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Chapter 1901: That Which Should Not Be Seen

Many people were gathering the shattered remains of the Absolute Beast Cage in order to make weapons from them. Since this was a metal that even Empyrean Imprinters had struggled to break, it would definitely make for powerful weapons.

However, they were all disappointed by the results. The shattered remains of the Absolute Beast Cage were similar to a corpse after a creature's vitality had been lost. Forget Empyrean Imprinters—even Explorers could easily crush the shards of the cage. While it was still good enough for Limiteers to use as weapons, it was useless to anyone with the strength of an Explorer or above.

Lu Yin found a massive fragment of metal from the shattered cage that still stunk of blood. He let out a breath, and the fragment shattered even though he didn't use any strength at all.

Did First Edition City really need such a thing?

He quickly called the deputy city master and told Little Bear what he had learned. Despite the news, Little Bear insisted that they still wanted the metal as badly as ever.

Since the Technocracy wanted it so badly, Lu Yin would gather it for them. Still, there were too many fragments for Lu Yin to gather everything into his cosmic ring. He was left with no choice but to reach out to the Cloud Valley Master and ask the man to send some Sixth Mainland cultivators to help him gather up the broken pieces of metal.

The Cloud Valley Master initially thought that he had misheard Lu Yin's request. The Sixth Mainland was still in the middle of a battle with the Astral Beast Domain and were pushing forward to counterattack the astral beasts. What was Lu Yin thinking? Why would he ever ask him to send people back to help Lu Yin pick up some broken scraps? If even a Cosmic Imprinter had submitted such a request, the Cloud Valley Master would have cursed them to death for such a thing. However, he had to show Lu Yin some face.

Unable to refuse, the Cloud Valley Master sent some spacecraft with cultivators of little to no combat strength to return and help Lu Yin collect the metal scraps that were drifting through space. Everything was then dumped into Frostwave Weave.

The fact that the Cloud Valley Master had agreed to Lu Yin's request made the young man feel that something was off. He wondered what had happened. Had the Progenitor of Bloodlines said something to the Sixth Mainland as a whole? That seemed highly

unlikely. In that case, what about Lan Xian? That woman wanted to see Lu Yin suffer as much as possible, so just what had happened?

Aside from the shards of the broken Absolute Beast Cage, Lu Yin wanted one more thing to take back: the piece of Progenitor Wushang's hide that he had left on the face of the desiccated corpse that had chased Lu Yin down and attacked him when he had broken through to the Explorer realm.

The piece of Progenitor Wushang's hide that Lu Yin had picked up from the Ghost Monkey was very small, and he had lost it in the Primal Zone when he left it on the face of a desiccated corpse. Lu Yin was planning to make a trip into the Primal Zone to retrieve it.

He had lost the large piece of Progenitor Wushang's hide for good, so he at least needed to get the small piece back.

. . .

Elsewhere in the Outerverse, on the same average-looking planet, Kui Luo licked his lips as he stared greedily at a table full of food. "Come, grandchildren! Let's dig in!"

Bu Kong's felt his scalp go numb. Grandchildren? It felt like a swear word, but he was already becoming used to it.

Xiao Qing rolled her eyes. "Grandpa Kui Luo, when can we leave?"

Meng Erye also looked up, his eyes filled with expectation.

Kui Luo continued to enjoy a bite of a refreshing side dish as he let out a long breath. "Leave? Is grandpa treating you badly? Are you unhappy spending time with your grandpa? Why do you want to leave?"

Xiao Qing was frustrated. "But I want to get back to cultivating."

Kui Luo rolled his eyes. "What's the use of cultivating? Youths should spend their time enjoying life, not bothering with boring things like cultivating."

Xiao Qing gritted her teeth. This old man had become a Semi-Progenitor through cultivating, but he no longer cared about such things. He was acting in a typical manner by refusing to help those weaker than himself after gaining what he wanted for himself. Such a person deserved to be beaten!

The door opened, and an old man wearing dark red robes walked in.

Several nearby people glanced over. It was very unusual for an old person to wear clothes of such a color, so it stood out.

The red-robed old man walked right up behind Kui Luo and looked down at him.

Kui Luo seemed to not notice as he continued to enjoy his food.

Across the table, the faces of Madam Hong and the others all changed drastically when they saw the old man standing behind Kui Luo. While ordinary people could not sense a thing, these people were all cultivators, and just a glance from this old man caused an unfathomable pressure to envelop them. He felt larger than they could comprehend, as though he had replaced the sky itself and was taking over the entire world.

Just a look from the red-robed old man caused Madam Hong to spit out a mouthful of blood that painted the entire table red.

Right after that, Meng Erye, Bu Kong, and Xiao Qing all did the same.

The restaurant owner was stunned into silence. Vomiting blood from eating? This was the end! His business was doomed!

Kui Luo had extended his hand to grab some vegetables, but all of the food was suddenly painted over with blood. He slapped the table in anger, and the owner of the restaurant hurried over in order to placate his customers. Kui Luo turned around and stared at the old man in the red robes. "Are you looking for trouble?"

The old man stared back at Kui Luo. "Who are you?"

Kui Luo sneered and stepped onto his seat. "And who are you?"

"Xue Laogui," the old man answered indifferently.

Madam Hong was startled. "A Semi-Progenitor?"

Meng Erye and the others had not originally even known of Xue Laogui's existence, but too many things had befallen the Sixth Mainland in recent years. At one point, the Seven Skygods had even attacked the Daosource Sect. The names of the Semi-Progenitors still hidden within the Daosource Sect had almost become public knowledge, and one of those three was named Xue Laogui.

Had a Semi-Progenitor come after them? Bu Kong's face went white. This was the end of the line.

Kui Luo stared at Xue Laogui for a long time. Finally, he said, "You guys made a mistake."

Xue Laogui arched a brow. "Tell me."

"You can't catch me!" With those words, Kui Luo suddenly disappeared.

A cold glint flashed through Xue Laogui's eyes. He did not even glance at Meng Erye and the others, but simply tore through space and vanished.

The owner of the restaurant turned white, as though he had just seen a ghost. Where did the man go? Had he just disappeared?

Meng Erye and the others glanced at each other, and Bu Kong reflexively moved to flee, but Meng Erye set a hand on the youth's shoulder. "Come with me, traitor."

He then left with Bu Kong and Xiao Qing, leaving only Madam Hong at the table.

With Kui Luo gone, Meng Erye and the others had regained their freedom, but Madam Hong still had not. Her stellular energy had been sealed away by Kui Luo, and the only way for her to release it was with his assistance. She had no choice but to stay behind on the planet and wait for his return.

Red filled the entire area. With a wave of Xue Laogui's hand, the red lava that had appeared in outer space turned white. The terrifyingly high temperature reduced countless planets to ash, and it even started to incinerate space and expose the true universe. This level of destruction was horrifying to witness.

Kui Luo let out a strangled cry as he shot out and patted his clothes. "You old bastard! Don't destroy the entire region! Don't you have any morals?"

He continued to shout as he fled, and Xue Laogui's eyes grew hard. "Come with me, and I may not be forced to kill you."

Kui Luo rolled his eyes. "You sure talk a big game for someone so young. Just catch me if you think you're all that!"

Kui Luo then shot across space, making his way east.

Xue Laogui gave a disdainful snort. The white lava formed itself into threads as fine as silk that shot into the distance. Everything that the threads touched as they passed was reduced to ash. It looked as though someone was slicing through the Outerverse.

Semi-Progenitors had their own inner worlds, which meant that they did not rely on stellular energy very much. Their inner worlds were something born only after their cultivation reached a sufficient level.

A person's inner world basically embodied everything that they were or possessed, including things like their battle techniques and spiritual force.

Xue Laogui's inner world consisted of lava. It was an infinite amount of lava that would burn everything without exception, and even Kui Luo was afraid of the endless heat. The lava was hot enough to render everything ash, and it was not something that living creatures could endure.

The white-hot threads of lava sped up behind Kui Luo, and space shattered wherever the threads passed by.

He turned around and poked a finger at the threads, but he almost immediately pulled back with lightning-quick reflexes before blowing at his finger while whining, "It's so hot! Hot! Hot!"

Xue Laogui hesitated when he saw the endless fear growing in Kui Luo's eyes. Wait, something was not right. There was something wrong with this old man. He had just touched Xue Laogui's white lava, which meant that their two inner worlds had just collided, but somehow, he had not suffered any damage.

When Semi-Progenitors fought each other, there were times when the battle would be conducted via their inner worlds. One example of this was when Forgotten Ruins God had fought against the Chief Justice, or when Lan Xian had fought Jiu Chi. Both of those incidents had been that of Semi-Progenitors demonstrating the power of their inner worlds.

Jiu Chi had destroyed Lan Xian's cherry blossoms with a drop of wine, and that wine had been Jiu Chi's inner world.

However, Kui Luo had not revealed his inner world or even a battle technique. He had just moved a finger, but that alone had left Xue Laogui's inner world helpless. He had only ever experienced something similar when facing Jiu Yao.

Xue Laogui briefly stopped, and he gazed at Kui Luo in a much more serious manner. "You- you've opened your third meridian point?"

Kui Luo was still blowing on his finger. When he heard Xue Laogui's words, the sides of his mouth twitched upwards. "Nope."

Xue Laogui might not have believed Kui Luo if the old man had said yes, but the answer "No" convinced Xue Laogui that his suspicion was correct. This person had indeed opened his third meridian point, which put him on the same level as the Fifth Mainland's Semi-Progenitor and Jiu Yao.

Things had just become problematic. The reason why the Sixth Mainland was so wary of the Fifth Mainland was because each of their Semi-Progenitors had the potential to become a Progenitor.

No one from the Sixth Mainland understood how the Fifth Mainland had acquired so much Origin Matter, but it was clear that each of the Fifth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors still had the possibility to become a Progenitor.

On the other hand, Xue Laogui was different. He had not opened his third meridian point, which meant that he would never be able to step into the Progenitor realm.

Despite facing a Semi-Progenitor who had opened his third meridian point, Xue Laogui still felt like he could not lose. "Who are you? Why have you targeted my Sixth Mainland?"

Kui Luo stared intently at Xue Laogui for a moment. "You should thank me, old man. If not for me, how would you have ever learned who your enemies are?"

Xue Laogui frowned. It was true that he had taken revenge due to information that Kui Luo had released by visiting and then destroying the Toolcasting family. However, as punishment for his actions, Jiu Yao had sent Xue Laogui to hunt down the person behind all the chaos. "Why did you make such a mess of my Sixth Mainland?"

"A mess? I don't think so. It was nothing more than tending to some matters of injustice and righting those wrongs. How many people were saved by those messages? In particular, I should be praised just for exposing what was happening with the Meng clan. If not for me, those two old men would have filled that entire clan with their own bastards. Don't you think that they should be thanking me?" Kui Luo replied in a matter-of-factly tone.

"As for the Cloud Valley, without me letting them know that their previous leader was captured by the Fan family, they would have never learned that they could still get him back. They should also be praising me. Actually, the ones who should be thanking me the most right now are Jiu Xiang and Xue Manzi."

Xue Laogui's expression instantly changed, and he screamed, "Shut up! Do not disrespect the Progenitors!"

Kui Luo rolled his eyes. "If not for the fact that I exposed those two perverts, how many of the women in your Daosource Sect would have suffered? Actually, why don't you go check on your granddaughter-in-law and your great-granddaughter-in-law to see if anything unusual happened to either of them."

Xue Laogui became furious, and his white lava instantly filled everything in sight. Space itself was burning.

Kui Luo became upset. "We were just chatting! Why are you attacking me? You don't understand the concept of gratitude, and you even act so rude as well. Just remember to go back and check on them. For all you know, your family's carrying those creeps' bastards."

Xue Laogui was livid. Enormous hands stretched out from the white lava to grab hold of Kui Luo. Each of the hands was hot enough to burn an Empyrean Imprinter.

Kui Luo groaned. "This is too hot! Time to go!"

With that, he disappeared.

Xue Laogui continued to chase after his quarry. He did not believe that he could overpower this mysterious Semi-Progenitor by himself, so it was important for Xue Laogui to keep an eye on the culprit while waiting for Jiu Yao.

Kui Luo had not only stirred up trouble for the Sixth Mainland, but he had also sneaked into the Daosource Sect. He had seen things he should not have, and that was what the Sixth Mainland feared the most. If Kui Luo leaked what he had learned there, it would expose the Daosource Sect's greatest secret. He simply could not be allowed to escape.

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Chapter 1902: Who Is This?

One day later, Lu Yin arrived in the Primal Zone.

Already, cultivators like the Sixth Mainland's Cloud Valley Master were making their way towards the eastern side of the Primal Zone, and Lu Yin wanted to find the planet where he had left the desiccated corpse in a stunned state so that he could retrieve the piece of Progenitor Wushang's hide.

Suddenly, Lu Yin and the Second Nightking stopped in place, and they glanced at each other at the same time. They had both sensed that something was off: it felt as though they were being watched.

The Second Nightking's spiritual force was incredibly powerful, and he was a monstrously strong powerhouse, so it was no surprise that he had managed to notice something.

As for Lu Yin, it was nothing more than a gut feeling. After he had become an Envoy, his instincts had become much sharper.

"Who's there? Come out," Lu Yin ordered as his gaze swept the area.

The Second Nightking had turned very serious. While it was unlikely that they were wrong, as they had both sensed someone's eyes at the same time, the fact that this

person was able to remain hidden from even the Second Nightking indicated a very powerful person.

Space twisted a short ways away from the two men, and a kind looking old man appeared. He gave Lu Yin a small smile as curiosity and admiration filled his eyes.

He was well dressed, and he gave those near him a feeling of comfort. There was a strange but refreshing medicine fragrance that appeared when he revealed himself.

"If I'm right, you should be Herb Immortal, one of the Four Empyreans, Senior" Lu Yin spoke in a respectful manner.

The old man nodded. "I've admired you from a distance for quite some time, Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin was struck by a feeling of dread. "I don't dare accept such a compliment. I'm nothing more than a junior to you, Senior."

"Hehe, there's no need for such modesty. You're the only newly risen Envoy in the entire universe who's able to sense this old man's presence. You even managed to sense me at the same time as the man from the Daynight beside you." Herb Immortal smiled as he looked at Lu Yin with growing admiration.

Lu Yin stared at Herb Immortal. Regardless of how kind this man looked or how he complimented Lu Yin, he was still one of the Sixth Mainland's Four Empyreans. The fact that the Second Nightking had not been able to find the man spoke of his power.

The Second Nightking stared at Herb Immortal. "You must be a Semi-Progenitor."

Lu Yin's gaze grew even more wary as he stared at Herb Immortal.

Herb Immortal smiled, neither denying nor admitting to anything. "Alliance Leader Lu, there are rumors that you are a direct descendant of the Lu family and that you possess the family's innate gift, the Champions' Stage. Could you show it to this old man?"

Lu Yin felt increasingly nervous. "What do you mean, Senior?"

Herb Immortal quickly apologized. "I'm sorry for my rudeness, but I'm merely curious and have no further intentions. The Champions' Stage is simply too famous, and I heard of it many times in my youth, though I was never able to see one for myself. I already have one foot in the grave, and there's no telling when I might pass. I only asked to fulfill an old dream, so I hope you won't take any offense from my words, Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin had no idea whether or not he could trust Herb Immortal. He glanced over at the Second Nightking, only to see the old man had taken a step forward and was growing increasingly vigilant.

Herb Immortal continued to give Lu Yin a faint smile, showing no hostility from the beginning.

Lu Yin hesitated a bit as he considered the old man's request further. "If you want to see it, I don't have a problem with it, Senior."

The Champions' Stage appeared in front of him.

Herb Immortal's eyes flared when the Champions' Stage appeared, and he exclaimed, "This is the Lu family's hereditary innate gift, the Champions' Stage? This is the power that can make one person as strong as an entire nation? Are those markings on it those who have been anointed?"

Lu Yin quickly dismissed the Champions' Stage and said, "They're merely some patterns."

He did not make a habit of revealing his trump cards. He had recently fought quite a few people, and thus did not want to expose any more of his techniques than necessary.

Herb Immortal gave a small smile and sighed. "Back then, the Lu family's Champions' Stage was considered invincible. Any one of them who possessed it was able to suppress an entire battlefield. Everyone who saw a Champions' Stage would lose all will to fight, no matter if they were an enemy or even a comrade-in-arms. It was an invincible power that could deter anyone."

Lu Yin was puzzled: back then?

Herb Immortal raised a hand and tossed a thin, translucent paper over to Lu Yin. No, it seemed to be a piece of skin.

The Second NightKing reached out and took it.

"This outer skin of a pill is a coincidental by-product from refining some pills. It's not very useful, but it does possess a decent degree of toughness, as it can withstand attacks with power levels of over a million without issue. This is my thanks for fulfilling an old man's wish," Herb Immortal explained.

Lu Yin was amazed as he took the skin from the Second Nightking. His pupils transformed into runes, and he saw a shocking number or rune lines from the skin that were comparable to what Yuan Shi possessed, despite the skin being as thin as a cicada's wings. He used his full strength to try to tear the skin, but nothing at all happened to it. It really could endure attacks with power levels of over a million.

Lu Yin immediately thought of making some clothing with this skin. If he had a bit more of it, he could fashion some clothes to wear, and then he would be able to brashly roam

about as he wished. He looked back up and was about to say something, only to discover that Herb Immortal was already gone.

"Where'd he go?"

"He left," the Second Nightking replied.

No shit! That's obvious! "Which way did he go?"

The Second Nightking looked to the east.

Lu Yin pursed his lips as he put away the pill skin. He remembered Herb Immortal's earlier words: "Back then." The old man had spoken as though it had been something he had witnessed himself. Wait, what if that was exactly what had happened?

Herb Immortal was someone from the Rock Realm, and Xin Nü had mentioned that many people from the Rock Realm had previously been sealed within stone. Could Herb Immortal be someone who had been sealed in stone during a battle in that ancient war as well, only to be unsealed much earlier than Xin Nü? It could even be possible that the two had lived during the same era.

It was actually a possibility.

"Let's go." Just as Lu Yin and the Second Nightking were moving to continue searching for the planet where Lu Yin had suppressed the desiccate corpse, a terrifying aura spread out from far to the east. It shook both the Primal Zone and Ironblood Weave before spreading even further.

Lu Yin turned to look to the east in shock. "A Semi-Progenitor!"

At the eastern border of the Primal Zone, the people of the Sixth Mainland were preparing to push into the Astral Beast Domain. This was to be the first step of their counterattack.

However, a middle-aged man in a black robe suddenly appeared before the army. At the exact same time, Herb Immortal appeared as well. Two terrifying forces clashed and tore space apart.

This collision of Semi-Progenitors' strength sent a shockwave sweeping through the Primal Zone, leaving only destruction in its wake.

Everyone from the Sixth Mainland retreated.

Herb Immortal's expression grew ugly. "Yao Di."

The black-clothed middle-aged man who had appeared at the border of the Primal Zone was the Celestial Demon Emperor of the Celestial Beast Empire. The Astral Beast Domain's only known Semi-Progenitor.

It was no surprise that Yao Di had made an appearance. Xu Qing was somewhere that he could not be contacted, and the Sixth Mainland had invaded the Primal Zone and was pushing into the Astral Beast Domain. Apart from Yao Di, there was no one else who could stop the Sixth Mainland's invasion.

At this moment, Herb Immortal revealed the strength of a Semi-Progenitor, confirming the rumors that he had reached that level.

However, not even a Semi-Progenitor was able to stop Yao Di. Herb Immortal was overwhelmed during their clash.

"Leave the Primal Zone. This war ends here." Yao Di had the appearance of a man in his thirties, and he was just as good looking as Yao Xuan. The emperor's eyes held a majestic and refined quality, though it did not detract from his arrogance. He held his place like an immovable mountain, blocking all of the Sixth Mainland cultivators from proceeding any further.

Herb Immortal refused to retreat. "Your Astral Beast Domain invaded the Outerverse, yet you now want this war to start at your whim? You think too highly of yourself."

Yao Di glanced at Herb Immortal. "Killing you is only too easy."

A glint flickered across Herb Immortal's eyes. "Try it."

As he spoke, he gestured for Yao Di to proceed. Qing Hua and others quickly backed away from behind Herb Immortal. This had become a Semi-Progenitors' battlefield.

A terrifying spiritual force materialized and created a storm that swept through space and crashed towards Herb Immortal. The void was distorted in front of the man. It was the appearance of a famous battle technique: Herb King Dispersion. Everyone who had fought Herb Immortal before had learned that entering his Herb King Dispersion meant defeat was a certainty.

His Herb King Dispersion had just made another appearance, and it colliding directly with Yao Di's terrifying spiritual force.

Howling winds formed from the force of the spiritual force. As it touched upon the Herb King Dispersion, Yao Di's battle technique dissipated. Herb Immortal's face turned pale, and he was slowly pushed further back into the Primal Zone.

Qing Hua and other powerhouses from the Sixth Mainland were all startled. How was it possible that Herb Immortal, a Semi-Progenitor, was unable to stand up to Yao Di's spiritual force?

Yao Di raised a hand and pointed a finger forward. The maelstrom of spiritual force condensed, releasing a terrible pressure.

Herb Immortal's pupils instantly constricted. A medicinal cauldron appeared in space, and it sealed off Yao Di's spiritual force. This was Herb Immortal's inner world, and anything that was sealed within it would be incinerated.

Yao Di's brows rose. "Force Explosion."

The moment he spoke, the medicinal cauldron shuddered, and a crack appeared that started to spread.

Herb Immortal trembled violently and spat out blood. The difference in strength between him and his opponent was simply too vast. Compared to Yao Di, Herb Immortal was as weak as an Imprinter up against a Semi-Progenitor. Yao Di had absolutely opened his third meridian point.

Yao Di was the only Semi-Progenitor in the entire Astral Beast Domain, and the Astral Beast Domain possessed the Fourth Mainland's inheritances as well, which was what had allowed the emperor to open his third meridian point.

Herb Immortal's face turned ashen as he questioned whether or not he would die in this battle. Of the Sixth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors, only Jiu Yao could face Yao Di.

"As I said, killing you is too easy," Yao Di's voice was relaxed, yet the crack in the medicinal cauldron widened, and a trace of spiritual force leaked out. With a wave of the Celestial Demon Emperor's hand, the spiritual force gathered in one place before lashing out at Herb Immortal. This attack seemed able to draw in all things, and even space itself was parted like a curtain of water.

From the perspective of Qing Hua and others, it looked as though the entire Astral Beast Domain had just been focused into a single point that had been sent crashing into Herb Immortal.

The medicinal cauldron quickly moved in front of the man to act as a shield. However, a bit of the spiritual force pierced the cauldron and continued on towards Herb Immortal.

Just as the man believed his life to be over, he heard an exclamation. "Is this the spiritual force the Celestial Demons possess? It truly is terrifying."

Boom

Countless people watching from outside the Primal Zone were left stunned as space shattered and cracks spread throughout the Primal Zone and the Astral Beast Domain.

Yao Di's expression froze and he looked up to stare into the distance. Someone had managed to stop his spiritual force.

Herb Immortal stood within the Primal Zone, blood leaking from a corner of his mouth. At some unknown time, a person had appeared in front of him. This man was Kui Luo.

A Semi-Progenitor's speed meant that they were able to easily cross vast distances almost instantaneously, and Kui Luo had been able to travel to the Primal Zone very quickly.

His arrival had coincidentally helped Herb Immortal block a killing blow.

The next moment, Xue Laogui appeared. He stared blankly at the scene before him, unsure of what was going on. He arrived at the Primal Zone by chasing Kui Luo, and thus had witnessed Kui Luo blocking Yao Di's attack and saving Herb Immortal. Was this man not an enemy of the Sixth Mainland? Why had he helped Herb Immortal?

"Who are you?" Herb Immortal and Yao Di asked in unison.

Kui Luo stared at Yao Di in amazement. "As expected from the stories, you're a creature that's most suited for cultivating spiritual force. Even in ancient times, the Celestial Demons were the top species in the Fourth Mainland. Truly impressive."

Yao Di was much more solemn when facing Kui Luo than he had been when confronting Herb Immortal. "Who are you?"

"Just an outsider who has nothing to do with this war. My hands just got itchy when I saw your spiritual force and I wanted to give it a go," Kui Luo replied in a cheeky tone.

Yao Di frowned. He had assumed this man had to be one of the Sixth Mainland's hidden powerhouses, but he was nothing but an outsider and an idiot!

However, Xue Laogui's appearance drew a bit of Yao Di's attention as well. Three human Semi-Progenitors were present, and Kui Luo was even capable of blocking the astral beast emperor's spiritual force. This battle looked to be much more challenging than he had assumed.

Herb Immortal also felt confused by the arrival of Xue Laogui and the mysterious Semi-Progenitor. "Who is this?"

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Chapter 1903: What's The Big Deal?

Xue Laogui was facing a dilemma. Kui Luo had just helped to block Yao Di's attack, but the man was also an enemy of the Sixth Mainland himself! If this was revealed and the old man teamed up with Yao Di, Xue Laogui and Herb Immortal were doomed.

Xue Laogui remained silent for a long time.

Kui Luo glanced at Xue Laogui, Herb Immortal, and Yao Di, and he also remained silent. The battlefield in the Primal Zone battlefield had grown eerily quiet.

Yao Di's eyes narrowed as he stared at Kui Luo. "Are you from the Sixth Mainland?"

Kui Luo shook his head.

Yao Di frowned. "The Human Domain?"

Kui Luo shook his head again.

Yao Di frowned, and he growled, "It doesn't matter who you are! This war ends here!"

Faced with three Semi-Progenitors, he no longer tried to demand the Sixth Mainland's forces withdraw from the Primal Zone. An unfathomable powerhouse had appeared, and Yao Di had no confidence that he would be able to threaten the humans any longer.

Kui Luo quickly spoke up, "Don't stop. This war is entirely your business and it has nothing to do with me. I was just passing by, so please, continue."

After speaking, he stepped into the void and shot back towards Ironblood Weave.

Xue Laogui instinctively wanted to give chase, but Herb Immortal quickly stopped him. "Xue Laogui, do you want to watch as I die?"

Xue Laogui hesitated, and his cold gaze swept past Herb Immortal and eventually stopped on Yao Di. If Herb Immortal was abandoned at this moment, then not only Herb Immortal, but everyone from the Sixth Mainland would be condemned to die. Yao Di would be unstoppable. Still, capturing that old man remained the top priority.

Xue Laogui stared at the Celestial Demon Emperor intently for a moment before agreeing. "The war ends here."

Yao Di sneered inwardly. He was able to tell that the old man from before was not from the Sixth Mainland, and that he even held a grudge against them. "It can end after you pull out of the Primal Zone."

Xue Laogui's eyes grew cold. He was just about to agree, but he suddenly paused and glanced back at the Cloud Valley Master. The man had just sent a voice transmission to Xue Laogui, insisting that they could not abandon the Primal Zone, at least for the moment.

The fighting between Ironblood Weave and the Primal Zone would never end. The war that Yao Di was saying needed to end was not the end of the fighting between the Sixth Mainland and the Astral Beast Domain, but merely the end of the Astral Beast Domain's invasion of the Outerverse. After the Semi-Progenitors left, the fighting in Ironblood Weave would continue, and the Astral Beast Domain would continue to attempt an invasion.

Yao Di had only shown up to stop the current battle, not end all wars.

In fact, his primary objective for appearing in the Primal Zone at this moment was to conceal the return of the invasion force.

The horde of astral beasts that had fled after invading the Outerverse had escaped into the Astral Wilderness in order to return to the Astral Beast Domain, and the last section of their journey would see them pass through the Primal Zone. The survival of the returning astral beasts would be determined by whoever controlled the Primal Zone.

This was what controlling the Primal Zone meant at this time, and it was also the only reason Herb Immortal had taken just a risk for the control of the territory.

Yao Di had appeared in order to rendezvous with Xu Qing's returning astral beasts and escort them into the Astral Beast Domain.

That horde of astral beasts was too powerful a force, and the loss of such numbers and powerhouses would see the Astral Beast Domain's strength drop by nearly half. As long as those beasts were all eliminated, Ironblood Weave would remain safe for the foreseeable future.

The Sixth Mainland had no intention of simply remaining in the Outerverse forever. Their goal had always been the entire Fifth Mainland, and despite setbacks like the Progenitor of Secret Arts' betrayal which had lowered the strength of the entire Sixth Mainland, their self-confidence was quickly being regained.

They would definitely have to fight against the Hall of Honor in the future, and they could not do so with the threat of an invasion appearing through Ironblood Weave. The Sixth Mainland needed this peace of mind for the sake of their future endeavors. This was simply too important to ignore.

This was a matter that could determine the success of the goals of the entire Sixth Mainland. This was why they could not abandon the Primal Zone. If they retreated at this time, the least that they had to ensure was that they gained some advantage over

the Astral Beast Domain by utilizing Xu Qing's horde of astral beasts. If they could not even do that, the Sixth Mainland would end up as nothing more than a tool that had been used throughout the entire war. Not only had they been invaded by the Astral Beast Domain, they would also lose a region of their territory.

While Xue Laogui hesitated, Kui Luo completely disappeared. Xue Laogui would no longer be able to catch up no matter how hard he tried.

"This war is over. Leave the Primal Zone now, or else you will never be able to leave this place alive," Yao Di threatened while staring straight at Xue Laogui.

Xue Laogui and Herb Immortal looked at each other. "Can we stop him if we cooperate?"

"We can at least try. As long as we can keep the Celestial Demon Empire here for a while, our Sixth Mainland will be able to grab Xu Qing's horde," Herb Immortal suggested.

"Alright," Xue Laogui replied and looked back at Yao Di. "I've heard that the Celestial Demons are powerful, and I hope to see how true those claims are."

White lava appeared throughout the surroundings, an Herb Immortal simultaneously attacked. His medicinal cauldron reappeared and it coordinated with the white lava to smash into Yao Di.

Yao Di contemptuously said, "You've both chosen death."

A fight between Semi-Progenitors would shatter the universe, and Qing Hua and others continuously fled back.

Further away, Lu Yin completely left the Primal Zone and pulled up his gadget to call Kui Luo, but failed to do so even after multiple attempts.

All Lu Yin could do was reach out to Shui Chuanxiao for the time being and give him orders to have the Great Eastern Alliance's fleet withdraw from Northcastle Weave and make their way into the asteroid field. The fighting had already reached the critical point, and the fate of the eastern weaves hung in the balance.

Although the Cloud Valley Master and the other powerhouses from the Sixth Mainland had all been very polite to Lu Yin. They had not demanded that the eastern weaves be returned to the Sixth Mainland's control, and though everything had looked to be going smoothly, Lu Yin could not relax. He continued to feel that there was something outside of his control, and so he was determined to stick to his original plan.

"Hey, what a coincidence," Kui Luo spoke up from behind Lu Yin.

The Second Nightking whirled around, startled. Unlike when Herb Immortal had approached, the Second Nightking had not been able to sense anything at all when Kui Luo had been nearby.

Lu Yin was also startled, and when he looked at Kui Luo, he muttered, "Would it kill you to show up like a normal person?"

"Why? You do something you should be feeling guilty about? What are you so afraid of?" Kui Luo casually asked.

Lu Yin pursed his lips. "Where've you been?"

Kui Luo replied, "I was being chased, which left me with no choice but to lure that guy over here. I showed up just in time to see a Celestial Demon Semi-Progenitor attacking, and I couldn't resist getting involved, so I saved one of the Sixth Mainland's Semi-Progenitor while I was there."

"Herb Immortal?" Lu Yin was surprised.

"No idea. He still hasn't opened his three meridian points, and he's too weak. If not for me stepping in, he would've died," Kui Luo said.

Lu Yin asked, "Is Yao Di that powerful?"

Kui Luo nodded. "Very powerful. No matter what, he's a Celestial Demon, and that species was considered very powerful even back in the ancient Fourth Mainland. There were records about them in your Lu family's ancient texts. They've had Progenitors of their own before."

Lu Yin frowned. "It doesn't sound like Herb Immortal will be able to stay alive without you."

Kui Luo just rolled his eyes. "That's not my business. He's not my kid."

Kui Luo suddenly hesitated and looked to the south. "It's getting quite busy here. Another Semi-Progenitor just showed up."

Lu Yin was taken aback by this. "Another Semi-Progenitor? Who?"

"Some woman. She's quite fetching and doesn't seem very old," Kui Luo replied.

Lu Yin immediately knew this person was Lan Xian. She was the Sixth Mainland's true plan for dealing with Yao Di. Xue Laogui's appearance had been nothing more than a coincidence. The original plan had been for Lan Xian to work together with Herb Immortal People to fight Yao Di.

The Sixth Mainland had a relatively clear understanding of Yao Di's strength, and they had already known that Herb Immortal alone would stand no chance. However, they had still been a step behind. Herb Immortal had nearly died, and Lan Xian would never be able to stop Yao Di on her own. With three Semi-Progenitors working together, it was impossible to know if Yao Di would win or lose.

Lu Yin soon saw enough runes to cover the entire region. They were moving to the north and passing through Ironblood Weave. They belonged to Lan Xian.

Kui Luo kept all three of the men hidden, so Lan Xian was unable to sense anything.

"Can those three Semi-Progenitors stop Yao Di together?" Lu Yin asked.

Kui Luo smirked. "None of them have managed to open their third meridian point. That woman isn't bad, as she's opened both the lower and middle meridian points, but she didn't have the Origin Matter to open her upper meridian point. They'll soon learn just how big of a gap that last step creates. Actually, why is the Sixth Mainland so short on Origin Matter?"

This was something that Lu Yin did not understand either. Every single one of the Fifth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors had Origin Matter and had opened all three meridian points. The Sixth Mainland's overall strength far surpassed that of the Fifth Mainland, yet they seemed to have basically no Origin Matter. When considering all of the Sixth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors, there were the three currently fighting Yao Di and then Jiu Yao, and yet only Jiu Yao possessed any Origin Matter. It was unknown if the dead Jiu San had possessed any Origin Matter.

It was possible that this shortage was due to the Perennial World. Each time that the Perennial World held a Yuanlun Festival, the Fifth Mainland would send their most talented youths to the Perennial World to seek out Origin Matter. After so many years, it made sense for the Fifth Mainland to have gathered a bit of Origin Matter.

"The Sixth Mainland is quite an interesting place. I'm going to go play with them again and uncover more of their secrets." Kui Luo's eyes sparkled in excitement.

The Second Nightking's eyes flashed. This old man was the one behind the Sixth Mainland's secrets that had been published? Suddenly, the Second Nightking viewed Kui Luo in a different light.

There was no one who could stop a Semi-Progenitor from doing such a despicable thing, and it could only be said that the Sixth Mainland was unlucky enough that this particular Semi-Progenitor was unreasonably powerful.

Lu Yin spoke up quickly when he saw that Kui Luo was about to leave. "There's no hurry to get back to that. Just wait around for a bit."

"Wait for what? You want me to stick around to chat with you?" Kui Luo rolled his eyes.

Lu Yin inquired about something that had surprised him, "You mentioned that you don't intend to try to break through to become Progenitor, yet you previously suggested that you've already opened your three meridian points. What did you need the Origin Matter for?"

Kui Luo blinked. "You misheard me. I've only opened two meridian points, not three."

Lu Yin sighed at the old bastard's response. "Don't leave quite yet. The war's about to end, and I might face some situation outside of my control. It's possible that another war will break out, or I might just achieve my goals. Regardless, both the Astral Beast Domain and the Sixth Mainland have Semi-Progenitors present. I can only feel safe with you nearby."

Kui Luo became upset. "I'm a man who goes with the wind! I can't stay tied down for too long."

"Just a little while. Things are almost done," Lu Yin murmured as he stared to the north.

"What a pain."

"By the way, Wang Si should have already come back to find me, but she never managed to track me down."

"That old bat's a difficult opponent."

"I know. One more thing: I managed to become an Envoy."

"Obviously. You think I'm blind?"

"After my breakthrough, a phenomenon appeared, and it was a tree. Even people in the Perennial World were able to see it."

Kui Luo froze, and his head slowly turned back to stare at Lu Yin in disbelief. "You- what did you say?"

Lu Yin replied casually, "My breakthrough to the Envoy realm produced a phenomenon that resonated with the Mother Tree. Many people in the Perennial World should have seen me when that happened. What's wrong?"

Kui Luo was dumbfounded and his mouth hung agape. "You're saying a phenomenon appeared after your breakthrough, and it was a tree that resonated with the Mother Tree itself? Wait a second, was the disturbance in the true universe back that caused by you to?"

Lu Yin nodded. "It wasn't a big deal."

Kui Luo mocked Lu Yin's words, "Wasn't a big deal? Why didn't you say anything about this to me sooner? Give people a bit of warning! You nearly caused me to faint! I'm an old man, remember!"

Lu Yin was taken aback by the old man's reaction. "Is it really that serious?"

Kui Luo looked Lu Yin up and down. He felt like he was staring at a monster. "Almost all Progenitors produce a phenomenon when they become an Envoy, so that's just a given. After all, which person who's able to become a Progenitor isn't insanely talented? However, having the phenomenon resonate with the Mother Tree and inducing a situation where the Perennial World can peer into the Forsaken Land? How can you possibly think that's a small matter? Such a phenomenon is unheard of! Wait no, I might have heard of it once before..."

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Chapter 1904: The Legend Of The Origin Progenitor

Kui Luo tried to remember for a bit before finally slapping himself in the head. "The Celestial Frost Sect's Bai Xian'er!"

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "Bai Xian'er?"

Kui Luo grew solemn. "When she became an Envoy, her phenomenon created a sensation that spread throughout the entire Perennial World, and the Mother Tree even swayed. That incident prompted a massive attack from Aeternus, and countless Redbacks raced over to the Celestial Frost Sect to kill her. Your phenomenon was clearly no smaller than hers, and likely was even bigger. You're in hot water now, as the Perennial World witnessed your phenomenon and they'll never let you go now."

Lu Yin replied, "I know. That's why I've got some people keeping an eye on Sky Creation Academy."

"The Aeternals will never allow you to get away, either," Kui Luo warned.

Lu Yin was not too worried about that. While his talent and strength might be enough to make the Aeternals wary, the stronger he became, the greater his chances when fighting the four ruling powers.

"Don't worry about that too much. That's something for me to worry about later. Help me resolve this war for now," Lu Yin encouraged.

Kui Luo rolled his eyes again. "This is ridiculous! How can such a tiny war be of any importance to you?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "There's no way out of it. This region has to be protected."

Kui Luo's mind became filled with thoughts of how Lu Yin's breakthrough had produced a phenomenon. The more the old man thought about it, the more unhappy he became. This whole thing should be Lu Yin's problem, and yet Kui Luo somehow found himself getting worked up about it and even dragged in. This was not how he usually handled things. He deliberately chose his next words, "By the way, there's something I need to tell you as well."

"What's that?" Lu Yin grew curious.

Kui Luo spoke in an exaggeratedly casual tone, "It's not a big deal, but when I visited the Daosource Sect, I found a statue that should be of the legendary Origin Progenitor. The Sixth Mainland's three Progenitors often worship that statue."

Lu Yin thought he must have misheard. "Say that again?"

The corners of Kui Luo's mouth curled up into a smile, and his voice grew proud. "It's nothing. It's just a minor detail."

Lu Yin was stunned. "The three Progenitors all worship this statue? How could that possibly be a minor detail?

"Oh, and what's the Origin Progenitor?"

Kui Luo was taken aback. "You don't know?"

Lu Yin shook his head and then glanced over at the Second Nightking, who also had a blank look on his face.

Kui Luo sighed in disappointment. "Both of you are severely lacking in education! How can you both be so ignorant? One of you's a direct descendant of the Lu family and even inherited the God of Death's power, while the other's lived longer than anyone?"

The old man cleared his throat and took some time internally organizing his explanation. "Listen carefully: legends claim that the Origin Progenitor lived at the dawn of humanity. I have no idea if he was the first person to live, or simply the first person who cultivated. Regardless, there are various versions of the legends.

"The story says that this Origin Progenitor founded the Daosource Sect and became the first human Progenitor. He spread his wisdom to countless people, which paved the way for human civilization to practice cultivation. Years later, powerful Progenitors such as the God of Death, Destiny, and Wu Tian rose to power.

"Whenever new generations of cultivators step onto their path, they are supposed to worship the Origin Progenitor, as he is the foundation of all of humanity's faith.

"When exploring the Daosource Sect, I found a statue that had a giant python wrapped around the figure's waist, as well as an eagle perched on his shoulders. That is very similar to the image painted by the legends, and it was also enshrined in the deepest regions of the Daosource Sect. This makes it very likely that it was a statue of the Origin Progenitor."

Lu Yin and the Second Nightking were both stunned by this story. The legends they had heard regarding the God of Death and Destiny had already been exaggerated enough, and if it were not for the fact that traces of those two Ancient Progenitors' power still existed, Lu Yin would struggle to accept that such people had ever lived. However, he was being told an even more ancient legend about some Origin Progenitor who founded human cultivation and even established the Daosource Sect. It sounded as though this person had created the known universe.

"Did the Origin Progenitor really live?" the Second Nightking asked. He was unable to shake off his disbelief.

Kui Luo shrugged. "That's what the legends say, but how would I know for sure? You can try asking the Sixth Mainland's three Progenitors. They should believe in whoever it is they're worshiping."

The Second Nightking nearly choked at hearing those words.

"Actually, you've lived longer than anyone, and I even heard that you were around before the Mother Tree was taken from the Forsaken Land. So why don't you know anything?" Kui Luo asked the Second Nightking with open contempt.

The Second Nightking's face twitched. The history of his Daynight clan was not something glorious. During those ancient times, they had been an obscure clan that had been enslaved to the Bai family.

"But do you believe they did?" Lu Yin asked. This legend about the Origin Progenitor sounded more like fantasy. It defied belief that there was such a powerhouse from a time before even the God of Death.

Kui Luo said, "It doesn't matter if I believe it or not, as it doesn't make any difference. Even if the man did exist, he would have died ages ago. Supposedly, he's the one who planted the Mother Tree, but who knows?"

Even legends could be categorized into different levels.

For ordinary people, cultivators who were able to tear through space, enter the void, or move mountains and seas were seen as legends.

For cultivators, the inner worlds that Semi-Progenitors possessed were legends.

So, what would be a legend for a Semi-Progenitor? The God of Death and Destiny could both be considered legends, as could the Origin Progenitor.

Legends might be true, but such things were at a level that was too far removed from people that they simply could not believe them.

If the Origin Progenitor had truly existed, how strong had he been? There had to be a reason for that statue to be enshrined within the Daosource Sect.

The oldest organization in the universe was not the Hall of Honor, nor the Perennial World's four ruling powers, but rather the Daosource Sect. Even after the Sixth Mainland had been separated from other Mainlands, the Daosource Sect's legacy that had been passed down from time immemorial had continued. No one could know just how long that statue had existed.

Progenitor Chen had been considered to be invincible, yet other Progenitors had never worshiped him.

Since the Origin Progenitor had worshippers, the legends might just be true.

. . .

Shockwaves from the Semi-Progenitors' battle swept through the Primal Zone and Ironblood Weave. Even with Herb Immortal cooperating with Xue Laogui to fight Yao Di, the two humans were still being overpowered. The Cloud Valley Master and others who were watching were forced to retreat time and time again, and fear filled their hearts.

"Have you discovered any traces of Xu Qing and the invasion force?" A voice spoke up.

Those watching the battle looked over and became ecstatic when they saw who had just spoken. "Lan Xian?"

Lan Xian stared eastwards. Yao Di's strength was beyond terrifying. Herb Immortal and Xue Laogui would not be able to endure for much longer, and she was getting anxious to join them.

Xue Laogui's presence was a lucky happenstance, as it was clear that it would have been impossible for Lan Xian and Herb Immortal to have put up any sort of resistance against Yao Di.

"Nothing's been discovered yet, but they are definitely on their way back to the Astral Beast Domain, and they will have to pass through the Primal Zone," the Cloud Valley Master answered respectfully.

Lan Xian's eyes flashed. "Get the Great Eastern Alliance to join this war."

The Cloud Valley Master felt puzzled. "The Great Eastern Alliance?"

Lan Xian replied, "Offer them permanent control of the eastern weaves as an incentive to work with us. Then, after Xu Qing and his horde are destroyed, we will take those weaves back."

The Cloud Valley Master and the others felt thoroughly confused. They had previously provided Lu Yin with assistance and had allowed him to take the eastern weaves, so why were they suddenly changing things and trying to act against the Great Eastern Alliance at this time?

Lan Xian silently stifled her annoyance. She had been deceived. When Lu Yin had forced the Sixth Mainland to take over the war against the invading astral beasts, he had used Progenitor Wushang's hide as leverage. At that time, Lan Xian had believed that the Great Eastern Alliance was trying to leave, and thus the Sixth Mainland had threatened to leave the Great Eastern Alliance with the eastern weaves in order to make Lu Yin suffer. Lan Xian had never considered that Lu Yin would have no intention of leaving the eastern weaves at all. Everything he had done had been part of an elaborate plot.

She had believed she could control Lu Yin, but instead had ended up falling into his trap. She had actually personally delivered the eastern weaves into his possession.

As these thoughts flashed through her mind, Lan Xian could not help regretting her previous choices.

Lu Yin had wanted to use Progenitor Wushang's hide to entice the Sixth Mainland into killing Xu Qing, but Lan Xian had only been able to understand the truth of the matter after she had seen the Astral Beast Domain successfully push their invasion into Tyrannical Weave while the Great Eastern Alliance made no moves at all.

That Lu Yin was a vile bastard!

Lan Xian had never felt so frustrated. From the moment she had first started cultivating, her natural talent had attracted the attention of the Daosource Sect. That had eventually led to her becoming one of the Daosource Three Skies of her generation, and eventually reaching the realm of a Semi-Progenitor. It was only a matter of time before she obtained some Origin Matter for herself and became a Progenitor. Everything had been going so well for her throughout her entire life, and it was impossible for her to even imagine that everything could be ruined by a single junior.

A flinty glint appeared in Lan Xian's eyes. "Find a way to force the Great Eastern Alliance to join the fighting. Those eastern weaves need to be ours."

After she spoke, cherry blossoms filled the sky and she stepped out to join the Semi-Progenitors' battle.

A twinkle appeared in the Cloud Valley Master's eyes as he watched Lan Xian leave. Apparently, the Progenitor of Bloodlines no longer intended to take Lu Yin as a disciple. There was no other reason for a Semi-Progenitor's attitude towards Lu Yin to have changed so much. The kid was again the Sixth Mainland's enemy.

The Cloud Valley Master had always disliked Lu Yin, so he was glad to have a justifiable reason to act against the youth. Still, it was not yet the right time. Dealing with both the Astral Beast Domain and the Great Eastern Alliance simultaneously would be too difficult. The Fifth Mainland possessed the greatest number of Semi-Progenitors, so the Sixth Mainland would avoid such a war if at all possible.

The first thing to do was to force the Great Eastern Alliance onto the current battlefield. They would then wait until Xu Qing and his horde were wiped out and Ironblood Weave's position was stabilized. Only then could the Sixth Mainland turn its focus onto the Great Eastern Alliance. The Outerverse had already been given to the Sixth Mainland, so it was reasonable for them to take the eastern weaves back. The rest of the Fifth Mainland had no right to interfere in the situation.

Yao Di was still at the Primal Zone's border, and he showed a trace of surprise. "Three Semi-Progenitors? The Sixth Mainland truly thinks quite highly of me."

Herb Immortal was already completely exhausted, and his face was pale. As for Xue Laogui, there was an ugly expression on his face. Lan Xian stood between the two men and just in front of them. While she was the youngest of them all, she had once been one of her generation's Daosource Three Skies, she possessed a powerful innate gift, and had already opened two meridian points. She was stronger than even Xue Laogui.

"Yao Di, since we've decided to attack your Astral Beast Domain, there's no reason for us to retreat," Lan Xian stated. The sound of her three-stringed instrument resounded through the space that was filled with cherry blossoms.

Yao Di's eyes tightened with focus. The astral beasts with Xu Qing could not be lost! If they were eliminated, the Astral Beast Domain would not gain the strength to attempt another invasion of the Outerverse for at least 10,000 years. "Leave the Primal Zone, or else we will all die."

He then raised a hand and his spiritual force converged to form black dots that shot to attack Lan Xian.

An instant later, four Semi-Progenitors were locked in a battle that shook the very universe.

The Cloud Valley Master and the other powerhouses led the rest of the Sixth Mainlanders to fall back even further from the fight, and the Cloud Valley Master also took this opportunity to call Lu Yin.

Lu Yin found it odd that the Cloud Valley Master would call as soon as Lu Yin had arrived in the asteroid field. What reason could this man be calling Lu Yin for?

"Alliance Leader Lu, Yao Di has brought reinforcements, and they are about to meet with Xu Qing. We don't have the strength to stop them from doing so. We would like to ask the Great Eastern Alliance for its support. In exchange, we will offer you the eastern weaves," the Cloud Valley Master spoke bluntly.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed. "I saw that some Semi-Progenitor have gone to the Primal Zone. Not even three Semi-Progenitors are able to stop Yao Di and his reinforcements?"

"They're struggling. Yao Di's strength is unfathomable, and the Celestial Beast Empire has several experts with power levels of over a million supporting them on the battlefield. If Xu Qing and his forces are added to the mix, we won't be able to stop them," the Cloud Valley Master said with clear frustration.

Lu Yin hesitated.

"Don't you want the eastern weaves, Alliance Leader Lu? If we lose here, we will no longer have the strength to defend Ironblood Weave. If that happens, your Great Eastern Alliance will be forced to fight against the astral beasts anyways, so why not work with us now to defeat the Astral Beast Domain in one fell swoop?" Confidence filled the Cloud Valley Master's voice.

Lu Yin frowned. "Your Sixth Mainland still possesses more than enough strength to reinforce the battlefield."

The Cloud Valley Master sounded helpless as he continued. "I don't know where you heard that, but right now, my Sixth Mainland is fractured from internal conflicts, so it's impossible for any reinforcements to be sent at this time. Alliance Leader Lu, I wouldn't ask you for your help if I could get any other reinforcements. I'm begging you, please help us."

For a Cosmic Imprinter to literally beg for help, it seemed that the man was truly without any other options.

"You're in a tough place, Senior," Lu Yin expressed his sympathies.

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Chapter 1905: Remove Your Veil

A fierce glint flickered in the Cloud Valley Master's eyes. It was more than insulting to be forced to beg a junior, and he swore to make this youth pay for it.

"In that case, let's sign an agreement," Lu Yin said.

The Cloud Valley Master was taken aback. "What did you say?"

Lu Yin spoke confidently as he explained, "We'll sign an agreement that the eastern weaves will be ceded to the Great Eastern Alliance in exchange for our assistance. However, I don't want you to sign this for me, but rather a Semi-Progenitor."

The Cloud Valley Master's rage nearly exploded. "Alliance Leader Lu, I have already said that you will be given the eastern weaves! Do you not trust me?"

"I can't," Lu Yin replied bluntly.

The Cloud Valley Master felt like he was about to burst a vessel. "Given the prestige of a Semi-Progenitor's identity, how could any of them agree to sign this with a junior like you? Alliance Leader Lu, reinforcing us is also helping yourself. If we lose, you won't only have to face the Astral Beast Domain as your enemy, but also my Sixth Mainland. Do you think the Daosource Sect will let you go after this?"

Lu Yin sighed. "If that's the case, we are already enemies. Sorry, but I will never show mercy when dealing with enemies. You can completely forget about receiving our support. You can also forget about receiving further reinforcements from the Sixth Mainland. Let me make things perfectly clear: even if Semi-Progenitor Jiu Yao tries to support you, he won't be able to make it to you."

The Cloud Valley Master's expression changed. "You have a Semi-Progenitor?"

"What a joke! The Fifth Mainland has the most Semi-Progenitors - a total of six. Do the math," Lu Yin answered mockingly.

The Cloud Valley Master had not expected to be readily rejected by Lu Yin. "Consider this matter carefully. Do you really want to become an enemy of my Sixth Mainland? The Progenitor of Combat and Progenitor of Bloodlines can both easily destroy you."

"And Progenitor Chen can destroy them just as easily," Lu Yin snorted.

The Cloud Valley Master became completely confused. "Progenitor Chen?"

Lu Yin sneered. "Have you already forgotten what happened when the Progenitor of Secret Arts betrayed humanity and tried to destroy Burial Garden? He was eventually defeated when Progenitor Chen retaliated. Both the Progenitor of Bloodlines and the

Progenitor of Combat are already aware that if they dare attack me, Progenitor Chen will not remain silent. Do you seriously think your Sixth Mainland can invade my Fifth Mainland again? Just try it!"

The Cloud Valley Master frowned and subconsciously glanced over at Qing Hua, who was standing nearby.

Qing Hua somberly said, "It's true that Progenitor Chen took action back then. Semi-Progenitor Lan Xian mentioned it."

The Cloud Valley Master's heart dropped. Progenitor Chen was still alive? If that was true, then the Progenitor of Combat and the Progenitor of Bloodlines would not be able to do a thing, and if the Progenitors did not take action, who could threaten Lu Yin? He was able to ignore even Semi-Progenitor Jiu Yao.

"Please ask Semi-Progenitor Jiu Yao to come to a decision. Matters concerning my Great Eastern Alliance are not something we are qualified to handle," Qing Hua said. He was once again being shown how difficult it was to deal with Lu Yin. Qing Hu had already learned this when he had watched Lu Yin scheme against Madam Hong and others, but the Empyrean Imprinter had not expected the youth to move so quickly at this time.

The most important detail was that no one could counter Lu Yin's claim. Progenitor Chen had indeed taken action in the past, but no one could confirm whether or not he actually supported Lu Yin. Logically speaking, the Progenitor should protect Lu Yin as the youth was the most likely candidate to be the Fifth Mainland's next Progenitor. It would not make any sense for Lu Yin to not receive support.

Lu Yin was nowhere close to being intelligent enough to control everyone he dealt with. He was able to succeed entirely due to his own abilities. If a Fifth Mainland expert with a power level of over a million made the same claims as Lu Yin, no one would believe them, but when Lu Yin said such things, people tended to be convinced he spoke the truth. This was in part because of Lu Yin's natural charisma.

However, the Cloud Valley Master's words had not been lies, either. Yao Di had brought reinforcements to the Primal Zone, and if the Celestial Beast Emperor was able to hold back Lan Xian and the other Semi-Progenitors from the Sixth Mainland, then the reinforcements he had brought would join up with Xu Qing's returning horde and would deal the Sixth Mainland a fierce blow.

Still even if the Great Eastern Alliance did not provide the requested assistance, the Cloud Valley Master still had time to get other reinforcements, but things would become far more difficult if the Great Eastern Alliance decided to hinder those reinforcements from traveling through the eastern weaves to Ironblood Weave and the Primal Zone.

The Cloud Valley Master was facing a dilemma. Given the current situation, the Fifth Mainland no longer feared the Sixth Mainland. There was actually an easy way to resolve this situation, which was to give up on the Primal Zone and allow Xu Qing to safely return to the Astral Beast Domain and end the war. However, was the Cloud Valley Master allowed to make such a decision? This was something that only a Semi-Progenitor was qualified to do.

Lu Yin was also wanting to see if the Sixth Mainland would be willing to abandon the Primal Zone.

If the Sixth Mainland turned away from the Primal Zone, the Cloud Valley Master and the other powerhouses would then be able to attack the Great Eastern Alliance, and most of the Astral Beast Domain's forces would also return to the Celestial Beast Empire. Only one powerhouse with a power level of over a million would be needed to protect Ironblood Weave.

That would not be a good situation for Lu Yin.

The current balance that he had established in the Outerverse was also based on the premise that there would be a decisive battle in the Primal Zone.

The Cloud Valley Master waited for Semi-Progenitor Jiu Yao's response while Lu Yin waited for the Cloud Valley Master's answer. During this time, Lu Yin also stopped the Sixth Mainland's reinforcements from passing through the eastern weaves, isolating the Sixth Mainland's forces in the same manner he had done to Xu Qing.

The eastern weaves held a strategic location that had allowed Lu Yin to cut Xu Qing off from support from the Astral Beast Domain, as well as hinder the Sixth Mainland's reinforcements from reaching the Cloud Valley Master.

Location could prove a determining factor in war.

Lu Yin believed that the Astral Beast Domain would no longer be able to force their way through the eastern weaves after this war if they wanted to conduct another invasion. Doing so would be no different from delivering themselves into the hands of an enemy.

The battle between Yao Di and the Sixth Mainland's three Semi-Progenitors did not last very long. The Cloud Valley Master soon received a reply from Semi-Progenitor Jiu Yao, and the Imprinter heaved a sigh of relief and immediately contacted Lu Yin.

Lu Yin immediately answered.

"Alliance Leader Lu, when you decided to stop my Sixth Mainland's reinforcements from joining us, did it ever cross your mind that regardless of the hatred between the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands, we are both still humans? Despite that, you chose to help those beasts," the Cloud Valley Master spoke slowly.

Lu Yin replied indifferently, "In that case, have you ever considered that when my Great Eastern Alliance took over the defense of the eastern weaves when those same astral beasts were slaughtering all of the inhabitants of this place, that those dying were also humans?"

The Cloud Valley Master fell silent for a moment. "My Sixth Mainland can sign an agreement with you to temporarily cede the eastern weaves over to your Great Eastern Alliance. This will be for a duration of 10,000 years, and there will be other conditions. Yao Di must first be driven back, and also, we must not lose even a single Semi-Progenitor."

Lu Yin frowned. "10,000 years is too short."

"If you don't agree, then we will simply withdraw from both the Primal Zone and Ironblood Weave, leaving both places as well as the eastern weaves in the care of your Great Eastern Alliance. I'm not sure if the Great Eastern Alliance has the strength to handle that?" the Cloud Valley Master asked coldly.

Lu Yin's finger twitched. That was not part of his plans. If the Sixth Mainland completely withdrew from that area, the Great Eastern Alliance would be forced to step into Ironblood Weave, and then Lu Yin would be pinned down.

"Very well, 10,000 years it is. Who will sign the agreement?" Lu Yin asked. He decided to leave his problems for 10,000 years in the future. After all, who knew what would happen to him after so much time?

The Cloud Valley Master replied, "Herb Immortal, one of the Four Empyreans."

Lu Yin could accept this choice. Not only was Herb Immortal one of the Sixth Mainland's Four Empyreans, he was also a Semi-Progenitor. His status was sufficient.

After reaching an agreement with the Cloud Valley Master, Lu Yin spent a long time coaxing Kui Luo to return to the Primal Zone to ensure that the Sixth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors all survived and that Yao Di was forced back.

Kui Luo was very reluctant to go, but a single comment Lu Yin made sent the Semi-Progenitor leaving in a hurry: "That Lan Xian is quite interesting."

At that time, excitement and anticipation had been in Lu Yin's voice. Kui Luo was a loyal vassal of the Lu family, and to his understanding, Lu Yin must have developed an infatuation. This was a very big deal for someone like Kui Luo. In addition to learning all of the Sixth Mainland's dirty secrets, finding Lu Yin a qualified woman was something just as important to accomplish.

As Kui Luo passed through Ironblood Weave, he made mention of how important it was for Lu Yin to leave descendants behind, and how it was imperative for the Lu family to flourish.

Lan Xian, I need to learn whether or not you are qualified to become part of the Lu family's glorious future.

As he watched Kui Luo make his way north, Lu Yin became very glad he had never mentioned Ming Yan's existence to Kui Luo, as this provided him with the means to control Kui Luo's actions a bit in the future.

Lu Yin knew that one of the reasons Semi-Progenitor Jiu Yao had added the requirement to any agreement that Yao Di be forced back was a means of testing Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had just threatened to block the Sixth Mainland from sending any reinforcements through the eastern weaves, including even Semi-Progenitor Jiu Yao himself. If Lu Yin was unable to send a Semi-Progenitor to help fight against Yao Di, it would show that he was incapable of carrying out that threat, which would expose the youth's lies. There would be no agreement if Lu Yin did not have the necessary strength.

The Fifth Mainland's Hall of Honor had already come to an agreement with the Sixth Mainland, so as long as the Fifth Mainland's bottom line was not crossed, the Fifth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors would not take any action against the Sixth Mainland. This meant that the only Semi-Progenitor Lu Yin could even try to get to take action. However, as soon as Kui Luo took action, it would also show that the Semi-Progenitor who had sneaked into the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect and who had uncovered their secrets was someone allied with Lu Yin. That would create a whole new mess for Lu Yin.

However, Lu Yin did not care as it would also become impossible for the Sixth Mainland to be willing to risk a falling out with him.

The strength that Yao Di had revealed had provided Lu Yin with a great deal of assurance. He did not know how powerful Kui Luo was, but if the man was forced into a deathmatch with the Sixth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors, the Sixth Mainland would lose miserably, and the Sixth Mainland was already aware of this.

A Celestial Demon stood tall and arrogant at the border of the Primal Zone. He wielded an obsidian star that looked like a catastrophe that would befall any who opposed this creature. This dark star was the manifestation of Yao Di's inner world. His spiritual force was so dense that it created a cloud of destruction that was crushing Herb Immortal, Xue Laogui, and Lan Xian to the point they vomited blood.

None of them were able to even manifest their own inner worlds. Before Yao Di's power, they were only barely able to endure.

Yao Di's body transformed into the form of a Celestial Demon. His gazed locked onto the obsidian star, and he casually waved a hand. Before anyone had the chance to even blink, Xue Laogui's abdomen was torn open.

Lan Xian gritted her teeth, and she started playing her three-stringed instrument with even greater intensity. The blooming cherry blossoms surged in an attempt to protect the three humans from the obsidian star.

Within the manifestation of Lan Xian's inner world, Herb Immortal's medicinal cauldron clashed against Xue Laogui's white lava. There was a deafening bang, and space warped and shattered. However, the obsidian star remained unshaken.

Yao Di was terrifyingly strong, and both Lan Xian and those watching the fight descended into despair. This was the power of the astral beasts who had once reigned at the top of the Fourth Mainland, and who currently ruled the Astral Beast Domain.

When Yao Di raised a hand, the pressure the three humans suffered grew even more intense, and the obsidian star seemed to grow larger.

Xue Laogui roared. His white lava enveloped the medicinal cauldron as the two attacked yet again. As the attacked moved closer to their opponent, white lava poured down from the cracked cauldron and the cherry blossoms that were Lan Xian's inner world trembled without end, and she spat out blood.

"This is your last chance! Leave the Primal Zone!" Yao Di bellowed. He had no intention of fighting the Sixth Mainland to the end. Even if he killed these three Semi-Progenitors, the Sixth Mainland still had their far more powerful Progenitors as well. The last thing the Celestial Demon Emperor wanted was for a Progenitor to show up at his imperial city.

The three humans exchanged glances. None of them felt that it was worth sacrificing even one of their lives to keep the Primal Zone. They were about to answer when they heard a strange laugh.

"This old man wants to experience the strength of the Celestial Demons' spiritual force once again!" Kui Luo revealed himself and confronted the obsidian star. The old man's spiritual force erupted, and it pushed the dark star back that had been suppressing the three human Semi-Progenitors.

Yao Di's confident appearance disappeared. This person was a true powerhouse. "Who the hell are you?"

Kui Luo shot Yao Di a dirty look, and then suddenly turned to face Lan Xian. "Hey, baby-doll, take off that veil."

Both Herb Immortal and Xue Laogui were left speechless, and Lan Xian could not find a single response to give to such an absurd demand. They were being brutally beaten by their opponent, so just what was this old man saying?

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Chapter 1906: Dragon Gate Realm

Kui Luo started to get impatient. "Hurry up and take off that veil! I really have no idea why a baby-doll like you's wearing a veil for no reason!"

Lan Xian forcefully suppressed her irritation. "Might I ask who you are, Senior?"

"Never mind that. Tell me, are you married?" Kui Luo asked with an expectant glint in his eyes.

Lan Xian was completely speechless.

"Do you have a boyfriend?

"It must have taken you quite a while to become a Semi-Progenitor. Are you still a virgin?"

Kui Luo's last question completely ignited Lan Xian's rage. On the other hand, both Herb Immortal and Xue Laogui were left completely confused; was this old man trying to harass Lan Xian?

"Senior, I may not be your opponent, but this is a humiliation and I will fight you even if it leads to my death!" Lan Xian had never felt so offended in all her life. Even being tricked by Lu Yin had not compared to what she felt at this moment. The only thing she could think about was how to kill this disgusting old man before her.

Kui Luo waved his arms and grinned in an apologetic manner. "Baby-doll you're misunderstanding me. I'm not insulting you, I'm just asking some questions. After all, if you want to marry into the Lu family, your family background doesn't matter at all, but your purity is an absolute necessity. This old man has to do some screening to see if you are even eligible.

"At first glance, you aren't bad! You've got large breasts and a big ass that's ideal for giving birth. Hmm... actually those hips aren't really wide enough... Baby-doll, don't hold back and go ahead and show your true nature. Let me see what you're really like so I can determine whether or not you're qualified to marry that boy.

"You'll need to have some kids in the future. There's no need for too many, just a hundred or so will be plenty. There're always at least a few who awaken their innate gifts. After they leave, you can then work to rebuild the family. What do you say? Of course, this is all dependent on the premise that you qualify. Come, let this old man see how big your butt is."

This was the last straw, Lan Xian lost control. She instantly attacked Kui Luo.

Kui Luo retreated. "Baby-doll, what are you trying to do? I'm only doing this for your own good! Loads of people would beg for this opportunity, so don't make the wrong decision and end up living with regret!"

Some distance away, Yao Di frowned as he watched Lan Xian go after Kui Luo. The Celestial Demon then jumped up and merged with his black star. In an instant, the power of the obsidian star spiked. It felt as though the universe itself was distorting beneath this overwhelming spiritual force. Kui Luo and the others were all crushed beneath the pressure.

Lan Xian's body jerked to a stop, and she threw up her arms to protect her head. Neither Herb Immortal nor Xue Laogui were able to endure this spiritual force, and they could only watch in horror at the massive obsidian star that covered all they could see. How could Yao Di's true strength be so insane?

Kui Luo looked up and wiped his brow with a sleeve. "As expected of the Celestial Demons. If I hadn't been reciting the Origin Progenitor's Sutra all the time, I would never have been able to hold out against this. Since you want to play, let's raise the stakes. Let's see if you Celestial Demons can jump over the Dragon Gate."

Kui Luo's foot rose up, and he stomped it down. The world of cherry blossoms shattered, and a wave of his hand transported the other three Semi-Progenitors deep into the Primal Zone. He then turned to focus on the obsidian star. No one had noticed, but at some point, the entire region of space had fallen to the bottom of a cascade.

Kui Luo stood above the waterfall. There was an ancient door beneath his feet, and further down lay a pool of water.

The black star had fallen down below, and it had mysteriously appeared within the pool. Yao Di's head whipped up and he stared in shock.

Kui Luo spoke in a patronizing tone, "Celestial Demon, if you can't jump over my Dragon Gate, you won't be able to break out of this inner world. This is the Dragon Gate Realm."

The Perennial World possessed a level of strength that far exceeded either the Fifth or the Sixth Mainland. Not only did the Perennial World have multiple Progenitors, they

also had a great number of Semi-Progenitors. Out of those Semi-Progenitors, some had already opened their three meridian points.

Additionally, there were quite a few Semi-Progenitors who had been hunting for Kui Luo. There were two reasons he had always managed to escape to safety. The first was that Kui Luo was actually two people—Kui and Luo—while the second was the man's own strength.

If he were a Semi-Progenitor at the same level as Herb Immortal or Xue Laogui, it would not matter if Kui Luo was two or even three people, as they would never be able to stand up to a Semi-Progenitor who had opened all three meridian points, especially one from the Perennial World. Despite the odds, Kui Luo had managed to survive for countless years, and no one even knew that the name represented two different people after so much time.

This was only possible because of the man's own strength.

Aside from the Semi-Progenitors from the Perennial World who had chased after Kui Luo, no one knew just how strong the man truly was. This first time the man revealed his power in the Fifth Mainland, even Yao Di was forced to jump over the Dragon Gate, as he would not be able to so much as touch Kui Luo without doing so.

Deep in the Primal Zone, Lan Xian and the others were left dumbfounded as they watched the battle develop. The fact that this old man had managed to yank Yao Di down and push him and his obsidian star into the pool at the bottom of the waterfall proved just how terrifyingly powerful this old man was.

Xue Laogui felt frustrated. This old man had previously put on a show about how difficult a time he had faced in trying to escape from Xue Laogui, yet the strength that had just been shown proved that the old man had never needed to escape and had only ever been toying with Xue Laogui.

No one had expected this old man who had popped up out of nowhere to be able to force Yao Di down.

The obsidian star was further pushed down to the bottom of the pool. Yao Di stared up at the waterfall, and he tried to force his way up by ramming his dark star against the cascade, yet every attempt proved in vain. His only option was to move against the flow of the waterfall and act like a fish leaping over a dragon gate.

Yao Di became furious. He was the patriarch of the Celestial Demons and the emperor of the Astral Beast Domain. Who could force him jump over a dragon gate? Who was qualified to look down on him? Unforgivable! His black star surged in power yet again as he tried to break free of the Dragon Gate Realm. "It's merely an inner world, so what if I simply destroy it?"

A flicker of fear flashed across Kui Luo's eyes. This creature truly lived up to the reputation of the Celestial Demons. "Why don't you try?"

Space trembled, and the vibrations radiated from the Primal Zone into Ironblood Weave, the asteroid field, and even into Northcastle Weave. An entire region of the universe shuddered, and countless people turned to look to the north. They were all afraid of an impending catastrophe would soon kill them all.

The battle continued for several days before Yao Di finally retreated. He never managed to break free of the Dragon Gate Realm, and Kui Luo never managed to extinguish the obsidian star.

On top of that, there was one more reason for the Celestial Demon's retreat: Xu Qing had already returned to the Astral Beast Domain.

Lu Yin, the Cloud Valley Master and everyone else had guessed wrong. Xu Qing had not returned through the Primal Zone, but had instead traveled further through the Astral Wilderness to directly enter the Astral Beast Domain. This had been done by taking a huge risk, and no one knew just what Xu Qing had sacrificed to accomplish this, but it was still better than entering the Primal Zone.

With Kui Luo holding back Yao Di, any one of the other three human Semi-Progenitors could have easily dealt with Xu Qing and his returning horde, if they had been spotted.

The fact that Semi-Progenitors had stepped onto the battlefield meant the war had greatly escalated, and Xu Qing and the others at his level were no longer the main players.

"Just who the hell are you? Our fight is already over for now, so why not tell me your identity?" Yao Di asked as stood in the Primal Zone and stared at Kui Luo. The Celestial Beast Emperor knew of all of the Fifth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors, and the Sixth Mainland only had Jiu Yao who Yai Di had not yet met. It was impossible that this strange old man who had suddenly popped up was Jiu Yao.

Kui Luo rolled his eyes. "Just take a guess."

Yao Di stared at Kui Luo with steely eyes. "You are the only human who can withstand my spiritual force with your own. You should give me your name."

Kui Luo stubbornly refused. "Guess."

Lan Xian and the others listening in all itched to beat this obnoxious old man.

The Astral Beast Domain retreated from the Primal Zone. Xu Qing and his retreating invasion force entered the Celestial Beast Empire. Though the fighting in the Primal

Zone had not stopped, the scale of the battle would diminish drastically. Forget the Semi-Progenitors, not even any of the Empyrean Imprinters planned to stay.

After seeing Yao Di retreat, Kui Luo turned around and shot a friendly grin at Lan Xian. At least, the old man believed it to look friendly. On the contrary, Lan Xian only found the smile to be quite creepy and stifled an urge to try to grind the old man into mincemeat.

"Baby-doll, do you need some more time? How 'bout I introduce you to a talented young man?" Kui Luo asked.

Lan Xian clenched her fists. "Get lost!"

Kui Luo was taken aback, and he suddenly considered following that Lu bastard's example and kidnap this woman. It would continue the Lu family's glorious tradition...

After looking at all three of the Semi-Progenitors, Kui Luo thought for a moment before finally deciding to restrain himself for the moment. It would be better not to take this woman when everyone was watching. He would instead make a move later and when she was alone.

Baby-doll, do your best not to separate from the others, Kui Luo quietly thought to himself as he left.

His departure allowed everyone from the Sixth Mainland to let out a collective sigh of relief.

"That old man has made a huge mess for my Sixth Mainland. He's the one who leaked all the information that led to the current chaos we're dealing with," Xue Laogui mentioned in a hoarse voice. He had been badly seriously injured.

"That was all him?" Lan Xian was startled.

Xue Laogui turned to give Lan Xian an intense stare. "What was he talking about just now?"

"Is that old busy-body trying to set you up on a blind date? Are you two...?" Herb Immortal asked.

"I don't know him!" Lan Xian interrupted him and let out a sigh. Seeing the skepticism still in Herb Immortal and Xue Laogui's eyes, she felt helpless. "I really have no clue who that old man is, but if I ever get the chance, I'll kill him!"

Herb Immortal and Xue Laogui looked at each other, utterly unconvinced. Why would that man have said such things and helped them if there was no connection between those two? Why else would such a powerhouse be trying to set Lan Xian up on a blind

date? While his words bordered on harassment, they had also shown his concern. No stranger would act in such a manner, and the old man was clearly not insane.

When everything was said and done, Lan Xian was the youngest of the Sixth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors. She cultivated for a far shorter amount of time than Herb Immortal, yet she was already a Semi-Progenitor. She had enjoyed a smooth path throughout her life.

Was that old man her protector? That seemed quite likely.

"What should we do now? The Celestial Demon Emperor won't return to seize control of the Primal Zone, will he?" Herb Immortal wondered.

Lan Xian answered, "Let's wait here for now. We can return together after we recuperate."

She was not actually worried about Yao Di, but about Kui Luo. That old guy was both disturbing and incredibly dangerous.

Xue Laogui nodded in agreement.

At this moment, the Cloud Valley Master arrived to discuss the agreement that needed to be signed between one of the Semi-Progenitors and Lu Yin. This was when the three finally learned of Kui Luo's affiliation.

"Lu Yin was actually able to ask such a terrifying Semi-Progenitor to make a move for him? Just what is his background? He was only an Explorer when he first established the Great Eastern Alliance, and he then only needed a decade to unite the Outerverse. Right now, he controls the Hall of Honor's overseers' council, and he's supported by both the Cosmic Sect and the Mavis family. Does the Lu family somehow control the Fifth Mainland?" Xue Laogui shook his head in confusion.

All three of the Semi-Progenitors were already aware that Lu Yin was a direct descendant of the Lu family.

Lu Yin's story could only be described as miraculous. If not for the Lu family's backing, how could anyone manage to dominate the Outerverse when merely an Explorer? How could a youth have dealt with so many powerful enemies? There was no explanation for such an achievement.

"Could that 'talented young man' the old man wants to set you up with on a blind date be Lu Yin?" Herb Immortal suddenly seemed to reach an epiphany and he looked over at Lan Xian.

The Cloud Valley Master became thoroughly lost. Set up? Talented young man? Blind date?

Lan Xian's brow furrowed in displeasure and she shot Herb Immortal a glare that could have killed.

Herb Immortal felt a bit embarrassed. "Erm, well, since the Astral Beast Domain's withdrawn their forces and Yao Di was pushed back by us relying on Lu Yin's reinforcements, I guess I'll have to sign the agreement. 10,000 years isn't too long."

The Cloud Valley Master nodded in acknowledgement.

. . .

Exactly one year had passed from the time that it was first learned that the Astral Beast Domain had invaded the Outerverse to when Yao Di was finally forced to retreat back to the Celestial Beast Empire. Over the course of this year, the fighting had never let up in the Outerverse. First, the war had been fought by the Great Eastern Alliance, and then by the Sixth Mainland. Too many lives had been lost.

After the agreement was signed by both Herb Immortal and Lu Yin, the war officially came to an end.

"Alliance Leader Lu, could you share with me that old man's name?" Herb Immortal inquired after signing the agreement.

Lu Yin knew the question was referring to Kui Luo. "I'm sorry, Senior, but it's a bit inconvenient for me to reveal his identity."

Herb Immortal did not seem to take any offense. "Then forget I asked. That old man saved our lives, and I hope you can pass our thanks to him on my behalf."

"I will be sure to do that," Lu Yin agreed.

Herb Immortal nodded, but then hesitated for a moment. Lu Yin looked at the man with confusion, and finally Herb Immortal slowly asked, "Alliance Leader Lu, could you possibly be interested in Lan Xian?"

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Chapter 1907: Nan Yuan's Removal

After Herb Immortal posed his question, Lu Yin stared blankly at the man and blinked several times before finally managing to form a response. "Senior, what are you asking?"

Herb Immortal smiled. "After that old man fought off Yao Di in the Primal Zone, he mentioned that he wanted to introduce Lan Xian to a talented young man. I was merely assuming he was referring to you, Alliance Leader Lu. That's why I wanted to ask if you truly do have any interest in Lan Xian?"

Lu Yin was completely speechless. Just what exactly had Kui Luo said while he had been in the Primal Zone? Herb Immortal had heard such a thing, which meant that Lan Xian must have heard as well. Given Kui Luo's obnoxiously big mouth, it was possible that even the Sixth Mainland's foot soldiers had heard about this and that the matter would soon spread across the entire Fifth Mainland. Lu Yin simply prayed nothing would reach Ming Yan's ears.

Lu Yin had only wanted to convince Kui Luo to enter the Primal Zone. How could Lu Yin actually harbor any feelings for Lan Xian? She was one of his enemies and she wanted him dead!

"Senior, you must have misunderstood. There's no way that old man was referring to me," Lu Yin quickly denied the allegations.

Herb Immortal looked amused. "I don't think it's a bad thing. From the time she first started cultivating, Lan Xian has never had a partner. If you like her, you can certainly try to win her over. Age isn't any big deal for cultivators. What do you think?"

Just as Lu Yin was about to shoot the offer down, Kui Luo appeared and stared at Herb Immortal with eyes that were overflowing with excitement. "She's never had a partner? Her body's untainted?"

Herb Immortal had already expected Kui Luo to make an appearance. "Of course. Her body is absolutely pure, I can assure you of that."

Kui Luo gazed at Herb Immortal with open admiration. "You're pretty good. Come, tell me more about that baby-doll. After all, this is a big deal. I need to learn more about her: are her elders still alive? What's her family background? Don't worry about it, as family background doesn't actually matter too much, but I do need to know how many brothers and sisters she has."

"As an elder, it's perfectly normal to worry about such things. I know a bit about Lan Xian's situation, so I can share that with you. However, you can't mention anything to Lan Xian about this coming from me," Herb Immortal said.

"Of course! Do I look like someone who would do such a thing?"

"Of course not, sir."

"Hahahaha, you have good eyes! You and I are really hitting it off."

"Why don't we discuss this over some wine?"

"Lead the way."

Lu Yin opened his mouth to call the two men back, but the words remained stuck in his throat. He could not bring himself to tell the two that he had completely feigned all interest in Lan Xian, as how would he be able to get Kui Luo to take any action in the future? However, Lu Yin was similarly confused by Herb Immortal's motivation. The old man seemed to care a great deal about playing matchmaker to Lu Yin and Lan Xian. However, Lan Xian was one of the Sixth Mainland's Semi-Progenitors, so how could the old man be comfortable betraying his own people?

Herb Immortal had always been someone unconcerned with worldly affairs, and he had maintained his low profile attitude even after becoming a Semi-Progenitor. Even Qing Hua, another of the Four Empyreans, had been uncertain as to Herb Immortal's exact level of strength, let alone other people. Whenever the Daosource Sect had responded to major events, Herb Immortal had remained almost completely hands off and had preferred to allow others to handle such matters. However, at this moment, he was deliberately being proactive in this matter, and his actions had destroyed the impressions Lu Yin had of the old man.

. . .

From the first moment that the Great Eastern Alliance had been forced to take action to defend the eastern weaves, everything had proceeded according to Lu Yin's plans, despite the inherent risks that had been involved. He had also underestimated the Astral Beast Domain and overestimated the Sixth Mainland, but fortunately, the results remained unchanged.

For the next 10,000 years, the Outerverse's eastern weaves would remain under Lu Yin's control. In order for the Sixth Mainland to take the region back, the only option was war. However, if a war broke out, Lu Yin would not need to fight alone, as the entire Fifth Mainland would become involved.

This was all from the same line of reasoning as how after the Hall of Honor had reached an agreement with the Sixth Mainland to hand over control of the Outerverse, the Great Eastern Alliance would have needed to go to war if they had insisted on taking back the Outerverse. The Fifth Mainland as a whole would never have stepped up to bear the burden of participating in such a war.

The results of the Astral Beast Domain's invasion were the best that could have been hoped for. The Sixth Mainland had not only driven the invading astral beasts out, but had also learned of the secret route through the Astral Wilderness, which provided them with the knowledge that such a path might be used in the future. On top of that, humans had taken control of the Primal Zone, which meant that Ironblood Weave was no longer the border warfront. The battle lines had been shifted into the Primal Zone.

These were not only the best results for the Sixth Mainland, but also for Lu Yin.

Since the Sixth Mainland had taken up the task of protecting the border to the north of the Great Eastern Alliance, the alliance no longer needed to maintain their forces there. Lu Yin was able to instead return his attention to the Innerverse and beyond.

"While this war was being fought in the Outerverse, the Hall of Honor conducted a massive purge throughout the entire Fifth Mainland. Most of the Neohuman Alliance's strongholds were wiped out, and more than a thousand organizations that had been cooperating with the Neohuman Alliance in the Innerverse were purged. All of them were from the minor flowzones..."

Lu Yin stared up at the stars as he listened to Huan Sha's report. Most of the Neohuman Alliance's influence in the Fifth Mainland had been eliminated, though they still had some hidden bases. What left Lu Yin truly nervous was Aeternus Nation. Just where could it be located?

"As for the Starfall Sea, the Hall of Honor has drafted a billion cultivators, a million warships, and fifteen Envoys from the Innerverse, Cosmic Sea, and the Neoverse to hold the defensive line. The Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect is also sending an additional 200 million cultivators, 300,000 warships, and twenty-two Envoys," Huan Sha continued.

Lu Yin was caught off guard. "A billion cultivators? A million warships?"

This far surpassed anything the Great Eastern Alliance could mobilize. The Hall of Honor was showing its true strength. Once they drafted cultivators from the entire Human Domain, they were able to summon a truly massive army.

At the moment, the Great Eastern Alliance was able to gather hundreds of millions of cultivators to join a war effort, if they were really pressed to do so. The Allied Forces' ten Divisions also amounted to similar numbers, and these were forces that did not consist of weaklings and cannon fodder. However, a million warships was something that was still far out of Lu Yin's reach.

All the Great Eastern Alliance's warships added together totaled less than 30,000, yet the Hall of Honor had managed to requisition far more than the alliance could even touch. The Hall of Honor had not requisitioned every last warship in the entire Innerverse, right?

"Your Highness, 5,000 of the Allied Forces's warships are among those that have been requisitioned," Huan Sha stated. "Additionally, transport ships in the amount of 200,000 have been requisitioned..."

Unsurprisingly, the Great Eastern Alliance had been included in the draft notice, but due to their war efforts in the Outerverse, only a few people had been conscripted, none of whom were cultivators.

The number of draftees recruited from the Innerverse had exceeded everyone's expectations.

Together, the Hall of Honor and the Daosource Sect had mobilized more than a billion cultivators and thirty-seven Envoys. All of these people were being sent to the Starfall Sea just to defend against a potential invasion.

Furthermore, the conscriptions were not over, as both the Daosource Sect and the Hall of Honor were continuing to search for ways to increase their manpower in the Starfall Sea.

If the Progenitor of Combat and the Progenitor of Bloodlines failed in the Starfall Sea and Aeternus initiated an invasion, no one would be able to escape. If it could help them avoid the worst-case scenario, both the Hall of Honor and the Daosource Sect would gladly exhaust all their resources.

In particular, the Daosource Sect had very recently experienced the despair of having the Sixth Mainland overrun and destroyed, and they had no intention to experience such a loss again. They no longer had any path to escape. If they were defeated again, all of their people would either die or end up as slaves.

Beep beep beep

Lu Yin's gadget started beeping, so he had Huan Sha to pause her report after glancing down and seeing that Xu Qing was calling.

"Congratulations, Alliance Leader Lu. You've finally gained control of the eastern weaves," Xu Qing said. He sounded calm, and no emotions could be heard in his voice.

Lu Yin smiled as he answered, "Commander Xu Qing, you're being too polite. This is merely a coincidence."

"Is that true? Or was everything planned by you from the beginning?" Xu Qing countered.

"Of course not. Why would you give me so much credit, Commander? No one could have predicted this outcome. I, Lu Yin, do best when taking things as they come. I have to thank you for your mercy, as without it I wouldn't be alive right now," Lu Yin replied.

"If no Semi-Progenitor had appeared to stop Yao Di, I would believe you. However, the fact that you managed to bring out such a powerful Semi-Progenitor indicates that you never would have suffered any defeat from the very beginning. I've learned an important

lesson from you, Alliance Leader Lu. However, there is one thing I need to remind you of: we will never be the true enemy of you humans." Xu Qing then immediately hung up.

Lu Yin grimaced. Of course, this was something that Lu Yin was already aware of. While the astral beasts could conduct massive slaughters, and humanity could be defeated, they could not be conquered by the Astral Beast Domain. This was a key reason as to why Aeternus remained humanity's greatest enemy.

However, why had Xu Qing specifically called to mention such a thing?

Lu Yin fell into deep thought.

Huan Sha was in no hurry to continue her report.

Soon, Lu Yin's gadget beeped again, but this time to give a summary of an overseers' meeting. As Lu Yin read the summary, his eyes grew cold. Nan Yuan had proposed to conscript the Great Eastern Alliance's cultivators to stand guard at the Starfall Sea. Both the alliance's ordinary cultivators and its Envoys fell within this conscription. Furthermore, the Envoys from all of the Innerverse's eight great flowzones would be drafted as well.

If this proposal passed, Lu Yin would retain control of less than a third of his powerhouses.

Also, chances were very high that this proposal would be passed.

While Lu Yin did control the overseers' council, there were certain proposals that simply could not be vetoed, and this was one of them.

It was not wrong to conscript experts to protect against an invasion from the Starfall Sea, so how could Lu Yin refuse? Even if he tried to do so, at least half of his forces would be forced to go to Starfall Sea, unless someone specifically said otherwise.

Nan Yuan had been wanting to cull the Great Eastern Alliance's experts for quite some time, and he had deliberately waited for the war in the Outerverse to end before bringing up his proposal. He had done so deliberately in an attempt to aggravate Lu Yin.

It was undeniable that the man had succeeded. Lu Yin could not veto this proposal, though he could delay it. After all, the Great Eastern Alliance had just fought one war, and they needed to recover from their losses.

He called Wei Rong.

"Your Highness?"

"Eliminate Nan Yuan." There were only three words spoken before the call ended.

Nan Yuan was like a bug that had been irritating Lu Yin's skin for a long time already, and he was done with putting up with the annoyance.

After the call ended so suddenly, Wei Rong was momentarily surprised, but he soon chuckled. It seemed that Nan Yuan had finally gone too far. In that case, it was time to get rid of him.

There were certain people who were able to piece together seemingly ordinary information to forge an intangible weapon. Wei Rong was one of them.

In the Neoverse's Black Street, Ming Yu received a call that surprised her. After considering what she heard, she quickly reported the matter to Ming Yan.

"He asked you to do this? Then just do it," Ming Yan replied.

Ming Yu hesitated. "Should we report this to the Alliance Leader?"

Ming Yan shook her head. "There's no need. This isn't a big deal."

Ming Yu was skeptical of that. How could anything related to overseers not be a big deal? However, it seemed that from the Alliance Leader's position, this was not anything to be overly concerned about. Lu Yin was able to control the overseers to some degree, and he already wielded an impressive amount of influence.

It was not long before a vessel left Black Street on its way to the Honor Zone. There was a child on the vessel, and he stared out at the starry sky in confusion. There was an old woman accompanying the child. "Don't worry, Bo. You'll soon be reunited with your grandfather."

The child was Bo; San Shang's grandson.

However, Bo's mood did not improve after hearing the old woman's words. Was it even possible for him to be reunited with his grandpa? Five years had already passed since he had started living on Black Street, and he had matured during that time. He was no longer naive enough to believe others would help him out of the goodness of their hearts.

Bo was well aware that he was nothing more than a tool. Whoever got their hands on him would be able to control his grandfather, who was one of the Hall of Honor's overseers. Bo was leaving Black Street, but where would he end up next? The child glanced at the old woman's reflection in a mirror and was overcome by a wave of sadness. He did not believe a word the old woman said.

Star Odyssey #Chapter 1908: Higher Pursuits - Read Star Odyssey Chapter 1908: Higher Pursuits

Chapter 1908: Higher Pursuits

After passing off the task of removing Nan Yuan to Wei Rong, Lu Yin gathered his courage and called Big Sis.

"Burp~~, what's the matter Little Seven?" Big Sis sounded sluggish when she answered the call. More precisely, she sounded drunk.

Lu Yin spoke cautiously, "Big Sis, um, what do you think about becoming an overseer?"

Big Sis belched again. "What a stupid idea. Becoming an overseer means losing my freedom. Mt. Microcosms isn't fit for human habitation."

Lu Yin was left without any response to give. Big Sis was basically cursing the Hall of Honor. "Well, the overseers aren't actually controlled too much, and you can head out if you want. There's no need to actually stay on Mt. Microcosms."

"Head out? You think I'm stupid? Why would someone leave? It's hard to become an overseer, so obviously it'd be best to stay on Mt. Microcosms to dominate others and enjoy the respect that comes with such a status. Only idiots would leave." Big Sis shared some thoughts she had buried her heart as she spoke incoherently.

"So you mean you agree to become an overseer?"

"Are you drunk? When did I agree?"

"Didn't you say that you want to stay on Mt. Microcosms to dominate others and enjoy holding a position of respect? Don't worry, tons of people will show you their respect."

"Don't try to tempt me. This lady doesn't want to be respected, I want to rob people. This is the glorious tradition of Leon's Armada!"

"Fine, if you stay in Mt. Microcosms, you can rob people, if that's what you want. Just don't go too far."

"You really are an idiot! Why didn't you just stay at Mt. Microcosms and wait for others to offer you their respects? You're so stupid. How did you manage to survive until now and even win that war? Ridiculous."

Lu Yin angrily hung up. Only an idiot would try to discuss things with a drunk. He decided to call her back later.

One day later, Lu Yin's gadget beeped. Big Sis was calling him.

"Little Seven, why do I have the feeling you hung up on me?" Big Sis immediately asked.

Lu Yin said firmly, "Nope, wouldn't happen. I would never dare hang up on you, Big Sis."

"You didn't?" Big Sis wondered. "Didn't you call me yesterday?"

"I did call you, but you hung up on me, Big Sis. Think about it, not even a Semi-Progenitor would dare hang up on you. It's absolutely impossible for me to do that. Just think about it." Lu Yin was getting nervous.

Big Sis remained suspicious and muttered to herself for a while. "Whatever. What did we talk about?"

Lu Yin blew out a long breath of relief. "We were talking about you wanting to become an overseer."

"That's dumb. I've never considered becoming an overseer. Don't think I become some idiot when I'm drunk," Big Sis admonished.

Lu Yin put on his best salesperson tone. "You said being an overseer on Mt. Microcosms would mean that you can make demands of others and enjoy holding a respectable position."

Big Sis was taken aback for a moment. She vaguely remembered saying something along those lines.

"You also said that it's a superior method of robbery. It's civilized, family-friendly, elegant, and elevates your life goals. You'll soon surpass Highsage Leon and become the next pirate king."

Lu Yin's enthusiasm started to infect Big Sis. "Did I really say all that?"

"Who else would have such ambitious goals?" Lu Yin flipped the question.

Big Sis swallowed. Her eyes started to shine. Surpassing Highsage Leon and becoming the Pirate King with a superior form of looting. Yep, that was definitely something she had said. "Alright, I agree. I'll have a fun time being an overseer."

Lu Yin was overjoyed. "Thank you, Big Sis! You'll definitely leave your legacy behind on Mt. Microcosms."

"Hahahaha, what nonsense are you spouting? I am a lady!" Big Sis beamed.

Lu Yin flattered her a bit more before saying goodbye and then letting out a sigh of relief. It was done.

Just outside, Ku Wei had been about to submit a report, but his expression had turned somber after overhearing Lu Yin's conversation with Big Sis. Ku Wei was truly unable to

compare to his master in any way. Even when it came to kissing ass, his master was more impressive.

"Who is it?" Lu Yin called out.

Ku Wei's expression instantly changed. "Master, it's your beloved Little Wei!" he announced as he entered the room.

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In the Neoverse, on Mt. Microcosms, someone emerged from the Arbitration World, which drew the attention of Mt. Microcosms' protectors. The man who had appeared was Qing Shaohuang.

During the chaos in the Divine Venom Dynasty, Qing Shaohuang had been taken away by the Chief Justice to be put to trial. In the end, though the emperor had not been convicted of colluding with the Neohuman Alliance, there was no denying that Yuan Taishi had been his subordinate. Qing Shaohuang had been interrogated, and ultimately banned from ruling Venom Flowzone for the rest of his life. He was instead being sent to the Starfall Sea to serve as a guard for 10,000 years.

Having even a passing association to the crime of colluding with the Neohuman Alliance was still a serious offense, and this was why it was practically impossible for Qing Shaohuang, despite having a power level of nearly 800,000, to remain unpunished. This demonstrated the Hall of Honor's attitude towards the Neohuman Alliance, and Qing Shaohuang was only being allowed to live because they could not find any motive for him to join hands with the Neohuman Alliance. If even a single shred of evidence had been found, Qing Shaohuang would have been instantly eliminated, even if things were later proven to be false.

Another reason he was being sent to serve at the defensive line was due to the manpower shortage in the Starfall Sea.

"Depart for the Starfall Sea," a voice rumbled from Qing Shaohuang's own shadow. It was the Judicial Commissioner, Shadow of Death. He was responsible for ensuring Qing Shaohuang arrived at the Starfall Sea.

"Judicial Commissioner, may I first see my son?" Qing Shaohuang asked.

"Do so quickly."

"Thank you, Judicial Commissioner," Qing Shaohuang said gratefully. He contacted Qing Sheng, who was still in the Lockbreakers World.

Qing Shaohuang's trial had already finished long ago. After he had been found innocent of any collusion, he had been imprisoned. However, he had not been kept isolated from

news of the universe. He had managed to determine Qing Sheng's location, and had also been following along with what had been happening with the Great Eastern Alliance.

Qing Shaohuang had been arrested and investigated entirely because of Lu Yin, so the Envoy had constantly been paying close attention to the Great Eastern Alliance.

He had been ecstatic when he had first heard that the Great Eastern Alliance was going to take over the defense of the Outerverse against the Astral Beast Domain's invasion. As an Envoy, he had fought in wars against the Astral Beast Domain, so he was aware that they were not an easy opponent. He had thus believed that the Great Eastern Alliance would suffer terrible losses regardless of victory or defeat.

Sure enough, just as he had expected, the war had escalated, and at one point, the number of Envoys participating in the fighting had exceeded thirty. Even Empyrean Imprinters had shown up, which had been truly shocking.

It was expected for the Astral Beast Domain to have such powerhouses, but why did the Great Eastern Alliance have such powerful experts as well? Only later had Qing Shaohuang learned that the Second Nightking was following Lu Yin.

After learning that the Second Nightking was one of Lu Yin's subordinates, Qing Shaohuang had nearly gone insane. That bastard Lu Yin had sent the Second Nightking to negotiate with Qing Shaohuang to attack Lu Yin while he had been in the Divine Venom Dynasty, but the Second Nightking had actually been working for Lu Yin the entire time! What an immoral and shameless bastard!

The Second Nightking, Yuan Shi, Ya Mavis, Liu Huang, Jiu Shen, and other powerful individuals had then appeared one after another to support the Great Eastern Alliance. Qing Shaohuang had felt his willpower to get revenge slowly drain away. How could he do anything when faced with such a powerful opponent?

Qing Shaohuang had also learned that the war in the Outerverse was over, and that the Great Eastern Alliance had taken control of the eastern weaves. Even the Sixth Mainland had been forced to accept a loss. The former emperor had thus buried his hatred even deeper in his heart even as he cursed his own weakness. For the moment, he was far from being Lu Yin's opponent.

Even if Qing Shaohuang intended to take back control of the Divine Venom Dynasty in the future, there was only one possible result: he would be eliminated by Lu Yin. Just the Second Nightking alone was more than capable of completing such a task.

Qing Sheng arrived while his father was reviewing recent events. The young man stopped a hundred meters away from Qing Shaohuang, and a complicated expression could be seen on his face as he looked at his father.

Despite being the crown prince of the Divine Venom Dynasty, Qing Sheng had run away from home. He had once been Qing Shaohuang's favorite child, and the two had once been inseparable.

Still, regardless of their own, personal conflicts, Qing Sheng was the only family member Qing Shaohuang was able to visit at this moment.

"Go back and take charge of the Divine Venom Dynasty. Have our Dynasty join the Great Eastern Alliance," Qing Shaohuang spoke in a bitter tone. Only he could know just how frustrated and helpless he felt while speaking those words aloud. However, there was no other way. If the Divine Venom Dynasty refused to join the Great Eastern Alliance, their fate was already sealed.

Qing Shaohuang knew that his brother, Qing Li, had already announced this decision on behalf of the Divine Venom Dynasty, but Qing Li was not the rightful ruler of the Dynasty. Qing Shaohuang wanted the Divine Venom Dynasty to officially join the Great Eastern Alliance.

Even when compared to the Sword Sect, the Lingling clan, of the other Innerverse powers, Qing Shaohuang was the person with the deepest understanding of Lu Yin's methods, and he was also the one who feared the youth the most.

Since Qing Shaohuang intended to have his empire join the alliance, he naturally intended to go all in. This would make it more difficult for the Great Eastern Alliance to create problems for the Divine Venom Dynasty in the future.

Qing Sheng spoke slowly as he asked, "Where are you going?"

Qing Shaohuang glanced at his shadow. "The Starfall Sea."

"Is there anything else I can do?" Qing Shen asked.

Qing Shaohuang stared at Casanova. "Take care of your sister, and don't hate Lu Yin. He has his own reasons for doing things, and he did nothing wrong."

The man did not want his son to hate Lu Yin, as such feelings would only lead to disaster. It was enough for Qing Shaohuang to suffer such indignation alone, even though he might never have a chance to get revenge.

Qing Shen was no fool, and he understood Qing Shaohuang's intentions. Did Qing Sheng hate Lu Yin? Maybe, maybe not. He was not sure himself.

He frequently remembered his first meeting with Lu Yin. There were times when Qing Sheng regretted not killing Lu Yin back then, though, at the time, it had been nothing more than a passing thought. Since he had harbored such a whim, it was possible that

he did hold some animosity towards Lu Yin, though not to the extent of his father's hatred.

Qing Shen watched as Qing Shaohuang left. His father's silhouette grew smaller and smaller before eventually vanishing into the distance. No one could tell what was on the young man's mind.

Lu Yin had already learned of Qing Shaohuang's punishment and posting long ago. After all, Lu Yin had access to all of the insider knowledge of what happened on Mt. Microcosms. After all, Lu Yin controlled the overseers' council.

"Alliance Leader Lu, Qing Shaohuang is sending Qing Shen to take control of the Divine Venom Dynasty and wants to have the Dynasty officially join the Great Eastern Alliance. It appears he has become clear-headed and is able to make proper decisions." San Liang's voice held a great deal more respect than it had in the past.

The war between the Great Eastern Alliance and the Astral Beast Domain had firmly established Lu Yin's power and influence. He commanded more than a dozen Envoys, and even Elder Jiu Shen had shown his willingness to help Lu Yin. There were even rumors that Lu Yin was being supported by a Semi-Progenitor. The power this young man had at his disposal was simply mind-blowing.

The war had also led to the residents of the Outerverse coming to idolize Lu Yin, and almost every planet in any of the eastern weaves had a civilization that had erected a statue of Lu Yin. He was currently the most respected person in the Outerverse.

Before the war, countless people had argued over Lu Yin's decision, and many had mocked him. If the Great Eastern Alliance had suffered a defeat and heavy losses, those who opposed Lu Yin would have kicked him while he was down and made sure he would never recover. However, since he had won, public opinion had completely changed to open adoration. Everyone was heaping praises on Lu Yin. It was only human nature.

Lu Yin had gained both power and prestige from this war. It had also allowed him to gain complete control of the Allied Forces. If he wanted to go to war in the future, all he would need to do would be to give the order, and no one would be able to gainsay him. Liu Qianjue, San Liang, and many others were completely in awe of Lu Yin.

"Got it." Lu Yin ended the call and stared out at the stars.

Qing Shaohuang had made the smart decision to not try to trigger the poison he had placed on the Escaping Orb after being captured by the Chief Justice. This decision had instead left open an alternative path where Qing Shaohuang could instead develop a good relationship with Lu Yin.

After being released from prison, the first thing Qing Shaohuang had done was get the Divine Venom Dynasty to officially join the Great Eastern Alliance and persuade Qing Sheng to take over ruling the Divine Venom Dynasty. This was a move that demonstrated extraordinary foresight. Qing Li's abilities were lacking compared to his brother's.

Would Qing Shen actually take over and rule the Divine Venom Dynasty? Lu Yin was curious to see what would happen.

Star Odyssey #Chapter 1909: The Crazy Big Tree - Read Star Odyssey Chapter 1909: The Crazy Big Tree

Chapter 1909: The Crazy Big Tree

After the war in the Outerverse finally ended, Lu Yin began to receive hundreds of messages each day. That was even after most of them had been filtered by En Ya, Huan Sha, Wei Rong, Wang Wen, and others, which meant that these hundreds were the most important messages. Lu Yin was left with no time at all to cultivate.

Still, this was not a bad thing. Lu Yin had only just become an Envoy, so he needed some time for his increased cultivation to stabilize.

After poring through the messages one after another, Lu Yin suddenly stood up. The big tree had been found.

The big tree had previously escaped from Lu Yin's botanical garden he had created on the Ross Empire's mobile fortress. No one had been able to understand how the tree had managed to escape, and its whereabouts had remained a mystery. Countless people from the Great Eastern Alliance's Allied Forces had searched, but their efforts had been fruitless.

Logically, the tree should have still been on the mobile fortress, as there was no way for it to travel through outer space, yet no one had been able to find it.

Finally, the tree had been located in Blue Flowzone, a tiny, inconspicuous flowzone several flowzones away from Blazing Mist Flowzone.

Lu Yin immediately made his way for the Innerverse.

Even if he decided to let the big tree go free, Lu Yin absolutely had to retrieve Sapling. If that little tree was found by Leaf King, Lu Yin would be put in a very tight position.

Unbeknownst to Lu Yin, Leaf King was already in Blue Flowzone and had even spent the last few days observing the big tree and Sapling.

Shamrock Enterprise's intelligence network in the Innerverse far surpassed what the newly arrived Great Eastern Alliance had access to. Leaf King had received word regarding the location of the big tree and Sapling as much as a month before, but he had not dared to do anything since that time.

When Leaf King had tried to make a move in the Ross Empire's mobile fortress, the big tree had left him spitting out blood after the man had tried to grab Sapling. He still clearly remembered what had happened, and he was genuinely scared of that big tree.

The big tree was near Leaf King, standing quietly in a forested park. At the top of the tree, a small sapling darted around. It looked as though the moving plant was playing a game of hide-and-seek.

Leaf King sat on a park bench while staring at the tree. Once the little sapling moved out of the big tree's range, he would capture it.

The average level of cultivation on this planet was quite high. Despite being located in a minor flowzone, the planet had given birth to an Enlighter, several Hunters, and quite a few Explorers. This was the equivalent of the strength of an entire weave in the Outerverse.

Out of nowhere, a person raced into the park. He seemed panicked, yet his movements were deliberate. He studied the area before running straight towards the mobile tree. As Leaf King watched in astonishment, the man leaped onto the big tree and hid within its canopy.

Leaf King blinked twice and his handsome features contorted. What the hell? Was it really that easy? He had repeatedly tried to get close to the big tree over the past month, but had not once succeeded due to sensing a strange danger. On the other hand, this person who had just appeared had succeeded without any issue despite only being a mere Cruiser?

The person who had leaped into the big tree's canopy saw Leaf King, and their eyes met. The man then gestured for Leaf King to stay silent and threw a bit of star essence toward the older man.

Leaf King reflexively grabbed it.

At this moment, a group of people led by a furious looking Hunter arrived just outside the park. Given the Hunter's strength, just his footsteps alone were enough to overturn rivers and completely destroy the entire planet. He seemed to be suppressing his anger as he entered the park. He ordered, "Find him! You have to find that bastard!"

"Yes, Patriarch!" The entire group answered and they then scattered to carry out their order.

One of them walked towards Leaf King and looked down at the man in a condescending manner. "Did you see anyone enter this park?"

Leaf King's eyes flickered to the top of the big tree. "No."

"Are you sure?" the man pressed, sounding upset. He stretched out a hand and pressed it upon Leaf King's shoulder. Just as the man was about to exert a bit of strength, the Hunter called from the distance. "He's just an ordinary person; how could he have seen any trace of that bastard?"

The person who had been interrogating Leaf King quickly moved on to search elsewhere.

Despite giving birth to several experts, no one on the planet dared to recklessly use their strength. At most, people were able to use a Melder's level of strength, and this was because anything more could easily destroy the planet, and it was home to an Enlighter. That powerhouse would not allow anyone to destroy his home.

This was also why the Hunter was only able to organize a search party to hunt down his quarry.

Leaf King remained sitting quietly on the bench, staring out at the lake in the park.

The man they were searching for had decent capabilities. Not even the Hunter was able to find the man, despite being so close. The others combed the entire park, but could not find anything at all. Leaf King could tell with a single glance that the fugitive was quite experienced at this.

"Reporting to the Patriarch: he's not here."

"Reporting: he's not here."

"Not here."

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The Hunter's expression became ugly. "Let's go!"

He led his people out of the park.

The person hiding in the big tree's canopy let out a sigh of relief, though he continued hiding. Based on previous experiences, it was possible that the search party would turn back after pretending to leave.

While the man was thinking about this, the big tree moved.

The man was startled. Was this an earthquake?

The tree moved again.

The man was quite shaken, and he quickly looked down. Did the tree just move? At this moment, something brushed the back of his head. The man was absolutely terrified. How had he not noticed anyone else's presence? He whipped around, only to be greeted by the sight of a branch. It was Sapling, and he had just accidentally squashed it

The tree moved?

The man was stunned. Had this plant reached the level of being a natural treasure?

The big tree pulled two of its thick roots out of the soil, and then began frantically running. It somehow resembled a human as it moved. The ground shook as it raced out of the park with just a few steps, and it sprinted onto the street. It left holes in the ground with every step, and the noise it made as it moved attracted attention from numerous people. The man hidden in the canopy felt his stomach drop. Since when could trees move about like this?

"Patriarch, over there!" someone shouted.

The Hunter looked over and his eyes narrowed. "Bastard, I've found you now! Get down from there!"

The man grabbed a door and swung it at the big tree.

The tree quickly dodged to the right, barely avoiding the attack, and the door smashed into the ground.

"Get over here right now!" The Hunter yelled in fury as he chased after the tree.

Countless people raced after the tree and moved to intercept it.

The big tree fled.

Leaf King was not surprised by this sight. This big tree was very odd. It could stay quietly in one place for a while, and then would break into random bouts of hysteria without any warning at all. If anyone managed to grab the tree, it would effortlessly escape without injuring the person. It was truly mysterious.

The whole street began to become active as the big tree desperately fled and countless people chased after it and tried to block its path.

"Hurry up and send word to the Alliance Leader! The big tree's trying to escape! I'm keeping an eye on it!" One man submitted a report into his gadget.

Leaf King heard the man and instantly killed the man with a single slap. Since the man was from the Great Eastern Alliance, it meant that Lu Yin had to already know of the big tree's whereabouts. Things would become troublesome if Lu Yin arrived. The sapling had to be taken away quickly.

"Get down from there right now!" the Hunter shouted. He pulled out a long knife from his cosmic ring and slashed it down. The attack tore through the void as it shot towards the big tree.

The man hidden in the tree's branches urged the tree, "Quick! Run away!"

The big tree's trunk twisted, and it dodged the slash by using a movement that mimicked a dancer's pose. Everyone who saw this felt their jaws drop.

That pose had some kind of seductiveness to it. How could a tree be seductive?

Sapling danced around the big tree's branches in a delighted manner.

The man hiding in the canopy was also stunned. This was still a tree, right?

A stern looking old man appeared in the sky above the commotion. "Who dares act so brazenly here? You will be punished for using the strength of an Explorer!"

The Hunter looked terrified, and the knife dropped from his hand as he quickly began begging, "Teacher, your disciple's been careless! Please forgive me!"

This old man was the only Enlighter on the planet, and he was the one who had enforced the rules for all on the planet. He was the reason so many cultivators had risen from this place.

All of the cultivators on this planet were the old man's disciples.

The old man ignored the Hunter and instead stared at the escaping tree. "Interesting."

He moved a finger to catch the big tree.

Suddenly, a terrifying force shook the entire planet, and the old man's pupils constricted as his body was slammed to the ground. This was not good! There was a true powerhouse!

Leaf King had made his move. He reached for the big tree's canopy with a hand and tried to grab Sapling.

The man hiding in the big tree's branches was scared stiff by the overwhelming strength that had appeared. He had experienced such strength before, and this person was definitely an Envoy. Since when had an Envoy been on this planet?

A hand stretched out of the true universe. Leaf King showed himself as he reached for Sapling.

The fugitive was startled when he saw Leaf King. "It's you?"

He had never imagined the person he had tried to bribe with a bit of star essence would actually be an Envoy. Why was an Envoy hiding here?

Right when Leaf King's hand was about to touch Sapling, a branch twined around his arm and snapped like a whip. There was a deafening crack as the arm was torn off and Leaf King's body was sent flying away and tumbling head over heels. The force of the retaliation Leaf King had faced blew a hole in the planet's atmosphere, and even shattered a barren planet far away.

Leaf King had instantly been severely injured. He turned and shot into the true universe to vanish from sight.

Everything had happened in less than an instant. The old Enlighter had felt Leaf King's power, and though the other cultivators present had felt it as well, they had mistaken it for the Enlighter's strength.

Only the person hiding in the big tree's canopy was aware of what had happened, and he was utterly terrified by what he had just witnessed.

An Envoy had just been sent flying by a tree! And he had actually dared to climb to the top of that same tree! What kind of tree was he in? Was it even a tree?

The man trembled uncontrollably, nearly soiling himself from his fear.

The big tree resumed its mad dash before suddenly coming to a sudden stop. It then firmly inserted its roots into the ground after it stopped moving.

The person in the canopy looked left and right. Was it done? The big tree had decided to stop in the middle of a street!

Everyone looked at the tree with odd expressions. Was this tree some sort of natural treasure?

Someone wanted to move closer to the big tree, but they were stopped by the old Enlighter. At his orders, the street was sealed off and no one was allowed anywhere close to the tree. Anyone who tried to approach would be driven away.

The Enlighter felt rather confident that he knew what had just happened, though he had not been able to see any of the details. The Envoy who had suddenly revealed themselves might have been the tree itself.

The old man had traveled to many places in the universe while cultivating to become an Enlighter, and he knew that it was not impossible for a big tree to have the strength of an Envoy.

He considered how to deal with this matter, and even considered reporting this incident to the Hall of Honor.

An ordinary-looking face popped out of the big tree's leaves. There was a pleading look on the man's face as he stared at the old Enlighter from within the big tree's branches.

The old Enlighter was startled when he saw the man, and he then bowed low. It turned out that the Envoy was a person and not the big tree itself. "I was presumptuous and disturbed you, Senior. Do you have any requests? This junior will do his best to fulfill them."

The man in the tree was drowning in despair, and he wanted to beg for help, but just as he was about to speak, branches started to twine about his neck. It was Sapling.

Sapling was in a playful mood, but from the man's perspective, the little tree was threatening him. These branches could easily choke him to death. Was this tree stopping him from speaking?

The man wanted to weep. He had merely stolen a single item, so why was his punishment so harsh? He had even gotten involved with an Envoy! The Innerverse was just too much for the man. He wanted to go back to the Neoverse.

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Star Odyssey #Chapter 1910: Uncle Tree - Read Star Odyssey Chapter 1910: Uncle Tree

Chapter 1910: Uncle Tree

The big tree seemed to have taken root, and it remained unmoving for several days.

Up within the tree's canopy, Sapling had made a new friend, the man who had hidden in the big tree's branches.

At the moment, that man had succumbed to despair. The big tree was simply too terrifying! The man had just watched as the tree had overpowered an Envoy, and he was feeling quite depressed about his situation. As for Sapling, the man assumed it to

be part of the big tree. Because of this, regardless of anything Sapling did, the man was determined to accompany Sapling without any resistance, as he was scared of accidentally offending the tree.

The old Enlighter remained near the big tree on the same planet. The old man did not dare do anything that might disturb the man in the tree in any form. At the same time, the Enlighter hoped to gain the favor of this Envoy and receive something for his efforts that might allow his cultivation to take a step forward.

The entire street had been sealed off. There were cracks in the ground that radiated from where the big tree had settled, and it stood alone in the street with its branches swaying in the breeze.

It then began to rain.

The old Enlighter hastily waved a hand to disperse the clouds in order to ensure the sun continued to shine down on the tree.

Suddenly, space twisted next to the old man, and Lu Yin stepped out.

He had rushed over as soon as he had received news about Sapling, and he had just arrived.

"This tree's stayed here the whole time and hasn't moved?" Lu Yin asked.

The old Enlighter answered, "Yes, that's the tree..."

He suddenly twitched and his head snapped around to stare at Lu Yin in astonishment. "You- you..."

He wanted to ask who Lu Yin was, but still was too stunned by how Lu Yin had managed to arrive so close without the old Enlighter sensing anything at all. On top of that, the longer he looked at Lu Yin, the more he felt this young man looked familiar. The Enlighter's thoughts were a complete mess as he struggled to find any words to say.

Lu Yin simply ignored the man and casually commented, "There are signs of a fight."

He reached out and pinched his fingers. "Are there any videos of the Envoy's fight? Show any you have."

The old Enlighter continued to stare blankly at Lu Yin. Finally, realization hit him and he nearly jumped in fright. "Lu- Lu Yin? No, Alliance Leader Lu!"

Lu Yin looked at the man and gave him a slight smile. "Do you have any videos of what happened?"

The old Enlighter's mouth was hanging open. This was Lu Yin, the Alliance Leader of the Great Eastern Alliance! The person who had unified the entire Innerverse! The old man had never dreamed of getting close enough to speak to such a person in his entire lifetime. He had only ever seen Lu Yin as someone who stood upon a shining stage. The Tournament of the Strongest, ZENITH, and most recently, the war in the Outerverse. It was said that there had been dozens of Envoys on that battlefield. Though the fact that the old man was an Enlighter made him a powerhouse in the universe, he could only dream of interacting with such a prestigious person.

He had heard that hundreds of Enlighters had participated in the Outerverse war.

The old man completely forgot his words when he realized that such a powerful person was standing right next to him. He quickly bowed low. "Fraser Planet's Zang Nan greets Alliance Leader Lu."

Lu Yin repeated his question, "Are there any videos of the battle that took place?"

Some time passed, as Zang Nan could still not gather his wits for a bit after being spoken to by Lu Yin himself. Finally, the man hurriedly replied, "No there aren't. The battle happened too suddenly. Not to mention any monitoring equipment, even I wasn't able to see anything clearly, and I was right there when it happened."

"Oh? What did you see?" Lu Yin grew curious.

The Innerverse was truly impressive. Even small flowzones were able to give rise to Enlighters. When the Outerverse had been cut off from the rest of the Human Domain, Lu Yin had only rarely come across any Enlighters. At that time, he had considered Enlighters to be powerhouses.

An Enlighter could be considered a top expert in the Outerverse, but in the Innerverse, even every minor flowzone had at least one.

Zang Nan answered respectfully, "I really was not able to see any details. It all happened far too quickly. The only thing I managed to see was a shadow rushing toward the big tree, and then it was sent flying away. I never managed to see what form the shadow actually took."

Lu Yin's eyes grew cold. "Did the figure rush towards the big tree, or its canopy?"

Zang Nan considered the question carefully while biting his cheek. "The canopy."

"Are you sure?" Lu Yin pressed. His voice sounded casual, but given Lu Yin's status, Zang Nan knew his answer would determine whether or not he would survive this encounter, as well as his future.

He firmly stated, "I'm sure, because the shadow was thrown away from the tree's canopy."

Lu Yin turned back to look at the big tree. That person who had attacked had to have been Leaf King again. Who else would pay any attention to the big tree other than that man? On top of that, Leaf King was an Envoy.

It seemed that there was something more to the big tree than met the eye. It was able to send even Leaf King flying, and he was someone with a power level of at least 800,000. With such strength, how was it possible that the Ordnance Mercenaries had managed to capture the big tree in the first place? Lu Yin would never forget the scene when Qi Jin had entered the botanical garden with the big tree. At that time, Lu Yin had assumed it was just a big, ordinary tree.

He casually tossed Zang Nan a natural treasure that had reached the level of avoiding danger. As Zang Nan expressed his gratitude, Lu Yin approached the big tree one step at a time. He was soon only 100 meters away from the big tree.

Up in the tree's canopy, Sapling seemed to sense something and it suddenly raised its branches. It slowly turned towards Lu Yin, and then happily leaped down.

Lu Yin hugged Sapling, stroking its branches and leaves with a grin on his face. "You rascal."

The cheerful little tree radiated a warm light and tightly wrapped its branches around Lu Yin's fingers. It looked incredibly content.

A short distance away, up in the big tree's canopy, a man's eyes went wide as he stared down at Lu Yin. It's him?

Lu Yin looked up. He initially focused on the big tree, but then caught a glimpse of a person up in the canopy. "Qian Zou?"

The man who had been chased for stealing and who had hidden in the big tree's canopy was none other than Qian Zou, who Lu Yin had previously met in the Neoverse. During Lu Yin's stellular tribulation, he had faced Progenitor Chen, and one of the eight clones had used Inverse Step. Lu Yin had first seen Qian Zou using Inverse Step, and while he had been impressed by the technique, he had not cared too much about it. However, Progenitor Chen's clone which had had the same level of cultivation as Lu Yin had used the movement technique to circumvent Lu Yin's Knowing realm of Truesight. That incident had left Lu Yin stunned, and it had also reignited his interest in Qian Zou.

After he had passed his stellular tribulation, Lu Yin had ordered a search for Qian Zou. He never expected to meet the young man on this planet.

Qian Zou strained his neck towards Lu Yin, his face the picture of misery. "Um, brother? I mean Seventh Bro. Save me please, I'm scared..."

Lu Yin laughed. He had expected he would need to expend a great deal of time and energy tracking down Qian Zao. Who could have expected that Lu Yin would find the man without any effort at all? "What are you doing in the Innerverse?"

Qian Zou answered, "I've just been traveling around. I'd heard about the Innerverse and the Outerverse long ago, and I also had a bit of interest in exploring the Cosmic Sea, so I came over."

"You mean you got caught stealing something in the Neoverse, so you came here because you had nowhere else to hide," Lu Yin bluntly countered.

Qian Zou coughed in embarrassment. "So, erm, Seventh Bro, can you save me?"

"How did you get up there?"

"I climbed."

"Then climb back down."

Qian Zou was about to have a mental breakdown. "Uncle Tree's an Envoy! I don't dare try to leave!"

Lu Yin used a reassuring tone, "Don't worry. Uncle Tree won't attack anyone who doesn't threaten it."

"Really?" Qian Zou remained skeptical.

Lu Yin explained, "How else do you think you managed to climb up there? You wouldn't be alive right now if it was dangerous."

Qian Zou thought about this and felt it made sense. Still, he was unable to muster the necessary courage. "Seventh Bro, you have to protect me! Your little brother's counting on you!"

Lu Yin made a placating gesture.

Qian Zou gulped and then slowly and deliberately climbed down the big tree. Each movement was made with the utmost caution, as he was terrified of accidentally offending the big tree and getting smacked dead. Even an Envoy had been seriously injured after getting struck by one of these branches, so Qian Zou had no confidence at all.

When Qian Zou's feet finally touched the ground, he did not dare believe it to be true. He slowly backed away from the big tree, and once he was just over ten meters away, he suddenly sprinted toward Lu Yin and instantly hid behind him. When he saw the big tree remained stationary, Qian Zou nearly collapsed in relief. He had survived!

It was also at that moment that Zang Nan realized that Qian Zou was not an Envoy. The youth was not even a Hunter! Zang Nan felt wronged. He had acted so respectful and deferential to this young man, but had actually been scammed. The old man looked at Qian Zou with a hint of malice in his eyes.

Qian Zou patted his chest, thankful to have survived his narrow escape.

Lu Yin squatted and stroked Sapling's tender green leaves. "Good kid, you've had your fun. Shall we go home now?"

Sapling jumped up and down in excitement, catching Qian Zou off guard.

He was no stranger to Sapling, and he had even played with the little tree while being trapped in the big tree's canopy. Qian Zou had assumed the small sapling to be part of the Envoy-strength tree's body, yet apparently the big tree was an entirely separate entity. Qina Zou had been tricked into living in terror for several days. His eyes grew cold as he gazed at Sapling.

"Can you bring the big tree back, too?" Lu Yin asked Sapling.

Sapling curved its branches and spread its leaves. It looked like it was struggling to understand what Lu Yin meant.

However, while Sapling may not have understood, the big tree certainly did. It uprooted itself in a manner reminiscent of a lady hiking up her skirts, and it then frantically started running away.

Several Limiteers in the area rushed over to capture the big tree.

It was then that a strange situation occurred. When Leaf King had tried to capture Sapling, the big tree had sent the Envoy flying away with the flick of a single branch. However when faced with several Limiteers, the big tree was unable to break free. Just a few people were able to tie the tree up and carry it back on their shoulders. Its branches swayed about wildly in a panic, but it was unable to escape.

Qian Zou's eye twitched. This big tree was clearly just messing around! Those were Limiteers, right? But unless all of them were secretly Envoys, how could they possibly catch that big tree so easily? How did these people have the guts to assault the tree?

Lu Yin was relieved to see his assumption had been right. People who were not a threat to the big tree would be fine regardless of how they touched it. As for people like Leaf King, the big tree would brutally attack them.

After waving goodbye, the cultivators carried the big tree onto a spaceship and made their way back to the Ross Empire's mobile fortress. They planned to lock the big tree back in the botanical garden.

One of Sapling's branches rubbed against Lu Yin's face. It seemed to be worried.

Lu Yin gave Sapling a reassuring smile as he said, "Don't worry, the big tree is fine. They won't hurt it."

Sapling regained its previous cheerfulness and started dancing and hopping around Lu Yin.

Qian Zou showed an embarrassed smile. "Erm, Seventh Bro, I'm going to head out now. Thank you for saving me. If there's anything you need me to do for you in the future, just give me a call."

Lu Yin smiled and patted Zian Zou's shoulder. "There's no need to wait for that. You can help me right now."

Qian Zou's face twitched and his smile turned to one of begging. "Seventh Bro, your little brother's already exhausted. Can I just rest for a few days first?"

Lu Yin opened his hand to reveal a pill. "Eat this, and you will recover in no time."

Qian Zou was left speechless. Eventually, he cautiously asked, "What is it that I can help you with, Seventh Bro?"

Lu Yin put a bit more strength into the hand that he had set on Qian Zou's shoulder as he solemnly said, "I don't have anything I need you to do, but I would like to make a deal with you. I'm actually quite interested in your Inverse Step."

This caught Qian Zou by surprise. "Inverse Step? Seventh Bro, are you actually interested in that?"

Lu Yin nodded.

Qian Zou found this quite odd. Lu Yin had known Qian Zou for much longer than just a day or two. They had first met during the Astral Tower, and then again later during ZENITH. If Lu Yin was interested in Inverse Step, why had he not said so before? Quite a bit of time had passed since both of those previous encounters.

"Seventh Bro, it's not that I don't want to teach you, but I actually don't have a clue how to do so," Qian Zou said.

This piqued Lu Yin's curiosity. "Why's that?"

Qian Zou explained, "There are some battle techniques that are force application skills, others that utilize star energy, and still others that are movement techniques. Most techniques are easy to teach to someone else, but there are certain battle techniques that are imprinted directly onto a person's body, and those can't be taught to others. My Inverse Step is one of those techniques. Your little brother managed to learn it because of a jade I picked up, and I was able to immediately learn it."