sorry, but I didn't have any choice."

Long Xi chided, "Do you have any idea what you just did? That was playing with fire! You actually had the guts to go up against Humility's Gate's gate master for Huaiyuan while still being nothing but a puny Hunter? You had no idea where that information came from, or if it was valid, and yet you still went ahead and accepted their bet! Where did you get that confidence from! Don't you know, if you had failed, it wouldn't only have been you, but also me, Long Tian, and the entire White Dragon Clan would have been treated as the biggest joke in the Perennial World!"

"The four ruling powers have never been at peace with each other, and we constantly fight and plot against each other. You almost became my White Dragon Clan's greatest weakness..."

Lu Yin rubbed his temples as he listened to Long Xi's lecture. He had known that the woman would be upset, but he had not expected her to be completely furious.

"How dare you not answer when I call! You think you can act however you want just because you picked up a few achievements? Do you expect everyone to just help you? If it weren't for your status as the son-in-law of the White Dragon Clan's main family, I can't even count how many times you would have already died!" Long Xi raged.

Lu Yin frowned. "If I didn't have this status, no one would even bother trying to go after me."

"You promised to accept this identity, and you now have to suffer the consequences! You and I are now one for this life, and will face life and death together. If you want to survive, then listen to me!" Long Xi shouted.

Lu Yin retorted, "Can you stop Yu Chen woman from moving against me? Could you have stopped the Guan brothers from working against me?"

"I can keep you alive!" Long Xi shouted sharply. Suddenly, her voice grew much softer, "Enough. I never asked you to earn glory for my White Dragon Clan, and I don't ask you to reach any specific level of power. It's enough as long as you stay alive."

Lu Yin's heart trembled. Long Xi's words made him feel a bit of warmth. How many people were there who simply wanted Lu Yin to survive, no matter what he did or accomplished? Lu Yin could feel Long Xi's honesty that she merely wanted him alive, not to rise to power.

"I'm sorry," Lu Yin apologized.

Long Xi stared at Lu Yin for a moment, then let out a long breath. "The three Guan brothers had to have known about that monster that was under Red Orchard City, and they tried to lure you there not because they wanted to win any bet, but because they wanted to use that monster to eliminate you. They were willing to sacrifice the lives of millions of people living in Red Orchard City to do so. Do you understand what that means?"

Lu Yin shook his head.

Long Xi frowned and solemnly stated, "Humanity."

Lu Yin's expression changed.

Long Xi continued, "Anyone who turns to those monsters has no humanity left, especially Redbacks. Did you think that you could seize the initiative from those Redback brothers? That's just wrong. They have forsaken their humanity, and thus will do anything to reach their goals. One wrong step on your part would have led to your death, even if your information was true. This is ignoring the fact that you had no way to know whether or not the intel you had received was accurate.

"If you had received the information from Yu Chen, then everything you could possibly come up with would have been for nothing, and not only would you have had your reputation ruined, you would also be dead.

"I just hope you don't act so recklessly in the future. Everything you do and say doesn't only represent you, but also me. You need to remember that I am your wife. Yesterday, today, and tomorrow. This will always be the case."

Lu Yin nodded. "I understand."

Long Xi had finally finished venting. She chose to believe in Long Qi's sincerity when she saw his nod, though she was not sure why. Still, the more honest Long Qi was about his mistake, the more uncomfortable it left Long Xi. He had to retire from Humility's Gate right away. Long Xi was most worried about where Long Qi had received his information, but it was disturbing to know that there was an unknown player with unseen motives. Could they simply want to help Long Qi?

How could that be possible? Long Qi was just a descendant of a branch family of the White Dragon Clan, so who would be willing to help him so much? If they wanted to help the White Dragon Clan itself, then why did they not simply reach out to Long Xi or even Long Tian instead?

An unknown provider of information left Long Xi terribly uncomfortable.

"Long Qi, I'm going to say this for the last time: stay at Humility's Gate's Yinshan District Gate and don't leave, not even if Zhuo Si gives you an order! You've already done enough to earn the right to retire, and my big brother has already reached out to the supervisor. Just stay there and wait for Elder Long Kui to pick you up and bring you back," Long Xi was solemn as she delivered instructions.

Lu Yin was taken aback. "Elder Long Kui's coming to get me?"

Long Xi's eyes narrowed. "He's on his way and will be there soon. You are not allowed to leave that Gate no matter what until Elder Long Kui arrives!"

Lu Yin was left speechless. It looked like Long Xi was scared for Lu Yin, and so she had sent Elder Long Kui to protect him. Even if Lu Yin did not retire from Humility's Gate, it seemed likely that Elder Long Kui would remain nearby to keep an eye on Lu Yin from outside in order to prevent him from even leaving the Gate!

Did Long Xi really have so little trust in Lu Yin?

Wait, what had she just said? Long Tian had already called Supervisor Qing Chen? Lu Yin suddenly felt a pang of guilt. "Cough, um, I've got a bit of a stomach ache, so if that's everything, I'm going to go rest and wait for Elder Long Kui to show up. I'm feeling tired, so don't bother calling for a bit. I'll call you soon."

Long Xi stared at Lu Yin. She clearly felt that something was wrong, and Lu Yin's innocent expression only aggravated that suspicion, but Long Xi could not pick anything specific out. "If you're pretending to be honest and sneak out again, then I'll make sure that you suffer the worst torment and pain imaginable when you get back to White Mountain."

"Yes, yes, yes!" Lu Yin just wanted to get away from this conversation as quickly as possible.

Long Xi gave a cold snort before ending the call.

Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief before purposely tossing his communication crystals away from him. For some reason, he was scared to see Long Xi again. Her nagging had terrified him.

At the same time that Lu Yin was talking to Long Xi, Long Tian had gotten in touch with Humility's Gate's Middle Realm Supervisor, Qing Chen.

Long Tian felt confused when he saw Qing Chen's helpless expression. "What is that supposed to mean? He only wishes to serve Humility's Gate, and doesn't need any credit. He simply wishes to do what he can for Humility's Gate and resist the foreign enemies?"

Qing Chen nodded and said in an admiring tone, "The White Dragon Clan deserves its place as one of the four ruling powers, and yet one of your clan members from a branch family is willing to sacrifice himself to protect and serve humanity! This old man really admires such commitment."

Long Tian was stunned. "Senior, Long Qi is only a Hunter; how could he be able to do anything? Is there some sort of a misunderstanding?"

Qing Chen grew solemn. "You underestimate Long Qi too much. He exposed the three Guan brothers as Redbacks and demonstrated his insight and courage. Even more commendable, he's willing to dedicate his life to serving humanity. He deserves respect and admiration. He's only been with Humility's Gate for two months, and yet his accomplishments have already surpassed the previous record holder, Shu Yuan."

Long Tian suddenly interrupted, "With that, this junior believes-"

"Needless to say, this old man is well aware that such services deserve a comparable reward, and I have already reported this matter to the Commander, and he is quite impressed. He has ordered that Long Qi will join the Fourteenth Gate. He said that such talent should not be confined to just one Domain. What do you think?" Qing Chen said.

Long Tian was shocked. "The Fourteenth Gate?"

Qing Chen nodded. "That is what the governor intends. Long Qi is a child who has an innate gift of being able to see through people, and so he is perfectly suited to working in the Fourteenth Gate and patrol the Perennial world on behalf of the Commander. What a blessing this is."

Blessing my ass! That kid has half a damn of talent! Despite Long Tian's impressive self-restraint, he still nearly swore aloud. Long Qi had received his information from an outside source, which was why Long Tian wanted his brother-in-law out of Humility's Gate. He had not expected such a turn of events to occur.

The Fourteenth Gate was not like the Yinshan District, Huaiyuan, or any of the other Gates belonging to Humility's Gate. It was difficult to retire from the Fourteenth Gate, unless, of course, one failed to accomplish their assignment and was expelled, and that would be a humiliation.

Even with Long Tian's identity as a Junior Progenitor, it was impossible for him to be able to get Long Qi out of the Fourteenth Gate. That kid was nothing but trouble, and far too many problems. It was already too late to do anything.

"Senior, has Long Qi already joined the Fourteenth Gate? It wouldn't happen so fast, right?" Long Tian could not believe what he was being told.

Qing Chen replied, "It's already been done. Would I lie to you?"

Long Tian knew that Qing Chen would not lie about such a thing, but that was even more upsetting. "Senior, since this is how things are, I will hang up first."

Qing Chen nodded. After Long Tian ended the call, a smile slowly appeared on Qing Chen's face. He did not care how Long Qi had managed to expose the Guan brothers as Redbacks, or where he had gotten his information. Eliminating Redbacks was something that only benefited humanity, no matter where the Redback might be. As for the matter between the Celestial Frost Sect and the White Dragon Clan, none of that had anything to do with Humility's Gate.

Long Qi had already demonstrated that he was qualified to enter the Fourteenth Gate, and since he was also a suitable candidate, it was enough.

Also, Qing Chen favored Long Qi. The child had been dealing with the Celestial Frost Sect's schemes, and yet had possessed the courage to fight back. This was a sign of a person who was both bold and cautious, and Qing Chen appreciated such people. Also, having Long Qi enter the Fourteenth Gate could be seen as another form of protection for the youth.

The Commander himself cared for the people in the Fourteenth Gate, and thus anyone who moved against those members of Humility's Gate would die. As long as Long Qi was able to stay in the Fourteenth Gate, he would have the protection of the Commander, and that would mean that not even the Celestial Frost Sect would be able to touch the child.

This was also a somewhat selfish move on Qing Chen's part, but he felt that it could be considered part of Long Qi's reward.

Retire and live a relaxed life while forever remaining ordinary? It would be better to just die!

"Child, I hope you don't let this old man down," Qing Chen muttered to himself.

Back in the Yinshan District Gate, Lu Yin's communication crystals vibrated, and he glanced at it. Huh? Not a call from Long Xi?

He connected to the call, and a line of text appeared: 'Long Qi, Humility's Gate captain in the Yinshan District, has been assigned to the Fourteenth Gate. He is to arrest at least ten traitors each year, and is to protect the Perennial World and the Mother Tree for the sake of the human race. He is ordered to report to the sword monument, and will be assigned further tasks after his arrival.'

'Fourteenth Gate Master, Xiao'

Chapter 1386: Observing The Sword Monument

Lu Yin's eyes went wide. The Fourteenth Gate? What was that?

Lu Yin knew Humility's Gate had nine bases in the Middle Realm, and four in the Higher Realm, which meant there were thirteen Gates. However, there was also a fourteenth Gate, which was rather mysterious. The Fourteenth Gate did not have a defined location, but instead the members of this base were given jurisdiction over the entire Perennial World. This group alone caught as many traitors and Redbacks as the other thirteen Gates combined. The Fourteenth Gate consisted of Humility's Gate's most elite and secretive forces.

Lu Yin had not even considered that he might be transferred over to the Fourteenth Gate.

Joining the Fourteenth Gate meant that difficult assignments would be given. For starters, the bare minimum required of each person in the Fourteenth Gate was to arrest ten traitors a year. There were rumors that the Fourteenth Gate was responsible for more than 10,000 arrests every year, but no one knew if that was true or not.

Still, while more was expected from members of the Fourteenth Gate, they were also given incredible authority. They had the authorization to arrest and interrogate anyone in any part of the Perennial World. They were given this authority by the Commander of Humility's Gate, who had also founded the organization and was regarded as their patriarch.

Joining the Fourteenth Gate meant receiving the protection of the Progenitor who supported the entire Humility's Gate. Lu Yin would never need to worry about the Celestial Frost Sect's scheming.

Lu Yin had not expected to be transferred to the Fourteenth Gate. Apparently his true identity was completely safe.

As Lu Yin was thinking about this development, his communication crystals vibrated again. He glanced at it and swallowed hard; Long Xi was calling.

He questioned for a moment whether or not to answer. This was a dilemma.

His communication crystals vibrated for a long time, and it was clear that Long Xi was not taking no for an answer.

Lu Yin felt as though he could already see Long Xi's angry face through the vibrating communication crystals. No, he could not answer. Absolutely not. The woman was already furious.

He removed his communication crystals and threw it aside and let it continue vibrating.

The entire night passed, and the stone did not vibrate continuously, but there were frequent attempts to reach Lu Yin. The next morning, Lu Yin felt that Long Xi's anger should have burned low, so when the communication crystals vibrated next, he answered.

Long Xi's image appeared.

Lu Yin stared and blinked at the image. The woman appeared to be quite calm.

Long Xi quietly stared at Lu Yin. "What else haven't you told me?"

Lu Yin felt confused. "What are you talking about?"

Long Xi carefully chose each word, "When I asked you how you managed to arrest the traitors in Yinshan City, you stayed quiet about the bet you had already made with the Guan brothers. When I asked you about that bet, you kept quiet about speaking with Humility's Gate's Middle Realm Supervisor. Now, I'm asking you about what you said to him, and I'm also asking if there's anything else you've been hiding from me?"

Lu Yin swallowed. "It's really not like that. I wasn't trying to hide this from you, but I just haven't had a chance to say anything yet."

"Tell me!" Long Xi shouted as she stared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin coughed. "Well, I got transferred over to Humility's Gate's Fourteenth Gate, and was also ordered to immediately go see the Sword Monument. Apparently my reward for what I just did is to observe the Sword Monument."

Long Xi closed her eyes in frustration. It was true, Long Qi really had been sent to the Fourteenth Gate. Long Tian had already told Long Xi about this, but she had not believed it to be true.

While it was true that Long Qi would be protected while in the Fourteenth Gate, it was not a mountain resort where people were sent to be kept safe out of sight. How had Lu Yin arrested the traitors, and how had he found out about the Guan brothers all being Redbacks? All of this information had come from an unknown source, and once that source disappeared, how would Long Qi be able to complete the tasks he would be given by the Fourteenth Gate? At best, he would be kicked out and treated as a joke.

However, that was the least of the problems. While the Fourteenth Gate protected its people, such protection came at a price, and the price was steep. Everyone who joined the Fourteenth Gate was known by their true name, and naturally they were constantly watched by countless people. Making a mistake when part of the Fourteenth Gate was not a small matter.

Long Xi's heart kept sinking further and further. From the moment she had first heard that Long Qi had joined the Fourteenth Gate, the best ending she could imagine was seeing him kicked out and being treated as a joke, which would reflect upon the White Dragon Clan, and the entire clan would be humiliated. This was even the best outcome she could imagine.

"Do you know about the Sword Monument?" Long Xi had nothing else to say. She greatly regretted sending Long Qi to the Yinshan Mountains. She should have kept him locked away in White Mountain where he could not go anywhere, but it was already too late. She had realized her mistake too late, and everything that Lu Yin had accomplished had come from that unknown source of information. Just who was behind everything?

Lu Yin shook his head and replied honestly, "All I know is what Elder Long Kui told the two of us, so I don't know any details."

When Long Xi and Lu Yin had been returning from the Lower Realm, they had seen Zhang Dingtian, and at that time, Elder Long Kui had mentioned the sword monument and the legendary ancient Progenitor, Wu Tian.

Long Xi looked at Lu Yin. "There's no need to worry much about those legends, as there's no evidence to support them. All you need to know about the Sword Monument is that everyone who faces it has a chance of receiving some sort of inheritance, but that's merely theoretical. The Liu family has protected the monument for countless years, and yet only a few of their descendants have ever managed to gain anything from the monument. Still, simply due to the sheer number of people who observe the Sword Monument, the number of successes adds up.

"There aren't that many people who are allowed to study the Sword Monument. Even the four ruling powers don't have many youths who are allowed to study the monument, as a price has to be paid for each person given permission. One of the privileges enjoyed by members of the Fourteenth Gate is to be

able to study the Sword Monument. This is something that Humility's Gate's governor agreed to with the Liu family, and this is also one of the reasons that many people try to join the Fourteenth Gate.

"This is a great opportunity for you, and while it's best if you manage to get something from your time there, don't get upset if you leave with nothing."

"Have you gone?" Lu Yin asked.

Long Xi's brows rose. "Not yet."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed; not yet? So that meant that Long Xi was able to go, but simply had not done so yet. Long Tian had been willing to help Lu Yin because it meant that Long Xi would join the Junior Progenitor in the Dominion Realm. That meant that Long Tian also was hoping for Long Xi to increase her own strength, and the Sword Monument might have been one of the means he had provided.

"The Liu family doesn't have much respect for the four ruling powers, and is even a bit hostile towards us, so I've asked Elder Long Kui to accompany you to the Sword Monument. After you study the Sword Monument, leave immediately. I'll find a way for you to get into the Higher Realm and to the peak of Dragon Mountain. Until then, try not to go anywhere, even if the Fourteenth Gate gives you a mission. Make sure you run everything by Elder Long Kui, understand?" Long Xi solemnly cautioned Lu Yin.

Lu Yin nodded. "I got it."

He showed his most honest face.

The more Long Xi saw this expression on Long Qi's face, the more anxious she became. The moment she hung up with Long Qi, Long Xi immediately called Elder Long Kui and begged him to get to the Yinshan Mountains as soon as possible. She was afraid of Lu Yin acting up once again.

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The clouds in the sky shot by. Lu Yin was sitting on Gui's back behind Elder Long Kui.

The elder had arrived in the Yinshan District two days before, and had collected Lu Yin without saying a single word. Zhuo Si seemed to already know something about the situation and had not said much.

Lu Yin had only been in the Yinshan Mountains for two months, and yet the entire place had been turned upside down during that time. Mo Gaohe had been expelled from Humility's Gate, and the fatty had returned to the Wang family.

While it appeared from the outside like Lu Yin had been the one to gain the most from this time, he was actually the most nervous out of everyone.

Elder Long Kui appeared to be calm, and he escorted Lu Yin in a certain direction.

Two days passed with Lu Yin not having the courage to speak a single word to the Envoy.

Previously, Lu Yin had made the journey from White Mountain to the Bifrost, and had passed over a great deal of the Middle Realm, but had not paid attention to it, as they had been traveling too quickly. However, this time he was heading towards the Sword Monument, and they were moving much slower

than before, so Lu Yin was able to look around as they flew through the sky. In many regions of the Middle Realm, he saw a great number of wars being fought.

There would be conflict anywhere there were people, and so war was very common. However, the number of wars in this part of the Middle Realm in the Perennial World was far more than the number of interstellar wars Lu Yin had observed in the Fifth Mainland.

The Fifth Mainland's Outerverse had only a few Enlighters, and they averaged less than one per weave. The Innerverse had only a few experts with power levels that exceeded 300,000, and even in the Neoverse, there were not many cultivators with power levels of more than 400,000. It was incomparable to this universe.

In the Middle Realm, almost every war that Lu Yin observed had Enlighters taking part, and many of them had power levels of 300 to 400,000. Fortunately, space in this universe was very stable, and not even Lu Yin was able to tear through the void. If space were any more fragile, this entire place would have long been destroyed.

Many wars paused when Gui passed by, and the mount's passing drew the attention of several powerful experts who were Envoys, and each one of them left Lu Yin's scalp numb.

Gui suddenly stopped his flight and looked off into the distance; his two heads pushed against each other, and the creature seemed rather cautious.

Elder Long Kui still looked calm as he stared at a certain empty place in the sky.

Lu Yin felt that something was not quite right. After a moment's thought, he pulled out his upgraded gemspring water and put a drop in his eyes. His vision expanded, and the universe that he saw changed. He peered into another place, and in the dim void, he saw countless microscopic creatures, as well as a man looking over from far away with fierce eyes.

The man was shocked the moment he looked at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin quickly bowed his head. This man was an Envoy, and he was standing in the true universe, which was where Envoy's fought.

The man emerged from the void and stared at Gui, Long Kui, and Lu Yin.

Long Kui calmly observed the man. "Get out of our way."

Gui roared out a warning in time with Long Kui's order.

The man's expression slightly changed, and he quickly moved to the side. He had only just broken through to the Envoy realm, so there was no way that he would dare pick a fight with Long Kui. The man had no chance of victory.

It did not take any thought to know that someone had to have a powerful background in order to be able to use a mount with the strength of an Envoy.

Long Kui did not care about the man. Gui roared at the Envoy once more before quickly and arrogantly continuing on his way.

The man continued to stare at Lu Yin in shock. How could a mere Hunter have observed an Envoy when they were in the true universe? Could it have been some trick?

Just as Gui was passing by the Envoy, Long Kui suddenly turned his head to look at a certain point in the sky. The Envoy they were passing also stopped and turned to look at the same point in the sky as Long Kui.

Lu Yin whirled around to look as well.

There was a strange pattern in the sky, and the Envoy looked shocked the moment he saw that pattern. "No! I don't want to go to the Star Alliance! I won't go!"

Even as he spoke, he stepped forward and disappeared into the void.

The gemspring water could improve Lu Yin's sight for only a minute, and so it was still active. Lu Yin was able to see the man flee into the true universe, and also see a massive hand reach down into the void and drag the man into the pattern in the sky. Instantly, the pattern disappeared.

Lu Yin was stunned, What the hell?

"Let's go," Long Kui casually said. Gui continued on his way and fled into the distance at a speed that was incomparable to his early speed. It seemed the beast was afraid.

Lu Yin felt intrigued. "Elder, what was that person talking about? The Star Alliance? What is that?"

This was something that he had not found any mention of when reviewing Guan Yun's memories, but Guan Yun had lived for many years, and his memories were like an ocean to Lu Yin's perception. He had only been able to review a very small portion of the memories, and it would have been impossible to have learned anything at all about Red Orchard City without being able to filter through the memories of those Lu Yin Possessed.

Chapter 1387: Missions and Rewards

Long Kui answered in a light tone, "You'll find out when you need to, but it's nothing you'll ever need to know about."

Lu Yin was left speechless. That was such bullshit! This old man clearly hated Lu Yin.

"I told you before to keep some distance from Zhuo Si," Long Kui continued.

Lu Yin then understood the situation. No wonder this old man had been in such a bad mood since they had met, it was because of this matter. "I didn't get close to Gate Master Zhuo."

"Then why was he willing to help you hide that you were never in Red Orchard City? Zhuo Si is lazy, and he does not involve himself in the affairs of others, and yet he helped you. Clearly, you two do not have a normal relationship," Long Kui said.

Lu Yin felt helpless. "I really don't know him well at all. I only spoke with him a few times even in the Gate. Maybe he wanted to get some contributions?"

Long Kui sneered. "He wouldn't want any such thing."

The elder then stopped talking.

Lu Yin did not try to speak with Long Kui again. It was clear that Long Kui had no wish to interact with Lu Yin, so Lu Yin intended to keep his distance. Regardless, Long Kui would certainly do his best to protect Lu Yin and prevent any accidents.

Several more days passed. One day, as night was turning to day, a huge stone tablet entered Lu Yin's vision and drew his full attention.

While it seemed to be a perfectly ordinary piece of stone, for some reason, when Lu Yin looked at it, he felt as though time began to slow. It was as though he was able to observe the vicissitudes of the ancient past and heard whispers from ancestors long past. This stone tablet was like a monument to the passing of the years that led to the past, present and future.

"That is the Sword Monument. We've arrived," Long Kui said. He was also staring off into the distance, and there were complicated emotions in his eyes, though he was also quite excited. Every cultivator in the entire Perennial World hoped to be able to observe the Sword Monument and have the opportunity to receive an ancient inheritance. The Sword Monument clearly was an opportunity, but the Liu family made it so that few people ever received the opportunity.

The moment Lu Yin saw the Sword Monument, his communication crystals vibrated. He connected to the call, only for a line of text to appear: "Mission target: Liu Ke. Suspected traitor. To be arrested."

Lu Yin was terrified. He looked around. He had only just laid eyes on the Sword Monument, so how did the Fourteenth Gate know he had arrived to give him an assignment?

Liu Ke was a member of the Liu family. So, Lu Yin had not only been given a reward with this trip, but also a task. No wonder he had been given such a wonderful bit of compensation.

Lu Yin started to consider the situation. He had made a habit of trying to think things through more thoroughly, and it had allowed him to resolve many hidden dangers.

He intended to do the same at this time.

Everyone in the Perennial World wished to receive the opportunity to observe the Sword Monument, and Lu Yin did not believe that all of the members of the Fourteenth Gate received such an opportunity. Even if Humility's Gate was supported by a Progenitor, each of the four ruling powers also had Progenitors behind them, and members of the four ruling powers only rarely received the opportunity to observe the Sword Monument.

However, Lu Yin had been given such an opportunity the moment he had joined the Fourteenth Gate, and this was after he had been tangled up in the conflict between the White Dragon Clan and the Celestial Frost Sect. This did not seem quite right. Even if it was framed as a reward for exposing the Guan brothers as Redbacks, Lu Yin still felt that something was off.

Either the Gate Master of the Fourteenth Gate favored the White Dragon Clan and was deliberately helping Lu Yin, or he had been given this particular task because no one in the Fourteenth Gate was willing to accept it. If the second possibility proved true, things were going to be troublesome.

If the second possibility was true, then Lu Yin would prefer to miss out on this opportunity than arrest Liu Ke, as it would not be an easy task and it would be easy for him to fail his assignment.

As Lu Yin was lost in thought, various flying mounts began to occasionally pass them by. There were also many people traveling across the ground in the same direction as those flying in the sky. There were even more people kneeling on the ground and murmuring something while facing the direction of the Sword Monument.

"The Liu family is a massive family that dominates an entire region. They stand second only to the four ruling powers. It is important that you be sincere when observing the Sword Monument. Do not be rude, and do not offend the Liu family," Long Kui reminded Lu Yin.

Lu Yin felt a headache sprout; he was supposed to not offend the Liu family? How was that supposed to be possible? The Fourteenth Gate clearly had people in this place, and Lu Yin had no idea what to expect should he fail his first assignment. If he ended up being kicked out of the Fourteenth Gate, it would be a shame.

Wait a minute, could this be part of Yu Chen's scheming? Could the Fourteenth Gate's Gate Master be setting up Lu Yin? No, that should not be the case. After all, Supervisor Qing Chen had been the one to transfer Lu Yin to the Fourteenth Gate, and after thinking about the situation for a moment, how could Yu Chen be able to reach into the Fourteenth Gate?

Outsiders were not allowed within a certain distance of the Sword Monument without permission. Only those who received the Liu family's permission were allowed to approach the shrine, but that did not mean that a person could observe the Sword Monument, as one needed to be within ten meters of the Sword Monument in order to possibly gain anything from it.

"No one is allowed to draw closer without the Liu family's permission, and I'm no exception. You will have to proceed from here on your own," Long Kui said. Gui's massive size had drawn the attention of the Liu family long ago, and time to time powerful auras swept by, and even Lu Yin had felt their presence. There were more than a single Envoy in this location. Given that this was where the Sword Monument stood, it was certain that there were overwhelmingly powerful experts nearby.

Gui flew in place high in the sky.

Lu Yin descended on his own, and smashed into the ground. A line of people spread out before him, forming what looked like a long dragon. This was the security team that was responsible for filtering out the countless people attempting to visit the Sword Monument.

"Who approaches?" A voice entered Lu Yin's ears.

Lu Yin bowed in the direction of the Sword Monument. "Junior Long Qi was ordered to this place to observe the Sword Monument."

The voice went silent for a moment, and then answered "Wait."

The tone of voice did not sound very good.

Lu Yin frowned. This reaction confirmed what he had suspected; his assignment would not be an easy one to complete. Regardless, he intended to try to observe the Sword Monument first.

There were countless people lined up to visit the Sword Monument, and where Lu Yin stood, the stone was not even visible. He was actually not even close to the Sword Monument.

Cultivators who acted as guards occasionally passed by, and Lu Yin noticed more than one Enlightener.

Off in the distance, he could see mountains, rivers, cities, and plains. He stared at the landscape and observed the region. The area directly surrounding the Sword Monument seemed inhospitable for life, and the area not only seemed rather ordinary, it was quite bad. The city in the distance had been abandoned, so where did the Liu family live?

There were so many people, yet the atmosphere was strangely calm. It felt as though everyone was unwilling to even speak, or was it that they did not feel it appropriate to speak? Were they all so respectful?

Lu Yin looked back towards the Sword Monument and thought about the Daynight clan's ancestral stone plaque. These sorts of items generally became the base of a family's spiritual beliefs. Who would not want such a thing? These items were able to improve the strength of people, as well as becoming a source of faith.

After Lu Yin waited for about an hour, a figure approached from the distance. "Are you Long Qi?"

Lu Yin turned his to look, and was surprised at who he saw: Zhang Dingtian?

Zhang Dingtian ran over, and he smiled when he saw Lu Yin. "Are you Long Qi?"

Lu Yin nodded and smiled as he replied, "I am Long Qi. Might I ask who you might be?"

"I'm Zhang Dingtian. I was told to take Brother Long to observe the Sword Monument," Zhang Dingtian said.

Many nearby people heard these words, and they looked at Lu Yin with envy. Few outsiders were given the opportunity to observe the Sword Monument. Even when people did receive the opportunity, they would have to pay an exorbitant price. Few outsiders from the entire Perennial World were ever able to observe the Sword Monument.

"In that case, please lead the way, Brother Zhang."

"Please."

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"The Liu family in the Middle Realm is one of the most powerful families. We don't have many clan members, just a few tens of thousands. All of them can be found around the Sword Monument. Every day they rise and go to sleep while observing the Sword Monument. The arrangement has been maintained in ancient tribal form, so the closer to the Sword Monument to go, the more of the Liu family members you'll meet." Zhang Dingtian shared information about the area and the family with Lu Yin, who listened quietly.

"Typically, people are only able to observe the Sword Monument from 100,000 miles away. Can Brother Long see that line over there?" Zhang Dingtian pointed to a distant point on the ground where a seemingly bottomless ravine split the earth.

"That line divides the inside and the outside, and only those with special permission are allowed within 100,000 miles of the shrine. Once we cross that line, we can speak to each other normally," Zhang Dingtian said.

Lu Yin looked over. "It's been a long time, Brother Zhang."

Zhang Dingtian sighed emotionally. "I never expected to see you here. I'm going to keep calling you Long Qi, as the character that makes your surname is something that can't be spoken in this universe."

Lu Yin grew curious. "Why? It's just another primeval surname."

Zhang Dingtian shook his head. "I don't actually know, either. All I know is that anything to do with that particular surname is connected to some secret of the four ruling powers. All I've learned over the years is that that name can't be spoken, but no one has ever shared the reason with me."

Lu Yin felt this was regretful. "Where's Bai Xue?"

"She headed up to the Higher Realm. Might be in the Celestial Frost Sect," Zhang Dingtian said.

Lu Yin sighed. "I never thought that Jupiter would be a passageway. I had believed there were a group of people staying in isolation inside there."

"This universe does seem quite isolated when compared with the Human Domain, but do you know what the people here call the universe we come from?" Zhang Dingtian looked over at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's voice dropped low, "The Forsaken Land."

Zhang Dingtian nodded. "It's an abandoned place. You, me, Bai Xue, and everyone who made it into Jupiter in the past are considered trespassers in this universe. I don't know about whether the Primeval Surname Alliance is here, but I've never met anyone from it here."

Lu Yin said, "Neither have I."

"It's pretty obvious that the son-in-law of the White Dragon Clan's main family is caught up in the conflict between the four ruling powers. You really can't stay quiet anywhere you go." Zhang Dingtian laughed.

Lu Yin felt speechless. "What are you up to? How did the Liu family end up accepting you?"

Zhang Dingtian said, "I happened to rescue someone from the Liu family, and then ended up being accepted as Master Yijian's disciple, which gave me a foothold into the Liu family."

"Don't you use a saber? How did Master Yijian end up accepting you as a disciple?"

"It's almost the same as a sword."

"There's a pretty big difference, no?" Lu Yin did not know how to react.

Lu Yin felt that Zhang Dingtian seemed much more cheerful compared to how he had been in the Fifth Mainland. It was as if he had set down some of his burdens.

"How is Earth?" Zhang Dingtian asked.

Lu Yin said, "It's really good."

"That's good. I'll never be able to go back." Zhang Dingtian looked up at the Sword Monument with a complicated light in his eyes.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "That might not be the case."

Zhang Dingtian was caught off guard. "You know how to go back?"

"Not yet, but I know someone who does," Lu Yin said. Naturally, he was referring to Wang Yi. That man had been able to visit the Fifth Mainland to fight in ZENITH, so he naturally had a way to travel back and forth between the two places. Also, Unseen Light had a way to return home.

The two men drew closer and closer to the Sword Monument, and Lu Yin and Zhang Dingtian chatted the whole way, and their entire conversation was about the Fifth Mainland, as Zhang Dingtian was very interested in what had happened there.

"Speaking of which, you were actually able to get an opportunity to observe the Sword Monument. There aren't even many people in the White Dragon Clan are able to get that chance," Zhang Dingtian commented.

When this was brought up, Lu Yin felt the need to ask, "Does the Liu family have some sort of grudge with Humility's Gate?"

Chapter 1388: The Woman With The Liu Surname

Zhang Dingtian shook his head. "Of course not. Humility's Gate is a pillar of humanity that works to catch traitors to humanity. If anyone's offended by Humility's Gate, they must be a traitor."

Lu Yin was surprised, as when he had first arrived, the voice of the person who had spoken to him was clearly unhappy with him, and Lu Yin thought he had heard disgust.

"However, there is a bit of resentment towards Humility's Gate's Fourteenth Gate," Zhang Dingtian continued.

Lu Yin was caught off guard. "Towards the Fourteenth Gate?"

Zhang Dingtian nodded. "A long time ago, the Fourteenth Gate arrested one of the Liu family's direct descendants. They were interrogated, but it was finally proven that the man was innocent. However, that man eventually committed suicide as he couldn't endure the humiliation and hatred he suffered. That's why the entire Liu family hates the Fourteenth Gate."

When he reached this point in his story, Zhang Dingtian suddenly reacted to something, and he looked at Lu Yin in surprise. "You wouldn't be...?"

Lu Yin nodded with a wry smile. "I'm from the Fourteenth Gate."

Zhang Dingtian was speechless. "Now I understand why you're allowed to observe the Sword Monument; it's not because you're from the White Dragon Clan."

"Tell me, if I try to arrest someone from the Liu family while I'm here, would I be able to pull it off?" Lu Yin asked.

Zhang Dingtian answered without the slightest hesitation, "That's impossible. After that incident, the Liu family declared that any family member who was considered suspicious has to be interrogated by the Liu family itself, and not even Humility's Gate is allowed to interfere. This was said by the Liu family ancestor, and I'm talking about an actual Progenitor,¹ not just some ancestor."

Lu Yin's heart fell. Sure enough, his assignment was going to be a difficult one. If the Liu family was insisting on conducting any and all interrogations on their family members, it would be better for Humility's Gate to investigate the matter in secret. There was no way Humility's Gate would ever trust the results of an interrogation carried out by a person's own family members.

Despite what had been said by the Liu family's Progenitor, even if the Liu Family's Progenitor had made such a declaration because a descendant had been wronged, he was playing dirty. Humility's Gate had their own Progenitor, and there would be no compromise. Lu Yin's mission was clearly intended to be a statement that Humility's Gate still intended to prosecute the members of the Liu family. However, issuing an arrest warrant was one thing, and actually arresting the suspected traitor was an entirely different matter.

No wonder he had been given such an excessive reward; they had already prepared an insurmountable task for him. Any bit of carelessness on Lu Yin's part could draw the attention of the Liu family's ancestors and Progenitor or Progenitors into stepping forward. Just thinking about the possibility was enough for Lu Yin's scalp to go numb. The Fourteenth Gate would not let Lu Yin bear the wrath of the Liu Family's Progenitor on his own, would they?

Lu Yin's assignment had been given to him by the commander of the Fourteenth Gate himself, and Lu Yin was currently assuming the identity of the son-in-law of the White Dragon Clan's main family. It appeared that the intention of this mission was to use the status of both the White Dragon Clan, and Humility's Gate. If Lu Yin did end up successfully capturing Liu Ke, the entire Liu family would not express hostility towards Lu Yin, as it would not be worth it.

"Even if you end up failing your mission, you absolutely can't even suggest arresting anyone from the Liu family, Brother Long. This is for your own good," Zhang Dingtian cautioned.

Before long, several people stopped Lu Yin and Zhang Dingtian from proceeding forward.

"You're Long Qi? You don't look like much. How did you get with the White Dragon Clan's princess? Come with us and let us brothers learn from you," one of the people started mocking Lu Yin as several others laughed.

Zhang Dingtian took a step forward. "Liu Meng, back down. Mr. Long was invited to observe the Sword Monument, and it was decided upon by the clan."

Liu Meng grew angry. "Zhang Dingtian, who do you think you are? How does some outsider manage to get Master Yijian as their master, let alone someone who uses a saber? I'm going to teach you a lesson!"

His hand moved, and sword light flashed as a sword stabbed at Zhang Dingtian.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered when he saw the man's attack. Just like Zhang Dingtian, this man was a Cruiser. While the man looked like a bandit, he was clearly skilled with the sword, and his attack was comparable to the Thirteen Swords' Second Sword. The moment the sword left the sheaf, a domain enveloped the area, and the environment subtly changed due to the influence of the domain. This was a level that touched the level of the Fourth Sword.

Also, this sword attack carried a strange vibration that resonated with other swords. Lu Yin had seen something similar from Toolwielder, the Realmking of the Sixth Mainland's War Martial Realm. This member of the Liu family was clearly not weak, and had a significant level of mastery of the sword.

Zhang Dingtian's eyes narrowed, and his right hand grabbed his saber as purple and red lines covered his body: eight lined battle force. There was a clanging sound, and Lu Yin's eyes snapped wide open. In front of him, half of the sword flew away and stabbed into the ground. The other half remained in Liu Meng's hand, but blood dripped onto the ground from the hilt of the sword.

The man's right arm trembled, and he finally failed to retain a hold of his weapon, and the broken sword fell to the ground. His companions stared at Zhang Dingtian in horror.

Zhang Dingtian slowly sheathed his large blade, and he also removed his eight lined battle force. "Get out of our way."

These words roused Liu Meng as though from a dream. He gritted his teeth and glared at Zhang Dingtian, clearly unwilling to accept his situation.

Zhang Dingtian stared back.

In the end, Liu Meng moved aside, and Zhang Dingtian and Lu Yin continued their walk towards the Sword Monument.

After the two left, Liu Meng's clenched right hand slowly opened, but his arm did not stop trembling. His hand had been completely shattered. It had only been one attack from that saber, and yet he had not even been able to see as the blade had been pulled from its sheath before he had been defeated.

"Brother Meng, are you alright?" one of the other people asked.

Liu Meng shouted angrily, "Go away! You're useless!"

He then turned and left without even looking at the broken sword he had left on the ground.

There were a few other people in the nearby area, but none of them dared speak. After they saw Liu Meng leave, they all glanced in the direction Lu Yin and Zhang Dingtian had gone with expressions of helplessness.

Elsewhere, Lu Yin praised his friend, "Brother Zhang, your bladework has improved from before. That was an impressive quick-draw technique you just used."

Zhang Dingtian said, "That's a technique that I got from the Sword Monument. The technique has a total of nine moves, but I've only mastered three of them. The quick-draw is the start of the entire technique, as well as one of the moves I managed to learn."

"There's a saber technique in the Sword Monument?" Lu Yin wondered.

Zhang Dingtian smiled. "The Sword Monument is just what the Liu family calls the stone. It doesn't just have sword techniques, as there are also techniques for bare-handed combat, spears, and even movement techniques. There are rumors that some people have even received sourcebox arrays from the monument. Regardless, it contains all kinds of things."

Lu Yin grew more and more curious, but then he suddenly remembered what Elder Long Kui had mentioned before about the legends of how the Sword Monument had been left behind by the mythical ancient Progenitor Wu Tian, who had developed weapon useage for humans, and that had been the inheritance he had left in the Sword Monument.

There was no proof that Progenitor Wu Tian had ever lived, but the Sword Monument had stood for countless years. If one could uncover the monument's origins, they would likely learn much about the ancient times.

For half a day, Zhang Dingtian led Lu Yin closer to the Sword Monument, and they finally arrived where the Liu family lived. Just as Zhang Dingtian had said, their living setup was something of a tribal layout, and it looked like a village.

The members of the Liu family lived in ordinary houses, and the entire place looked like a simple village, but the entire village held a terrifying sword aura that made Lu Yin's heart skip a beat.

Just a glance was enough to know a master lived here. It was clear why Long Kui had not dared enter the Liu family's territory without permission, as he could easily die.

Such a family was troublesome to cross, as they were fully united. Lu Yin understood why the Fourteenth Gate had hoped to find an opportunity to deceive the family and catch Liu Ke.

The village was arranged around the Sword Monument, but the buildings grew more sporadic and spread out the closer one moved to the Sword Monument. The Liu family's cultivators were sitting cross-legged on the ground and staring at the Sword Monument. This was where the Liu family trained.

"Every member of the Liu family is given three opportunities throughout their entire lives to observe the Sword Monument. Usually, the first time is when they are still innocent of things, as the Sword Monument can help them find the most suitable cultivation path for them to follow. Unfortunately, few people gain anything from this first observation.

"Their second opportunity comes when they become an adult, again with the hope that they will receive an inheritance from the Sword Monument. Once again, very few people get anything.

"The third chance is up to the individual. Some don't accept their failure to gain anything, and so they observe the Sword Monument twice in a row. Others leave their last chance for their old age to have a chance to proceed further after they stagnate."

Zhang Dingtian looked over at Lu Yin. "It doesn't matter who it is, everyone has a very low chance of receiving anything from observing the Sword Monument. Brother Long, good luck."

Lu Yin nodded and continued walking forward. He was focused on the Sword Monument. He had to be within ten meters of the Sword Monument in order to have a chance of receiving anything from it, and he still had a ways to go.

The Liu family had very few members when compared to other top families, but they were still not a small family. Lu Yin saw many small children as he walked, and all of them were quite talented.

Suddenly, Lu Yin's eyes grew dull and he turned to focus on a woman sitting cross-legged on the ground a thousand meters to his right; Liu Tianmu?

Zhang Dingtian looked at Lu Yin and fearfully said, "That woman got here about a month ago, and while she has the Liu surname, she's not a member of the Liu family. There are many people in the Perennial World who have the same surname, and she came from very far away. She's considered an outsider, but she has amazing talent for the sword, and she managed to draw the attention of the entire family. For now, I can't compare to her at all."

Bullshit! That's Liu Tianmu! Lu Yin said to himself. She was one of the Inverse's Ten Arbiters, and given her status, it was impossible for Zhang Dingtian to be able to easily reach the same level of strength as this woman.

At best, Zhang Dingtian was a bit stronger than Liu Shaoqiu at the moment. It was enough to put him among the best of the Sword Sect's disciples, but it was impossible for Zhang Dingtian to catch up to Liu Tianmu.

Zhang Dingtian had never known Liu Tianmu, as the Ten Arbiters' names had been kept secret. Otherwise, Zhang Dingtian would have shown a different reaction.

Lu Yin believed that Liu Tianmu had not revealed much of her strength, and nothing of the Thirteen Swords. If she had, she would not have simply drawn a bit of attention. Liu Tianmu was a talent on the same level as Wang Yi, and she could compare to the cream of the crop even within the Liu family.

When Lu Yin looked over at Liu Tianmu, she sensed something, and she looked back at Lu Yin, only to be stunned at what she saw.

Lu Yin saw Liu Tianmu react to seeing him in the exact same fashion as Unseen Light and Yuhua Mavis. Even if Liu Tianmu was typically as unruffled as calm water, Lu Yin was able to see a stupefied expression on her face for a moment right near the Sword Monument.

Lu Yin smiled at her, but did not speak. He simply continued on his way towards the Sword Monument.

Liu Tianmu decided to look for Lu Yin after he left the Sword Monument. Her mindset had been too disturbed to train. How could Lu Yin be in this place? Not only that, he had been escorted by Zhang Dingtian himself, which indicated that Lu Yin's status was something impressive. Just what was going on?

The Liu family did not protect the Sword Monument as fiercely as the Daynight clan protected their ancestral plaque. The Daynight clan perpetually had elders stationed around their stone plaque, and they looked like living fossils who stood guard over the stone.

Lu Yin looked around and saw a few scattered youths who all seemed to be focused on the Sword Monument.

"Brother Long, you'll only get a chance to receive an inheritance if you are able to advance to within ten meters from the Sword Monument. Please," Zhang Dingtian encouraged.

Lu Yin looked up at the towering Sword Monument and took a deep breath. He then slowly bowed where he stood. "This junior was given the opportunity to observe the Sword Monument. I give my respects to the seniors present who are mediating, and apologize for disturbing the seniors present. I beg for forgiveness upon the intrusion."

Lu Yin bent low with a pious expression on his face.

Zhang Dingtian stepped back and quietly watched events unfold.

There were many of the Liu family's powerhouses watching, and they softened a bit when they saw Lu Yin's behavior. While they did not have a favorable opinion of the Fourteenth Gate, Lu Yin was showing respect for the Liu family. This was not bad to see.

Lu Yin readily admitted that he would frequently put on an act, and his skills had greatly improved. The pious and reverent expression he had revealed when looking at the Sword Monument had not been directed towards the monument itself, but instead Lu Yin had pictured the Mavis Bank, and had thought of the endless resources that the bank represented.

Chapter 1389: The Sword Monument's Inheritance

Lu Yin had come to the Liu family in order to find the opportunity to capture one of their members, so it was best to start off on the best terms possible in order to avoid the worst ending.

Lu Yin only rose after enough time had passed for a full incense stick to burn. As he rose, his face appeared solemn, though a fanatic and respectful gleam had appeared in his eyes. He stepped forward and entered within ten meters of the Sword Monument. He then looked up and stared at the Sword Monument.

Far away, Long Kui was relaxing while observing the situation. The moment that Lu Yin locked eyes onto the Sword Monument, Long Kui looked away.

He assumed that there was no chance of Lu Yin gaining anything from the monument. Looking along the river of time, how many people had managed to gain anything at all from the Sword Monument?

The Liu family had hundreds of thousands of people, and that was only at present. They had protected the Sword Monument for countless generations, and they had produced countless brilliant talents. Not even Junior Progenitor Long Tian had gained even the slightest bit from the Sword Monument, so it was impossible for Long Qi to succeed.

No one believed that Lu Yin would receive an inheritance. The members of the Liu family all quietly trained around the Sword Monument, completely ignoring Lu Yin. After all, he was just passing through.

The only one paying attention to him was Liu Tianmu. She had approached from behind and was quietly watching Lu Yin from a distance. The other people in this place might not be familiar with Lu Yin, but Liu Tianmu knew him quite well. Lu Yin had a talent that would be considered anywhere he went, and most

importantly, he seemed to frequently stumble upon opportunities that others could not even imagine. Liu Tianmu had always felt that Lu Yin would raise a commotion anywhere he went.

The facts ended up proving her suspicions valid, as the Sword Monument began to glow.

Zhang Dingtian was the first person to notice that the Sword Monument had begun to glow, and his eyes flashed. So Lu Yin really had managed to receive an inheritance.

All of the nearby members of the Liu family stood up and stared at the Sword Monument in shock. It was actually glowing?

At this time, an old man emerged from the void and looked down at Lu Yin. The elder said in clear praise, "This is the good fortune of my human race."

Everyone who managed to receive an inheritance from the Sword Monument would create a commotion.

The Sword Monument released a glow that could be seen from millions of miles away, and countless people knelt down to worship.

Long Kui's mouth fell open in surprise; the kid had actually received an inheritance? Hell, not even the Junior Progenitor Long Tian had pulled that off!

Beneath the Sword Monument, Lu Yin was witnessing a strange sight at this time. While his body stood still, his mind seemed to be pulled into the monument. He saw a brilliant, broken region of space. He looked off into the endless distance, and his gaze shattered the void. He saw someone crush the past, present, and future with a single palm. He saw someone lock down a vast region with a formation. He saw a countless number of battle techniques. Each and every single thing that Lu Yin saw was shocking, but finally he saw a black scythe that slashed through the void to fall in front of him.

He was very familiar with this dark scythe. This was the weapon he had used when using the God of Death's Transformation. One slash of this scythe had killed Jin He, and had overwhelmed all of the top ten in ZENITH.

Lu Yin had not imagined that he would see that black scythe in this place.

The scythe was only about 100 meters away from Lu Yin, but even though he wanted to get closer to it, only his mind was present, and he was not able to move.

Suddenly, a dark figure began to take shape, and it raised a hand to grab the scythe. Ripples began to spread out, and it was impossible to know how far they spread.

At this same time, ripples began to spread out from the Sword Monument, radiating in all directions.

Many of the members of the Liu family looked up in shock. "The Sword Monument is actually giving off a phenomenon? Just what did that kid receive?"

Right after that, the Sword Monument suddenly went dark, as did the entire surroundings. There was a single flash of light, and it looked like someone from eons past had stepped through time and delivered this slash.

This slash caused countless people to tremble, and it drew the attention of several eyes. The slash fell from the top of the Perennial World and caused a huge commotion.

After the attack passed by, the dark sky returned to normal. However, what was different from before were the many experts from the Liu family who had appeared around the Sword Monument. In front of all of them was a hunched old man who stared at Lu Yin with a curious expression on his face.

Everyone from the Liu family stared blankly at Lu Yin's back; just what had he received? Whatever it was, it had produced a phenomenon, and the phenomenon had altered the skies for a moment.

Off in the distance, Long Kui gasped. He was no longer belittling Long Qi who was still staring at the Sword Monument. It was clear that the youth was receiving something incredible.

The area returned to a peaceful state, yet Lu Yin remained standing beneath the Sword Monument, staring at what he was being given.

Three days passed while he remained in this state.

For these three days, Lu Yin had watched the figure wield the black scythe. Not once had the figure repeated a single move. How many movements had Lu Yin seen over the course of three days? He could not even estimate it himself. How could a single weapon have so many techniques?

Lu Yin was almost in a state of shock. He was not really learning anything from this, and was only observing endless movements with a weapon. It seemed to be a process of instruction that was also an attempt to confirm something.

In the outside world, people became more and more shocked by Lu Yin.

There was no particular rule to how long it took to receive an inheritance from the Sword Monument, but most people would return to their senses immediately after receiving an inheritance. For people who were lucky enough to trigger a phenomenon from the Sword Monument, it was rare for them to take even two days to wake.

Liu Hao was the most talented member of the Liu family in the current generation, and yet he had only been occupied by the inheritance for three and a half days. The most shocking youth of the current generation had been the Celestial Frost Sect's Junior Progenitor Bai Shaohong, but it was looking like Long Qi might surpass even Bai Shaohong!

On the fourth day of being lost in the inheritance, Lu Yin noticed that the figure finally stopped wielding the black scythe. Instead, a sword appeared, which startled Lu Yin. Was there also going to be an inheritance related to the sword?

Lu Yin watched as the figure moved through a sword skill. This one clearly did not affect the outside world, yet Lu Yin inexplicably felt that this sword skill was absolutely terrifying, though he could not say why. Suddenly, the sword blade broke as Lu Yin watched. A realization flashed like lightning through his mind, and he saw that where the sword had broken coincided exactly with where the black scythe had passed during a certain move. The two images matched together perfectly.

Could these movements be a reenactment?

After the sword broke, a dagger appeared in the figure's hand, and he began to wield it as well. After a period of time, the dagger broke as well. It was then followed by a spear, a halberd, a shield, and various other weapons that Lu Yin had seen and many that he had never seen at all. However, every last one of them broke. Also, even though each of the weapons broke in a different place, each break perfectly matched to a move that had been made with the black scythe.

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. He split his mind to be able to see the movements of the scythe paired with the movements of the other weapons. This confirmed that the two were paired, and that every move matched a specific weapon. The black scythe could destroy all of these weapons.

The fourth day ended, and many people went silent around the Sword Monument. The hunched elder at the forefront showed more and more admiration for Lu Yin. "This is humanity's good luck; a blessing of the ancestors."

The fifth day started.

On this day, the figure began to move the scythe about once more. Lu Yin saw the moves clearly this time, and he focused on the scythe. These were simplified moves, and though they were repetitive, there were not many of them.

Lu Yin had already completely forgotten about everything except for the black scythe that he was staring at.

Back in the real world, the hunched elder's eyes betrayed shock for the first time; five days. This child had lasted more than five days. This surpassed all records held by the current generation. The only one who had managed to even last for five days had been that woman with incredible talent, and yet this child had surpassed her.

No one could describe the shock felt by the Liu family. They had watched far too many geniuses visit the Sword Monument, and they had also watched as many of those geniuses had accepted an inheritance. If asked, these people would claim to not be able to be surprised by anything they saw, and yet they were shocked at this moment, as they were witnessing history.

Far away, Long Kui's mouth was wide open as he blankly stared towards the Sword Monument. He was staring at someone who was believed to be a weak and useless young man. Long Kui knew that starting this moment, Long Qi would officially be watched by the great forces of the Mother Tree, all because he had just surpassed that woman's record. That woman practically ruled the Perennial World, and even the Junior Progenitors had to look up to her.

A young man approached the Sword Monument. He stepped past Liu Tianmu, and then Zhang Dingtian. He moved up to stand just behind the hunched old man, and he quietly stared at Lu Yin's back.

This young man was thin, and he had an average face. The only thing that stood out about him were his eyes, which showed a terrifying persistence. There was a coldness to his entire being, and he seemed somewhat gloomy. However, there was a heavy sword at his waist that clashed with the youth's apparent demeanor. This young man was Liu Hao, and he was the most gifted youth in the Liu family. He had already become an Enlighter, and he was confident enough to challenge even a Junior Progenitor.

The four ruling powers had their Junior Progenitors, the Liu family had the Sword Monument, and the Nong family had their Seed Garden. There were very few people who were unafraid of the Junior Progenitors, but those who were fearless hoped to eventually challenge one of the Junior Progenitors, despite having already lost during the Yuanlun Festival.

Though Liu Hao looked calm as he stared at Lu Yin's back, he was just as shocked at what was happening as everyone else. Liu Hao was someone who looked above the peak. His only targets were those four people, and yet he had just been surpassed by someone whose only claim to fame was being the son-in-law of the White Dragon Clan's main family. This person was supposed to be trash? Impossible. Could a wastrel be able to draw out an inheritance from the Sword Monument for so many days? This youth had even surpassed that woman.

Liu Hao clenched the hilt of his sword tightly as he stared at Lu Yin with a challenge in his eyes. Liu Hao was very curious about what sort of inheritance Long Qi had received from the Sword Monument.

Finally, when the sun set on the sixth day and dusk fell, Lu Yin opened his eyes. The Sword Monument returned to normal, and no further phenomenon appeared.

Lu Yin swayed and almost fell to the ground, but was picked up by a gentle force.

He turned to see many people staring at him, though the one closest person was an old man who had clearly seen the vicissitudes of time.

Lu Yin knew that the older a cultivator became, the more unfathomable they would be. He quickly bowed to the old man. "Junior Long Qi greets Senior."

The rickety old man looked at Lu Yin and smiled as he said, "Child, how do you feel?"

Lu Yin replied, "Dizzy."

"Hahaha!" The old man laughed. "It would appear that you received an incredible inheritance."

"That Long Qi, what kind of inheritance did you get? Let us see it!" someone shouted off in the distance.

"Yeah, let us have a look."

"Maybe you were unable to learn anything at all?"

"You were lost for six days! There's no way you didn't gain anything! Let us see what you got."

The old man turned, his eyes sharp. "Quiet!"

Though he spoke but one word, no one dared to make any more sounds. Instead, a young man walked out. He was young, but was already a Hunter. "Elder Song, this junior wishes to ask Brother Long Qi to trade pointers. Since we are both Hunters, this can't be seen as bullying. I ask Elder Song for his permission."

The hunched old man looked back at Lu Yin. "Child, are you willing to accept?"

Chapter 1390: Unravel

Lu Yin glanced over at Zhang Dingtian, and then Liu Tianmu before nodding. "This junior has just received an inheritance, so it would be good to practice it."

It was necessary to reveal one's strength in order to dominate the world. No one would entrust an opportunity to a piece of trash. Even if Lu Yin was a Hunter and had a powerful physique, as far as people like Long Xi and Long Tian were concerned, Lu Yin was far less than impressive.

Lu Yin hoped to gain the attention of a Junior Progenitor before they traveled up to the Dominion Realm, as Lu Yin's goal was also to visit the Dominion Realm.

He was not willing to give up on such an opportunity, and while he might need to take some risks, he had just been given an excellent excuse in the form of receiving an inheritance from the Sword Monument. This gave him a reason to show that his strength had improved by leaps and bounds.

Everyone was intrigued when they heard that Lu Yin wanted to practice the inheritance he had just received from the Sword Monument, and they all gathered around.

Soon, Lu Yin stood across from the youth from the Liu family. They were just a short distance away from the Sword Monument.

"Liu family, Liu Lu."¹

"White Dragon Clan, Long Qi."

Liu Lu stared at Lu Yin, and then his right hand slowly moved down to settle on the hilt of his sword. "Brother Long, be careful. While I haven't received anything from the Sword Monument, I have trained the Burning Heart Sword Intent that has been passed down from an ancestor who inherited it from the Sword Monument. A single sword can summon a flame within living creatures. This is a deadly technique."

Lu Yin stared back at Liu Lu. This person was not putting on any sort of act or trying to intimidate Lu Yin. There was determination in Liu Lu's eyes. Lu Yin had seen the same in Liu Shaoqiu, Zhang Dingtian, and many people he had encountered throughout his life. These eyes belonged to people who had a one-track mind and who wanted nothing more than to pursue a single path to an extreme. Of course, Lu Yin did not know how dangerous this opponent was.

"Please," Lu Yin said.

Liu Lu's eyes suddenly went wide, and his thumb flicked off of the hilt of his sword. He moved his hand to grab the sword, and then his body suddenly disappeared as he rushed towards Lu Yin at an incredible speed. Lu Yin's eyes lit up. While using extreme speed could be considered an effective tactic, unfortunately, this was not fast enough to threaten Lu Yin. Liu Lu was much slower than Wang Yi.

There was a gentle sound as Liu Lu shot through the air with his sword pointed directly at Lu Yin's shoulder.

Long Kui frowned from his distant vantage point, but did not move.

Many members of the Liu family opened their eyes wide. They had heard a little about Long Qi, and they did not believe him to be a match for Liu Lu. Also, they did not want Long Qi to be badly injured. While

the Liu family hated the Fourteenth Gate, there was a certain balance in place, and they did not want to risk an open confrontation.

Right when the sword was stabbing at Lu Yin, he moved a hand. For the first time since he had entered the Perennial World, he unleashed a Vacuum Palm.

The sword was smacked aside, and the hand struck Liu Lu's chest, sending him flipping through the air as he spat out blood.

The onlookers went silent. Most of them had not been able to see what Lu Yin had done. There were very few that understood what had just happened.

"With such a fast palm attack! It also superimposes the power of the attack, and Liu Lu couldn't see it at all."

"That's what he learned from the Sword Monument? That's amazing."

...

Liu Hao's eyes lit up from where he stood behind the stooped old man. This was a good palm technique, and its power rose as the stacks increased. It was still a bit weak, but it was already practically unbeatable by any Hunters.

Liu Lu was instantly defeated by this palm attack, and was even badly injured.

Lu Yin quickly apologized, "I'm sorry! This was the first time I used it, so I wasn't able to understand the power behind it."

Many of the youths in the Liu family instantly became eager to challenge Lu Yin, but Liu Lu was already their second most talented youth behind Liu Hao, and Liu Lu had been defeated by a single palm, so the rest of them stood no chance.

"It's just that Liu Lu's abilities are lacking when compared to those like you." Liu Hao stepped forward and walked over to take Liu Lu's place. "How about I go a round with you? I'm Liu Hao."

Lu Yin instantly became cautious when he saw Liu Hao. This person was an Enlightener, so Lu Yin needed to be careful of how much strength he revealed.

Liu Tianmu arched a brow when she saw Liu Hao walk out. She had been hiding her strength since the moment she had arrived at the Liu family, and yet despite her efforts, she had still drawn a great deal of attention. There were many people who had compared her to Liu Hao, so she had some idea of how strong the man was, even if it was only a vague impression.

She estimated Liu Hao to be at the same level of strength as Wang Yi, or maybe even Shang Qing. She intended to use Lu Yin to find out just how powerful this Liu Hao really was.

Liu Hao was the current generation's representative of the Liu family, and the Liu family grew excited to see him prepared to make a move.

Lu Yin smiled wryly. "I've heard that Brother Liu is an exceptional expert in our generation. This younger brother has only just accepted an inheritance, so how could I compare to Brother Liu? Please don't embarrass your younger brother."

Liu Hao casually retorted, "It's just a spar, and I won't hurt you in any way. Actually, if you manage to wound me at all, it's my loss."

Lu Yin felt troubled.

The hunched Elder Song smiled in the distance. "Child, don't be afraid. This old man promises you won't be hurt."

Lu Yin gritted his teeth. "Since Senior has spoken, a junior like me wouldn't dare refuse. Alright, Brother Liu, let's go."

Vacuum Palm was an invisible palm attack that was also incredibly fast. Due to these two aspects, unlike what Lu Yin had expected, Liu Hao was instantly struck by the palm.

Fortunately, Lu Yin had not used a full 250 Stacks, but instead had only used 150 Stacks, which was the same level of physical strength he had revealed to Long Xi. Even though the destructive power of his attack was enough to injure even one of the Ten Arbiters, it was not overpowering to someone like Liu Hao who was already an Enlighter.

Liu Hao was knocked a few steps back by the palm. He then bent over and picked up a blade of grass from the ground, and held it as a replacement for his sword. He pressed down onto the ground with his right foot, and disappeared for a moment before appearing right behind Lu Yin.

It was a bit of an insult to be attacked with a blade of grass instead of an actual sword, but Liu Hao's reputation and status qualified him to do so. There were few people who were able to force him to draw his sword.

Even if he was using a blade of grass in place of a sword, his skills left Lu Yin's scalp tingling. Lu Yin could feel a limitless sword intent shrouding the "weapon." Even though he was being attacked by nothing more than a blade of grass, Lu Yin felt as if the sharpest sword in the world was attacking him.

Liu Tianmu's pupils shrank to pinpricks from where she was watching. She was also capable of using this level of skill with, as the Thirteen Swords' Tenth Sword was able to achieve the same kind of sword intent. However, Liu Tianmu needed to use a real sword in order to be able to display such power, while Liu Hao was able to do so with nothing but a piece of grass. It was clear that his sword intent far surpassed Liu Tianmu's.

This showed the abilities of the Liu family's most outstanding descendant.

In the past, if Lu Yin had been faced with the sword intent of the Thirteen Swords or Liu Hao's blade of grass, he would have needed a powerful counter attack to be able to endure. However, Lu Yin had seen countless movements of that black scythe when receiving the inheritance from the Sword Monument, and all of them had broken various weapons. Lu Yin seemed to suddenly receive some unexplainable enlightenment, and his knowledge of weapons drastically improved by countless levels.

Liu Hao was using a blade of grass in place of a sword, but it was radiating sword intent in all directions, and Lu Yin could clearly see the flow of the sword. This sort of perception was different from the Cosmic Art. The Cosmic Art allowed a user to see where an attack would go, but Lu Yin did not need to see that detail at this moment. At this moment, Lu Yin was able to determine the trajectory of the attack just by seeing Liu Hao's hand, and could also sense exactly where the blade would stab, as well as how powerful the attack was.

Lu Yin was completely certain that if he held the black scythe at this moment, he would be able to slice through Liu Hao's "sword." Still, Lu Yin could not reveal too much already.

The blade of grass pierced through the air and approached Lu Yin. Liu Hao duplicated Liu Lu's attack, and was targeting Lu Yin's shoulder.

Numerous thoughts passed through Lu Yin's mind at this moment. The person whose identity he had assumed was not someone who should be able to see through Liu Hao's skills, or be able to stop Liu Hao's attack. From what everyone around knew of Long Qi, this attack would strike his shoulder and would prove Liu Hao's invincibility. There was no way for Long Qi to overcome this moment with a single inheritance.

Lu Yin's thoughts branched out; who had said that he had only accepted a single inheritance?

He thought through all that he knew, and then created a spear out of star energy. His left foot moved a centimeter back, allowing him to just barely evade the blade of grass. At the same time, the spear traveled a strange path as it avoided the blade of grass and simultaneously forced Liu Hao from advancing any further.

Lu Yin's counter had looked to be a magical maneuver, as he had forced Liu Hao to step back.

Elder Song and other experts from the Liu family were all caught off guard. This was not a matter of a battle technique, but of perception. Long Qi had seen through Liu Hao's swordsmanship.

Liu Tianmu was shocked. According to what she knew, Lu Yin should not have been able to see through Liu Hao's sword skills, and should have only made some sort of reckless move. Instead, he had used a spear to counter- wait, a spear? Since when did Lu Yin use a spear? The only weapon he had ever been known to use had been that scythe.

Liu Hao fell a few steps back and stared at Lu Yin in shock. "You just saw through my movements?"

Lu Yin held the star energy spear in his hands and deliberately panted to make himself look a bit scared. "Brother Liu, didn't you say you wouldn't hurt me?"

Liu Hao replied in a low voice, "I never intended to hurt you, but I need to know, did you just see through my attack?"

Lu Yin dropped his head and looked to be considering the matter for a while. Finally, he nodded. "I don't know if I exactly saw through it, but I knew where your attack would land and how strong it was going to be."

The people hearing this broke out in excitement; Long Qi had seen through Liu Hao's skills? There was not one person in Liu Hao's generation who was capable of doing that!

The Liu family's older experts all went silent.

"Have you studied the sword?" Liu Hao asked in surprise.

Lu Yin shook his head. "This little brother saw a great deal of sword movements when I was receiving the inheritance from the Sword Monument, that's all."

Clearly, this was enough for Liu Hao to understand that Lu Yin had received more from the Sword Monument than just the palm technique, and Long Qi had also gained knowledge of the sword. Things instantly became understandable. After all, the Sword Monument held countless supreme sword techniques, and if Long Qi earnestly studied what he had received, there was no doubt that he would be to unravel numerous sword techniques. Not to mention, Long Qi was from the White Dragon Clan, and the people of that clan were masters of the spear, and they had a powerful foundation for such arts.

The more Liu Hao thought about this, the brighter his eyes became. He looked at Lu Yin with eyes that sparkled like a baby's.

Lu Yin felt creeped out and became wary. "Brother Liu, what's wrong?"

Liu Hao said with excitement, "Brother Long, stay here! You and I can practice with each other! You can unravel my sword skills while I teach you the way of the sword! What do you say?"

Lu Yin reflexively scanned the area, and as he did so, he noticed that many of the members of the Liu family had become excited. He quickly understood, as they were seeing him as a tool to find the weak point of their sword skills. They wanted to use him to improve their own strength.

Only an idiot would agree to such an offer.

Lu Yin refused without any hesitation, "Brother Liu's swordsmanship is incredible, but this little brother could only possibly see through half of your ability. You must be joking to suggest that I can see through all of your sword skills."

"Brother Long, my Liu family does not fall far behind even the White Dragon Clan. If you promise to stay here with us, you will be allowed to observe the Sword Monument whenever you wish!" Liu Hao promised.

Not even the Liu patriarch qualified to offer such a promise, but even though Liu Hao had delivered such an offer, no one spoke up to counter him, not even Elder Song.