

Chapter 351: One Slash

Lu Yin smiled bitterly. "That's right. This isn't my first time interacting with Councilor Puyu. In the past, I received a mission from my mentor that required me to go to Gigastar Planet in the Butterfly Weave. During that mission, I coincidentally met and interacted with a person who had been dispatched by Councilor Puyu to that planet. During that time, I mentioned that the person looked very similar to a Neohuman Alliance's Corpse King, which perhaps caused Councilor Puyu to take greater notice of me."

Wen Sansi's eyes trembled. "The Neohuman Alliance? Who?"

"It was just a joke. The universe is so large, and there are so many techniques. There should be quite a few people who appear similar to those people."

"Which one?" Wen Sansi repeated, as a boundless frost arose from the depths of his eyes.

Lu Yin put on an expression as if he were trying to remember a face. "Someone called Vulture."

Wen Sansi nodded and retracted his gaze. "So it's like that. He is indeed rather biased against you, and anyone implicated with the Neohuman Alliance will have committed a great offense. Lu Yin, do not recklessly spout such words in future."

Lu Yin nodded to indicate his understanding.

"Right, the Outerverse has recently had some problems with pirates running rampant. Start tracking these events, and if possible, try to coordinate with some of the various powers to eliminate them."

Lu Yin nodded and then quickly left.

Wen Sansi remained in the same place as his eyes widened. An indescribable pressure suddenly enveloped the entirety of San Dios. The Arbiter was like the master of heaven, overlooking the entire area. He could instantly observe Lu Yin, Mira, Puyu, many others, and Vulture as well.

No one could sense this pressure; even Puyu could only barely feel his heart become slightly stifled, but it was so minor that he paid it no heed.

Wen Sansi closely observed Vulture with his sparkling eyes. He then quickly withdrew his gaze. His face sank, as it turned out that Vulture was indeed a Corpse King from the Neohuman Alliance. Wen Sansi had originally paid no attention to this person, and the Corpse King was quite brilliantly disguised. He had assumed that Lu Yin had been spouting nonsense. In fact, the main reason why he had done this was because of his mentality that preferred being overly cautious to risk missing something; unexpectedly, he had discovered something.

Why was a Corpse King from the Neohuman Alliance following Puyu? What relationship did the two of them have? Wen Sansi considered the situation carefully and elected to not act immediately. He finally stood up and left San Dios.

Puyu's status was not insignificant, and even if Vulture was a Corpse King from the Neohuman Alliance, there was no evidence to show the two were colluding. This meant that Puyu could just claim ignorance, ending the matter with Puyu being punished for being a poor supervisor with only Vulture being

captured. Wen Sansi had thus chosen to not act; he would head towards Darkstar Gorge to investigate this matter further and see if Puyu had been hoodwinked. Otherwise, it was possible that the entire Darkstar Gorge was a foothold of the Neohuman Alliance.

Wen Sansi's expression grew cold. If it was proven that Puyu had colluded with the Neohuman Alliance, no further evidence would be required, and the Councilor would be directly eliminated.

Lu Yin raised his head and released a pent up breath. For the sake of diverting Wen Sansi's attention, he had to reveal this trump card against Puyu. This nail in Puyu's coffin had been left unhammered for a long time, and he felt that it was a pity that it had to be used so soon, especially since releasing this information early would likely mean that Puyu would not be implicated. However, it was still enough to force Puyu to back off. Nothing was more important than dealing with the Neohuman Alliance. So, for now, Wen Sansi's attention should be completely focused on Puyu and Vulture.

Lu Yin wondered how Wen Sansi would handle the situation. If Lu Yin were handling this situation himself, he would not publicize anything until after he determined whether or not Puyu was innocent.

However, Puyu's future no longer seemed as bright now that he had drawn one of the Ten Arbiters' attention.

It was still a pity that such a great trump card had been used up.

Lu Yin stopped screening the Ghost Monkey off, and the astral beast didn't make any noise this time since it was already accustomed to such treatment.

"Monkey, have you heard of the Cosmic Sea?"

"Obviously." The monkey's tone was not friendly.

"Tell me more."

The monkey snorted. "Not in the mood."

"Alright, then I'll ask and you answer." Lu Yin paused before questioning, "Who are the strongest powers of the Cosmic Sea?"

"The Four Pirate Crews."

"And the strongest amongst them?"

"Each has their own merits, but the strongest individual power level should be that freak, Highsage Leon."

Lu Yin's eyes sparkled. "If I told you that I'm under Highsage Leon, what would you say?"

The Ghost Monkey sneered. "You? Seventh Bro, I don't mean to look down on you, but Leon's Armada almost never accepts any Limiteers unless they are exceptionally gifted. Even then, it's difficult for them to be valued by Highsage Leon since he doesn't care about geniuses. Even those who can match up to Liu Shaoqiu or Starsibyl would be unhesitatingly rejected if they tried to enter his crew."

"How do you know so much about Highsage Leon?"

“One has to know about the Pirate King, Highsage Leon, to understand the Cosmic Sea. His might is incomparable, and he is famous throughout the entire universe. Even our Astral Beast Domain fears him greatly, and the influence brought about by his existence isn’t inferior to the Third Nightking’s at all, so you can just imagine how terrifying he is. Otherwise, how else could he have become the Pirate King of the universe that can upset so many powers?”

“Has he upset a lot of organizations?”

The monkey sniggered. “You haven’t heard? There’s a common saying in the universe—give whatever the Pirate King wants to him if you have it, and go steal it for him if you don’t. Whatever he wants, you better give it to him even if it’s unrelated to you.”

Lu Yin was fascinated even as his spirits soared. How assertive and unscrupulous! But he liked this sort of bearing.

“Right, why did you suddenly bring this up?”

“I’m part of Leon’s Armada.”

The monkey was not amused. “Stop bragging. Leon’s Armada doesn’t bother with geniuses.”

“Have you forgotten Ye Xingchen? Rumor has it that Leon’s Armada wants to personally recruit him.”

The Ghost Monkey mockingly replied, “Seventh Bro, don’t blame me for bringing you crashing back down to reality. Although you happen to seem to be in the same category as Ye Xingchen, you can’t compare to him at all as far as others are concerned. He’s created a reputation for himself in the Cosmic Sea and is much stronger than you. Let me put it in another way—if the Sword Sect wanted to entice you, then they would give you a position similar to Liu Shaoqiu’s. But if they wanted to entice Ye Xingchen, then they would have to give him an elder position instead of a disciple’s, despite the fact that he’s also just a Limiteer. Do you understand now? Some things can’t be measured just by power level, and this shows the influence of those from the Cosmic Sea.”

Lu Yin looked at the skies. Yes, the Cosmic Sea is the place where true powerhouses go to make a name for themselves. He hoped to go there one day and be able to personally meet the Highsage Leon, his boss.

In the Outerverse’s Adonis Weave, there was an area of darkness where countless stars appeared to be suspended, like an interstellar gorge. This was Darkstar Gorge, the greatest power in the Adonis Weave. This was also where Puyu had been born.

Darkstar Gorge was rather overbearing in how it handled its business, and it had already unified the Adonis Weave. More recently, it had used Puyu’s influence to gain control of some resource-rich planets in other Weaves, such as Bushtree Planet in the Woori Weave. After Darkstar Gorge had taken that planet over, it had been treated as their personal training ground.

At that moment, a figure appeared in Darkstar Gorge, raised a long blade, and then suddenly chopped down. The famous blockade line of the Adonis Weave in Darkstar Gorge was severed. One single slash had sliced the stars apart and bisected this region of the universe, wrecking multiple fleets in the

process. This singular, indescribably powerful slice was so overwhelming that even the Explorers there stood no chance of resisting it, and some Cruisers and even a Hunter had been caught by the blade.

This attack was shocking and stunned the entire Adonis Weave—no, it had stunned the entire Outerverse.

Darkstar Gorge was thoroughly frightened by this one slash.

News of this slash that had split Darkstar Gorge quickly spread out, and Puyu shuddered uncontrollably as he learned of the incident. Who was this terrifying as to wield such power? Darkstar Gorge was considered a great power throughout all seventy two of the Outerverse's Weaves. Even an almighty powerhouse with a power level over 200,000 would not be able to avoid a tragic end if they faced off against Darkstar Gorge.

But this slash had been nothing more than a warning.

When Lu Yin learned of the matter, he knew that this was Highsage Leon's gift to him, but it was far too great a gift, to the extent that Lu Yin really couldn't accept it. This slash had actually split the universe! This sort of power was horrifying and was something that Lu Yin truly could not fathom.

For Wen Sansi, this slash told a completely different story.

As soon as he discovered Vulture's identity, he had started making his way to Darkstar Gorge, but he had been one step too slow and did not meet the person who had divided Darkstar Gorge. However, when he arrived, he could still sense their strength and the power of that blade.

Wen Sansi's face turned solemn; this slash had clearly been launched by someone whose power level surpassed 200,000. Who was this formidable? Had this been just a warning to Darkstar Gorge? Darkstar Gorge had its own almighty powerhouse whose power level was higher than 200,000, but a number was, in the end, just a number. Wen Sansi could tell that this slash definitely exceeded the power of Darkstar Gorge's almighty powerhouse.

"May I dare ask, has Arbiter Wen come to visit?" An aged voice rang out from the distance as an elder stepped out of the void, revealing a kind face towards Wen Sansi.

Wen Sansi was respectful. "So it's Elder Wu. I entered Darkstar Gorge of my own accord, so I hope that Elder Wu takes no offense."

Elder Wu was the Darkstar Gorge's almighty Enlighter powerhouse whose power level surpassed 200,000. He was a famous Outerverse powerhouse. Puyu had been taught by him, and even the Ten Arbiters had to treat such an expert seriously as all such beings were extremely powerful.

Elder Wu smiled at Wen Sansi. "Arbiter Wen speaks too seriously. It is Darkstar Gorge's blessing to be able to host Arbiter Wen."

Wen Sansi exchanged some pleasantries with the elder and then looked towards the region of the universe that had been sliced in twain. Elder Wu also looked at the damaged area and solemnly said, "I admit that I cannot duplicate what this slash accomplished. When did the Outerverse have such a person? And this seems to have been a warning to our Darkstar Gorge."

Wen Sansi nodded. "Elder Wu, has your Darkstar Gorge offended anyone recently?"

Elder Wu shook his head. "Darkstar Gorge has always stood apart from worldly affairs, so it should not have offended such a powerhouse."

Wen Sansi suddenly realized something: pirates had attacked the alliance of Outerverse powers who had petitioned for Lu Yin's removal. Then, Darkstar Gorge was warned with this slash. Could it all have something to do with Lu Yin? The Arbiter racked his brain, recalling all the information he knew about Lu Yin, and his eyes narrowed. That person had taken a mere three years to meteorically rise to his current position, which was something impossible even for a crazy genius like Liu Shaoqiu. Was this young man truly only supported by the Great Yu Empire?

Impossible. Wen Sansi immediately rejected that possibility. There was definitely someone else behind Lu Yin, and this slice had very likely come from that someone who was calling the shots for Lu Yin. They had delivered this warning to Darkstar Gorge, or rather, to Puyu.

The power behind Lu Yin must be extremely terrifying if they were able to mobilize an almighty powerhouse with a power level over 200,000. It must be known that, even for a power at the same level of the Blaze Realm, almighty powerhouses were existences that were treated like strategic weapons and would not be sent out easily. It went without saying that such an expert would not lend a hand to a youth of the younger generation. Hence, if such a powerhouse could actually be mobilized at will, the power behind them must be truly terrifying.

"Has Arbiter Wen thought of something?" Elder Wu inquired.

Wen Sansi smiled mysteriously. "I was only thinking about the almighty powerhouses who have recently entered or left the Outerverse. I hope to glean some clues from those records."

Elder Wu had a grave expression. "Thank you, Arbiter Wen, for caring about the safety of Darkstar Gorge."

Chapter 352: The Massacre Of The Past

Wen Sansi shook his head. "Councilor Puyu was born in Darkstar Gorge, so Darkstar Gorge is a friend of the Ten Arbiters Council. We are duty-bound to help a friend in need." Wen Sansi then suddenly changed the topic. "Elder Wu, could you give me a tour of Darkstar Gorge?"

Elder Wu immediately gave a welcoming gesture, and the two entered the gorge.

Darkstar Gorge was not considered a large power in the Outerverse, but neither was its influence insignificant since it had connections to the Ten Arbiters Council.

Conjectures concerning Lu Yin's background quickly sprang up, and the Daynight clan sweetened the story by once again bringing up the matter of Lu Yin and the pirates, which fanned the wrath of many.

It could not be denied that the pirates had attacked the joint powers which had resisted Lu Yin, and Lu Yin could not explain the attacks away either.

However, Lu Yin was fine since there was no concrete evidence, and everything was based purely on speculation.

Wen Sansi stayed at Darkstar Gorge for two full days before leaving. He had not found any clues that could possibly link the Neohuman Alliance to Darkstar Gorge during his stay. Had it been Puyu's own decision to work with the Neohuman Alliance? If so, then he had some guts.

"Mira, use the Council's influence to suppress the rumors concerning Lu Yin and the pirates. No one is allowed to cause any harm to Lu Yin," Wen Sansi ordered Mira.

Mira was puzzled. "Arbiter Wen, an investigation is required to look into if Lu Yin truly is a pirate. What if the rumors are true?"

"It doesn't matter. Immediately suppress those rumors."

Mira acknowledged her orders.

Wen Sansi disconnected the call, and his eyes sparkled. Even if he did not uncover any evidence of Darkstar Gorge secretly contacting the Neohuman Alliance, that did not mean that there were no other powers behind Puyu. Wen Sansi did not want to alert the enemy, so he just needed to use Lu Yin to restrict Puyu. After all, the Arbiter could not remain in the Outerverse all the time.

Even if Lu Yin was actually a pirate, nothing was more important than dealing with the Neohuman Alliance.

Still, Lu Yin was not simple, either. He definitely had some other powers behind him as well. Wen Sansi needed to find someone to restrict Lu Yin as well so as to establish a steady system with balanced powers.

Wen Sansi thought of the person whom Nightking Zhenwu had arranged to join East San Dios. He had originally wanted to transfer the new person away, but after thinking about it, he realized that a three-way power split was also acceptable.

In the Outerverse, on a giant planet that belonged to the Nalan family, Madam Nalan, Liu Fuxue, stared in shock at a screen that was displaying Lu Yin's information.

After the Astral Combat Tournament, Liu Fuxue had used the Nalan family's influence to investigate Lu Yin, and the results that were finally revealed to her were unbelievable.

On the surface, Lu Yin was a youth from the Frostwave Weave's Great Yu Empire, the current King Zishan, and the last descendant of the Zishan bloodline. He had entered the universe from Earth and appeared to be very ordinary, but his surname was not an ordinary one. "Lu" was one of the primeval surnames, but the Nalan family had uncovered information that was buried even deeper. They had discovered that Lu Yin had once been put to trial by the Ten Arbiters Council.

It was unknown why or when it had begun, but at some point, the universe had started to view certain groups of people as hostile. These groups of people all had one common point, which was their unique surname. They had surnames such as "Lu," "Xia," or "Liu," and they were all known as primeval surnames.

Since they were viewed antagonistically, after many eons, those with such surnames had either gained legal statuses, such as the people of the Great Yu Empire's Earth, which had many people with those

primeval surnames, or they had unyieldingly resisted the antagonistic attitude, like the Sword Sect's Liu family. However, most of the groups had perished over the course of time.

Liu Fuxue had always paid close attention to Lu Yin's surname, and the Nalan family's investigation had started with Lu Yin's appearance in the Great Yu Empire and then continued with his ancient surname. Because of her investigation into the recent matters with the various primeval surnames, Madam Nalan had discovered the matter of Lu Yin being tried by the Ten Arbiters as well as the tragic massacre from five years ago.

Five years ago, someone had reported that an organization had been voluntarily sheltering a group with a primeval surname. The Ten Arbiters Council had tried all those with the surname "Lu" and then sent that organization into the Outerverse. Seventy two people had perished during the course of these events. This had not been a very impactful matter, so it had not attracted much attention. It should have been buried in the annals of time, but it had been dug up once again by Liu Fuxue.

If Lu Yin was just an ordinary person, then such a matter would not have attracted any attention, especially since only a few dozen had died and there was nothing outstanding about the event. But the current Lu Yin was far from that; he held many statuses and had even become a true Ten Arbiters' candidate, so this matter now became an important bit of information; Lu Yin held enmity against the Ten Arbiters!

Liu Fuxue quickly closed her screen, and there was a complex look on her face.

Lu Yin had friction with the Ten Arbiters. He also climbed upwards step by step. This young man had ambition, strategy, and destiny. He had a complicated background and was even possibly connected to pirates. Could all of his actions be made towards an attempt to seek retribution for that event in the past?

Liu Fuxue tightly clenched her wine glass. She desperately wanted to know which of the Ten Arbiters had proposed the trial of those with the "Lu" surname. That person would become Lu Yin's greatest enemy.

There were now two choices before Liu Fuxue at this moment; she could either give up on Lu Yin so that she would not be roped in with him. After all, this youth had a great enemy in the form of the Ten Arbiters, and his future was sure to be fraught with danger. Each Arbiter represented not only themselves, but also the countless powers entangled with them; otherwise, they would not possess such lofty statuses. The other option was to become an observer and help Lu Yin from time to time without becoming too involved in order to avoid being thoroughly implicated with him in the future.

Liu Fuxue stared at the wine in her glass; she did not know which option to choose. The second option was not really supporting Lu Yin. It would merely be helping him on occasion. She felt slightly lost, as the Ten Arbiters were just too fearsome. Even the Sword Sect would not want to have them as an enemy.

People often assumed that the Ten Arbiters had absolute military power as well as their powerful backers, but Liu Fuxue knew that they had more than just what was publicly revealed. Each one of the Ten had their own trump cards that were frightening enough to cause old freaks with power levels above several hundred thousand to fear the youths. Liu Fuxue had only incidentally heard of this matter, and it was extremely terrifying.

To help or not to help?

Liu Fuxue was really lost at this moment!

Ten days passed in the blink of an eye. Lu Yin spent these days in extreme peace. Puyu did not trouble him, and the external universe's speculations about his connection with pirates had gradually died down. Everything seemed to be returning to normalcy.

Wen Sansi had also departed from San Dios several days prior to return to the Innerverse. In other words, all of San Dios was currently split between Puyu and Lu Yin.

Regardless of if Lu Yin had been stripped of his status as a representative, he still held the highest status out of all of Wendy Yushan's subordinates, and in some sense, he could even be considered to be on an equal footing with her. Hence, her several subordinates still listened to Lu Yin, especially Barley, who was very obedient.

Lu Yin had also settled some matters with Puyu in the San Dios tower.

Puyu ultimately decided to ignore Lu Yin. If Wen Sansi could guess that the person who had delivered the warning to Darkstar Gorge was related to Lu Yin, then Puyu could as well. His gaze towards Lu Yin was now filled with apprehension.

Lu Yin did not cause trouble for Puyu of his own initiative since he knew that this person would not survive for very long. Vulture's very existence already meant that Puyu would be cast into the abyss sooner or later. Since Wen Sansi had not acted, then he should still be investigating the councilor's relationship with the Neohuman Alliance. After all, Puyu would be finished if anything became clear.

But if Puyu was finished, who would remain in power in San Dios? The Ten Arbiters would not deliver San Dios to Lu Yin or Wendy Yushan, so it seemed that new members would probably arrive soon.

On that day, San Dios welcomed two new subsidiary members who would be under Wendy Yushan: Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua.

The two arrived at almost the same time and reported to Lu Yin. Barley then escorted them to Lu Yin's courtyard to await his instructions.

"Bring Brother An in," Lu Yin told Barley.

The man nodded and indicated for An Shaohua to proceed.

Yue Xianzi had an ugly expression. "What about me?"

Barley apologetically answered, "Please wait, Yue Xianzi. Representative Lu will meet you both one on one."

Yue Xianzi snorted and unhappily stood to the side.

An Shaohua was aware that Yue Xianzi had some old grievances with Lu Yin, and that Lu Yin had given her a hard time at Shenwu Continent's space station. An Shaohua then smiled and paid no attention to the girl as he entered Lu Yin's courtyard.

His motive in coming here was simple: he intended to worm his way into Lu Yin's inner circle. If Lu Yin could truly compete for a position as one of the Ten Arbiters in the future, then An Shaohua would have a ladder to climb higher on. After all, he was about the same age as Lu Yin, and the current Ten Arbiters were much older than the two of them. They would need to abdicate some day, and as long as no accident befell Lu Yin, he would be able to one day compete for such a position as well.

Watermoon Villa did not want to fall behind.

Lu Yin was not overly thrilled to see An Shaohua because Watermoon Villa had not given him any money. Still, the actions that they had taken were pretty decent.

"Brother An, I haven't seen you for a few months. How are you doing?" Lu Yin invited An Shaohua to sit down and poured him a glass of water.

An Shaohua sighed and then courteously replied, "It's been just a few months, but I never imagined that Brother Lu would become the champion of the Tournament of the Strongest and also become an acting councilor of the Outerverse Youth Council. Your accomplishments are astounding."

Lu Yin laughed. "Forget about the position of acting councilor, as it's already been taken away, haha."

An Shaohua smiled in response. "Still, with Brother Lu's position on the Council of Astral Academy, losing the other position can't have been too bad. Even in the Outerverse's East San Dios, Brother Lu's status should be in the top five."

Lu Yin sipped some tea. "Brother An, I'm curious. How did you pass the trial back then? Your particle-sized camera was also ruined."

"I'm not like Brother Lu who dared to invite the Ten Arbiters to judge your results. I requested a space-exploring powerhouse to appraise me and also delivered some reports. That allowed me to pass the trial."

Lu Yin understood, as An Shaohua was from a great power after all. As long as a trial taker survived through the Shenwu Continent, there would be some way for them to pass the trial. The information that he had reported might have already been discovered before but not been revealed in order to give these disciples a chance to pass the most recent trial.

These were the benefits of having a background, as everything would be prepared for their members.

Over the next two hours, Lu Yin and An Shaohua chatted about many things, and Lu Yin even came to a better understanding of the situation concerning Watermoon Villa as well as the overall situation of Souseal Flowzone. What Lu Yin was most concerned about were the peak powers like the Myriad Swords Peak rather than the Souldream Tribe.

The Souldream Tribe was filled with beauties, and their members intermarried with countless other powers. The tribe's influence was not small, but Lu Yin was also not unfamiliar with it; Xi Yue was from the Souldream Tribe. Their initial misunderstanding had somewhat intertwined the two's destiny, but the two of them had not spoken in a long time, so Lu Yin did not know if that washboard had undergone any changes. Lu Yin privately decided to find another time to contact him.

“Brother Lu, I’ll withdraw first, but feel free to let me know if there’s anything that you need.” An Shaohua spoke respectfully since he recognized his own position. He was well aware that their statuses were completely different.

Lu Yin smiled and nodded before having Barley show An Shaohua out.

Chapter 353: What Do You Think?

As he gazed at An Shaohua’s back, Lu Yin sighed in praise. Most people misunderstood the disciples of powerful organizations, thinking that they were nothing but trash who were good for nothing besides waiting for death. However, the reality was that they had received an elite education from a young age that was far more intense than what most people had access to. From that, they developed a mentality and restraint that most could not even understand. An Shaohua was the successor of Watermoon Villa, but he was still very polite to people from the backwater regions of the Outerverse and knew how to remain humble. This was something that was beyond most people from powerful backgrounds.

The mental resilience that these people had cultivated to achieve their desires was the result of their education, and when that was combined with a personality like An Shaohua’s, it made it that much easier for him to achieve success. Lu Yin admired An Shaohua and would not mind giving him a hand in the future.

However, there was one thing about them that was quite annoying. These types of people tended to overthink things. Lu Yin had made it very clear that he needed money, but An Shaohua had assumed that Lu Yin was actually referring to the Great Yu Empire’s economy. What a pain.

Soon enough, Yue Xianzi walked in.

Lu Yin wasn’t as polite to her. The Frostmoon Sect and Watermoon Villa’s strength were at similar levels, but the Frostmoon Sect was located in the Daynight Flowzone. Lu Yin was no fool and did not expect the sect to abandon the Daynight Family for his sake. Although Yue Xianzi was here to show her goodwill, it would be impossible to hope she would actually help him.

“Long time no see, Yue Xianzi. Have you been well?” Lu Yin asked casually.

Yue Xianzi pursed her lips. “Congratulations, Lu Yin.”

“For what?” Lu Yin was baffled.

Yue Xianzi forced out a smile. “Congratulations on entering the Outerverse Youth Council.”

Lu Yin quickly raised his hand to stop her. “Are you trying to tease me? I don’t actually have any real power, and I’m just helping Councilor Wendy handle some matters. I’ll return her seat to her as soon as she’s back.”

Yue Xianzi sat down in front of Lu Yin and looked at him with a pair of beautiful eyes. “There’s something that I’m quite curious about. Would you answer a question of mine?”

Lu Yin nodded. “Sure.”

Yue Xianzi narrowed her eyes. “Bei Qing acted very strangely back in the Shenwu Continent. Do you happen to know why?”

Lu Yin nearly spat out his tea and coughed. "That's your business. Why would I know anything about that?"

"Is that really the case? I seem to recall that Bei Qing and you spent a lot of time together. And each time after you two met, he acted even more strangely than before. Are you sure that you don't know the reason?" Yue Xianzi carefully observed Lu Yin with a searching look in her eyes.

Lu Yin set his cup of tea down with a slightly embarrassed look. "I really don't know.

"By the way, Yue Xianzi, I remember that you once mentioned that you had twin sisters. Why didn't you bring them here with you?"

Yue Xianzi's eyes flashed. She had only understood what had happened with Bei Qing after returning to the Astral Combat Academy. Bei Qing had acted very strangely and said some very odd things. It was impossible for his odd behavior to have nothing to do with Lu Yin. This person must have done something. "Are you talking about Can Xue and Can Mei? Have you taken a fancy to them, Lu Yin? If so, I can have them warm your bed."

Lu Yin was struck speechless.

"Ooh, warming your bed! Quickly agree, Seventh Bro! It's a pair of twins who are cold on the outside but warm on the inside!" the Ghost Monkey shouted in glee.

Lu Yin was developing a headache from how loud the monkey was yelling and immediately blocked it off. He quickly rejected Yue Xianzi's offer and had some people see her out.

From that point on, Yue Xianzi and An Shaohua were officially a part of San Dios, and they began managing certain matters of the younger generation under Wendy Yushan's jurisdiction on her behalf.

Meanwhile, Lu Yin discovered that Wendy Yushan was about to arrive, which meant that he didn't have much time left at San Dios.

The main reason why he had wanted to come to San Dios in the first place was Jenny Auna and Yan Feng's wedding, and he had also wanted to find out why his family had told him to try to join the Outerverse Youth Council. And now, he had successfully interfered with the wedding, dealt with Firesmelt Planet, and his family had returned to the Pirate King's regiment and no longer seemed to need him to do anything. In other words, he was now free.

Since Wendy Yushan was on her way over to San Dios, the Great Yu Empire would need someone leading it. Lu Yin thought things over and decided that he should return to the Great Yu Empire to unify the Frostwave Weave.

Having control over an entire Weave would be quite an impressive feat.

More importantly, when the Great Yu Empire managed to save up some money, he'd be able to improve his strength. He would reach the Explorer realm soon, and then, he would be able to travel through space without a spacecraft. This was what Lu Yin wanted the most right now: money. What he lacked the most was also money.

Sometimes, things came the moment one thought about them. Just as Lu Yin was puzzling over how he could earn more money, the Lockbreaker Society announced that an internal trading event would soon be held on the Violent Ape Planet.

The Violent Ape Planet was located in the Vastdearth Weave, and it was a very young planet that had no indigenous civilizations. The planet contained nothing but countless species devoid of sapience. The rulers of these mindless creatures were the Violent Apes, which looked like apes that reached a height of a hundred meters. They were extremely violent and very strong. Each Violent Ape had a power level that matched a Limiteer's, and some of the stronger apes even had power levels that exceeded ten thousand.

The foremost organization of the Vastdearth Weave, the Vastdearth Sect, had once wanted to capture the Violent Apes and raise them as frontline warriors for their wars, but their endeavors ultimately failed. The creatures were far too violent and could not be tamed.

Half a month ago, a large spacecraft had accidentally landed on Violent Ape Planet, and the passengers had discovered a tree-shaped sourcebox that gave off a mysterious bloodlust. Even Explorers were unable to approach the strange item. Word of this strange phenomena then spread throughout the universe until it gained the attention of the Lockbreaker Society, which immediately sent a few Lockbreakers to head towards the planet with the intent of unlocking the strange sourcebox.

This was not an uncommon occurrence. Sourceboxes with no owners would frequently attract a number of Lockbreakers. The gatherings often turned into a trade event, and anyone who was capable of unlocking the sourcebox would be able to sell the recovered item for an astronomical price.

The Vastdearth Weave wasn't very far from San Dios, so Lu Yin did not hesitate to immediately set out. He was in dire need of money, and if he was able to get more, he would surely be able to beat up Ye Xingchen and the other top Limiteers without a problem.

Lu Yin had planned on traveling alone, but to his surprise, Yue Xianzi followed him. One after the other, two personal spacecraft made their way towards the Vastdearth Weave.

He switched his communication device on and asked her, "Why are you following me, Yue Xianzi?"

"Lockbreaking seems very interesting, so I'd like to learn more from you," she answered.

"Right." Lu Yin closed the connection and turned his gadget off before glancing behind him at the personal vessel closely following behind him. Both of the spacecraft were radiant-grade Auroras and could reach similar speeds.

After ending the conversation with Yue Xianzi, Lu Yin contacted someone else: Meng Yue, the young master of the Vastdearth Sect.

Lu Yin and Meng Yue weren't very close, but they were both students of Astral-10, and Lu Yin wanted to learn more about Violent Ape Planet.

"Lu Yin?" Meng Yue was baffled when he saw that Lu Yin had contacted him. The two of them hadn't interacted much, and the most that they had ever spoken was during the entrance exam for Astral-10, when he had been defeated by Lu Yin.

“There’s something that I’d like to ask you. You’re the successor to the Vastdearth Weave’s Vastdearth Sect, right?” Lu Yin asked.

Meng Yue made a sound of acknowledgement. “Yes. What’s up?”

“Are you familiar with the Violent Ape Planet?” Lu Yin asked.

Meng Yue was surprised. “The Violent Ape Planet? How’d you hear about that?”

“A sourcebox appeared there, and quite a few Lockbreakers are headed there to unlock it. I’m going over as well.” Lu Yin got straight to the point without hiding anything.

Meng Yue fell silent. “You’d best be careful. Quite a few of the experts from our sect died there.”

“What happened?” Lu Yin was curious.

“I don’t know all the details, but the Violent Apes on that planet are incredibly fierce. While they lack the tactics and intelligence that astral beasts at the Explorer realm and above possess, their offensive and defensive abilities are both very formidable. There’s even a Violent Ape with a power level that’s over a hundred thousand that’s been sighted there. If not for the fact that the apes aren’t intelligent at all, the planet would be extraordinarily dangerous. You can think of it as your Frostwave Weave’s Firesmelt Planet,” Meng Yue answered in a serious manner.

“I see. Thank you very much.” Lu Yin said.

Meng Yue made a sound of acknowledgement and ended the call.

Lu Yin set his gadget down. The universe was an incredibly miraculous place where intelligent beings could cultivate and travel through space. Even non-sapient creatures could cultivate, though the way that they displayed their power was different. They definitely couldn’t tear through the void to move around and had no desire to explore outer space, but they were by no means weak. This trip would definitely be dangerous.

It would take the two radiant-grade spacecraft about seven days to reach the Vastdearth Weave from San Dios. If he was using a regular spacecraft, then it would have easily taken him two or more months. The distance was considerable.

The spacecraft kept changing routes throughout the journey, and by the time the two of them finally entered the Vastdearth Weave, nine days had already passed.

Thankfully, during these nine days, the sourcebox had not been opened yet.

Given the skill of the Lockbreakers in the Outerverse, it would not be an easy task for them to open a sourcebox that the Lockbreaker Society had acknowledged as difficult. It would probably take someone from the Innerverse to succeed.

“You’re a two star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker so you won’t be able to do much here, will you?” Yue Xianzi asked in a rather polite tone. However, Lu Yin could tell that she was mocking him.

“It’s been nearly three years since I started cultivating, and remember, I was just a regular person when I started. What do you think of that?” Lu Yin stated.

Yue Xianzi was rendered speechless. That speed was something that even absolute geniuses from huge families like the Daynight clan could not match. This was also the reason why the Frostmoon Sect wanted her to develop a close relationship with Lu Yin. He was absolutely extraordinary.

“Cultivation isn’t the same as Lockbreaking,” Yue Xianzi stubbornly retorted.

Lu Yin grinned. “It took me about a year and a half to become a two-star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, and I started out as an ordinary cultivator. What do you think?”

Yue Xianzi rolled her eyes. “You’re just lucky.”

“During all the times that I attempted to open a sourcebox, I have yet to fail. What do you think?” Lu Yin said.

Yue Xianzi suddenly found herself hating those four words: “What do you think?” Every time Lu Yin said them, it felt as if he was mocking her, but she could say nothing in response. It was incredibly annoying.

“Even I’m astonished that you managed to achieve so much. Are you proud of yourself, Seventh Bro?” the Ghost Monkey asked in an exaggerated manner.

Lu Yin burst into laughter. “Of course I am. I’ve done well, so I should be proud of myself.”

“Alright, you stay proud of yourself, but don’t forget that everything that you’ve achieved keeps raising you higher on the Celestial Vanquisher’s List. That Thirty Stack technique that you showed during the wedding is going to push you much higher on that list. You’re going to be a prime target in the Human Domain.” The monkey snickered after saying that.

Lu Yin was left speechless. The monkey’s words had instantly put him in a terrible mood. The Celestial Vanquisher’s List would always be an issue for him, and it would certainly mean quite a bit of trouble.

With a boom, the spacecraft jostled as it crossed into the outer edge of the atmosphere, blossoming into a ball of fire that hurtled towards the ground.

Not much later, the spacecraft created a huge crater in the ground.

Clack!

The hatch opened, exposing Lu Yin to the sweltering heat outside the spacecraft. He made his way outside where he saw a blue sky and a flock of strange-looking birds flying away. As they left, they released blasts of hot air that distorted the air.

Chapter 354: Zhao Ran

At that moment, another fireball landed down not very far away from Lu Yin, causing him to frown. Yue Xianzi must have done that on purpose.

He slowly flew into the sky, brushing past the fireball. These flaming hot balls of air posed no threat to him.

The second spacecraft landed with a boom, causing the earth to tremble as numerous strange life forms fled in every direction.

The hatch opened. Yue Xianzi exited the vessel, stretched, and lit up at the sight of Lu Yin.

She really was very pretty and had a stunning body. It was a pity that she was a member of the Frostmoon Sect which was allied with the Daynight clan. Otherwise, Lu Yin definitely would not be treating her so coldly. Unfortunately, the two of them were destined to walk along different paths.

From Lu Yin's point of view, the reason why Yue Xianzi was trying to get close to him was to help the Daynight clan gather information on him, though she might not even be aware of such a task. However, this was merely a speculation from Lu Yin at this point.

"The air here is so fresh! That's the one good thing about these primitive planets." Yue Xianzi sighed in praise as a cute grin emerged on her face. Her entire being seemed to radiate an enchanting aura. Lu Yin looked away.

All of a sudden, they heard an enraged roar come from nearby, and a savage ape that was over a hundred meters tall appeared in the distance. Its body was black, and its eyes were scarlet. It had a violent demeanor and charged straight at the two humans.

Lu Yin frowned. "Are you going to attack it, or should I take care of it?"

Yue Xianzi smiled. "I'll handle it. After all, I am your subordinate." With a flash, her silhouette pierced through the void before she appeared in front of the ape. With a wave of her hand, a spiralling torrent of water appeared and began spreading out from her feet. It quickly covered a region of ten thousand meters. It distorted not only the air, but also the void.

Lu Yin's gaze changed; she'd grown much stronger. Back when they fought on the Shenwu Continent, this battle technique of hers hadn't been this powerful. Now, she was able to use the technique she'd received from Blackwater Lake much more easily. If Yue Xianzi became able to use it perfectly, then she'd definitely be very strong.

The savage ape charged straight into the spiralling water and unleashed a tremendous punch. However, halfway through its attack, its fist was blocked by the water. The ape let out a miserable howl as blood spurting out from all over its body before it pathetically collapsed onto the ground.

Although this savage ape's strength had reached the same level as a Limiteer's, it lacked any intelligence or battle technique, which caused it to be much weaker than Yue Xianzi. Any Limiteer—no, any Melder from the Astral Combat Academy would be able to defeat this beast.

"It's a waste to use such an attack on it," Lu Yin stated.

Yue Xianzi smiled. "I used it so that you could see it. Do you think that my use of this technique has improved, Mr. Lu?"

Lu Yin nodded earnestly. "You've improved a lot."

"Thank you." Yue Xianzi smiled back at him.

But at that moment, another enraged howl could be heard in the distance. It was quickly followed by several cries for help.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and he abruptly disappeared, leaving behind a spatial crack that slowly increased in size where he had just been standing.

Yue Xianzi's eyes widened; his speed was incredible.

It was one thing to watch him compete in the Tournament of the Strongest through a monitor, but now that she was actually next to him, Yue Xianzi could feel the crushing pressure coming from his moves. This person was improving way too quickly, and she couldn't help but feel bitter at heart. The small bit of improvement that she had made was nothing compared to Lu Yin's.

Far in the distance, under a large tree, a small figure cowered, quivering in fear as they stared at the massive savage ape attacking them.

Lu Yin suddenly appeared, and with a nonchalant swipe, stopped the savage ape's attack mid-strike. After that, the beast was sent flying by a terrifying force. The sight of a huge, hundred meter tall body hurtling into the distance was rather majestic.

Under the tree, the small figure sensed that the imminent threat had vanished and looked up to see that the ape was now gone. What appeared instead was a man looking at her in curiosity.

Lu Yin was astonished. What was an ordinary person doing here?

He stared at the girl under the tree. No matter how hard he stared at her, she was definitely an ordinary person. He could use his aura-concealing technique to hide his star energy and obscure his cultivation level, but even that would not be able to hide his physical strength. He could not sense any strength in this girl's body, which meant that she was really just a regular person.

A regular person had appeared on a primitive planet that Lockbreakers would soon swarm. It was definitely a strange situation.

"Who are you?"

"Who are you?"

Both of them spoke at the same time and then froze. The girl pursed her lips. "M-My name is Zhao Ran. What about you?"

"I'm Lu Yin," he answered simply.

At that moment, Yue Xianzi arrived and looked at Zhao Ran with surprise. "A regular person?"

Lu Yin appeared to be deep in thought.

Perhaps it was because she was still in a state of shock due to her close call with the savage ape, but Zhao Ran looked a little dazed. After she saw Yue Xianzi looking at her, she unconsciously took a few steps backwards with the intent of hiding from Yue Xianzi, who was terrifying to the girl.

Yue Xianzi glanced at Lu Yin and then at the girl. She crouched down and gently asked, "What's your name? Why are you on the Savage Ape Planet?"

The girl glanced at Lu Yin before whispering, "My name is Zhao Ran. I'm looking for somebody."

"How did you get here?" Lu Yin wondered.

Zhao Ran licked her lips as her stomach growled. She was clearly hungry.

Yue Xianzi took out some food from her cosmic ring and passed it to Zhao Ran. The girl hastily grabbed it and immediately started eating.

Lu Yin looked around. There were quite a number of savage apes on this planet. The two of them had just arrived, but they'd already bumped into two of the beasts.

All of a sudden, the sky rumbled, and quite a few black dots flitted past, leaving rippling trails in the sky behind them.

"Someone's trying to seal the planet. It should be the local organizations," Yue Xianzi said.

Is it the Vastdearth Sect? Lu Yin guessed in his mind.

"Unfortunately, their actions are pointless and will only offend the Lockbreaker Society. This place has already been designated as the location for the society's internal trading event, and these people's actions will just be taken as them trying to prevent the event from happening. Who would do such a foolish thing?" Yue Xianzi found the matter baffling.

"Um, thank you." Zhao Ran got up, wiped her lips, and did her best to smile. She seemed ordinary, but there was something about her that made her seem very congenial.

"How did you get on this planet?" Lu Yin asked.

Zhao Ran found it difficult to answer. "I don't know either. I just woke up here."

"Didn't you say that you were looking for someone just now?" Yue Xianzi asked.

Zhao Ran nodded. "Yes. When I woke up, I saw a diviner, and he told me my fortune. He was really good! I was going to pay him, but then he left. He's such a great person! I don't want to owe anyone, though, so I want to find him and pay him back."

Lu Yin was surprised. "A fortune teller? Was he accurate?"

Zhao Ran nodded resolutely. "Yes."

"How did he do it?" Lu Yin asked. After the Tournament of the Strongest, he had become very interested in Starsibyl's abilities. Her attacks that used the power of divination were very disturbing. If not for the limitations created by the arena, nobody could tell whether Starsibyl or Tian Hou would've won that semifinal match.

Zhao Ran looked up and considered the question. "He said that there's something wrong with me."

Lu Yin and Yue Xianzi both froze. "I'm sorry, I didn't hear what you said. Could you repeat that?"

"The nice mister who told me my fortune said that there was something wrong with me." Zhao Ran blinked, looking incredibly innocent.

Lu Yin turned. The girl must be crazy to not realize that she'd been mocked.

Zhao Ran patted her head, seeming frustrated. "For some reason, I frequently lose my memories. Most of the time, I have no idea where I am or why I'm there. That mister was pretty accurate when he said that there's something wrong with me. That's why I want to find him. I want to ask him what I need to do to regain my memories."

Lu Yin turned around and frowned at Zhao Ran. There was a strange look in his eyes. "Did you lose your memories?"

Zhao Ran nodded while pouting, looking hurt.

Lu Yin appeared glum. This woman was just like him. He had lost his memories as well, and it did not feel great. He constantly felt like something was missing.

"What's wrong?" Yue Xianzi asked Lu Yin.

Lu Yin sighed. "It's nothing."

Then, he looked at Zhao Ran and said, "Let's go. An ordinary human like you won't be able to survive here for long, so I'll help you get out of this place."

Zhao Ran was delighted. "Really? I'm so glad! You're such a nice person. The fortune teller and you are both very nice people—oh, this young lady here is a nice person too! She gave me something to eat."

Yue Xianzi gave Lu Yin a strange look, but she did not pursue the matter further.

Lu Yin merely pitied Zhao Ran because they shared similar unfortunate circumstances.

The Lockbreaker Society had only specified that there was an event on the Savage Ape Planet, but they had not disclosed the location of the tree-shaped sourcebox. This event was similar to a trial, where the participants were not given all the details. Instead, they had to find the information on their own.

Lu Yin soared into the air with Zhao Ran and Yue Xianzi as the three of them headed towards the spacecraft that had sealed off the planet. Those people should know the location of the sourcebox.

The Savage Ape Planet was huge, even larger than Zenyu Star. The space here was extremely sturdy, and Lu Yin's speed had naturally been reduced. He'd noticed this earlier when he moved to save Zhao Ran. Given his speed as a Limiteer, it would take him some time to search the entire planet. More importantly, searching for the sourcebox would be quite troublesome.

The next day, Lu Yin and the two women following him found the couple of spacecraft that had sealed the planet off. It was a pity, but the vessels had already been destroyed, and the ripples sealing off the planet had already dissipated.

"What a bunch of morons. How can these organizations in the Outerverse hope to stop Lockbreakers? They're just asking to die," Yue Xianzi disparagingly commented.

Lu Yin examined the symbol on one of the spacecraft and saw that it did not belong to the Vastdearth Sect. Thus, these people had to be from another Weave.

Without anyone for them to question, the trio's only option was to search the planet on their own.

The Savage Ape Planet truly lived up to its name. The entire planet was filled with savage apes. Every once in a while, a savage ape would appear in front of the group. Some were strong, and some were weak. The strongest one that they had encountered so far had the raw strength of an Explorer.

A streak of red appeared in the sky as another spacecraft landed.

Not long after, the planet was sealed once more before being unsealed shortly after. It was like a never ending cycle.

After three full days, Lu Yin and his team still hadn't found anyone. The Savage Ape Planet was just too massive, and Lu Yin's domain could not cover such a huge area. The area that his gadget could search was also limited.

On the fourth day, in a place far away from the small group, a small spacecraft landed on the planet. When the hatch opened, a male and a female exited.

If Lu Yin was here, he would have recognized them as Dao Bo and Liu Ji, both who he knew.

"Since we were out in the Outerverse doing missions, this place was on our way," Liu Ji sighed ruefully.

Dao Bo stared at the sky. "I wonder how many Lockbreakers will come here for this event."

Liu Ji chuckled. "It doesn't matter who comes. None of them will be as powerful as you."

Dao Bo chuckled while shaking his head. "Our society has the Distinguished Five, and every one of them is stronger than me."

"True, but they're all Explorers at the very least. You're merely unwilling to become an Explorer right now. As soon as you do, you'll definitely be stronger than them. In terms of status, you aren't any lesser than them, and you're a member of the Council of the Astral Academy as well. They definitely don't match up to you," Liu Ji praised in a starstruck manner.

Dao Bo did not reply. After all, Liu Ji was completely correct. He was merely unwilling to break through to the Explorer realm. The moment he did, he'd be able to enter the Ten Arbiters Council right away and would be able to work with the Ten Arbiters. At that time, he'd definitely obtain an even higher status. In addition, his Lockbreaking ability would also improve along with his cultivation, and he'd be able to reach the Perception Intermediate stage right away.

Chapter 355: Break Down

Naturally, Dao Bo could not afford to be overly arrogant. There were still people at the same level as him who surpassed him. Lu Yin was one of them. Lu Yin was a very gifted individual, and even if his fighting ability were disregarded, his lockbreaking abilities alone were deep beyond measure. Although Lu Yin could not be considered to be a veteran Lockbreaker, he had already accomplished many great things. Dao Bo was especially sure of this after he had seen the video of Lu Yin single-handedly dispelling Yan Feng's attack during the wedding affair in East San Dios. That sort of lockbreaking skill was extraordinary. That man was an enigma, and it was unknown if he would come to this lockbreaking event since San Dios was not that far from here.

In another area of the planet, a young lady was flying through the sky. Although she behaved as if nothing was out of place, the young lady had a fish on top of her head. This alone was quite unusual, but what made it even more peculiar was that the fish was constantly nagging the woman. "Hurry up! Other two legged beasts can lockbreak, but you have been an utter disappointment so far! Why did I have to be found by you back then? You're flat-chested and not curvy at all—what have you been eating your whole life? I told you to drink more papaya milk, but you wouldn't believe me..."

A vein in the young lady's forehead bulged out, seemingly ready to explode at any moment.

Far away in the universe, aboard a huge spacecraft, there were more than a hundred fully armed soldiers pumped and ready. In the vessel's command room, a beautiful but cold woman looked at a screen. "How much longer until we arrive?"

"One day."

"Try to hurry."

"Affirmative."

Outside of Savage Ape Planet, a fleet adorned with the Vastdearth Sect's crest appeared. However, this fleet did not cordon off the Savage Ape Planet; instead, they merely expelled the various spacecraft that passed by, essentially isolating Savage Ape Planet.

Of the various groups that tried to seal off Savage Ape Planet, the Vastdearth Sect was not one of them.

On the surface of Savage Ape Planet, Lu Yin knocked a savage ape away with a swift kick. Zhao Ran was mesmerized by the scene. "So cool."

Yue Xianzi rolled her eyes; this girl was too naive.

Lu Yin was in a pretty good mood. After all, there was a pretty cute girl beside him who kept showering compliments upon him. Any man would be happy to be in his situation.

"It's a pity that she's not much in the looks department. She does have a nice temperament, though. What do you think, Seventh Bro? Do you like her?" the Ghost Monkey asked.

Lu Yin ignored the monkey.

Before long, a dozen figures flew above the group in the sky. They were all wearing the same uniform, and it was obvious that they were from the same power.

Yue Xianzi raised a hand, and a chilling air froze the void. "Icy Plum Vale Technique!"

The dozen people flying overhead were nothing more than mere Melders, so Yue Xianzi's attack easily froze them solid, causing them to plummet to the ground like blocks of ice.

"Where is the tree-shaped sourcebox?" Li Yin asked directly.

The dozen people who had been frozen fearfully looked at Lu Yin. With quivering fingers, they pointed in the northwestern direction. "Over- over at Nine Peaks Mountain."

Yue Xianzi snatched one of the people's gadgets and browsed through its information. She soon nodded at Lu Yin and said, "He's telling the truth."

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgment. They left the Melders in peace and started out again, this time towards Nine Peaks Mountain.

Nine Peaks Mountain was a very conspicuous landmark; it was a mountain with nine peaks, each in the shape of a Savage Ape skull. Nine Peaks Mountain were joined together by their valleys, altogether forming Nine Peaks Mountain. The name "Nine Peaks Mountain" could not have been any more apt given the formation's appearance.

Beep, beep, beep!

Lu Yin's personal gadget sounded with an alert. He accepted the communications request and was shocked to see that Master Wusheng had contacted him.

"Greetings, Master Wusheng," Lu Yin respectfully greeted.

"Lu Yin, you must be aware of the Vastdearth Weave's Savage Ape Planet's Lockbreaking exchange event. Are you attending?" Master Wusheng went straight to the point.

"I am already on Savage Ape Planet," Lu Yin responded.

"Good. I was afraid that you wouldn't dare attend. You should participate and get some experience. Witnessing others' attempts at lockbreaking will be helpful to you," Master Wusheng replied.

Lu Yin felt a warmth sensation rise in his heart. "Thank you, master."

"This event has been approved by the society, so they intend to have the younger generation resolve this issue. The older generation is not allowed to interfere. Take full advantage of this, but also remember to not do anything overly rash. With your current abilities, it's impossible for you to successfully unlock this sourcebox. It will also be difficult to rescue you if you make any mistakes. Remember that," Master Wusheng warned.

Lu Yin acknowledged Master Wusheng's warning. "I understand and will remember your words."

"Make sure that you do. Most likely, some very interesting people will appear on Savage Ape Planet, so pay attention." Master Wusheng then disconnected after leaving Lu Yin with those final words.

Lu Yin was left speechless; why did everyone only give him a part of the information? Who were the interesting people that Wusheng was referring to? Master Wusheng didn't even bother clarifying!

Half a day later, Lu Yin and the other two who were still hurriedly making their way to Nine Peaks Mountain were only a few hours away. Then, high above them in the sky, a spacecraft passed by. All of a sudden, Lu Yin's gaze turned apprehensive as he looked up. A gigantic shadow covered the ground, and a savage ape that was easily a hundred meters tall leaped into the sky, ferociously charging at the spacecraft.

The spacecraft immediately tried to evade, but the savage ape still managed to crash into the vehicle, its attack even shattering the void.

Zhao Ran was terrified, and her face turned bone-white.

Yue Xianzi's pupils constricted as well. Her personal gadget revealed that this savage ape had a power level comparable to a Cruiser's; it had a power level of 52,000.

Lu Yin and the other two quickly landed and cautiously stared at the savage ape.

Savage apes were fierce by nature and would even kill their own kind. Additionally, these apes knew their territory very well and were extremely skilled at sensing any intruder in their domain.

This savage ape that was as strong as a Cruiser easily shattered the spacecraft with a single stomp of its foot. The bottom of its foot was slick with blood as it left the ground dyed red.

This scene once again terrified Zhao Ran.

Yue Xianzi's face also turned pale. Even without any sapience, a creature with the power of a Cruiser was not something that she could fight against. As she considered this, she looked towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin squinted his eyes and looked at the savage ape's bloodshot eyes even as they swiveled over to meet his gaze. His scalp turned numb, but he had no choice but to go head-to-head with this Cruiser-level beast. It was a good thing that savage apes could not learn any battle techniques, or he might not be a match for it. Thirty Stacks was no joke.

Dong!

Dong!

Dong!

The savage ape drew closer step by step. When its huge shadow engulfed the three of them, Zhao Ran trembled in fear while Yue Xianzi screwed her eyes shut, not daring to look.

The savage ape raised its foot, about to trample the three of them to death.

Just as Lu Yin was about to launch an attack, a middle aged man suddenly appeared in the sky. He had rosy cheeks, and he gave off an outstanding aura of dignity. He appeared right in the savage ape's line of sight and shouted, "You are courting death, you filthy creature!"

The savage ape shrieked angrily and fiercely swiped at the man.

The man gracefully evaded the beast's attacks, and with a flash, he appeared on top of the savage ape and forcefully shoved its head down. What happened next sent chills shivering down Lu Yin and the other two's spines as they witnessed a terrifying scene. The hundred meter tall savage ape was annihilated. Whether it was its organs or flesh, everything evaporated into nothingness in an instant.

Lu Yin's pupils shrank; this man had used a lockbreaking technique to make the savage ape disappear.

"Damn! This guy is at least a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker! How cruel!" the Ghost Monkey cried out.

Zhao Ran looked at the man timidly. As far as she was concerned, this man was even more terrifying than the savage ape.

A savage ape with the strength of a Cruiser had been eliminated by a lockbreaking technique so easily; not even its corpse remained!

The man towered above them in the sky, and he swept his gaze over Lu Yin and the other two, pausing for a moment when his eyes saw Lu Yin. He then nodded his head in a friendly manner and left.

As Lu Yin watched the man disappear into the sky, he realized the significance behind the man's greeting. He obviously knew Lu Yin and was not his enemy.

"Lu Yin, look at this," Yue Xianzi said as she pointed to her personal gadget.

Lu Yin looked over, and his expression changed. The gadget was stating that the man's power level could not be read. "What does this mean?"

"My personal gadget can only probe power levels up to a hundred thousand. In other words, that man's power level is over a hundred thousand. He's a Hunter," Yue Xianzi answered gravely.

Lu Yin nodded in understanding. "He would not have been able to execute that technique if he was not a Hunter. That man's very strong."

That incident soon became nothing more than an interlude to them. The three of them then continued making their way towards Nine Peaks Mountain. However, Zhao Ran became much quieter after the incident. She was probably still feeling shocked from what had just happened.

A few hours later, the three of them were finally able to just barely make out the figure of Nine Peaks Mountain in the distance. The sight invigorated them, and they picked up their pace.

The three of them had already been travelling at a swift pace that was almost enough to split the void. Now that they had increased their speed one step further, they quickly overtook all the other cultivators in front of them. The spatial tear they left behind them was an alarming one.

As soon as the three of them arrived at Nine Peaks Mountain, they stopped. Lu Yin raised his hand, as he had sensed an invisible ripple ahead of them, blocking their path. He frowned; there were some powers ahead who had closed off the path.

"This way has already been closed. Go back." A loud voice boomed out, resounding throughout the entirety of Nine Peaks Mountain. It was followed by the void cracking, showing that this was the work of an Explorer.

Before Lu Yin could speak, Yue Xianzi stepped forward. "You dare to stop members of the Outerverse Youth Council from proceeding?"

Right after she said that, two Explorers stepped out from the void in front of them. They looked at Yue Xianzi in astonishment. "Are the three of you from the Outerverse Youth Council?"

Yue Xianzi raised an arm, revealing her black ring with silvery-grey edges. It was engraved with an outstretched pair of wings and a sword that had ten shadows surrounding it. This was the signet ring worn only by the members of the Outerverse Youth Council. The only difference between this ring and

Mira's Universe Youth Council ring was the color. This ring was silvery-grey whereas the one that represented the Universe Youth Council was silver.

When they saw the ring, the two Explorers immediately allowed the three people through. They did not dare to impede members of the Outerverse Youth Council.

Lu Yin had an Outerverse Youth Council ring as well. However, he also had a Universe Youth Council ring since members of the Council of Astral Academy wore the same rings as members of the Universe Youth Council.

Like that, Lu Yin and the other two were able to easily enter Nine Peaks Mountain. Just then, a huge explosion occurred in the sky, causing the two Explorers' faces to change as they immediately took to the sky.

Soon after, the ripples which had previously sealed the Savage Ape Planet were broken, and a huge spacecraft directly landed on Nine Peaks Mountain. There was the logo of an organisation engraved onto the spacecraft.

"Eh? This ship belongs to the Brightstar Corp.?" Yue Xianzi said in surprise.

Lu Yin was puzzled. "The Brightstar Corp.?"

Yue Xianzi nodded. "They are a massive enterprise, and their network has spread through the entire Outerverse. They make big bucks by manufacturing machine parts, handling logistics, and building machinery. They're a major player in the tech sector."

"Are they very rich?" Lu Yin asked, his eyes sparkling.

Yue Xianzi nodded. "Of course. They were one of the sponsors for the Astral Combat Tournament's prizes. They're like the Nalan family and are definitely considered a major corporation."

Lu Yin looked at the huge spacecraft with envy. It would have been great if he had been born into such wealth and not needed to worry about money.

Right after the Brightstar Corp. vessel appeared, another spacecraft appeared. The logo on the spacecraft was one that Lu Yin immediately recognized—Shamrock Enterprises.

"There are more and more powers gathering. It looks like Lockbreaker exchange events always attract a bunch of people!" Yue Xianzi exclaimed.

Lu Yin's expression grew heated as he looked into the distance. Everyone who had come was wealthy, so if he could successfully unlock the sourcebox, he would be able to sell the contents at an astronomical price. After thinking about it some more, he rushed towards Nine Peaks Mountain; the tree-shaped sourcebox was almost within reach.

At that moment, many people had already gathered in Nine Peaks Mountain. Of them, there were around thirty Lockbreakers. About ten of them were Lockbreakers with contributions, and all of them were looking into the distance, at the tree-shaped sourcebox.

A thousand meters away from them, there was the tree-shaped sourcebox, and all that could be seen around it were dead bodies. The land around it was completely desolate, and not even wild grass could be seen. It was truly an arid section of land.

Chapter 356: Her Ninth Grandfather

There were many experts next to the tree-shaped sourcebox, including almost a dozen Explorers. There were even some Cruisers floating in the sky while the Hunter powerhouses remained on the ground.

Unfortunately, apart from a Lockbreaker, no one else could do anything to the sourcebox no matter how powerful they were. The Hunter powerhouses could approach the tree-shaped sourcebox without fear, but if they were to do so, the sourcebox might be destroyed. This was the reason why Lockbreakers enjoyed such a high status; they could do what others couldn't, and it was completely unrelated to cultivation.

"Brother Nan, as a three star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, aren't you going to make an attempt?" a young man in the crowd asked.

A man standing on the opposite side snorted. "Ryan, you should know that three star Discerning Elementary Lockbreakers are among those who have died."

"There are differences among people within the same level as well, and how could anyone ever compare to Brother Nan? Everyone knows that Brother Nan is a genius lockbreaker from the Outerverse, so please let us witness your ability," Ryan loudly replied. The other Lockbreakers around him started clamoring as well.

People of the same profession would naturally be rivals, and nobody present wanted to give up on such a rare sourcebox. Thus, all of them naturally wanted someone else to go and test out the sourcebox first.

"Brother Ryan, since you want to witness my abilities so badly, then why don't you come along with me?" Brother Nan retorted.

The man called Ryan was slightly tempted by his offer. It was definitely impossible for a single person to unlock this sourcebox by themselves, but there might be a chance if two or three of them made an attempt together. "Fine, if Brother Nan agrees, then I'm fine with cooperating. Is there anyone else who wants to join us?"

"I'll try." A middle aged man appeared and offered to join them.

However, this man was immediately pushed back by an invisible wave. He spat out a mouthful of blood, and his face turned pale.

"This event is only open to the younger generation. Go back." The middle aged man in the sky who had recently eliminated the Cruiser-level Savage Ape coldly rebuffed him.

But the middle aged man on the ground remained unconvinced. "No one owns this sourcebox. Why can't I join in?"

"No means no. If you say anything else, I will remove your name from the Society."

The man below didn't dare to argue any further, and he just stood to the side while gnashing his teeth.

The man in the sky swept his gaze across all the people standing below before shifting to the tree-shaped sourcebox with a face full of regret. He also wanted to try his hand at unlocking it, but this was an ironclad rule. He had enjoyed the society's protection when he was younger, since the society tried to give the younger generation more opportunities. It was precisely those such opportunities that had allowed him to reach his current heights, and now, it was his turn to create such opportunities for the younger generation.

The inheritance had to be continuous, and the society treated this philosophy very seriously.

The younger generation had their opportunities, and the older generation had their own as well. This had nothing to do with fairness, as everything was dependent on one's luck and ability.

It wasn't just Lockbreakers of the younger generation that had come to Nine Peaks Mountain; there were some members of the older generation there as well. There were even some Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreakers within the crowd, but they hadn't made themselves known just yet.

After some discussion, Brother Nan and Ryan stepped within a thousand meters of the tree-shaped sourcebox and attempted to unlock it.

At the same time, Dao Bo arrived with Liu Ji, where both of them looked at the tree-shaped sourcebox.

Every sourcebox was unique, and each one carried unique risks as well.

Dao Bo coldly looked at a few of the corpses scattered around the tree-shaped sourcebox. These corpses were completely desiccated and looked miserable. It was no wonder why not many else dared to attempt unlocking this sourcebox.

Brother Nan and Ryan started approaching the tree, but they could not feel anything wrong. Since they had already walked past a corpse, they should have entered the danger zone, but they still weren't able to feel anything abnormal.

Both of them were three star Discerning Elementary Lockbreakers with contributions who had survived numerous dangerous situations, but despite their acute senses and keen star energy perception, they felt nothing at all at this moment.

The middle aged man in the sky carefully watched the two young Lockbreakers walk forward. He could also sense that there was nothing abnormal about the star energy around the tree-shaped sourcebox. But if that were the case, then what had left those corpses behind?

The two moved closer to the tree-shaped sourcebox until they were only about a hundred meters away. Excitement was clearly shown on their faces; they were almost close enough to touch the tree, which meant that they would be able to start their lockbreaking attempt soon.

Then, Dao Bo suddenly shouted, "RUN!"

His shout surprised the crowd, and in the very next moment, two screams could be heard from Brothers Nan and Ryan. The two of them turned pale and then grey. Their hair started falling out of their scalps, and their skin dried before flaking off like ash. The entire transformation was terrifying.

The middle aged man in the air tried to pull the two of them away from the tree, but he was too late. In less than three seconds, two new corpses had appeared as their bodies collapsed to the ground.

It was a horrifying scene.

Liu Ji's eyes flashed. This was what it meant to be a Lockbreaker; one had great power, but one also ran great risks. Sometimes, a Lockbreaker might even die without knowing the cause of their death.

Dao Bo was the only one present who had detected anything since he was the only one with a domain. Even the Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker in the sky hadn't developed a domain yet.

Quite a number of people looked at Dao Bo with strange gazes since he had been the only who had detected any sort of abnormality and reacted.

"It's Dao Bo, Astral-6's student leader."

"I remember that he participated in the Astral Combat Tournament but lost to Grandini Mavis."

"Actually, Dao Bo didn't really lose that match. Grandini was just too powerful."

"No wonder he was able to detect a problem—he's a top student of the Astral Combat Academy."

...

The middle aged man in the sky appeared and looked at Dao Bo.

The people in the crowd looked up and exclaimed, "It's Master Jun!"

"Master Jun is here as well. It seems that the society is treating this sourcebox very seriously."

"Master Jun is a three star Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker and also a Hunter."

...

"You felt it?" Master Jun asked Dao Bo.

Dao Bo nodded and respectfully answered, "It's an indescribable feeling, and I could only feel it vaguely. And when I did, it was too late."

Master Jun complimented, "You're truly a genius as far as your domain is concerned. Dao Bo, you'll soon be able to join the ranks of the Distinguished Five within the society. Keep it up and become an Explorer soon. Then, we'll have the Distinguished Six of the society."

Dao Bo bowed and gratefully thanked Master Jun.

The people around them looked at Dao Bo in envy. Not everyone was able to comprehend a domain, and even Master Jun hadn't managed to achieve such a thing yet. The best time for one to comprehend a domain was while they were young, which was another reason why the younger generation was so important in the universe.

Although there were many geniuses in the Astral Combat Academy, which was the top institute in the Human Domain, not many of the students there were able to comprehend a domain, which went to show how rare this ability was.

Even though Master Jun hadn't comprehended a domain, Dao Bo didn't dare to underestimate him. The older man was still a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker, and he definitely had a Lockbreaking tool that was comparable to possessing a domain.

"Are you going to try?" Master Jun asked Dao Bo.

Everyone turned to look at him.

Dao Bo shook his head. "Master Jun, you think of me too highly. Only a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker would be able to unlock this tree-shaped sourcebox on their own. I won't be able to succeed with my current abilities."

Master Jun nodded happily. "Dao Bo, it's good that you know your own limits."

"Brother Dao Bo, if even you can't do it, who can?" Liu Ji asked unwillingly.

Dao Bo smiled. "I only said that I can't do it alone. It should be possible if I cooperate with someone else. Let's wait and see. I'm sure that more experts will join us soon."

Liu Ji curiously took in her surroundings, and her attention was drawn to someone who was oddly dressed. She stared at the person; it was a wretched old man dressed all in grey and carrying a wooden flag pole. There was a starry sky pattern printed on the back of his robes, and his flag carried the words "Starsibyl's Ninth Grandfather" on one side and "Fortune Telling—Believe It If You Will" on the other side.

Liu Ji tugged on Dao Bo's sleeve. "That, that person is weird."

Dao Bo looked over in surprise. There were a lot of people staring at the old man, and the words on his flag had grabbed everyone's attention. Everyone knew about Starsibyl, and this man actually dared to call himself Starsibyl's Ninth Grandfather. At this moment, even Master Jun was looking at the old man in shock.

"Young man, you look energetic and outstanding! You will definitely have a bright future ahead of you! This moment is your opportunity to shine! Don't be scared! Go ahead! I'll protect you." The miserable looking old man proudly patted a young Lockbreaker's shoulder.

The people in the crowd stared at the interaction in surprise.

"Actually, I still haven't made any contributions," the young lockbreaker mumbled shyly.

The old man laughed and casually put his hand on a nearby person before everyone's eyes. "Young man, I was actually talking about you."

The young man's face twitched. "Old man, I'm not a Lockbreaker."

The old man chuckled and pointed at Master Jun who was in the sky. "Young man, I was talking about you."

Everyone was struck speechless.

Master Jun was furious, and his gaze turned cold. The air around his body started warping as if he was about to erupt.

At that moment, someone yelled, "I remember now! This old guy is Xuan Jiu! He's a piece of trash who was thrown out of the Starsibyl Sect."

The old man immediately became furious. "Who- who dares to slander me? I'm not useless! I managed to learn the Xuantian Art! Who dares to challenge me!?"

After the person called the old man out, more people in the crowd remembered that there had indeed once been a person who resembled this old man. He had become quite famous a few hundred years ago.

Master Jun recalled this person as well, and he suppressed his anger since the old man was still quite close to the Starsibyl Sect despite being chased out. This elder called himself the Ninth Grandfather of all of the Starsibyls, but he still hadn't been punished by the Starsibyl Sect. This alone showed that this old man wasn't someone who Master Jun could casually offend.

"What Xuantian Art? Rumor has it that your fortune tellings are always wrong and that anyone who believes you will die!" someone sneered.

Xuan Jiu grew livid, and he wildly waved his flag about. "Who- who dares to insult me?! Come and fight me! You trash! All of you are nothing but trash!"

The people around him just rolled their eyes and ignored him.

"Hey, fortune teller gramps! It's you! I finally found you!" Lu Yin's trio arrived at that moment, and Zhao Ran was happily looking at Xuan Jiu. She waved her arm fervently. "Gramps, I'm Rotten Trash! It's me, it's me!"

Most of the people present were stunned. Just what was going on?

Chapter 357: Xi Qi And The Fish

Lu Yin and Yue Xianzi subconsciously stopped a few steps behind Zhao Ran, afraid of being recognized since her words were just too embarrassing!

Xuan Jiu was stumped when he saw Zhao Ran, but then his face became bitter. "Brat, stop pestering me, alright?"

"But I haven't paid you yet," Zhao Ran stated matter-of-factly. She rummaged about her body for a bit and then turned around to look at Lu Yin. "Brother Lu, can you lend me some money? I need to settle the bill."

At this moment, everyone noticed Lu Yin and Yue Xianzi, which caused quite a few to cry out in surprise.

Yue Xianzi's appearance was not that shocking since she was much more well-known in the Innerverse than in the Outerverse. Lu Yin, however, was different since he had represented the Outerverse when he won the Tournament of the Strongest. Furthermore, he had been given the title of a Ten Arbiters' candidate. Few geniuses had emerged in the Outerverse over the eons, so many people recognized Lu Yin.

Dao Bo's eyes gleamed. So he came after all.

Liu Ji looked at Lu Yin with a complicated expression as she recalled the incident at Astral-10's space station. She was fully aware that this person was monstrously talented.

In the skies, Master Jun looked at Lu Yin with an approving gaze. This person had a bright future ahead of him in terms of not just his cultivation, but also his lockbreaking potential.

The surrounding crowd stared at Lu Yin, and he felt slightly awkward since he was accompanying Zhao Ran, and the brat had just called herself "Rotten Trash."

He immediately handed her some money. "Hurry up and settle the bill."

Zhao Ran was elated. "Brother Lu, you're such a good person! Don't worry, I'll definitely repay you."

"No need, just hurry up," Lu Yin urged.

Yue Xianzi pursed her lips and smiled.

Zhao Ran immediately ran to Xuan Jiu, and the old man wrinkled his brow as he stared at Lu Yin. It seemed that he was thinking about something.

The moment Lu Yin exchanged glances with Xuan Jiu, he sensed something strange. It was as if he had glimpsed a part of the dark, starry sky. It felt like a familiar scene that he had seen in the past, but one that he could not recall.

Zhao Ran ran straight to Xuan Jiu and handed him the money. The old man accepted it with a blank face even as he kept staring at Lu Yin. Finally, he spoke. "Little kid, you've come face-to-face with the dead."

Lu Yin blinked, completely lost. Royalty?

Someone beside him said, "Brother Lu, don't pay this old fogey any mind. He loves tricking people. Just now, he even tried to dupe a normal person into trying to unlock this sourcebox. He's completely immoral."

"You're the immoral one! Your whole family is immoral, you useless goods!" Xuan Jiu scolded the person who had just spoken, reacting like a cat whose tail had been stepped on. After making a commotion, the old man turned around and ran off.

Lu Yin was left speechless to the point where he didn't even notice the words on Xuan Jiu's worn flag; otherwise, he would have been even more stunned.

"Seventh Bro, you've been cursed! Come face-to-face with the deada, haha," the Ghost Monkey sniggered.

Lu Yin frowned. "It's 'royalty.'"

"No, it's the dead, hehe."

...

"Brother Lu, don't bother with him. That person's always shooting his mouth off," Dao Bo said as he and Liu Ji walked over to Lu Yin and the others.

Lu Yin had not expected to meet Dao Bo here. He nodded amicably towards the older student. "Senior Dao Bo, are you familiar with that person?"

"He's famous for being a cast out disciple of the Starsibyl Sect."

The Starsibyl Sect? Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "Were his predictions accurate?"

"Quite the opposite—they were very inaccurate! It was so bad that no one ever sought him out for fortune-telling," Dao Bo replied with a chuckle.

Lu Yin smiled as well. He then looked towards Liu Ji. "It's been a while."

"Yes, it has," she replied.

The two had not started off on friendly terms, but their little conflict had eroded away with the passage of time. This was especially so since the current Lu Yin had undergone a monumental change in status. Liu Ji no longer dared to act out too much in front of him anymore.

"Master Wusheng recently contacted me and asked me to attend this to gain experience."

Liu Ji was shocked. "Master Wusheng contacted you?"

Lu Yin nodded.

"Master's really biased. He only thinks of you and not me," Liu Ji grumbled.

Lu Yin walked through the crowd to inspect the tree-shaped sourcebox. His face turned grave when he saw the strange, desiccated corpses on the ground.

He was recognized by quite a few people in the crowd, and some even tried to tempt him. "Brother Lu, you're the champion of the Tournament of the Strongest as well as a Lockbreaker! Go ahead and try—you'll definitely succeed."

"Yes, Brother Lu, go on."

"Go on! Show us your abilities."

...

Lu Yin smiled and turned around. "I'm only a two star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, and I don't dare to exceed my limits. I can't unlock this sourcebox."

The crowd was disappointed by his response.

More and more people gathered around them, and some new Lockbreakers once again tried to approach the tree-shaped sourcebox. This time, a four star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker stepped forward, but he failed just like the others had, turning into a dried out corpse before Master Jun could intervene and save the young Lockbreaker.

At this point, there was a shout in the distance. It sounded as if someone outstanding had arrived.

Lu Yin and the rest turned around to see a young girl approaching. On her forehead was... a fish?

Many rubbed their eyes, but they soon realized that it was indeed a fish. This girl was carrying a fish on her head?

Lu Yin pursed his lips. After he arrived on this planet, he had picked up a random commenter, run into that conman fortune teller who had just left, and now, met this person who was wearing a fish on their head! Strange things kept appearing on this planet.

“It’s Xi Qi, the genius Lockbreaker of the society! She’s a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker and almost a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker!” someone cried out.

Soon, more people gasped in surprise.

Dao Bo was shocked. “So she’s here too.”

“Senior, do you know her?” Lu Yin asked.

Dao Bo smiled. “It’s not just me. You should have seen her before too. The videos that people see in the sourcebox catalog when they first join all belong to her. Even that fish on her head is something that she unlocked from a sourcebox.”

Dao Bo’s words made Lu Yin recall that, in the sourcebox catalog, there was indeed a particular video that only revealed a pair of hands and the sourcebox. At the end of the video, a fish had appeared after the person had successfully completed unlocked the sourcebox. He had wondered what that fish-shaped treasure actually was, but never expected it to actually be a fish.

“There’re so many two-legged beasts. It’s so disgusting that all these maggots have to live together in social groups. Maggots!” The fish atop Xi Qi’s head spoke, and it even had a rather loud voice.

Everyone’s faces turned dark. Two-legged beasts? Was this how the fish referred to all of them?

Xi Qi’s face changed slightly. “Little fish, stop speaking.”

“What, Lord Fish has helped you so much, but now I can’t speak? If you dare to restrict Lord Fish again, then Lord Fish will change his mount.” The fish turned side to side and looked the entire crowd over. Eventually, it’s gaze settled on Liu Ji, and it pointed out at her with a fin. “Little brat, Lord Fish can see that you’re not bad. Lord Fish will give you an opportunity to be Lord Fish’s mount.”

Liu Ji’s face soured, and she quickly turned away.

“Bah, Lord Fish favors you, little brat. Don’t fail to appreciate such kindness! Lord Fish has mounted so many two-legged beasts, so you shouldn’t miss this chance to cherish it.” The fish’s fins swayed continuously as it snarled at Liu Ji.

Xi Qi covered her forehead. “I’m sorry, Sister Liu Ji.”

Liu Ji stared vehemently at the fish. “It’s alright. Everyone already knows about this fish’s attitude.”

“What attitude? Is Lord Fish’s attitude something that can be discussed by you two-legged beasts? How impudent!” the fish shouted petulantly.

Lu Yin stared blankly at the scene. This was his first time encountering such an annoying creature. This fish could speak, and it had its own abrasive personality as well.

"I can't take it anymore! Seventh Bro, let me out so that I can teach that thing a lesson! It's too despicable! It even dares to call Seventh Bro a two-legged beast. Even though it's the truth, that's too blunt! Seventh Bro, let me out, and I'll give it a good thrashing!" the Ghost Monkey cried out emotionally.

Lu Yin felt a headache coming on. "Shut up."

"Brother Dao Bo is here as well." Xi Qi waved at Dao Bo.

Dao Bo smiled gently.

"What a sinister smile! Lord Fish hates these kinds of two-legged beasts the most. Brat, get further away from him. He's no good!" the fish cried out.

Dao Bo's face twisted, and he turned away to look elsewhere.

Xi Qi was lost as to what to do in her current situation. She suddenly noticed Lu Yin and was about to greet him, but Lu Yin directly turned away since he did not want to be mocked by the fish. He could see that the fish would mock whoever Xi Qi greeted.

"Eh, brat, go ahead and approach that two-legged beast," the fish suddenly shrieked its orders with its beady eyes fixated on Lu Yin.

Xi Qi was puzzled. "Why?"

"If I say go, then you go! Don't ask so much, or else Lord Fish won't bother with you in the future!"

"Wow, thanks," Xi Qi mumbled sarcastically. However, she still obeyed the fish and walked over to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's brows rose, and he immediately wanted to move away, but before he could, the fish screamed, "You two-legged beast, stay right where you are!" The fish's eyes were locked right onto Lu Yin with a suspicious expression.

Lu Yin looked at Xi Qi, and then at the fish. "Yes?"

"Strange... Why does Lord Fish sense a familiar aura on your body?" The fish found it strange and it fanned its fins contemplatively.

Lu Yin looked down at himself, not understanding what it was saying.

"Bah, I can't take it anymore! Seventh Bro, this fish is obviously provoking you. Let me out so that I can beat it up!" the monkey shouted furiously.

"What's going on?" Lu Yin was puzzled.

Xi Qi looked upwards. "What's the matter?"

The fish's small eyes narrowed. "I can't recall. Lord Fish's been sealed for too long, so there are many things that I have forgotten. However-" At that point, it pointed at Lu Yin with a fin. "Two-legged beast,

remember Lord Fish! Lord Fish will find you in the future. Your body has a very familiar aura, and it is extremely detestable and depraved!”

A coldness flashed through Lu Yin’s eyes as a formless energy enveloped Xi Qi and the fish. He did not appreciate being scolded for no reason.

“Seventh Bro, beat it to death!” the monkey yelled encouragingly.

Xi Qi only felt a chilling wave wash over her body, and she immediately retreated even as she vigilantly kept her eyes on Lu Yin.

Dao Bo quickly stepped in front of her. “Brother Lu, don’t pay her any mind. That fish has a despicable personality and acts like that to everyone. Even the president was chastised in the past.”

From high in the sky, Master Jun landed next to Lu Yin and similarly placed himself in front of Xi Qi. He spoke to Lu Yin gently. “Little brother, please let this matter go for my sake, alright?”

Lu Yin shifted his gaze. “Forget it, I won’t bicker with a fish.”

“Whatever you say, two-legged beast. Such cocky words. Come on! Lord Fish is afraid that you won’t make it. All you two-legged beasts here, beat him up!”

Xi Qi could not take it anymore, and she could tell that Mr. Jun was growing increasingly displeased. She quickly left the area. The fish was just too obnoxious.

Master Jun helplessly shook his head. “If not for that fish helping Xuan Jiu to see through the changes in star energy, there would be no need for her to bring it around. No one knows if that thing is a blessing or a curse.”

Dao Bo smiled bitterly. “The president agreed to let her bring it around, and she has no choice, either, since that fish has acknowledged her.”

“That fish is equivalent to her lockbreaking weapon.” Mr. Jun smiled and then rose back into the skies.

No one knew where Xi Qi went afterwards. Not long after, another person arrived and incited some new cries of shock. It was Tong Mi'er, a genius Lockbreaker who was famous in the Outerverse. His fame stemmed from the fact that he was one of the few Lockbreakers in the Outerverse who had comprehended a domain.

His arrival caused all the Outerverse Lockbreakers to grow more hopeful.

“Lord Tong Mi'er, please bring me along in your attempt,” one Lockbreaker excitedly requested.

Quite a few of the surrounding Lockbreakers looked at Tong Mi'er expectantly.

Chapter 358: Casanova Of The Distinguished Five

Tong Mi'er glanced coldly at everyone surrounding him. “No one under four stars is qualified to cooperate with me.”

Everyone felt embarrassed when they heard his words. It wasn’t easy to become a four star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, especially for someone who was still a part of the younger generation. If this

wasn't the case, then Tong Mi'er would not be hailed as a genius Lockbreaker. Out of all the young Lockbreakers present, only Dao Bo and Xi Qi had reached five stars. Below them, there actually weren't any four star Lockbreakers in the younger generation since even Liu Ji was merely a three star Elementary Lockbreaker.

Since Tong Mi'er was from the Outerverse, his status could not compare to that of a five star Discerning Elementary genius Lockbreaker like Charon. However, his reputation was not far behind either. This was partly because many people automatically considered Astral Combat Academy students as being from the Innaverse.

"Seventh Bro, this brat's pretty arrogant. With your lockbreaking ability, besides that Dao Bo, no one else here can compare with you! This is especially true since you've comprehended the Secret Sidestep. It's possible that not even someone from the Innaverse will be able to compare to you!"

Lu Yin made the Ghost Monkey shut up and then quietly watched as Tong Mi'er approached within a thousand meters of the tree-shaped sourcebox. Sensing that Tong Mi'er was about to begin, Lu Yin activated his Cosmic Art as the Giant Emperor's third eye appeared in his hand.

With his domain supporting the Cosmic Art and the Giant Emperor's third eye improving his senses, when Lu Yin looked at the area around the tree-shaped sourcebox again, he saw a drastically different image of the desolate land compared to everyone else. The star energy in the area seemed to move with a life of its own, and it expanded outwards at a rather unhurried speed. Within that area of space, a strange fluctuation swept out from the sourcebox from time to time.

Lu Yin trembled in shock. What is that thing? The undulating energy waves really felt as if it were coming from something alive, like a python coiling within the star energy.

Lu Yin knew that, aside from himself, no one else here was capable of seeing this scenery. However, every Lockbreaker had their own secret tricks, and although they might not be able to see the scene as clearly as Lu Yin could, the best among them could still sense the foreboding existence of that strange energy pulse given their understanding and familiarity with star energy.

Tong Mi'er was in that situation. He could not clearly see the energy, but he did have his domain, and he used it to avoid one crisis after another. From Lu Yin's perspective, the closer Tong Mi'er got to the tree-shaped sourcebox, the more dangerous it became. The waves seemed to multiply endlessly and shift more quickly the closer one was to the tree.

"Danger," Lu Yin faintly whispered.

Beside him, Liu Ji, Yue Xianzi, and Zhao Ran gave him a strange look since they only saw Tong Mi'er steadily walking towards the sourcebox without any hint of danger.

Only Dao Bo frowned, as he was able to sense the animated star energy fluctuations with his domain, and those fluctuations seemed to be becoming more violent.

Suddenly, Tong Mi'er was blasted away by a wave of force from Master Jun in the sky up above. Tong Mi'er was not able to react, but the star energy surrounding him had hastened its movements after the external force stimulated it. Master Jun casually sent Tong Mi'er out of the tree-shaped sourcebox's effective area. "Fortunately, I was quick enough this time."

Tong Mi'er was lost as to what had happened.

Dao Bo said, "Thank Master Jun. You would be another one of those corpses on the ground right now if not for him."

Tong Mi'er looked at the dried corpses, still not comprehending what had just happened. Still, he was not foolish, so he promptly stood up to thank Master Jun.

Master Jun did not mind, and he was looking at the tree-shaped sourcebox. It was unlikely that any of the Limiteer juniors here would be able to succeed, unless one of those rare few elites came.

"Brother Lu, do you really not want to try?" Dao Bo asked Lu Yin.

Lu Yin shrugged. "We can't unlock it."

"We can give it a try if we join forces."

Lu Yin felt strange. "Senior, why are you so certain about me being able to help you? I'm just a two star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. The gap between my two stars and your five stars is too large."

Dao Bo smiled. "How can junior's ability be considered in a normal light? Also, I've witnessed your domain. It has incorporated the bloodlust of the battlefield and was able to withstand Tian Hou's strength, which proves that you're familiar with it. In any case," Dao Bo paused as he looked at Lu Yin's hand before continuing, "Unless I'm wrong, that should be a lockbreaking tool."

Liu Ji was amazed. Lu Yin had a lockbreaking tool?

Yue Xianzi was similarly astonished. Even if she wasn't a Lockbreaker, she was at least aware of the existence of lockbreaking tools and knew that, in addition to their valuable abilities, they were rare beyond measure.

Lu Yin nodded and put the Giant Emperor's third eye away. "Let's wait a little while longer. Even with the two of us, I'm not too confident in our chances."

Dao Bo nodded. "That's true. Some more experts should be coming, so let's hope that they arrive soon."

Lu Yin was curious. "They?"

Dao Bo's eyes trembled. "The Lockbreaker Society's Distinguished Five."

"The Distinguished Five?" Lu Yin was caught off guard.

Liu Ji spoke up to explain. "The five most outstanding Lockbreakers in the younger generation are called the Distinguished Five. They are all Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreakers."

Lu Yin nodded. He was well aware that becoming a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker while still being a part of the younger generation was indeed very impressive. Without the Cosmic Art, he would not have even been able to reach his current level. Even Charon, with his incredible talent, was still far from reaching the Perceptive Intermediate level. Improving by a grade was not as simple as going up a mere star.

Being a Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker also meant that the Lockbreaker had cultivated to a realm where they were capable of moving about the universe freely. The Distinguished Five were all space-exploring powerhouses of the younger generation. When their lockbreaking abilities were combined with their cultivation, it meant that all of them were on the Top Hundred Rankings.

Over the next couple of days, several other Lockbreakers also attempted to unlock the tree-shaped sourcebox, and one was even just a single step away from reaching the Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker level. But despite him being more experienced at lockbreaking than just about anyone else present, that person also failed. Fortunately, he was rescued by Master Jun just in the nick of time. Of course, that person was significantly older than Dao Bo and Lu Yin and could barely be considered as a part of the younger generation.

The Vastdearth Sect and other powers from other fringe weaves sent more and more experts to the planet, all of them gathering there.

Technically, the Savage Ape Planet was a part of the Vastdearth Weave, so anything on it should belong to the Vastdearth Sect. However, no one would try to bring this point up, and not even the Vastdearth Sect itself would make such a claim. After all, it would be a trifling matter for the Lockbreaker Society to eliminate something like the Vastdearth Sect.

The various organizations had gathered not to scheme for anything, but rather, to try and purchase any items obtained through the lockbreaking attempt, even if there was only a small possibility of someone succeeding.

Lu Yin, Yue Xianzi, and Zhao Ran were all sitting in a small hollow on Nine Peaks Mountain. Lu Yin had witnessed multiple people attempt to unlock the sourcebox, but all of them had rather mediocre star energy senses. He was quite interested to see how Dao Bo planned to unlock the sourcebox, but the senior Lockbreaker still had not made an attempt.

Xi Qi was waiting a great distance away, not daring to approach the crowd, since the fish's words were too malicious, and it would ridicule the entire crowd as soon as it appeared. Not even someone like Master Jun was exempt from its verbal lashing.

"That sister is pitiful," Zhao Ran commented as she looked at Xi Qi's lone figure.

Yue Xianzi looked over. "She has no choice. That fish means that she's destined to live a lonely life."

"Seventh Bro, I've got a suggestion," the monkey suddenly spoke up.

Lu Yin leaned against the mountainside. "Go ahead."

"Stew that fish. It should have a pretty good texture," the monkey said sternly.

Lu Yin's eyes suddenly widened, and his eyes flickered. "Monkey, you don't seem to like that fish very much."

"Of course not, Seventh Bro. It mocked you, and that means that it also mocked me. Thus, I must definitely cook it," the Ghost Monkey shrieked.

Lu Yin frowned. He recalled that the fish had mentioned that there was a familiar aura on Lu Yin's body. Initially, he had paid no heed to the fish's words, but could the fish have sensed the monkey? Besides

him, there was nothing else on Lu Yin's body, though it was also possible that the fish had sensed something from one of Lu Yin's techniques. However, the fish had been unsealed in the Outerverse, which was extremely far from the Cosmic Sect. It probably wasn't that technique. The monkey also had an extremely poor attitude towards the fish, so it was possible that they actually knew each other.

But that shouldn't be possible either, as the fish had been unlocked from a sourcebox, meaning that it had survived for countless years. How old could the monkey be?

Lu Yin pondered the matter some more as he casually looked at the ground. He unwittingly grew sleepy, and the skies had started to darken. He doubted that anyone else would make an attempt today.

Just as Lu Yin started silently reciting the Stonewall Scriptures, he sensed a foreign aura suddenly appear within his domain. His eyes instantly sprang open, and he swatted at Yue Xianzi.

No one there expected Lu Yin to suddenly attack, and his actions were too sudden, leaving Yue Xianze without a chance to react. All she could do was watch on as Lu Yin's palm approached. She was even able to make out each distinct line on his palm, but in the end, Lu Yin did not slap her. Instead, he swatted behind her.

At the same time, a wave of energy swept out that caused the void to rumble, and it even caused Nine Peaks Mountain to tremble imperceptibly. Countless people were jolted awake, and they all looked towards Lu Yin's direction.

Yue Xianzi was knocked aside by an unstoppable force, and she took more than a dozen steps back. When she looked over, she saw that a man had appeared where she was just a moment ago and that the man's elbow had been blocked by Lu Yin's palm. The man had an astonished expression. "Such powerful strength!"

The man then clenched his fist, causing the veins in his forearm to bulge as he viciously slammed his fist at Lu Yin. Lu Yin's eyes twitched, and he responded with Twenty Stacks.

Boom!

The ground split open, and the two dropped into the pit that formed. A moment later, a shockwave swept out in an arc across Nine Peaks Mountain, causing even Master Jun to feel alarmed.

Lu Yin's right palm ached, and he borrowed the force of the man's attack to move aside. His expression became much more cautious.

The man pulled his elbow back and looked at Lu Yin in amazement. He leaped up to appear outside the pit.

Lu Yin leaped out as well, and the two stood there, confronting each other.

Many looked on, unable to understand what had just happened.

"Who are you?" Lu Yin asked. If not for his domain, he would not have ever discovered this person who had been so close to Yue Xianzi.

The man rubbed his elbow. "Brother, your palm strength is vicious. You're so young, but you can already display such a violent Overlaying Stacks technique."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "Apparently, it's not powerful enough yet. You don't seem to be harmed at all."

The man laughed. "Harmed? Wait till you become an Explorer. Even a universally recognized so-called 'Ten Arbiters' candidate' can't harm me if they're still a Limiteer."

"Who the hell are you?" Lu Yin was puzzled. This person didn't seem to be too old, but he was frighteningly powerful.

"Casanova?" Liu Ji cried out.

Many seemed to recognize this person upon hearing her words, and the name "Casanova" was repeatedly thrown about.

Dao Bo appeared beside Lu Yin. "It's just a misunderstanding, Brother Lu. He's one of the Distinguished Five of the Lockbreaker Society, Casanova. There's no malice."

Lu Yin felt strange. "Casanova? That's his name?"

In front of him, Casanova smiled confidently. "Casanova is just Casanova. That's my name."

Lu Yin was dumbfounded. Such a name exists?

"Hey, what were you trying to do just now?" Yue Xianzi only reacted just now, and she was still staring coldly at Casanova.

Casanova looked over at Yue Xianzi, and his eyes immediately brightened. He suddenly vanished only to reappear in front of Yue Xianzi. He then took out a very beautiful flower and offered it to her. "Beautiful lady, the moonlight is all the more beautiful tonight because of you. I wonder if I could have the fortune to invite you to go moon-gazing together? Or perhaps, we could find somewhere quiet to discuss life?"

Yue Xianzi's expression turned ugly, and a tightly clenched fist formed.

Chapter 359: Joining Forces

Lu Yin frowned, stepped in front of Yue Xianzi, and stared at Casanova. "It's an honor to meet one of the Distinguished Five of the Lockbreaker's Society."

Casanova unhappily directed his attention to Lu Yin. "Who are you?"

"I'm Lu Yin."

Casanova's gaze changed, and he started to seriously size Lu Yin up and down. "So you're the one who displayed Thirty Stacks and matched Arbiter Lan's record. Lu Yin?"

Lu Yin smiled faintly. "Yeah."

Casanova gasped. "No wonder you're a Ten Arbiters' candidate! That was just Twenty Stacks, but it was already rather powerful. You sure live up to the reputation of being the champion of the Tournament of the Strongest."

Lu Yin did not reply and only silently looked at Casanova.

Casanova's tone changed. "Still, no matter how much of a genius you may be, you cannot obstruct Casanova from chatting with a beautiful lady. Move aside."

"Sorry, she's from the Outerverse Youth Council and also happens to be my subsidiary member."

Casanova rolled his eyes and threw the flowers away. He then vanished only to reappear at the edge of the danger zone surrounding the tree-shaped sourcebox.

His conduct was rather abrupt, and Lu Yin was not really able to follow along.

Dao Bo forced a smile onto his face. "Brother Lu, don't bother getting worked up. That's just how Casanova is. He cannot resist beauties, is distinguished, not obscene at all, straightforward, and candid."

Lu Yin felt strange; how was secretly approaching Yue Xianzi not obscene? Also, why were all the people he had met on this planet weirdos? This was Dao Bo's third time saying something like "pay them no mind." It seemed like Lockbreakers were much weirder than regular cultivators.

"Casanova is one of the Distinguished Five, and also twenty ninth on the Top Hundred Rankings," Yue Xianzi softly said. Although she did not personally know Casanova, she had evidently heard of him before, and her expression gradually became more pleasant.

Lu Yin now understood how this person had not been harmed after taking his attack backed by Twenty Stacks head-on. It turned out that Casanova was actually an expert in the Top Hundred Rankings, and his placing was even amongst the top thirty. If Lu Yin exploded with his full power, then he might be able to rival someone at the bottom of the list, around eightieth and below. He was still a massive distance away from someone like Casanova.

Still, there was no hurry. It was just like Casanova had said; once Lu Yin became an Explorer, he would definitely be able to harm Casanova. And Lu Yin was also confident that it would not just be harming Casanova—he might be able to challenge even stronger opponents than this person.

Lu Yin wanted to try sparring with Wendy Yushan when she returned to San Dios, just to experience what the disparity between them was.

"It's impossible. I can't solve this by myself." Casanova's voice sounded from afar, and everyone started to gather around him.

If anyone from the younger generation could successfully unlock the tree-shaped sourcebox, it would be one of the Distinguished Five. After them would be Dao Bo, but he had already admitted that he held no confidence in doing so during the two days he had been present. Thus, everyone had pinned their hopes on one of the Distinguished Five arriving and saving the day, but Casanova's words had just destroyed their hopes. It turned out that even he could not unlock this sourcebox.

Master Jun sighed. "Even you, a two star Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreaker, cannot unlock this sourcebox. It looks like the sourcebox this time around is too difficult."

Everyone felt helpless, though some also became excited. They were the Lockbreakers who were no longer a part of the younger generation, and quite a few of them were at the Perceptive Intermediate level.

Casanova grinned. "I merely said that I can't solve it alone. I never said that we can't join forces to do so."

Master Jun's eyes gleamed. "Are you confident after joining forces?"

Everyone focused on Casanova.

Casanova's smile widened. "Of course, I have confidence in the people I'll choose." He then looked at the gathered crowd around him.

Tong Mi'er stepped out first with a passionate gaze as he looked at Casanova.

But Casanova's eyes passed right over him as they landed on Dao Bo. "Get over here and stop pretending. I know how strong your Lockbreaking ability is, and as soon as you become an Explorer, you won't be any worse than the rest of us."

Dao Bo smiled and stepped out. "Please take care of me, Brother Casanova."

Casanova sneered. "After you become an Explorer, there won't just be the Distinguished Five in the society. Also, I won't have to take care of you anymore."

Then, he looked up and pointed. "Xi Qi, come over here."

No one felt that this was unexpected either, as everyone was aware of Xi Qi's lockbreaking abilities. She was a five star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, which placed her on the same level as Dao Bo. Although the vulgar fish that accompanied her annoyed people to no end, her ability could not be denied.

"Brother Casanova, it's been quite a while," Xi Qi greeted as she walked over.

Lu Yin's brows jumped as he subconsciously looked at the fish, just like many others. Casanova's luck was about to run out.

As expected, the fish opened its mouth, lazily raised its fin to point at Casanova, and said, "Two-legged beast, you are very ugly."

That single sentence created an awkward silence.

Many people looked at Casanova, who was not ugly; on the contrary, he was quite dashing.

Casanova's face darkened, as this was not his first time encountering the fish. Because of his name, the fish called him ugly every time they met, which was rather obnoxious.

Casanova barely held himself back from retorting when he saw Xi Qi's regretful expression and instead snorted. Xi Qi immediately apologized.

The fish looked at the sky. "Ugly is ugly. You can't hide the facts."

Casanova's mouth distorted as he irritably shouted, "You worthless fish! You're the ugly one! Everyone knows that I'm the handsome one."

The fish yelled back in an exaggerated manner, "There's never been a connection between you and the word 'handsome' throughout your entire life. Wake up! You're hideous! Truly monstrous looking."

Casanova was about to retort back, but he was stopped by Dao Bo, who urged, "Brother Casanova, lockbreaking is more important. Ignore the fish."

Casanova's chest heaved, and he snorted again before looking at the tree-shaped sourcebox. "Let's go. It's time to do some lockbreaking."

"Brother Casanova, will three people be enough?" Xi Qi asked.

Casanova was now in a bad mood. "We can at least give it a try."

"Brother Casanova, could I take part in this attempt?" Tong Mi'er walked out, seemingly with high expectations.

Casanova shook his head. "You don't make the cut. Even though you've comprehended a domain, you've barely grasped it. If you can't even protect yourself, there's no need to mention you trying to help us."

"Then what about me?" Lu Yin walked out and looked at Casanova.

Many were flabbergasted. Although they were amazed by Lu Yin's fighting strength, they did not know how his lockbreaking ability compared.

Tong Mi'er sneered. "Brother, you're just a two star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. Your level's far too low, so just step aside and watch."

Casanova looked at Lu Yin with some interest. "A two star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker isn't good enough."

Lu Yin took another step out. "One's ability is not just their registered information, but also what one can actually do. You can test me."

Casanova shook his head. "There's no need to test you. You've only recently comprehended a domain as well. If it was Dao Bo, then I would not have been able to step that close to that beautiful lady. Your domain, comparatively speaking, is not much better than that of the person before."

Lu Yin raised his hand and brought out the Giant Emperor's third eye. "And with this?"

Many cried out at the sight of the lockbreaking tool, and even Casanova was shocked. "You actually have a lockbreaking tool!"

Lu Yin nodded. "A lockbreaking tool as well as a domain. I can see what many others can't."

Dao Bo looked at Casanova. "I can vouch for Lu Yin's abilities."

Casanova nodded. "Alright, you can join, but don't be a burden. I'll warn you now: I'm not responsible for saving you. You better go and lick Master Jun's boots so that he'll watch over you."

Lu Yin smiled. Although his lockbreaking experience was lacking, he was confident that he was not inferior to Casanova in any way. This was because he could see star energy much more clearly due to the combination of his Cosmic Art, domain, and lockbreaking tool. Out of everyone present, even

Master Jun, Lu Yin was confident that no one could perceive the star energy more clearly than him. It would not be a problem for him to keep himself safe.

If it weren't for the fact that he did not understand the tree-shaped sourcebox, he would have already made a move.

Tong Mi'er was not satisfied with this outcome, and he hatefully glared at Lu Yin. He wanted to see just how this person was more qualified than him. Although a lockbreaking tool was important, its efficacy depended greatly on who possessed it.

"Hold up, two-legged beasts. Lord Fish realized it just now, but is that the toy that you want to deal with?" The fish atop Xi Qi's head raised its fin and pointed at the tree-shaped sourcebox.

Casanova could not even be bothered to respond to the fish.

Xi Qi replied, "Yes, help us by looking."

The fish disdainfully answered, "There's nothing to look at! There's no use. The few of you won't be able to succeed. Leave quickly!"

"Why?" Xi Qi asked.

The rest looked at the fish as well.

Its beady eyes swiveled around, and it seriously replied, "Because this sourcebox has preserved the strength of the predecessors. Once it's unlocked, a calamity will befall this place."

Many people were stunned by its words, and Casanova's brow furrowed as well. Only a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker could go against the strength of the predecessors, as that was not something that a typical person could deal with.

In the sky, Master Jun frowned. The fish's claims shouldn't be the case, since if this sourcebox truly carried the strength of the predecessors, then the Lockbreaker Society would not have allowed it to be a training experience for the younger generation. Yet he had also heard that this fish could see things that normal people could not.

"Seventh Bro, it's fake! I dare to claim that this despicable fish is lying! It's intentions must be to unlock this thing itself after we leave," the Ghost Monkey said with absolute certainty.

Lu Yin looked at the fish and then at everyone's solemn expressions. He then said, "This sourcebox should not contain the strength of the predecessors, or else the Lockbreaker Society would not have encouraged us to come here and unlock it. They must have sent Boundless Advanced Lockbreakers here before us."

His words received much approval.

The fish, however, became infuriated. "This two-legged beast! Don't lie through your teeth! Would Lord Fish ever hurt you? Let me tell you something. This tree was planted by the predecessors, and it has naturally preserved their strength. What do you know, you fool?"

Lu Yin did not bother with the fish, and instead looked at Casanova. "We can contact some seniors in the society and ask them about this matter."

Casanova nodded and was about to move.

The fish was unhappy. "Go ahead if you guys want to die. A bunch of idiotic two-legged beasts. Go, go, go on!"

Everyone felt strange; the fish was clearly trying to frighten them.

Xi Qi immediately apologized.

Casanova ruthlessly glared at the fish, but then he stepped into the sourcebox's danger zone. Dao Bo and Lu Yin closely followed behind him as Xi Qi tried to pacify the fish. Then, she also stepped within the sourcebox's area.

The fish angrily glared at Lu Yin, as it loathed this two-legged beast. There was a detestable aura on the human's body, and his mouth was repulsive as well.

The four Lockbreakers activated their gadgets to record their attempt as they stepped into the area, ready to begin their lockbreaking attempt. Their expressions turned serious, and the fish even stopped talking as it began to desperately scan around itself.

"Everyone, approach the sourcebox with your own abilities, but listen to my commands," Casanova said solemnly. He took the lead and began making his way towards the sourcebox. He walked steadily, and his path was practically a straight line.

Dao Bo stayed rather close to Casanova as he also slowly made his way forward.

Xi Qi's expression was more solemn, and her demeanor changed. Her mien became completely different from before. The fish no longer spouted curses, and it instead started whispering in her ear as it steadily guided her forward.

Lu Yin revolved his Cosmic Art and looked at the trio ahead of him. He could see that Casanova was walking a straight path, but his tempo changed as he moved; sometimes, he went quickly, and at other times, slow. The experienced Lockbreaker was avoiding the capricious changes of the energy wave quite nicely, and he was very confident as he led the way.

Chapter 360: Lu Yin's Ability

Dao Bo had to take a more tortuous path, since his ability to sense star energy was clearly inferior to Casanova's. Dao Bo could perceive the energy wave when it was about three meters away from him, whereas Casanova could sense them from about five meters away and was thus able to alter his pace in advance.

But what really caught Lu Yin's attention was Xi Qi, as this girl was actually able to sense the waves earlier than Dao Bo and was at about the same level as Casanova. Her perception was likely due in large part to the fish's assistance.

When Casanova turned around to look at Lu Yin, he saw that Lu Yin was no longer waiting and that he was now making his way forward as well.

Tong Mi'er closely watched Lu Yin, hoping that he would become a dried corpse like so many others and would suffer a miserable fate of overestimating his own capabilities.

Tong Mi'er wasn't alone, as many others were also carefully watching Lu Yin. He was only a two star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker, and the disparity between him and the other three was simply too vast in their minds.

Fortunately, Lu Yin's performance seemed rather normal, but this did not mean much as a few of the Lockbreakers from before had moved at the same pace as Lu Yin, and some had gone even faster. The most critical stretch was the last hundred meters. That was where accidents were most likely to occur.

The four of them approached the tree-shaped sourcebox, and as they approached closer, the energy fluctuations became both more frequent and faster. Lu Yin could only vaguely make out the waves now, but he was not worried since he could still easily avoid them. Only the last ten meters required a more serious effort from him.

To the east, a smear of light appeared. The sun was rising, and it illuminated this side of the planet.

At this moment, Casanova had already drawn within a hundred meters of the tree-shaped sourcebox, and the two dried corpses nearby were very eye-catching and horrifying.

Even Casanova had to pay more attention at this time, since any single distraction could be fatal.

There was no definite safe road when it came to the path of lockbreaking, and even Boundless Advanced Lockbreakers could die during their lockbreaking attempts. This was the price that one had to pay as a Lockbreaker.

"The next part will depend entirely on your own ability. You can back out now if you're not confident. The closer we get, the more dangerous it'll become. Take care of yourselves," Casanova exhorted the other three once again before he stepped forward.

Dao Bo, Xi Qi, and Lu Yin did not hesitate and also stepped past the hundred meter point.

The moment they did so, the energy waves underwent a qualitative transformation. Lu Yin saw the image of a python twisting across the area, forcing him to occasionally dodge to the side. Dao Bo and Xi Qi seemed to have met a similar difficulty level as Lu Yin.

The onlookers could only see four people constantly shifting about, and it looked rather strange to them. Still, no one was bothered by their movements since this was a lockbreaking attempt and battling the unseen was a normal part of these attempts.

"That two-legged beast isn't bad. For him to reach this point is no simple matter." From atop Xi Qi's head, the fish looked at Lu Yin in amazement.

Xi Qi had a serious expression, and she spoke with a rather grudging tone. "Can you stop talking! I'm already friendless because of you."

"Bah! With Lord Fish here, why do you even need any friends? That's why you two-legged beasts are all maggots—you all have to live in social groups."

As Casanova stepped forward and evaded the erratic energy rushing at him from time to time, he also looked back at the others, especially Lu Yin. He knew how strong Dao Bo and Xi Qi's lockbreaking abilities were, but he was very curious about Lu Yin's. This person's fighting strength was shocking, but Casanova did not know how Lu Yin measured up as a Lockbreaker.

However, since Lu Yin had followed the three of them to this point, his ability to perceive the movement of star energy in advance must be pretty decent. It might even be possible that Lu Yin could rival Dao Bo.

Eighty, seventy, fifty... thirty meters.

The four gradually started slowing down, and at times, they even completely stopped, only moving forward once more after stretching out their senses.

No other Lockbreaker had reached where the four of them were currently at, so no one knew what would happen next. Master Jun had a serious expression on his face since it was possible that even he might not be able to rescue these youths if something happened at this junction. The Lockbreaker Society would definitely suffer a great loss if something happened to any one of these four young Lockbreakers.

Another hour passed, and the four of them were now within twenty meters of the tree-shaped sourcebox. They had taken half the night to reach this point, but all the progress they had made was only in approaching the sourcebox; they had not even started actually lockbreaking yet.

Dao Bo could not advance any further. His perception of star energy was heavily reliant on his domain, but the star energy ahead of him flowed in such a strange manner that he was no longer able to find a path to proceed along any further.

Xi Qi's face was pale, and the fish's eyes flitted about. "It's troublesome. Why are there so many?"

Casanova frowned and turned around.

Lu Yin squinted, as there were too many energy waves in this area. If they wanted to approach any closer, then someone would have to act as bait and draw out the flow of star energy, luring the powerful waves that almost completely permeated the space before them. Only in this manner could the others approach. This was also the reason why Casanova had looked for other people to cooperate with. Lu Yin looked towards Casanova, and coincidentally, Casanova looked at him as well, and they exchanged glances.

"Who here has the confidence to proceed?" Casanova asked as he carefully studied the other three.

Dao Bo looked up before looking at Xi Qi and Lu Yin. He then shook his head. "I'm not confident."

Xi Qi pursed her lips, but the fish spoke up for her. "Lord Fish is confident."

Casanova looked at Lu Yin. "What about you?"

Lu Yin nodded. "I'm also confident."

The fish was grumpy. "Two-legged beast, are you trying to pit yourself against Lord Fish!? You're by yourself, but you think that you can approach this thing? Dream on!"

“Seventh Bro, that fish is too despicable. Let’s throw it in a stew and cook it!” the Ghost Monkey shrieked.

Not too far away, Casanova gave Lu Yin a serious look. “Do you realize what you’re saying?”

Lu Yin smiled. “I do. I said, ‘I’m also confident.’”

Casanova’s eyes flickered. “Fine, then tell me right now which directions I can travel in.”

Lu Yin raised a finger and replied, “Three directions.” He then pointed out in three directions.

Atop Xi Qi’s head, the fish was shocked. “Damn! They’re all correct. This two-legged beast is very strange. Could there be a similar life-form to Lord Fish helping him? No, that’s impossible; Lord Fish is unique!”

Casanova also looked at Lu Yin in shock, as this person was much better than he had originally expected.

“Brother Lu and Xi Qi can continue on, so I’ll help everyone with what I can.” Dao Bo was smart, and he had already guessed what Casanova’s plans were. He raised a hand and caused the air to vibrate in a peculiar pattern, causing all the surrounding star energy to rush towards him. The movement triggered a chain reaction, and a majority of the energy waves in front of them were attracted towards Dao Bo, allowing Casanova, Lu Yin, and Xi Qi to charge forward.

Dao Bo had opened a path for them, but his help only allowed the trio to move forward another ten meters. At this point, the energy waves were no longer drawn towards Dao Bo since he was too far away.

Casanova looked at Lu Yin and Xi Qi.

“That two-legged beast, know your place and be the bait!” The fish arrogantly pointed a fin at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin did not have a chance to speak before the surrounding waves suddenly surged and enveloped the three of them.

Casanova’s eyes widened. Not good!

In the sky, Master Jun was similarly caught off guard. “Be careful!”

Lu Yin’s gaze trembled, but he merely shifted his head to the side, easily avoiding the wave as he effortlessly moved aside. He never shifted more than a meter from his original spot, but he was able to evade all of the energy waves that swept over him, escaping each one by a hair’s breadth.

His movements caused Casanova’s pupils to shrink. “Secret Sidestep?”

It wasn’t just Casanova; Master Jun, Xi Qi, Dao Bo, and everyone else watching from outside were all stunned. Tong Mi’er could only look on blankly. Someone who could use the Secret Sidestep had appeared in the Outerverse.

To a Lockbreaker, there were several important aids to their profession, such as a domain, lockbreaking tools, and the Secret Sidestep technique. Of the three aids, the Secret Sidestep technique held a

supreme position. Comprehending the movement technique would increase a Lockbreaker's abilities by a hundred-fold, or even a thousand-fold in some cases. Its worth to Lockbreakers was unimaginable for a normal person. Any Lockbreaker who knew the Secret Sidestep technique would become a great Lockbreaker in the future, as long as they didn't die.

No one could have guessed that the Secret Sidestep, which was something that not even Casanova had comprehended, would be displayed by a mere two star Discerning Elementary Lockbreaker. The shock caused by this reveal was no less than when one of the Distinguished Five had first appeared, and even Master Jun was stunned.

Xi Qi was also flabbergasted, and although fish atop her head opened its mouth, nothing vile came out. It knew full well what comprehending the Secret Sidestep indicated.

Lu Yin stopped moving and looked around before releasing a pent-up breath. He looked at Casanova. "This is troublesome. It looks like we'll need another person to act as bait."

Then, he and Casanova simultaneously looked at Xi Qi. There was no contest, as Xi Qi was the best candidate to be bait compared to Lu Yin, who could use the Secret Sidestep technique.

Left with no choice, Xi Qi replied, "Alright, I'll do it."

"Hold on, that two-legged beast has no grace! How could you let a feminine two-legged beast be the bait? After all, you're a masculine two-legged beast," the fish shouted as its tail flailed about.

Lu Yin's face darkened.

"Seventh Bro, that fish is too much! What feminine and masculine things, it's clearly male and female!" the monkey screamed. It seemed as if he wanted to fight the fish.

"Shut up!" Lu Yin barked.

Xi Qi hurried to apologize, "I'm sorry, really sorry. I'll be the bait!" She then stimulated the star energy, causing all the waves within twenty meters of them to speed towards her.

There was an unspoken rule among all Lockbreakers. In cases where they joined forces, whoever was weaker would act as bait when needed.

As the waves surged towards Xi Qi, the fish shrieked before hurriedly whispering in her ear. Xi Qi immediately started moving and retreated from the energy waves.

Casanova and Lu Yin rushed towards the tree-shaped sourcebox, and their speed was about the same. Casanova no longer looked down on Lu Yin, since his ability to use Secret Sidestep meant that Lu Yin could match and even possibly surpass the senior Lockbreaker's survival skills.

The two quickly moved another ten meters, and they were now only ten meters away from the tree-shaped sourcebox.

At this moment, neither one would give way for the other, so Casanova did not count on Lu Yin acting as bait to give him a better chance of unlocking this sourcebox. Now, everything was dependent on their individual abilities.

At a distance of ten meters, the energy waves were at their densest. Lu Yin could use Secret Sidestep and move even closer, but moving around was one thing while unlocking this sourcebox was something else entirely. Lu Yin held no confidence of achieving any success with this sourcebox.

The tree-shaped sourcebox could evidently only be unlocked by Perceptive Intermediate Lockbreakers, which was why Master Wusheng had advised Lu Yin to use this gathering to gain some experience. He had never expected that Lu Yin would not only be able to gain experience from observing more experienced Lockbreakers, but that he would even have the opportunity to come in contact with the target sourcebox.

Lu Yin looked at Casanova and hesitated for a moment. He wasn't certain if he should charge across the final distance.

At that moment, Casanova pulled out a pair of sunglasses from his cosmic ring, ones that seemed very flashy. He put them on, smiled, seemingly pleased with himself, and then charged in towards the tree-shaped sourcebox.

Lu Yin was stunned. Is that also a lockbreaking tool?

"Wah, what a flirty lockbreaking tool! Seventh Bro, your spotlight's been stolen! Hurry up and move!" the Ghost Monkey cried.

Lu Yin frowned, but he did not hesitate any longer. Since he had reached this stage, then could he really just watch on as Casanova attempted to unlock this sourcebox? Even if Casanova would share some of the rewards with him in the end, that was not what Lu Yin was aiming for.

Under everyone's gazes, one of the two youths put on a pair of sunglasses before walking towards the tree-shaped sourcebox in a dazzling manner. The other youth displayed the Secret Sidestep and moved forward like a fish swimming through the ocean as he also charged forward.

The two reached the tree-shaped sourcebox at almost the same time, and they even reached out to press against the tree-shaped sourcebox simultaneously.

Suddenly, a complicated world of star energy appeared before Lu Yin. The sealed energy made the tree-shaped sourcebox greatly surpass any sourcebox that he had encountered before. In just an instant, the sensory overload nearly knocked him unconscious.

"Don't force it. Sourceboxes of the Perceptive Intermediate level are completely different from those of the Discerning Elementary level. Given your experience, you probably won't be able to successfully unlock this one," Casanova said in a pleased manner.