

Star Odyssey

Chapter 1776: A Clear Sky

The Innerverses' fate had been sealed the moment that Lu Yin took Liu Huang and the Second Nightking out of Gaia's Swamp.

Lu Yin was sitting calmly within the two-headed centipede's encirclement as the creature slowly moved. It released an oppressive pressure that would have left most cultivators trembling.

Spots of light illuminated the ground as they reflected off of the two-headed centipede's carapace slowly condensed, and a familiar cold appeared in the air.

Lu Yin's eyes suddenly opened, but he could not see any runes at all. Still, he remembered this particular sensation. This was the same thing that he had felt each time he met one of the Seven Skygods.

"Did you have something to do with what happened in the Horned Galaxy?" asked a gloomy voice. It was impossible to determine if the voice belonged to a man or a woman.

Lu Yin did not even bother looking for the speaker, as he already knew that he would not see anything at all. "The Horned Galaxy? I had nothing to do with that."

"Where were you when Autumnfrost Chen died?"

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "Who are you?"

"I ask, and you answer. You do not get to ask questions."

Lu Yin sneered. "So, what will happen if I don't answer?"

"Then you die."

Lu Yin laughed. "You don't care about Shaman God's plan? Which of the Seven Skygods are you? You clearly aren't Shaman God or Blackless God, as he's on the other side of the Fifth Mainland."

"I am Forgotten Ruins God."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed sharply. "Forgotten Ruins God? Why are you here?"

"Did you have anything at all to do with what happened in the Horned Galaxy?" Forgotten Ruins God asked once again.

Lu Yin coldly replied, "That had nothing to do with me."

"Where were you when Autumnfrost Chen died?"

This question was repeated again, but this time, Lu Yin chose to answer. "In seclusion."

"Where?"

"Planet Aegis."

"Why did you go there?" Forgotten Ruins God clearly hesitated a bit before continuing their questioning, as they had not expected Lu Yin to actually answer. The Neohuman Alliance had already looked into the matter and learned that Lu Yin had not been anywhere near the border between the Sixth Mainland and the Great Eastern Alliance. Thus, Forgotten Ruins God had not believed that Lu Yin would answer. Refusing to answer showed that Lu Yin had something to hide, but a ready admittance proved the opposite.

Lu Yin took a deep breath before quietly responding, "Anyways, I had nothing to do with what happened in the Horned Galaxy. As for why I was in seclusion on Planet Aegis, that has nothing to do with you. Stay away from me."

"The Great Eastern Alliance has already been attacked. The Inniverse is going to kill all of your powerhouses that have the strength of Enlighters. You will have no one at all to rely on, not even Wang Wen and the others," Forgotten Ruins God suddenly said.

"So what? Do you want to help me?" Lu Yin mocked.

"That's not impossible."

"And then I will become an enemy of the entire universe."

"We have our own means, as long as you give us that thing back."

Lu Yin frowned. "What thing?"

"The thing that was in the Horned Galaxy."

Lu Yin laughed. "I already told you that I had nothing to do with that incident."

"Your identity as Lu Xiaoxuan has already been exposed. While it is possible that they will not oppose you, they will never help you. Besides, even if the Neoverse wanted to help you, they would be too late. The Great Eastern Alliance will be destroyed. Do you want to see it disappear? How will you possibly put up a fight against the four ruling powers in the future?" Forgotten Ruins God pressed.

"As long as you return that item to us, we can help you to keep all that you have built up and obtained. We can even help you quickly conquer the entire Innerverse."

Lu Yin's voice turned nasty. "How many times do I have to tell you before you actually believe me? I had nothing to do with what happened in the Horned Galaxy. I don't have anything at all to give you."

"Tell me the real reason why you went into seclusion on Planet Aegis. You already know that we can find out even if you stay silent," Forgotten Ruins God threatened.

Lu Yin fell silent for a bit, and then he shrugged. "There's an entrance to the Bizarre Sect's ruins on Planet Aegis."

Forgotten Ruins God was completely confused. "The Bizarre Sect?"

"They're an ancient sect. The ruins contain death energy," Lu Yin said. He was not afraid that the death energy would be discovered by the Neohuman Alliance, as there was still Gaia's Swamp. Also, if the Neohuman Alliance started to make things difficult for Lu Yin, he could start stirring up even more trouble for them.

This was not even considering the fact that the Neohuman Alliance's Aeternus Nation already had their own source of death energy. For them, gaining access to another one would not really make much of a difference.

However, this information caught Forgotten Ruins God completely off guard. "Death energy? There's death energy in the Bizarre Sect's ruins? I remember the Bizarre Sect now..."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "Was it a famous sect?"

Forgotten Ruins God did not answer. "Your answer receives three points of trust."

Lu Yin's face twitched. "Why not ten?"

"As for the other seven points, I need to personally verify what you've said."

Right after the voice stopped speaking, a chill ran down Lu Yin's back; Forgotten Ruins God was about to attack!

Lu Yin did not know what Forgotten Ruins God was capable of, but they were still one of the Seven Skygods.

Suddenly, the two-headed centipede's body shattered, and it did not even have a chance to release so much as a whimper before it was destroyed.

Behind Lu Yin, a figure condensed from the spots of light, and a set of scales appeared beneath the figure's feet. Forgotten Ruins God was lifted by one side of the scales while an endless darkness appeared on the other side.

Some distance away, Qing Shaohuang coughed up blood. The two-headed centipede's death had caused him to suffer a backlash. He stared at the endless darkness in shock, his eyes flickering.

Jingle jingle!

Lu Yin whirled around and saw the scales holding up a figure formed from condensed light, as well as the endless darkness. He was thrilled to see this. "Senior Chief Justice."

These scales represented judgment.

Forgotten Ruins God spoke up in a somber and cold voice. "You are not even a Semi-Progenitor, and yet you want to judge a Semi-Progenitor? Qing Ping, you are too arrogant. Do you really believe that you can face my Seven Skygods?"

A calm voice spoke up from within the darkness. "Inner world - Judgement."

As the voice spoke, the darkness suddenly vanished, only to be replaced by a clear sky. It was empty and pure, and it looked like the natural sky. It replaced the sky above the Divine Venom Continent, and it even replaced Venom Flowzone's sky. It was as if the entire region of space had been moved.

Lu Yin's face showed his absolute shock, This- this is changing the sky!

Forgotten Ruins God slowly started rising as the scales tipped in favor of the Chief Justice.

"You aren't even a Semi-Progenitor, and yet you've already cultivated an inner world? No, this is not an inner world, but rather merely a manifestation of your cultivation. Still, it is comparable to a Semi-Progenitor's inner world. Qing Ping, I can't let you leave you alive today." Forgotten Ruins God was in utter disbelief, and as they shouted, the sky changed once again. Lightning ripped apart the clear sky, only to transform into cracks that shattered the sky.

With that, countless faint sounds appeared, and as they fell from the shattered sky, they pushed down upon the scales.

They tipped once again, this time dropping Forgotten Ruins God down while raising up the Chief Justice.

Lu Yin watched anxiously. The Chief Justice was not a Semi-Progenitor, and yet he was fighting against a Semi-Progenitor with an inner world. Not only

that, but he was fighting against one of the Seven Skygods. Those seven powerhouses seemed to be more than just mere Semi-Progenitors.

Even if Lu Yin had faith in the Chief Justice's strength, Lu Yin had no confidence at this moment. His senior brother seemed to be a bit rash.

Bang!

The scales were pressed down, lowering Forgotten Ruins God more and more, and yet the scales were not destroyed.

Forgotten Ruins God startled. "If I can't destroy it, then I will simply judge you according to your own rules."

After that, Forgotten Ruins God's side of the scales started dropping quicker and quicker, until they were eye-level with the Chief Justice.

Lu Yin's fists were clenched tightly, and a blood-red bell appeared in his hand as he considered ringing it.

Some distance away, Qing Shaohuang was just as nervous as Lu Yin. One of the two people fighting was the Interstellar Supreme Court's Chief Justice, who was also rumored to be one of Lu Yin's supporters. As for the Chief Justice's opponent, they were actually one of the Neohuman Alliance's Seven Skygods. Qing Shaohuang would lose out regardless of the victor, so he actually preferred for them both to lose.

"Qing Ping, you are going to die today! You've brought this upon yourself!" Forgotten Ruins God arrogantly pushed down on the Chief Justice.

On the other side of the scales, the Chief Justice retorted, "Your weakness is too clear. Given the inner world that your current body possesses, how could you possibly resist my judgment?"

This was the day this phenomena was recorded into the history of Venom Flowzone. The dark starry sky was replaced by a bright sky.

Suddenly, the Chief Justice started to slowly descend, and the scales tipped back out of Forgotten Ruins God's favor.

The figure formed from the condensed spots of light that was Forgotten Ruins God slowly dissipated. "If I were you, I would have never exposed myself. Today, because of your karmic intent, your karmic cause will mean your death in the future."

With that, there was nothing left behind at all.

Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief. Forgotten Ruins God was gone. Lu Yin had no idea if the Skygod had actually lost or been driven away, but if Forgotten Ruins God had actually lost, then that indicated that Lu Yin's senior brother was just too powerful! The Chief Justice had actually judged one of the Seven Skygods that only Semi-Progenitors could stand up to.

The scales disappeared, and the bright sky vanished as well. All that was left was the portion of darkness that looked very familiar to Lu Yin.

He quickly stepped forward. "I greet the Chief Justice."

Qing Shaohuang also hurried over, but his voice sounded weak when he said, "I greet the Chief Justice."

Everyone who had been in the imperial palace—Yuan Taishi, Qing Li, Qing Longlong, and more—came to greet the Chief Justice. After that, Wen Yao, Balsam, and the others also arrived to do the same.

Everyone was quite surprised, as none of them could understand why the Chief Justice had appeared in Venom Flowzone.

Qing Shaohuang was the most nervous out of everyone, as there had long since been rumors that Lu Yin was supported by the powers who truly ruled the Human Domain. There were mentions of the Hall of Honor, the Interstellar Supreme Court, the overseers' council, and even several Semi-Progenitors. This was why so many people were so hesitant to attack Lu Yin himself. This was also the reason why Qing Shaohuang had not dared to kill Lu Yin.

Everyone believed that regardless of who was supporting Lu Yin, they would do nothing at all as long as Lu Yin himself remained untouched. No one had expected the Chief Justice to suddenly appear and protect Lu Yin. What was their relationship? Just how big was Lu Yin's backing?

"Why did one of the Seven Skygods appear?" the Chief Justice asked. Although no one could see him, everyone understood that he was speaking to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin replied, "Forgotten Ruins God wanted to know if this junior had anything to do with the incident in the Horned Galaxy."

"Did you?" the Chief Justice continued.

Lu Yin showed no sign of hesitation. "No."

The Chief Justice fell silent.

Qing Shaohuang could no longer hold himself back. "Lord Chief Justice, you honor my Divine Venom Dynasty with your presence, but unfortunately, the

imperial palace is currently in ruins. This junior apologizes for showing such a rude welcome. Might I ask why you are here?"

The Chief Justice lightly replied, "The Neohuman Alliance."

"You already knew that one of the Seven Skygods would appear?" Qing Shaohuang felt quite confused.

Lu Yin spoke up to explain, "He did not come for the Skygod. I asked the Chief Justice to come here."

Lu Yin stared at Qing Shaohuang, and a smile appeared on the young man's face. "You should already know why."

Qing Shaohuang's eyes instantly filled with rage. "The Interstellar Supreme Court represents the Hall of Honor and is the highest judicial authority in the entire Human Domain! The Chief Judge is the representative of human fairness and justice. It is impossible that he came to Venom Flowzone just to help you."

Lu Yin laughed. This person was trying to use righteousness as a means to bind the Chief Justice's hands from being able to make any moves. However, others' perception of righteousness meant nothing at all to the Chief Justice. Even if the Chief Justice openly dealt with the Inniverse powers for Lu Yin, who would be able to say anything?.

The smile left Lu Yin's face. "This junior did not ask the Chief Justice to come here for personal matters, but rather for a report that the Divine Venom Dynasty is suspected of colluding with the Neohuman Alliance."

Chapter 1777: Conclusive Evidence

Qing Shaohuang was shocked, and King Qing Li angrily shouted, "Lu Yin, don't spout such nonsense!"

He had not said anything before this, as he had been afraid of offending Lu Yin. It had also been useless for him to say anything, but this accusation had to be crushed immediately.

The Great Eastern Alliance was no big deal to go up against, regardless of who might be backing Lu Yin. However, if the Divine Venom Empire was stigmatized as having colluded with the Neohuman Alliance, that would be something else entirely.

Such a crime was enough to eradicate any group or nation. Let alone collusion—even a suspicion of collusion was enough for people to be wiped out. This was always how the Hall of Honor had handled things.

Lu Yin was incredibly vicious; he was actually using such a vile trick to deal with the Divine Venom Dynasty.

Yuan Taishi started coughing from anger. "A- Alliance Leader Lu, even if His Majesty is your enemy, you shouldn't randomly frame my Divine Venom Dynasty! This, this-"

Qing Shaohuang glared at Lu Yin. "Lu Yin, today, you need to prove that my Divine Venom Dynasty has truly colluded with the Neohuman Alliance. If your accusations are false, I swear that I, Qing Shaohuang, will never let you go! Even if it means making a report to the overseers' council or Arch-Elder Zen himself, I will demand recompense for this and haunt you down for eternity until it is paid!"

Lu Yin turned to face the Chief Justice and then offered a slow bow. "The Chief Justice is here because someone made a report that there is evidence proving that the Divine Venom Dynasty's Yuan Taishi has colluded with the Neohuman Alliance to develop Vitality Poison here in Venom Flowzone."

Qing Shaohuang suddenly turned to stare at Yuan Taishi.

Yuan Taishi's expression instantly and dramatically changed. "Alliance Leader Lu, don't be ridiculous!"

Lu Yin eyed Yuan Taishi. "The person who made the report is named Yuan Miaomiao."

Yuan Taishi, Qing Shaohuang, and many others turned towards a distant location, which was where Yuan Miaomiao was standing. She faced everyone's stares and slowly bowed. "Miaomiao reported that Yuan Taishi has colluded with the Neohuman Alliance to develop poison. The evidence is indisputable. I ask the Chief Justice to investigate Luo Ao."

Luo Ao was a rather empty region in Venom Flowzone that was located close to the Divine Venom Continent. The entire area was filled with a highly toxic poison, and it was difficult for ordinary people to even approach the region. Even for Explorers, that area was a death sentence. However, the depths of the region were filled with an even deadlier poison that was known as gong metal. Despite its high toxicity, the metal was not very useful, so very few people would go there to collect gong metal.

Lu Yin had asked the Chief Justice to visit Venom Flowzone because of what he had learned from Yuan Miaomiao. Her information had been concerning enough that the Chief Justice had made the trip himself. As for whether the accusations were actually true, that had nothing to do with Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's greatest fear at this moment was that the Chief Justice might happen to stumble upon the Second Nightking. If that happened, Lu Yin would have no choice but to allow the Second Nightking to be captured to finish his sentence in Gaia's Swamp.

Still, this was something that had to be done. From the moment that Yuan Miaomiao had first told Lu Yin that Yuan Taishi had been colluding with the Neohuman Alliance in researching Vitality Poison, this was the plan that Lu Yin and Wang Wen had decided upon. This plan could drive Qing Shaohuang into the abyss.

This could quite possibly be the most important step in unifying the Innerverse.

The Chief Justice took Qing Shaohuang, Lu Yin, Yuan Miaomiao, and Yuan Taishi away. They disappeared, instantly traveling to Luo Ao. Everyone else back at the ruins of the imperial palace could only wait.

Balsam's eyes flickered. Sure enough, there was a problem. However, this matter also reminded Balsam that Liu Qianjue and the others were currently attacking Blazing Mist Flowzone. Could Lu Yin have already made preparations? If that was true, then Lu Yin was too ruthless an individual, and his schemes ran too deep.

Of the Innerverse's eight great flowzones, First Flowzone, Beast Tamers Flowzone, and Souseal Flowzone were all attacking Blazing Mist Flowzone while Lu Yin was in Venom Flowzone. There was no one who would dare to step forward to help the Great Eastern Alliance in this situation.

However, if everything was proceeding according to Lu Yin's calculations, then the entire situation of the Innerverse was about to drastically change.

Balsam had obviously already been aware that the banquet in Venom Flowzone was part of a plot designed by the Sword Sect and the other Innerverse powers to deal with Lu Yin. Just how had things taken such a sharp turn?

The Chief Justice led Lu Yin and the rest of the small group to Luo Ao. He waved a single hand and casually dispersed the poison that filled the area.

There were nearly twenty planets in this region, but because of the ubiquitous poison here, there was no life.

Yuan Taishi glared at Yuan Miaomiao with eyes that burned with killing intent.

Lu Yin stood next to Yuan Miaomiao and looked over at Yuan Taishi. "We're here, so just tell the truth and tell us where they're researching the Vitality Poison. Maybe the Chief Justice can simply take care of things."

"It won't be simple. Everyone there will die," the Chief Justice indifferently replied.

Lu Yin was left speechless.

"Alliance Leader Lu, Qing Shaohuang was the one who offended you, and I had nothing to do with the entire matter. Why are you targeting me with this slander?" Yuan Taishi gnashed his teeth.

Qing Shaohuang was also staring at Lu Yin. "Lu Yin, don't think that you can slander my Divine Venom Dynasty simply by bringing us to search somewhere. It's possible that you stashed some vitality poison here in order to smear my reputation, but the Chief Justice won't be deceived by you."

Suddenly, the Chief Justice released an attack. He pointed a finger, and the Luo Ao region was torn apart. As a result pair of slitted scarlet eyes opened. There were actually quite a few corpse kings hidden in this place.

Instantly, one corpse king underwent a red-eyes transformation, and its rune lines immediately surged past what even Yuan Shi possessed.

Lu Yin was startled. This was incredibly dangerous! Fortunately, Yuan Miaomiao had given them the location, and Lu Yin had not investigated himself but rather simply shared the information with the Chief Justice. If Lu Yin had tried to handle this himself, then he definitely would have ended up in trouble, especially since even the Second Nightking most likely could not have saved him from this corpse king.

The red-eyed corpse king had a power level of over a million, which was quite powerful. Not even one of the Sixth Mainland's Cosmic Imprinters would be able to handle this creature. However, it stood no chance against the Chief Justice. It was instantly killed.

They uncovered many traces of Vitality Poison throughout Luo Ao.

Qing Shaohuang could not believe what he saw. "How is this possible? It's fake! It has to be fake!"

He shot a fierce glare towards Lu Yin. "You're slandering me! You must have done this!"

Lu Yin sneered. "Right, I'm able to capture a corpse king with a power level of a million and toss it here just to slander you, right? In that case, why didn't I just have the corpse king kill you?"

"Whatever, this was done by the Neohuman Alliance, and there's no evidence that points to any connection to me."

Qing Shaohuang was left speechless, so he instead turned to stare at Yuan Taishi.

The old man had a gloomy look on his face, and his eyes were overflowing with despair.

Realization finally struck home for Qing Shaohuang when he saw Yuan Taishi's expression, and the emperor's face turned pale. "This was you? You truly colluded with the Neohuman Alliance? Why? I never mistreated you. Why would you work with them?!"

Yuan Taishi clenched his hands into fists and glared hatefully at Yuan Miaomiao. "I should have killed you! I should have killed you!"

Yuan Miaomiao closed her eyes and let out a sigh of relief.

"Qing Shaohuang, cut the act. You were the one who ordered Yuan Taishi to work with the Neohuman Alliance to research their Vitality Poison. Maybe your Divine Venom Dynasty was actually the first to create the Vitality Poison, and you sold it to the Neohuman Alliance," Lu Yin said.

Qing Shaohuang roared, and his eyes flared. "This is absurd! My Qing family rules the entire Venom Flowzone. Why would I want to cooperate with the Neohuman Alliance? Lu Yin, you're trying to ruin me!"

Lu Yin picked at his ears. "So it's true, and yet you still want to fight it? Yuan Taishi has always been right under your nose. With your strength, were you really not able to see that he was working with the Neohuman Alliance? Just stop pretending."

Qing Shaohuang was furious, and he reached out to grab Lu Yin. "This is insane!"

Just one step, but the emperor could no longer move a single muscle. The Chief Justice coldly snorted. "Impudence."

That single word woke Qing Shaohuang up, and he suddenly realized the worst possible outcome.

Regardless of whether he actually had any connection to Yuan Taishi's collaboration with the Neohuman Alliance, the emperor knew that he would

still be taken in for interrogation. With the Hall of Honor's attitude regarding the Neohuman Alliance, it was truly impossible for the emperor to safely return to the Divine Venom Dynasty. In that case, what direction would the Divine Venom Dynasty take in the future?

Qing Shaohuang turned to look at Lu Yin, uncertainty flickering in his eyes. This young man was targeting the Divine Venom Dynasty. While the emperor could resist, if he was gone, the empire would be done for.

The more Qing Shaohuang considered the current situation and the future, the colder his heart and body became.

"Chief Justice, I- I really am being wrongly accused! This junior has never had anything to do with the Neohuman Alliance!" Qing Shaohuang protested as he tried to prove his innocence.

"Whether you've been wronged or not, it will all come out during your trial," the Chief Justice replied coldly. Space suddenly solidified in the entire local region, preventing anyone from entering it again. Lu Yin and the others were then taken back to Venom King City's imperial palace.

When everyone saw Yuan Taishi's pale face and desperate expression, as well as Qing Shaohuang's pale complexion, it was clear that Lu Yin's claim was true.

Qing Li and everyone else from the Divine Venom Dynasty felt as though the sky was falling on them at that moment.

"Yuan Taishi has colluded with the Neohuman Alliance and will be taken to Mt. Microcosms for investigation. Qing Shaohuang will also be investigated. No one from the Divine Venom Dynasty is allowed to leave Venom Flowzone until this investigation is concluded." The Chief Justice indifferently pronounced the two men's sentences.

Lu Yin immediately agreed, saying, "The Great Eastern Alliance will do its best to assist the Hall of Honor in investigating the Divine Venom Dynasty."

"Let Little Sheng return. Help Little Sheng¹ as best you can, but bring him back!" These were the last words that Qing Shaohuang spoke before he was taken away.

A banquet held to celebrate a cultivator's breakthrough had ended with the conclusion of Qing Shaohuang being arrested and dragged away to his own trial. Everyone turned to look at Lu Yin. Not one person knew how to treat him at this moment.

King Qing Li stared at Lu Yin with complicated feelings. Regardless of whether Qing Shaohuang had actually cooperated with the Neohuman Alliance, the emperor would not have a very good future. Even the best outcome would involve Qing Shaohuang serving a lengthy prison sentence, and the Divine Venom Dynasty would absolutely be investigated by the Hall of Honor. Qing Li could not even imagine how many people would suffer from this, and even he might face a terrible outcome. Given the Hall of Honor's methods, even though the Divine Venom Dynasty would not be destroyed, it would lose a layer of skin at the very least.

Qing Longlong approached Lu Yin, staring at him. She then turned to look at Yuan Miaomiao. "What the hell is going on? What did you say?"

Yuan Miaomiao's eyes dimmed. "Longlong, Yuan Zhong isn't my grandfather. He actually killed my parents, and he also colluded with the Neohuman Alliance."

"What does that have to do with my father?" Qing Longlong shouted hoarsely.

Yuan Miaomiao shook her head. "I have no idea what His Majesty has to do with anything. I only reported Yuan Taishi."

Qing Longlong was startled. Yes, Yuan Miaomiao had only reported Yuan Taishi's activities, not Qing Shaohuang. The only reason why Qing Shaohuang had been arrested was because of his association with Yuan Taishi. The emperor's arrest had absolutely nothing to do with Yuan Miaomiao.

Even if Yuan Miaomiao had not reported Yuan Taishi, but instead reported someone else, Qing Shaohuang still would have been taken away and investigated because he was the emperor of the Divine Venom Dynasty.

"Why right now? Why?" Qing Long asked weakly.

Yuan Miaomiao looked at her friend. "If not now, then when could I have made a report? What would it have accomplished?"

"You could have told my father!"

"I had no evidence. The Chief Justice was the one who gathered the evidence. I never had a chance to say a thing to His Majesty. If I had tried, I would have died." Yuan Miaomiao also felt quite bitter about the situation.

Qing Longlong could not release her friend's hand. It was true. If Yuan Miaomiao had made a report to Qing Shaohuang, then Yuan Taishi would have died, but Yuan Miaomiao would have died as well. This matter could not have been allowed to spread, and anyone who became aware of it would

have been killed. Yuan Miaomiao definitely would have died. Qing Longlong was able to realize this herself, and she could not blame her friend. All she could say was that Lu Yin had visited at the right time, and Qing Longlong had actually been the one who had allowed Yuan Miaomiao to meet Lu Yin.

This was all her fault!

[1] This is Casanova. His name in Chinese is Qing Sheng, but the closest meaning in English to his Chinese name is Casanova, as his name means playboy. 📧

Chapter 1778: It Will Fall Under The Lu Surname

At this time, many people from the Divine Venom Dynasty suddenly surrounded Lu Yin, glaring at him with murder in their eyes. Lu Yin was Qing Shaohuang's enemy, so naturally, he was the Divine Venom Dynasty's enemy.

Countless jincans filled the sky and covered the ground as numerous people surrounded the imperial palace. All of them were just waiting for the word to attack Lu Yin with their full might.

Little Mountain God and other guests all looked quite relaxed. Even though Qing Shaohuang had been arrested and taken away by the Chief Justice, it was simply something the man had brought down upon himself. Regardless, the Great Eastern Alliance was the one that was about to run out of luck, as there would soon be no Enlighteners at all. As for Envoys? That was even more impossible.

None of the Inniverse representatives actually cared about the Divine Venom Dynasty doom. They were just there to watch the fun.

Lu Yin glanced around before his eyes finally landed on Prince Qing Li. "Is this how the Divine Venom Dynasty feels about me?"

Qing Li dropped his head before looking back at Lu Yin. Everything that had just happened flashed through the prince's head. Finally, he raised a hand and waved it.

"Your Highness, His Majesty was ruined by this person. Please allow us to kill him!" someone shouted as they glared at Lu Yin.

Many people agreed with the man, including even some of the Divine Venom Dynasty's ministers. Anyone who was able to enter the imperial palace would be a cultivator with a jincan, so Lu Yin was surrounded by all kinds of jincans.

Far away, beyond the imperial palace, Xiao Fa and the other contestants from the jincan exposition of the banquet were all driven out of the imperial palace.

Attendant Yi woke up, looking completely dazed.

The man had been quite lucky, as his Life-Prolonging Butterfly had allowed him to survive the Second Nightking's attack. After that, he had also been fortunate enough to avoid being dragged away by the Chief Justice to be investigated. Normally, someone like Attendant Yi would have been arrested as well simply because of his relationship with Qing Shaohuang.

"Where is His Majesty?" Attendant Yi was completely confused. However, as soon as he finished speaking, Prince Qing Li raised a hand and formed a claw that swept out. Attendant Yi slowly fell to the ground, unable to even close his eyes.

Lu Yin watched the events unfold with an odd expression.

Even though the Second Nightking had not released a particularly powerful attack, it had still been more than enough to kill Attendant Yi. The man had only managed to survive thanks to the Life-Prolonging Butterfly he had possessed. Also, the Second Nightking had not released a second attack, so Attendant Yi could be considered lucky for surviving such an encounter. Still, even after living through such an event, Attendant Yi ended up dying at Prince Qing Li's hands.

Qing Li's eyes showed open disgust as he stared at Attendant Yi's corpse. The man had instigated many things, including even Elder Lianxin's meeting with Qing Shaohuang. The chief attendant had also been a driving force in the emperor's hostile attitude towards the Great Eastern Alliance. Without Attendant Yi, things might have turned out very differently.

The man should have died long ago.

"Alliance Leader Lu, my Divine Venom Dynasty has no ill will towards you. We trapped you with the two-headed centipede because I felt that someone was going to attack you, so I wanted to protect you. As things have just proven, someone did indeed try to attack you." The prince spoke in a sincere tone.

Lu Yin gave the man a very odd look.

Lu Yin was far from alone, as everyone was giving Qing Li odd looks. Just how thick-skinned did someone need to be to say such a thing after everything that had happened.

Even the people from the Divine Venom Dynasty looked at the prince oddly. Was this man really Prince Qing Li? The man who ignored all government

affairs, was occasionally a bit arrogant, but also was clearly afraid of death? Was this the same prince who was only good at covering his own ass? Even though the man's words had been truly shameless, they had also erased most of the most blatant hostility that existed between the Divine Venom Dynasty and Lu Yin.

Not only that, he had also shown Lu Yin his goodwill by killing Attendant Yi.

Lu Yin felt like he was seeing Qing Li for the first time. This man had much greater tolerance than Qing Shaohuang. Lu Yin had initially felt that the prince harbored no ambitions and simply feared death, however, it instead looked like Qing Li was more suited to rule the Divine Venom Dynasty than Qing Shaohuang had been.

At the very least, Qing Li was thick-skinned.

Lu Yin smiled. "So the Divine Venom Dynasty has no animosity towards me?"

"Of course not." Prince Qing Li sounded perfectly sincere. "The Great Eastern Alliance holds control of Fennel Flowzone, which is the gateway to our Venom Flowzone. My Divine Venom Dynasty had no issues with this change, and we even offered our help. When we invited Alliance Leader Lu to visit us here, and yet that slave dared to offend Alliance Leader Lu. In order to offer an apology, my imperial brother was willing to allow Alliance Leader Lu to enter our treasury and choose anything you liked.

"As for the Second Nightking's attack and the deaths that occurred, that matter was purely accidental. The Daynight clan was trying to provoke dissension between us, so please please don't believe what the Second Nightking said at that time. Alliance Leader Lu should be even more familiar with the Daynight clan than us; when Nightking Zhenwu and Alliance Leader Lu were about to fight each other, the alliance leader was poisoned before the fight. People from such a clan cannot be trusted at all."

Qing Longlong felt like this was her first time seeing her uncle. He had always been someone who did not seem to like to speak too much, but he had clearly seen through many of the matters at the heart of the current issue.

Qing Li's retelling of events was not particularly clever, and the best that anyone could say was that the prince had thick skin. With Qing Shaohuang taken away for his trial, Lu Yin no longer considered becoming the Divine Venom Dynasty's enemy. Instead, his goal was to have Venom Flowzone join the Eastern Border. Alliances, not create a new enemy.

Prince Qing Li had already shown his friendliness towards Lu Yin, so Lu Yin did not mind giving the prince a path forward.

"Your Excellency is quite right; you really can't trust the members of the Daynight clan," Lu Yin agreed in an emotional voice.

The prince let out a sigh of relief.

Qing Li was in a very different position from what Qing Shaohuang had held. Even if Lu Yin did not have the Great Eastern Alliance after it disappeared, Qing Li would never want to offend Lu Yin. This person was simply too cruel.

"Your Majesty, Qing Shaohuang viewed Lu Yin as a terrible enemy, and he caused the imperial palace to be destroyed. Lu Yin is the reason that the Divine Venom Dynasty will soon be surrounded by the Great Eastern Alliance. Have you already forgotten all this?" Mr. You asked.

"The Great Eastern Alliance will soon disappear," Ling Gong said in a mocking tone as she stared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin blinked and turned to look at Ling Gong. "The Great Eastern Alliance will soon disappear? What are you talking about?"

Ling Gong's voice was cold. "Right now, Blazing Mist Flowzone should be quite the exciting place. Why don't you check for yourself?"

Lu Yin glanced at Yuehua Mavis and Balsam, and then Wen Yao, Wen Sansi, Qing Longlong, Ling Que, and everyone else present. "It appears that something happened while I was trapped by that two-headed centipede.

"Actually, when I got out, I wanted to invite all of you to watch a show, but the Neohuman Alliance popped up, and then the Chief Justice, and that just threw everything off, but maybe we're not too late to catch the show." Lu Yin then raised a hand and activated his gadget to connect to someone.

A short while later, a display appeared that expanded larger and larger until it floated above the ruins of the imperial palace. It showed a fierce battle taking place. Mountain God was fighting. Chen Huang was the one battling with Mountain God, and their battle was shaking stars.

Chen Huang was accompanied by another figure in his fight against Mountain God: Emperor Luo was working with the colossal giant.

The two had teamed up to deal with Mountain God, but they were still suffering a disadvantage.

"Alliance Leader, Mountain God is still the leader of one of the great flowzones. Even if he's one of the weakest of the eight leaders, he's still not someone Chen Huang and Emperor Luo can handle." A voice spoke up.

As soon as the person finished speaking, the nine lined battle force covering Chen Huang's body were shattered, and the massive body was forced back. Mountain God pressed his advantage, and Chen Huang spat out blood.

It was clear that Mountain God had gained the upper hand, but for some reason, Little Mountain God was not happy about what he saw. This was because the voice of the person reporting to Lu Yin sounded far too relaxed.

Lu Yin indifferently replied, "If they can't beat him, just swap opponents. Just don't die."

"There's no need for that. Someone will come help soon." After the voice spoke again, five interlocking rings of plum blossoms appeared, freezing space. The Royal Frost Continent's Frost Emperor had appeared, and he had attacked Mountain God. Further away, there was a phoenix that had been frozen solid within the void. It was Abel Phoenix.

As soon as Lu Yin saw the Frost Emperor step onto the battlefield, he lost interest. "Call Wei Rong."

Another screen appeared in the sky, and this one also showed a battle. There were two women: Ling Qiu, the Lingling clan's matriarch, and the master of the Yōu family, Madam Yōu.

"Madam Yōu?" Ling Gong and Ling Que were both shocked. "Impossible! The Yōu family is controlled by the Sword Sect! How could Madam Yōu attack my Lingling clan?"

While Madam Yōu's power level could not compare to Ling Qiu's, Madam Yōu was someone from the Seven Courts' Yōu clan, and that was a background that was incomparable to the Lingling clan. It was difficult for either of the women to gain the upper hand in their battle.

"Call Ku Wei."

Another display rose into the sky. This video was shaky, as the person controlling the video on the other end of the call was fleeing, and sword qi kept flashing across the screen. The void was continuously shattered, but no one could be seen.

"Master, your disciple doesn't dare get any closer! That's the fight between Liu Qianjue and Ling Taizu!" Ku Wei's voice was the one that was heard this time.

Ling Gong suddenly stepped forward to stare at the display. Even though she could not see anything, what Ku Wei had just reported should not be wrong: Liu Qianjue was fighting against Ling Taizu.

But why? Wasn't Liu Qianjue supposed to be attacking the Great Eastern Alliance? Why would he have targeted the Lingling clan?

Lu Yin was surprised. "Ling Taizu? I didn't expect another powerhouse to appear."

"What's going on?" Little Mountain God suddenly shouted, and he quickly turned towards Li Zimo for an answer. "Why is your Sword Sect helping the Great Eastern Alliance?"

Ling Gong, Wen Yao, Mr. You, and everyone else present also focused on Li Zimo.

The Sword Sect had defected. Liu Qianjue and Madam Yōu were both helping the Great Eastern Alliance, which had completely altered the balance of the battlefield. Even the arrival of Ling Taizu, who had always remained hidden, proved useless. This was also ignoring that Lu Yin always had other powerhouses of his own.

This was the show that Lu Yin wanted to share with everyone.

Li Zimo remained perfectly calm and did not even speak.

Lu Yin clasped his hands behind his back, and his melodious voice echoed across all of Divine Venom Continent. "Daynight Flowzone, Chaos Flowzone, Blazing Mist Flowzone, and First Flowzone all belong to our Great Eastern Alliance. Venom Flowzone had been sealed until it is investigated by the Interstellar Supreme Court. Tell me, who else can join your resistance?"

At this point, Lu Yin looked at Wen Sansi. "What is Erudite Flowzone's position?"

Wen Sansi stared intently at Lu Yin for a moment. "My Wen family and the Great Eastern Alliance have always been friends. We have never had any hostility towards each other."

Lu Yin showed a small smile. "After today, the Great Eastern Alliance will officially take over all eight of the Inniverse's great flowzones."

Everyone stared at Lu Yin in stunned silence.

At this moment, Qing Li was Venom Flowzone's representative, but he could not deny Lu Yin's claim. No, he did not dare refute Lu Yin's claim. Qing Shaohuang's fate had already set an example.

Little Mountain God and the others all stared blankly at the battles being shown on the screens in the sky. No one knew how to react.

This was the day that the Great Eastern Alliance should have collapsed, so why were things turning out so differently? What had gone wrong? Why was the Sword Sect helping Lu Yin?

Lu Yin looked around at the crowd. This was not enough. It still was not enough. This was just the starting point. If he wanted to fully unite the Innerverse into his Great Eastern Alliance, it would need a bit of time, but it could not be too long.

This place would eventually fall under the Lu surname as it would be conquered by Lu Yin. No one could stop this from coming to pass.

Regardless of whether Liu Qianjue or Ling Taizu won, the Great Eastern Alliance would still be the final victor, as there was also Liu Huang, who had not yet made a move.

Liu Huang had stayed in hiding, as he was afraid of being sent back to Gaia's Swamp. Otherwise, the swordsman would have moved out long ago.

Just as Lu Yin was thinking about this, there was a sudden change, and sword qi slashed across space, cutting open a broad region of the universe and revealing the true universe.

That was Liu Huang's sword qi.

Lu Yin's eyes went wide; who else was there?

He watched as space collapsed and a hand was cut off. It transformed into an odd branch that fell. Liu Huang moved past stars to disappear in a flash.

Lu Yin's eyes grew stern. That person was not someone who had been with Ling Taizu and the others. This person had tried to secretly attack, and based on Liu Huang's sword, the person had just entered the Ross Empire's mobile fortress.

Chapter 1779: Merits And Demerits

This shocking turn-about completely stunned Ling Gong and others; the Great Eastern Alliance had actually hidden top powerhouses.

Lu Yin spoke some orders into his gadget, "Finish things as soon as possible."

At his order, sword qi swept through space on a screen. Instantly, Mountain God was sliced badly, Ling Qiu's arm was broken, and Ling Taizu was badly injured. The sword qi had come from Liu Huang's attack, and he simply surpassed the others on the battlefield too much.

Liu Huang had no peers in the entire Innerverse. His talent was truly extraordinary, and even if the Second Nightking was more powerful, he had required a great deal more time to achieve such a level of strength. If the two were compared at the same age, the Second Nightking would not be able to compare to Liu Huang.

The faces of Ling Gong and the other Innerverse representatives in Venom Flowzone all grew pale when they saw Ling Taizu and the other Envoys all instantly defeated. This was simply unbelievable.

Things had changed too quickly, and they could not process everything fast enough.

Lu Yin closed the displays and turned back to face Ling Gong and the others. "So, was that a good show?"

The imperial palace was completely silent. Everyone present had watched as the Great Eastern Alliance had defeated the Innerverse's great flowzones to become the new dominant power of the entire Innerverse.

In fact, Lu Yin had not expected to end his fight with the great flowzones in such a manner, and it had truly been a mere coincidence that Yuan Miaomiao's report against her grandfather had allowed Lu Yin to seize control of the Divine Venom Dynasty. Outside, Liu Qianjue's betrayal had left the Lingling clan and the other Innerverse powers feeling powerless, so naturally then had ended up being overpowered by the Great Eastern Alliance.

This battle had shown that the Innerverse did not possess the power to stand up to the Great Eastern Alliance.

While the Innerverse had no power to resist the Great Eastern Alliance, someone from an organization that did possess such strength had also been watching.

Mr. You immediately contacted the other overseers and submitted a report to the entire Hall of Honor.

The Hall of Honor had not cared when Lu Yin had established the Great Eastern Alliance and unified the Outerverse. This was similar to how no one had cared about Lu Yin's status as the master of the Outerverse when he had been in the Neoverse. However, the Innerverse was different.

There was a fundamental difference between the Innerverse and the Outerverse.

Even if everything else was ignored, there were about ten Envoys in the Innerverse. Not even the behemoth organizations of the Neoverse had so many Envoys, and the Hall of Honor could not risk any other organization having such a level of strength.

The Great Eastern Alliance had just united the Innerverse, which meant that Lu Yin had just gained a level of power that was comparable to the monsters of the Neoverse. This was not even considering the other forces which supported Lu Yin, such as Leon's Armada, or Liu Ye and Fei Hua who had previously protected Lu Yin.

The Innerverse and Outerverse had both become property of the Great Eastern Alliance, which meant that Lu Yin had the qualifications to speak on the level of the entire Fifth Mainland. This put him on the same level as the Three Dark Hands and the Hall of Honor.

No one had ever imagined that Lu Yin would act so quickly and unexpectedly. Mr. You had personally watched the entire thing. There had been no warning or sign of anything from the very beginning, and yet every action Lu Yin had taken had pushed the Great Eastern Alliance closer to uniting the entire Innerverse.

Lu Yin made no attempt to stop Mr. You from submitting his report, and Lu Yin even personally informed Arch-Elder Zen. If the master of the Hall of Honor did not want the Great Eastern Alliance to unite the Innerverse, then all of Lu Yin's efforts would have been in vain.

Actually, that was not necessarily true...

Lu Yin's expression grew sharper when he remembered that he still had Kui Luo. Lu Yin was not completely without the means to stand up for himself.

"Please, everyone, return home," Lu Yin said as his eyes swept over the crowd.

As his gaze passed over them, everyone lowered their heads. No one, not Little Mountain God, Wen Yao, or even Mr. You dared to look Lu Yin in the eyes.

Ling Gong alone stubbornly stared at Lu Yin, but he just ignored her and she was soon dragged away by Ling Que.

Yuehua Mavis was the first person to leave, quickly followed by Balsam and the others. Soon, only members of the Divine Venom Dynasty remained within the rubble of what had been imperial palace.

Lu Yin pulled his gadget back out to call Arch-Elder Zen.

The old man soon answered, and his voice was heard, "Congratulations."

Lu Yin's expression instantly grew solemn. "If Senior is unwilling to allow the Innerverse and the Outerverse to be united, this junior can immediately dissolve the Great Eastern Alliance."

Arch-Elder Zen's tone remained light. "The Hall of Honor concerns itself with the Hall of Honor's affairs. Given its strength, we could have easily conquered everyone in the Innerverse and Outerverse, but it was never allowed to be done because the Hall of Honor cannot be allowed to act in too overbearing a manner. Our Interstellar Supreme Court is the face of our judgment, and it is a cold knife pointed at everyone that could fall at any moment.

"The Great Eastern Alliance is different, as it is merely a loose alliance that has gathered because of aligned goals and interests. They have united not only for your sake, Lu Xiaoxuan, but also for themselves.

"They have joined the Great Eastern Alliance because it is able to provide them benefits; not just because they fear annihilation. The Great Eastern Alliance is not some hegemony, but a true alliance. That has always been the purpose of your Great Eastern Alliance. If they one day learn that you face an invincible enemy, will they still support you so staunchly?"

Lu Yin replied quietly, "Senior, this junior has already said that I will not lead the Great Eastern Alliance against the Perennial World because of my own selfish desires. I will not allow us to fall to the Aeternals."

Arch-Elder Zen sighed. "After ZENITH, the Hall of Honor decided to fully support you, whether you united the Outerverse or the Innerverse. Even the Cosmic Sea and the Neoverse were considered, and as long as you have the ability, I will not stop you. However, this is because you are Lu Yin. Do you understand?"

Lu Yin suddenly spoke up, "Can this junior ask Senior a question?"

"Tell me."

"Did the primeval surnames truly really abandon the Fifth Mainland?"

The call fell silent, but Lu Yin was in no hurry, so he waited patiently.

Some time later, Arch-Elder Zen finally replied, "Why do you ask that question?"

Lu Yin let out a long breath. "Because of the location of the Upper Three Gates. They are located on the battlefield behind the Mother Tree in the Perennial World. That place protects us from being attacked."

The old man said nothing.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "While I may have lost my memory, I am still more or less aware of the situation of the Lu family for the time when I lived in the Perennial World. The Lu family was a popular ruler, and at the very least, the Liu family, the Nong family, and Virtue Archives did not betray them. Those powers were willing to become public enemies for the sake of the Lu family. Countless people look forward to the Lu family's return, and even if they die, they still refuse to join with the four ruling powers. I can't believe that a Lu family like that would have abandoned their ancestral land.

"I am both Lu Yin and Lu Xiaoxuan, and neither Lu Yin nor Lu Xiaoxuan would ever abandon their ancestral land. Neither would the Lu family."

"The fact remains that the Fifth Mainland was abandoned and our sky was replaced by the Sixth Mainland. The Lu family was the group that took the lead, as only the Lu family possessed power to take the Mother Tree away and truly abandon my Fifth Mainland," Arch-Elder Zen explained in a deep voice.

"If that battlefield was not located behind the Perennial World's Mother Tree, the Fifth Mainland and the Sixth Mainland would never have been able to endure against the Aeternals, as we would not even have been able to stand up to the Twelve Marquises. Is this junior correct in his understanding that the Perennial World is blocking the Aeternals from targeting the Fifth Mainland?" Lu Yin asked.

"Abandoning their ancestral land in the ancient times is an entirely separate matter from blocking humanity's enemies. Even if they are holding back the Aeternals on the rear battlefield, that still cannot erase the fact that they allowed the sky of their ancestral land to be replaced. If the four ruling powers' Progenitors had stayed here, the Sixth Mainland would have been defeated. Progenitor Chen would not have fought alone, and the Rune Progenitor would not have died helplessly while carrying his civilization. My Fifth Mainland would not be lacking any Progenitors all this time," Arch-Elder Zen replied sternly.

Lu Yin realized that Arch-Elder Zen and the others carried a powerful resentment towards the Perennial World. In fact, not only them, but their elders and predecessors had all been Semi-Progenitors as well. Because the Fifth Mainland's sky had changed, none of them had been able to become a Progenitor. All of those people had died without even having a chance of becoming a Progenitor. Lu Yin could completely understand that they must be feeling incredibly betrayed.

It was true that merits could not balance demerits. No matter what the Perennial World may have done to protect the Fifth Mainland, it was impossible to ignore that the Fifth Mainland had been abandoned and its sky had been replaced.

However, Lu Yin's conversation with Arch-Elder Zen also made him completely certain that the Perennial World really was blocking the Aeternals from entering the Fifth Mainland. It was possible that the truth of the past was not known to everyone.

In the current era, what was known to be true was the story that had been passed down by those who had stayed behind in the Fifth Mainland, but the passing of so many years could have distorted the truth with their own re-imaginings. This was also true of the Perennial World, as both places absolutely believed that the Fifth Mainland had been abandoned by the Perennial World.

At this realization, Lu Yin suddenly cheered up a great deal and no longer felt any bit of guilt.

Cultivators had to be aware of their own mindsets. Even if Lu Yin eventually became able to force the Great Eastern Alliance to fight against the four ruling powers, if he always felt that he owed the Fifth Mainland an impossible debt, it would eventually become a burden that would permanently affect him. However, that burden had been lifted.

It was possible that the Lu family did not owe the Fifth Mainland a thing. In fact, it was even possible that Lu Yin's family might have taken the initiative to protect the Fifth Mainland from the Aeternals.

At the moment, Lu Yin needed the Fifth Mainland's strength in order to bring back his Lu family. This was what he believed in, and also had to believe it as the truth..

As for the fact that Arch-Elder Zen and the others believed that the truth was that their Fifth Mainland had been abandoned, Lu Yin chose to not believe it. He wanted to compensate for his own shortcomings, and this was something he had to do. If he eventually succeeded and the Lu family returned to power, then he would be able to take appropriate actions based on the truth of what had happened all those eons ago. However, in order to do anything at all, the Lu family had to first return.

After clearing the burden from his heart, Lu Yin let out a long breath and stopped debating the matter with Arch-Elder Zen.

"After uniting both the Innerverse and Outerverse, you are qualified to speak directly with my Hall of Honor. This is why I told you this before, and I will remind you again now: do not fight against the four ruling powers. Do not weaken humanity to give the Aeternals an advantage. This is the bottom line of everyone, as it is humanity's bottom line," Arch-Elder Zen solemnly stated.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "What if the four ruling powers send someone here to kill this junior?"

Arch-Elder Zen remained silent for a while. "They are not able to do that."

Lu Yin's eye twitched. He had assumed that the old man would say something along the lines of reassuring Lu Yin that they would do their best to help and protect Lu Yin, or even that they would abandon him to the Perennial World. He had not expected the answer that Arch-Elder Zen had given. Where did such confidence come from? Those were the four ruling powers of the Perennial World.

Lu Yin felt that something was off. Arch-Elder Zen was too confident. The four ruling powers were capable of sending more than a single Semi-Progenitor to hunt Lu Yin down in the Fifth Mainland, and it was even possible that a Progenitor would be sent. Arch-Elder Zen had no qualifications to make such a claim, and yet he had still done so.

Lu Yin thought back to when he had been at the top of Mt. Microcosms and how Arch-Elder Zen had defended him even back then. He thought of the helplessness in the old man's voice when he had first learned that Lu Yin was Lu Xiaoxuan. Arch-Elder Zen had to be aware of something, and the most likely thing was Mister Mu.

"Has Senior heard of Mister Mu?" Lu Yin suddenly asked.

Arch-Elder Zen fell silent once again, and a long time later, he replied, "I have heard of him and I have seen him."

Lu Yin's eyes went wide. As he had suspected, much of Arch-Elder Zen's protectiveness was because of Mister Mu. Lu Yin had been let free after being taken to Aeternus Nation to be transformed into a corpse king, and yet there had been no repercussions. This should have been impossible, given the Hall of Honor's attitude towards the Aeternals.

Sure enough, it had been because of Mister Mu.

"Senior, do you know of this junior's relationship with Mister Mu?" Lu Yin asked.

Arch-Elder Zen replied, "You should stop with the questions, as I can't tell you anything. Instead, you should speak to your senior disciple brother when you have the opportunity."

"The Chief Justice?"

"Whether or not he wants to tell you anything has nothing to do with me. Still, even if you are that master's disciple, that will not change the bottom line of my Fifth Mainland. The Aeternals are humanity's greatest enemy. You must always remember this." With that, Arch-Elder Zen ended the call.

Chapter 1780: A Small Windfall

Lu Yin lowered his gadget, suddenly looking much more relaxed from before. Arch-Elder Zen actually knew Mister Mu, and had spoken of Lu Yin's master in a very respectful manner. This made things easy to deal with.

His gadget suddenly beeped, and Lu Yin answered the call. "Master, we've defeated their masters! The Innerverse is ours. Little Wei will lead the colossal giants to sweep the Innerverse, and all who disobey you will be caught and forced to follow! I picked a few beautiful women to warm Master's bed. Master..."

Lu Yin frowned. "Shut up."

Ku Wei quickly fell silent and did not dare say another word.

A display opened, and Lu Yin saw Ling Qiu, Mountain God, Ling Taizu, and Abel Phoenix. All of the Envoys looked quite pathetic, particularly Mountain God. Half of his body was cracked and leaking sword qi from Liu Huang's attack.

One of Ling Qiu's arms had been sliced off. Blood dripped from Ling Taizu's mouth. The man sat cross-legged and stared back at Lu Yin with eyes that expressed his helplessness.

Around the wounded Envoys stood Liu Qianjue, Chen Huang, Emperor Luo, Madam Yōu, and even the Frost Emperor, who had an indifferent expression on his face.

There were nine Envoys in the single image that Lu Yin was looking at. Together, these people represented most of the power in the entire Innerverse.

"Can any of them resist?" Lu Yin asked.

Emperor Luo was the one to answer in a respectful tone, "All of them have been sealed by the Frost Emperor."

Lu Yin nodded. "Lock them up, and I'll talk with them after I return. Anyone in Beast Tamers Flowzone or Souseal Flowzone who dares to try to resist will die."

"Understood."

After ending that call, Lu Yin immediately called Liu Huang. "Who was that?"

Liu Huang shook his head. "I don't know. I've never fought that person before, and they felt very odd. Still, they weren't very strong, just very strange. Their power level should be about the same as Liu Qianjue's."

Lu Yin's eyes flickered. "What did they want?"

"I noticed them as soon as they arrived at the fortress. I don't think they ever imagined someone like me would be hidden there," Liu Huang replied.

Liu Huang was not the only Envoy that Lu Yin had hidden, as the Sea King was also in hiding. Lu Yin had been on guard against the Court of Seven Names. However, no one from the Seven Courts had shown up, but instead an unknown powerhouse. If Lu Yin was right, that person should have been Leaf King.

Lu Yin had already believed Leaf King to be a powerful expert, as well as someone with extensive plans, but had never considered the possibility that Leaf King might be capable of escaping from Liu Huang.

Leaf King's goal had clearly been Sapling.

While Lu Yin was in Venom Flowzone, in addition to forcing the Divine Venom Dynasty to join the Great Eastern Alliance, he also needed to look into the wireless jincan and gather more information about Infernal Zone. Anything else was not important, and he wanted to return as soon as possible.

Since Forgotten Ruins God suspected that Lu Yin had some connection to the Horned Galaxy incident, there was no way the Neohuman Alliance would simply drop the matter. Lu Yin needed to find a way to get in touch with Kui Luo, but he had no idea what the old man might be doing.

Lu Yin spent most of his day in the ruins of the imperial palace. He called and spoke with Wang Wen, Wei Rong, Qiong Xi'er, and Shui Chuanxiao, mostly about plans for the unification of the Inniverse.

Qing Li, Qing Longlong, Yuan Miaomiao, and others stayed far away from Lu Yin, simply watching him. Everyone else from the Divine Venom Dynasty kept their distance as well. Even though many of them wanted to attack Lu Yin, they knew they were unable to do anything at all to him.

Night had completely fallen by the time that Lu Yin put his gadget aside. The various details regarding the great and minor flowzones of the Innerverse joining the Great Eastern Alliance could be handled by his various subordinates after the major issue of the eight great flowzones' resistance had been dealt with. The other powers were not any problem at all.

At the moment, Lu Yin was eager to inspect the Divine Venom Dynasty's treasury.

History had so far proven that Lu Yin would be able to reap great profits every time he defeated a powerful organization.

Lu Yin looked at Qing Li with glittering eyes, and slowly said, "Qing Shaohuang previously asked me to go to the imperial treasury to choose something that I want. Is that offer still valid?"

Qing Li's face twitched. "Of course, of course. I'll show you there myself."

Lu Yin nodded and waved at Yuan Miaomiao, who hurried over to him.

She had perked up a great deal after the threat of Yuan Taishi had been removed.

"Head on back for now and wait for me. I'll find you," Lu Yin quietly told the girl. When he looked at her face, his eyes lit up.

For many people, this would be their reaction simply when gazing upon the woman's beautiful face, but Lu Yin was actually staring at Progenitor Chen's emblem that was hidden beneath the love flower that covered half of Yuan Miaomiao's face.

Yuan Miaomiao hummed a quiet agreement, but stopped just as she was about to leave. She was looking at Qing Longlong. Yuan Miaomiao opened her mouth, but she had no words to speak.

Qing Longlong remained standing where she was in silence.

Lu Yin casually asked Qing Li, "Do you want to bring Qing Sheng back?"

Qing Li nodded. Everyone who had been present had heard Qing Shaohuang's last words as he had been taken away. Qing Sheng was the future ruler of the Divine Venom Dynasty, as he was Qing Shaohuang's only son. King Qing Li could only function as a regent.

"Honestly, I feel you're very well suited to ruling the Divine Venom Dynasty," Lu Yin said as he followed the king towards a certain corner of the imperial palace.

Lu Yin's words left Qing Li momentarily stunned, and he immediately remembered that Lu Yin had spoken similar words to him once in Fennel Flowzone. This was the second time that Lu Yin had suggested such a thing to Qing Li, yet the king refused once again, "Qing Sheng is the inheritor of the Divine Venom Dynasty, and the people all know this."

Lu Yin laughed. "It's always debatable whether or not an inheritor will receive their inheritance, it's just that normally the inheritors of your empire are too powerful and no one can resist them. If someone had the strength to resist, who would be willing to be ruled by someone else? Did you really not mind when Attendant Yi spoke down to you so much?"

Qing Li quietly answered, "Thank you, Alliance Leader Lu, for thinking of me, but I really don't want such a position. It sounds exhausting."

Lu Yin gave the man a hard look before shaking his head and dropping the matter.

After Qing Shaohuang had been arrested, Qing Li had resolved the Divine Venom Dynasty's crisis with just a few words. At that time, everyone had gazed at the man with great admiration. Lu Yin had also believed that the king had the heart to guide the Divine Venom Dynasty, but at the moment, it seemed that Qing Li had given the matter more thought.

Additionally, there was only way path forward for Venom Flowzone, which was to join the Great Eastern Alliance. If things did not work out well and the Divine Venom Dynasty was pushed into an even worse situation, Qing Li knew that he would be the empire's greatest sinner.

Regardless of whether or not Qing Li was willing to take control of the Divine Venom Dynasty, the current situation required that Qing Sheng take the throne.

Lu Yin had learned to never underestimate people who seemed to be lazy and unmotivated. He had learned this from Ming Zhaoshu. That experience had taught Lu Yin that there were people who were not actually weak or worthless, but rather that they would not take action until they deemed that it was the right time.

Lu Yin had reached a higher level, and so he had become able to see through many such people. However, there were still people like Ming Zhaoshu or Qing Li who might be at Lu Yin's level or an even higher level. What about Undying Yushan? Who could possibly see through such a person?

Intelligence was its own version of strength, and there could be perfectly ordinary humans whose wisdom might surpass even that of a Semi-Progenitor.

They finally reached a section of the imperial palace that Lu Yin had never visited before. This was their destination.

The area was heavily guarded, and there were even Enlighteners among the guards.

At the moment, Qing Li was in charge of the Divine Venom Dynasty on behalf of the new emperor, so the king was able to pass through all of the security without any fuss or difficulty. However, all of the guards glared at Lu Yin with open hatred.

"You should warn them, as if anything happens, I won't be able to hold myself back, and it might lead to a massacre," Lu Yin commented as he followed Qing Li underground.

Qing Li's heart skipped a beat. "Understood, Alliance Leader Lu."

The Divine Venom Dynasty's treasury was located within a spatial crack, just like the Bizarre Sect's ruins on Aegis Planet. The Blaze Realm's treasury had also been hidden in a similar spatial fold.

...

Lu Yin looked around at the star essence that formed mountains, as well as countless poisons, raw materials, jincans, and more. The joy in his eyes was visible to anyone who saw him.

"Your Divine Venom Dynasty is this rich?" Lu Yin was surprised, as he saw more star essence in the treasury than he had obtained anywhere else in the Fifth Mainland. Even if it was not able to compare to what he had seen on the Perennial World's Junior Progenitor Planets, it was still an absurd amount.

Qing Li looked at Lu Yin's ecstatic expressions. It turned out that the rumors were true, this person's greatest pleasure came from gathering star essence. "Even though my Divine Venom Dynasty doesn't interact with the outside world, countless people still enter Venom Flowzone every year to buy jincans or poisons. Many people have also lost their lives while in Venom Flowzone, and whatever possessions might have been on them aren't returned to the outside world, but are instead collected by members of the empire.

"Over the course of time, my Divine Venom Dynasty has acquired a great deal of resources."

Lu Yin quickly understood. The truth of the matter was that while outsiders might enter Venom Flowzone, the citizens of the Divine Venom Dynasty did not really leave the empire. This meant essentially a one-way flow of funds. Wealth would flow in, but would not leave Venom Flowzone. They possessed an ideal seller's market.

Lu Yin remembered how Qiong Xi'er had once complained about how it was impossible to do business with people from Venom Flowzone. She claimed that the people were idiots, and that their prices were completely arbitrary. Frequently, the prices would be very high, and they would not hesitate to cheat people.

"3.4 billion star essence," Qing Li said.

Lu Yin sucked in a deep breath. "I like your Divine Venom Dynasty."

Qing Li shrugged. "Actually, a considerable portion of our resources were already taken away by our emperor."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "What a pity."

Aside from star essence, the most common goods in the treasury were poisons, jincans, certain types of materials, as well as a few items and natural treasures. Of course, there were also a few battle techniques and such.

Given Lu Yin's current strength, most things no longer held any appeal to him. Despite that, he still found some things that he wanted. He found even fatesand, and while it was only a single bit of it, that was still quite good.

He also picked up a few strange poisons and materials that he would be able to trade with Aurora Enterprises or First Edition City.

"What about Transience?" Lu Yin asked. He had never been able to forget this poison, as it was invisible, scentless, and did not even possess any runes.

Qing Li had already expected Lu Yin to bring up Transience. "Transience is the emperor's most important poison, and it is not something that can be stored in this treasury. He always carries it on him."

Lu Yin stared at Qing Li, and the king returned the stare without any fear.

Lu Yin felt that there was no need for Qing Li to try to hide Transience at this moment.

Lu Yin pulled out his Escape Orb that he had been given. "Is there Transience on this?"

Qing Li hesitated for a moment. "I'm not certain, but most likely, yes."

"Why didn't Qing Shaohuang trigger the Escape Orb in order to poison me?" Lu Yin asked.

"Most likely because he was worried about the Chief Justice," Qing Li guessed.

Lu Yin's expression hardened. "No, he didn't poison me because he's certain he'll be able to return. Basically, he didn't poison me because he was worried the Chief Justice would be able to remove the poison from my system, but more importantly, because he actually didn't cooperate with the Neohuman Alliance. Even if he was dragged down by his association with Yuan Taishi, Qing Shaohuang will only be locked up for a while at worst, but he'll come back."

Qing Li was surprised. "Alliance Leader Lu believes my royal brother to be innocent of colluding with the Neohuman Alliance?"

Lu Yin laughed. "Not just he, but the Chief Justice as well. If that weren't the case, you and Qing Longlong wouldn't still be here. You both would have been hauled off as well."