

Chapter 341: Thirty Stacks

Lu Yin's expression changed. The sword attack had been launched at him while he was in the middle of attacking Bazeer. The blade was extremely fast, and Lu Yin had nowhere to hide. However, he had no reason to evade it either. He calmly watched the flames approach him before simply raising his right hand and flipping it over rapidly. The inferno disappeared bit by bit until there was nothing left.

Many were stunned, what sort of battle technique was that?

Puyu quivered as well; that had been a lockbreaking method just now. How was this person's lockbreaking ability so skilled already?

Mira was also stunned, as she had never expected Lu Yin to be so proficient in his lockbreaking.

Even Wen Sansi was astonished. He had met many genius Lockbreakers, but Lu Yin's aptitude for the subject was particularly impressive. Although he had not been a Lockbreaker for very long, he could already dissolve his opponent's battle technique in the midst of battle.

Yan Feng's talent was far too inferior to Lu Yin's. Even though he was a genius from the Firesmelt Planet who enjoyed exceptional advantages and had trained in a protected environment, those advantages only allowed him to barely touch the Top Hundred Rankings. However, Lu Yin's strength had already firmly entered that level. According to Lan Si, Thirty Stacks even gave him a chance of defeating those at the bottom of the list.

The strengthening fruit's repeated upgrades meant that Lu Yin could now completely turn his nose up at the masses. He did not believe that any Limiteer was a match for him now, including even the Ten Arbiters when they were Limiteers.

Yan Feng's sword was easily shattered by Lu Yin, and his right shoulder was also struck, sending him flying just like Bazeer.

Whether they were watching this take place on a screen or live in-person on San Dios, everyone was stunned. A Limiteer named Lu Yin was not merely displaying his strength as a Realmbreaker, but he had also defeated two genius Explorers at the same time. This was a scene that was almost impossible to witness in the Outerverse, and yet, it had just occurred.

The difference between the Innerverse and Outerverse was too clear, but even if he were from the Innerverse, Lu Yin's results would still be staggering.

A short distance away, Jenny Auna trembled and stared at Lu Yin in fear. Why had everything turned out like this? This was supposed to be her most blessed day when she should be basking in happiness! But then, this person had appeared to ruin her life! No, she could not allow this to happen! As soon as she made up her mind, she leaped to attack Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's eyes froze; this woman had gone crazy! He flicked a finger and pinned Jenny Auna to the wall. "This wedding has not been recognized by the Auna family and is henceforth to be cancelled immediately!"

Jenny Auna's face turned deathly pale. "Lu Yin, this is my personal matter. How can you cancel my wedding?"

Lu Yin squinted, activated his gadget, and then dug out Xueshan Auna's certificate. "Your father, family head Xueshan Auna, has asked me to escort you back to your family. Due to this marriage not being approved by the Auna family, you are not allowed to make decisions in your own matters."

"Either way, it's not up to you!" Yan Feng pathetically rose up in the distance. He stared at Lu Yin with a ferocious expression. "You disrupted my wedding, and I, Yan Feng, will kill you!" He fully unleashed his power, and Bazeer snarled as he similarly erupted with all the strength of his Star Devouring Bear.

On Firesmelt Planet, Yan Wujiu's eyes were filled with killing intent. San Dios did not allow outsiders within its borders and only accepted youths. Otherwise, he would have personally gone long ago to slaughter Lu Yin. When he looked at Lu Yin, he felt a premonition of fear, as if Firesmelt Planet would be ruined at this kid's hands. Feng'er, this child must be killed.

Yan Feng and Bazeer acted simultaneously, both launching vicious attacks at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin turned around and raised his right hand. He clenched his fist and then loosened it, releasing a powerful strength that distorted the void. As everyone in San Dios and the countless spectators staring at their screens watched on, Lu Yin displayed a stupendously horrifying strength. "Thirty Stacks, Fortyfold Shockwave Palm."

In that instant, everyone who witnessed the scene felt numb. Thirty Stacks was something that normal cultivators could not even comprehend, and they would not even be aware of how strong it was. Only a rare few understood, such as Wen Sansi. He instantly stood up in his study, thoroughly stunned.

In the past, many experts had been given the title of a Ten Arbiters' candidate, such as Liu Shaoqiu, Nightqueen Yanqing with her Nightking body, and even Zhanlong Daynight. However, only a few were truly recognized by the Ten Arbiters themselves. Those few people were the ones who could rival the Ten Arbiters' strength within the same realm, such as Ye Xingchen from the Cosmic Sea. These few elites were true Ten Arbiters' candidates, and even Liu Shaoqiu fell short of reaching that standard.

Lu Yin had once been at the same level as Liu Shaoqiu, and had been given the title of "Ten Arbiters' candidate" as a form of praise and encouragement, but not as a form of true approval. The moment he displayed Thirty Stacks, however, his status completely changed. He had met Lan Si's achievement as a Limiteer, and now, he truly rivaled the Ten Arbiters when they had been Limiteers. He had become a true Ten Arbiters candidate, one of the select few.

The strength of Thirty Stacks was terrifying, which Yan Feng and Bazeer were experiencing first hand. It carried an indescribably overpowering strength within it, which Bazeer had once experienced from a powerhouse in the Top Hundred Rankings. Lu Yin's current strength easily rivaled that ranked powerhouse.

Yan Feng and Bazeer were both struck by a single palm and flew away, severely injured. The impact caused them to crash to the floor like puppets with their strings cut.

The masses couldn't even react. Lu Yin was merely a Limiteer, and yet, he had thoroughly smashed the combined force of two elite Explorers. It was like something out of a fantasy novel, and those from the Outerverse in particular could not imagine how a Limiteer had obtained such strength.

Off in the distance, many from great powers from Innerverse looked at one another in shock. The current Lu Yin gave them the impression of an unequaled Limiteer, something that had only appeared once before. That person was called Mu Rong, and he had been recognized as an unequaled Limiteer.

In San Dios, such occurrences rarely happened, as no one dared to be violent in San Dios. Lu Yin could actually be considered the first person to do so.

Puyu finally could not contain himself any further and looked apprehensively at Mira. He then stepped out. "You're Lu Yin, right?"

Lu Yin looked right back at Puyu. "Are you Puyu?"

A chilling look flashed through the Councilor's eyes. "This is Yan Feng's wedding."

"Which is invalid," Lu Yin bluntly replied.

Puyu's eyes instantly turned frosty. "This wedding was approved by my San Dios."

Lu Yin laughed and raised his head. "And San Dios is represented by you alone?"

"What did you say?" Puyu was furious, as no one had spoken to him in such an insolent manner in a long time. Even when his status as a Councilor was disregarded, he was still ranked thirteenth in the Top 100 Rankings, and could easily crush many others.

Lu Yin sneered, as this person had pitted himself against Lu Yin since a long time ago; they were completely incompatible, so there was no need to worry about offending him. Lu Yin did not see the Neohuman Alliance member he had fought in the Umbral Butterfly Weave, which caused him to involuntarily frown. Had he been discovered? That would be bad, as he intended for that reveal to be the final nail in Puyu's coffin.

"Puyu, you are a Councilor and not some elder of her clan. The matter of a mere wedding should not concern you so much." Mira stepped out in front of Lu Yin, giving Puyu a teasing look.

Puyu's eyes narrowed. San Dios only allowed the younger generation to enter. Thus, after Yan Feng and Bazeer had both been defeated, nobody aside from Puyu himself was Lu Yin's opponent. But he was being impeded by Mira, which meant that his chance to kill the brat had already passed. Wen Sansi was also closely watching this place, so there was no need for him to complicate matters.

"I just can't put up with it anymore. Lu Yin, is this the code of conduct that the Astral Combat Academy taught you? To ruin the wedding of two lovebirds?" Puyu loudly berated.

Lu Yin frowned. "Are you blind? Can't you see this certificate?"

Puyu was enraged once more, as this Lu Yin simply refused to give him any face. "Alright, you are a member of the Council of Astral Academy that similarly represents the Ten Arbiters, but what you are

doing tarnishes their reputation. I, Puyu, will not bother with this anymore since someone will deal with you in future.” He then glanced at the pathetic looking Bazeer, and a trace of light glinted in his eyes before he left.

Jenny Auna was similarly pinned to the wall by Lu Yin’s energy and could not escape. She stared desperately at Puyu’s departing figure and the severely injured Yan Feng. Today should have been a day of great jubilation for her, but it had ultimately turned to one of pure grief.

Lu Yin surveyed everyone around him. “All those who are not subordinates of Wendy Yushan can leave now. From now on, I, Lu Yin, will temporarily represent Member Wendy and wield her authority in the Outerverse Youth Council. Are there any objections?”

There were five others aside from Bazeer and Yan Feng who were subordinate representatives under Wendy Yushan. Each one was an Explorer, and they were also a bit older and could barely be considered part of the younger generation anymore. At this moment, each one of them glanced at Lu Yin, feeling a little lost.

They did not know who to choose, as they had previously agreed that while they would not aid this youth, they also would not be excessive in moving against him either. This was also the reason why they had not joined forces with Bazeer and Yan Feng to deal with Lu Yin; they did not want to offend anyone. Still, they were not yet convinced that they had to acknowledge their allegiance to this new person.

Mira stepped forth in a timely manner. “Arbiter Wen has ordered that Lu Yin will temporarily take over Wendy Yushan’s duties. Are there any objections?”

“We pay our respects to Representative Lu.” The five Explorers bowed together.

Lu Yin nodded and smiled. Fortunately, he had greatly improved his strength; if he had directly come to San Dios from the Great Yu Empire as soon as he heard about the wedding, he would have been suppressed by Yan Feng and Bazeer. Not a single one of these people would have given in to him at that time, but it was different now. He had single-handedly defeated Yan Feng and Bazeer. His power trumped the others, and no one in San Dios was his match aside from Puyu and the other three Councilors.

This was the most important point that allowed him to represent Wendy Yushan. No matter what was said, power was always the determiner.

The wedding should have been a prime opportunity for many powers to make a move against Lu Yin, but it had been turned upside down by his absolute power. Additionally, he had not relied on anyone else. This matter spread out, and with it, Lu Yin’s fame increased once again.

At first, he had just been an Astral Combat Academy student who had participated in the Astral Combat Tournament. Then, the Tournament of the Strongest had propped him up as a mighty figure of the Human Domain. And now, this battle had completely cemented him as one of the true Ten Arbiter candidates and was enough to give him a reputation as someone unequalled within the Limiteer realm.

Limiteers were not exclusively members of the younger generation, as there were many older experts who stayed in the Limiteer realm and never broke through. Some of them even had absolutely

monstrous innate gifts, but could never break through to the Explorer realm. Thus, there were fearsome geniuses among the older generation of Limiteers as well.

Even Lu Yin winning the Tournament of the Strongest had not been enough to qualify him as an unequaled Limiteer, though no one would ever admit to that. Today, he had received universal approval for this title because he had matched one of the records set by one of the Ten Arbiters while still within the Limiteer realm. The Ten Arbiters were synonymous with being unequaled. Thus, to match one of the Ten Arbiters was equivalent to being unequaled.

“Congratulations, Representative Lu.” Mira beamed at him.

Lu Yin smiled back. “If you had not helped me by obstructing Puyu, then today would have been quite worrisome.”

Mira smiled. “Thank Arbiter Wen, I wouldn’t have helped you otherwise.” She then left, leaving only a slight fragrance in the air.

Lu Yin muttered to himself. Arbiter Wen, huh? It seemed like this person was trying to rope Lu Yin onto his side. He would eventually have to pick one of the Ten Arbiters, but who should he pick? Both Lan Si and Wen Sansi had expressed goodwill towards him so far, while Nightking Zhenwu was definitely an enemy. It was an agonizing choice to consider.

Chapter 342: Right And Wrong

Lu Yin arranged for Jenny Auna to be taken in custody and then sent back to Zenyu Star in two days. Her fate had already been determined, and she would live out the rest of her days in the Auna family like a caged bird. Lu Yin definitely would not marry her, and it was now impossible for her to wed anyone else either.

Without a doubt, Bazeer was guilty, and Lu Yin had already arranged for him to be imprisoned. For Yan Feng, Lu Yin just wanted to be done with him as soon as possible. He hadn’t committed any crime, but rather just held an opposing viewpoint. Thus, Lu Yin could only have Yan Feng be healed and then prepare to deal with this person again in the future.

There were quite a few people from Firesmelt Planet on Saint Dios, and all of them were locked up without exception. Among them, Lu Yin saw someone he knew: Yan Gang. They had first met during the trials on Earth, and Lu Yin remembered that this person was Yan Feng’s servant and that the two had an excellent relationship. Now, however, Yan Gang didn’t even have the right to participate in the battle since he was still a mere Melder. When he felt Lu Yin’s gaze land upon him, Yan Gang ducked his head, not daring to meet Lu Yin’s eyes for fear that he would be targeted. However, Lu Yin paid him no mind; someone like him was not worth his attention.

Elsewhere, Mira walked up behind Wen Sansi. “Arbiter Wen.”

Wen Sansi smiled. “The show was good, and the main character was even better.”

Mira looked up at the Arbiter with a solemn expression. “The fact that he’s able to use Thirty Stacks means that only those two Limiteers can match up to him now.”

Wen Sansi nodded. "Yes. It means that he's truly invincible amongst the Limiteer realm and is a true Ten Arbiters' candidate. Haha! How interesting!" After saying that, Wen Sansi suddenly changed topics. "Give Lu Yin some information about Mu Rong, Mira."

Mira was confused, but Wen Sansi's eyes had lit up. He was looking forward to seeing the battle between the two Limiteers. He was extremely curious to find out whether or not the person backing Mu Rong would be able to hold themselves back the moment Mu Rong was defeated.

As a Councilor of the Outerverse Youth Council, Wendy Yushan supervised four Weaves, namely the Frostwave Weave, Grandtop Weave, Lars Weave, and Woori Weave. These four Weaves bordered each other, and all the members of the younger generation in them were under the jurisdiction of the Outerverse Youth Council. There were a large number of issues that had to be handled.

The Ten Arbiters Council's network was linked to the Outerverse Youth Council's network, so Lu Yin was able to login and access the Weaves that Wendy Yushan supervised through the Ten Arbiters Council network. His responsibilities now included these four Weaves in addition to the Innaverse's Northern Flowzone.

Each Weave was massive. The total area of the four Weaves was simply unimaginable to the average person. Each Weave contained countless academies, and numerous trials and exams occurred on a daily basis. Just the number of issues that regularly cropped up within the four Weaves were more than enough to give Lu Yin a headache. He wasn't suited to this kind of work, and just like what he had done with the Northern Flowzone, he was planning on leaving these matters alone.

What he needed now was the title as well as the influence to undermine Puyu's power. Everything else took second place to that.

After searching through the network, he suddenly saw a strange piece of news regarding a trial: Some youths from Darkstar Gorge will head to the Woori Weave to take part in a trial in ten days.

The information didn't mean much to him, but the mention of "Darkstar Gorge" made Lu Yin think of Puyu, because Puyu had been born in Darkstar Gorge.

Lu Yin quickly opened the network and started looking for information about Bushtree Planet.

The more he found out, the more excited Lu Yin became. Bushtree Planet was a very strange place. All of its water sources were hidden underground, and its surface was covered with numerous plants. There were no animals there and only lush green vegetation. Some of these plants had developed the ability to attack people while others were rare treasures.

Planets like this one where treasures naturally grew were typically prized. Unfortunately, most of the plants on this particular planet would not live for more than a decade; after ten years, they would slowly wither away. Many scholars had investigated this matter before in hopes of finding out the reason, but they had all failed. Since the plants could only last for ten years, even the rarest plants were rendered useless by this defect.

For this reason, Bushtree Planet had eventually been abandoned and relegated to being a training ground.

Precious plants that only had a lifespan of a decade weren't of much use to powerful cultivators, but they were still effective for Sentinels and even some Melders. In addition, some plants that had gone extinct in ages past would occasionally appear here as well. If one was lucky, they might find a plant that could improve a person's physique. For this reason, many organizations in the Woori Weave wished to send their young geniuses to train on Bushtree Planet. Unfortunately for them, Puyu was in charge of it.

Lu Yin was struck speechless when he found out that Bushtree Planet was a training ground for Darkstar Gorge even when Wendy Yushan was around. There could only be two reasons why this was possible. Either Puyu had total control over Wendy Yushan, or she did not care about this planet at all. She must never have tried to snatch control of this planet from him, or else it would have become the Great Yu Empire's training area long ago.

It was no wonder why Wendy Yushan hadn't discovered that Lu Yin was a Lockbreaker; there was nothing on her mind other than cultivation. It actually made sense that Bazeer had decided to join Puyu.

Lu Yin cancelled that training session right away. In other words, Bushtree Planet's training zone would no longer belong to Darkstar Gorge. He would give it to anyone he wanted. More importantly, he thought quite highly of this planet. Others might only be able to harvest plants that were no more than ten years old, but as long as he had money, he could obtain plants that were a hundred thousand years old. This place was perfect for him!

A day later, Lu Yin heard a beep from his gadget as he was looking at an introduction to Bushtree Planet. A message had arrived from Mira.

Lu Yin tapped on it and took a look. His expression quickly turned to shock. What was Mira trying to do? Why had she given him information about this person?

Within the universe, there were quite a few geniuses who were considered Ten Arbiter candidates. However, most of these titles were merely words of praise and nothing more than that. It was just like how Lu Yin had been referred to as a candidate purely because he had comprehended five-lined battle force. At that time, he had only been about as powerful as Han Chong and the others at that level—he would have been no match for Tian Hou. However, among these people praised as candidates, there were a few who were eventually truly acknowledged to actually have such capabilities.

Mira had sent Lu Yin information about one such person: Mu Rong. He had been viewed by the Ten Arbiters Council as a genius with a powerful innate gift. Out of everyone in the entire younger generation who was below the Explorer realm, he was most certainly the most powerful. A certain member of the Ten Arbiters had even called him invincible among the Limiteer realm.

The Astral Combat Tournament and Tournament of the Strongest had allowed Lu Yin's name to spread throughout the entire universe, giving him a glorious reputation. Mu Rong, on the other hand, was not very well-known to the public, but all the top organizations were aware of him. This person had never lost in a battle against one of his peers.

Every once in a while, there would be a genius who stood a whole head above the rest of their generation, and Mu Rong was one of them.

Lu Yin had not earned the right to know of him in the past. Even after he was crowned champion of the Tournament of the Strongest, those in the know still had not thought that he would be a match for Mu

Rong. However, the moment Lu Yin used Thirty Stacks, he had gained the right, for he had matched the record that Arbiter Lan had set back when he was a Limiteer; with his accomplishment, Lu Yin had finally, truly become a candidate to become a future Arbiter.

Lu Yin sighed. Would Mu Rong be his enemy? Among the true candidates, there was Mu Rong, Ye Xingchen from the Cosmic Sea, and... who else? He'd finally stepped onto this level, surpassing Liu Shaoqiu and officially being noticed by the Ten Arbiters.

Lu Yin mused to himself that it had definitely been a good idea to increase his strength before coming to San Dios. Him being able to use Thirty Stacks had caused a huge shift in his position.

"Mr. Lu, Ms. Jenny would like to see you," a maid informed him respectfully from behind.

Lu Yin frowned. "I don't want to see her."

"Um, Ms. Jenny has said that she'll commit suicide if you don't go and see her," the maid explained anxiously.

Lu Yin snorted and thought it over. "Lead the way."

While he didn't care for Jenny Auna, his relationship with her family would grow troublesome if she died because of him. It was not worth getting into more trouble because of a woman who he didn't even care about.

When he arrived, he saw Jenny Auna leaning against the wall with an ashen pallor. The moment she saw Lu Yin, a bone-deep hatred flashed within her eyes, but it quickly disappeared. It was instantly overwritten by a pleading expression. "Please, please let me go!"

Lu Yin stared at her coldly. "Are you aware that I nearly died because of you?"

Jenny Auna shook her head. "I didn't know that, but all I want to do is to marry the person I love. Is that wrong?"

Lu Yin's heart jolted, and he went quiet as he studied Jenny Auna's mournful face. It's true that she only wants to marry the person she loves. Is that wrong? The person in the wrong was the other person, not her. From the very beginning, she had never admitted to any wrong-doing. All she had done was agree to what had been asked of her. She was actually very pitiful.

All the dissatisfaction and annoyance that Lu Yin felt towards her evaporated in an instant. She had not actually wronged him at all. It was not wrong for a woman to marry the person who she loved. It was just a pity that she had been born into the wrong family.

"You're not wrong, but you fell in love with the wrong person." Lu Yin's tone turned softer when he spoke to her this time.

Jenny Auna closed her eyes. "Firesmelt Planet and the Great Yu Empire are not enemies. I like Yan Feng, so what's wrong with that? The only wrong that happened is that my family promised me to you. Can you really say that you like me, Lu Yin? I can tell that you've never liked me. That ring never represented

love; it was just a promise between you and the Auna family. In your eyes, I'm just a tool for a political marriage."

Lu Yin could not speak. Jenny Auna was actually wrong; she had never been a tool for a political marriage since he had never even considered marrying her.

"You've destroyed a woman's happiness, Seventh Bro!" the Ghost Monkey exclaimed.

"Father has never cared about my desires and only ever wanted me to marry you. He obviously knows that you don't like me, but that's never mattered to him. What he wants is to gain a relationship with you by trading away my marriage. I want to escape and be free of this cage—what's wrong with that? What's wrong with me marrying someone I love? I never wanted to hurt anyone!" Jenny Auna screamed, looking at Lu Yin in abject despair.

Lu Yin did not look at her. He had nothing to say because everything that she'd said was true. She had merely intended to take responsibility for herself and marry Yan Feng. She hadn't even considered whether or not it would hurt Lu Yin, because neither she nor Lu Yin mattered to each other.

Lu Yin sighed. "Yan Feng never cared about you."

Jenny Auna's tears dripped to the ground, and she collapsed. "I know. I know that the person he wants isn't me, but I still don't care. All I want to do is marry him and be free of this cage, even at the cost of my own life."

Lu Yin did not know what to say. Men and women had different principles, with the former being more rational and the latter being more emotional. The issues that they suffered were similarly different.

However, he could not let Jenny Auna do as she wished. "Go back. If it's possible, I'll have Xueshan Auna allow you to live in a good place so that you can become an ordinary woman and live a simple life."

Jenny Auna began to cry silently while clutching her head.

Lu Yin turned around and left.

"Wait." Jenny looked up at Lu Yin's back and whispered, "I never wanted to hurt you."

Lu Yin did not stop as he left the room.

Chapter 343: Registered Names

At this point, it was pointless to talk to Jenny since her fate had already been decided. The only thing he could do for her now was to help her have a decent life. She wasn't wrong; she'd merely been born into the wrong family and stumbled into the wrong situation. For a woman, marrying the person whom she loved was extremely important.

Lu Yin was reminded of Ming Yan. What would happen if, one day, she was disallowed from marrying him? Just the thought of that situation made Lu Yin feel like he was suffocating. He didn't want that to happen, because Ming Yan had to belong to him. He wouldn't allow anyone to come between them.

Still feeling annoyed, Lu Yin went to Bazeer, who was locked up in prison. He wanted to vent his frustrations upon someone.

After going through a whole day of treatment, Bazeer's injuries had somewhat healed, and he had regained consciousness. Upon seeing Lu Yin, he glared hard at him. "I regret not killing you back then."

Lu Yin released a minor amount of force and pierced Bazeer's shoulder. Blood flowed down and stained Bazeer's clothes red. "There's nothing that you can do about the past. Are you telling me this, hoping that I'll kill you?"

Bazeer sneered and bellowed despite the extreme pain. "Kill me? Do you even have the guts to do so? All of the criminal accusations you levied towards me are fake. Lord Puyu has already sent his men to gather evidence of the contrary in the Great Yu Empire. Your accusations will quickly be seen through. If you kill me, Lord Puyu definitely will not let you get away scot-free."

Lu Yin rubbed his forehead. "You're really an idiot." He then pressed a hand against Bazeer's shoulder. "I wonder... If I exert a bit more force on your old injuries, would it be possible for me to create the impression that you died because your injuries couldn't be treated?"

Bazeer narrowed his eyes. "Do you dare to try? Don't assume that you can do whatever you want just because you're representing a Councilor in-name. Everyone listens to Lord Puyu, and the status of my injuries has already been reported to him. If you do anything, he'll definitely find out about it."

Lu Yin nodded. "That makes sense. Still, worsening your injuries should be fine. For instance, I can destroy your meridian points."

Bazeer's expression quickly changed, and he glared hatefully at Lu Yin, though he remained silent.

Lu Yin eyed the prisoner for a while before bursting into laughter while shaking his head. He pulled his hand back and said, "I'm actually quite thankful towards you. Without you, I wouldn't have been so motivated to cultivate this hard. Look at how much of a difference excellent talent makes: in less than three years, I've already surpassed you. But what about you? You've cultivated for decades and have a biological innate gift, but so what? You were still defeated."

"What exactly is it that you want?" Bazeer sounded grim.

Lu Yin gazed at Bazeer. He didn't really want anything other than to get some revenge. After all, Bazeer had done something terrible to him back then. However, as Bazeer had said, it was impossible for Lu Yin to do whatever he wanted. Puyu was keeping a close eye on Lu Yin. In fact, Puyu might even be hoping for Lu Yin to do something to Bazeer so that he could use that opportunity to report him to the Ten Arbiters Council and get rid of Lu Yin.

"Regardless of what happens in the future, you'll be staying here until those allegations are cleared." Lu Yin then turned around and left.

Bazeer heaved a heavy sigh of relief while glowering at Lu Yin's retreating back. He'd definitely kill Lu Yin some day.

After leaving the jail, Lu Yin gazed up at the sky. He hadn't felt any excitement from obtaining revenge, because Bazeer meant nothing to him now. It was no wonder why so many people rushed to take revenge; after all, the intense fury that Lu Yin had felt back when Bazeer humiliated him had long since dissipated after so much time had passed. Now that he had actually achieved his revenge, he was no longer emotional.

"I expected you to kill Bazeer." An eerie voice sounded out, causing Lu Yin to get goosebumps. He whipped around and stared right at a person leaning against the wall. It was Puyu.

"Why are you here?" Lu Yin was on guard.

Puyu gazed at Lu Yin, and a cold glint flashed through his eyes. "Why did you cancel Darkstar Gorge's trial at Bushtree Planet?"

"Bushtree Planet is located in the Woori Weave and is therefore under my jurisdiction. I can do whatever I want with it," Lu Yin answered coldly.

Puyu stared at him. "You're testing my patience."

Lu Yin did not back down. "And you're testing the patience of the Ten Arbiters."

Puyu's expression changed, and he looked off into the distance. He started to leave, but before doing so, he said, "If you rush ahead too quickly, you'll tumble to your death."

"And if you're too slow, someone else might crush you," Lu Yin shot back with a rejoinder.

He would absolutely not return Bushtree Planet to Puyu. This planet was very important to him; he would personally head there himself at some point.

Within the Innerverse, there was a place called Gaia's Swamp. There was no way for anyone to escape from that place, and it was known as the prison that existed in the deepest part of the whole universe.

Shui Chuanxiao was to be imprisoned inside Gaia's Swamp, and it was where he would serve out his sentence of ten thousand years.

Outside Gaia's Swamp, Nightking Zhenwu was personally escorting Shui Chuanxiao into the prison. With a forlorn expression, the Nightking ruefully said, "A famous commander who can't help the human race expand its territories can only be jailed in Gaia's Swamp where night and day merge together. What a shame."

Someone walked over from behind Nightking Zhenwu and slowly bowed. "He asked for it. Nobody can save him since he betrayed humanity."

Nightking Zhenwu lifted his gadget, took a look, and then groaned. He glanced at the man behind him. "You were born on Earth. Do you think that you can deal with Lu Yin?"

The bowing man was Liu Shaoge, and he was now under Nightking Zhenwu. "Yes, my lord."

The corner of Nightking Zhenwu's lips curled up. "You hold a huge grudge against him. I hope that you don't die."

Liu Shaoge looked up with twinkling eyes. "I will win."

Nightking Zhenwu nodded. "Then make preparations to leave. I'll merge my power with you so that you'll be able to temporarily use my abilities. This will ensure that you'll be powerful enough to contend with experts at the bottom of the Top Hundred Rankings. It should also be enough for you to win against Lu Yin."

“Yes, my lord,” Liu Shaoge answered as his eyes lit up.

For the next two days, Lu Yin strolled through San Dios, which also gave him a better understanding of the Prairie Flame Continent. The mainland was huge and had once given birth to a large number of experts. However, ever since the Outerverse Youth Council had designated this location as their headquarters, the continent had basically been colonized. Many experts who rebelled against the Council were killed, and the rest could only submit to San Dios, much the way they would towards a god.

This continent had essentially become a doorman for San Dios.

There were no restrictions outside of San Dios, and anybody could request entrance, but only those of the younger generation could actually enter. This was the reason why no experts from Firesmelt Planet had appeared at Yan Feng’s wedding.

In this way, San Dios had ensured that the status of the younger generation would be upheld here. Perhaps this was the reason why the Ten Arbiters Council had been able to do so well in the universe; once all of the youths banded together and gained a certain amount of influence in the universe, they had gained a stable way to climb up the ladder of power.

As of now, there were only five Councilors in the Outerverse Youth Council. East San Dios only had Puyu and Wendy Yushan.

Wendy Yushan wasn’t very suited to wielding authority. No matter how lazy Lu Yin was, he would still at least look through all of the information that he needed to verify. Wendy Yushan, however, had basically handed everything over to Bazeer, which basically meant that she had given all of her authority to Puyu. She was dumb. At least, that was what Lu Yin thought of her actions.

“You’ve been going over that information for two days already, Seventh Bro. Didn’t you say that you weren’t going to bother with it?” the Ghost Monkey asked.

Lu Yin could feel a headache coming. “I don’t have a choice. Who knows what Puyu’s already done to the four Weaves?”

“You should get someone to manage things for you,” the monkey replied.

Lu Yin was well aware that he was not the right person for this job, but who else could he ask to do it? The person had to be someone he trusted absolutely, but there wasn’t anyone who fit the bill.

All of a sudden, Lu Yin recalled the people who had participated in the Outerverse trials in the Shenwu Continent with him. Where were they now?

With this in mind, Lu Yin immediately found a subordinate council representative.

The person who appeared before Lu Yin was Barley, an Explorer with a power level of 23,000. He had been born in the Grandtop Weave and was one of Wendy Yushan’s representatives.

“Were you looking for me, Mr. Lu?” Barley respectfully inquired.

Lu Yin grunted in response. "There should have been some people who passed the Outerverse trials, so why don't I see anyone listed here?"

Barley answered, "They merely registered themselves. Most of the disciples from the Innerverse take part in the trials to demonstrate their abilities and attract the attention of the Ten Arbiters. Few of them actually come to San Dios. Of course, there are some who did come, but they were all either grabbed by Councilor Puyu or went to West San Dios."

"So you're saying that none of them are here?" Lu Yin frowned.

Barley wryly answered, "Yes. After Councilor Wendy Yushan went missing, the remaining trial takers who joined San Dios chose not to come here."

Lu Yin was at a loss. Those who had managed to pass the trials were definitely not people to be trifled with, and most of them had good connections. If he managed to handle them properly, then they'd definitely be able to help him with a lot of things. Puyu really did work very efficiently.

"By the way, which names are registered under us?" Lu Yin asked as he looked at Barley.

Barley had a strange look in his eyes. Those whose names were registered here usually weren't required to come to San Dios. This was an unspoken rule, so even Puyu hadn't looked at the list. This was because nobody could force the people on this list to do anything since they all had strong connections. However, since Lu Yin wanted to see the list, Barley did not reject and brought the list out.

When Lu Yin took a look, his eyes lit up. This list was quite interesting. There were people such as Yue Xianzi, Zhuang Shaohua, and a few others whom he already knew. There was also somebody called Hui Chuan, who had come from the Beast Tamers Flowzone's Divine Grade Hall, just like Kuang Wang. There was another person called Zhan Jin who'd been born in the Blaze Realm, as well as Tieshan Daynight and some others. There were about three or four people from the Daynight clan.

"All of these people registered here?" Lu Yin was surprised.

Barley quickly answered, "Yes. They all passed the trials, but none of them came here."

Lu Yin sighed. These people all had strong connections and backgrounds, which meant that they were not individuals who could be provoked. Even Puyu didn't dare to meddle with them, so who was Lu Yin to try?

"Are there any more?" Lu Yin asked.

Barley showed him another list. "These are the trial takers who registered under Puyu's name."

Lu Yin took a quick look. "Who is Wen Qing'er?"

"She's a disciple from the Erudite Flowzone's Wen Family. She's said to be Arbiter Wen's cousin," Barley replied.

Lu Yin was shocked, but then he continued looking through the list. Yan Hua, a disciple from the Sword Sect. Lucina, a First-Grade Hall disciple from the Beast Tamers Flowzone. Ah-Fan... huh? Oh, so he's a student from the Northern Flowzone's Shangwu Academy. After skimming through the list, Lu Yin continued staring at it. The names registered here were ones with great value.

The reason why the Ten Arbiters Council held so much power in the Human Domain was not only because of the Ten Arbiters' terrifying battle power, but also because they had the support of young people with powerful connections, such as those on this list. If anyone provoked the Ten Arbiters Council, then it would also implicate the benefits of countless people. These organizations would definitely not take such a matter lying down.

Lu Yin had the feeling that the Ten Arbiters Council was another avenue for the great powers of the universe to hold their contests. If he managed to gain a high status in the Council, then he'd gain access to things far beyond his current imagination.

The reason why these people had registered their names with the Outerverse Youth Council at all was in preparation to vie for power in the Council in the future. It was obvious that this was an act of foresight, but this also showed the importance of the Ten Arbiters Council.

Chapter 344: War

"Actually, quite a few other people have registered as well. Even before the Ten Arbiters were established, the Universe Youth Council already existed. However, its influence back then was meagre, and there were also people who registered and never turned up," Barley said.

"Those people aren't considered part of the young generation anymore, I imagine," Lu Yin added.

Barley answered, "Yes, but some of them have sealed themselves in ice. As far as the age of their body is concerned, they're still a part of the younger generation."

Lu Yin paid no mind to that bit. He knew of quite a few people on this list, and there were even a few that he personally knew. After studying it for a while, he glanced at Barley. "Is there any way to register all of these people under my name?"

Barley blinked at Lu Yin in surprise. "Well, um, you are merely representing Ms. Wendy, so your authority isn't enough for you to do that."

Lu Yin was momentarily at a loss for what to do. He'd already forgotten that he was merely a substitute. "Then what about this? Is it possible to register all these people under Wendy's name?"

Barley briefly considered Lu Yin's question. "Of course. Mr. Puyu won't care about that."

"I'm also talking about all the names registered in West San Dios," Lu Yin said in a low voice.

Barley's facial muscles twitched. "I'll see what I can do."

Lu Yin nodded. "Don't let anyone find out."

"Yes, sir," Barley answered before moving as if to leave. However, after pondering for a moment, he glanced at Lu Yin with a hesitant expression.

Lu Yin was confused. "Is there something else?"

Barley hesitated and then whispered, "I've discovered something that I believe I should report to you."

"Go on." Lu Yin looked at Barley.

Barley's eyes flickered. "I found that Yan Feng has contacted people from the Blazingmist Flowzone's Blaze Realm concerning whether or not Firesmelt Planet may enter the Blaze Realm."

Lu Yin's eyes widened. "Where did you hear this?"

"My battle technique is rather unique, and it allows me to read air vibrations. This makes it possible for me to hear certain things," Barley explained.

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes and looked Barley up and down. He had a new understanding of this person now. He'd originally assumed that all of the representatives who were his subordinates were just ordinary people, but now, he had discovered that they were far from ordinary—it was just that they knew how to survive. The reason why Barley was sharing this information with him was very obvious.

"I got it. Thank you for telling me, Barley." Lu Yin smiled.

Barley hastily replied, "It's my honor to be able to help you, sir."

Lu Yin placed a hand on Barley's shoulder, and Barley's heart lurched. For some reason, he recalled the pitiful scene of Yan Feng and Bazeer that everyone had seen. Barley's instincts screamed at him to dodge, but he restrained himself.

With a smile on his face, Lu Yin patted Barley on the shoulder. "I remember people who do me a favor. I'm just wondering how far you're willing to go to help me."

Barley was thrilled. "I'd be delighted to help."

Barley had originally believed that he had peaked in terms of influence within the Outerverse Youth Council. His innate gift wasn't unique, and he'd only managed to enter the council after much difficulty and become Wendy Yushan's subordinate. It was a pity that Wendy Yushan didn't really care about anything and that she had left everything to Bazeer, who was stronger than Barley. However, he didn't dare to side with Puyu. If things continued on like they had, he'd forever remain an ordinary representative.

It might seem like he held a position of honor, but he didn't wield much influence, and he also had to constantly be mindful of people like Bazeer.

Before Lu Yin arrived, Barley had thoroughly investigated him. The fact that Lu Yin had reached his current heights in less than three years was astounding to Barley and had convinced him to side with Lu Yin.

Before Yan Feng's wedding, Barley had decided that, if Lu Yin safely emerged from the crisis unscathed, he'd unconditionally side with Lu Yin in hopes of a better future. To his surprise, Lu Yin's achievements had gone far beyond his expectations, which made Barley certain in his decision to work with Lu Yin.

Since Lu Yin was new to San Dios, he didn't have anyone he could use yet. If Barley showed some willingness and ability to help, he would surely succeed.

The only issue was that Lu Yin was very arrogant and had offended Puyu right after arriving at San Dios. It was very likely that he would die because of that offence. However, after thinking it through, Barley still decided to side with Lu Yin. He didn't want to remain ordinary forever, and this person might provide him with a means to transcend his limits.

As he watched Barley leave, Lu Yin's eyes twinkled; he could use this person for now. An Explorer was slightly weak at the moment, but that was not a problem. Nobody would easily offend a member of the Outerverse Youth Council even if that member was merely a Seeker.

Lu Yin switched his gadget on, and Huo Qingshan soon appeared on the screen.

"I'd like to know what His Majesty's plan for conquering Firesmelt Planet was, Huo Qingshan." Lu Yin immediately cut to the chase.

A few days later, on Firesmelt Planet, Yan Wujiu had a sullen expression. Behind him, flames swept through the area as a Cruiser, Yan Chong, approached him. "The young master has sent news that the Blaze Realm is interested in us and will probably agree to us joining them, my lord."

Yan Wujiu sighed and bitterly responded, "I never thought that there'd come a day where Firesmelt Planet would be forced to rely on outside support."

"It's all because of Lu Yin. Without him, we wouldn't have been forced to these desperate measures. Once we have a good standing in the Blaze Realm, we must take revenge!" Yan Chong hissed.

Yan Wujiu's eyes flashed with bloodlust. "Lu Yin and the Great Yu Empire. We're definitely going to take our revenge."

At that moment, another figure appeared. "My lord, the Crimson Planet, Zhongan Planet, and Shia Planet have all been sealed off by the Outerverse Youth Council."

"What? On what grounds?" Yan Chong was furious.

"It's rumored that the Outerverse Youth Council found traces of Corpse Kings from the Neohuman Alliance in those planets, and for that reason, sealed them off right away."

Yan Wujiu's eyes twitched, and he frowned before lifting his gadget. "Have the troops on Crimson Planet, Zhongan Planet, and Shia Planet gather and retreat from those planets."

However, Yan Wujiu's orders were rejected; the three planets had already been completely sealed off.

"Our most powerful troops and ships are stationed on those three planets! With them sealed off, our power level has been reduced by at least half!"

Yan Wujiu's eyes shone as he quickly turned his gadget on once again. He was planning on contacting Yan Feng and telling him that he had to enter Blaze Realm right away without arguing for any conditions. This had to happen quickly because something felt off to him. But at that moment, Yan Chong's device beeped with an alert, causing him to take a look.

However, he became startled at what he saw. "The military on the planets is in chaos. None of the ships can be mobilized!"

Yan Wujiu ignored Yan Chong and stared at his own device. Right now, it was impossible for him to send anything from his device because Firesmelt Planet itself had been sealed!

A moment later, the flames on Firesmelt Planet seemed to soar as black flames descended, headed straight for Yan Wujiu.

Yan Wujiu looked at the sky with a stern expression. “So it’s you, Huo Qingshan?”

Above the planet, Huo Qingshan had a cold look on his face as he responded, “Back then, the victor between us wasn’t decided during that battle in the Blaze Realm. Your current power level is 170,000, but I’m still far from that. Would you like to battle with me, Yan Wujiu?”

Yan Wujiu was absolutely furious. Countless experts from Firesmelt Planet tore through the void and attacked the opposing forces in outer space. Meanwhile, the Thirteen Imperial Squadrons’ captains from the Great Yu Empire, Rocky Auna, Liuying Zishan, and the rest, all attacked. This force included the vice-captains, and each one of them was at the Explorer realm at the minimum. Outside of Firesmelt Planet, dozens of powerhouses engaged in battle.

Yan Wujiu yelled, “Does your Great Yu Empire truly wish to start a war with us?”

“The war began on the day of Yan Feng’s wedding. By the order of the Royal Regent, we are to eliminate Firesmelt Planet,” Huo Qingshan sternly responded before charging in.

Yan Wujiu yelled and leaped straight at Huo Qingshan. A moment later, a sea of flames erupted, covering the entire planet. The blaze distorted the void and spread far and wide.

This was a battle between Hunters who were able to destroy the void.

Countless people quivered in terror down below on Firesmelt Planet as they watched the burning sky. The fire, blood, shockwaves, and remnant attacks from the battles breaking out everywhere left them cowering in fear. This was Firesmelt Planet’s doomsday, and all of its experts died pitifully.

Yan Chong was enraged. He did everything he could to block Liuying Zishan’s attacks, but his eyes turned bloodshot as he became extremely vexed. His battle power exceeded Liuying Zishan’s, but why couldn’t he win? It was because the Flash Step technique that Undying Yushan had passed down to the Thirteen Squadrons was a movement-type battle technique that was too much for Yan Chong to handle.

Even further away, on a planet near Firesmelt Planet that was meant to protect it, Da Lei killed a Limiteer from Firesmelt Planet. He was surrounded by other members of the Great Yu Empire’s Thirteen Squadrons, and enraged shouts filled the air.

Firesmelt Planet’s warships had all been sealed away, and many areas were being bombarded by explosives from the Great Yu Empire’s warships. Numerous powerhouses had already died in the attack.

Firesmelt Planet was a powerful force that was second only to the Great Yu Empire within the Frostwave Weave. While its main headquarters consisted of just a single planet, it housed a large number of powerhouses on that planet. On this day, however, this planet would be the grave for all of them.

This was the plan that Undying Yushan had come up with in the past to eliminate Firesmelt Planet. He had spent many careful years ironing out all of the details, and his plan was flawless.

On Crimson Planet, Firesmelt Planet’s army stirred, eager to join the battle.

Lu Yin, who was standing in the front courtyard of San Dios, calmly watched the screen. With merciless eyes, he ordered, “Kill all who oppose us.”

One sentence. Five words. That was all it took to sentence countless people to death.

There was no way for Firesmelt Planet to win against the Great Yu Empire in a head-on fight. In the past, Lu Yin hadn't understood why that was so. Now, however, he had a deep understanding of how powerful the Great Yu Empire truly was. Undying Yushan was a successor of the "Yu" surname of the Seven Courts, which was one of the Three Dark Hands. The battle techniques that he had passed onto the Great Yu Empire were not something that any other organization in the Outerverse could equal.

Even with Lu Yin's current strength, Flash Step was still as powerful as ever. It was evident how terrifying this movement technique was, as it allowed many experts from the empire to challenge enemies who were more powerful in terms of raw power level.

Besides, Undying Yushan had given his squadrons more than just the Flash Step technique; there were other battle techniques as well, and they were all skills that were out of reach of any ordinary organization in the Outerverse. Firesmelt Planet was way too weak in comparison to the Great Yu Empire.

The entirety of Firesmelt Planet was stained red. Countless organizations that were subservient to Firesmelt Planet coldly watched on. Nobody in the Frostwave Weave could stop the Great Yu Empire right now. Although the empire had been weakened by the Ross Empire in the past, it was even more terrifying that they had been able to stand up against the Ross Empire at all. Nobody could have imagined such a thing.

Lu Yin quietly watched the screen and then moved behind Barley.

"Just a word from you started a whole war, Seventh Bro," the Ghost Monkey commented in a complex tone.

Lu Yin appeared to be deep in thought as well. War brought calamity, suffering, death, and the loss of emotion with it. It was the most evil word in the universe, but today, he was the one who had initiated it.

Firesmelt Planet was doomed. The plan that Undying Yushan had come up with was truly perfect, and at the moment, Firesmelt Planet could only utilize about 30% of its true might. It was already completely certain that they would be defeated here.

The Blind Monk and Peach hadn't even taken part in this war.

What followed Firesmelt Planet's defeat would be numerous people becoming homeless and countless families being broken.

Lu Yin hated this, but what else could he do? This war was inevitable. If he hadn't done anything, then Firesmelt Planet would have joined the Blaze Realm, putting great pressure on the Great Yu Empire. At that time, the people in trouble would have been the people of the Great Yu Empire.

There was no right or wrong in this war; the only thing that mattered was which side was stronger.

Chapter 345: Unofficial Ruler

Blood filled the screen, but it was quickly burnt away by a sea of fire. All of the pain immediately vanished. This was just the first step of Lu Yin's plans. He needed to unify the entire Frostwave Weave under his rule, and once that was accomplished, he would set his sights on the other Weaves.

Lu Yin no longer wanted to be a mere ant, waiting to be sacrificed. He would never forget his near-death experience on Driftcharge Planet. Although they had initially been in the same boat, Zhuo Daynight had been sent off without suffering any injuries while Lu Yin had been tossed onto a doomed planet to be eaten by slaves. That was the difference that one's backing could make. This was the reality of the universe.

I will never let such a thing ever happen to me again. Lu Yin clenched his fists as his heart grew cold.

Barley observed Lu Yin and noticed the change in Lu Yin's gaze. Barley sighed; he wasn't afraid that Lu Yin would become too merciless. Rather, he was more worried that Lu Yin might be too kind. War was a very commonplace occurrence in the universe. Many organizations were crushed, and countless people died, all on a daily basis. If Lu Yin was too kind, then his future achievements would be limited.

Lu Yin was still just a student, and Barley was afraid that he might have bet on the wrong person. But by the looks of it, he hadn't been wrong in supporting Lu Yin. This war would not only alter the situation in the Frostwave Weave, but it would also be a life changing experience for Lu Yin. This person's future achievements are sure to exceed everyone's expectations.

At the other end of San Dios, Puyu looked down. Lu Yin had made use of his own influence as a representative of the Outerverse Youth Council to seal off Firesmelt Planet's three most important military bases. This wasn't a huge issue, but it wasn't a trivial one either. Puyu immediately sent out orders to have a report generated and sent to the Ten Arbiters Council.

Elsewhere, Wen Sansi and Mira watched a screen that showed the progress of the ongoing war in Firesmelt Planet.

"He's pretty ruthless and decisive. That's good," Wen Sansi sighed in praise.

Mira frowned. "Lu Yin made use of his authority in the Outerverse Youth Council for personal gain. That might be a problem."

Wen Sansi's lips quirked up. "If the position doesn't allow for even this small amount of authority, then there would be no reason for anyone to join the Ten Arbiters Council."

Mira's eyes lit up. "I understand, sir."

In outer space, near Firesmelt Planet's main planet, black and red flames collided and tore through space. Huo Qingshan was weaker than Yan Wujiu by tens of thousands of battle power. Technically, he should have been on the losing end. And yet, the two were currently on equal footing.

Each and every one of their attacks burned the void and reduced it to nothingness.

"Blazeheart, Blazesword." Yan Wujiu raised his sword straight up into the sky before slashing down with his flaming blade. His attack destroyed the void and bisected space. It unleashed a boundless sea of fire that even caused the nearby planets to start cracking.

Huo Qingshan waved his arm, and black flames spread out, accompanied by an indescribable shockwave that went head to head against the Blazesword. Space rippled around the impact like ocean waves.

“Scram, Huo Qingshan! My Firesmelt Planet has already made the decision to leave the Frostwave Weave. We will never take part in any decision taken by the Frostwave Weave.”

Huo Qingshan’s eyes filled with bloodlust. “You want to join the Blaze Realm.”

Yan Wujiu’s eyes went wide. “How do you know?”

All of a sudden, he felt a chill engulf his back, as if his entire body had been frozen. Snow danced about in front of him, and his expression quickly changed as he shouted, “Xueshan Auna!”

There was a bang, and Yan Wujiu coughed out a mouthful of blood as his entire body froze. Xueshan Auna walked out of the void behind Firesmelt Planet’s leader.

Huo Qingshan narrowed his eyes. He had never expected Xueshan Auna to make an appearance here.

Yan Wujiu was even more shocked, and he glared venomously at Xueshan Auna. “How despicable!”

Xueshan Auna calmly looked over at Yan Wujiu. “You used my daughter to stir up a dispute within the Great Yu Empire. When it comes to being despicable, you’re no worse than I am.”

“Hahaha, the winner is the one with the final say. There’s nothing that I can do about that! However, do you two really think that you can kill me? That’s impossible!” Yan Wujiu howled madly. He waved his hand and unleashed a wave of flames towards Firesmelt Planet that were intense enough to burn the void. The next moment, the planet blazed intensely, and its flames burned even hotter.

Down below on Firesmelt Planet, Yan Chong was battling with Liuying Zishan when he saw what Yan Wujiu had done. He was shocked to the core and cried out, “You can’t do this, my lord! Everyone will be burnt alive!”

Liuying Zishan immediately fled from Firesmelt Planet.

Huo Qingshan and Xueshan Auna exchanged glances and then attacked at the same time. However, they were forced backwards by an even more powerful flame.

“This is bad! Yan Wujiu is absorbing the forbidden flames of Firesmelt Planet. He’s going to destroy the entire planet to increase his strength!” Huo Qingshan had a glum look.

“We need to stop him!” Xueshan Auna sounded anxious.

However, it was already too late. Firesmelt Planet had transformed into an ocean of flames. Yan Chong had been burnt to death amidst his ear-splitting howls along with numerous other people on the planet who didn’t even have the chance to scream.

Countless lives had been lost on just one planet. It was a terrible tragedy.

Yan Wujiu soared into the sky as the flames surrounding him increased in temperature. The void kept collapsing around him, unable to handle the heat. “You forced me to do this! Die! I swear that I’ll definitely get revenge!”

After saying that, he aimed his sword at Huo Qingshan and Xueshan Auna.

Meanwhile, back on San Dios, Lu Yin became increasingly worried. Yan Wujiu had been incredibly merciless and killed all of his own people just to grasp a chance to escape. It would be an absolute calamity if he was not killed today.

Yan Wujiu's brutal actions shocked even Wen Sansi. "He's not suited for the Human Domain. His value would be brought out the most at the border or at Gaia's Swamp."

"Can the Great Yu Empire stop him?" Mira asked.

Wen Sansi shook his head. "With their abilities, those two aren't capable of that."

Mira frowned. Yan Wujiu was way too cruel, to the extent where even she felt a chill crawl down her spine from witnessing his actions.

Within a room in San Dios, Yan Feng's eyes were bloodshot as he stared at his screen. "Escape, Father! Escape, and we'll still have a chance to take revenge!"

Boom!

The sea of fire exploded in space, and Yan Wujiu forced Huo Qingshan and Xueshan Auna back with a single attack. He looked behind himself with a regretful expression and then fled. He would not continue this battle, for the power that he had gained from destroying Firesmelt Planet would not last for much longer. It was just a planet, after all, and all it could do was supply him with enough energy to contend against two experts. Escaping, however, would not be difficult.

All of a sudden, something flashed through the void at extreme speed. Even with Yan Wujiu's abilities, he couldn't evade it. An attack sliced through his abdomen, and his flaming sword crumbled, disintegrating into nothingness.

The sudden reversal shocked quite a few people watching. Yan Wujiu let out a miserable cry as the terrifying flames that had formed with the help of Firesmelt Planet quickly died down. He glared in front of him and saw a girl walking out of the void, eyeing him coldly.

Upon seeing her, many felt surprised. It was Wendy Yushan.

On San Dios, Puyu's eyes grew large; Wendy Yushan had returned.

Wen Sansi was bewildered as well, not having expected her to appear at such a time.

Lu Yin himself was stupefied as well, but his emotions soon became that of delight. The girl's timing was impeccable, but would she be able to stop Yan Wujiu? The disparity between them in terms of power levels was huge, but if she worked together with Huo Qingshan and Xueshan Auna, it might be possible for them to kill him.

Waves of heat burned through space. Yan Wujiu glared venomously at Wendy Yushan. "It's you, bitch? You wanna die?"

Wendy Yushan's eyes remained cold the entire time. "Your power is already weakening. Your time is up, Yan Wujiu."

"I'll at least take you down with me!" Yan Wujiu howled as he charged towards Wendy Yushan while wielding his broken blade.

With her battle power, Wendy Yushan was not capable of contending against Yan Wujiu. After all, Yan Wujiu's power level was over 150,000. However, Huo Qingshan and Xueshan Auna wouldn't let him get away again. Since Wendy Yushan's sudden attack had destroyed Yan Wujiu's boosted flames, the two could now restrain him.

Right now, Yan Wujiu was even weaker than his state at the beginning of the battle, and he soon found himself at a disadvantage. Before long, he was gravely injured, and his blood was scattered across space.

Nobody pitied him. Although the Great Yu Empire had started a war against Firesmelt Planet, they had never planned to commit genocide against its people. However, Yan Wujiu had destroyed the entire planet purely for his own benefit, causing the deaths of countless people. The amount of damage that he'd caused far exceeded that of the Great Yu Empire.

Under the combined attacks of fire, ice, and Wendy Yushan's Ten Thousand Swords as One, Yan Wujiu's blood leaked out into outer space, and he died. A Hunter with a power level of over 150,000 had just died so simply under the gazes of numerous people.

For the Inniverse, the death of a single Hunter wasn't anything special. However, the same could not be said for the Outerverse. Each Weave only had a small number of Hunters, and there were far fewer with power levels over 150,000.

The confirmation of Yan Wujiu's death meant that no one in the Frostwave Weave would be able to contend against the Great Yu Empire anymore. It was now certain that the Great Yu Empire would be able to unify the Frostwave Weave.

In East San Dios, Lu Yin let out a sigh of relief and unclenched his fists. There were no longer any opponents standing against him in the Frostwave Weave.

"The Great Yu Empire has now taken over the Frostwave Weave! That makes you the unofficial ruler of the Frostwave Weave. Congratulations, Seventh Bro!" the Ghost Monkey exclaimed in excitement.

Lu Yin's lips curved up. Unofficial ruler? That sounded pretty good. The person who should rule the Weave was Wendy Yushan, but given her cultivation-obsessed personality, it was impossible for her to establish any real power. That meant that he would hold the true authority.

Behind him, Barley bowed. "Congratulations, Mr. Lu."

Lu Yin waved him away. "I'll need your help in dealing with the aftermath. I'm sure you know what'll need to be checked at the three military planets that were sealed off."

Barley hastily answered, "Of course, sir. Even if Firesmelt Planet wasn't actually working with the Neohuman Alliance, they still developed weapons forbidden by the Human Domain. Their condemnation is guaranteed."

Lu Yin nodded in satisfaction.

Elsewhere, Wen Sansi turned his screen off and smiled. "It's getting more and more exciting every time. Lu Yin really doesn't disappoint. The fact that he has gained control of the Frostwave Weave is definitely not good news for quite a lot of people." He glanced over at Mira and then asked, "Do you think that he'll stretch his hand out towards other Weaves?"

Mira thought it over and seriously answered, "Yes."

Wen Sansi burst into a fit of laughter. "What an ambitious guy!"

His gadget suddenly beeped, and Wen Sansi glanced at it. "Puyu's looking for me. He's saying that Lu Yin overstepped his authority in the Outerverse Youth Council to meddle in a Weave's internal issues and that he started a war for his own benefit."

"Puyu is even more ambitious than Lu Yin. Even when Wendy Yushan was around, he essentially wielded all of the power of East San Dios. Although there's no real evidence, the deaths of the other Councilors from East San Dios might be related to him," Mira said.

Wen Sansi nodded. "He needs to be stopped, but Lu Yin needs to learn his place as well. One can have ambition, but not too much. He might get out of control as a result of this matter." He then rapped his fingers against the table. A while later, he told Mira, "Let Puyu investigate for now. You can supervise him and allow Lu Yin to suffer a little, but don't let Puyu win."

Mira politely acknowledged his order and left.

There needed to be balance when it came to power. It would not do to overly side with one party, nor would it do to leave things be. Wen Sansi's main worry was that Puyu currently had too much influence, and the Arbiter wanted to make use of Lu Yin to balance out Puyu's influence. However, the Arbiter was also worried that Lu Yin might go out of control if he wasn't restrained. It wouldn't be impossible to resolve this matter, but it would definitely be troublesome. For Wen Sansi, if he lost control over two youths, there would be more trouble for him to deal with, and he disliked trouble.

Chapter 346: Position and Privileges

In the Innaverse, Nightqueen Yanqing soon learned of the Frostwave Weave's military movements as well as the outcome. She was furious, as she had tried to use Yan Feng to humiliate Lu Yin and had even set it up so that there would be an opportunity to kill him at the wedding. It had all been to ruin that person. But who could have predicted that all her effort would be turned on its head and help him soar even higher instead. He had defeated two elite Explorers with his own strength. How had he managed to learn Thirty Stacks?

It had only been a short while since the Astral Combat Tournament was held, but Lu Yin's strength had improved from the initial Nine Stacks to Thirty Stacks! His progress could chill anyone.

Since she was a disciple of the Nightking clan and the younger sister of Nightking Zhenwu, Nightqueen Yanqing knew exactly what being able to use Thirty Stacks entailed. Lu Yin had already climbed to the peak of the universe's younger generation. He could only be described as an unequalled Limiteer, and he had reached the same level as those freaks. She wanted to deal with this person as quickly as possible, but she had been stopped by her elders.

Every day that this person was not eliminated was another day that Yanqing could not rest peacefully.

The war in the Frostwave Weave was no small matter in the Outerverse, but it did not have much of an impact on the Innerverse. Not even the Ross Empire reacted in any significant manner. Even if the Great Yu Empire unified the Frostwave Weave, they would still be a weak power to those in the Innerverse.

At this point in time, Huo Qingshan and the rest discovered something strange.

Yan Wujiu had absorbed all of Firesmelt Planet's flames to increase his strength, so everything on the planet should have been destroyed. However, after everything was said and done, they found a single person who was completely unharmed, sealed within an extremely cold block of ice. This person was Yan Yan, an ordinary Explorer who had been on Firesmelt Planet. He had somehow survived the inferno unleashed by Yan Wujiu, who had a power level of over 150,000.

"This, this is someone from the Royal Frost Continent!" Xueshan Auna was astounded as he stared at the ice on Yan Yan's body, specifically looking at a distinct symbol. The symbol consisted of a wreath of five interlocking plum blossoms, and it left Xueshan Auna completely stunned.

Huo Qingshan was puzzled. "The Royal Frost Continent?"

Wendy Yushan was also lost, and she looked at Xueshan Auna.

The Auna patriarch explained, "You all wouldn't know this, but the Royal Frost Continent is a very powerful hidden force within the Blazing Mist Flowzone. That entire continent is hidden within an isolated space that few can enter, but their power is extremely terrifying. They are definitely not lacking even when compared to the Ross Empire, the Blaze Realm, or the Sylvan Dragon clan."

Wendy Yushan frowned. "It's impossible for me to not be aware of such a power."

"Princess Wendy, it's very normal that you don't know about them as the continent does not allow any outsiders entry. And any who do make their way in will be killed without question. I only unintentionally chanced across a description of this hidden force in a powerhouse's records, and they described the Royal Frost Continent as having almighty powerhouses, and not just one either. It is the sacred land of ice and snow, and all those who train there will have these five rings of snowflakes on their bodies of ice after they are done. This is the unique symbol of the Royal Frost Continent."

Xueshan Auna raised his hand and caused the wind to dance, which carried chilling and frolicking snowflakes within it. "The Blizzard Palm has been passed down in my family, and I've always wanted to seek out the Royal Frost Continent's entrance in order to train there, but I've never found it."

Wendy Yushan did not ask further; her interest in the Royal Frost Continent was nearly negligible.

On the other hand, Lu Yin was rather intrigued; the Royal Frost Continent caused him to recall Shenwu Continent. Since this hidden power could rival the three great forces of the Blazing Mist Flowzone, the continent's power must be even higher than the Shenwu Continent's.

Lu Yin searched on the network for a while, but he truly could not find any information regarding the Royal Frost Continent. He thought about it and then decided to use his Honor Points privileges to search again. Only then did he finally find an introduction to the Royal Frost Continent. However, it was only a brief description and had the same information as Xueshan Auna's explanation.

The Royal Frost Continent was hidden in a separate space. The other powers within the Blazing Mist Flowzone, such as the Blaze Realm, had once attacked the continent, yet had failed. What was different from Shenwu Continent's tragic fate was that the continent was home to multiple almighty powerhouses of the Royal Frost Continent who had acted and had forcibly beat back the other powers. This had allowed them to gain a mysterious reputation as the fourth power of the Blazing Mist Flowzone. Since they did not interact with the outside world, they had been forgotten for thousands of years.

Not even the Blaze Realm could deal with the Royal Frost Continent, which showed that the continent was not simple. Lu Yin thought about the current matter some more, and then ordered Xueshan Auna and the rest to take Yan Yan back to the Great Yu Empire.

The aftermath of the war with Firesmelt Planet was very complicated, but Lu Yin did not need to focus on such activities. Right now, he was on a call with Wendy Yushan; it was their first formal meeting even through their screens.

Lu Yin never expected that his first meeting with Wendy Yushan would be under such circumstances.

When he first arrived at the Great Yu Empire—no, even before he arrived at Zenyu Star, someone had already mentioned the issue of Lu Yin's engagement to Wendy. When he finally arrived, he had discovered that there was a Fifth Princess and had learned about her amazing talent, absolute power, exalted position, world view, ambitions, circumstances, and heroism. Then, he had learned that this person was supposed to be his fiancée.

Out of all the geniuses that had been birthed in the Outerverse, few could equal Wendy Yushan, and all the rumors surrounding her made her seem unsurpassable. Things had even reached the point where even the Great Yu Empire could no longer accommodate her, and her position even surpassed Undying Yushan's. She was someone who truly stood at the pinnacle.

Having a marriage contract with such a person put great pressure upon Lu Yin. This matter had also led to him tasting humiliation at the hands of Bazeer, which had been nearly unbearable. In some way, Wendy Yushan had contributed to the matters that led to Lu Yin's humiliation because of her detached and dismissive attitude and her complete disregard for Lu Yin.

Sometimes, apathy could cause the greatest harm, which was fully embodied by Wendy Yushan. She herself had never even realized the harm that she had caused Lu Yin, and he did not want to admit it either. Deep down, Lu Yin wanted to forcefully rip off her apathetic demeanor by meeting her face-to-face and personally asking her, "What makes you think that you can back out of this marriage?"

But now that he was actually in a meeting with her, he was unable to say those words when facing this indifferent young lady.

Both of them remained silent for several minutes, but then Lu Yin finally spoke. "My condolences."

Wendy Yushan's expression was cold, but a sliver of grief shone through the depths of her eyes. The entire Yushan Family was dead, and even their corpses had been taken. However, she still revealed no sorrow. "It doesn't matter."

Lu Yin nodded. He had initially intended to comfort her, but it seemed that that was unnecessary. For her to reach her current standing was proof that her willpower was very firm. "You're too impulsive."

Wendy Yushan's eyes narrowed. "That's none of your business."

Lu Yin frowned. "I'm the Great Yu Empire's Royal Regent, so as long as you belong to the Great Yu Empire, you are my concern."

Wendy Yushan stared at Lu Yin, and the two locked eyes for quite a while. Then, she coldly replied, "Your power's not bad, but it won't be that easy to catch up to me."

Lu Yin was especially unhappy when he saw her detached expression. "It won't take much longer."

Wendy Yushan's eyes flickered, and she stared at him with a serious expression. She had no response as Lu Yin had taken less than three years to reach his current level. It was simply mind-bogglingly, but it showed that his innate gift might even surpass her own. If given another three years, what level would he reach? The Top Hundred Rankings? Top Fifty? Twenty? Or even the top ten? She could not make a guess.

"You're the Lockbreaker Seventh Bro?" She changed topics.

Lu Yin nodded. He did not feel awkward for tricking her back then since their interests had been different.

"Your talent for lockbreaking is impressive."

"That's for sure."

"I'll return to East San Dios in a while. Be careful of Puyu." And with that, she disconnected the call.

Lu Yin gathered himself. This woman was no fool, but her capabilities aside from cultivation were simply too lacking. Once she returned, his own position would return to being a representative, just like Barley.

Ding! Lu Yin looked down at his gadget and then back at Barley. "Take good care of things when handling the matter with Firesmelt Planet."

"Yes, Representative Lu."

Lu Yin left the courtyard and headed for the Council headquarters, which was located on San Dios' highest tower. The Council's meeting room was also there, and it was the place that housed the highest authority. Mira was waiting there for Lu Yin.

The fact that Lu Yin had used the Council's authority to intervene in a war for his own personal gain was a weakness that Puyu would never allow to slip through his fingers. It was probably this matter that had prompted Mira to summon Lu Yin. However, he was not worried at all since Wen Sansi had come to San Dios specifically to restrict Puyu, and the Arbiter could not remain at East San Dios forever. The true counterbalance against Puyu was Lu Yin himself, so nothing would happen to him. At the most, he would receive a slap on the wrist.

And Lu Yin was willing to take on this risk in order to unify the Frostwave Weave.

Before long, Lu Yin entered the council tower and raised his head. The peak in front of him was the highest point above the Ablaze Mainland, and this place represented the extreme authority of the Council. The view must be good from up there.

Mira was standing at the top, her back towards Lu Yin as she stared into the distant sky. Even the clouds were below San Dios, so she only saw a boundless sea of clouds and the seven moons.

She coldly said, "Arbiter Wen has ordered Puyu to investigate the matter of you using the Council to intervene in the Frostwave Weave's war. Do you have anything to say for yourself?"

Lu Yin was not accustomed to this new icy attitude from her. "Representative Barley has investigated Firesmelt Planet for a long time. He has discovered that they have been producing weapons banned by the Human Domain. Hence, with the excuse of investigating their relationship with the Neohuman Alliance, the Firesmelt Planet's three military planets were sealed."

Mira turned around and smiled at him. "I'm not stupid, and Arbiter Wen's no fool either. Your reasons are too basic."

Lu Yin did not reply.

"But in the universe, strength is an indisputable truth. Thus, no one really pays any mind to the so-called 'reason.' You should be able to enjoy the benefits of whatever position you are given."

Lu Yin's brows jumped. "Is this Arbiter Wen's intention?"

Mira smiled and walked beside Lu Yin, causing a fragrance to waft over him. "Arbiter Wen's intention is simple. You've gone overboard, so your status of acting councilor will be stripped for the duration of Puyu's investigation."

Lu Yin shrugged. "Give my thanks to Arbiter Wen for not pursuing this matter any further."

Mira giggled. "The acting councilor position has been stripped, but you are still Wendy Yushan's representative. She will return soon, so you must work hard to stabilize your own position."

Lu Yin's lips lifted into a smile. "Thank you, Senior Mira, for the reminder. I've made suitable arrangements for myself. After all, all the councilors of the Council of Astral Academy are also members of the Universe Youth Council."

Mira was stumped, as she had forgotten that Lu Yin also held that position. She had originally wanted to follow through on Arbiter Wen's intention and temporarily kick Lu Yin from the circle of authority, forcing him to take a backseat. However, his position as a part of the Council of Astral Academy meant that his position was higher than any other representative, and he could even converse with Wendy Yushan as an equal. If this was the case, then how could he ever be pushed out of the circle of authority?

Even if Lu Yin did not have the identity of an acting councilor, with Lu Yin's value and his identity as a member of the Council of Astral Academy, there would always be someone willing to obey his orders.

Chapter 347: Extortion

What a headache! Mira looked at Lu Yin helplessly, as this was the first time she had realized how troublesome it could be when someone had too many influential positions. This Lu Yin had relied on his numerous statuses to fearlessly charge into San Dios all by himself. He was confident that no one would kill him even if he roamed the universe alone.

“You’re rather annoying to deal with,” she commented.

Lu Yin laughed. He was a two-star Discerning Junior Lockbreaker, had two Honor Points, was a member of the Council of Astral Academy, and was a representative of the Outerverse Youth Council. Just one of these identities could safeguard his life, which made things much more interesting. It almost seemed like “the more the merrier.”

“Alright, I’ve said what I needed to. You’re like a hedgehog, able to retaliate no matter what direction someone approaches you from.” She rolled her eyes at Lu Yin.

He smiled. “No matter what, I still have to thank Senior Mira.”

Mira’s eyes lit up, and she lifted Lu Yin’s chin with a hand. “If you really want to thank me, then answer one question.”

“You are prettier,” Lu Yin replied seriously.

She was left speechless. “I haven’t even asked yet.”

“No matter who you may be compared to, Senior Mira is still the prettiest.”

She chuckled. “Alright, I’ll accept your compliment, and I’ll pass it on to Wendy Yushan as well.”

Lu Yin was taken aback by her response and left without saying another word. This woman was crazy in the head! It seemed as if she enjoyed sowing dissent.

Lu Yin released his domain after leaving the tower and relaxed his mind. San Dios’ scope was not that large, and he quickly arrived at the boundary of the floating city. If one looked down from the edge of San Dios, they would see a pretty good view.

The five arched entrances were obvious, and each guard was a Cruiser from the Prairie Flame Continent, not someone from the younger generation.

Lu Yin walked out a short ways away from the arched entrance and looked down. A layer of clouds was blocking his view, so he raised his hand and used a wave of energy to disperse them. Then, the vast mainland finally entered his sight.

The scenery from the top was indeed very different.

At that moment, a figure bursting with bloodlust appeared about one hundred meters behind Lu Yin and stabbed at him with a sword. It was Yan Feng.

Lu Yin had discovered him long ago, but he couldn’t be bothered to do anything.

The guarding Cruiser at the arched door immediately reacted. His strength already easily eclipsed that of his peers, which was why he was qualified to guard San Dios. He quickly suppressed the severely injured Yan Feng and pinned him firmly down to the floor.

Yan Feng raised his head and stared at Lu Yin with venomous eyes. “Lu Yin, you won’t have a good death! You caused countless to die on Firesmelt Planet! I must return this favor!”

Lu Yin walked over to Yan Feng and slowly squatted down next to him. “You also watched the battle of Firesmelt Planet. The one who killed countless people was your father, Yan Wujiu, not me.”

“You’re the one who instigated the war! My father was forced to those extreme actions against his will! Lu Yin, you will pay with your life for the countless lives lost on Firesmelt Planet, as well as for my father’s!” Yan Feng screamed maniacally.

Lu Yin sighed and raised his hand to pat Yan Feng’s shoulder. “You’re clearly tired of living. Go on then, join your father.” As Lu Yin stood up, Yan Feng’s eyes became bloodshot, and his head slowly drooped down. Lu Yin had applied some force, completely shattering all of Yan Feng’s organs and instantly killing him.

The pupils of the Cruiser shrank. He gave Lu Yin an apprehensive look before returning to his post.

Ambushing a representative was a rather serious offense. Lu Yin would not be held accountable for killing Yan Feng in the slightest.

The final danger of Firesmelt Planet had been eliminated, and Lu Yin lazily stretched his body. From now on, Firesmelt Planet was no more. He raised an arm and activated his gadget. “Formulate a battle plan to the unify Frostwave Weave.”

“Yes, Your Highness.” Huo Qingshan’s voice could be heard in response.

“Seventh Bro, you must have purposely come here to give Yan Feng this opportunity, right?” the Ghost Monkey probed.

Lu Yin blinked. “Who knows? He went crazy long ago, and now, he’s dead.”

“That’s so scary,” the monkey mumbled.

The only person that could threaten Lu Yin in San Dios anymore was Puyu. Lu Yin could not deal with Puyu for now, but he was not in any hurry either. If Puyu was eliminated, then Lu Yin would be done for as well.

For the next few days, Lu Yin peacefully stayed in San Dios, and no one created any trouble for him.

Puyu spent that time investigating the matter of Firesmelt Planet, but strangely enough, he did not cause Lu Yin any trouble. It could only be said that storms were brewing on the horizon.

The other representatives under Wendy Yushan did not automatically express their goodwill to Lu Yin, but he did not pay them any mind. When Puyu previously roped them in, they had only merely feigned their approval. Their ardent desire to preserve their own lives was much stronger than any desire they held for power.

Meanwhile, something happened that caused Lu Yin to feel more awkward—Michelle contacted him.

He had promised to help her comprehend battle force. This would be the third time he had to postpone his promise, and he felt a little embarrassed about doing so.

The battle plans for the Great Yu Empire to unify the Frostwave Weave had already been formulated, and it developed inconceivably quickly. Lu Yin did not even need to look into it to guess that this plan had already been in the works while Undying Yushan was still in power. The plans had not been executed due to various reasons, but now, it was their ideal opportunity to strike.

Lu Yin had wanted to use this plan to drag Wendy Yushan back to the Great Yu Empire, but unfortunately, her ambitions pointed elsewhere. She was already planning to return to San Dios in a few more days.

Jenny Auna had also been sent back to Zenyu Star and had been handed over to the Auna family. Xueshan Auna was extremely grateful for this matter. After all, regardless of how he had tried to use Jenny, she was still his daughter. Thus, the Auna patriarch was deeply grateful towards Lu Yin for not simply killing her.

Lu Yin spent two days perusing all the available information concerning Bushtree Planet since he planned to head over there and retrieve some natural treasures in a few days. However, there was another matter troubling his mind—his financial status. Without money, he would have no use for any of the natural treasures.

The fastest way for him to earn money right now was through lockbreaking, so it looked like he could only focus on that for now.

Hold on. Lu Yin suddenly thought of something. They should have received many spoils of war from invading Firesmelt Planet, so why had he not received a cut of anything?

He immediately contacted Huo Qingshan, whose expression turned strange. “Your Highness, the spoils of war from invading Firesmelt Planet must all be handed into the empire’s treasury.”

“I can’t even get a little?” Lu Yin was unsatisfied.

Huo Qingshan considered the question. “Your Highness, the empire currently requires too many resources to rebuild. With the recently formulated plans to unify the Frostwave Weave, the greatest challenge to the empire is its lack of resources. You-”

“Alright, alright, I get it. Basically, there’s no money,” Lu Yin impatiently interrupted.

Huo Qingshan replied. “Your Highness, I’m not the one you should be asking about this. The new finance minister, Gavin, would know more.”

Lu Yin directly disconnected the call. Surprisingly, the Empire was actually broke. Actually, it was very normal for it to have no money since war burned money like nothing else.

“Seventh Bro, you’re too much of a money-grubber,” the Ghost Monkey commented.

Lu Yin rolled his eyes; no one could sympathize with his plight. If he had enough money, then his power would increase rapidly beyond measure. Unfortunately, that much money was too hard to come by, making him eternally wish that he had the support of a large financial group.

Lu Yin suddenly thought of Darkvoid; he was a seed of Shamrock Enterprises and therefore should not be lacking in money. However, he was the most envious of Lulu, who was so rich that she could take out an absurd amount of money without even batting an eye.

He still owed Lulu a significant sum, and he started wondering if that brat had already gone to the Great Yu Empire. She had wanted to search for information relating to the Court of Seven Names there, but it was bound to be a wasted trip.

At this time, Barley requested an audience with him.

“Representative Lu, there are some registered individuals from the Inniverse who wish to formally enter San Dios,” Barley happily informed.

Lu Yin was astonished. “Registered members? Who?”

“Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua.”

Lu Yin was puzzled. “What motives could they possibly have for coming here now?”

“It should be due to hearing Representative Lu’s fame, and they are coming here on account of your reputation.”

Lu Yin smiled; attracted by his fame? It would be strange if Yue Xianzi didn’t scold him upon seeing him since he had toyed with her a bit back on the Shenwu Continent. “When will they arrive?”

“Within two days.”

Lu Yin rubbed his chin. “Tell them that not just anyone who wishes to come can come. They can wait since they are so keen to register.”

Barley felt lost. Lu Yin obviously wanted to pull these nominees over just a few days ago, so what had caused this change now?

“Go on and tell them.” Lu Yin shook his head.

Barley immediately agreed.

“Seventh Bro, what are you scheming?” The Ghost Monkey was very curious.

Lu Yin smiled. “What do you think they’re trying to achieve by coming to San Dios at this time? Logically, if they truly intended to join the Outerverse Youth Council, they would look for Puyu. Given their statuses as descendants of powerful Inniverse organizations, Puyu definitely would not treat them unfairly. However, they actually chose to approach me, and don’t forget that Yue Xianzi holds a grudge against me.”

The monkey guessed, “Could it be because of the strength that Seventh Bro displayed?”

Lu Yin nodded. “Most likely. There’s only a few Ten Arbiters candidates who are publicly recognized as such even when both the Inniverse and Outerverse are taken into consideration. Also, a few of the Ten Arbiters won’t be part of the younger generation for much longer, so the contest for their positions will start soon.”

“Even so, it won’t be Seventh Bro’s turn next. You’re just a Limiteer, and I believe that there are also Explorers who are Ten Arbiters candidates, like the top ten in the Top Hundred Rankings.” The monkey didn’t believe Lu Yin’s reason.

Lu Yin raised his head. “They’re playing the long game. What would you know? You monkey.”

“If you truly wanted to compete, then you should look to rope in those people.”

“I’m not completely certain yet, but we can try for now. If they truly want to rely on me, then they’ll need to show some sincerity.”

“Don’t be gullible, and don’t forget that Yue Xianzi’s Frostmoon Sect is in the Daynight Flowzone. Do you think that they will openly cast their lots with you?”

Lu Yin smiled. “Every generation has its own issues. Even though Yue Xianzi is the Frostmoon Sect’s young mistress, there are other disciples besides her, and they might even be more than ten years older than her. Those people might be assisting the Daynight clan and can’t be bothered with her. Regardless, she must have her own reasons for coming to me.”

The monkey mumbled, “You’re always so reasonable.”

Nearby, Barley passed Lu Yin’s message onto Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua. They had different reactions; An Shaohua was astonished and asked Barley how he could enter San Dios. Yue Xianzi, on the other hand, gnashed her teeth in outrage. However, the outcome for both of them was still the same since she still wanted to become Lu Yin’s subordinate.

Lu Yin considered the matter. “It’s not impossible for them to join me, but the Great Yu Empire’s finances are strained right now, and I’m a bit troubled over this matter. Let them wait for a little while longer.”

Barley was stunned. Is he extorting them?

The Ghost Monkey was also rendered speechless. “Seventh Bro, this money-grubbing sickness of yours is really getting worse.”

Lu Yin’s lips quirked up. He did not mind the monkey’s words since it was just as he had said. Even if the Ten Arbiters gave up their positions, he still was not capable of replacing them. Thus, he was in no rush to gather geniuses under himself. And no matter if it was Yue Xianzi or An Shaohua, neither one was an overly important character. It was up to Lu Yin to accept them or not since these two could look towards no one else apart from Lu Yin if they wanted to participate in the contest for the position of the next Ten Arbiters. Lu Yin was confident in his calculations.

Chapter 348: The Elites From Earth

These two were merely the first of many who would soon start following in Lu Yin’s footsteps. This change was due to power alone. The more powerful he became, the more people would want to follow him. Money? That was nothing to many Inniverse organizations.

Such organizations were impatient for Lu Yin to fall into some kind of trouble so that they could help him. A perfect and powerful person was also the most terrifying kind of person.

Within the Innerverse, in Astral-7, Yue Xianzi looked incredibly troubled after she heard Barley's news. She had expected Lu Yin to come up with all sorts of requests or to even ask for help from the Frostmoon Sect. But to her surprise, all he wanted was money. That didn't make any sense!

Then, Yue Xianzi's eyes lit up. It was impossible for Lu Yin to only want money, so with this thought in mind, she quickly contacted those in her sect and repeated what she had been told.

The many elders that appeared on her screen were all esteemed members of her sect, and they all appeared incredibly solemn and deep in thought.

"With how things are right now, there are four Limiteer cultivators who truly have what it takes to be considered Ten Arbiters candidates. Of the Explorer realm cultivators, the Top Hundred Rankings must also be considered. However, amongst those hundred, only the top five truly stand a chance of succeeding. In other words, there are nine people in total who can feasibly become one of the next Ten Arbiters. Our Frostmoon Sect has already shown our goodwill to three of these people, and of those three, if any one of them becomes a Ten Arbiter, it will be a great boon for our sect. Lu Yin shall be the fourth," an old woman declared.

"Yes, but of those nine, Lu Yin has the lowest chances of succeeding. He doesn't have the necessary connections, and just the Great Yu Empire can't support him. Who cares if he unifies the Frostwave Weave? Just the Ross Empire from the Blazing Flowzone can easily wipe them out."

"But he's growing stronger at an alarming rate. Based on our current information, he has spent less than three years to reach his current strength. Three years! That's much quicker than any of his peers. In terms of strength, he's definitely surpassed any Limiteer. Thirty Stacks was a record that Arbiter Lan set when he was in the Astral Combat Academy, and to date, nobody other than Lu Yin has managed to achieve the same feat. Don't forget—he's not even a peak Limiteer yet. It's very likely that he'll be able to break Arbiter Lan's record. His future is very bright."

"But he also has a huge grudge with the Daynight clan."

"That's his one problem. He has no connections at all, but he still riled up the Daynight clan just to save that Daynight girl who testified for him. It's terrifying that he managed to do that at all. Aside from the elder council of their clan, no one else knows how he managed to accomplish such a thing. He has a unique ability, and his methods are very clever."

...

Yue Xianzi stood in front of her screen as she watched as the elders discussed the matter.

Quite some time later, the discussion finally ended.

"We'll do as we initially planned. You'll be subordinate to Lu Yin and then become a subordinate member of the Outerverse Youth Council under him," an old woman informed Yue Xianzi.

Yue Xianzi was at a loss. "Lu Yin brought up a very strange requirement. What do you make of it?"

Quite a few of the old ladies seemed like they were suffering from a headache. They had no idea what Lu Yin actually wanted. It did seem like he really was asking for money, but that couldn't be possible!

Even an ordinary person wouldn't mention wanting more money, much less a young genius such as Lu Yin.

"Get the map of the Frostwave Weave," one of them ordered.

Not too long after, a number of old women studied the star chart when one of them lit up. "I think I get it now! Lu Yin needs the money not for himself, but rather because he's taking the organizations that sit next to the Frostwave Weave into consideration, such as the Grandtop Weave's Nine Stacks Sect, for example. He's worried that they'll take advantage of the chaos to sneak into the Frostwave Weave, which would force the Great Yu Empire's troops to be split up, stretching the empire's finances even thinner. He's hinting for us to help him deal with organizations like the Nine Stacks Sect, which are putting pressure on the Frostwave Weave."

"Yes, yes! That makes much more sense. He's incredibly thorough. Most people wouldn't be able to guess his intent, but thanks to Elder Lin, who's taken part in many border battles and is incredibly experienced, we managed to understand." One of the old ladies sighed in admiration.

Elder Lin looked very proud of herself. "Hehe, it's nothing. He's very calculating. How about this? We'll send a few experts over to warn the Nine Stacks Sect."

"Of course. We should also warn some of the other organizations near the Frostwave Weave as well."

"Yes, yes."

...

Yue Xianzi pursed her lips, wanting to mention that she believed Lu Yin might actually need the money. When she recalled his disgusting face, she grew even more firm in her belief that he really only wanted money. However, that didn't make sense. Whatever. Elder Lin must have figured out his true intentions.

Elsewhere, An Shaohua of the Watermoon Villa was deep in thought as well. The higher ups of his organization were even more puzzled than the Frostmoon Sect's elders.

"Is the Great Yu Empire in need of money because their economy crashed during the war? Or has the Mavis Bank abandoned the empire?"

"Did the Ross Empire do something?"

"It's possible..."

...

After discussing all of their possible options, Watermoon Villa ultimately decided to send a team to the Great Yu Empire to help improve the empire's economy. They completely disregarded Lu Yin's request for money, thinking it was nothing more than a joke. Nobody would request money in such a blatant manner; there had to be some kind of underlying meaning to his words.

In San Dios, Barley found Lu Yin again. "Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua have both responded, saying they understand your request and that will make preparations right away, sir."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. They're making preparations? Are they going to give me a lot? These large organizations are amazing. He became very excited, because having a lot of money meant that he'd be able to cultivate at an even faster rate. This also meant that he would also be able to roll his die after gathering more natural treasures from Bushtree Planet. The thought of such a future made him even more excited. "I'm going to get a lot stronger now, monkey!"

The Ghost Monkey was confused. "What do you mean by that?"

"Nothing special. I'm just going to break Arbiter Lan's record!" Lu Yin declared haughtily.

Lu Yin remained in San Dios, waiting for Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua to send money over. Meanwhile, on Zenyu Star, a large spacecraft docked on the planet's space station. A bunch of youths looked outside the spacecraft in excitement. These youths were all from Earth and were the first batch of elites who had been selected to be formally educated at Yu Academy.

They might be considered elites, but that was only with Earth's standards. In the Great Yu Empire, any random student would be more powerful than these Earthlings. Earth was still too weak, and even the strongest cultivator from Earth's trials, Zhou Shan, had only reached the Melder realm. And even that was after receiving help from the Great Yu Empire.

Inside the space station, Tianming waited quietly and watched as the spacecraft docked. Behind him, a member of Yu Academy had an annoyed expression. "It's just a planet from the border regions, Hall Master. Is it really necessary for us to come out and personally welcome some Sentinels or even Seekers?"

Tianming smiled. "They're from Earth."

"I know," the Yu Academy student responded.

Tianming gave him an odd look. "You've never heard of Earth?"

That member frowned. "It sounds pretty familiar. Let me think." Soon enough, his eyes went wide. "Earth? The Astral Combat Tournament? Is that the Royal Regent's home planet!?"

Tianming nodded. "Yes, Earth is the Royal Regent's home."

The student sucked in a cold breath and his gaze towards the spacecraft dramatically changed. A person's hometown would always be very important to them, and the two people with the most authority within the Great Yu Empire were the Royal Regent and Wendy Yushan. It was a symbolic matter that people from the Royal Regent's home planet were arriving. It was no wonder why these cultivators had been considered important enough for Hall Leader Tianming to welcome them himself.

After the spacecraft finished docking, the hatch opened and a battalion lined up in two rows. After that, an Explorer walked out. It was obvious that he was a member of the military from his stern expression as he exited the spacecraft.

Behind the Explorer was Zhao Yu.

Two years had passed, but Zhao Yu had barely changed. She had become a bit more sullen, but that was in part due to her battle technique. As one of the Three Snowgirls under Bai Xue, she had crossed a doomed land on her own to arrive at Jinlin. This woman was very strong-willed in a way that few were able to match. She'd only been a Sentinel at that time, which was also called the Realm of Earth back on Earth. Now, she had managed to become a Seeker.

Behind Zhao Yu stood Feng Hong, the instructor for new troops back at Jinlin. He had a pretty good relationship with Lu Yin and had also become a Seeker.

Behind Feng Hong was Luo Yi, who had once tried to seduce Lu Yin and who had also suffered horrendously on doomsday. She was even more beautiful than before and had become a Seeker as well.

Behind Luo Yi was Qin Xuan. She was from Jinlin as well and had only met Lu Yin a few times. Like the rest, she was now a Seeker.

After her was Huan Sha, who was from Beijing. She had helped Zhang Dingtian stabilize the chaotic aftermath of the trial and hadn't originally wanted to leave Earth. However, after hearing that Zhang Dingtian had gone missing, she'd made the difficult decision to leave Earth and search the universe for him.

These five were all people whom Lu Yin knew. Feng Hong and Luo Yi, in particular, had a pretty good relationship with him.

Behind Lu Yin's five acquaintances were quite a few other young people from Earth, and most of them were Sentinels, though there were some Seekers as well.

The mutations that had occurred during the trials on Earth meant that becoming a Seeker was not as difficult as it had been before, but it still wasn't easy to become one, either.

In the distance, Tianming glanced at his gadget. Information on all of the cultivators from Earth was displayed there, and there were only a few who were worth mentioning. Huan Sha had awakened the innate gift of imitation and analyzing, Qin Xuan had an innate gift of dissolving, Fu Xiaoshu had an innate gift of illusion, Zhen Tong had an innate gift of flowers, and Song Shi had an innate gift of wind.

All five of them had awakened innate gifts, which was rather surprising to Tianming. Awakening an innate gift by chance was a one in a million event, and any cultivator who managed to do so was always welcome to join the Universe Youth Council. That showed just how highly the universe thought of cultivators with innate gifts.

There were very few cultivators in the Great Yu Empire who had awakened innate gifts, but five had emerged from a backwater planet like Earth. It was simply inconceivable, and even the captain of the twelfth squadron, Ban Jiu, was investigating Earth to look into this anomaly.

As Feng Hong gazed at the huge Zenyu Star and the three massive rings that were clearly visible above them, he sighed ruefully. "This is the view that Lu Yin saw two years ago. We're finally able to see the same sight now."

Luo Yi had a grim look in her eyes. "He was just a Troop Leader back then, but now, he's a genius powerhouse who's known across the universe. We're way too far behind, Feng Hong."

Feng Hong burst into laughter. “Don’t compare us with him. Everyone is weak compared to him, haha!”

Huan Sha glanced around. What she saw was very different from what her peers saw. She was analyzing the space station, but no matter how hard she looked, the defense of the space station seemed to be completely invulnerable to attacks from someone with her power level. This was the Great Yu Empire’s Zenyu Star.

Zhao Yu looked up. She was actually only here so that she could search for Bai Xue. All the hopes of the many people from Blue Camp had been placed on her shoulders; they could not simply accept the fact that Bai Xue had suddenly gone missing.

Chapter 349: Pirates?

Not too far away from Zhao Yu, there was a beautiful woman who was surveying her surroundings with curiosity, her shining eyes betraying her excitement. She had finally left Earth! Back then, she’d seen so many powerful powerhouses fighting on a screen. Those battles had all been incredibly exciting, and all of the interesting innate gifts and terrifying battle techniques displayed there had caught her attention. It was precisely because she’d seen the Astral Combat Tournament that Zhen Tong had decided to come to Zenyu Star. She needed to leave Earth so that she could become like Lu Yin and one day reach a stage where videos of her would be spread throughout the universe.

Most of the people here had a similar line of thought as Zhen Tong’s. Elsewhere, Fu Xiaoshu looked calm, but there was a blazing ambition buried deep within his eyes. His family had died from the mutation, and he no longer had anything worth living for. For a long time after that, he had scraped by as a beggar, merely scrounging for some food to eat while waiting to die. But then, he had witnessed something life-changing on that screen. The moment the word “Earth” appeared, he had realized the ultimate meaning of his life. When he saw Lu Yin fighting, he had realized what he should be pursuing.

Among the group, there was also a very brash young man. His name was Song Shi, and he too had watched the tournament through the screens on Earth. At that time, he’d been in the forest, trying to understand how the wind flowed through the trees. He’d watched the battles of the Astral Combat Tournament and the Tournament of the Strongest. During them, he had made the decision to follow this person for the rest of his life. Lu Yin would be his only goal and aspiration in life.

Many of the cultivators from Earth waited, both anxious and excited for what was about to happen. They had managed to stand out amongst the millions of cultivators from Earth and would definitely be able to return in glory in the future.

Clap clap clap!

Tianming walked up to them and smiled as everyone turned around to look at him.

“Hello, cultivators from Earth. I am Tianming, and I’m a Hall Master from Yu Academy. Starting today, you will be members of Yu Academy and will go through the harshest training available in the Great Yu Empire.”

Days later, back on San Dios, Lu Yin frowned as he looked at Barley. “Did you really tell Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua what I said word for word?”

Barley grew fearful. “Yes, sir.”

Lu Yin was baffled. “How did they respond?”

“They said that they needed to make preparations,” Barley replied.

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes. “Make preparations? Did they mention what kind of preparations they would be making?”

Barley shook his head.

Lu Yin was very confused. Why was it taking them so long? The Frostmoon Sect and Watermoon Villa shouldn't be so poor that they would take this much time to gather the amount of money that he'd specified. That was impossible! These organizations clearly didn't value him in the extreme, so they definitely wouldn't give him too many resources. The whole situation was incredibly strange. Could they have lied to him?

With this thought in mind, Lu Yin snorted. “Go ahead and tell Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua to come to San Dios right away.”

Barley quickly acknowledged his boss.

The Ghost Monkey snickered. “They're ignoring you, Seventh Bro. I told you—you're just a Limiteer. Even if a Ten Arbiter does withdraw from their position, it will have nothing to do with you. There's plenty of young Explorers already competing for that spot! For instance, the top ten on the Top Hundred Rankings. It's hilarious that you think that you even have a shot!”

Lu Yin nonchalantly blocked the monkey off; the beast was too noisy.

Two days passed, and then Lu Yin received news from the Great Yu Empire's finance minister, Gavin, that Watermoon Villa had sent a team to the Great Yu Empire and announced that they would help the empire's economy to recover.

Lu Yin was left speechless. He clutched his head, stifling the urge to curse. In the end, Watermoon Villa had misunderstood him because he'd been too indirect! He could only place his hopes on the Frostmoon Sect, but he had a bad feeling about what they would do as well.

As he thought, Huo Qingshan contacted him that same day in the afternoon, informing Lu Yin that the Nine Stacks Sect had contacted him. The sect had promised that they would not attack the Frostwave Weave and were obviously trying to show their goodwill to the empire. They also passed on the fact that the Frostmoon Sect had sent people to request this of them.

Lu Yin was incredibly disappointed. He had actually been too indirect, and it had led all of these fools misunderstanding him! Next time, he'd have to ask for money even more directly.

Thankfully, he'd blocked the monkey off beforehand, or else he'd be teased forever.

Lu Yin tapped his gadget and started brainstorming the best way to earn money. All of a sudden, Mira appeared with a strange smile on her face, as if she was delighted to announce horrible tidings.

After seeing her excited smile, Lu Yin's heart lurched, and a bad feeling surfaced in his heart. “What happened, Ms. Mira?”

Mira chuckled. "You're in trouble, Mr. Lu."

Lu Yin's eyes flashed as he eyed Mira. He suddenly thought of Puyu. That guy had been looking into why Lu Yin had sealed Firesmelt Planet's three military planets, which meant that the Councilor had been quieter than usual recently. "Has Puyu already made his move?"

Mira nodded. "Puyu has already made what you did to Firesmelt Planet public. Right now, nearly a hundred organizations from the Grandtop Weave, Lars Weave, and Woori Weave have banded together to report you, claiming you've abused your authority by interfering in wars in the Outerverse. They say that you've destroyed the balance, used your authority for personal gain, and so on and so forth. There are dozens of accusations that have already been sent to Arbiter Wen." Mira then grinned widely in an exaggerated manner. "Even I got mad from seeing those accusations, Mr. Lu. Hehe."

Lu Yin went quiet, looking quite glum. Puyu had been in the Outerverse Youth Council for a long time and had built up numerous connections. The fact that he'd managed to band together over a hundred organizations to go against Lu Yin was rather frightening and showed the amount of influence the Councilor possessed. Of course, this also had to do with the Darkstar Gorge that was backing Puyu. However, the Councilor himself was quite capable as well.

After seeing Lu Yin fall silent, Mira grinned. She quite liked seeing Lu Yin with a disgruntled expression. For some reason, it felt refreshing. Ever since she'd been teased at the border warfront after that battle, she'd become slightly vindictive towards Lu Yin.

Mira crossed her fair legs, revealing her perfect, bare ankles that dazzled Lu Yin. He looked up at her face with an earnest expression. "How many organizations did you say there were?"

"Over a hundred." Mira looked up with a satisfied expression, as if she was the one who had gathered them all together.

Lu Yin suddenly chuckled in an incredibly happy tone, to the point where it sounded quite disgusting.

Mira blinked. "Are you okay?"

Lu Yin looked at her, lifted a hand, and used his star energy to create a chess board. "If there were a thousand pieces on this chess board that belonged to you but then someone suddenly took a few, how would you react?"

"I'd cut off the hands of the person who touched them," Mira answered matter-of-factly.

"Why?" he asked.

Mira arched an eyebrow. "What's mine is mine. Nobody has the right to take it away from me."

Lu Yin nodded and sighed. "Exactly, what's yours is yours. And I imagine that Arbiter Wen feels the same way."

After hearing Lu Yin's metaphor, Mira's expression suddenly changed before she stood up and hurriedly left.

Lu Yin smiled as he watched her leave.

Puyu had made the wrong move. If he had simply worked with a few organizations to pressure Lu Yin, then Arbiter Wen might have followed along and given some kind of punishment to Lu Yin to further pressure him. However, Puyu had banded together with over a hundred different organizations, revealing the large amount of influence that he wielded in the Outerverse Youth Council. Those organizations should have sided with the Ten Arbiters, but Puyu had been able to mobilize them all by himself. These Outerverse organizations were essentially a handful of chess pieces out of a thousand that the Ten Arbiters controlled. It was no wonder why Arbiter Wen would be annoyed that his chess pieces had been mobilized by someone else.

Puyu had been too impulsive, or perhaps he had been driven mad by Lu Yin. The recent events had led to Puyu desperately trying to take care of Lu Yin once and for all. Unfortunately, he'd gone too far.

The next time Mira saw Wen Sansi, her heart lurched; he appeared to be in a bad mood.

"Sir," Mira started.

Wen Sansi grunted in acknowledgement. When he saw the list of organizations that had banded together on his screen, something had flashed across his eyes. Puyu was truly capable since he had gathered so many organizations in just a few days. How were they benefitting from him? Is this really all just to punish Lu Yin? Puyu had gone overboard.

"Puyu isn't someone who'd be easy to control. It's said that he wants to challenge the top ten of the Top Hundred Rankings and wants to become one of the next Ten Arbiters," Mira said.

Wen Sansi burst out in a fit of laughter. "Become one of the Ten Arbiters? And just how is he going to do that? None of us are dying."

Mira opened her mouth, wanting to say something, but then, Wen Sansi raised his hand to stop her. "Each one of the Ten Arbiters has attained a great number of connections and benefits to reach their position. Him receiving a spot? Who can force that? Age is just a number. So what if you're in the top ten on that list? There's still a huge gap between us." After saying that, Wen Sansi stood up. "Make some preparations. We're returning to the Innaverse."

"What about Puyu and Lu Yin?"

"Ignore them both. They can handle this on their own. Zhenwu sent someone over as well, so things are about to get very messy. Though, that's not necessarily a bad thing." Then, Wen Sansi disappeared.

Mira stared at the place where Wen Sansi had been standing with bright eyes. It was no wonder why Lu Yin had been so delighted by the news. Puyu had gone too far, but that had actually improved Lu Yin's situation instead.

Puyu had been waiting for Wen Sansi to punish Lu Yin, but the only answer he received from the Arbiter was, "You talk too much."

Puyu froze when he saw Wen Sansi's response and felt indescribably humiliated. He'd done everything that he could and had even used the power of Darkstar Gorge to cooperate with various Outerverse organizations. Even if he wasn't able to completely destroy the bastard, his plan had been to thoroughly

humiliate Lu Yin. After all, Lu Yin was a part of the Council of Astral Academy, which meant that Puyu had to be completely ruthless when dealing with this person. However, this was the unfortunate result.

Puyu abruptly smashed his gadget to bits and howled in fury. He was a member of the Outerverse Youth Council and only a single step away from becoming one of the next Ten Arbiters. However, this last step was too difficult to take! It frustrated him to no end that these people could humiliate him as they wished. No matter what, he had to become one of the Ten Arbiters. Regardless of if it was Wen Sansi or Lu Yin, he'd destroy them both.

At that moment, a pale-looking man walked over. It was the person known as Vulture, the Corpse King from the Neohuman Alliance who had fought with Lu Yin in the past.

Puyu had no idea what this person's true identity was, and Lu Yin hadn't exposed him yet. This was the time bomb that Lu Yin had left next to Puyu.

"Something strange just happened, my lord," Vulture reported coldly.

Puyu was still furious, so he answered in a terrible tone, "What is it?"

"A large number of pirates have suddenly appeared at the Grandtop Weave, Lars Weave, and Woori Weave, and they're attacking the space stations of various organizations. They've caused a lot of damage," Vulture answered.

Puyu frowned. "What does that have to do with us?"

"The organizations that the pirates have been attacking are all those whom we cooperated with to put pressure on Lu Yin."

Puyu suddenly stood up, and his expression drastically changed. "What? All of them?"

"Most of them," Vulture replied.

Puyu had a cold look in his eyes. "Be precise. All of them, or most of them?"

"Most of them," Vulture answered.

Puyu frowned. This incident was indeed very strange. Pirates typically did not attack the space stations of the larger organizations for fear that they'd be attacked back by large groups. However, this time, they had actually done so. What was going on? Why were most of the cooperating organizations being attacked? Was it possible that Lu Yin had connections with pirates?

Chapter 350: Lu Yin's Backing

Puyu suddenly remembered something. Back when Lu Yin's performance had first started skyrocketing during the Astral Combat Tournament, before he joined the Council of Astral Academy, Nightqueen Yanqing had falsely accused him of being a pirate. However, this accusation had been put to rest after another lady from the Daynight clan vouched for Lu Yin's innocence. This issue had caused a series of problems later on, but could Nightqueen Yanqing have possibly been right? Could Lu Yin really be a pirate? If he wasn't a pirate, then why were so many pirates helping him?

Puyu was not the only one to have such thoughts. Wen Sansi had received the same news and shared Puyu's suspicions. Did Lu Yin have pirates backing him?

Many people speculated about the matter.

Lu Yin felt very awkward at this moment, as if he had swallowed a fly. Many pirates had attacked the space stations of the various powers, and it just so happened that a majority of these powers were at odds with him. With such perfect timing, who would believe him if he said that he was not colluding with pirates? Who was trying to frame him?

Barley gave Lu Yin a strange look. Is this man a pirate?

"Seventh Bro, are you a pirate?" the Ghost Monkey asked, curious about the matter.

Lu Yin did not respond, but at that moment, his personal gadget lit up with a call from an unknown number. Lu Yin's face immediately changed, and he asked Barley to leave. While Barley was leaving, Lu Yin also screened the monkey off before accepting the call, only to see Uncle Reuben appear on the screen.

"Little Yin, it has been a long time since I last saw you," Uncle Reuben greeted Lu Yin.

Lu Yin felt something was odd since Uncle Reuben's tone was peculiar. He usually spoke to Lu Yin in a cold manner, but right now, his tone now was that of forced cordiality. It made Lu Yin feel somewhat out of sorts. "Hello, uncle. Is anything the matter?"

Uncle Reuben coughed twice. "Nothing much. I'm just checking in to see how you are doing."

Lu Yin's expression revealed his increasing confusion, but then he suddenly thought of something and his expression grew serious. "Uncle, what's your relationship with the pirates?"

Uncle Reuben was now the one with an awkward expression on his face.

Lu Yin was speechless. "It really was you guys! No wonder I got a weird feeling from you today. Alright, tell me. What's the family's connection with the pirates?"

"Heh heh, Little Yin, the family has always treated you well. I am sure that you know this," Uncle Reuben said with a dry laugh.

Lu Yin was horrified by the sound. "Uncle, please do not laugh anymore. It's way too creepy."

Uncle Reuben's expression quickly returned to normal. "Little Yin, you should know what Big Sis' wish has been all this time."

Lu Yin nodded. "Yes, Big Sister wants to go back to some place."

"Let me tell you about it now."

"Wait a minute, uncle. Aren't you afraid that someone might be listening in on our conversation?" Lu Yin asked, flabbergasted.

Uncle Reuben shook his head and loftily replied, “Don’t worry. We’ve already returned to that place. From now on, we won’t need to fear anyone anymore. This includes you as well, Lu Yin. Remember, uncle is saying that we don’t need to fear anybody.”

A glint flashed through Lu Yin’s eyes. “Do I have some backing now?”

Uncle Reuben smirked. “You indeed have some backing now, and you are no longer alone. From now on, Lu Yin, you are now a member of Leon's Armada.”

Lu Yin blinked. “Cosmic Sea? Leon's Armada? One of the Four Pirate Crews?”

Uncle Reuben nodded. “Yes, one of the Four Pirate Crews. And it's not just any regiment, but the regiment that has been publicly acknowledged as the strongest of the four: Leon's Armada. We are a regiment that is feared throughout the universe. Our leader is Highsage Leon.”

Lu Yin wrinkled his brows. Highsage Leon? He then cried out in alarm, “The pirate king?! That Highsage Leon?”

Uncle Reuben pursed his lips and nodded. “The Pirate King, Highsage Leon.”

Lu Yin did not know what to say. He had just discovered that, shockingly enough, he was a subordinate of the pirate king. The family had never mentioned that they had any ties to the pirate king. “Uncle, is Big Sis also a member of Leon's Armada?”

“What a stupid question! Of course she is! Let me tell you something—the person who saved you back then was not Big Sis. When you fell into the Cosmic Sea, it was our leader who saved you, and Big Sis took care of you. After that, Big Sis and the leader had a falling out because of certain reasons, so she took you away. If not for those reasons, you would’ve already undergone the training of Leon's Armada. You would already be a proud warrior of the Cosmic Sea,” Uncle Reuben replied.

“More like a proud pirate.” Lu Yin grinned.

Uncle Reuben’s expression turned solemn. “Are you looking down on pirates?”

Lu Yin hurriedly shook his head. “Of course not.”

“Good.” Uncle Reuben heaved a sigh of relief and then gave Lu Yin a serious look. “Little Yin, regardless of whether it’s our leader or Big Sis, both of them have taken very good care of you. You became a member of Leon's Armada the moment the leader saved you. In other words, you are a subject of the Pirate King. This is a fact that you cannot change, though I don’t think that you even have an inkling of the power that the Four Pirate Crews wield.”

“It’s a great power. In the Tournament of the Strongest, just the Arcadian Arrow Crew caused the powerful Sword Sect the quake in fear,” Lu Yin said.

Uncle Reuben nodded his head. “The Cosmic Sea is a magical place. It connects the Inverse with the Neoverse. Anyone who wishes to travel to either region has to pass through the Cosmic Sea. Thus, any group that has the authority to travel unhindered within the Cosmic Sea is a regiment that wields great power. In fact, many powers throughout the universe have frequently tried to create their own regiments in the Cosmic Sea, but their efforts usually fail. Not many groups can survive in the Cosmic

Sea, even including the Sword Sect and Daynight clan. If they want to cross the Cosmic Sea in peace, it would be stupid for them to offend the regiments.

“And in the middle of all of this, the Four Pirate Crews stand as an insurmountable hurdle. Even if a powerful figure wants to pass through the Cosmic Sea, they still need to inform the Four Pirate Crews. It is just like the Giant Vessel in the Astral River which ferries people to and from the Outerverse, but the difference here is that the envoys of the Astral River must listen to the orders from the various powers whereas the Four Pirate Crews do not. They themselves are the masters of the Cosmic Sea.”

After a short pause, Uncle Reuben continued, saying, “I am wasting my breath by telling you all this right now since you still won’t truly understand what the Four Pirate Crews represent. Let me put it in another way.” A haughty expression crept across Uncle Reuben’s face as he explained, “Let’s say that the Ten Arbiters want to enter the Neoverse. They too would need to contact the Four Pirate Crews and seek permission before entering the Cosmic Sea. If they don’t receive permission, then they would have to leave or else risk being killed by the Four Pirate Crews. That’s how powerful the Four Pirate Crews are.”

Lu Yin’s pupils constricted. The Ten Arbiters Council wielded immense power. Their power was not only the individual power of each Arbiter, but it also included the collective power of their countless connections, which spanned the entire Universe. Puyu alone was capable of forging an alliance of over a hundred powers, which just went to show how much influence the Ten Arbiters enjoyed. If even those influential figures had to defer to the Four Pirate Crews, it was no wonder why a mere Arcadian Arrow Crew was enough to scare both the Sword Sect and Daynight clan so badly.

“Why is it that the Four Pirate Crews can travel unhindered throughout the Cosmic Sea? Is it because of their familiarity with the Cosmic Sea?” Lu Yin asked.

Uncle Reuben’s attitude turned haughty once again as he replied, “Of course not! It’s because of their prestige and influence. The Pirate King, Highsage Leon, once charged into the Technocracy alone and returned without incident. That is how powerful our leader is.”

Lu Yin inhaled a cold gust of air. That single feat of entering the Technocracy alone and exiting without issue was sufficient to show how powerful the pirate king truly was. Every now and then, there would be an extremely powerful human who tried to charge into the Technocracy, but this often ended up badly for them. However, anyone who dared to enter alone was definitely extremely powerful. Up to this moment, Lu Yin had not encountered anyone that powerful. Shockingly, Highsage Leon was the first person he knew of who had been able to perform such a feat.

“Now you know what kind of people are backing you,” Uncle Reuben declared, full of arrogance. Even though his tone still held a touch of coldness, the dejected feelings that Lu Yin had once felt from this person were now gone. Rejoining Leon’s Armada allowed Uncle Reuben to be even more confident than he had before.

Lu Yin nodded his head. However, his expression quickly soured. “Even if that is so, you guys didn’t have to lie to me.”

Uncle Reuben let out an awkward cough. “We didn’t lie. It’s just that the leader was unhappy with what some of the powers were doing, so he decided to teach them a small lesson.”

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. “That’s still lying to me.”

Uncle Reuben then gave Lu Yin a stern look and said, “Little Yin, our leader has a message for you.”

Lu Yin’s eyes lit up. “Tell me!”

Uncle Reuben pondered for a moment before continuing, “In his own words, ‘Kid, you can do whatever you want and offend whoever you want. If anyone tries to bully you, I’ll back you up. Remember, I got your back.’ That’s all he told me to say to you.”

Lu Yin was stunned. Even though the message seemed to be admonishing Lu Yin, it left him with a warm feeling. A feeling of being protected.

“Little Yin, even though our leader’s words may have been a bit coarse, the meaning behind them is clear. In this universe, no one can bully you. If you lose to anyone at your own level, then you’re on your own. However, if anyone dares to try and use their elders to bully you, then our leader will back you up. You may not understand it, but for powers like the Daynight clan, they understand what it means for our leader to get involved in these matters. Our leader’s strength is beyond belief, so just do whatever you want. You have a strong backer,” Uncle Reuben earnestly exhorted.

Lu Yin felt his scalp grow numb. Highsage Leon telling Lu Yin to do whatever he wanted was essentially asking him to wreak havoc. For example, take Lu Yin’s current circumstances. If he had not handled it well, it would have created substantial problems for him in the future. Colluding with pirates would disqualify him from certain positions, and the Ten Arbiters were definitely one of them.

“Uncle, is the pirate king unreliable?” Lu Yin asked.

Uncle Reuben flew into a rage upon hearing his question. “Do not spout nonsense! The leader is very reliable! There is nothing that he can’t settle with his mighty sword!”

Lu Yin’s face twitched. “So basically, he solves everything with violence?”

Uncle Reuben’s mouth jaw dropped, and his previously arrogant look was replaced with one of embarrassment. His reaction caused Lu Yin to lose all hope. He was now absolutely certain that the Pirate King was a musclehead who settled all his problems through brute force. He was a reliable backer, but if Lu Yin relied on him for help, then it would probably only make matters worse.

“Alright then, I already have said my piece. Just remember—you can do anything boldly, though our leader has reminded us not to actively assist you. You have to make your way on your own. After all, you are a member of Leon’s Armada.

“Also, before I forget, our leader has a gift for you.” Once he was done speaking, Uncle Reuben cut off the communications.

Lu Yin tried in vain to stop the call from being ended, but it was already too late. He was dumbfounded; he had actually wanted to ask for money. Since he had no other choice, he could only wait to ask at a later time. As for the Pirate King’s gift to Lu Yin, since it was a gift from a pirate, could it be money?

At that moment, Mira contacted Lu Yin; Arbiter Wen wished to see him. Lu Yin released a breath. He already knew that Arbiter Wen would want to meet him.

Very soon, at a corner of San Dios, outside of a simple study, Wen Sansi held a scroll in his hands. He exuded a gentle demeanor.

Lu Yin walked over and greeted the Arbiter in a respectful manner, "Arbiter Wen."

Wen Sansi set down his scroll and motioned for Lu Yin to take a seat.

After Lu Yin sat down, he asked, "Arbiter Wen, is anything the matter?"

Wen Sansi laughed gently. "Nothing much. It's just that Puyu complained about you abusing your power. There are a hundred different organizations that have come together to boycott you."

Lu Yin put on a helpless expression. "Councilor Puyu is very biased against me. He keeps trying to frame me."

"Frame?" Wen Sansi raised his head to look at Lu Yin, waiting for an explanation. He initially wanted to simply allow Puyu and Lu Yin to fight it out, not intending to look out for Lu Yin so as to warn this young Limiteer. However, after the pirates had attacked the various powers, it caused Wen Sansi to become more interested in Lu Yin. He did not know what sort of relationship Lu Yin might have with the pirates.