STAR ODYSSEY 561

Chapter 561: Parallel Universe

Tyrial took Lu Yin to a place they could directly observe the five sealing planets, which also happened to be where he had previously requested Wen Sansi to evaluate his trial results. From here, one could go straight to Shenwu Continent.

Over the course of many years, many experts from Darkmist Weave had shed their blood there, which had reinforced the prestige of the five sealing planets.

While making their way up to the observation room, Lu Yin did not run into anyone from the Daynight clan besides one. It would seem that the clan members had been forbidden from approaching Lu Yin, and the only person he saw was Zhanlong Daynight. Lu Yin had not expected that this person would be at the space station.

Lu Yin quickly learned that the Daynight clan had occupied the eastern region of the Darkmist Weave as well as that Zhanlong Daynight did not follow Nightqueen Qiuyu. Instead, he had come here to the space station. It appeared that the distance between the Nightking bloodline and the ordinary members of the Daynight clan was rather vast. No matter how poorly Nightqueen Yanqing's performance may have been, she would still be kept beside Nightqueen Qiuyu.

Every time the two young men ran into each other, Zhanlong Daynight felt something new from Lu Yin. Their first meeting had been on Shenwu Continent. At that time, Zhanlong Daynight had believed that the difference between him and Lu Yin was not that large. His Daynight Restoration Technique had been suppressed by Lu Yin in the past, but the difference in their strengths had not been overwhelmingly disparate. The second time had been at the Tower of Resonating Light, where Lu Yin had easily defeated the Daynight genius. Their third encounter had been on Planet Pyrolyte, and there, Zhanlong Daynight had personally experienced the indescribable difference between the two of them.

Now, on the space station, Zhanlong Daynight was speechless. It seemed that Lu Yin had killed quite a few Enlighters.

No matter the methods that Lu Yin had employed, even if he relied on foreign objects, attaining an achievement still showed Lu Yin's ability. Zhanlong Daynight wanted to face him, not to attempt anything, but just to observe Lu Yin up close so that he could find out if this freak had grown stronger once again.

The results made him relax slightly, because Lu Yin's aura had not changed too greatly, and it was about the same as before. This proved that the two's personal strengths had not changed much since last time, so Zhanlong Daynight felt that there was still a trace of a chance to catch up.

The two brushed past each other, but Zhanlong Daynight did not speak. Lu Yin did not say anything either. As they passed each other, it would seem that they had had no interactions.

As he looked at the five sealing planets, Lu Yin's expression turned to shock when his eyes saw the boundless rune lines. These rune lines far surpassed anything that he had ever seen on an Enlighter. He estimated that these rune lines represented a power level close to 300,000. It was no wonder why these five planets were able to block an Enlighter's attacks.

However, how had Wen Sansi managed to penetrate past the five sealing planets to affect Shenwu Continent with just his strength? Lu Yin could not understand this. He had originally thought that the five sealing planets would not be able to stop Wen Sansi, but now, he realized that they were definitely strong enough to do so. Despite that, Wen Sansi had still possessed his own methods that allowed him to influence Shenwu Continent. This demonstrated the might of the Ten Arbiters.

"Is this the place that was chosen as the Outerverse's last training ground?" Wendy Yushan studied the five sealing planets up and down.

Lu Yin nodded. "That's right. It's stunning, isn't it? One mainland is able to withstand an entire weave, and not even the Innerverse's powers can do anything."

Wendy Yushan nodded. "Very amazing."

"I'm very curious about something. What's the issue with this isolated space?" Lu Yin asked.

Tyrial replied, "The so-called 'strange space' is equivalent to a parallel universe."

"Parallel universe?" Lu Yin did not understand.

Tyrial continued, "According to some studies, all spaces that do not belong to this universe are known as a parallel universe. If you imagine our universe as an endless horizontal line, then a parallel universe would be another parallel line. There are no intersections between the two, but occasionally, because of some strange happenstance, a crossover occurs. This Shenwu Continent appeared because an Enlighter from there tore through the void, which caused it to intersect with our own universe."

"Is senior saying that there are many parallel universes?" Lu Yin was astounded.

Tyrial replied, "That, I'm not sure of."

"Shouldn't a parallel universe be identical to our universe? Perhaps there's a time difference," Wendy Yushan commented.

Tyrial shrugged. "There are many theories, but none have been proven to be completely accurate so far. However, it's impossible to have a completely identical universe like you mentioned. At best, there will only be a fixed region that is identical."

"Please elaborate, senior," Lu Yin requested respectfully.

Tyrial continued his explanation, saying, "For instance, if your Great Yu Empire's Zenyu Star exists in a parallel universe, then there might also be an identical Zenyu Star in that parallel universe. However, there won't be a completely identical Frostwave Weave. The scope of Zenyu Star in the context of a parallel universe is small. It might also include some surrounding planets, or perhaps even a filament. However, never an entire region of the universe. The people on that parallel Zenyu Star would not be able to explore the universe unless they managed to tear through the void and come to our universe."

"That means that, if destiny allows it, if we tore through to that space, so long as that space exists within the parallel universe, we could see another Zenyu Star with copies of ourselves?" Lu Yin was shocked.

Tyrial nodded. "Another Zenyu Star would appear, but the people there would not be replicated. This is because no parallel universe can copy the entire universe. Hence, people who were originally from distant places of the universe would not appear on the parallel Zenyu Star."

Lu Yin understood. This theory meant that only certain areas could exist in parallel universes, but it would be somewhat caged. If those in that parallel universe wanted to leave, then their only option was to tear through the void and come to their universe.

Truthfully, Lu Yin did not believe in such a theory himself, and he felt that Tyrial was talking nonsense. If there truly existed a parallel universe, then there could be an identical universe with himself, Wendy Yushan, Ten Arbiters, and everyone else. How could there only be a planet in the parallel universe? That was no different from a cage!

"Perhaps something identical exists in that region of the parallel universe, or perhaps it's different. For example, in this universe, the region where Shenwu Continent lies was originally just a band of meteorites. It is tantamount to saying that the Enlighter on that mainland pulled Shenwu Continent out from that parallel space," Tyrial explained.

Lu Yin suddenly asked, "How is senior so certain that our universe is not the parallel universe? Perhaps, to the true universe, our universe is only a small region."

Tyrial laughed. "That's impossible, as our universe is too big. It's practically limitless."

"If the people in the parallel universe tear through the void, then would they come to our universe?" Wendy Yushan asked.

Tyrial muttered, "Perhaps, perhaps not. Nobody knows how many parallel universes there might be. There could be countless numbers, where some include surrounding planets in a very small scope while others may include a filament or even a weave. No one can be sure."

...

Tyrial talked for quite some time, and his comments managed to pique Lu Yin's interest in the so-called "parallel universe theory." He was thinking about, if a parallel universe truly existed, then would there be someone identical to him? If a parallel universe was big enough, then would his copy's life be the same as what he had experienced in this universe? Such as losing his memory, going to Earth, participating in Astral-10's trial, and so on?

Unfortunately, the concept of parallel universes was not precise, and there were at least 10,000 different theories. Countless researchers had studied parallel universes, but no one had been able to come up with a solid theory.

It was still too early for humans to study the universe.

"Right, senior, has anyone from Shenwu Continent left the sealed space?" Lu Yin suddenly enquired.

Tyrial replied, "Of course. We've captured quite a few people from Shenwu Continent throughout all these years, but they aren't very valuable. We already have quite an accurate understanding of how things on Shenwu Continent operate."

"Did Reverent King Ming Zhaoshu send out someone to discuss the details of cooperation?"

Tyrial's eyes flickered and he muttered, "There is, but that person was taken away by the Daynight clan, so no one can meet him."

"Who was it?" Lu Yin was curious.

"Someone called Tang Si."

Lu Yin's eyes lit up. "Take me to him."

Tyrial smiled bitterly. "Student Lu, Tang Si has been taken away by the Daynight clan, so we can't meet him."

"It's fine. Take me to the Daynight clan members," Lu Yin said.

Wendy Yushan glanced at him.

Tyrial's face revealed his troubled thoughts, but he still nodded. If Lu Yin was just a normal Limiteer, then the commander of the space station would not even have met with him. If some other Limiteer spoke to him in the same manner as Lu Yin, then Tyrial would be happy to slap the idiot to death. However, Lu Yin was someone who had killed Enlighters, and Tyrial did not wish to offend such a ruthless person.

Although the space station was large, Tyrial was able to tear through the void. Before long, he brought Lu Yin and Wendy Yushan to the Daynight clan's section of the space station. Coincidentally, Zhanlong Daynight returned at the same time and bumped into Lu Yin again. He wondered what Lu Yin was doing in their section of the space station.

"Please inform Madam Meilan that Tyrial has brought Lu Yin and Wendy Yushan for a visit," Tyrial spoke courteously to the Daynight guard.

The Daynight member was arrogant, and although he was only a Limiteer, he haughtily replied, "Wait here."

Tyrial was not angry, as he was only a Hunter from Darkmist Weave's Nine Allied Nations. He had no right to act superior when speaking to a Daynight clan member.

Lu Yin looked around, and through his transformed eyes, he was able to see at least three Hunters inside the Daynight clan's section of the space station. They certainly lived up to their reputation as one of the universe's most powerful clans. They were able to casually send out three Hunters on an errand, while the Great Yu Empire only had three Hunters in total.

After a long while, that gatekeeper returned. "The madam is resting at the moment. You can return in a few hours."

Tyrial was now placed in a difficult position.

Lu Yin frowned and then kicked out with a leg, sending the Daynight guard flying back into the interior doors. Another guard grew furious. "How foolhardy!"

Lu Yin casually slapped out and knocked the second guard unconscious. Then, he stepped forward into the Daynight clan's section of the space station.

Tyrial's eyes flickered. Lu Yin was indeed confident, and he had instantly taken action.

Lu Yin had come to this place to check on Shenwu Continent's situations, and he had made his preparations long ago. His next objective during this visit was to reveal his power. He knew that the more cautious he behaved, the more people would try to make trouble for him. He had to display the attitude of an Enlighter in order to cause those Enlighters who were secretly coveting Wendy Yushan to become apprehensive.

Otherwise, there would only be unending troubles headed his way.

An alarm rang, and many Daynight clan members appeared and surrounded Lu Yin and the other two.

Tyrial stepped forward to explain the situation, but Wendy Yushan had already unsheathed her sword. Sword qi swept through the room, and a Cruiser moved forward from the crowd of Daynight clan members to block the attack, but both of his arms were torn apart. Fresh blood stained the floor red, and the surrounding Daynight clan members suddenly didn't dare to cause a ruckus.

Wendy Yushan's strength was enough for her to crush a normal Cruiser.

Zhanlong Daynight immediately stepped forward. "Lu Yin, what do you guys want?"

Lu Yin glanced at the young man. "I want to see Tang Si."

Zhanlong Daynight frowned. "Don't cause trouble. Elder Qiuyu is about to arrive."

Lu Yin's brows knitted; Nightqueen Qiuyu was coming? He glanced at Tyrial and saw the Hunter's face turn to an unnatural state. Lu Yin immediately understood. He had forgotten that Tyrial was someone from the Darkmist Weave, and they were one of the predators that had originally coveted Shenwu Continent. He was not a good person. During the entire time they had been together talking, not once had Tyrial mentioned that Nightqueen Qiuyu was on her way. He probably wanted to see how Lu Yin would deal with an Enlighter!

Chapter 562: Act

It was no wonder why Tyrial had discussed the parallel universe theory with Lu Yin so patiently earlier. Lu Yin had thought that it was somewhat strange, as this person had been far too patient with him. It turned out that the Hunter had merely been stalling for time.

Tyrial feigned ignorance. "What? Elder Qiuyu is on her way?"

He then quickly turned to Lu Yin. "Student Lu, an Enlighter's coming! I think that you guys should leave soon."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed as he filled them with star energy to observe rune lines. He could see that three Hunters had already arrived, but they had all hidden themselves. If he retreated at this time, then Nightqueen Qiuyu would definitely stir up trouble in the Great Yu Empire.

"Go? Go where? If Nightqueen Qiuyu is coming, then so be it," Lu Yin replied indifferently.

Tyrial's heart raced, as Lu Yin was even more confident than what he had expected. The Nightking clan's Enlighters were not comparable to an average Enlighter, and yet this youth still remained fearless.

Clap clap clap!

Applause suddenly rang out, and everyone looked over.

A beautiful, middle-aged lady slowly stepped out and smiled at Lu Yin. "It's no wonder why you're the strongest Limiteer in the universe. You have spirit."

Around them, the Daynight clan members all bowed in unison. "Madam."

Tyrial moved forward to explain. "Madam Meilan, I'm sorry to bother you. Student Lu was only emotional at this time. He didn't mean anything by his words."

The middle-aged beauty was none other than Madam Meilan, otherwise known as Meilan Daynight. She was a Hunter with a power level of 160,000, which also meant that she was the strongest Hunter in the space station.

Madam Meilan looked at Lu Yin appreciatively, completely ignoring Tyrial. "Student Lu, I've been looking forward to meeting you. I am Meilan Daynight."

Lu Yin nodded. "Has madam rested well?"

She smiled coyly. "You're young, and you don't have a small temper either. Student Lu, despite everything, I'm your senior and also a woman." She approached Lu Yin, and her scent flooded his nostrils.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. "Madam, I suggest that you don't approach me, as I don't know what I might do."

The surrounding Daynight clan members heard Lu Yin's words and became furious.

Madam Meilan stopped in front of him and raised a hand, indicating for them to hold their wrath back. She looked at Lu Yin with interest. "Is Student Lu looking for me for a particular reason?"

Lu Yin turned to look in one direction. "I want to meet Tang Si."

"Is there some enmity between Tang Si and Student Lu? I had forgotten earlier, but Student Lu participated in the Outerverse's trial and visited Shenwu Continent then," Madam Meilan said calmly, though the shock she was experiencing in her heart was very intense. The direction that Lu Yin had looked in was exactly where Tang Si was. How could he know? It could not be a coincidence.

At this moment, the mysteriousness of Lu Yin had intensified in Meilan Daynight's mind. It was no wonder why this youth had been able to kill an Enlighter, as he possessed truly extraordinary methods.

"You don't need to worry about the reason—just let me see him. Rest assured, I won't harm him," Lu Yin responded indifferently.

Meilan Daynight muttered to herself before replying, "Alright, we must give Student Lu some face." After that, she had the various Daynight clan members who were surrounding Lu Yin back off and ordered someone bring Tang Si over.

Hidden in the darkness were two other Hunters that continued to stare at Lu Yin. Lu Yin looked at them. "Madam, I wish to speak to Tang Si alone, so I hope that no one will be watching us."

Madam Meilan smiled and had the other two Hunters back away as well. As for Tyrial, he similarly left. Lu Yin was disgusted with the commander of the space station by this point, but he did not express it. Since this person was overseeing the space station, then it was possible that he could still be of use in the future.

Tang Si came out. He first saw the beautiful and heroic looking Wendy Yushan and was astounded by her beauty as well as her imposing manner. After that, he looked at Lu Yin. He had been wearing his universal armor when he entered the space station, and only now did he remove it.

Tang Si was astounded. "You- you're Lu Seven?"

Wendy Yushan's brows lifted up and looked at Lu Yin strangely. Lu Seven?

Lu Yin looked at Tang Si. "It's been a while."

Tang Si's expression was complex, as he had not thought that he would see Lu Yin here. Before, at the Tower of Resonating Light, this person had tossed Zhanlong Daynight to him before leaving, but that had been two years ago!

"You're from the Daynight clan?" Tang Si was amazed.

Lu Yin shook his head. "You already know my identity, so there's no need to question me."

"Why did the Daynight clan allow me to see you? If you're not with them, then there's no reason for them to allow us to meet." Tang Si was puzzled.

Lu Yin's lips curled up. "It wasn't up to them. If I wanted to meet you, then we'll meet."

Tang Si's eyes flashed as he sized Lu Yin up and down. After two years, despite the fact that Lu Yin was still a Limiteer, his strength had undergone a complete transformation, but unfortunately, Tang Si was not at a level where he could perceive such a change.

"You should know about the agreement that I established with the Reverent King, and I've sought you out to verify some things. Is the agreement still active? Also, now that he has gained outside assistance in the form of the Daynight clan, has the Reverent King forgotten about me?" Lu Yin stared at Tang Si and carefully enunciated every word.

Tang Si quietly answered, "My lord has not forgotten about you. You were given a decade to fulfill the agreement, and that promise has only been made with you."

Lu Yin's gaze softened. "How's the situation on Shenwu Continent?"

Tang Si did not conceal anything, and his reply repeated what Lu Yin had heard from Zhanlong Daynight.

"How is she doing?" Lu Yin looked around before asking softly, his tone becoming complex as he spoke.

Tang Si softly replied, "Good, but quite a bit skinnier."

Over the last two years, the two had not had a single chance to see each other, and Lu Yin was not entirely confident that Ming Yan still carried the same feelings that she once had. Although a lady from a conservative ancient society was unlikely to be unfaithful, time had passed, and there would likely be even longer periods of absence in the future.

This was why Lu Yin had been apprehensive when he asked about her. He had been afraid that he would not hear the answer he wanted.

Lu Yin fell silent.

Wendy Yushan stared at him with a puzzled face.

After a while, Lu Yin spoke out quietly again. "Help me tell the Reverent King that I hope that he will not forget our agreement of ten years. I can promise that it will not take all ten years. It will be no more than five years before I can allow Shenwu Continent to step into the universe. I hope that the scene I don't wish to see won't occur."

Tang Si agreed to Lu Yin's request.

"Also, don't place too much hope in the Daynight clan. The Innerverse and Outerverse have been separated, so the Innerverse can no longer intervene. As long as Shenwu Continent relies on the five sealing planets, it won't be difficult for it to defend itself," Lu Yin commented.

Tang Si was astonished. "The Innerverse and Outerverse are isolated from each other?"

"You didn't know?" Lu Yin was stunned.

Tang Si shook his head. "No, when did this happen?"

"It was a while ago," Lu Yin replied.

Tang Si's eyes flickered, and nobody could tell what he was thinking.

Lu Yin frowned. These people had deliberately kept Tang Si in the dark, and they had used the Innerverse's power to coerce a cooperative relationship from Ming Zhaoshu. Now that Tang Si knew that the Innerverse and Outerverse were cut off from each other, would the Daynight clan still allow him to leave?

After considering this, Lu Yin immediately summoned Tyrial. "Senior, please send Tang Si back to Shenwu Continent."

Tyrial was placed in a difficult position. "Student Lu, that's not acceptable. Nightqueen Qiuyu specifically said she wanted to meet with him, and if I let him go-"

Lu Yin cut him off. "I will take all responsibility for what happens next."

Tyrial still refused to comply.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed and turned cold. He suddenly put his universal armor back on and pointed the gun at Tyrial's forehead. "Senior, I don't want to force you, but I hope that you can send him back to Shenwu Continent and guarantee his safety. Otherwise, your brain's going to disappear."

Tyrial was overwhelmed. He felt a fatal danger coming from the gun pointed at his head. The feeling of having someone else firmly hold his life and death in their hands made him feel very desperate. Ever since he had broken through to the Hunter realm, he had only felt like this against an Enlighter.

At this moment, he realized how Lu Yin had killed the Enlighters.

Since Topmist had also been aware of the gun, Lu Yin no longer intended to conceal its existence, especially since he no longer had any need to. The power of his gun was not fixed, and he could upgrade it so long as he had enough funds. He decided that, when he returned to Zenyu Star, he would ask Madam Nalan for some more funds and then upgrade the gun several more times.

Additionally, the Yu Secret Art perfectly complemented the gun's abilities. As long as an Enlighter was not foolish, they would not casually challenge Lu Yin. His goal during this visit was to showcase his dominance.

Tyrial was cowed by Lu Yin, so he sent Tang Si back to Shenwu Continent.

Meilan Daynight and the few other Hunters appeared with the intention of stopping him, but after Lu Yin blew one of the Hunters' heads off, no one dared to move.

The bullet had been fired away from the Hunter, but it had been redirected by Wendy Yushan with the Yu Secret Art straight through the Hunter's skull.

This event shocked everyone.

Although Lu Yin felt it was a pity to waste one of his bullets on a Hunter, this shot had been necessary. Otherwise, he would have been surrounded by the Hunters.

Meilan Daynight stared at Lu Yin. "Student Lu, Nightqueen Qiuyu wishes to meet with Mister Tang Si. Our Daynight clan has a collaborative agreement that we need to discuss with the Reverent King, so we'll naturally let our guest take his leave after the meeting. There's no need to rush things."

"I don't like wasting my breath. Either send him to Shenwu Continent's Reverent King's Residence, or..." Lu Yin pointed the gun at Tyrial. "You're next. Choose."

Tyrial's face went pale. "Student Lu, I'll send him over right now."

Lu Yin smiled. "Don't try tricks. I have my own ways of knowing whether or not he gets to the Reverent King's estate safely."

Tyrial's expression changed, and he nodded. He looked at Madam Meilan and the others and then raised his hand to tear apart the void to send Tang Si back.

Lu Yin was very familiar with this scene, as this was what he had seen when he had been sent to Shenwu Continent himself. He still remembered facing Ming Zhaotian's attack while traveling to the continent.

However, at this time, Ming Zhaotian didn't have the luxury of supervising the five sealing planets as he was currently preoccupied with Ming Zhaoshu.

"You really have a way to know if he makes it back to the Reverent King's Estate safely?" Wendy Yushan raised her doubts.

Lu Yin laughed. "Of course not."

"Then aren't you afraid that they'll send him to Ming Zhaotian instead of the Reverent King?" She was puzzled.

Lu Yin calmly replied, "It doesn't matter where he's sent. The important thing is that he will let the entire Shenwu Continent know that the Outerverse and Innerverse have been cut off from each other. Whether he tells this to Ming Zhaotian or Ming Zhaoshu, it will still be beneficial to me. Once either party gets a hold of this news, they'll spread the news throughout the continent as a way of boosting the native people's morale. As long as he survives the trip to the continent, I'll have succeeded."

Wendy Yushan nodded and didn't speak any further.

Lu Yin had left out a detail. It would be alright even if Tang Si didn't survive the journey to the continent. This was because the rune lines that he had seen on the five sealing planets represented a power that could not be breached even by an Enlighter with a power level of 200,000. Shenwu Continent was very safe for now.

Lu Yin was wishing for Shenwu Continent's safety so that he would have ample time.

After Tang Si was sent off, Lu Yin lowered his gun, and Tyrial hurriedly backed away. He stared at Lu Yin, both apprehensive and furious at how he had just been treated.

Lu Yin felt helpless. "My apologies, Senior."

Tyrial looked at Lu Yin. After a moment, he grudgingly said, "The young will always surpass the old."

Chapter 563: Wildness

Lu Yin shifted his attention towards the people from the Daynight clan who were surrounding him. Every single last one of them was furious, as if they wanted to do nothing more than swallow him whole. There was only one exception, and that person was Madam Meilan. The middle-aged beauty did not have a hint of anger in her eyes. Instead, it seemed to be curiosity.

Lu Yin was not bothered by the attitude of the people around him, and he simply had no time to bother with them. There were a boundless amount of rune lines sweeping down from the darkness of outer space at this moment. The Enlighters were starting to arrive.

Shenwu Continent's space station shook, and everyone was affected by the arrival of the Enlighters. It was the kind of oppressive feeling that made those affected by it not even have the will to rebel. Many people from the Daynight clan rejoiced. "It's the Elder! The Elder's here!"

Madam Meilan's expression changed, and her eyes suddenly held the same emotions as the other members of the Daynight clan towards Lu Yin: hatred and contempt.

If Lu Yin had been paying attention to her, then he would have been shocked to discover how quickly this woman's attitude had changed.

As the jolt hit the entire space station, even the five sealing planets protecting Shenwu Continent trembled slightly. It then started to rain from inside the space station. Nightqueen Qiuyu had appeared. Her expression was as cold as ice.

Lu Yin's expression changed at this moment. He immediately raised his arm to fire his gun. The next instant, Wendy Yushan waved her left hand and activated the Yu Secret Art. The bullet pierced through the rain and missed Nightqueen Qiuyu's neck by mere centimeters before disappearing into the depths of outer space.

All of a sudden, the rain stopped, and silence fell over the space station. Everyone who had just witnessed the scene was stunned.

Lu Yin stood in front of Wendy Yushan and stared intently at the old woman, Nightqueen Qiuyu. The elder towered high above the space station in the vacuum of space.

Nightqueen Qiuyu angrily glared at Lu Yin, and her aura distorted the sky. "Young one, you dare to attack me?"

Lu Yin kept his head high. "Senior, launching sneak attacks is not a style becoming of an Enlighter."

Nightqueen Qiuyu was shocked. "How did you know that I was the one who launched that sneak attack, young one?"

Lu Yin's expression turned cold. Of course he had not actually seen Nightqueen Qiuyu attack. Instead, he had simply observed the rune lines. When the rain had started falling within the space station, he had seen rune lines fill up the entire place, representing the effect that the attack had on the universe. The rune lines had shown him Nightqueen Qiuyu's power, as the rainfall itself was enough to overpower Wendy Yushan.

If Wendy Yushan became injured to the point where she was unable to perform the Yu Secret Art, then Lu Yin would be essentially handicapped.

"Greetings Elder!" The Daynight clan people spoke in unison as they bowed to Nightqueen Qiuyu.

Nightqueen Qiuyu snorted in acknowledgement. She then walked into the space station and looked at Lu Yin with curiosity. "Young one, your armor appears to have quite the impressive defensive abilities. Where did you acquire it?"

"I'm under no obligation to answer your questions. But let me remind you of something, elder: do not try to sneak attack me. If you try anything like that again, then this gun of mine will not show you any mercy," Lu Yin said threateningly.

Nightqueen Qiuyu sneered. "Threatening me with a mere gun—what a joke! Even if you use that secret technique to change the bullet's trajectory, you still will not be able to hurt me."

"Oh really? There are more than a hundred attacks left in this gun. If I fire a dozen all at once, one or two shots are bound to hit you after being redirected by the secret technique. How many attacks would you be able to withstand, Elder?" Lu Yin retorted, not to be outdone.

Nightqueen Qiuyu's gaze turned icy cold, and she glared at Lu Yin. She had already felt the might of the gun's attack, and she had realized that its attacks had a power level of over 250,000. If she were struck by something like that, then she was guaranteed to be severely injured. If she was struck in the head, then she might even die. It was no wonder why this child had been able to kill both Karthika and Lei Long.

The gun was not the most terrifying aspect of Lu Yin's attacks. The most worrying part was Wendy Yushan's secret technique that could divert the bullets. It almost guaranteed that an attack would hit its intended target, and that was what was most scary about this youth.

Star energy shot up into the sky from the surface of Wendy Yushan's body. The energy then morphed into a powerful force as the young woman stared intently at Nightqueen Qiuyu.

Meilan Daynight and the others moved to surround Lu Yin and Wendy. The situation was about to escalate at any moment.

Lu Yin's face showed his determination, and he pointed the gun in a random direction, causing everyone who was watching him to freeze in terror.

Tyrial rushed to smooth things over, and he respectfully offered up an apology.

A member of the Daynight clan walked over to Nightqueen Qiuyu and whispered something. After Nightqueen Qiuyu heard what was said, she looked at Lu Yin and asked, "Young one, what did you tell the person from Shenwu Continent?"

Lu Yin had no reason to lie. "I told him that the Outerverse has been cut off."

Nightqueen Qiuyu flew into a rage. "Young one, Shenwu Continent has nothing to do with you! You dare to meddle in the affairs of the Daynight clan!?"

"Elder, what you say is wrong. Shenwu Continent has nothing to do with the Daynight clan either. This matter concerns those from Darkmist Weave. What sort of respect are you showing those powers from Darkmist Weave by making such a claim? Are you giving Elder Tyrial any face with those kinds of comments?" Lu Yin asked, deliberately sowing discord.

Tyrial's face suddenly changed. This matter had nothing to do with him! He was innocent and did not have the courage to interfere in anything. He quickly tried to laugh off Lu Yin's words to Nightqueen Qiuyu by saying, "Elder Qiuyu, Lu Yin participated in a trial on Shenwu Continent in the past. He must have mentioned the matter in passing to a man he met during his time on the continent. He was not deliberately trying to foil your Daynight clan's plans."

"If it wasn't deliberate, then why did he force you to send that man back to Shenwu Continent?" a man from the Daynight clan suddenly yelled. This man was a powerful Hunter, and he had seen for himself how Lu Yin had caused one of his clan member's heads to explode with a single shot from that gun. The Hunter hated Lu Yin to his core.

Tyrial explained, "That was out of fear that the man would be killed by all of you." After he was done speaking, he whirled to look in Lu Yin's direction. "Am I right, Student Lu?"

Lu Yin shrugged his shoulders. "Whatever you say."

Tyrial was left speechless. What kind of an attitude was this? The young punk was actually not afraid of an Enlighter at all!

Nightqueen Qiuyu felt seething hatred for Lu Yin, and her rage had reached the point where her teeth had even started chattering. However, due to her fear of Lu Yin's gun and Wendy Yushan's secret technique, she knew that attempting another sneak attack would be pointless. She was not entirely sure if one of her attacks would be able to eliminate this brat, and she was destined for trouble if Lu Yin got an opportunity to fire his gun. The secret technique took less than a second to activate, and she was not confident that she could dodge the bullet.

Each bullet that was fired from that gun carried a power level of over 250,000. Such a weapon was scary just to think about.

Madam Meilan walked over to Nightqueen Qiuyu and whispered something. Upon hearing what Meilan had to say, Nightqueen Qiuyu's expression became apprehensive. She let out a gasp and quickly activated her gadget to contact someone while the remaining Daynight clan members kept their wary gazes trained on Lu Yin.

Lu Yin did not lower his guard for even a moment. When confronting an Enlighter, any carelessness on his part might cause not only himself to be injured, but also Wendy Yushan. The fact that she possessed a secret technique might be enough to save her life, but that did not negate the possibility that she might become seriously injured.

After a while, Nightqueen Qiuyu dismissed the Daynight clan members. She stared at Lu Yin in a threatening manner and said, "Kid, do not be so wild in your actions. Not even the Ten Arbiters were as wild as you when they were just Limiteers."

Lu Yin's mouth twitched. "When the Ten Arbiters were Limiteers, were they able to kill Enlighters?"

Nightqueen Qiuyu became furious; this brat's arrogance was infuriating.

Madam Meilan rushed over and quietly said something, and only then did Nightqueen Qiuyu's anger dissipate. She quietly growled, "Kid, when it is time to depart, you should take your leave."

Lu Yin raised a brow. Even though he had not been able to hear what Madam Meilan had said to Nightqueen Qiuyu, he had a feeling that something big was about to happen.

Madam Meilan looked at Lu Yin with a smile on her face and said, "Student Lu, the Elder will not pursue your previous offences, but please leave. You are not welcome here."

Lu Yin cocked a brow and was about to speak, but before he could even open his mouth, the Ghost Monkey interjected. "Seventh Bro, leave! Even I can feel that something is wrong. If Enlighters are given enough time to prepare, then you won't be able to kill them. She doesn't have any way to kill you right now, but she still has her own ways of putting up a decent fight against you. Besides, there're also Hunters here. You've put up a brave front thus far, but there is no use in continuing this charade. Get out of here while you still can."

Lu Yin agreed with the monkey's assessment of the situation. Too many variables could spring up if he stayed around. "It seems that we're not welcome here. Since that's the case, we'll bid you all farewell."

Nightqueen Qiuyu did not even look at Lu Yin again, but she did allow him to leave.

Madam Meilan stared in astonishment as Lu Yin left.

Tyrial let out a sigh of relief, feeling lucky that a fight had not broken out. However, he still felt that it was a shame that Lu Yin hadn't been killed by Nightqueen Qiuyu. Lu Yin's intuition had been correct—Tyrial had indeed been stalling to give Nightqueen Qiuyu enough time to arrive at the space station. That had been his only goal while conversing with Lu Yin. The youth's terrifying talent as well as his status as the strongest Limiteer in the Universe had caused the Hunter to feel jealous.

It was an absolute shame that things had ended the way they had, but Lu Yin just had too many tricks up his sleeve.

After leaving Shenwu Continent's space station, both Wendy Yushan and Lu Yin took a separate spacecraft and started heading towards the Great Yu Empire. At this time, Lu Yin was finally able to heave a sigh of relief. No matter where he looked, there was no sign of a threatening number of rune lines.

Wendy Yushan called Lu Yin. "Is there someone whom you care about on Shenwu Continent? Who is it?" Lu Yin paused to think for a moment. "Someone I've agreed to spend my life with."

Wendy Yushan's eyes flickered. "A woman?"

"What a stupid question!" Lu Yin blurted out in spite of himself. He immediately regretted his words, and he hurried to apologize. "I'm sorry, Wendy. That comment wasn't meant for you."

Wendy Yushan casually replied, "It really was a stupid question. You were right." After she finished speaking, she ended the call.

Lu Yin stared hazily at his gadget. Anyone with a sliver of emotional quotient could sense that Wendy was angry. Was she upset because he had told her she asked a stupid question? He had already apologized, but she was still angry. Women could be so difficult at times.

When he looked behind at Shenwu Continent's space station, Lu Yin knew that his next trip to the continent would likely be a lengthy stay. He also knew that things would be much different when he returned, as he wanted to grasp the power to both determine his own destiny as well as Ming Yan's.

After making sure that Lu Yin had left, Nightqueen Qiuyu emerged from the void. She wanted to attack the five sealing planets before news of the Outerverse being isolated spread across the continent. This had been the reminder that Madam Meilan had whispered to her.

The five sealing planets had indeed stopped Enlighters before; however, that had been due to the seal being reinforced by Ming Zhaotian and the others. But now, Shenwu Continent was internally divided with Ming Zhaotian being restrained by Ming Zhaoshu. As long as Ming Zhaoshu was willing to work with the Daynight clan, then Ming Zhaotian would not dare to show up at the five sealing planets. This was their only chance, since if news that the Outerverse had been isolated was released, then Ming Zhaoshu would not want to cooperate with them any further.

"Are you saying that you sent that man to an isolated island outside of Shenwu Continent?" Nightqueen Qiuyu asked unsympathetically.

Behind her, Tyrial replied respectfully, "Yes, to an abandoned, isolated island. Getting back to Shenwu Continent from that island will take him at least three days."

"Three days." Nightqueen Qiuyu raised her head. This meant that she had to break through the five sealing planets within three days, or else new variables would enter the equation.

Soon after, the entirety of Shenwu Continent trembled. The five sealing planets were being attacked by Nightqueen Qiuyu.

Martial King Ming Zhaotian looked up with an agonized expression on his face. With one leap, he prepared to go to the five sealing planets. However, he was stopped by someone else.

"Ming Zhaoshu, if the five sealing planets are breached, then you will have no room for negotiation!" Ming Zhaotian cried out sharply.

From the void, Ming Zhaoshu's voice echoed out, despite the fact that he was very far away. His voice traveled all the way to the imperial capital. "There is no need for you to worry about such matters, my royal brother."

Atop the four peaks that surrounded the Imperial Capital, four Martial Sovereigns all acted at the same time to hold Ming Zhaoshu back. However, they were all pushed aside by Ming Zhaoshu's forcefield. This power was enough for Ming Zhaoshu to contend directly against Ming Zhaotian, much less some ordinary Martial Sovereign realm cultivators.

Chapter 564: Suppressing A Breakthrough

Ming Zhaoshu looked up at the five sealing planets. They were shuddering, and they had even started to break apart. It was just like when Wen Sansi had attacked in the past.

Far away, Ming Zhaoshu was also looking at the five sealing planets, but there was not a trace of worry in his eyes. Ever since he had obtained Ming Taizhong's inheritance, he had learned that no ordinary strength could breach the five sealing planets, not even an expert with a power level of over 200,000.

However, Tang Si had been taken out of Shenwu Continent, so why were the foreigners attacking the five sealing planets now? Had some mishap occurred?

No matter what, he could not allow Ming Zhaotian to stop the foreigners from assaulting the five sealing planets, which was mainly for show. He still wanted to obtain more bargaining chips and increase his value in their eyes.

At this time, Ming Zhaoshu had already forgotten about Lu Yin. To him, Lu Yin had been an investment, but that was all. It was possible that his investment would reap some benefits in the future, but definitely not any time soon.

Lu Yin did not know that Nightqueen Qiuyu was attacking the five sealing planets, but he could guess at what she would try to do. The Daynight clan was infamous for its tyrannical behavior, and it would always try to seize the initiative. As soon as Tang Si spread the news that the Innerverse and Outerverse had been separated, they would no longer hold the stronger position when it came to negotiating with

Ming Zhaoshu. Nightqueen Qiuyu had to break through the five sealing planets to maintain their advantage.

However, she would not be able to break through, and even another Enlighter helping would not allow her to breach the seal. The amount of rune lines that Lu Yin had seen from the five sealing planets was terrifying, but the amount also seemed like it could change.

For an entire day, Nightqueen Qiuyu continued to attack the seal, but she still could not breach it. Despite the fact that there was no one on the five planets obstructing her attacks, she still could not break the seal.

"Why is this happening? Some random continent from an isolated dimension in the Outerverse is able to block my attacks!" Nightqueen Qiuyu was in disbelief.

Within the space station, Tyrial found the scene even more unbearable. The various powers that coveted Shenwu Continent had originally assumed that their seal's defense could be broken, but at this moment, he realized how laughable their thoughts had been. Nightqueen Qiuyu was no average Enlighter. She was a genius from the Nightking Clan, and she was much stronger than any of the Enlighters from the Outerverse. However, even such a person had failed to break through the seal, so it would appear that there was not much point to them surrounding Shenwu Continent.

Finally, Nightqueen Qiuyu gave up on her attempt to breach the five sealing planets. They could only wait for Ming Zhaoshu to discover that the Outerverse had been isolated, which would lead to a new round of negotiations.

This frustrated Nightqueen Qiuyu a great deal. Ming Zhaoshu might only be a Cruiser, but his schemes ran extremely deep, and his patience was amazing. She felt very exhausted when negotiating with such a person.

It was all due to that bastard. If not for him, the ball would still be in her court.

When she thought about how Lu Yin and Wendy Yushan had teamed up, Nightqueen Qiuyu felt a great headache. The two of them together should be considered as equals to an Enlighter.

Darkmist Weave was adjacent to Frostwave Weave, so it didn't take long for Lu Yin and Wendy Yushan to return to Frostwave Weave's regions.

As soon as they returned, the two were discovered by the Great Yu Empire's troops, and their return was reported back to Zenyu Star.

The Imperial Cabinet was delighted, as there was a pile of matters and decisions awaiting Lu Yin's return.

"Are you saying that Puyu is worried about the Outerverse Youth Council potentially being suppressed?" Lu Yin asked.

At the other end of the call, Wendy Yushan replied in a crisp tone, "That's why he called for the meeting. Since the Ten Arbiters Council is trapped in the Innerverse, San Dios has lost its backers. Not even Darkstar Gorge which is behind Puyu can guarantee that the council will retain its previous authority. Only the Ten Arbiters are able to ensure that the authority remains with the younger generation; others cannot."

Lu Yin was helpless. "There's nothing that we can do about that. The current situation of the Outerverse depends on the Enlighters and the various weaves. The Enlighters who have kept themselves hidden will start to appear one after another, but even then, they won't be able to stand up to the powerful Enlighters from the Innerverse who are stuck in the Outerverse. The situation in the Outerverse is constantly changing, and it's already pretty decent that the Outerverse still continues to exist. Puyu is overthinking things."

"And you? You're also a part of San Dios," Wendy Yushan asked. She was hoping that San Dios wouldn't disappear. Otherwise, she never would have attended the meeting that Puyu had called. She was hoping to preserve the Outerverse Youth Council for the sake of the Ten Arbiters Council and White Knight.

Lu Yin straightforwardly answered, "I don't have a choice, either. These are all great powers, and no one can stop them."

Not long after, the two ended their call.

"Seventh Bro, I see you smiling very treacherously," the Ghost Monkey commented.

Lu Yin was indeed smiling, as San Dios would never disappear. Quite a few of the Enlighters who had been left stranded in the Outerverse had connections to the Ten Arbiters, such as Nightqueen Qiuyu, Wen Qichen, and Elder Viletree. These powerhouses would not allow the Outerverse Youth Council to disappear, as the existence of the Ten Arbiters Council was beneficial to the powers behind them.

Even if San Dios did lose its authority, it would continue to exist, and the Prairie Flame Continent would not greatly be affected either.

As long as the Outerverse Youth Council existed even if only in name, things would be fine. After all, the future still held many possibilities.

Lu Yin did not need to borrow the prestige of the Ten Arbiters Council to protect himself anymore, so he did not care if San Dios retained its authority. He only cared about the future: after the Innerverse and Outerverse returned to normal, what would he be able to do to San Dios then? What could San Dios's relationship with the Innerverse's Ten Arbiters Council help him do? He did not know all the answers, but there was at least one possibility.

It was a possibility of himself, or someone he arranged for, becoming a part of the Ten Arbiters. Even though it sounded laughable, it would be alright as long as there remained such a possibility.

Suddenly, Lu Yin's face distorted, and his face maintained the strange expression for a period of time before finally returning to normal.

"Seventh Bro, what happened?" the monkey asked in a strange voice.

Lu Yin softly answered, "I have a feeling that I can break through to become an Explorer."

"Then what are you waiting for? Go for it!" the monkey shrieked. "Seventh Bro, with your current power, as soon as you break through to the Explorer realm, things will be crazy! You might be able to rival the top thirty of the Top 100 Rankings! You'll be able to hold your own even against a Hunter! You won't have to act like you currently have to where you put on that tortoise shell whenever you face anybody."

Lu Yin was eager to break through, but he still couldn't quite yet. The difficulty of breaking through to the Melder realm was still fresh in his mind. There were several hurdles that had to be overcome during one's cultivation: Seeker, Melder, and Explorer. Becoming a Seeker was going from zero to something. The most difficult part of this stage was getting a formcast model and a battle technique. If one did not have that, then there was no need to start cultivating. Becoming a Melder was a transitional stage on one's cultivation journey. It was when one went from just starting to cultivate to truly cultivating. Becoming an Explorer was another fundamental change, as one's ordinary physical body would be transformed and adapted to better suit the universe.

Not a single one of these three hurdles was simple. Although Lu Yin had a formcast model and could attempt to break through to the Explorer realm, there was no top-tier powerhouse watching over him. He had an uneasy feeling that, if he tried to break through, he would fail.

This feeling had been present when he first felt the possibility of breaking through, and it hadn't dissipated since. Actually, it had grown even more distinct. He felt as if there was a vague strength that was preventing him from breaking through.

With some difficulty, he suppressed the feeling of breaking through and finally relaxed.

"Seventh Bro, why don't you break through? Do you want to continue along with being an unequaled Limiteer? That's a bit too excessive," the monkey ridiculed.

Lu Yin's expression sank. While he had managed to suppress his breakthrough this time, it would not be as easy to handle the next time. Since he had already suppressed his breakthrough twice, there would eventually come a time when he would be forced to attempt to break through.

In the Outerverse, only Enlighters had the strength to assist him in breaking through. But out of all of the Enlighters in the Outerverse, which one could he trust?

Lu Yin could not come up with an answer. Granny Chan? He could not trust her, and the others were no different.

Why couldn't he have broken through before the universe went through its great change? Lu Yin gazed into the far off into the depth of outer space with a helpless expression on his face.

Over the course of a month, Lu Yin reviewed the résumés of many geniuses and talented individuals that various places had recommended to join one of the four new ministries. Though there were definitely many outstanding talents among them, Lu Yin placed most of these people in Grandtop Weave's Lu Office of Defense or Lu Ministry of Administration. As for the Lu Ministry of Staff and Lu Ministry of Defense, not just anyone was able to enter those departments.

If the Great Yu Empire stabilized and no longer needed to expand outwards, then he would be able to adopt fair measures like examinations in order to select the most-qualified people to enter the four departments, but that was not possible at the moment. Not only did people joining the four departments need to be talented, but they also needed to have a sufficient background.

For example, there was a person called Rang Fen who had limited abilities, but he was the heir of the strongest clan in a certain filament of Grandtop Weave. That was the type of person that Lu Yin was

forced to recruit into the four ministries, as appointing them would mean that the filament would pledge allegiance to the Great Yu Empire and not require a military force to maintain control over.

This was reality. Such things were not beneficial for cultivators with humble backgrounds, but they were overall beneficial for the Great Yu Empire.

However, Lu Yin made a silent promise that one day, that he would give everyone an equal opportunity to be tested fairly.

During this month, Hai Qiqi also returned, depressed once again after not finding a way back into the Innerverse. Lu Yin attempted to console her again.

Her demeanor had improved from the time when the Innerverse and Outerverse had first been separated, but she still had not returned to her original, carefree self. Lu Yin didn't know what to do with her, and he even offered to take Hai Qiqi out sightseeing. However, she rejected his offer.

The girl had matured quite a bit.

Bard Weave was located due west of Darkmist Weave, and it was separated from Frostwave Weave by Darkmist and Woori weaves. It was also one of the weaves that was adjacent to the Astral River.

There was a family in Bard Weave that was known as the Lanxin family. They controlled ten filaments, and they were second only to the top power of Bard Weave, Evenground Palace.

At this time, the main planet of the Lanxin family had been bathed in blood. The slaughter was so excessive that even sunlight could not penetrate through the thick bloodmist that hung in the air. There was an elder who had been forced down onto both knees. He appeared to be both desperate and terrified as he stared at a desiccated corpse that was slowly approaching him. "Why? Why do you have to massacre us? Did our Lanxin family somehow offend you?"

This corpse was the same one that had emerged from the planet with the Neohuman Alliance stronghold, and its head was still draped with Progenitor Wushang's Hide, which made it look rather ridiculous. However, on this blood-colored planet, it appeared extremely horrifying.

The ground had been showered in blood as hundreds of millions from the Lanxin family had been slaughtered. Not a single one had been able to escape.

The kneeling elder was the strongest person from the Lanxin family. He was a peak Hunter, but he was powerless before this mummy.

The mummy raised a hand and pressed it against the elder's head.

The elder continued to mutter, "Why? Why do you need to massacre us? What wrong, what wrong did we do?"

"Ancient bloodline discovered. Target confirmed. Kill." With a bang, the elder's head exploded, and the headless body tumbled into the river of blood.

Not long after, the planet itself was destroyed as well, returning to the dust of the universe.

All of the creatures on that planet had been wiped out in an instant.

The mummy still carried Progenitor Wushang's Hide on its head. Its blackhole-like eyes scanned its surroundings, and then it slowly moved away from where the planet had once been.

More than ten days later, an expert from Evenground Palace arrived and observed the distant blackhole in shock. "Did the entire Lanxin family disappear?"

"Yes."

"What about those who were away from the planet?"

"They're all scared out of their minds and don't dare return. Some of them have been brought here to the palace."

The expert from Evenground Palace nodded and then sighed in sorrow. "The Lanxin family was once a clan with a primeval surname, but they thrived ever since they changed their name to Lanxin. Who would imagine that they would be extinguished so quickly. Who exactly could have acted? It should be an Enlighter. The Outerverse is too chaotic nowadays."

Chapter 565: Drafted

The Outerverse was indeed very chaotic, and wars were constantly breaking out in various weaves in the eastern region. It was common for Enlighters to act on their own, and they were pillaging all of the resources in the Outerverse. There were also many areas that were still isolated by energy barriers, much like what had happened to the Astral River. The weaves in the western part of the Outerverse weren't even connected to the network anymore.

Among the eastern weaves, Frostwave Weave and Grandtop Weave were the most peaceful. Even if wars did occasionally break out in those weaves, they were all incited by the Great Yu Empire and typically didn't last longer than two months.

For two months, things were peaceful for Lu Yin, and he spent most of his time busily dealing with politics. Even with his four ministries, there were still many affairs that ended up needing his attention, which made him want to escape.

Wendy Yushan had completely fled the scene. She wasn't even on Zenyu Star now.

During this period, the Lu Ministry of Administration and Lu Office of Defense had enjoyed a substantial increase in the number of their workers, but the Lu Staff and the Lu Ministry of Defense still only had the same few people as Lu Yin could not randomly recruit people into those ministries.

There were also still only three people in the Imperial Cabinet—Garope, Hill Auna, and Gavin.

Under such peaceful circumstances, one request for aid created quite a stir in the surrounding weaves.

At this time, the Outerverse had been isolated for eight months. At that time, Ironblood Weave requested that all seventy-two weaves of the Outerverse send reinforcements to help defend against the invasion from the Astral Beast Domain.

It was supposed to be all seventy two weaves, but in reality, only the eastern weaves were able to receive the message. And naturally, Frostwave Weave was among them.

Lu Yin looked up in shock. "Ironblood Weave?"

En Ya gazed at him solemnly. "Ironblood Weave is the Human Domain's first line of defense against the Astral Beast Domain's invasion. It's similar to the border warfront in the Innerverse's Erudite Flowzone. The main difference is that the border in Erudite Flowzone is just a border, as it has the Astral River to block it. However, there are no natural barriers protecting Ironblood Weave. The entire weave is a battlefield, and there are no civilians there. The weave only contains soldiers, cultivators and the families of the soldiers."

It was Lu Yin's first time hearing about this weave. He stood up and moved to study the screen that En Ya was using. "Tell me more about it."

En Ya tapped a finger against the northeastern portion of the star chart shown on the screen. "This is Ironblood Weave. It has a bit of an overlap with both the Human Domain and the Astral Beast Domain. The majority of that overlap is blocked by the Astral River, which also serves as a border warfront. However, this overlapping region has two paths that lead to areas without any obstruction. Once the astral beasts get past Ironblood Weave, they will be able to run amok through the entire Outerverse."

"Ironblood Weave is very small, and it is only made up of about twenty or so filaments. They have nine strongholds, and the one at the forefront is Ironblood Fort. It is embroiled in endless battle, all-year round. Even if the Human Domain and Astral Beast Domain have a temporary truce, that place is still a battlefield. It's simply a blackhole of death."

"Every year, the Outerverse is responsible for supplying Ironblood Weave with resources. The Great Yu Empire also annually sends large amounts of resources to a certain location, which is actually Ironblood Weave. This support is an order from the Hall of Honor, though many experts within Ironblood Weave come from the Innerverse. Every stronghold is reinforced by an Enlighter as well as a certain number of space-exploring powerhouses. Despite the number of cultivators there, it's quite common for there to be casualties among the Enlighters and countless space-exploring powerhouses, and the deaths of the normal cultivators are impossible to calculate."

...

En Ya spent about half an hour introducing Lu Yin to Ironblood Weave and giving him a moderate understanding of the situation there. He summarized the situation with, "Since the Innerverse and Outerverse have been separated, the number of reinforcements that Ironblood Weave have received naturally can't keep up with the casualties. Thus, they've requested aid at this point in time. Once us humans are routed from Ironblood Weave, the entire Outerverse will be exposed to the fangs of the Astral Beast Domain, correct?"

En Ya agreed. "Yes, that's right. In the past, Commander Shui made a suggestion to the Hall of Honor that they should increase the number of experts in Ironblood Weave. Unfortunately, they did not accept his advice."

Lu Yin had heard many times that the Hall of Honor was the Human Domain's highest authority as well as its strongest power. They had the power to rule and judge the recognized powers of the Human Domain, and they could directly influence any entity such as an empire, sect, or clan.

Every year, a certain amount of resources were shipped from the Great Yu Empire to an unknown location under the Hall of Honor's order. Even after Undying Yushan died and his distant relatives had started squabbling for power, this shipment had never changed or been delayed. When Sigmund Mathers had been suspected of colluding with the Neohuman Alliance, Undying Yushan had not had the authority to pardon him since the sentence had been delivered by the Hall of Honor.

The Hall of Honor was in charge of the entire Human Domain.

The Hall of Honor also issued Honor Points, and Lu Yin had taken advantage of his Honor Points to gain access to a great deal of information that was inaccessible to the average person. This showed the power of the Hall of Honor.

Grand Marshal Shui Chuanxiao had been the supreme commander at the border warfront, but he was now imprisoned by the order of the Hall of Honor. It could be said that they had the authority and power to judge any powerhouse.

"Your Majesty, there's one other distinct possibility that would explain why Ironblood Weave is so desperate for aid." En Ya's face turned serious as she explained her thoughts. "The Astral Beast Domain has not been divided."

Lu Yin's gaze changed. "Are you saying that the entire Astral Beast Domain might still be connected?"

En Ya nodded. "Us humans' Innerverse and Outerverse have been separated. Meanwhile, the Astral Beast Domain still has access to Ironblood Weave and can use it as a path to seize control of the Human Domain's Outerverse while the Innerverse is unable to intervene in any manner. This is probably the real reason why Ironblood Weave is requesting reinforcements, but not many people would know about this since this news cannot be allowed to spread as that would incite widespread panic throughout the Outerverse."

Lu Yin was already panicking; their opponent was the entire Astral Beast Domain! It had mainly been with the Innerverse's support that they had managed to hold back the Astral Beast Domain's invasion in the past. However, now that the Outerverse was alone, how could it possibly stop the Astral Beast Domai's invasion?

"Seventh Bro, this woman's right. Our Astral Beast Domain is divided into regions, but they aren't separated in spirit. Of course, there're a few places that are locally isolated, but those places are too small to have much of an impact. With my understanding of the Celestial Beast Empire, the Outerverse is finished. This place will definitely be the target of a massive invasion from the Astral Beast Domain!" the Ghost Monkey cackled.

Lu Yin frowned. Only by uniting the Innerverse and the Outerverse, as well as the Neoverse's strength, had the Human Domain been able to stand up to the Astral Beast Domain. The Outerverse alone would not have the strength to stop the invasion. Lu Yin started experiencing a real panic attack at this point.

At this moment, Lu Yin's gadget beeped with a notification. This time, it was a message that could not be rejected. When Astral-10 had been exiled to the Outerverse and when Wendy Yushan had been appointed as the Youth Council Representative for the Great Yu Empire, this type of notification had similarly been sent out.

'With my position as an elder of the Hall of Honor, I, Lohar, order Northcastle Weave, Vastdearth Weave, Grandtop Weave, Frostwave Weave, Lars Weave, Darkmist Weave, Bard Weave... All of the above weaves are ordered to send three Hunters, ten Cruisers, one hundred Explorers, and a fleet of 100,000 soldiers to support Ironblood Weave. As each weave's location is different, the deadline for arriving will be sent as a separate notice. Weaves that do not send any aid will be convicted in the name of the Hall of Honor.'

This was the first message that Lu Yin received, and a second message quickly followed it.

'Frostwave Weave must send three Hunters, ten Cruisers, one hundred Explorers, and a fleet with 100,000 soldiers to Ironblood Weave.'

Right after the second message, a third one was also received.

'To the Great Yu Empire's Royal Regent, Lu Yin: In the name of the Hall of Honor, you have been drafted to Ironblood Weave's Seasons Fort to assist Commander Liu Qiuyu in fulfilling his responsibilities to defend the fort. You are to report to the stronghold within five days. Anyone who deliberately delays or declines the draft will be judged in the name of the Hall of Honor.'

Lu Yin received these three messages in just a few short moments, but not a single one of them could be ignored or rejected. He was completely stunned, and he could sense the urgency of the situation in Ironblood Weave, as even he had been ordered to fight. He was just a Limiteer, and each weave was required to send experts as reinforcements. It seemed like Ironblood Weave could no longer withstand the Astral Beasts attack and that a catastrophe was about to sweep through the entire Outerverse.

At this point, Wendy Yushan sent a message, which Lu Yin glanced at. 'To the Great Yu Empire's Fifth Princess, Wendy Yushan, ranked eighteenth in the Top 100 Rankings: In the name of the Hall of Honor, you have been drafted to Ironblood Weave's Yellowsoil Fort to assist Commander Elder Shuang in fulfilling his responsibilities to defend the fort. You are to report to the stronghold within five days. Anyone who deliberately delays or declines the draft will be judged in the name of the Hall of Honor.'

"You're going to Ironblood Weave too?" Lu Yin connected a call with Wendy to ask her.

Wendy Yushan acknowledged and then asked, "How about you?"

Lu Yin smiled bitterly. "Me too."

Wendy Yushan fell silent before saying, "It seems that the situation there is truly desperate. Hurry up and confirm the draft. You also need to make arrangements for the people and resources that will be sent to Ironblood Weave. We need to head over there."

Lu Yin acknowledged her suggestion and closed his gadget. He looked at En Ya. "Will there be danger in Ironblood Weave?"

En Ya was bewildered by his question. "It's a battlefield, a blackhole of death! Even Enlighters can die there. Of course there's danger!"

Lu Yin quickly corrected himself. "That's not what I meant. I have no complaints if I die on the battlefield, but if I meet a human enemy, will they try to get revenge on me during the battles there?"

He could not help worry about this point since he would not be close to Wendy Yushan. If they ran into Nightqueen Qiuyu or other similar powerhouses, they would need to be mentally prepared. Even he had been drafted to the battlefield, so he doubted that the elder from the Hall of Honor would let off Enlighters like Nightqueen Qiuyu.

En Ya responded solemnly, "Rest assured. No matter what grudges might exist outside there, as soon as anyone enters Ironblood Weave's battlefield, all enmity must be set aside. Your gadget will directly connect to Ironblood Weave's battle system, which will constantly monitor you. If someone attempts to take revenge against a fellow human being, the Hall of Honor will directly act, and they cannot be swayed. Over countless years, no one has ever dared to try to settle their personal vendettas on Ironblood Weave's battlefield. If someone tries to, even if they're the Nightking clan or Sword Sect's direct heir, they will still be immediately killed since these are the regulations that have been set in place by the Hall of Honor."

At that moment, Lu Yin relaxed, as such a situation would be much better. Given his and Wendy's strength, neither of them would be killed on the battlefield before they had a chance to react, as that was something that even Enlighters struggled to accomplish. Since everyone was constantly being monitored, the battlefield would act as a deterrence to the Enlighters.

"Can we request to transfer to a different fort?" Lu Yin asked.

En Ya shook her head. "Unless they're an Enlighter, the average person won't be qualified to apply for such a thing. Of course, as soon as you enter Ironblood Weave, you'll be able to use the battle system search. Soldiers are awarded Ironblood Points based on their battle achievements, and the higher your points are, the greater your status in Ironblood Weave. This is actually wholly unrelated to your cultivation. These are also the rules of Ironblood Weave that everyone has to follow."

No one thought that such a thing would happen, and Lu Yin was now caught in a dilemma: who should he take to Ironblood Weave? Three Hunters, ten Cruisers, and a hundred Explorers was not a small number of powerhouses.

Cruisers were still alright, as more than ten Cruisers had joined the Great Yu Empire during this period, and there were certainly more than enough Explorers to fill the quota. Lu Yin was mainly considering which Hunters to bring.

The entire Great Yu Empire had only three Hunters: Huo Qingshan, the Blind Monk, and Xueshan Auna. He could not take all of them, but he wouldn't be able to fill the quota if he didn't.

"Summon Huan Sha," Lu Yin ordered.

Chapter 566: Aden

It didn't take Huan Sha long to arrive and bow to Lu Yin.

"Huan Sha, how many Hunters are currently registered in Frostwave Weave?" Lu Yin asked.

Huan Sha blurted out, "Five."

Lu Yin's brows rose. "Besides the empire's trio, who are the other two?"

"One is the Merke family's elder, Ryan Merke, and the other is a prisoner, Aden," Huan Sha explained.

"Quickly give a brief introduction on the both of them."

Huan Sha looked at Lu Yin and then proceeded to slowly recite from her astounding memory, "The Merke family is a great clan based in the northern part of Frostwave Weave, and they control seven filaments. Based off of Undying Yushan's strategy that he left behind, the blind monk, who's the captain of the Eleventh Squadron, moved in and defeated Ryan Merke, which led to the Merke family being defeated. At present, the family only occupies their home planet. While they have not created any trouble for the empire, they have not joined the empire either.

"Aden's origins are a mystery, and there are no records of him. The man is not a convict but rather a voluntary prisoner. He decided to imprison himself in the empire for a hundred years, and this term expires in ten years."

Lu Yin was stunned. "He voluntarily imprisoned himself for a hundred years?"

Huan Sha nodded. "There are no records on file about him, so your subordinate cannot make any guesses."

Lu Yin thought about it and then contacted Wendy Yushan. She was shocked at what he told her. "Aden is still in jail?"

"You know him?" Lu Yin was curious.

Wendy Yushan explained, "When he first came to Frostwave Weave, a conflict broke out between him and Father. The two made a bet, and Aden lost. Due to the bet, he either had to join the Great Yu Empire's Imperial Thirteen Squadrons and serve Father or be imprisoned for a hundred years. Who knew that, even after Father passed away, he would still stick around."

Lu Yin was interested in this Aden, "What kind of bet did they make?"

"Aden is very confident in his defense, so he bet that Father would not be able to breach his defense. Unfortunately for him, Father still won. Of course, the whole thing wasn't that simple." At this point, Wendy Yushan's tone became quieter. "Father should have been forced to do his best, which I picked up from his tone when he told me."

Lu Yin's heart quivered at the words, "do his best," as Undying Yushan had not been an ordinary person to begin with. Even if he hadn't reached the top thirty of the Top 100 Rankings in his generation, he had still been the heir of the "Yu" family of the Court of Seven Names, which meant that he had inherited the court's battle techniques. Lu Yin had long since guessed that Undying Yushan had been able to slaughter his way back to the Outerverse from the Innerverse and survive for so many years thanks to these battle techniques.

No one other than Lu Yin better understood how difficult it was for someone from the Outerverse to be ranked within the top thirty, even if this was before the universe had been greatly changed.

There was no doubt to Aden's power if even Undying Yushan had admired it. If Undying Yushan had been forced to try his best to deal with Aden, then this person was clearly no ordinary Hunter.

Lu Yin had En Ya and Huan Sha withdraw. He sent Huan Sha to prepare the resources for Ironblood Weave along with a list of the Cruisers and Explorers that would be sent over. He himself headed for the jail where Aden was imprisoned.

Even though the man was supposedly imprisoned, if Lu Yin's conjecture was correct, then this Aden was not someone who could be held by the Great Yu Empire, and he was imprisoned here of his own accord.

When Lu Yin saw Aden, he felt like he was looking at a savage beast.

The man's hair and beard had grown until they almost covered his entire body. He simply sat in the corner of his cell with his eyes closed. It looked as if he was sleeping.

Lu Yin frowned. "Isn't anyone taking care of him?"

The guard behind Lu Yin nervously answered, "Your Majesty, this person is very strange, and he doesn't want anyone to take care of him. When His Majesty Undying Yushan previously ordered us to open the cell doors and allow him to leave whenever he wished, this man insisted that the doors be locked up and that he should not receive any special treatment since he's a convict."

"Has he been like this all these years?" Lu Yin asked.

"According to my grandfather, this person has been like this since the time that my grandfather first saw him," the guard replied.

Lu Yin glanced at the guard. "Your grandfather worked here before?"

The guard hurriedly answered, "Yes."

Lu Yin laughed, since it turned out that this job ran in the family.

He had the guard open the gate. Aden suddenly opened his eyes and stared at Lu Yin with beast-like eyes from where he sat inside the cell. An immense pressure descended upon Lu Yin, and it was not one bit inferior to Karthika's. It was as heavy as a mountain.

Lu Yin was astonished. This person was obviously just a Hunter, but he possessed such terrifying pressure. Aden was definitely a genius among Hunters, and he must also be a Realmbreaker like Lu Yin himself.

"Kid, you're not simple," Aden said, as his eyes pierced through his thick hair to stare at Lu Yin, an indistinct flash of electricity going through them.

Lu Yin marveled. "Senior is even more uncommon, to be willing to voluntarily incarcerate himself for a hundred years for a single promise. That's something that not many in the universe are able to do."

"There's no need to compliment me. What do you want?" Aden's voice was deep.

Lu Yin moved to the side of the cell door and gestured. "His Majesty Undying Yushan has died, so you are a free man now."

Aden sneered, "There's no need to lie to me. That's impossible—that old fogey can't die."

Lu Yin felt helpless. "But it's true, and the entire universe knows this. His Majesty Undying Yushan was ambushed by the Neohuman Alliance, and only the Fifth Princess remains of the entire Yushan family. All the rest are dead, and even their corpses have disappeared."

Aden leaped to his feet in shock, and it was at this point that Lu Yin finally realized that the man was three meters tall, which was much taller than Lu Yin himself. When he stood next to this person, it was as if he was standing in front of a hill.

"Dead? How? That old bastard mastered the Undying Manual, so he shouldn't be able to die," Aden muttered to himself. Then, he stared at Lu Yin and grabbed at him. Lu Yin's figure flashed as the three Fatesands instantly spun together, allowing his strength to explode. He used his fastest speed, which caused even the void to distort, but his collar was still grabbed by Aden, and Lu Yin was forcefully dragged over to the large man. The giant's copper-colored eyes were now only ten centimeters away from Lu Yin's, and Lu Yin could even touch the man's hair and beard if he reached out.

"Kid, you're lying!" Aden shouted.

The guard outside rushed into the cell to help, but he was knocked unconscious by a casual wave of Aden's hand.

Lu Yin remained calm as he looked at Aden. "I'm not lying. Check it for yourself." He then handed the large man a gadget.

Aden activated the gadget and searched for news about the Great Yu Empire, where he finally saw the news that Undying Yushan had died. "How? He mastered the Undying Manual, so he shouldn't be dead!"

Lu Yin shook his head. "Undying Yushan didn't learn the Undying Manual—that was all nothing but rumors and hearsay. However, it was precisely because of that that he was chased out of the Innerverse, and he only managed to escape by the skin of his teeth."

Aden knitted his brows, and he seemed to be in disbelief. However, the facts were displayed in front of him. He put the gadget down with a complex expression. "I wanted to have another bet with him after a century passed, but I never thought that he would already be dead. But someone from the Neohuman Alliance would indeed be able to kill him. It's no wonder why they're one of the Three Dark Hands."

"You seem to hold His Majesty in high regard. No matter what, the two of you were nothing more than Hunters, while it wouldn't have been strange for the Neohuman Alliance to be able to send out Enlighters with their resources," Lu Yin said.

Aden sneered, "So what if it was an Enlighter?"

He paused for a moment and looked outside the cell. "Although he might be dead, I still need to honor the bet, and the promise still needs to be kept. I have another ten years left, and I won't go back on my word." Aden went back and sat back down in the corner of his cell, looking like he was ready to pass another ten years in this manner.

It would be a wasted trip if Lu Yin allowed this person to wait another ten years, as he had not come here to tell Aden about Undying Yushan's passing.

"Senior, do you like to gamble? How about the two of us make a bet?" Lu Yin asked.

Aden looked at Lu Yin. "I will only gamble with those who are qualified, and you aren't."

Lu Yin's brows lifted. "This junior is currently the strongest Limiteer in the universe. I don't qualify?"

Aden's eyes widened as he seriously sized Lu Yin up and down. All of a sudden, electricity sparked in his eyes again, and one wisp of lightning actually encircled Lu Yin and streaked past his body. His eyes trembled. "That's a powerful physical body, kid. Who are you?"

Lu Yin's lips rose. "This junior is the Great Yu Empire's Royal Regent, and I am acting on behalf of the throne. Undying Yushan is this junior's Uncle."

Aden nodded. "The Outerverse already produced Undying Yushan, and now there's you. Each of you is a freak."

"So does Junior qualify to gamble with Senior?" Lu Yin asked.

Aden muttered to himself for a second and then looked at Lu Yin with interest. "What's the bet?"

"Let's wager on whether or not Junior can breach Senior's defense," Lu Yin said proudly.

Aden grew furious. "Undying Yushan was a Hunter back then, and even he found it hard to break through my thunder shield, but you want to try as well? Shameless! Junior, you should know your limits."

Lu Yin smiled. "Senior doesn't dare?"

"There's no need to aggravate me. So long as there's someone qualified, I like to gamble. But kid, what can you bring to the table to bet? And what is it that you want from me?" Aden said.

Lu Yin solemnly replied, "Ironblood Weave has requested emergency assistance, and Junior was mentioned by name and ordered to head to Seasons Fort to join their defence. Junior hopes that Senior will travel there with me."

Aden was shocked. "Emergency assistance? Does the Astral Beast Domain plan to invade the Human Domain from there? But even if it's an emergency, why would a Limiteer like you be mentioned by name? Did all of those old Enlighter farts already croak?"

"The Innerverse and Outerverse have been separated, and only the Outerverse's eastern weaves are available to support Ironblood Weave to attempt to hold the Astral Beast Domain back." Lu Yin had no choice but to explain the entire matter about how the universe had changed.

Aden did not believe him at first, so Lu Yin was forced to show him the news again. Aden then personally tested the stability of space, only then finally believing Lu Yin. "Never did I think that during all these years in jail would such groundbreaking changes happen outside. The Innerverse and Outerverse are actually separated, and the Outerverse clearly cannot withstand the Astral Beast Domain by itself."

"Regardless of whether or not we can withstand their attack, it's better to stand and die an honorable death than to live without purpose," Lu Yin spoke loudly.

Aden's eyes flashed, and admiration for Lu Yin seemed to appear in his eyes. "Alright, I'll make a bet with you. If you win, I'll head over to Seasons Fort with you. If you lose, then the last ten years of the promise I made with Undying Yushan will be nullified."

Lu Yin nodded, but the older man had reacted quickly. No matter if he won or lost, the last ten years of the agreement with Undying Yushan would be nullified. This old bastard was pretty smart.

There was a rumble as the entire jail vibrated. Aden raised his arms and stretched. "Although you're just a Limiteer runt, I always take every wager seriously. It's been a long time since I've gone all out."

His eyes went wide as his thick hair and beard were torn apart by wild strands of lightning. It almost looked like a veil was removed as Aden's real face was exposed.

Lu Yin was stunned, as he had assumed that the man was very old. However, he only appeared to be about forty or so, much younger than Undying Yushan. His sturdy muscles had not turned limp despite the decades of imprisonment. Lightning flickered about and distorted the void until it even began cracking slightly.

He released a low growl, and Zenyu Star began to sway. Lightning swirled above the three rings, which shocked everyone. All sorts of devices that measured power levels started to go off with wild alarms.

Huo Qingshan looked up, and his face grew solemn. Is it him? What a powerful pressure, and he's no ordinary Hunter either. Hopefully, His Majesty can handle him.

Chapter 567: Borrowing Money

The lightning bolts did not just flicker throughout Zenyu Star; they even spread out from Zenyu Star and shrouded the surrounding region of space.

Aden had not exerted any of his strength for so long that he had become a little excited by the prospect of a bet.

Lu Yin's eyes filled with star energy, and he stared at the Hunter in shock. The number of rune lines on Aden actually surpassed what he had seen from Karthika. This person was indeed just a Hunter, but he was a Realmbreaker freak who could defeat an Enlighter. Aden was similar to Lu Yin's own existence within the Limiteer realm. He was a Hunter that average Enlighters could not deal with.

What was especially noticeable was that his rune lines did not dissipate. Instead, they came together on one side of the shield like an immobile mountain. The front of this shield gave Lu Yin a feeling of imperviousness.

The corners of his mouth twitched, as he had gambled big this time. Even his gun's offensive capability might not be able to break through this shield. Although Aden's attack power might not match up to an average Enlighter, his defense was definitely freakish.

Suddenly, the lightning exploded as the prison completely collapsed. Aden's body was enveloped in the roar of thunder as a giant shield appeared in front of him while the lightning imprinted a mark onto its face. The shield was completely awe-inspiring.

"Kid, the difference between us is too great. I'm not going to bully you, so I won't use battle force. As long as you can break through this shield, I'll consider it your victory," Aden barked with a proud tone. This pride was not due to the suppression of realms, but was rather a confidence in his own ability. Even against an Enlighter, he would have this same unyielding spirit.

Lu Yin relaxed. The defense that the shield had demonstrated so far was absolutely terrifying. If Aden also used battle force on top of that, then Lu Yin would have no confidence at all as he did not believe that Aden's battle force would be weak. Even Long Yun had been able to cultivate his battle force to seven lines, and in his youth, this person had definitely been an expert on the same level as Long Yun. It was almost certain that Aden had been a top-notch expert. A conservative guess placed Aden's battle force at eight lines and possibly even at nine lines.

If that level of battle force was added to the already impressive shield, then it would be way too difficult for Lu Yin to breach Aden's defenses.

Even when faced with an Enlighter like Nightqueen Qiuyu, Lu Yin had been confident that he could breach her defense. However, against Aden, his confidence wavered, which showed just how powerful the defense of this shield was.

This made Lu Yin think of Undying Yushan, who had been able to break through Aden's defense. How could the old emperor have been killed by someone within the same realm? The Neohuman Alliance's strength was clearly demonstrated here.

Lu Yin unhurriedly took out his gun, raised it, and aimed at Aden. "Senior, I'm coming."

Aden looked at the gun with a dumbfounded expression. "Is that a power vessel?"

"Sort of. This toy's killed three Enlighters so far," Lu Yin solemnly informed him.

Aden was shocked, but then he looked excited. "Alright, since it's a power vessel that can kill Enlighters, then let me test my thunder shield against it!"

Lu Yin didn't hesitate, and the gun fired with a loud bang. The bullet tore through the void and directly slammed into the shield. The bullet was stalled by the lightning, but this was a bullet that carried the destructive strength of a power level that exceeded 200,000. The lightning was not enough to stop it, and the bullet still struck the shield.

In that instant, Aden took several steps back as his eyes went wide with disbelief. He stared at the surface of the shield in front of him and saw that, while the bullet had disappeared, the faint outline of a crack had appeared where the bullet had struck the shield.

Lu Yin took a breath of cold air, as his attack had not penetrated the shield. The same attack that had instantly wiped out Karthika, Lei Long, and Elder Wu was currently unable to pierce through this Hunter's defenses. Aden was too monstrous, and he was definitely in the top-tier of his realm.

Aden was similarly overwhelmed, as his thunder shield had been able to stop Enlighters' attacks in the past. It was precisely because of this that he was so full of confidence and had been willing to gamble with anyone. However, in the past, he had lost to Undying Yushan, which was also why he had been so shocked when he had learned of the old emperor's passing. No one understood Undying Yushan's strength better than Aden.

And yet, right now, a Limiteer junior had almost pierced through his shield with some toy gun, which toppled the giant's views, even if that gun had already killed Enlighters.

Fortunately, the attack still had not been powerful enough to break through Aden's defense.

Aden relaxed, and he was about to place his shield down when the muzzle of Lu Yin's gun was aimed at him again. He subconsciously raised his shield. "Kid, are you breaking your promise?"

"Senior, this Junior never said that I'd only attack once. The gamble that we agreed to is whether or not I can break through your defense, not whether or not I can break through it in one strike. Junior is confident in breaching the shield if I strike at the same place again since it's very likely that Senior's shield requires some time to recover." Lu Yin smiled.

Aden opened his mouth, but he could not retort. It was true that they had not agreed that Lu Yin could only fire once.

"Your power vessel has more attacks left?" Aden was astonished.

Lu Yin nodded. "Quite a few more, and it should be enough to break through your shield."

Aden's defense had given Lu Yin a pleasant surprise. With this Hunter around, even powerhouses like Nightqueen Qiuyu or Huo Houye would not be able to seek revenge as LuYin would have the time to react to them. This was a great gift from Undying Yushan, and Lu Yin was determined to bring this person under his wing no matter what.

Aden stood in place and stared closely at Lu Yin's gun.

Lu Yin's brows lifted. "Is Senior thinking of backing out?"

Aden sighed and then smiled bitterly. "A hundred years ago, I lost to Undying Yushan, and today's even worse—I'm losing to a Limiteer junior. This Great Yu Empire has subdued me." And with that, he withdrew his shield.

Lu Yin became ecstatic. "Senior is gracious in defeat. Not every Hunter can withstand that attack, and it should be known that even Enlighters haven't been able to resist it."

Aden looked at Lu Yin with a strange expression on his face. "Kid, Enlighters aren't simple. Your power vessel is certainly strong enough to hurt one of them, but it's not able to lock an Enlighter down. You must have ambushed them."

Lu Yin did not feel embarrassed at such an accusation, as killing an Enlighter was already a proud achievement. As a Limiteer, he would not have been able to do such a thing without some tricks.

"For you to be able to ambush Enlighters, and three at that, means that you must have some other treasure that can keep lock Enlighters in place or somehow cause them to lose consciousness. Are you really from the Outerverse?" Aden was amazed.

Lu Yin smiled. "As real as they come."

Aden's shoulders shook. "Since I lost, I'll head to Ironblood Weave for a visit with you. Speaking of things, that place is really not hospitable to life." His face filled with respect. "Countless cultivators have

dauntlessly advanced towards their deaths in that place, and their relatives, friends, and descendants have also died on that battlefield. The peace that your Outerverse enjoys this day is all thanks to those lives."

Lu Yin's face grew more solemn, and an utmost respect also arose within him for Ironblood Weave. It was not for reputation or wealth, but the soldiers in that place still willingly rushed to their graves. If not for the crisis this time, then he wouldn't have even known that the place existed.

If the universe had one Ironblood Weave, then it could have a second and a third. These sort of battlefields were what garnered the most respect.

Lu Yin escorted Aden to King Zishan's palace. There were only five days remaining before Lu Yin had to report for duty, so he had to quickly settle the various affairs of the Great Yu Empire so that he could leave for Ironblood Weave with some peace of mind.

One day later, Lu Yin ended a court meeting and stood up. It was time to borrow money once again.

Because of this sudden trip to Ironblood Weave, his future became unknown. Lu Yin only had 2,420 star essence remaining, which was not much, and it would be insufficient to deal with a potential crisis. He needed to go find the enchanting Madam Nalan and discuss with her some more.

She seemed to have already guessed that Lu Yin would approach her before leaving, and she had a ready smile as she welcomed him into her home and poured him a drink. "Why has Your Majesty come today?"

Of course it's to borrow money, Lu Yin thought inwardly, but that would be a little too awkward to say aloud. Borrowing money while providing protection to the Nalan family felt a bit like bullying. "That—Madam, how have you been getting by here?"

Her eyes sparkled with an unconventional allure within them. "Is Your Majesty here to show your concern for me?"

Lu Yin coughed. "You could say that."

The beautiful Madam Nalan tried to hold back her smile. "I've been alright. Your Majesty must have received the request for reinforcements, so I believe that you will soon head to Ironblood Weave. When do you plan to depart?"

Lu Yin replied, "I need to report to the stronghold within five days. It will take three days to travel from here to Ironblood Weave's Seasons Fort, so I plan to leave tomorrow in anticipation of any possible delays."

She nodded. "You should actually head out earlier. My Nalan family has also prepared a shipment of resources to send to Ironblood Weave, which is our own meager attempt to contribute."

Lu Yin nodded, but he did not speak, and the atmosphere became awkwardly silent.

She stared at Lu Yin. "Is there any other matter that prompted Your Majesty to look for me?"

Lu Yin's face appeared uncomfortable. "That... I wish to borrow money."

Her lips raised, but she did not ask any further questions and immediately handed Lu Yin a cosmic ring. "Since the Outerverse's major banks have a deficiency of star crystals, many people are unable to retrieve their money. Not even the Mavis Bank is spared from this deficiency, so I won't give Your Majesty any cards."

Lu Yin took the cosmic ring and examined the contents for a moment before his head snapped up in shock. "So much?"

There were 30,000 star essence in the cosmic ring that the Nalan genie had just handed him. The ring actually contained star essence instead of crystals, and it was far more than what the Enlighters Lu Yin had killed had managed to amass.

She replied, "I know that Your Majesty is lacking in money, but at the moment, my Nalan family has deposited too much money in the Mavis Bank, and we can't retrieve most of it. As such, I can only give Your Majesty this amount at the present."

"It's already a very considerable amount." Lu Yin was happy.

She replied seriously, "If this sum is enough to insure Your Majesty's safety in Ironblood Weave, then it's money well spent. Take this contribution as my Nalan family's support for Your Majesty."

Lu Yin promptly replied, "That won't do, as it would be robbery. Let's treat this as a loan since I've already asked to borrow from you. Rest assured, madam. If I am able to return alive from Ironblood Weave, I will repay your money, but if I can't-"

Before Lu Yin could finish speaking, he was interrupted by Madam Nalan as she raised her glass. "May Your Majesty have a smooth victory and bring glory to humanity."

Lu Yin concurred loudly and similarly raised his glass to clink his glass against hers.

The next day, beneath the watchful gazes of Hai Qiqi and many of the Great Yu Empire's ministers, Lu Yin left along with Wendy Yushan, Aden, Huo Qingshan, ten newly-joined Cruisers, a hundred Explorers, and a war fleet. They all moved out to head towards Ironblood Weave.

The draft notice had stipulated that Lu Yin had to report within five days, so he, Wendy Yushan, Huo Qingshan, and Aden sat in one of the few spacecraft that the Great Yu Empire possessed that was able to rival a radiant-grade Aurora's speed and set off ahead of the rest of the troops. They would pick up Ryan Merke along the way. The Merke family's elder had instinctively declined when he heard that they were headed for Ironblood Weave, but he had been threatened into agreeing by Lu Yin.

If he went, then he would be the only possible casualty from his family. If he didn't go, then his entire family would be condemned with the crime of treason.

These were Lu Yin's methods, and they were efficient and clean.

Ryan Merke had been left with no choice. Although he was selfish, the Merke family was too important, and he could not abandon his entire family. Moreover, his death was not set in stone even if he went to Ironblood Weave, though only death awaited him if he refused to go.

Left without any other choice, Ryan Merke had finally agreed.

All the matters in Frostwave Weave had been settled, and Grandtop Weave didn't require Lu Yin's oversight. Although he controlled the Nine Stacks Sect and had used the sect to conquer Grandtop Weave, the Hall of Honor didn't care about who Grandtop Weave belonged to. They only cared about whether or not the weave sent people to reinforce Ironblood Weave. Even if the families and sects in Grandtop Weave were unwilling, they were still required to send aid.

It wasn't until Lu Yin picked up Ryan Merke that the powers in Grandtop Weave determined who they would send to Ironblood Weave.

Chapter 568: Battle System

Ryan Merke was an old fellow who wore splendid clothes. One look was enough to determine that the man was a figure of authority.

When he saw Lu Yin, he did not have a pleasant expression, but he did not dare be rude either. He only nodded tersely to the regent.

Lu Yin did not care, as this person was only being brought along to make up for the shortage of Hunters.

There were three Hunters: Aden, Ryan Merke, and Huo Qingshan.

As for why Lu Yin had decided to take Huo Qingshan, it was because Lu Yin felt uneasy about letting the man off. He still could not forget about the matter of the Hidden Earth organization, and every day that passed where Lu Yin could not ascertain the group's true nature was another day that he could not rest easy.

Compared to Xueshan Auna, Huo Qingshan was also more reliable, as he would at least not seek to benefit from both sides. When he was on the battlefield, Lu Yin felt that Huo Qingshan was the more trustworthy one of the two Hunters.

The Great Yu Empire still had two Hunters protecting it: the Blind Monk and Xueshan Auna. Nothing should happen since these two would provide balance simply through their presence.

The draftees had to travel through Grandtop Weave and Eastly Weave to get to Ironblood Weave. Once they arrived in Eastly Weave, they found that practically all news concerning Ironblood Weave had disappeared, and they were also unable to find out anything more through the network. This wasn't because the top figures wanted to limit information, but more so because they did not want to incite panic throughout the Outerverse. Even though Lu Yin was the Great Yu Empire's Royal Regent, there were some things that he would not notice unless someone voluntarily informed him.

However, a request from Ironblood Weave for such a large number of emergency reinforcements would become public knowledge sooner or later.

The Eastly Weave was filled with asteroid fields, which made it difficult for the computers to calculate a route compared to the other weaves since spacecraft could easily be struck by meteoroids.

Lu Yin's party placed Aden as the vanguard, and he sat on the top of their spacecraft. Every time they encountered an asteroid field, instead of recalculating their route, they would plough directly through the field.

Huo Qingshan and Ryan Merke were very curious about Aden since they could feel a slight sense of pressure from him. This was especially true for Huo Qingshan. He had long known about Aden's existence, but he had never directly encountered him before. After meeting with the man, he could instantly tell that he was not the man's match, and he could not understand how Undying Yushan had breached Aden's defence in the past.

Just as this group of people was about to leave the Eastly Weave and enter Ironblood Weave, a boundless pressure swept up from behind them that was strong enough to destabilize planets.

Lu Yin looked behind with his eyes filled with star energy. As soon as he did so, he saw a terrifying amount of rune lines. There was an Enlighter, and it was someone he was familiar with: Huo Houye.

As an Enlighter who had been left behind in the Outerverse, as well as someone who had been behaving in such a high-profile manner, it was natural that Huo Houye would not be able to escape from being drafted by the Hall of Honor.

Huo Houye also saw Lu Yin's vessel and his gaze swept across everyone in it before finally landing on Aden. Shock manifested in his eyes, as he had evidently recognized Aden's abnormality.

Even when facing an Enlighter, Aden remained self-composed. He merely glanced over at the approaching Enlighter, before paying no mind to Huo Houye.

Huo Houye's eyes flickered with a bit of fury, and he waved a hand as his body turned into a fiery maelstrom that swept towards Lu Yin's group. He was not attacking anyone and was just passing by. However, even if that was the case, the strength that he revealed was enough to overwhelm anyone who was not an Enlighter.

Lu Yin donned his universal armor and stepped out of the ship while Wendy Yushan moved to his side.

When he saw the two people emerge from the spacecraft, Huo Houye immediately stopped and looked nervously at Lu Yin. "Junior, Ironblood Weave is a battlefield. Your methods cannot last long in that place, so take care of yourself."

"Thank you for the reminder, Senior." Lu Yin had met with Huo Houye many times already. If he teamed up with Wendy Yushan, then Huo Houye would not stand a chance against them. It would be nothing more than firing the gun once, and if that wasn't enough, then Lu Yin could just fire it twice.

Of course, he would not easily shoot his gun as there were only twelve bullets left, and each time he fired it, he would be left with fewer shots.

Huo Houye snorted before reducing his flames and continuing on his way toward Ironblood Weave.

Aden calmly watched Huo Houye's departing figure, and a slight trace of contempt appeared in his eyes.

Just like Limiteers, Enlighters were similarly divided into the weak and the strong. Huo Houye was nothing more than an ordinary Enlighter who had possibly touched upon the level of an elite. However, Aden's vision was concentrated solely on the top freaks. Even if he was still just a Hunter, this showed his arrogance.

As the border of the Eastly and Ironblood Weaves grew closer and closer, there was a significant decrease in the number of planets that the spacecraft passed by. Large regions of asteroid fields

appeared, and there were no traces of human life in these regions, and even the occasional astral beast could be seen flying by.

Not all astral beasts lived in the Astral Beast Domain, as there were some in the Human Domain as well, but they were frequently eliminated.

The astral beasts in the Human Domain formed organizations on a different scale from the Astral Beast Domain. To humans, any creature that was able to freely explore space and was not human was considered as an astral beast.

After four days of traveling, the asteroid fields gradually vanished. Their ship had finally left the Eastly Weave and passed into Ironblood Weave's border.

When he saw Ironblood Weave, Lu Yin did not feel anything different. The size of the weave was too small, and reportedly, the entire weave was one massive battlefield.

But before they had to travel much further, Lu Yin saw a huge colossus that occupied an entire region of space, and he finally understood what the strongholds of Ironblood Weave actually were. Ahead of them there was a humongous fortress that had been assembled from multiple planets into a shape that resembled a broken knife.

This stronghold was reminiscent of an astral beast lying in space, while its form also resembled a broken knife that had been stabbed into the center of the universe. It could be seen from a ridiculous distance, and the entire structure emitted the desolate aura of a battlefield. As they approached, battle drums could be vaguely heard.

Lu Yin's eyes filled with star energy as he looked at the stronghold. From it, he saw an enormous and endless amount of rune lines. He could see that there were Enlighters, Hunter, Cruisers, Explorers, and countless cultivators at the fortress. All of them were guarding the stronghold, which caused it to be filled with rune lines that pervaded the entire region of space.

"That's Brokenblade Fort, one of the five lower strongholds in Ironblood Weave. It's the one that's the closest to the Eastly Weave, and it's also the final stronghold of Ironblood Weave. If this fort is ever breached, then the Outerverse will be thrown into despair." Aden's voice sounded out from next to Lu Yin. It seemed that he was not a stranger to Ironblood Weave.

Lu Yin felt deep respect as he looked at the approaching Brokenblade Fort. Those stationed inside were providing a meritorious service for all of humanity.

As they drew closer, Brokenblade Fort gave Lu Yin an even greater shock. This stronghold had been built from entire planets, and he wondered how the designers had even conceived such a thing. It made Lu Yin recall the mainland that had been used during Astral-10's entrance exam.

Anyone who entered Ironblood Weave was required to pass an inspection first, and Lu Yin's party was no exception. Conveniently, the inspection was quickly finished, as the guards were mainly checking to see if they were astral beasts that were disguised as humans.

There were special routes leading from Brokenblade Fort to the depths of Ironblood Weave. Lu Yin's party quickly passed through the inspection, and before long, he was looking behind at Brokenblade Fort as they headed towards Seasons Fort.

Ironblood Weave was truly small, mainly because the point where the Astral Beast Domain and the Human Domain were connected was too small. Ironblood Weave had originally been a battlefield, but with the establishment of the nine strongholds, it had been forcibly raised to become one of the Outerverse's seventy two weaves, but it was still the smallest weave of them all.

After they entered Ironblood Weave, Lu Yin began to check the battle system, as only those who had entered Ironblood Weave could access information about it.

The battle system was the system that the Hall of Honor had developed to allow the weave's defenders exchange their military contributions for various benefits. Because the battlefield was too extensive and the astral beasts appeared randomly, there was no way to effectively tally the soldiers' deeds. Thus, the Hall of Honor had developed this system. Once people entered Ironblood Weave, the battle system would automatically connect to their gadgets and constantly monitor them. Besides guaranteeing that fellow humans would not kill each other, its primary function was to record an individual's military achievements.

These contributions were mainly reflected through one's accumulation of Ironblood Points. Killing one Limiteer realm beast awarded one point, a Limiteer realm elite beast was worth two points, and three points for the beasts who could rival a human Limiteer freak. If a beast with the strength to match up with the strongest Limiteer was killed, it was worth five points.

The Ironblood Points started with kills in the Limiteer realm, and it was not easy for cultivators who were not space-exploring powerhouses yet to acquire points. Many astral beast Limiteers had formidable innate gifts and powerful bodies which made them harder to deal with than human Limiteers.

Above Limiteers were Explorers, and killing an ordinary Explorer realm beast awarded a soldier three points, an elite Explorer realm beast eight points, a genius-level Explorer realm beast twenty points, and one of the strongest Explorer realm beasts fifty points.

There were also Cruiser, Hunter, and Enlighter realm beasts each with their own divisions, and the system would decide how powerful the slain beasts had been.

The battle system had existed for many years and accumulated countless battle videos, so the system was able to quickly differentiate which level the astral beasts belonged to, and there were no mistakes. Of course, if signals to the gadgets were blocked, then the system would become ineffective, but that was a common failing of all technological devices.

One could use their awarded Ironblood Points to purchase goods, battle techniques, or even power vessels. Lu Yin was the most interested in getting his hands on more star essences, and he had already seen that one Ironblood Point could be exchanged for one star essence, which provided him with a good path for getting rich.

This was equivalent to killing one Limiteer astral beast and receiving one star essence. To Lu Yin, this was nothing difficult, and he quickly ran some calculations. With his strength, he could deal with elite

Cruisers, which were worth ninety points. If he took his universal armor and Fatesand into account, then he could even deal with those genius-level Cruiser beasts, each of which was worth 200 points.

Lu Yin's eyes brightened, as the battlefield would not lack in astral beasts at all.

The system had a contributions ranking list, and Lu Yin casually glanced at it. The person at the top of the list was Lohar, who was the Elder from the Hall of Honor. Lu Yin did not know the details of the man's strength, but he definitely greatly surpassed Nightqueen Qiuyu and the others. However, his Ironblood Points could not be seen.

Right below Lohar was General Fei, who En Ya had mentioned to Lu Yin. General Fei was the commander at the forefront stronghold of Ironblood Weave, which was the Ironblood Fort. He had defended the fortress for many years, as he had pledged to never retreat. He was an Enlighter with a power level of 290,000, and he was another powerhouse who greatly surpassed Huo Houye and the others. Similarly, his accumulation of Ironblood Points could not be seen.

Each person could only see the points of those ranked within five positions of their own, either above or below them.

Eh? Suddenly, Lu Yin's eyes trembled as he saw something that blew him away. The top rankers on the list were all Enlighters, and each fortress in Ironblood Weave had Enlighters defending it. Whenever an Enlighter attacked, they were able to casually massacre entire regions, which made it very easy for them to rack up Ironblood Points. Although this was the general rule here, Lu Yin noticed that there was a Cruiser who was ranked tenth on the list.

Cool Sis was stationed at the Ironblood Fort, and she was also ranked tenth on the Top 100 Rankings.

Lu Yin did not think that he would see someone in the tenth spot of the Top 100 Rankings in this place, as he was not on the same level as those cultivators. They were experts who were nearly all from the same generation as the Ten Arbiters, but some were a bit younger. Once the Ten Arbiters aged to a point where they could no longer be considered a part of the younger generation, their positions would be taken by the people who were at the top of the Top 100 Rankings. In other words, any expert who was among the top ten and in the Ten Arbiters Council, could very well become one of the next Ten Arbiters.

Lu Yin did not know if this Cool Sis had joined the Ten Arbiters Council.

He thought back to the battles on Planet Pyrolyte, where one Nightking Gu had caused so much trouble for him and Wendy Yushan, and Nightking Gu was someone who was only ranked fifteenth. There was a qualitative difference between tenth and fifteenth, as a Cruiser in the top ten was able to suppress even Enlighters. And this woman was even ranked tenth on Ironblood Weave's battle system points ranking. Who knew what this woman has gone through.

Below Cool Sis, there was someone named Kong Shi, who was also a woman. Lu Yin felt astonished; were Ironblood Weave's women all kick-ass warriors?

Chapter 569: Seasons Fort

Kong Shi was a Hunter, which made her rank slightly more reasonable, as it showed that not just anyone could surpass an Enlighter.

Below Kong Shi were two more Enlighters, and beneath them was another Hunter, Liu Zhan. He seemed to be from the Sword Sect's Liu family. Speaking of which, the commander of Seasons Fort was named Liu Qiuyu, who should also be from the Sword Sect's Liu family.

Beneath Liu Zhan were four Enlighters, followed by a Hunter called Liu Miaomiao, and then a Cruiser named Linley.

These were the top twenty of the battle rankings, and there were actually two Cruisers within them, which was no simple feat. It should be known that there were a whole column of Hunters in the rankings below.

However, these Hunters and Cruisers who were ranked in the top twenty were mostly stationed at Ironblood Fort. Since that stronghold was at the front lines, it was rumored that the battle there never ceased and that the fortress was eternally drafting more soldiers and cultivators.

The list was very long, as anyone with even just one Ironblood Point would be on the rankings. The tailend of the list was rather long, and Lu Yin was too lazy to browse through the entire thing, so he only checked the top of the list.

Suddenly, Lu Yin's eyes lit up when he saw a familiar name: Yue Xianzi. Right, that brat had been in San Dios, and she remained there ever since the Innerverse and Outerverse had become separated. Why hadn't she contacted him after all this time?

Since Yue Xianzi had come to Ironblood Weave and had even killed enemies, then An Shaohua should also be around. It seemed that the Outerverse Youth Council members were also available for the draft, which meant that Puyu would be on the battlefield as well.

Not long after, Wendy Yushan separated from Lu Yin since she was going to Yellowsoil Fort.

Lu Yin had Ryan Merke follow her, and he ordered half of the Cruisers and Explorers to head to that stronghold as well. As long as Ryan Merke did not want anything to happen to his family, then he would do all he could to protect Wendy Yushan.

In the meantime, Lu Yin headed towards Seasons Fort with the rest of his cultivators and soldiers.

Not long after they separated, Wendy Yushan suddenly contacted Lu Yin. "Apparently, the battle system is connected to the entire universe, and the Ironblood Points that you obtain in Ironblood Weave are equivalent to contributions from the other warfronts. Similarly, once the systems are reconnected, you will be able to see the contribution rankings from the other battlefields."

"That's pointless. Right now, even the network connecting the Outerverse's eastern weaves is unreliable, let alone the network connecting all the other warfronts," Lu Yin replied.

"I'm only telling you to work hard. It would be best to exchange the Ironblood Points for some Honor Points. However, given your personality, you'll probably exchange all of your points for star essences," Wendy Yushan commented indifferently.

Lu Yin smiled. "You really understand me well."

"It would be best to acquire as many contributions as you can while still preserving your life. Honor Points have benefits that you can't even imagine. You already have two right now, and when you get

eleven, if you're injured or killed, then the Hall of Honor will move to investigate, and they will even avenge you if necessary."

Lu Yin asked, "Isn't the Hall of Honor in the Neoverse?"

"The Hall of Honor is everywhere," she replied before disconnecting.

Lu Yin fell deep into thought. It seemed that the Hall of Honor's influence was even greater than what he had imagined. It was no wonder why Undying Yushan hadn't dared to pardon Sigmund Mathers's crime. However, as time passed, and assuming that the Innerverse and Outerverse remained separated, the Hall of Honor's influence would only continue to drop.

Lu Yin truly did hope that the Hall of Honor was everywhere, as it would mean that there was actually hope for defending the Outerverse.

In fact, the moment the Great Yu Empire received the aid request, Lu Yin had already envisioned a tentative plan that could possibly resolve this calamity. Of course, it all depended on luck.

An alarm unexpectedly rang, and the void broke open as a very familiar creature appeared in front of Lu Yin: a Void Wanderer.

Regardless of each individual Void Wanderer's strength, every single one of them had the innate gift of traveling through the void. It was mostly through the work of these Void Wanderers that had paved the path for the Astral Beast Domain's invasion into the Human Domain, and the creatures had sent countless astral beasts over.

Originally, Void Wanderers had only sent over astral beasts that were not space-exploring powerhouses. But after the sky changed, Explorers were no longer able to tear through the void, and so, both Explorer and Cruiser realm beasts now required the assistance of Void Wanderers to travel through the void and arrive at the humans' battlefield.

What appeared in front of him was a squad of Explorer realm astral beasts.

In Ironblood Weave, it was possible for the astral beasts to invade from any location, and their assaults could not be completely withstood by just the Ironblood Fort alone. Lu Yin was not surprised by the creatures' appearance, and he calmly donned his universal armor and moved to the top of the spacecraft, prepared to face the astral beasts that approached from all angles.

Aden and Huo Qingshan also stepped forward. A great battle was about to erupt without any forewarning, but such encounters were inevitable here.

There were too many astral beasts rushing in, and each and every one of them was an Explorer or a Cruiser. Even with Huo Qingshan and Aden's formidable power as Hunters, which allowed them to sweep through an entire area, they were still not fast enough to completely destroy the incoming horde of astral beasts.

Outside the spacecraft, the Ghost Monkey quickly towed Lu Yin over to an astral beast, and Lu Yin then slammed a palm against the creature.

The astral beast felt disdain for this attacker, as this human still needed to use a set of universal armor to roam in outer space. Thus, he couldn't be any more powerful than a Limiteer at best. Limiteer

Realmbreakers were also practically nonexistent, so the creature didn't even bother dodging Lu Yin's attack. Instead, it raised a paw and swatted at Lu Yin, taking his attack head on.

If this scene was seen by Ling Que and the others, then they would definitely be amazed and exclaim, "My heavens!"

There was a boom as the astral beast burst into pieces after being slapped by Lu Yin, decorating the vacuum of outer space with a splash of fresh blood. Lu Yin sped through the bloody haze, which splattered upon his universal armor and added a fresh layer of bright red to it. He then started relentlessly attacking the other astral beasts.

Some distance away from Lu Yin, quite a few astral beasts were burned to a crisp by Huo Qingshan's flames, though he was constantly keeping an eye on Lu Yin. Although Lu Yin had the ability to instantly kill an Enlighter, that was only by relying on his gun, which would not be a feasible method to use against this group of astral beasts. Huo Qingshan was afraid that Lu Yin would not be able to take care of himself.

However, Lu Yin's strength stunned the Hunter once again, and it broke his understanding of how strong a Limiteer could be.

This was especially true after Lu Yin killed a Cruiser realm astral beast. After that, Huo Qingshan lost all anxiety for Lu Yin's safety. None of the astral beasts in this attack wave was stronger than a Cruiser, so none of them were a threat to Lu Yin.

Before long, the ambushing astral beasts were nearly annihilated, though Lu Yin and the others did not come out of the clash completely unharmed either. Fortunately, the fleet full of ordinary troops that had been following behind them to reinforce Ironblood Weave had not caught up yet, or otherwise there would have been massive casualties.

In the battle, Lu Yin had managed to kill one Cruiser and more than ten Explorer beasts overall. For a Limiteer, these results were already pretty decent, and Lu Yin estimated that he had just earned dozens of Ironblood Points.

He glanced at the battle network and saw that his contributions were currently being evaluated. He wouldn't know how many Ironblood Points he had acquired from this battle until the calculations were complete.

This battle did not delay their arrival time too much, and half a day later, Lu Yin and the others saw another colossal structure that took up an entire region of space, much like Brokenblade Fort, which they had previously passed by. The stronghold blocked their entire line of vision since it was formed from many planets, and its strong battle aura seemed to invite them. This was Seasons Fort.

Ironblood Weave was separated into Ironblood Fort at the front, three strongholds in the middle, and then five more strongholds in the back. Seasons Fort was located behind Ironblood Fort, and it was one of the three middle strongholds and another one of the fortresses that was also embroiled in constant conflict.

Lu Yin and the others did not have the luxury of time to carefully observe Seasons Fort, as they were instantly drawn to the battlefield in front of them.

Lu Yin had never seen such a massive battle take place before.

From high above in outer space, to down on the grounds before the fortress, there was fighting everywhere he could see. The battle drums clearly rang throughout the entire region.

In the past, at Erudite Flowzone's border warfront, though the battles had been bitter, Lu Yin had only ever participated in defending the surface of a single planet, and he had not even seen what occurred in outer space. On the other hand, the battlefield at Seasons Fort gave him an acute feeling for the desperate struggle between the different races.

The newcomers were not given any time to think, and Lu Yin and the others immediately jumped into the fray. The battle system could independently differentiate between each participant's identity, so they were able to enter Seasons Fort without any difficulty. Their arrival was greeted by the scene of a severed arm smashing into the middle of the stronghold's space station. Lu Yin's eyes narrowed; he could feel a powerful oppression from the arm, and it had definitely belonged to a Hunter.

As he thought of this, blood rained down like a waterfall before his eyes before a badly mangled corpse crashed down with half of its body missing.

"It's a Hunter." Aden immediately moved in front of Lu Yin to protect him while vigilantly observing the outside of the space station.

There was another explosion as half of the space station was shredded apart by a massive claw. Aden leaped up, and a thunderous rumble roared out from his thunder shield. The next moment, a shockwave swept across the entire area, and Huo Qingshan grabbed Lu Yin and flew away as the entire space station was torn to pieces.

Huo Qingshan took Lu Yin back into outer space, and once they were out of the space station, Lu Yin could finally make out the figure of an enormous monster that was thousands of meters long. He watched as the astral beast was blasted away by Aden and sent flying hundreds of kilometers away. The beast roared as it slashed down with its claw, slicing the void into multiple layers as numerous, incomparably huge spatial cracks crashed down towards the stronghold's space station.

The stronghold's space station had been constructed atop a floating mainland in space, and if it was destroyed, then the entire mainland would collapse.

At the moment, there were many human cultivators still on the mainland, fighting against the astral beasts.

Aden growled, and his thunder shield expanded in size as it collided with the claw. The Hunter forcibly resisted this astral beast's claw strike, preventing even the remnant spatial cracks rushing towards the space station from leaking through the thunder shield's defenses.

Countless people witnessed this scene, all of them shocked and wondering when such a terrifying powerhouse had arrived at their stronghold. It should be known that this astral beast was also a Hunter, but despite that, it had already killed three human Hunters. Aside from a select few elites, no one could stand against the creature, and the few cultivators who had the strength to do so had all been held back by other strong foes. This astral beast was its side's strongest blade during this invasion attempt, but it

had been blocked by a person who had suddenly appeared, and now, the astral beasts were gradually losing the battle.

"That astral beast is at least a monster among Hunters, and it might even be close to the level of being the strongest," Huo Qingshan exclaimed.

Lu Yin quietly replied, "It can't be the strongest since it can't compare to Aden."

Boom!

Another rumble was heard as Aden repelled the astral beast's attack once again. Not only did he repel the beast, but he even pushed his thunder shield forward to force the beast out of the stronghold. The void distorted in the process, and it eventually caused space itself to crack and splinter apart.

At another end of the stronghold, Liu Qiuyu looked over in shock. When did such a strong powerhouse arrive? Such power can rival an Enlighter's.

The Enlighter beast battling against Liu Qiuyu was also stunned, and it looked unwilling to accept what it saw.

Lu Yin had Huo Qingshan take him onto one of the stronghold's floating continents. Some of the fortress's regions were planets while others were independent continents floating in the heavens.

Lu Yin soon appeared on the floating continent that held the space station and joined the battle. He did not want to rashly join the battle in outer space before first understanding the situation of the battlefield.

Nobody knew how long this battle would last for, and Lu Yin fought for two days straight after arriving at Seasons Fort. He was constantly surrounded by astral beasts, and they were even snarling in outer space, above the fortress. At times, a powerful attack would shake the land itself, but the humans' powerhouses held back the destruction.

Lu Yin panted heavily and donned his universal armor while he held some star essences in one hand, restoring his star energy.

Chapter 570: Sudden Battle

Behind Lu Yin, a Void Wanderer suddenly appeared. It was about to tear through the void, but before it could do so, Lu Yin grabbed it and crushed it to death. He had already managed to kill quite a few Void Wanderers.

His performance had started to attract the attention of many of the stronger astral beasts, and occasionally, a Cruiser beast would appear and ambush him. However, not a single one of them were able to break through his universal armor. Lu Yin actually freely allowed such astral beasts to attack him, as he only needed one attack to eliminate them.

Lu Yin's performance finally attracted the attention of even more powerful beings.

A Hunter astral beast tore through the void and opened its mouth at Lu Yin. A powerful strength gathered around it before the beast eventually spat out a compressed energy ball at Lu Yin while also suppressing him with its pressure.

Lu Yin looked up, but he had no plans of dodging since not even this sort of attack was enough to breach his defenses. He even had the time to glance into the distance to look at a place where there were too many rune lines to properly observe. There was a battle between Enlighters taking place there.

He did not plan to dodge since he was confident in being able to withstand the attack, though everyone else thought that he had been targeted and was unable to avoid it. Many who saw the scene felt pity for Lu Yin, as another cultivator was about to die. But they had seen such a thing too many times, as it constantly took place on this battlefield. One thing that stood out was that Lu Yin was the first Limiteer who had managed to attract a Hunter realm astral beast's direct attack due to his strength. It was pitiful.

Right before the compressed energy ball collided against Lu Yin, the void distorted as a sword suddenly appeared. It sliced upwards and split the energy attack apart, causing it to explode on either side of Lu Yin as it fell apart into the ground.

Lu Yin looked up in shock to see a youth standing above him. This person was a Hunter, and his rune lines were not lacking as they even surpassed what Lu Yin saw from the Hunter realm astral beast that had just attacked him.

The young Hunter leaped up and dashed into the void, moving out to battle against the Hunter realm beast.

It didn't take long for blood to scatter through space and down onto the ground below, staining everything. After that, the youthful Hunter landed and looked over at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin also looked at the youth. "Thank you."

"You're pretty good, but you're too timid. As long as you don't go into outer space, there's no need to wear universal armor. It'll only restrict the power that you can put out," the youth commented before vanishing.

"Seventh Bro, you're being looked down on, haha!" The Ghost Monkey laughed happily.

Lu Yin grinned. Looked down on? No—he was being valued, as not every Limiteer qualified to be rescued by a Hunter. The battlefield was massive, and Limiteers died all the time, as would Explorers, Cruisers, and even Hunters. Too many powerhouses perished in this place, and he had been rescued by a Hunter purely because of his outstanding performance.

The battle continued on for another day, and the greatest change during this time was in the Enlighters' battle, which drew even closer to the stronghold. Liu Qiuyu could not drag the Enlighters' battlefield somewhere far from the fortress as his strength was similar to the Enlighter astral beast, and neither one was able to gain the upper hand even though the battle had lasted for so long.

As the Enlighters' battlefield drew ever closer, a corner of Seasons Fort collapsed, and many beasts and humans perished in the chaos.

The youth who had rescued Lu Yin also encountered a strong enemy at this time, a miniscule astral beast only about a meter long. This creature moved about extremely nimbly, but it also had a very powerful body. It seemed rather familiar.

"It's a Yin Guai, one of the twin Guais of our Astral Beast Domain. They're ranked fifth on the Celestial Beast List. They're a very powerful tribe," the monkey said.

Lu Yin suddenly remembered the beast as he had faced its species at Erudite Flowzone's border warfront. The Yin Guais and Sheng Guais had joined forces to protect the Sheng Aos, and Lu Yin had even been suppressed by a Yin Guai at the same realm as him. It was no wonder why this Hunter realm Yin Guai was able to go neck to neck with the Hunter youth.

It should not have been this close of a battle, but when the Yin Guai started hiding its body, the swordsman youth started to fall behind. More of the beast's attacks started landing while he started having difficulty resisting.

"Monkey, what weaknesses do the Yin Guais have?" Lu Yin asked.

The monkey fell silent.

"You're my tamed beast, so you don't have any relationships with the Astral Beast Domain any longer," Lu Yin spoke in a cold, quiet tone, as he did not wish for the Ghost Monkey to keep anything hidden from him.

The monkey was helpless. "The Yin Guais' strength and defense are absurd, and it has a similar reputation to you humans' Mavis Family. They're very difficult to deal with, but they're weak to spiritual force attacks. Since ancient times, whenever you humans fought against my astral beasts, the Daynight Clan would always fight against the Yin Guais. That person's clearly not a Daynight Clan member, so if he wants to win.. Pfft."

There was another bang as the Yin Guai used its claw to smash the Hunter youth into the ground. The creature suddenly appeared from the void, looking extremely proud.

After a while, that youth emerged from the ground, panting. There were even scars on his sword.

Lu Yin suddenly thought of something, after which he retrieved a spear from his cosmic ring and tossed it to the youth. "Use this to fight."

The youth doubtfully took it, but his eyes gleamed the moment he came in contact with the spear. He charged ferociously towards Yin Guai and stabbed out with the spear.

This spear was the one that Lu Yin had obtained from inside the ancient centipede's body. He had kept two; one was saved for himself while the other had been meant for Zhuo Daynight. However, he had forgotten about it. Now, he had given that spear to the youth Hunter.

The spear possessed a spiritual force attack that could instantly wipe out an Explorer. Once it was used, it was not weak. However, the spear's material was not too great since it was an item from ancient times.

The Yin Guai vanished once again. The youth swept out with the spear, and a formless ripple expanded outwards. The Yin Guai wailed in pain and had its concealed state forcefully dispelled. It stared at that spear in apprehension.

The youth sneered. He might not know how to use a spear effectively, but he was at least able to wield it like a sword as he swung it about. The Yin Guai's physical body was tough, but its defenses against

spiritual force were pathetic. The two's strength were on similar levels, but the youth had suddenly received a spear that was able to target the Yin Guai's weak spiritual force with each attack. It didn't take long before the beast wasn't able to take the assault any more and fled.

The youth's eyes turned cold, and an indescribable vigor gathered around him. Lu Yin watched on as the Hunter's rune lines actually formed into a sword. Then, he used the spear as a sword and stabbed out with it.

The Yin Guai shrieked and whirled around to face the attack as the spear collided against the beast. The spear shattered into fragments that floated around in outer space. The Yin Guai froze in place, clearly seriously injured from the spiritual force attack. The youth followed up with a slice from his sword and beheaded the astral beast, killing it completely.

The youth then relaxed. He moved to grab the fragments of the spear, and he muttered to himself before landing in front of Lu Yin. He spread his hands in a helpless manner. "My apologies. Your weapon is ruined."

Lu Yin shrugged. "Take it as repayment for your kindness in saving me earlier."

The youth seriously replied, "On the battlefield, I will save whoever I can whenever possible. Those are the rules of the battlefield. It's not about kindness or anything of that sort. I was able to kill the enemy because of the weapon you gave me, but now, that weapon has been destroyed, and I'm responsible for it. How about this—the contribution points from killing that Yin Guai will be split evenly between the two of us."

Lu Yin was stunned. "Split evenly?"

The man nodded solemnly. "Half and half. There's no need to decline."

Lu Yin did not plan to reject the offer, as that Yin Guai had at the very least been on the level of an elite Hunter, and it might even be evaluated to be a beast at the monstrous genius level, which meant that it was worth at least 1,000 Ironblood Points. Even if he was given half, it would be 500 points, which was equivalent to 500 star essences. Lu Yin felt no need to decline since he was actually losing out if he calculated things. That spear would have been worth far more than 500 star essences if he had sold it to someone who understood its history.

However, this was a battlefield, and such things could not be evaluated here. The value of battle contributions could not be compared to money.

"I'm Liu Zhan. Here's my contact info," the youth said.

Lu Yin's brows rose. "Liu Zhan? The same Liu Zhan who's on the Ironblood Rankings?"

Liu Zhan nodded, and the two quickly exchanged contact details before the Hunter charged back into space once again.

There was no time for idle chit-chat on the battlefield.

Lu Yin had not expected to meet Liu Zhan during his first battle, but he had a favorable impression of this person. The young Hunter did not have the same demeanor as many of the Innerverse's great powers' heirs. He was more like a soldier, which reminded Lu Yin of Zhang Dingtian.

The battle continued on for another half day until the astral beasts finally retreated like a flood drawing back, leaving behind a miserable Seasons Fort.

During this battle, Lu Yin had personally witnessed countless deaths, and the corpses piled up into hills. He had seen a continent collapse, witnessed planets explode, and experienced an unprecedented terror that he had felt even at the border warfront in the past.

By the end of the battle, quite a few of the cultivators who had come from the eastern weaves to answer the call for reinforcements had died or been severely injured. Many people who had just entered Ironblood Weave had already died, as not every cultivator had abilities like Lu Yin, Aden, or Huo Qingshan.

The Cruisers, Explorers, and war fleet that had been sent by the Great Yu Empire would still take a while to arrive. As he saw the miserable results of the battle, Lu Yin had a bad feeling that the reinforcements from the Outerverse would not enjoy a good ending. This place truly was a blackhole of death.

The massive-scale battle had ended, and what came next was tidying up the stronghold. It could not take too long since there was no telling when the next battle would break out. At the very least, that wouldn't happen for at least three days.

Lu Yin and the others gathered together to report to one of the Hunters based in the stronghold and registered themselves in Seasons Fort. As for the deceased, they were similarly recorded, since consolation payments would be made to one's families whenever someone died in Ironblood Weave. The still-alive family members would become the family of a martyr, and such an identity could possibly help them in the future.

There was no stringent selection process, and the military discipline that Lu Yin had expected from a battlefield did not exist in this place. According to a veteran that he spoke to, the front four strongholds did not have any military supervision because there was no time to formally train soldiers. All of the soldiers sent to the front four strongholds were originally from the lower five. As for the front four fortresses, reinforcements might be sent there at any time, but there was only ever one objective given to them: survive.

Huo Qingshan and Aden were forcibly sent to the main pass of the stronghold, which was where the high command of Seasons Fort was located. Commander Liu Qiuyu and many other experts gathered there to await deployments. Although they were Hunters, neither Huo Qingshan nor Aden were average cultivators. In particular, Aden had performed absolutely brilliantly, so it was normal for him to be sent to the central base of the fortress.

However, Lu Yin was unwilling for this to happen, as Aden and Huo Qingshan had come to Ironblood Weave to support him. If they left, then he would have no one protecting him. It had to be acknowledged that his performance during the most recent battle had attracted the attention of many Hunter realm astral beasts that had attempted to kill him.

Unfortunately, Lu Yin was just a Limiteer, and even if he was the strongest Limiteer in the universe, he still didn't have the right to voice his wants or opinions in this place. The various statuses that he had gained while roaming the universe meant nothing in Ironblood Weave. In this place, the only thing of his that had any meaning at all were his Honor Points, but since he only had two, he was given no privileges in the stronghold.

In the end, Aden and Huo Qingshan were both ordered away to different locations.

Lu Yin stared blankly into space, as he would need to keep a lower profile in future battles. Although there was no worry of his life being in danger since he had his upgraded universal armor, it was never a good thing to be targeted.

Eh? What's that?

Lu Yin looked up to see strange objects floating above the stronghold that were about the same size as a large meteoroid. After the battle ended, these objects could be seen floating above the fortress, and while each one was rather small in size, they were sprinkled about the sky rather densely.