#### **STAR ODYSSEY 641**

#### Chapter 641: Blood Looney

"What is that?" someone yelped.

Lu Yin's face turned grim, as he could feel a powerful threat from the blood lotuses.

The fatty beside him turned pale. "What the heck is that?"

The area inside of the cauldron was extremely extensive, and all of the people within it had been searching through their own little corner. However, at this moment, everyone was looking up to observe the blood lotuses that had been released by someone.

Each blood lotus bloomed with a fatal beauty.

A little while later, a silhouette appeared within one of the blood lotuses, which was Blood Looney, the same person who had recently appeared at First Divine Gate.

Blood Looney dangled his feet from the blood lotus and sneered down at the people in the cauldron. His already red eyes turned to an even brighter shade of red.

"Who are you? Why did you block the exit of the cauldron, and why are you recklessly killing people?" someone asked.

Blood Looney grinned widely. "Let's play a game."

Everyone looked up at Blood Looney in confusion. A game? This person must be crazy. What kind of game does he want to play?

"I have a die here, and whatever number I roll will be the number of people who can leave the cauldron alive," Blood Looney slowly explained in a chilling voice.

"Are you from the Fifth Mainland?" someone shouted.

Blood Looney laughed maniacally. "I'll let you guess! Maybe I am, maybe I'm not. Let the games begin!"

A die appeared in his hand that he threw into the cauldron. Everyone's concerned eyes watched as the die finally landed to reveal three pips.

"Three? You guys have pretty good luck! Three of you will be allowed to leave here alive," Blood Looney informed them in a creepy voice. The blood lotuses turned an even darker shade of red as he spoke.

Lu Yin's eyes twitched, and he felt an overt threat. This person was very powerful.

The fatty's face turned pale. "Couldn't he have just waited for two more days? My time's almost up."

"You lunatic! Are you trying to fight all of us by yourself?" someone bellowed, but Blood Looney didn't even respond.

The roots of the blood lotuses started extending down towards the bottom of the cauldron. It seemed as if he was trying to cover the entire cauldron with blood lotuses.

Most of the cultivators who visited the ruins of the Daosource Sect were sensitive towards threats, and the previous scene of a blood lotus reducing someone to nothing but a blood cloud had intimidated many people. However, since Blood Looney was clearly trying to attack everyone, most of the people present stopped hesitating and rushed into the sky to attack Blood Looney.

These people were all comparable to the experts on the Top 100 Rankings, and some of them were even as strong as the top three of the Top 100 Rankings. Blood Looney's eyes turned a brilliant red, and his pupils changed form to that of a wild beast as he faced the attacks. He then released a chilling roar that caused the blood lotuses to surge as blood red dragons shot out from the lotuses.

"Those are corpse dragons and blood lotuses! He has dual bloodlines—I know who he is! That's Blood Looney! He was placed in cryostasis thousands of years ago after he failed to become one of the Daosource Three Skies!" someone in the cauldron shouted.

Blood Looney laughed. "I will strengthen these lotuses with your blood to make myself more powerful. Then, I will wait here for the Daosource Three Skies! My rage at being forced into cryostasis for a thousand years will only be appeased when I replace the Daosource Three Skies."

# Bang bang bang!

The blood red corpse dragons clashed with dozens of cultivators. Although the cultivators in this place were generally quite powerful, they all ended up being defeated by the corpse dragons. It only took a few seconds for the corpse dragons to tear five cultivators apart, leaving nothing but a blood cloud that was absorbed by the blood lotuses, strengthening them.

"Let's attack together! Those blood lotuses will only get more powerful as they absorb more blood. We can't let him get away with this!" someone shouted. Then, everyone attacked in unison.

Lu Yin narrowed his eyes; these people still hadn't realized the huge gap between them and Blood Looney at all. Both Blood Looney and Shang Rong were people who were as strong as Hunters, and such powerhouses couldn't be defeated by sheer numbers.

Multiple corpse dragons rushed out of the blood lotuses and attacked the people in the cauldron.

A corpse dragon that was ten meters long and enveloped by a bloody aura charged at Lu Yin.

The fatty yelped, "Bro, help me!"

Lu Yin clenched his fists and attacked the corpse dragon with a Thirty-Stacks Hundredfold Shockwave Palm. The corpse dragon was shattered by his attack, but it recovered near instantly and lashed out at Lu Yin with its tail. Lu Yin dodged aside, so quickly that his movements shattered space and released shockwaves that blew Huang San away.

A single corpse dragon was already extremely powerful on its own, and there were nearly a hundred corpse dragons that had been released into the cauldron. This was an impossible difference to overcome.

Mr. Bai twirled his fan around, and it turned into a mark on his forehead. He also attacked the corpse dragon and managed to shatter it, but despite that, the corpse dragon once again recovered and continued its attack.

Miss Qing was entirely focused on dodging the attacks.

People kept being swallowed by the corpse dragons, which in turn strengthened the blood lotuses.

Lu Yin's expression was grim. This was a person who had tried to challenge the Daosource Three Skies in the past, so he had to at least be as strong as a Realmling. A Realmling was someone who could compete against the Ten Arbiters, which meant that Lu Yin was facing someone who was at the same level as the Ten Arbiters. He had no idea how to deal with someone like that without the help of any external objects.

Another corpse dragon crashed towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin lifted up his hand as his Fatesand formed a clump of soil that blocked the corpse dragon's attack. He then pressed his hands against the corpse dragon and shoved it away as seven lined battle force manifested around his body. At the same time, the silhouette of the Skygobbling Pig appeared around the fatty as he bit at the corpse dragon.

The corpse dragon also tried to bite the fatty.

It was astounding to watch a dragon and a pig snapping at each other.

Mr. Bai leapt towards Lu Yin. "Brother Deaf-mute, we have to put our full efforts forth right now. We can only rely on our luck to leave this place alive."

Lu Yin was stumped, as even the combination of his battle force, domain, and physical strength was not enough to overcome these corpse dragons. The dragons were able to instantly recover after being shattered, and were thus very hard to defeat. Moreover, the number of people who had been devoured by the lotuses was constantly rising, which made the dragons grow even more powerful. Thus, Blood Looney would also keep growing stronger. Once he successfully absorbed enough blood from these people in the Daosource Sect ruins, he might become a powerhouse who could defeat the Daosource Three Skies. Thus, the people in the cauldron were nothing more than stepping stones for his future.

Lu Yin only had one method available to him at this moment, which was to attack Blood Looney with the Dream Finger. He had to make sure that his attack connected with Blood Looney so that he could injure him. Of course, Lu Yin didn't expect to kill Blood Looney with the Dream Finger, as that was impossible given that this freak was on the same level as the Ten Arbiters.

Although the people in the cauldron were being suppressed, there were still some experts within the crowd. A man and a woman managed to dodge a corpse dragon and were getting closer to Blood Looney.

Blood Looney lifted his head as a purple line appeared around his face: it was eight-lined battle force.

Impressive imprints appeared behind both the man and the woman. Blood Looney licked his lips. "A cosmic Imprinter! You guys aren't bad."

He used his body to withstand their attacks as the vague shadow of an old man appeared behind Blood Looney. The old man's facial features could be seen clearly, and once this imprint appeared, an imposing aura crushed down upon everyone within the cauldron.

The fatty stuttered, "Tha- that's Bluedome Elder! He's an Empyrean Imprinter!"

Lu Yin had already learned about the Imprinter system that existed in the Sixth Mainland through his conversations with his three companions. An Imprinter of a certain level was able to imprint some of their power onto another cultivator, which would then increase the weaker cultivator's power level. Cultivators were able to choose Imprinters based on the power that they could withstand, and that determined the amount of strength that a cultivator could borrow.

Imprinter, World Imprinter, Cosmic Imprinter, Empyrean Imprinter: this was the hierarchy of the Imprinter system.

Lu Yin had made his own comparisons and deduced that Imprinters were probably Envoys whose power level was greater than 500,000. Only powerhouses with a power level that exceeded 500,000 were able to imprint other cultivators.

According to Lu Yin's estimate, an Empyrean Imprinter was most likely a powerhouse with a power level of almost a million.

The stronger the Imprinter, the greater the power increase from the imprint. For people who were in the same realm, the difference between having the imprint of a normal Imprinter and a Empyrean Imprinter's was huge. It was similar to the difference between a normal Explorer and one who was in the Top 100 Rankings.

However, cultivators could not choose their Imprinters at random, and an important condition for obtaining imprints was the cultivator's own ability to withstand an Imprinter's power. Lu Yin still didn't really understand anything about this condition.

For example, Huang San was only able to withstand an imprint from a Yan family elder, who was a normal Imprinter. He couldn't withstand an imprint from a world Imprinter.

Meanwhile, the person in front of them had received an imprint from an Empyrean Imprinter, and it was even possible to clearly make out the expression of the Empyrean Imprinter's face.

The fatty wasn't being timid at this moment, as the two experts who had approached Blood Looney were comparable in strength to Autumnfrost Qing. Despite that, they had been utterly defeated and reduced to two blood clouds that were summarily absorbed by the blood lotuses. At that moment, the corpse dragons also became more powerful.

Mr. Bai's expression became rather downcast. "Let us make our best attempt."

Miss Qing's expression was similarly grim.

Lu Yin took a deep breath. The Yu Secret Art, Dream Finger, battle force, domain... He wondered if he would be able to survive with his skills, as at least one out of the four in his group would die.

Just as they were about to move forward to fight with Blood Looney, dozens of corpse dragons suddenly exploded in the sky. A white shadow flitted past everything and appeared in front of Blood Looney. The shadow then thrust a spear through Blood Looney's neck even as Blood Looney had an expression of disbelief.

The entire cauldron fell silent as the corpse dragons fell apart into pools of blood.

Everyone stared up at the sky in a daze. Blood Looney had just been killed.

This person wore a full set of white armor including a helmet and wielded a white spear. This person had appeared out of nowhere and killed Blood Looney with one stab of their spear.

It was likely that not a single person present would ever be able to forget that impressive attack.

Drip

Drip

Drip

Blood steadily flowed out from Blood Looney's neck, and he slowly fell to the ground after his killer pulled their spear back.

Everyone was staring at the person who looked like a knight.

At that moment, that person pointed their spear at the blood lotus and spoke in a low voice, "Come out!"

Everyone followed the person's gaze and saw another silhouette still inside of the blood lotus. They were all shocked. Blood Looney? Everyone turned to look at the ground, where the body of the Blood Looney that was stabbed through the neck had fallen. They watched as the corpse slowly melted away and turned into a puddle of blood. It had been nothing more than an illusion.

Everyone's eyes glinted, and they carefully watched Blood Looney as he emerged from the blood lotus. He wasn't dead yet.

Blood Looney looked at the person in white armor with obvious excitement. "I didn't expect someone like you to be here. Who are you?"

The white armored knight raised their spear and simply answered, "Someone who is about to kill you."

The armored figure then stabbed their spear at Blood Looney.

## Chapter 642: White Knight

Blood Looney grabbed the tip of the spear and stopped it when it was less than one centimeter from his body. "You have the strength of a Realmling, but you don't possess a bloodline. You're probably the Realmling of the Martial Progenitor Realm or the Secret Progenitor Realm."

Numerous corpse dragons rushed at this white armored person, but the armored person simply spun their spear around and cut Blood Looney's palm straight to the bone. The spear then shattered the corpse dragons before it thrust at Blood Looney once again. Blood Looney laughed crazily as his hand rapidly recovered and eight lined battle force appeared around him.

# Crack!

The collision between the two powerhouses released an overwhelming shockwave that reverberated about the cauldron, letting everyone thoroughly feel the terrifying power of the impact.

Lu Yin was stunned. This wasn't a battle that he could interfere in, These two people were on the same level as the Ten Arbiters.

"We are so lucky that a Realmling appeared!" the fatty exclaimed.

Mr. Bai wondered aloud, "Which realm is this Realmling from? There are only nine realms, and thus, we should be able to recognize this person. However, their appearance is completely unfamiliar."

Miss Qing's eyes flashed with an odd light. "What if they're not a Realmling?"

Mr. Bai glanced over at her. "If that turns out to be true, then we will still have to try our best."

"What are you talking about?" The fatty was confused.

Lu Yin calmly replied, "If that person isn't a Realmling, then they must be one of the Ten Arbiters from the Fifth Mainland."

It wasn't only Mr. Bai who was confused, as everyone else was feeling the same sense of loss. There were only nine Realmlings, but nobody was able to recognize this person. Thus, there was a very high chance that they were one of the Ten Arbiters.

The other people were merely guessing, but Lu Yin was already completely certain of the newcomer's identity.

# Bang bang bang bang!

Everyone trapped in the cauldron heard violent explosions ring out above them as the blood lotuses surged with power. Multiple corpse dragons appeared, and Blood Looney commanded the dragons to all attack the armored knight. The armored individual used their spear to keep the corpse dragons at bay, but that only caused Blood Looney to laugh maniacally. The image of the heaven Imprinter appeared behind him once again as he lifted a hand and attacked the armored attacker.

The knight was smashed down to the ground, and their armor started to disintegrate.

"Who are you? Show me your imprint!" Blood Looney shouted, his red eyes full with excitement.

The armored person lifted their head up, and although their face was covered by a helmet, everyone suddenly felt an overwhelming sense of dignity emanate from this figure. A bell chimed loudly as the blood lotuses evaporated. The silhouette of a castle appeared both on the ground and in the sky.

At that moment, everyone felt a huge pressure coming from the sky.

Blood Looney's eyes narrowed. "You're not from the Sixth Mainland. You're a remnant of the Fifth Mainland!"

Everyone turned to look at the knight.

The armored knight gripped their spear tightly, jumped up into the sky, and forced Blood Looney into the blood lotus that was directly above the cauldron. "I'm White Knight, a member of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters. Nice to meet you."

Everyone present was stunned; one of the Ten Arbiters from the Fifth Mainland?

Lu Yin sighed, as he had indeed guessed correctly. This person was one of the Ten Arbiters: White Knight Ling Gong, a genius of the Lingling Clan.

Recently, the Ten Arbiters had constantly been appearing in the ruins of the Daosource Sect, and it had become a battlefield for the young elites from the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands. Lu Yin had actually expected to bump into White Knight here. If his guesses were correct, then White Knight had probably initially been planning to kill everyone in the cauldron, but they had been interrupted by Blood Looney.

Was this a fortunate or unfortunate event? Blood Looney and White Knight would now absolutely have to fight each other.

White Knight was also the person who had taken Wendy Yushan to join the Myriad Swords Peak.

Lu Yin looked at the opening of the cauldron in confusion.

At this moment, he truly felt the strength of one of the Ten Arbiters, as even Blood Looney was helpless in front of this person.

The other people inside the cauldron had complicated feelings as well. They were from the Sixth Mainland, which meant that they were naturally enemies with everyone from the Fifth Mainland. However, at this moment, they didn't want White Knight to lose, as that would raise Blood Looney's power and seal their fate of becoming Blood Looney's fertilizer.

Blood Looney grew very excited. "One of the Ten Arbiters from the Fifth Mainland? It's been a thousand years, and I never thought that the Fifth Mainland would produce a powerhouse like you. That's good! Once I absorb you, I'll definitely be able to kill the Daosource Three Skies!"

He wrapped the blood around himself before rushing towards White Knight. The castle and the blood lotuses didn't collide with each other; instead, they slowly encroached upon each other's territory as both combatants tried to exhaust the strength of their opponent.

The collision between White Knight and Blood Looney caused most people to become dazed, and a few of them even fainted at that instance. The collision between an innate gift and a bloodline had led to a huge surge of spiritual force that normal people weren't able to withstand.

Huang San immediately collapsed, unconscious.

Mr. Bai and Miss Qing both sat down at that same moment in an attempt to endure the spiritual force.

People kept collapsing as the battle continued.

Neither Blood Looney nor White Knight cared about the life and death of the people who were in the cauldron below them. Their only goal was to kill everyone present.

Lu Yin was dazed by the surge of spiritual force, but he was still able to withstand it since he had recited the Stonewall Scriptures for years. His resilience had reached the point where even the spiritual force from the battle in the sky above couldn't faze him. He was the only person who remained standing.

Clang clang clang!

Blood Looney and White Knight exchanged numerous blows as their battle accelerated. Soon, their figures flitted across the sky, sporadically disappearing and reappearing.

Lu Yin couldn't even clearly see their battle.

Both the blood lotus and castle kept up, extending to where the two combatants were battling and causing all of the cultivators in that area to be reduced to puddles of blood. Lu Yin's eyes narrowed; they couldn't touch those blood lotuses.

He grabbed the fatty and tried to take him out of the cauldron. However, Lu Yin was already at his limit and couldn't really move. As the castle and blood lotuses neared his group, more and more cultivators were killed.

"Just leave without us," Mr. Bai said.

Lu Yin's eyes flashed, and he started reciting the Stonewall Scriptures out of desperation.

The Stonewall Scriptures had always helped him whenever he had faced any challenges.

Once he started reciting the Stonewall Scriptures, he felt the pressure on him gradually start to decrease. He immediately grabbed the fatty, Mr. Bai, and Miss Qing and then started rushing towards the rim of the cauldron. However, the cauldron started trembling after he had only taken a few steps, and a silhouette of the cauldron suddenly appeared in his mind.

Is this a battle technique? Lu Yin was elated; he didn't expect that the Stonewall Scriptures would activate the cauldron now and allow him to learn a new battle technique. However, a shockwave suddenly swept throughout the cauldron and struck him in the back, sending him flying ten meters away, along with Mr. Bai and the others. He spat out a mouthful of blood and glanced behind. He saw that White Knight and Blood Looney were now both holding onto the spear as they contested each other through star energy.

Some more shockwaves crashed against the sides of the cauldron, and some of them collided against the stunned cultivators. There were even some that crashed into the blood lotuses atop the cauldron.

The castle and the blood lotuses stopped expanding and instead started corroding each other.

Another shockwave swept past the four youths, but it was blocked by Lu Yin with his Fatesand. Mr. Bai and Miss Qing thanked him, but Lu Yin anxiously responded, "We don't have time for this! Be careful and stay away from the shockwaves."

"Those two are crazy!," Miss Qing muttered.

Mr. Bai laughed bitterly. "It would seem that our plans to explore the Daosource Sect will have to be delayed. This place has become a battlefield for the young elites of the Fifth and Sixth Mainland, and it is no longer a stage that we can stand on."

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. He wouldn't have cared about such a thing a short while ago, but just now, he had realized that he could learn this cauldron's battle technique. Although he hadn't succeeded in this

short amount of time, he already knew the method for learning the battle technique. He just had to recite the Stonewall Scriptures, and thus, he couldn't give up on this place.

Rumor had it that the nine cauldrons each contained one of nine battle techniques and that the combination of these nine battle techniques would become something invincible. The thing that he was currently lacking at this moment was exactly a powerful battle technique. Since the Stonewall Scriptures could activate this cauldron, then could it do the same for the other eight cauldrons as well? Did that mean that he could learn all nine battle techniques and, consequently, the invincible battle technique?

This was a huge temptation for any cultivator, and many cultivators had died just for a chance at this destiny. Lu Yin was also a cultivator, and he didn't want to give up on this battle technique, even if this place had turned into a deadly battlefield.

An invincible battle technique was right in front of him, and Lu Yin felt that opportunities always coexisted with danger. He gritted his teeth as he knew that he wouldn't be able to learn the battle technique at this exact moment since the shockwaves from the battle would constantly disrupt him. He would have to return to this place again later and sneak back into this place.

Above him, White Knight and Blood Looney were each holding onto the spear while their star energies continuously collided. Peals of thunder rang out as spatial cracks appeared within the cauldron.

"So the Fifth Mainland was actually able to produce a powerhouse like you! What a shame that there is a war and that you won't have room to grow!" Blood Looney shouted excitedly. The imprint of Bluedome Elder behind him was as clear as day now, and it looked as if an actual person was standing behind him.

White Knight replied in a low voice, saying, "All of you are slaves to a fixed cultivation system. You have no future."

Blood Looney laughed. "So what? We are still enough to annihilate you."

"Our sky has been changed by the Sixth Mainland, which has led to the advent of fake power. Even so, the people from the Sixth Mainland cannot defeat us. Xing Kai has already killed one of your Realmlings, and you can't defeat me. This is the difference between us. Thus, I'm sure that the history of the ancient war is not true. You guys must have covered up the truth!" White Knight bellowed.

Blood Looney sneered. "That's none of my business. I just want to kill you and use your blood to defeat the Daosource Three Skies!"

"I've already told you that you can't defeat me!" White Knight yelled. Their star energy crashed against the other's and caused the space in the region to distort.

The shockwaves slowly dispersed as the remaining cultivators finally started slowly regaining their consciousnesses. They watched the battle above them develop in terror.

The two youths continued fighting for two days, and it was obvious that they were both exhausted by the battle, especially White Knight, whose spear had started to crack.

Blood Looney grinned as countless corpse dragons appeared and attacked White Knight. "You're dead!"

Lu Yin's heart skipped a beat; was the Arbiter about to lose?

There was a bang as White Knight was hit by countless corpse dragons. At the same time, the battle force surrounding Blood Looney suddenly turned red. This was nine lined battle force. He had been hiding his strength this entire time, only revealing it at a critical moment. His attack pierced through White Knight's abdomen, and the blood reflected Blood Looney's ferocious face.

The people within the cauldron were all terrified; Blood Looney had won.

Lu Yin's eye twitched. The Arbiter had lost!

The Ten Arbiters were synonymous with invincibility in his universe. He had never heard of an Arbiter being defeated, and normal people weren't even qualified to know the Ten Arbiters' names. The ten of them were worshiped like gods by their peers, and they wielded incredible authority that influenced the entire universe. However, someone like that had just been defeated.

# Chapter 643: Escape

Everyone in the cauldron stared at Blood Looney, who was towering high above them in the sky in a berserk state. This was the strength of a powerhouse from the Sixth Mainland who could compete for the position of one of the Daosource Three Skies.

Hold on. Lu Yin suddenly recalled something. Ling Gong is from the Lingling clan, and the Lingling clan has the Soulsplitting Technique!

Above the cauldron, White Knight had been stabbed through, and Blood Looney pulled his hand back to taste the fresh blood. The red color in his eyes grew even brighter as he continued to stare into White Knight's eyes. He saw the suffering in them, and this excited him to no end.

Suddenly, Blood Looney's gaze trembled. As he stared into White Knight's eyes, he saw his reflection, behind which a figure had suddenly appeared. He whirled around, only to see a spear about to pierce through his throat. At the last possible moment, Blood Looney raised his hand and grabbed a hold of the spear, his nine lined battle force causing White Knight to halt his advance. "You- you're not dead?"

Blood Looney was certain that he had just killed White Knight, as what he had just seen and felt was something that could not be faked. So how was there now another White Knight?

White Knight's spear vibrated and swept Blood Looney's hand aside. Then, his spear lashed forward again, striking Blood Looney's body and sending him flying away.

Beneath the two, the castle that had stopped spreading began to slowly release a certain radiance that caused all the blood lotuses in its surrounding area to completely evaporate away. A grand clock rang out, sounding as if it had come from a palace in the heavens.

Blood Looney clutched his chest. Fresh blood dripped down from the corners of his lips, and he stared intently at White Knight with a berserk light in his eyes. "How is this possible? How could you defeat me?"

White Knight's spear was aimed straight at Blood Looney. "I've already told you that you guys have no future, not even your so-called 'Daosource Three Skies.' You are all just slaves to a rigid cultivation system, and just you guys alone cannot beat us."

After speaking, White Knight thrust their spear forward once again.

Blood Looney was infuriated, and the blood lotuses that were sealing off the cauldron's entrance melted away, returned to blood, and were reabsorbed back into Blood Looney. His entire body turned a scarlet red, and he charged at White Knight with a rabid expression.

White Knight's gaze trembled, and the castle's radiance expanded once again as the spear continued piercing forward.

With a bang, a massive spatial crack split the sky apart, and an intense gale swept out in all directions, causing many of the surviving cultivators to spit out blood. Even Lu Yin felt his heart lurch and his chest tighten, causing him to nearly spit out blood as well.

The sky warped as the two figures mutually repelled each other. This was an all out collision between the two powerhouses, and both the blood lotuses and castle disappeared at that moment.

The two figures crashed into each other atop the cauldron, and they spat out blood at the same time.

The outcome of their fight could not be determined, as both had been injured in this exchange.

The blood lotuses that had sealed off the top of the cauldron had also disappeared, as this last strike had injured both of the fighters.

But the two of them were still blocking the exit, and no one dared to charge past them and escape.

At this moment, a noise could be heard from outside the cauldron, and White Knight leaped up and left. It seemed that White Knight had heard someone else outside the cauldron, which had prompted them to leave as, being someone from the Fifth Mainland, White Knight would have to face attackers from all sides wherever they went. White Knight was thus left with no choice but to flee given their injuries.

Blood Looney stared off into the distance with an unwilling expression as he clenched both fists tightly. If he had been able to absorb some more of this person's fresh blood, then he definitely would have become strong enough to defeat the current generation's Daosource Three Skies.

"Let's go!" someone within the cauldron barked. They were all afraid of being trapped by Blood Looney once again. Although he was currently injured, the disparity between his strength and their own was too great; they didn't dare to contest Blood Looney even with his injured state.

Less than twenty people inside the cauldron had survived the battle, and they quickly all dashed out and fled in various directions.

Blood Looney became flustered even as he spat out a mouthful of blood. He had indeed wanted to seal off the top of the cauldron once again, but it was already too late. His only choice was to choose a random direction and chase down whoever had fled that way. Coincidentally, he chose the direction that Lu Yin and his companions had fled in.

"Why is this lunatic chasing us?" Huang San was terrified. He had woken up, and upon regaining consciousness, the first thing he saw was Blood Looney running after them. "Did you guys piss him off?"

"We should split up. Since he dares to chase after us, it shows that his injuries are not too severe and that he still has the confidence to deal with us," Mr. Bai suggested, and Miss Qing and Lu Yin agreed with him.

"Split up? Who should I follow?" The fatty was horrified, as he was the weakest out of them all, not to mention the slowest.

Lu Yin frowned, as this stupid fatty was truly troublesome. He was about to answer when the fatty vanished.

Lu Yin was speechless. For the fatty's time to expire at this moment showed that he enjoyed exceptional luck.

Mr. Bai, Miss Qing, and Lu Yin thus went their own ways, each choosing a different direction.

Blood Looney growled in anger. If he had not been heavily injured, then there was no way he would allow any of these three to slip away given his top speed. He glanced around, chose a direction, and then continued to chase after one of the youths.

"Seventh Bro, that lunatic is chasing you!" the Ghost Monkey shrieked.

Lu Yin turned around and coincidentally exchanged glances with Blood Looney's red eyes. His expression changed. "Why is he chasing me? Can he tell that I'm from the Fifth Mainland?"

"Seventh Bro, you're really a firefly in the dark! You get chased wherever you go!" the monkey wailed in agony.

Lu Yin had no choice either, but then he suddenly thought of a possibility. Two days ago, he had been the only one who was able to remain standing during the battle between the two young powerhouses, and he had even been able to drag Mr. Bai and the other two youths in their group away. Perhaps that incident had caused him to stand out in Blood Looney's eyes, making Lu Yin seem very powerful, or at the very least, stronger than the others. This would make Blood Looney think that Lu Yin's blood would be more advantageous for him. It had to be said that the lunatic had guessed correctly.

Lu Yin smiled bitterly, as he should have tried to behave in a more low-profile manner.

Behind him, Blood Looney took action, and summoned a corpse dragon from his body that shot through the sky and towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin further increased his speed, but the space ahead of him suddenly split open. He hurriedly dodged to the side as the corpse dragon rushed into the spatial crack and disappeared. However, another corpse dragon dashed out a short while later to chase after him.

The space in the Nine Cauldrons' region was comparatively stable, but Lu Yin would actually prefer it to be unstable.

Even if Blood Looney was currently injured, he was still very fast.

"You can't catch me! Go and kill someone else!" Lu Yin shouted.

Blood Looney grinned coldly. "It has to be you."

Lu Yin thought of turning back and giving his all in a fight, as the Yu Secret Art combined with the Dream Finger might actually be enough to deal with the injured Blood Looney. Still, Lu Yin decided against that course of action after thinking about it more.

He continued to flee for a while longer until he finally saw a light pillar ahead of him; this one was located in the center of the Nine Cauldrons' region. Lu Yin was delighted, and he quickly dashed towards it.

Blood Looney snorted coldly, and he raised a hand, causing a giant blood lotus to appear in the sky as he attempted to crush Lu Yin.

The light pillar was right in front of Lu Yin, so he raised a hand and casually waved it in response, activating the Yu Secret Art. Immediately, the blood lotus attack was diverted in another direction.

Blood Looney's pupils shrank. "Is this a battle technique? No, with your strength, there's no way a battle technique could withstand my attack... This is a secret technique! You know a secret technique!"

Lu Yin gritted his teeth and stepped into the light pillar.

"Stop running! Hand over that secret technique!" Blood Looney gave his all and ferociously spat out a mouthful of blood. The blood formed a mist that surged around him and enveloped his body. He then tore through the void and instantly appeared in front of Lu Yin, stepping into the light pillar at the same moment as Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's scalp went numb even as the scenery changed before his eyes. He left the region with the Nine Cauldrons and instead appeared in an area riddled with canyons. But more importantly, Blood Looney appeared there at the same time.

Blood Looney grabbed Lu Yin's shoulder, and Lu Yin reached out to grab Blood Looney's wrist in turn. The two were both using their physical strength at the same time.

Blood Looney's wrist shattered into pieces, leaving him shocked. How had he actually lost in a battle of strength? Without hesitation, his nine lined battle force burst forth, and he swatted out with a hand. Lu Yin also released his seven lined battle force while his Fatesand formed into a shield in front of him. There was a thump, and the Fatesand trembled while Lu Yin was sent flying out of the light pillar. He knew that he was outmatched, and instantly he moved to escape into the distance without turning back.

Blood Looney coughed out yet another mouthful of blood, as he had been severely injured during his battle with White Knight. Despite that, he had forced himself to use his battle techniques and even activated his nine lined battle force to chase after Lu Yin, which had further aggravated his injuries. But for a secret technique, he was willing to pay anything. As long as he could get that secret technique, his power would undergo a groundbreaking transformation.

Why did he want to become one of the Daosource Three Skies? Aside from the experts from the Secret Progenitor Realm, the experts of the Blood Progenitor Realm and the Martial Progenitor Realm also wanted to obtain a secret technique. Blood Looney's true objective was to become one of the Daosource Three Skies, and he would only reach an invincible position if he grasped a secret technique. And now, there was a secret technique right in front of his eyes.

Blood Looney slapped his own chest, and his face went pale as he spat out another large mouthful of blood. This time, the bloody mist reinforced his body, and he instantly tore through the void to chase after Lu Yin again, immediately appearing behind Lu Yin. Behind Blood Looney, the imprint that he had

received from the Bluedome Elder reappeared, and an enormous pressure caused Lu Yin's back to turn cold. "Stop right there and hand over the secret technique!"

Then, Blood Looney grabbed at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin paused and turned around with a raised finger. His eyes suddenly went slack as he lost consciousness. A boundless rage surged through him, and the Dream Finger tapped out.

The void froze, and only that finger was able to transcend space to tap against Blood Looney's palm. The finger easily pierced through the palm and continued moving towards his brain, as if it intended to crush his brain within his skull.

However, it did not succeed. Blood Looney was too powerful, and Lu Yin could not touch him even if he pushed this technique to the point of his finger splitting. Helpless, Lu Yin pulled his finger back, but the power of that finger had already forced Blood Looney back by a hundred meters.

The void recovered, and Lu Yin continued fleeing once again, though his finger was now bleeding.

Blood Looney was stunned, and he tightly clutched his shoulder as fresh blood flowed from beneath his palm. How was this possible? An Explorer had actually injured him? That finger had cut off all possible means of evasion. What sort of battle technique was that? This person had a secret technique, an invincible battle technique, and even battle force on top of all that! He was an absolute monster!

Wait a minute, he never used an imprint at all. Blood Looney's head snapped up. There was only one possibility where someone would not use their imprint at such a critical juncture. Could this person be yet another survivor from the Fifth Mainland?

Blood Looney snarled loudly. He had to capture this person, as his secret and battle techniques were the best gift possible for Blood Looney after being locked away in cryostasis for a thousand years.

Despite being repeatedly injured, Blood Looney still did not give up the chase.

Lu Yin was also feeling helpless, as this madman must have guessed that Lu Yin was not someone from the Sixth Mainland by now. Lu Yin knew that would be in deep trouble if he bumped into anyone from the Sixth Mainland at this juncture.

Just when Lu Yin's thoughts reached this point, he saw that there was someone up ahead of him, lighting a fire. This new person's posture seemed like they were intending to prepare some food to eat. Lu Yin wanted to avoid them, but after a moment's thought, he didn't. At this moment, what Blood Looney wanted to do the most was to obtain Lu Yin's secret technique, and thus, the madman would not allow Lu Yin's identity to be exposed for fear of Lu Yin being captured by someone else. This meant that anyone who appeared in their path, regardless of whether they were from the Fifth or the Sixth Mainland, was an enemy.

Lu Yin was very expectant as he charged towards the area with the fire, hoping to encounter a ruthless character, as even someone like Autumnfrost Qing would be enough at this moment.

Blood Looney had also seen that there was someone lighting a fire up ahead in the distance, and he ground his teeth so hard that he almost spat out another mouthful of blood while his face paled even further. If he wanted to acquire this secret technique, then he would require quite a long period of

recovery after this, but it would all be well worth it for a secret technique. Anyone who blocked his path had to die.

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Nong Zaitian had always believed that he was an ambitious youth. Since a young age, he had held a dream, which was to spread his brilliant image across the entire Sixth Mainland—not just throughout the Blood Progenitor Realm, but even to the Martial Progenitor Realm and the Secret Progenitor Realm. Everybody everywhere should know of his glorious image.

Unfortunately, this dream had been shattered the moment he became more sensible. His name meant that he was fated to never acquire any glory. And that indeed turned out to be the case: there was nothing wrong with anything else about him, as his appearance, personality, and even social skills were quite decent. It was just his name, which was the greatest stain on his life.

He had thought of rebelling and changing his name, but when he tried, he had failed, and he had nothing to show of it aside from being beaten countless times. However, he had never thought of giving up, and had instead decided to change his name after becoming a top-notch expert. But as he matured, the ancestors in his family had given him a power vessel, and after receiving it, Nong Zaitian realized that he would never be able to shake off his name, as that power vessel was actually a hoe.

# Chapter 644: The Hoe's Elegance

When he thought of his hoe, Nong Zaitian wanted to vomit up blood. Who would refine a hoe into a power vessel? Really, who? Nong Zaitian wished that he could pull that bastard out of their grave and beat up their corpse.

This hoe had shoved Nong Zaitian straight into the pit of despair, as he would never be able to return from the path of a hillbilly youth; anything to do with elegance and style was no longer any of his business.

He had already reached the depths of despair, and even when he simply walked down the road, he felt like everyone was laughing at him. He had felt stifled due to this for a long time, but he eventually thought things through and finally decided to let go of such feelings. A hoe was a hoe, and he could still achieve glory with a hoe; a hoe could also be the foundation of many things.

Of course, letting go was one thing, but he still carried some regret in his heart.

However, this regret had completely vanished after the incident at the First Divine Gate located in the Fifth Mainland's Daosource Sect's ruins.

With the Sixth Mainland invading the Fifth Mainland, as a descendant of a Cosmic Imprinter's family, Nong Zaitian had to go to the frontlines. Before he left, his family had allowed him to seek out a lucky encounter in the Fifth Mainland's Daosource Sect's ruins. The members of the Nong family always had decent luck, and this youth was so smug that he had vowed to obtain countless treasures in the same manner as his ancestor.

Who could have known that, as soon as he had entered First Divine Gate, he would face a lunatic.

Thankfully, due to the guidance of his ancestors who had created the Nong family's training regime, the Nong family kept records of all the experts who could endanger the lives of their family members as a method of preparing for the unexpected. This was one of the Nong family's keys to averting disaster, and that madman, Blood Looney, had been in those records. He was a monster from 1,000 years ago who had failed during his bid for one of the Daosource Three Skies' positions. He had killed many people and had thus been placed in cryostasis. The moment Nong Zaitian had seen Blood Looney, he had made his escape, and rather quickly at that.

As he thought about it, Nong Zaitian was once again grateful towards his hoe. Speaking of which, this hoe's speed was truly impressive, and it had allowed him to flee from that madman in the blink of an eye. This thing was an absolute lifesaver, and because of this detail, he no longer had any regrets. The hoe was a good item.

As for those friends, they had just been fair-weathered people. Those buggers had mocked him many times in the past, and in the end, they probably regretted not having a hoe like his.

Nong Zaitian had then wandered about the Daosource Sect's ruins for several days, and he was currently feeling rather tired. He was about to make something to eat, but after he started his fire, he noticed that there was someone dashing towards him from a distance, and it seemed as though this person was not planning on stopping. Nong Zaitian stood up, planning to teach this person a lesson. Although he was not exceptionally powerful, he was still the heir of a Cosmic Imprinter's family, and his strength was at an acceptable level for the Blood Homage Realm.

The person drew closer, and by then, Nong Zaitian had finally finished his preparations to take action. Eh? It looked like there was actually someone chasing after the person who was approaching; this situation was obviously a chase-and-kill one. It was no wonder why the person approaching him seemed panicked. Still, it didn't matter to Nong Zaitian, as the person would die if they continued on their current path. Nong Zaitian would have no problem stalling the person for the pursuer.

Eh? Hold up, why does that red body behind him look so familiar? Nong Zaitian rubbed his eyes, and then his expression changed greatly. "Blood Looney? F\*ck me!"

He swore, quickly stepped on top of his hoe, and then made his escape.

Lu Yin charged towards Nong Zaitian at top speed. He watched on as Nong Zaitian stood up, and Lu Yin even sensed the youth's hostility. Lu Yin knew this person was about to act, and Lu Yin was about to call out to him when he suddenly saw this person step on a... On a... Eh? A hoe? What the hell?

With a whoosh, Nong Zaitian's hoe flew away, and he vanished in the blink of an eye.

Lu Yin's eyes lit up, and he instinctively activated the Yu Secret Art, which caused the hoe that was below Nong Zaitian to suddenly appear beneath Lu Yin. With the added momentum, he streaked through the air and caught up to Nong Zaitian before quickly surpassing him.

Nong Zaitian fell flat on his face as he crashed to the ground, and his mouth was filled with mud. He looked down. What the hell? Where's my hoe?

He felt a breeze blow past him, and then he saw his hoe beneath someone else's butt, leaving Nong Zaitian completely lost. What was going on?

At this moment, a chill ran down his spine as a horrifying aura arrived; the imprint of the approaching person had even turned the ground red. Nong Zaitian was so frightened that his hair stood on end, as he knew that Blood Looney had just arrived. He reached into his shirt and pulled out... another hoe! He stepped on top of it and rushed off.

Blood Looney was completely caught off guard by this development; what was going on? He could not understand the current situation, but it was clear to him that Lu Yin was quickly getting away. This was not acceptable.

Blood Looney thought about his options and then slapped his chest once again and spat out more blood, which caused his speed to increase yet again. He tore through the void as his body constantly flickered.

With a pale face, Nong Zaitian glanced behind. "Stop chasing me! This is none of my business!"

Ahead of him, Lu Yin tightly held on to the hoe. How was he supposed to control this toy? He could not control it, and the hoe only grew slower once Nong Zaitian caught up to him. He glared fiercely at Lu Yin. "Give me my hoe back!"

Lu Yin's eyes lit up, and he casually waved his hand again. He threw the hoe under him over to Nong Zaitian while the hoe beneath Nong Zaitian suddenly appeared beneath Lu Yin's butt, causing Lu Yin to rocket off at an impressive speed again.

Nong Zaitian was speechless; how had they just swapped hoes again? Blood Looney was getting closer, so he immediately manipulated the hoe that Lu Yin had tossed over to him and took off as well.

Just like that, due to Lu Yin's antics with the Yu Secret Art, the two youths constantly traded hoes and gradually pulled away from Blood Looney.

Blood Looney was truly about to vomit blood.

Nong Zaitian was feeling the same, as he became completely depressed due to Lu Yin toying around with him. What was going on? This person was most likely using a secret technique, but what kind of freak would use a secret technique to swap hoes?

"Who are you? Give me my hoe back!" Nong Zaitian was furious.

Lu Yin agreed with him, saying, "Here."

They swapped hoes once more, and Nong Zaitian shouted in indignation, "Stop being such a bully!"

But Lu Yin had no choice. "Brother, I'll apologize after we shake off that lunatic."

"I'm going to kill you!" Nong Zaitian bellowed.

"Then forget it. This hoe belongs to me now."

"Hold on, no! Giving that to you is useless—you can't control it."

"No matter, I'll still keep it."

"Without me controlling it, you won't be able to escape."

"So we need to cooperate."

"Blood Looney is after you!"

"You know him? Is he an acquaintance? That's great! Tell him to stop chasing me."

Nong Zaitian was rendered speechless.

Suddenly, the sky changed as the colors of black and white interchanged. At that moment, Lu Yin and Nong Zaitian both trembled as a black-and-white radiance streaked over both of them while an intense vibration rumbled through the air.

Lu Yin was dazed for an instant, but then he reacted and looked behind him to see that Blood Looney's clothes had suddenly become stained with blood with half his body disappearing. In front of the red powerhouse was a figure with its back to the two fleeing youths. The moment he saw that silhouette, Lu Yin's eyes shrank, and he immediately changed his appearance.

Although he could not see that person's face, he knew who he was just from a glance. That black-andwhite long hair was too distinct, and there was only one person from the Daynight clan who could appear here: a person from the Nightking branch of the Daynight clan, Arbiter Nightking Zhenwu.

Nong Zaitian only reacted at this point in time, and when he glanced back to see the miserable state that Blood Looney had ended up in, his mouth gaped open. "Th- this?"

"Who are you? Who are you?" Blood Looney wailed mournfully as he stared intently at the youth who had suddenly appeared and unleashed a punch that had shattered half of his body.

The newly arrived youth clasped his hands behind his back with a completely arrogant look. "One of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters: Nightking Zhenwu."

Blood Looney was stunned, and then he smiled bitterly. "The Fifth Mainland! Still the Fifth Mainland. I never thought that I would die at the hands of those evil survivors from the Fifth Mainland! Hahaha."

Nightking Zhenwu's gaze remained calm. "Then just die."

He reached out and slapped down with a hand. It was clearly a very normal strike, but it still caused both Lu Yin and Nong Zaitian's vision to tremble. Every move and action from Arbiter Zhenwu carried an unpredictable power with it.

Blood Looney clenched his steel-like teeth hard. He would unquestionably die after half of his body had been shattered, but he did not want to die in some obscure manner. This person had taken advantage of his injured state to take his life, and he did not want to die at his hands.

The blood lotus blossomed beneath his feet once again as corpse dragon after dragon then charged towards Nightking Zhenwu.

Nightking Zhenwu frowned slightly. "A final, futile struggle."

He slapped down again, instantly shattering all of the corpse dragons. However, this gave Blood Looney enough time to race away under the protection of his blood lotus.

Nightking Zhenwu arrogantly glanced over at Lu Yin and Nong Zaitian's position, but he did not bother with them. Instead, he chased after Blood Looney.

It didn't take long for Blood Looney and Nightking Zhenwu to vanish from their sight.

"Blood Looney is screwed," Nong Zaitian muttered.

Lu Yin nodded. "That's right, he's dead meat."

Even if that madman had not been injured to his current state and was instead in his peak form, he still might not have been able to beat Nightking Zhenwu. Arbiter Zhenwu was considered dominating even amongst the Ten Arbiters, and nobody knew exactly how powerful he was. White Knight's struggle with Blood Looney had led to losses on both sides, and the knight had even been able to come out slightly on top. Since that was the case, Nightking Zhenwu should definitely be able to accomplish something similar, and he was possibly even more powerful than White Knight.

There were times when Lu Yin was unable to understand how the overall strength of the Sixth Mainland could greatly surpass that of the Fifth Mainland since the Ten Arbiters were so powerful. It should be known that the Fifth Mainland still had the Neoverse, which was where the Hall of Honor's headquarters was. There was also the Cosmic Sect and the Three Dark Hands, and their younger generations might not be any inferior to the Ten Arbiters. As such, the top-notch powerhouses of the Fifth Mainland's younger generation may greatly surpass the Sixth Mainland's, which was incomprehensible to Lu Yin.

The average strength of the Sixth Mainland's younger generation definitely surpassed the youths of the Fifth Mainland, but from Lu Yin's perspective, the number of top-notch powerhouses from the Fifth Mainland were higher than that of the Sixth Mainland, which was the exact opposite of the trend for their average cultivators, and it was rather baffling.

Lu Yin then recalled the conversation that he had heard between White Knight and Blood Looney during their battle. Apparently, all of the Sixth Mainland's cultivators were slaves of a rigid cultivation system without any future. Could this be the reason for the discrepancy? Or was it that the Sixth Mainland still had top-notch experts of the younger generation who were able to crush all others?

## The Daosource Three Skies?

Lu Yin considered this matter seriously, as someone like Blood Looney had possessed enough strength to fight for the position of one of the Daosource Three Skies 1,000 years ago, which showed that the Daosource Three Skies were not necessarily that much stronger than the Realmlings. Or rather, could it be that, after gaining the position of one of the Daosource Three Skies, their power would improve by leaps and bounds?

While Lu Yin thought about it, his collar was seized by Nong Zaitian.

Nong Zaitian glared at him, completely infuriated. "Give me my hoe back!"

Lu Yin raised his hand. "Here you go."

Nong Zaitian snorted and took his hoe.

Lu Yin felt that something was strange. "That power vessel of yours is special, and there are even two of them."

"What? An interrogation? One's male and one's female. Is there a problem?" Nong Zaitian was not happy.

Lu Yin nearly choked—even hoes could be male and female?

Nong Zaitian glared at Lu Yin once more before turning to leave.

Lu Yin thought about it and then followed him.

Nong Zaitian turned around and stared at Lu Yin. "Why are you following me?"

Lu Yin shrugged. "I've got nowhere to be, so let's travel together."

Nong Zaitian became angry. "No! The more people there are, the bigger the target."

Lu Yin did not care about the man's objections and simply followed after him. He had no choice, as that hoe was too impressive. Its speed was incredible, and not even Blood Looney had been able to catch up to the two of them. It would be very safe for him to follow this person, as it would at least give Lu Yin an escape method.

Wherever Nong Zaitian went, Lu Yin followed behind him. Nong Zaitian wanted to use his hoe to shake Lu Yin off, but with that bastard's secret technique, he could only forget about it.

"You know a secret technique?" Nong Zaitian looked at Lu Yin.

"Take a guess," Lu Yin casually replied.

Nong Zaitian was left speechless once again.

"For you to learn a secret technique, you've got to be someone from a family of at least an Empyrean Imprinter, so why haven't I ever seen you before?" Nong Zaitian was doubtful.

Lu Yin checked his surroundings and then replied, "Can you recognize all of the people from the Empyrean Imprinter families?"

"Yes," Nong Zaitian replied seriously. "I've memorized their faces."

This time, Lu Yin was left speechless.

## Chapter 645: The Third Soul Split

"Could you be one of those evil survivors from the Fifth Mainland?" Nong Zaitian suddenly spoke a thought aloud before vigilantly observing Lu Yin's reaction.

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. "Have you seen someone as weak as me among the evil survivors from the Fifth Mainland?"

Nong Zaitian's eyes spun. "That's true. Any evil survivor of the Fifth Mainland that shows up in the Daosource Sect would at least have the power of a Realmling. You're too weak."

The two walked for a while, and then Nong Zaitian sighed. "Stop following me! You also saw that Blood Looney was chased away by that evil survivor from the Fifth Mainland. Now, there's nowhere in the entire Daosource Sect that's safe! I plan to hide, and I will continue to hide until my time expires."

"Me too," Lu Yin replied.

Nong Zaitian blinked. "Then go look for a place to hide! What are you following me around for?"

"I don't know the way," Lu Yin said.

Nong Zaitian growled, "I don't know, either, so stop following me!"

"The more people, the safer," Lu Yin said again. His tone was rather casual as he spoke with Nong Zaitian. He had taken quite a fancy towards the youth's hoe, as it was just too useful.

Nong Zaitian also knew what Lu Yin's true target was, and although he was angry, he was left with no choice but to comply. He wanted to do something, but this fellow had been able to escape from the clutches of Blood Looney, which proved that he was in no way weak, and shockingly, it seemed like he had not been injured either. Nong Zaitian had no confidence to make a move against Lu Yin.

After the two walked a certain distance, they found three corpses lying on the ground. Judging from the direction that the two had traveled in, it seemed that these three people had all died at the hands of Nightking Zhenwu.

Nong Zaitian felt a little numb when he saw the corpses, and he softly said, "Bro, stop following me! How about we each just hide by ourselves?"

"I don't know the way."

"I've already said that I don't either!"

"The more, the safer."

"You f\*cker!"

...

Suddenly, a spatial crack spread out over their heads, and Lu Yin grabbed Nong Zaitian and dodged away from the spreading crack.

Nong Zaitian was scared out of his wits, and he patted his chest. "I almost died."

Lu Yin patted the young man's shoulder. "You owe me a life."

"If not for me being so pissed off, how could I have missed that crack?" Nong Zaitian bellowed.

Lu Yin did not bother with him, and instead, he stared off into the distance with a solemn expression. He could see that there were more spatial cracks spreading toward them, as well as a hurricane sweeping across a region. His expression quickly changed. "Not good! Let's go!"

With that, he turned around and headed back towards where they had just come from. However, Nong Zaitian had already furtively slipped onto his hoe. This bastard was even faster at escaping than Lu Yin himself. Still, it would be fine since Lu Yin had his secret technique.

Nong Zaitian crashed to the ground with a thump once again, his position showing that he had just fallen flat on his face.

"You idiot! I'll kill you!" Nong Zaitian roared.

An immense pressure came from above the two youths, and he no longer hesitated to quickly pull out his second hoe, sit down, and make his escape. Still, he managed to find the time to glance back. Two figures were frantically fighting in the sky, and the sight of one of them caused Nong Zaitian to shudder. "Shang Rong? I'll be damned."

Lu Yin was sitting on the second hoe, and he also looked back, as he had felt two powerful strengths clashing, though he did not know who they were. The two combatants were quickly drawing close to Lu Yin and Nong Zaitian, and Lu Yin could soon see that they were actually White Knight and Shang Rong.

When he saw Shang Rong, Lu Yin felt a chill run down his spine. He had not forgotten about those cultivators who had directly vanished at Heaven's Pit, and he felt that Shang Rong's power was truly astounding.

Bang! A loud noise was heard, and White Knight was blasted in Lu Yin's direction, the spear slipping from his grasp. Lu Yin dodged aside, but Nong Zaitian was not quite so lucky and was swept away by the shockwave of White Knight crashing into the ground. He fainted shortly after activating his hoe in an attempt to slip away.

Without Nong Zaitian, Lu Yin did not know how to use the hoe in his possession. Thus, he could only carry it and run on his own two feet.

Without the hoe, his speed had dropped significantly.

White Knight dashed up, but the knight was once again sent flying by Shang Rong and launched back in Lu Yin's direction.

Lu Yin felt helpless, and he hurriedly dodged.

High in the sky, Shang Rong coldly stared down. "So the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters are merely this strong. Get out!"

Beneath the ground, White Knight stood up and stared up at Shang Rong. "You're just taking advantage of me at a bad time."

"Dealing with you evil survivors is already dirtying my hands, and there's no fairness to speak of. You can't even force me to use my imprint."

Shang Rong raised a hand, and a white light radiated out from his palm. "Cauterizing Beam Bloodline— Skyless."

The white radiance in his hand formed a ball that gradually rose up. It looked like a white sun that was illuminating the entire area.

As the white sun appeared, the mountain and sky both began to break down and vanish.

Lu Yin's face changed. This was not good, and he had to escape right away; otherwise, he would be disintegrated as well. What kind of attack was this?

Down on the ground, White Knight coughed and hung their head, appearing resigned.

Shang Rong remained arrogant, as he enjoyed the feeling of dominating others. Killing normal cultivators did not arouse any of his interest, as only experts who approached his level could satisfy him. He enjoyed looking down upon everything from the position of a god while wielding the power to end it all.

Suddenly, Shang Rong's expression changed. He immediately dodged to the side, but he was still too late; a spear had pierced through his shoulder, and it was now stained with his blood.

Behind him, another White Knight had appeared without his knowledge, and the White Knight on the ground slowly vanished.

Lu Yin had seen this technique before and knew that this was the Soulsplitting Technique. Ling Que had been able to split himself into three copies, which indicated that White Knight could at least do that much as well. The knight had only split into two during his battle against Blood Looney, not revealing his full strength. Thus, this hidden trump had been reserved for an emergency like Shang Rong.

Shang Rong's face fell, and he waved his hand, causing the white sun to fall onto White Knight. At the same time, an imprint appeared behind the youth in the sky, revealing the image of a figure who was wrapped entirely in long, black hair and whose face could not be seen at all. This imprint released an indescribably terrifying pressure along with a chilling aura. This was an Empyrean Imprint, and it was at the same grade as Blood Looney's imprint from the Bluedome Elder.

A castle suddenly appeared around White Knight as a glorious clock rang out. The heavenly noise reverberated throughout the entire area. In the castle, one marvel after another appeared. Those from the Lingling clan were able to combine ten great innate gifts from others into a single one of their own, and the marvels that had appeared inside this castle were precisely White Knight's ten innate gifts. At this moment, White Knight was displaying their true power and was clearly putting their full effort forth.

## Boom!

The ground trembled, and a giant fissure divided the sky, looking just like a black mountain range hanging upside down in the sky.

The battle between Shang Rong and White Knight nearly caused Lu Yin to lose consciousness, and the terrifying pressure from the two wantonly swept across their surroundings, threatening to destroy the entire area.

After quite a while, the aftershocks from their collision dispersed.

At this moment, everything that Lu Yin could see had changed; the mountain range that had been in front of him before had vanished, and the void was distorting unceasingly, as if it would shatter at any moment.

He looked around for Shang Rong and White Knight and quickly found the two. They were both standing within a deep pit, staring at each other.

Shang Rong's face was flushed red, and he spat out a mouthful of blood. There was a gaping hole in his shoulder where he had been stabbed by White Knight's spear, and the blood from the wound had spilled out to cover half of his body.

White Knight was standing across from him and was not in much better shape. The knight's armor had been almost completely shattered while the spear was broken in half. White Knight had already sustained some injuries from the battle against Blood Looney, and then the knight had been forced to fight against Shang Rong soon after. White Knight's injuries were even worse than Blood Looney's when he had faced off against Nightking Zhenwu.

Shang Rong tightly grasped his shoulder and walked forward towards White Knight step by step. "You are already at your limit. To be able to struggle with me to this degree, I, Shang Rong, will remember you. But today, you must die."

White Knight slowly raised the broken spear so that its tip pointed at Shang Rong. "Have you forgotten what the Fifth Mainland people excel at?"

Shang Rong suddenly hesitated, and he appeared uncertain. According to the historical records of the Sixth Mainland, the Fifth Mainland's cultivators were the best at concealing their strength, or in other words, acting weak to gobble the strong. These people would always hold something back, and this characteristic had repeatedly caused those from the Sixth Mainland to feel resentful, but also helpless.

Because of this, during the ancient war, countless experts from the Sixth Mainland had died at the critical moment of a battle.

Shang Rong stared at White Knight. "I don't believe that you still have the strength to retaliate."

"You can see. At worst, we'll just die together," White Knight said indifferently.

Shang Rong froze in place as his eyes flickered.

Lu Yin watched this confrontation take place, hesitating over whether or not he should act. There was a fundamental disparity in his strength compared to Shang Rong, and while White Knight had been able to withstand that strength which could dissolve everything, Lu Yin may not necessarily be able to do so. In particular, his hesitation was born from his inability to see through the essence of the strength behind that disintegration. Even if Shang Rong was currently injured, that strength was still enough to obliterate Lu Yin.

After a while, Shang Rong appeared to have made the decision to act, and he stepped forward.

White Knight spun the spear tip with a cold expression, but the knight did not take a single step back.

Shang Rong stopped. He seemed to struggle with himself for a while, and then he glared at White Knight. "I won't take advantage of your injuries for now. When you recover, we will fight each other again."

He then leaped up, left the crater, and flew into the distance.

Lu Yin relaxed, as Shang Rong had been intimidated into retreating.

Within the pit, White Knight maintained the same posture without moving.

Lu Yin felt that something was strange, and he jumped down into the pit to approach White Knight, as he wanted to find out what was going on in the Innerverse.

Out of fear that White Knight would attack him, he promptly stated, "I'm from the Fifth Mainland. You must know Wendy Yushan. I'm Lu Yin."

White Knight did not respond.

Lu Yin approached closer. "I'm Lu Yin. You should've heard of me."

White Knight still did not respond.

When Lu Yin walked to the armored figure's side, he gently pushed against the body, and White Knight crumbled to the ground.

"So he actually passed out a long time ago." Lu Yin laughed, as an unconscious person had managed to scare Shang Rong away. Lu Yin wondered what Shang Rong would think if he came back only to find that White Knight had fainted during their battle.

Lu Yin bent over and looked at White Knight. This was one of the Ten Arbiters, and back in their original universe, the Ten Arbiters were supreme existences of the younger generation. Wen Sansi, Nightking Zhenwu, Lan Si: each and every one of them was a high and mighty figure. This was the first time Lu Yin had ever been this close to one of the Ten Arbiters, and he could even decide this one's fate.

Lu Yin felt complicated, as White Knight was the person who had taken Wendy Yushan to Myriad Swords Peak. Zhao Yilong had also mentioned that this person had treated Wendy Yushan very well, and nobody believed that the knight did not have feelings for Wendy Yushan.

Wendy Yushan was also Lu Yin's fiancée. Even though the whole thing was a sham, they had known each other for so long that Lu Yin had to admit that he had had some thoughts of his own for Wendy Yushan; any normal man would have some intentions. Her appearance and character contained attractive qualities that were rarely seen, and even if Wendy Yushan did not feel any love for Lu Yin, there was still the affection one felt for a family member.

If this person lived, they might eventually take Wendy Yushan away from Lu Yin some day in the future.

Lu Yin sighed and smiled bitterly. He grabbed White Knight and left. No matter what the future might hold, this person was on his side in the dispute between the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands, and he had also indirectly saved Lu Yin's own life. He had to repay this favor.

"A life for a life. I'll rescue you this time, and the favor I owe you for saving me from the cauldron will be considered repaid," Lu Yin said.

As for Nong Zaitian, Lu Yin did not look for him, as his survival depended on his own luck. After all, they were still enemies. As for Mr. Bai and the others, Lu Yin held some friendship towards them, and he would save them if possible. However, the rest could forget any such effort on his part.

Lu Yin also did not toss the hoe aside, as he figured that taking it back to research further might yield some results. Although its appearance was rather lacking, its speed was impressive.

The Daosource Sect was massive, and it was not easy to run into any of the Realmlings or Ten Arbiters.

#### Chapter 646: Ling Gong

Lu Yin carried White Knight and traveled for half a day before finally finding a good hiding spot, which was a crack that lay between two mountains. There was a stream running down the middle.

He then tossed White Knight to the ground and sat down himself.

The trip to the Daosource Sect this time had been truly dangerous. Lu Yin had run into Shang Rong, Blood Looney, White Knight, and even Nightking Zhenwu. If he had been the tiniest bit less cautious, he would have lost his life, and his luck could be considered pretty good since he had survived thus far.

There were still a few more days before his futon dimmed, and he would be able to return to the Fifth Mainland after quietly passing through these next few days. But what about when he next came to this place? He could not give up on that battle technique in the cauldron, as he clearly had a method that would help him comprehend it, though he had not yet succeeded. This feeling was torturous for Lu Yin, as he urgently needed more powerful battle techniques, but this place had long since become the most dangerous battlefield.

He glanced at White Knight, as even one of the Ten Arbiters had ended up in such a miserable state, let alone someone like Lu Yin.

He wondered how Wendy Yushan was doing at this time, and he hoped that she was fine. At this moment, he somewhat regretted passing the second futon to Wendy Yushan.

Nobody would have thought that the Daosource Sect would become the cruelest battlefield for those of the younger generation.

The current Lu Yin did not qualify to participate in this battlefield.

He had not felt this helpless in a long time. Ever since he had upgraded his universal armor, he had been fearless even against Enlighters, and he felt rather nostalgic for such times.

He looked over at White Knight again. This guy couldn't have possibly died, right?

Lu Yin walked over as he considered the possibility. He then reached over to remove White Knight's helmet so that he could ascertain if the Arbiter was dead or alive.

As the mask was peeled away, a delicate, unblemished, and pretty face was revealed. Lu Yin was stunned. Thi- this, isn't this a girl?

He dropped the helmet and blankly stared at White Knight. So the Ten Arbiters' White Knight was actually a woman?

Even when he had seen Nightking Zhenwu in this place, Lu Yin had not been overly surprised. However, he was truly shocked at this moment. Who would have thought the Arbiter known as White Knight was actually a woman! Even that would still be alright, but it turned out that she was actually an exquisitely cute and attractive woman.

Lu Yin had seen many beauties, as he was surrounded by Wendy Yushan, Madam Nalan, Ming Yan, Bai Xue, and even the bespectacled Mistchild. Some of them were heroically beautiful while others were

charming, pure, and some simply lovable. Their temperaments were usually very similar to the meaning of their names, but there was too great of a disparity between the one in front of him and her name.

The term "knight" gave people a sense of righteousness and reliability; it created a magnificent image in their minds. Nobody would associate someone so delicate and adorable with the image of a knight, and this contrast was too shocking.

He had heard that White Knight's name was actually Ling Gong, which did not sound like a woman's name either!

Lu Yin stared at White Knight's face for quite a while, feeling that the whole situation was rather surreal. He could not help but raise a hand to touch her, and he even went on to touch her face and pinch her mouth. It was all real.

Suddenly, White Knight's eyes snapped open, and she stared coldly at Lu Yin, as his fingers were still pinching one of her fingers. He felt embarrassed at being caught.

If somebody had asked, out of Lu Yin's entire life, what his most embarrassing moment was, he would have definitely answered that it was the moment White Knight Arbiter awakened while he was pinching her. In the entire universe, including both the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands, who would dare pinch an Arbiter's face? He was the first, and he would probably also be the last.

He slowly retracted his hand and coughed. "If I said that I was trying to check on your injuries, would you believe me?"

White Knight silently coldly stared at him with frosty eyes.

Lu Yin coughed again. "That- I'm from the Fifth Mainland. You should know Wendy Yushan!"

White Knight's cold gaze shot past Lu Yin, and she looked towards the sky. "Where is this place?"

"The Daosource Sect," Lu Yin blurted. When he saw that White Knight was still staring at him, he hurriedly continued, saying, "I don't know the concrete details about this place, but we're some distance from where you fought Shang Rong. It's well hidden, and nobody should be able to find it."

White Knight placed a single hand upon the ground and put her helmet back on. "I'm going to recuperate. Do not approach me, and do not touch me. Otherwise, I will let you know what an ugly death is."

With some difficulty, she sat up, and then the fissure fell silent.

Lu Yin stared at her and shook his hand about. He then shifted his gaze. What recuperating? You're probably just about to pass out again! With injuries like those, it would be weirder if you didn't faint!

However, he had received a rather savage blow upon discovering that White Knight was a woman, not to mention that she was a girl with such a delicate, cute, and beautiful face. It could be considered rather cold, but for reasons unknown to himself, Lu Yin relaxed.

"Recuperate well. I hope you don't die," Lu Yin said quietly. He then looked off into the distance and began to recite the Stonewall Scriptures. He did not plan on venturing out at all over the next few days. Nightking Zhenwu and Shang Rong had both appeared nearby, and the region with the Nine Cauldrons was likely unsafe at this time. He would wait for the next time he could visit the Daosource Sect to search for the battle techniques within the cauldrons.

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At the Daosource Sect's Heaven's Pit, there were other people who had entered one after another after Lu Yin and the others had left, and there had also been more intense battles to seize control of the stone pillars. However, no expert like Shang Rong appeared this time, and not even someone like Butcher who could occupy a stone pillar by themselves had shown up.

On one particular day, a girl stepped into the dusky space and slowly walked across the area. Each of her steps crossed the exact same distance, as if she had made prior measurements.

The woman's black hair hung down to her waist, and she carried a white sword. Her features were exquisite, and she radiated a soldierly aura that was unlike other girls. She seemed even colder and more aloof than Wendy Yushan. The strangest thing about her were the large-framed glasses that she wore, as they had no lenses. Paired with her large eyes, it made her look rather endearingly foolish.

Not long after her arrival, the girl approached the area that was near the palm lines and looked down at Progenitor Chen's palm print. There was a complex expression on her face.

The girl's demeanor and appearance attracted quite a bit of attention, as there were only a few girls who wore glasses and wielded swords. Her temperament seemed exceptional as well, and a few young men exchanged glances before slowly approaching her.

"Good day, Miss. Can we become friends? I'm from the Grand Martial Realm-" But before the youth could even finish speaking, a trace of blood appeared around his neck. The man only felt his strength drain away as he slowly knelt on the ground. His entire body soon tipped over, and fresh blood stained the ground.

The other men were surprised. "Third Bro, what's the matter?"

A white light flashed, and then those men all crumpled to the ground in unison. Even the fresh blood that spilled out from their bodies pooled together and flowed towards the center of the palm print.

The girl's expression remained calm. She then looked up and leaped into the sky.

A few minutes later, the girl left the dusky space that contained Heaven's Pit and traveled through a light pillar to head towards other regions.

Not long after, someone else entered the region with Heaven's Pit and soon arrived next to the palm print. They looked out and were greeted by a scene that seemed to come straight from the underworld.

The cultivators who had originally been around Heaven's Pit, comprehending the palm imprint had all perished. There had been a total of twenty eight cultivators, but not a single one of them had survived, and the reeking metallic smell of blood drifted through the air.

After the Ten Arbiters had arrived in the Daosource Sect, the Sixth Mainland's cultivators had suffered more than a hundred casualties. These cultivators had been people who were able to obtain futons, and almost all of them came from powerful families. Their deaths would incite the wrath of many powers

throughout the Sixth Mainland. Thus, the voices appealing for the Realmlings to enter the Daosource Sect and exterminate the Fifth Mainland's evil members became ever louder.

With the ruins of the Daosource Sect, the situation had already turned into a formal battlefield for the top-tier experts.

Even if the number of casualties grew excessive, nobody would request for the Daosource Three Skies to enter the battlefield, almost as if the Daosource Three Skies no longer belonged to the younger generation. Countless people already classified the Daosource Three Skies as existences at a higher level, a level that stood far above those from the same generation.

White Knight remained unconscious for three days, and she only awakened on the fourth day.

Once she woke up, she noticed that Lu Yin was resting against a stone wall with his eyes closed. She did not think too much, and she picked up a stone before tossing it at him. It tore through the void and shot towards Lu Yin's forehead. Just before it landed, his eyes snapped wide open, and the stone smashed into the mountain with a bang that caused a huge crack to appear on the mountain wall and many other rocks to fall down from above.

Lu Yin got angry. "You're crazy!"

White Knight coldly stared at him. "You should die for touching me."

Lu Yin opened his mouth to scold her, but then he thought of the embarrassing episode from three days ago, and he merely pursed his lips. "Touching you was my mistake. I apologize for that."

## White Knight's eyes narrowed and grew icy.

Lu Yin warned, "You can't seriously be considering hitting me." He had not forgotten that the person in front of him was one of the Ten Arbiters, and her level of strength was entirely different from his own. Even with his secret technique that allowed him to divert attacks, he still had no confidence in being able to escape from the clutches of one of the Ten Arbiters.

Fortunately, White Knight did not attack him again, and instead, she glanced around and moved slightly. An intense pain shot down her back, causing her to groan in agony as her forehead beaded with sweat.

Lu Yin watched her, but he did not speak.

White Knight tried to move once again, but each action she attempted to take caused a sweeping pain to wrack her body, most of which originated from her back. She turned to fiercely glare at Lu Yin. "Turn around! No peeking!"

## Lu Yin grew suspicious. "What for?"

"I ordered you to turn around," White Knight said in a strict voice. Star energy started to seep out from her body, looking as if it was about to go berserk.

Lu Yin promptly replied, "Alright, I'll just leave. Anyway, you're awake now, so anything that happens next is none of my business. You're on your own." And with that, he moved to leave.

"No, you can't leave," White Knight suddenly commanded.

Lu Yin was confused. "Why?"

"No 'why.' I said you can't leave, which means that you can't leave. This is an order," White Knight growled.

Lu Yin was amused. "An order? Who can you order about? Me? I'm not your subordinate."

White Knight looked at him coldly. "I can order around anyone who belongs to the Ten Arbiters Council, the Council of Astral Academy, or the Outerverse Youth Council. You are no exception, Lu Yin."

"You recognized me?" Lu Yin was astonished as he had changed his physical appearance in order to hide from Nightking Zhenwu.

White Knight coldly continued on, saying, "Many people are able to recognize Wendy, but only a select few know about the relationship between Wendy and myself. Moreover, your appearance hasn't changed that much, and since you were able to enter this place as well, it's not that hard to guess who you are."

"Since you recognized me, you should know about my relationship with Wendy. Saving you was a kindness for you taking Wendy to Myriad Swords Peak. Now, the two of us are settled, so I'm leaving."

"I've already said that you can't go. That's an order."

"Nobody can order me about."

White Knight clenched her fists, and her gaze turned icy. "If you attempt to leave, I'll kill you."

Lu Yin laughed. "Come on, lady, there's a limit to being reasonable. I rescued you, and now you want to kill me?"

White Knight grew furious. "You can't talk to me like this!"

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. "Fine, I won't talk to you anymore. I'm leaving, and you can't stop me."

Suddenly, the phantom image of the castle appeared all around the two of them, and the glorious sound of the clock rang out. Lu Yin's expression changed drastically, and the domain that he had released was suddenly crushed. He felt an intense sense of crisis, and he turned back to look at White Knight. "What are you doing?"

"I've told you. You can't leave," White Knight said coldly.

"What exactly do you want?" Lu Yin frowned. This woman could not be reasoned with.

White Knight's gaze flickered. "Turn away from me."

"What?" Lu Yin was perplexed.

"I'm asking you to turn away from me. You are not able to refuse," White Knight continued coldly.

## **Chapter 647: Alluring Healing**

Lu Yin was rendered speechless. He wanted to leave, but he had no confidence that he could break through the castle. This was the end result of White Knight's ten combined innate gifts, and he had personally seen it compete against Blood Looney's blood lotuses and corpse dragons, not to mention the white sun that Shang Rong created. This wasn't something that Lu Yin could overcome.

Although White Knight was heavily injured at the moment, she had already started recovering over the past three days, and thus, Lu Yin wasn't sure that he could defeat her.

He should have left before she had awakened. Why had he stayed next to her until now?

He grew very anxious as he turned his back to the Arbiter. He immediately activated the Cosmic Art as a precaution for any sort of sneak attack.

White Knight felt relieved when she saw Lu Yin turn around and that he hadn't even spread his domain out. Her star energy surged and removed the armor that she was wearing. The pieces on her arms, chest, and head fell off easily, but the armor on her legs and back were evidently very difficult to remove as they were stuck to her skin.

Shang Rong's talent was related to disintegrating things, and his white sun had severely injured her. It had broken down the skin on her legs and back, essentially fusing her flesh to her armor, so trying to remove it caused her incredible pain.

"Hmph," White Knight grunted. She removed the armor from one of her legs, but it left her panting with pain.

Lu Yin grew curious; just what was she doing? Her panting and grunting led him to consider certain things, but while he wanted to turn around to take a look, he didn't dare to do it.

Hmph! White Knight's anguished grunt was even louder when she removed the armor piece from her other leg. She looked over at Lu Yin and saw that he still hadn't turned around. She gritted her teeth and then used her star energy to remove the last piece of armor. Fresh blood gushed from her back and stained the ground before flowing away from her and dripping into the stream.

White Knight waved a hand, and the water from the stream that had been contaminated by her blood was flung back up onto the stream bank. This place was quite well hidden, and she didn't want to compromise their position from the blood that was flowing downriver in the stream.

White Knight was now left with only her helmet and thin undergarments, as all of her armor had been removed. There were huge patches of her skin exposed and horrible injuries covering her back and legs.

She took some medicinal powder out from her armor and scattered it on her wounds. However, it was not very effective as the powder broke down immediately upon contact with the wounds. There were still white strands floating about within her wounds.

White Knight sighed, as these were the remnants of Shang Rong's power, and it meant that she wouldn't be able to heal her injuries until she removed every last bit of it.

She had very little star energy left after her battles with Blood Looney and Shang Rong, and she also wasn't able to gather enough star energy from the area around her for her to remove the remnants of Shang Rong's power. The only way she could do so was to rely on Lu Yin as he still had large reserves of

star energy. Furthermore, he was a Lockbreaker, and that was the real reason why she had forced Lu Yin to stay.

"I'm- I'm done," White Knight said weakly.

Lu Yin immediately turned around, but instead of seeing an intimidating Arbiter dressed in full armor, he instead saw a fragile girl who was heavily injured. Although she was still wearing her helmet, it didn't detract from her fragile beauty in any way. At this moment, White Knight—no, Ling Gong, didn't possess an imposing aura. Instead, she radiated the gentleness of a woman.

Her bloodstained gown covered her body, but the wounds on her legs and back were still exposed. Blood was still oozing out from her wounds, and her feet were barely standing on the stony ground. Her pale feet contrasted starkly with the bright blood on the ground, forming a stunning image of a heavily injured woman. Lu Yin was astounded when he saw this scene.

It would be even better if she took off her helmet.

"Remove your helmet," Lu Yin said reflexively.

White Knight threw a stone at him with a cold expression.

He dodged it and coughed awkwardly. "Why did you ask me to stay?"

White Knight lowered her head and answered in a weak voice, "There are still some traces of Shang Rong's power in my wounds. I want you to remove them with your lockbreaking ability."

Lu Yin approached her, and he could smell the sharp metallic scent of blood mixed with a subtle fragrance. This woman clearly didn't use perfume or makeup, and thus this scent had to be her natural fragrance.

Lu Yin's first kiss had been with Ming Yan, and he had hardly any experience with romance. This had caused him to often be teased by Madam Nalan, and he was feeling very awkward now that he was confronted with a half naked girl. "What- what should I do?"

"You're the Lockbreaker, so why are you asking me?" White Knight scolded. She was flustered by the fact that she was so close to a man in her current state. She was angry at herself for getting injured, but she was also angry at Lu Yin for talking so much. She was currently feeling very conflicted, and she didn't know what to do, especially when she felt Lu Yin's presence so close by.

She had been the pride of her clan since a young age and thus had rarely been injured. Her talent meant that few among her peers could rival her, and she had never fought any of them as they were all wary of each other. This was the first time she had ever been injured this badly, and it was also the first time she had been in such close proximity with a man. She almost wanted to kill him out of sheer reflex.

Lu Yin had no idea of what the girl in front of him was thinking, as he definitely would not be willing to approach her if he did. His current actions meant that he was walking along a tightrope, as this woman wasn't thinking logically, and there was no way to predict what she would do.

Lu Yin stared at her leg while squatting down next to her. It looked very pale and soft.

White Knight started getting anxious. "Faster."

Lu Yin seriously replied, "This is Shang Rong's power, and it will be difficult for me to remove it with my lockbreaking skills. Thus, you'll have to bear with this for a moment."

White Knight looked away. A lock of her hair fell forward, and she simply remained silent.

Lu Yin paused for a moment. He then raised a hand up and placed it on White Knight's thigh. White Knight was so shocked that she tried to attack him, but Lu Yin had expected such a response, and he immediately used the Cosmic Art to easily dodge the attack. Her attack struck the mountain wall across the stream from them and left a deep mark.

"Are you crazy? I'm trying to save you!" Lu Yin shouted.

White Knight glared at him. "Don't touch me."

"How am I supposed to save you without touching you?"

"Do you have to touch me when you lockbreak? You're just trying to make trouble!"

"This is Shang Rong's power. I already told you that it's not going to be easy to remove."

White Knight and Lu Yin glared at each other. Finally, White Knight sighed and turned to look in another direction while blushing.

Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief. "I'm helping a tigress extract her tooth."

White Knight's eyes narrowed, but she didn't answer. For that matter, she didn't even look at Lu Yin.

There were only a few traces of Shang Rong's power in her wound, and Lu Yin used his domain with the Cosmic Art to interact with the white power. His star energy was broken down as soon as it touched the power, leaving Lu Yin surprised. This was a very strong energy, and it was no wonder why Shang Rong was a Realmling who could even battle evenly against an Arbiter. Lu Yin could only slowly remove this power.

He treated Shang Rong's power as if it were a threat from a sourcebox as he slowly removed it. Although Shang Rong was much stronger than Lu Yin, these strands were only stray traces of his power, and so, Lu Yin was able to remove it after an hour.

Lu Yin exhaled. It's done.

He reluctantly removed his hand. This was actually the first time that he had ever touched a girl's thigh, and he discovered that it was very soft.

"My back," White Knight ordered coldly.

Lu Yin arched a brow and walked behind her to examine her back. The wound on her back was much larger than the one on her thigh, and almost half of her back had been ravaged. He couldn't believe that she had endured the pain for so long, especially since the remaining power from Shang Rong was still disintegrating her flesh.

Lu Yin didn't hesitate, and he quickly pressed his hands upon her back. It was very smooth, just like her thigh.

White Knight felt the heat from Lu Yin's hand on her back, and his masculine aura startled her. She took a deep breath and scattered some of the medicinal powder onto her leg. The powder was finally able to start working, and her wound recovered quickly.

After three hours of work, Lu Yin finally finished with removing the foreign power from the injury on White Knight's back. The sky had already turned dark by the time he finished. "I'm done. Let me help you with the medicine."

"No," White Knight refused in an unfriendly tone.

Lu Yin became annoyed. "I've saved you again now. Can't you show me a better attitude?"

White Knight continued, "Not yet."

"Huh?" Lu Yin asked.

White Knight lifted up her left leg and showed him the other side of her foot. There was a wound there as well, and although it was a small wound, it still held traces of Shang Rong's power.

Lu Yin casually held her calf with one hand while his other hand held her foot, and he quickly started lockbreaking.

White Knight blushed. Half of her body had been touched by this person in just one day.

Less than half an hour later, Shang Rong's power on White Knight's foot was finally removed. Lu Yin released her foot and peeked at it once again. This woman had dainty little feet, he could cover one of them with a single hand.

"Go away and don't look back." White Knight glared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin pouted; this girl was truly extremely ungrateful.

"Seventh Bro, I sympathize with you!" The Ghost Monkey laughed at him.

Lu Yin ignored the monkey.

When the sky had turned completely dark, White Knight finally spoke. "How's the Outerverse?"

Lu Yin turned around and saw that White Knight had donned all of her armor once again. He was slightly disappointed. "The Astral Beast Domain invaded Ironblood Weave and many people died in battle..."

Lu Yin told her everything that had happened after the Innerverse and Outerverse had been cut off from each other.

White Knight listened to him quietly, only asking him a few questions from time to time. Lu Yin did most of the talking, and she listened attentively.

"How did Wendy learn a secret technique?" White Knight asked.

Lu Yin looked back at her. "I don't know."

White Knight calmly said, "Everyone has their own destiny. With this secret technique, she'll be able to try entering the top ten of the Top 100 Rankings, and she might even have the chance to come to this place in future."

At this moment, she turned to look at Lu Yin. "How did you get a futon?"

"A coincidence," Lu Yin answered.

White Knight didn't probe any further.

"How's the Innerverse?" Lu Yin asked.

White Knight gave him a succinct answer. "We've been invaded, and there's a war going on right now."

"What about the details?" Lu Yin probed.

White Knight ignored him.

Lu Yin was helpless; this Arbiter was so arrogant. "Where did they invade from?"

"The Starfall Sea."

"The Starfall Sea?" Lu Yin was shocked.

"The Starfall Sea is directly connected to the Sixth Mainland," White Knight explained, but after that, she didn't say anything more about the war no matter what Lu Yin asked.

As for the friends that Lu Yin cared about, he didn't ask her about them as she probably didn't even know who they were.

"Oh, by the way, why did you take Wendy to Myriad Swords Peak back then?" Lu Yin was curious. If White Knight had been a man who liked Wendy, such a thing would have been quite a normal thing to do. However, she was a woman, which had aroused his curiosity.

"That's none of your business," White Knight replied coldly.

## **Chapter 648: Life Depleting Poison**

Lu Yin became annoyed. "I've answered all your questions, but you have barely answered any of mine. You're too rude."

White Knight arrogantly replied. "Did you? 'Coincidence.' That was your answer to my question. What's the difference between saying that and saying nothing at all?"

Lu Yin rolled his eyes. "Women should be cuter."

A rock smashed into the mountain wall with a bang. Lu Yin got angry and glared at White Knight. "Woman, do you really think that I won't dare to attack you!? What do you want?"

White Knight coldly answered, "Forget about today's incident, and forget everything about me. Also, I must have told you not to call me that."

Lu Yin snorted. "I'll be smashed to death if i stay with you. See you later—no, goodbye forever!" He then turned around to leave.

"You can't leave."

"Why?"

"It's an order."

Lu Yin grew so angry that he burst out with laughter. "I've already said that nobody can order me about!"

"Anyone who belongs to the Council of the Ten Arbiters, whether they be a member of the Council of Astral Academy or the Outerverse Youth Council, must listen to my orders. You are included among those people," White Knight coldly reminded him.

Lu Yin's face twitched. Why does this sound so familiar? She must have said it before!

In the end, Lu Yin didn't manage to escape.

According to White Knight, if a Realmling appeared, Lu Yin would be a good shield and could help her fight for a longer period of time.

Lu Yin wanted to retaliate, but he didn't dare to do so as White Knight's castle could defeat him in less than an instant. Even if he used both the Yu Secret Art and the Dream Finger, at best, he would be able to attack her once. He also didn't want to use his full strength since they weren't enemies and could actually be considered comrades; in the end, he didn't try to provoke her anymore.

The crevice between the mountains where the two of them were hiding was quite well hidden, and Lu Yin was planning on staying in this place until his futon dimmed. He was also determined to never interact with this woman ever again since she was so unreasonable.

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In Shenwu Continent, Ming Zhaoshu had been struggling ever since he had replaced Ming Zhaotian as emperor. He had to take care of political affairs all day long, each and every day, and he also had to find ways to groom his supporters to take over important positions. Finally, he also had to deal with Ming Zhaotian's supporters. Furthermore, riots kept breaking out in various regions. The citizens of the Shenwu Empire had always had a bad impression of the outsiders, and forcing them to cooperate with the outsiders had caused Shenwu Continent to descend into chaos.

Ming Zhaoshu had expected this situation to occur, and thus, he had a very simple solution: the empire would completely integrate with the outside universe, and that would resolve the current situation.

During this period of chaos, there had already been 126 assassination attempts on Ming Zhaoshu's life. Although these people had only been wasting their lives, the large amount of attempts showed that there were still many who wanted their new emperor dead. Over the past few days, various soldiers claiming to support the former crown prince, Ming Hao, had popped up in various areas. However, Ming Hao was already dead, which meant that these people were clearly just taking advantage of his name to attract supporters. Despite reality, only a few people were aware of the truth and that Ming Hao was dead. Thus, a large number of people rushed to join the soldiers.

The army of the Shenwu Empire was kept busy with having to constantly suppress the riots.
The Reverent King's Residence had been rebuilt and had become the new core of the Shenwu Empire as the imperial palace was still undergoing repairs.

Within the study of the Reverent King's Residence, Ming Zhaoshu set down the document that he had been reading and massaged his temples. There was a stack of documents on the table detailing the rebel armies' movements and activities in the various regions of the empire. There were also some faraway islands that hadn't recognized his rule and were also attempting to secede from the empire.

Ming Zhaoshu desperately needed some external help to quell the empire's internal conflicts. The best method would be for him to rely on the Great Eastern Alliance. Ming Yan was already prepared to leave for the Great Yu Empire at any given moment.

As long as he could ally with the Great Yu Empire, he would be able to bring some high technology products from the universe into the empire, which would help him effectively defuse the riots. He believed that the cultural shock these high technology products would introduce would actually be more effective than political violence.

Suddenly, Ming Zhaoshu spat out a mouthful of blood that covered his table as well as the floor. Something had come over him very suddenly, and he didn't know what was going on.

What's happening? Ming Zhaoshu clutched at his chest. Nothing seemed to be wrong with his body, and he hadn't been injured either. There were also no signs that he had been poisoned, so why had he just vomited blood?

"Send for the royal physician," Ming Zhaoshu ordered.

An elderly man soon entered the study. "Greetings, Your Majesty."

"Check my pulse," Ming Zhaoshu calmly ordered. The blood in the study had already been cleaned up, and there was nothing strange about the room except for the smell of blood that still lingered in the air.

The royal physician lifted his head up. His eyes narrowed as soon as he saw Ming Zhaoshu. "Your- your majesty, what happened?"

Ming Zhaoshu's heart sank the moment he saw the royal physician's expression of shock. He looked in the mirror, and instead of seeing the majestic and imposing Shenwu Emperor, he saw an old man with white hair and wrinkled skin. He could barely see himself in his own reflection.

Ming Zhaoshu was stunned. "What's happening? What's happening!"

The royal physician was trembling in fear, and he didn't dare to move any closer to the emperor.

Ming Zhaoshu couldn't believe his eyes. Why do I look like this? This is fake! It's fake!

He shattered the mirror and took another one out, but he still saw the appearance of an old man staring back at him. He had turned into an old man within just a few minutes.

"Your majesty, let me take a look," the royal physician requested fearfully.

Ming Zhaoshu sat down on a chair with clenched fists. He was still in disbelief at his condition.

The royal physician approached him slowly and placed his hand to check Ming Zhaoshu's pulse. He frowned and muttered in confusion after a few moments. "Why would it be like this? This is strange, very strange."

"What is happening?" Ming Zhaoshu asked.

"Your majesty, your body is fine, but your life energy is draining away extremely quickly. It's as if something is stealing your life away," the royal physician explained.

Ming Zhaoshu's eyes narrowed. "So are you saying that I have been poisoned?"

The royal physician nodded. "That is most likely the case, yes, though I have never heard of a poison that is able to steal life energy while allowing the body to remain healthy. Why would such a poison exist?"

Ming Zhaoshu lowered his head to hide the madness in his eyes from the royal physician. "Is there a cure for this condition?"

The royal physician answered, "We can only use certain medicines that are able to replenish life energy in order to delay the depletion that you are currently suffering from. Your Majesty, please request the outsiders for help, as perhaps they have a means of curing this poison."

Ming Zhaoshu nodded. "I understand. You may leave."

The royal physician breathed a sigh of relief. "Then I will take my leave."

He then walked towards the door.

Suddenly, a tremendous pressure descended and crushed the royal physician into a puddle of blood. Behind the remains of the man, Ming Zhaoshu's gaze was frosty. He could not allow anyone to discover his current condition.

Depleting life energy... poison. Who poisoned me? It couldn't be anyone from Shenwu Continent, as they wouldn't have access to such a strong poison that can deplete the life energy of even a Martial Sovereign powerhouse. Shenwu Continent did not have any method to cure this poison, and Ming Zhaoshu suspected that the outside universe might not either.

At that moment, Tang Si's voice was heard from outside the study. "Your Majesty, the princess wishes to see you."

"Ask her to wait for me in the courtyard," Ming Zhaoshu replied.

"Yes."

Ming Zhaoshu looked at his aged appearance in the mirror with sad eyes. He had used his entire life to achieve his ultimate goal, but had he already reached the end of his life? No! He wouldn't give up. The universe was huge, and there might be a way to cure him somewhere out there! He only had a small bit of understanding towards the outside universe, but there might be—no, there had to be a cure!

His expression grew crazed. He had finally reached the point where he could enjoy his achievements, and he didn't want to die yet. He didn't even have an heir.

Initially, he hadn't had a son so as to avoid any gossip, and he had only had a daughter. His current plan was to have a son who could inherit the throne, and Ming Zhaoshu couldn't die before that.

In a pavilion that lay within the courtyard of the Reverent King's Residence, Ming Yan was looking at the river with an anxious but excited expression.

The fish in the river kept leaping out of the water before falling back into river, causing droplets of water to splash into the pavilion.

"Do you want to leave this lake too?" Ming Yan muttered as she squatted down to watch the fish.

"Yan'er, what are you thinking?" Ming Zhaoshu asked as he arrived at the pavilion. He had altered his appearance with star energy so that he didn't look old anymore.

Ming Yan was shocked and stood up quickly. Once she saw that the person who had spoken was Ming Zhaoshu, she shyly answered, "I'm- I'm looking at the fish."

Ming Zhaoshu nodded and took a seat. "Have you prepared everything?"

Ming Yan knew what Ming Zhaoshu was referring to. She lowered her head and softly replied, "Yes."

"Tell me the truth. Do you want to leave?" Ming Zhaoshu asked Ming Yan wistfully with a complicated expression.

Ming Yan didn't notice Ming Zhaoshu's strange tone, and she hesitated for a moment before speaking. "I want to go out from this place and take a look."

"Do you want to take a look at the universe or take a look at Lu Yin?" Ming Zhaoshu asked.

Ming Yan blushed as she thought that Ming Zhaoshu was merely teasing her. She lowered her head and demurely answered, "Father, don't say that. I just, I just...."

Ming Zhaoshu sighed when he saw how flustered his comment had made Ming Yan. "I'm sorry, but you can't leave for now."

Ming Yan raised her head in surprise. "Why not, father?"

Ming Zhaoshu fell silent. He couldn't tell Ming Yan that his life might end soon. Although he hoped that there was a cure for the poison in the greater universe, he knew that the chances of that were quite slim. Once he died, the Shenwu Empire would be passed over to Ming Yan. Hence, Ming Yan couldn't be allowed to leave until he could confirm that there was a cure.

He needed to plan for the worst case scenario.

"I will explain to the Great Yu Empire. You will have to stay here for a while longer," Ming Zhaoshu said as he stood up. He left the pavilion in a bad mood.

Ming Yan was confused by this turn of events. Her father had been the one who had arranged for her to leave for the Great Yu Empire, and his greatest wish was for her to be together with Lu Yin. Why would he suddenly change his plans?

"Right, starting tomorrow, you need to start learning how to deal with political affairs," Ming Zhaoshu casually added as he continued to walk away from the pavilion.

Ming Yan became even more confused. "Deal with political affairs? But I have never done anything like that, and I don't have any intentions of doing so either."

Ming Zhaoshu frowned and told her, "Just come to my study in the morning." He then left, leaving behind a completely perplexed Ming Yan.

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Within the ruins of the Daosource Sect, White Knight rested for an entire day in the cleft between the mountains before opening her eyes again.

Lu Yin had done some calculations, and there were only two or three days left before he would be able to leave this place.

"Let's go." White Knight stood up and stretched her body, releasing various cracking noises. Although her wounds were still aching, they had mostly recovered, and her star energy was recovering as well.

Lu Yin asked, "Where are we headed?"

"To the place where I entered this place," White Knight said coldly.

Lu Yin didn't understand. "What do you mean, the place that you entered?"

"Just follow me."

"Do you want to leave this place? The battles outside should still be raging on, and we'll almost definitely bump into an Arbiter or a Realmling if we go out now. You can't protect yourself against anyone as you are right now."

"You're here."

"You overestimate me."

"I meant that you can delay them long enough for me to escape," White Knight said coldly.

Lu Yin was speechless. "You can just leave on your own. I don't want to leave. I'm staying right here until my time is up."

White Knight frowned and then glared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin glared right back at her. He was definitely not going to leave this hidden place until he was able to return to their universe. The battles in the Daosource Sect were probably the most ferocious right now.

## Chapter 649: Sierrasea Path

White Knight averted her gaze and raised a leg to step forward across the ground, causing ripples to spread out. Lu Yin's brows lifted, as he had a bad premonition as to what was about to happen.

The next moment, the two walls of the crevice between the mountains crumbled, and the deafening sound was enough to cause space itself to vibrate, and even the stream broke apart.

"What are you doing?" Lu Yin became flustered.

White Knight coldly replied, "It's up to you whether or not you want to leave."

She then leaped up and headed off in a particular direction.

Lu Yin was left with no other choice but to follow her, as such a great disturbance might possibly draw other powerhouses over. It was very likely that, aside from the Realmlings, the Sixth Mainland also had other experts who were able to rival those in the top ten of the Top 100 Rankings. It was likely that those people would also arrive to participate in this battlefield, and it would not be difficult to run into such powerhouses, which would spell trouble for Lu Yin.

This armored woman believed that Lu Yin would not dare to stay behind without her.

"What did you mean by the area where you arrived?" Lu Yin asked.

"With the futons, it's possible to arrive in places other than the four mountain gates of the Daosource Sect. The Sierrasea is an independent region, and as long as you pass its trial, you can directly arrive in the Sierrasea the next time you come," White Knight explained.

"The Sierrasea?" Lu Yin felt that the name was familiar, and it sounded like something he had heard before.

White Knight did not explain any further, and she only took Lu Yin along with her as she flew off in a certain direction.

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Just outside the ruins of the crevice where White Knight had been recuperating, Nong Zaitian was so frightened by the commotion that his heart almost jumped out of his chest. He had luckily escaped from the previous battle after almost dying at Shang Rong's hand, only awakening with great difficulty afterwards. Once he was able to move, he had looked for a hidden valley where he could spend a few days hiding while waiting for his time in the Daosource Sect to run out. Who could have expected that, right as he approached a valley, the entire place would collapse! What's worse, he had sensed a star energy fluctuation that left him shivering in fear, and he had immediately fled atop his hoe.

As he grabbed his hoe, he felt very indignant. That bastard had actually stolen one of his hoes. What an idiot.

During the days when White Knight had been unconscious, a few great battles had broken out in the Daosource Sect. The Blood Homage Realmling, Nan Yanfei, had encountered the Undying Bird of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters, but their battle had ended undecided, with the two of them each going their own way after fighting for a while.

The Bloodburn Realmling, Di Fa, had run into a blind man who was also one of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters, and although he had been severely injured, Di Fa had managed to escape. That blind man had massacred at least thirty cultivators from the Sixth Mainland who had been around the Realmling.

The War Martial Realmling, the Toolcasting family's Toolwielder, had met the Ten Arbiters' War King, Xing Kai, and their battle destroyed an entire region, though the outcome of their battle also could not be determined. Neither of the two youths could be found in the battlefield after things had calmed down.

Aside from the Realmlings who had appeared to fight against the Ten Arbiters, quite a few descendants from the Sixth Mainland's Cosmic Imprinters' families had also appeared, as well as some powerhouses who were second only to Realmlings, like Butcher. The situation within the Daosource Sect's ruins grew increasingly more intense, and some people had started spreading rumors that even the Secret Progenitor Realmling was about to arrive. If these Realmlings were not able to suppress the Ten Arbiters, then perhaps the various families would have to invite the Daosource Three Skies to take action.

In the Scripture Pavilion, Autumnfrost Qing's eyes went wide as he looked at Yan Xiaojing.

Previously, when the two of them had entered the Scripture Pavilion, Yan Xiaojing had seemed to have achieved a bit of enlightenment, and so, she had wanted to return to the Scripture Pavilion during this trip as well.

To Autumnfrost Qing, it would also benefit him if Yan Xiaojing was able to comprehend something, as this woman would definitely feel indebted to him and then belong to him.

However, despite their time in the Daosource Sect being almost up, Yan Xiaojing still had not comprehended anything. Thus, Autumnfrost Qing was feeling a little disappointed.

He looked up to observe his surroundings, and he saw that more than a hundred cultivators had gathered together in the Scripture Pavilion. Most of them had not originally been in the Scripture Pavilion, but because fierce battles had started to rage throughout much of the ruins, most cultivators had been forced to take refuge here, which led to more and more people gathering in the Scripture Pavilion.

The Scripture Pavilion was not a good place for people to fight as the fluctuations of star energy could easily trigger changes in the ancient characters. Hence, once enough people arrived in the Scripture Pavilion, it was considered reasonably safe.

When he thought back to the battles taking place outside of this calm region, even Autumnfrost Qing felt a bit afraid. A descendant from a World Imprinter's family who was as famous as Autumnfrost Qing himself had died only one day ago, and Autumnfrost Qing had only learned of it by listening to some other people's discussion. The youth had died at the hands of the blind Arbiter, and he had not even been able to retaliate.

Autumnfrost Qing had concluded that his strength was not much different from the youth who had died, and he realized that if he had been there instead, he likely would not have survived either.

He decided to come to the Daosource Sect as little as possible during this next period of time. Otherwise, if one of the Ten Arbiters was senseless enough to gamble on attacking the futon plaza, they would all be done for.

Suddenly, there was one more person atop the ancient character that Autumnfrost Qing was sitting on. It was a young man.

Autumnfrost Qing instinctively wanted to take action, but this young man was too close. Hold on, too close? How could he have not sensed this person approaching him? And Autumnfrost Qing had only discovered this young man after he had moved this close to him. Something was off.

"Sorry to disturb you." The youth smiled at Autumnfrost Qing and then leaped towards the exit of the Scripture Pavilion.

Autumnfrost Qing nodded without speaking as he watched the youth leave the Scripture Pavilion. He looked into the depths of the region, which was where the youth had come from. The further one traveled into the Scripture Pavilion, the more ancient characters they would be able to see, but they would also encounter greater dangers. Few people could safely emerge from the depths of the Scripture Pavilion, but that person had just done it. There was nobody for quite a considerable distance ahead of Autumnfrost Qing, which meant that youth had definitely come from the depths of the Scripture Pavilion.

An unfamiliar powerhouse who could step into the depths of the Scripture Pavilion, as well as someone who could approach Autumnfrost Qing without being discovered. He could only think of one possibility for a person at this level of strength. His own power could already be considered inferior to only the Realmlings', which meant that this young man most likely had the strength comparable to one. There were three Progenitors and nine Realms, and Autumnfrost Qing had at least seen what most of the nine Realmlings looked like, and not one of them had a similar appearance to the young man who had just passed him. This meant that the person was quite likely one of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters.

As he thought of this, Autumnfrost Qing's body trembled. He had actually crossed paths with one of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters, and he had even been that close to the person.

"Brother Autumnfrost, what happened?" Yan Xiaojing asked with evident concern as she cast a gentle look over at Autumnfrost Qing from nearby.

Autumnfrost Qing forced a smile onto his face. "Nothing much. Xiaojing, have you comprehended anything?"

Yan Xiaojing shook her head. "Sorry, Brother Autumnfrost, for wasting your time."

Autumnfrost Qing was actually rejoicing, as that Arbiter definitely would have made a move if she had actually comprehended anything. "It's alright. We'll come back here again next time, even if it didn't work out this time."

Yan Xiaojing pursed her lips, but she nodded with a smile. "Brother Autumnfrost, you're really good to me."

Autumnfrost Qing smiled, but he still felt rather nervous. He hoped that his time would run out sooner so that he could leave.

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White Knight took Lu Yin through three light pillars, and they did not meet anyone on their way. Finally, they arrive at the foot of a mountain that intermittently appeared and disappeared.

The top of the mountain before them could not be seen as there were clouds floating around its peak. Additionally, it occasionally vanished from time to time only to reappear later. When Lu Yin heard the sounds of waves enter his ear, he turned around to look behind him and saw that there was a large ocean just past the light pillar. This was the Sierrasea.

At this moment, Lu Yin recalled that Mr. Bai had once mentioned the Nine Mountains and Eight Seas; this should be one of them. According to Mr. Bai, only a Progenitor could split the mountains and seas. The Nine Mountains and Eight Seas represented the nine Progenitors, which in turn represented the Daosource Sect's greatest land of inheritance.

Lu Yin did not believe that the Daosource Sect had once had nine Progenitors, as if that were true, then they would not have lost to the Sixth Mainland in the past. Still, having one or two Progenitors was possible, and perhaps this mountain really did contain a Progenitor's inheritance.

White Knight continued moving on ahead.

Lu Yin closely followed behind her. "I heard that the Sierrasea has an inheritance from a Progenitor. Are you certain that you want to bring me along?"

"Anyone can come here, so it doesn't matter whether I bring you or not. Besides, with your strength, it's not like you could compete with me over any inheritance." White Knight did not mince her words.

Lu Yin was unwilling to give in. "That might be so for now, but not necessarily in the future."

White Knight stopped, looked at Lu Yin, and then seriously responded, "At that time, I'll kill you."

Lu Yin did not speak again, as he could tell that this woman was serious as this actually involved a topnotch inheritance.

"Seventh Bro, is there really a Progenitor's inheritance in this place? This monkey doesn't believe it! How could one be found that easily? It should be known that even up to now, no one who knows where Progenitor Wushang's inheritance is located, and Progenitor Wushang's hide even causes anyone who glances at it to faint," the Ghost Monkey said.

Indeed, acquiring Progenitor Wushang's inheritance seemed more realistic. However, this place was the ancient Daosource Sect, so perhaps it did contain a Progenitor's inheritance.

As the two of them moved forward, they stepped on the white bones that littered the ground, making a cracking sound with every step. The Daosource Sect had survived the ancient war, and every single part of it was littered with white bones. However, these bones had not faded into dust with the passage of time, which proved that all of these bones had once belonged to cultivators who were powerhouses in their own time. Lu Yin was very curious about how many powerhouses the Daosource Sect had housed during its peak, and also how glorious the sect must have been.

The two of them could not see how tall the mountain was or how much area the base covered. Even Lu Yin's vision that had been enhanced by his cultivation could not clearly see it. This mountain seemed to be a pillar that supported the sky itself, as well as this entire space.

As they neared the mountain, they started to see the mountain a bit more clearly, and somewhere high up above their heads, a few continents floated about the sky. As they did not know the height of the mountain, they therefore could not determine how large these floating continents actually were, or what the clouds were covering above them.

The most magnificent sight within their vision was a crack that split the tall mountain into two halves. It looked like a line that led up to the sky.

White Knight suddenly stopped and pointed at the sky. She then indifferently asked, "Do you see that continent?"

Lu Yin looked up, his sight following the direction that White Knight's finger was pointing in. "You mean the continent that's the closest to the mountain?"

"Fly up there. There might be a futon plaza on that mainland, and if you make it there, you can return to the Daosource Sect at that location the next time you come here."

"Are you saying that we'll be able to arrive at this place?" Lu Yin was astonished.

"Fly up there. If you don't, I'll kill you," White Knight told him calmly.

"Why do I have to return here?"

"It's an order."

"You aren't qualified to give me orders."

"Anyone who belongs to the Ten Arbiters Council, the Council of Astral Academy, or the Outerverse Youth Council-"

"Alright, alright, I get it! You've already said that three times. Aren't you tired of it yet?" Lu Yin speechlessly interrupted her.

Lu Yin could clearly feel that she was not too happy about being interrupted. He really wanted to know what expression that exquisitely cute face of hers was making under that helmet.

He rubbed his nose and then looked up at the floating continents. "Judging by your tone, it would seem that it won't be easy to get up onto that mainland. I have no confidence that I'll make it." He then leaped up and flew high into the sky.

White Knight's eyes flickered. The reason why she had brought Lu Yin to this place was because it would be extremely difficult for her to obtain the Progenitor's inheritance by herself, and she needed a helper to do so. She was not too comfortable with the other Arbiters, and she was connected to this person through Wendy Yushan. Also, they had just gone through a life or death situation, which made her reluctantly feel more comfortable with Lu Yin. She could only hope that he would be able to reach that continent.

She had noticed that Lu Yin was able to withstand a significant amount of spiritual force pressure during her fight with Blood Looney. She believed that he would be able to make it to the futon plaza.

A Progenitor represented the peak of cultivation. To many, a Progenitor was the same as the sky. A Progenitor could change the sky, and they themselves also represented the sky.

No matter if the information regarding the Daosource Sect's Nine Mountains and Eight Seas was true or false, the mountain ahead of them was definitely a Progenitor's path that had been established by a genuine Progenitor. Ascending this mountain was the same as scaling the sky, which meant facing the pressure of the sky.

By now, Lu Yin was experiencing that pressure. The higher he flew, the greater the pressure he felt. This was a suppression on his spiritual force, his physical body, and even on his most fundamental level of life. Truthfully, Lu Yin was no stranger to such suppression, as he had faced it more than just once before. His deepest impression of this kind of pressure came from when he had climbed that mountain in the hidden space with a golden ocean. Back then, he had also climbed a mountain, and he had met Mister Mu at the top. That meeting had allowed Lu Yin to transform his physical body while still in the Limiteer realm, and he had thus become an unequaled Limiteer.

Now, Lu Yin was facing the dignified pressure of the sky. If he had attempted this feat during the ancient era and was able to ascend directly, it was possible that he might be able to see the Progenitor who represented the sky. But now, the only thing that greeted his eyes was the spacious continent.

## **Chapter 650: A Blunt Reply**

White Knight was confident that Lu Yin would succeed since Lu Yin had been able to withstand the spiritual pressure of her castle and Blood Looney's blood lotuses had collided. In the end, Lu Yin was able to fly all the way up to the floating mainland in one go. Even if his spiritual force felt like it was about to completely crumble by the time he finally arrived on the mainland, he just had to recite the Stonewall Scriptures to help him ascend the last stretch and land atop the mainland.

The area where he landed was very spacious and broad, and it seemed to be roughly ten times the size of East San Dios.

Lu Yin panted heavily, and he even felt slightly numb in his limbs. When he looked over the edge and down at the ground from the mainland, he could see an endless range of mountains as well as a boundless ocean in the distance.

This place seemed to be very similar to the hidden space he had visited that had the golden ocean, as there had also been mountains and seas in that place, and the only notable difference that he could see was the color of the sea.

White Knight watched on as Lu Yin landed on the mainland, and her eyes flashed. She leaped up, though she clearly used much less effort than Lu Yin had exerted, quickly flying through the sky.

"You're slightly more useful than I had previously thought," she commented.

"It's actually pretty good when you don't speak," Lu Yin retorted.

White Knight looked at the ground seriously and then narrowed her eyes.

Lu Yin looked over to see what had caught her eyes, and his expression changed. "Someone else has been here."

There were three different sets of footprint visible on the ground: his, White Knight's, and someone else's.

"This place isn't too hard to find, so this isn't something to be surprised about," White Knight said indifferently.

Lu Yin frowned. Not something to be surprised about? Ever since he had learned the Stonewall Scriptures, he had recited it constantly, and his spiritual force had long since far surpassed that of those in his same generation and even the average Hunter. In terms of strength, some people in the younger generation might still be able to measure up to Lu Yin, such as the top ten of the Top Hundreds Rankings, or a few experts who were second only to the Realmlings from the Sixth Mainland. However, in terms of spiritual force resistance, Lu Yin dared to compete against even the Ten Arbiters themselves.

Despite that, he had still been forced to recite the Stonewall Scriptures to reach this floating mainland. Those who could reach this place were definitely cultivators at the same level as the Ten Arbiters and Realmlings.

The fact that such an expert had appeared here was certainly concerning to Lu Yin.

Lu Yin unleashed his domain, and it gradually enveloped the entire mainland. Aside from White Knight and himself, there was no one else on this mainland.

"There's no need to search. They are already gone," White Knight said.

"Aren't you worried about bumping into a Realmling?"

"If I bump into one, I'll just kill them."

Lu Yin was speechless. "You're certainly confident."

"How many days more do you have here?" White Knight asked.

Lu Yin shook his head. "I'm not sure. It's my first time."

White Knight glanced at him. "I don't believe you."

"There's nothing I can do about that," Lu Yin casually replied.

White Knight turned around. "Since you were able to get up here, your time limit should be more than twenty five days. How long have you been here?"

"About twenty days."

"Then you still have a few days left. It'd be best for you to stay here and not move out, as no one will save you if you end up in danger. Also..." She paused for a moment as she stared at Lu Yin. "Do you want to obtain a Progenitor's inheritance?"

"No." Lu Yin gave a very blunt reply, but it was one that made even White Knight think that she had misheard.

"What did you say? No?"

"Yep. I don't want it. I absolutely don't want it." Lu Yin sounded very certain.

White Knight fell silent, as the words she had planned to say had been thrown into chaos, and she no longer knew what to say.

Lu Yin sniggered inwardly. This brat wanted to use a Progenitor's inheritance to lure him in, most likely because she could not obtain it on her own. However, this was also proof that the danger was extreme. He did not want to end up becoming this brat's scapegoat while she got her hands on the inheritance.

White Knight was rather irritated, and she glared at Lu Yin in her frustration. What kind of person did not want to obtain a Progenitor's inheritance? This was completely illogical! A cultivator's ultimate goal was the Progenitor realm. But when a Progenitor's inheritance was placed in front of Lu Yin's eyes, why was he not moved? This shouldn't be happening!

"Only a Progenitor is able to split the mountains and seas in the Daosource Sect. This place is a true Progenitor's inheritance," White Knight said softly.

Lu Yin casually roamed about the floating mainland before leisurely responding, "That's none of my business. In any case, I don't want some Progenitor's inheritance. I'll cultivate by myself, and I won't follow the path of others."

White Knight frowned. This sentence was rather ambitious, but what did it have to do with a Progenitor's inheritance? "A Progenitor's inheritance contains arts, battle techniques, secret techniques, and power vessels as well."

"I don't want any of that."

White Knight fell silent again, as she did not know what else to say. Instead, she decided to stop pushing this matter. She leaped towards another mainland. "It's best not to leave this place lest you die."

"Seventh Bro, this woman got so upset at you that she left! You played your cards too unconventionally. Even if you search through the entire Fifth and Sixth Mainlands, who would be able to resist the allure of a Progenitor's inheritance? How many people would still charge in towards a Progenitor's inheritance regardless of the danger? Despite all of that, your answer was still so blunt! This monkey thinks that she's started to doubt her own life, hahaha!" the Ghost Monkey ridiculed.

Lu Yin smiled slightly. "I know myself well. Let's not even mention a Progenitor's inheritance—just an Envoy's inheritance would be turning out well if I'm able to make a narrow escape. There's no need to hurry, and I have no desire to rush to my death."

"That's true. I appreciate this part of you." The monkey was thrilled. He felt like enlightenment had come to Lu Yin and that he would not court disaster any longer.

Lu Yin was able to set a Progenitor's inheritance aside as it was something that was way too far from his reach. In contrast, he could not let go of the battle technique that he had found in one of the Nine Cauldrons. He was clearly capable of comprehending it, and this made his heart ache. He could still wait a little longer, and he planned to wait around for a while before heading back to that cauldron again, as he would only make another attempt after the numerous battles that had broken out in the Daosource Sect had died down a bit.

Lu Yin waited on the mainland for a few days as his time ran out. He was very curious about the mountain in front of him, but he did not charge over to it. Even White Knight of the Ten Arbiters wanted to team up with him to challenge it, and Lu Yin did not want to kill himself.

Three days later, the scenery before his eyes changed. When he opened his eyes once again, he saw the secret room in King Zishan's palace.

He had finally returned to Zenyu Star, and he felt a lot more at ease while in King Zishan's palace. He intended to avoid returning to the Daosource Sect's ruins for the next two months, as the battles there would have likely burned out by then. At that point, he would be able to safely head to the Nine Cauldrons region and comprehend that battle technique. There was no need to hurry.

After he returned to the Great Yu Empire, the first thing that Lu Yin did was head to Wendy Yushan's home and look for her. He was afraid that something might have happened to her in the Daosource Sect's ruins.

Fortunately, Wendy Yushan had returned to Zenyu Star long ago.

"I remained in the Daosource Sect for nine days," Wendy Yushan informed him.

Lu Yin was surprised. "Only nine?"

Wendy Yushan nodded and then asked in a strange voice, "How long can you stay there for?"

"Twenty three days."

Wendy Yushan fell deep into thought, as this disparity seemed a little too extreme.

Lu Yin could not wrap his head around this difference. Even that fatty was able to remain in the sect for around fifteen days, and Lu Yin had heard his companions mention that a normal person could stay there for about fifteen days or so. Why was Wendy Yushan only able to remain there for nine?

The duration that one could stay in the ruins was related to their spiritual force and their futon. Could it be possible that Huang San's spiritual force surpassed even Wendy Yushan's? With her current strength, even without using the Yu Secret Art, she could smoothly enter the top twenty five of the Top 100 Rankings, which greatly surpassed the fatty's strength. Despite that, was her spiritual force really inferior to the average standard of the Sixth Mainland's cultivators?

Perhaps it was related to the Sixth Mainland's style of cultivation. Lu Yin recalled that they did not really bother with domains or battle force. Instead, they focused on their imprints and bloodlines, which were fundamentally different forms of cultivation than the Fifth Mainland's.

"How was it in the Daosource Sect? Did you face any danger?" Lu Yin asked.

Wendy Yushan serenely answered, "I bumped into someone, a Realmling."

"A Realmling?" Lu Yin was stunned. "Are you alright?"

Wendy Yushan shook her head. "That person called himself the Realmling of the War Martial Realm, and apparently, he's from the Toolcasting family. He called himself Toolwielder. His power was very impressive, and I wasn't even able to hold on to my sword when facing him."

"And then?" Lu Yin hurriedly asked.

Wendy Yushan saw the concern in Lu Yin's eyes, and it caused her heart to warm. "Relax, he didn't do much to me. He just took me on a trip to the Scripture Pavilion. But my time expired while I was in there, and I left."

Lu Yin released a pent up breath. "Alright. Also, you need to remember; don't go back to the Daosource Sect for a while. It's turned into a battlefield."

Wendy Yushan nodded. "I heard about that while I was in the Scripture Pavilion. Both the Ten Arbiters and the Realmlings appeared there. You can't go back there either. The Daosource Sect is truly out of bounds right now."

Lu Yin smiled. "I got it."

"Right, what did you encounter there?" Wendy Yushan asked curiously.

Lu Yin did not mention anything about his encounter with White Knight, as he was afraid that Wendy Yushan would want to enter the Daosource Sect again to look for White Knight. He instead only briefly mentioned the situation at Heaven's Pit and the region with the Nine Cauldrons.

"The duration that one can stay in the Daosource Sect should be related to spiritual force. Do you have any ways to improve your spiritual force?" Lu Yin asked.

Wendy Yushan shook her head. "In this universe, the knowledge about spiritual force is very limited, almost as if it's something that has been intentionally hidden away. The strongest people on this path should be the Daynight clan."

Lu Yin replied, "Then just forget it. Do you have enough resources?"

Wendy Yushan nodded. "Yes."

Not much later, Lu Yin left the princess's residence. He had a way to improve his spiritual force, which was the Stonewall Scriptures. However, he could not recite the Stonewall Scriptures in full, much less teach them to Wendy Yushan. It seemed that he had to have a chat with the Daynight clan. The Daosource Sect contained quite a few lucky opportunities and inheritances. He hoped that not only he, but also Wendy Yushan would be able to obtain some of them.

After having interacted for so long, Wendy Yushan had started to treat Lu Yin as her only living relative, and she had even passed over control of the Great Yu Empire to him. Lu Yin, in turn, had also started to treat her as his family.

He returned to King Zishan's palace and found that En Ya was already waiting there for him. "Greetings, Your Highness."

"How's the situation in Shenwu Continent coming along?" Lu Yin asked expectantly.

En Ya took out a letter and handed it over to Lu Yin. "This is a letter for Your Highness that arrived from the Shenwu Emperor, Ming Zhaoshu."

Lu Yin's brows knitted as he opened it and took a look. His expression changed rather drastically. Ming Zhaoshu has been poisoned? He can't live for much longer?

In the letter, Ming Zhaoshu pleaded for Lu Yin to find a way to treat the newly crowned emperor. Before he fully recovered, Ming Yan would not be able to leave Shenwu Continent, as he had to avoid the worst-case scenario of the Shenwu Empire being left without an heir in the event that Ming Zhaoshu could not be treated.

Nobody had expected such an accident to occur.

"Did our messenger in the Shenwu Empire see Ming Zhaoshu himself?" Lu Yin asked.

En Ya replied, "Yes, once."

Lu Yin muttered to himself. He had to cure Ming Zhaoshu, or else Ming Yan would become the ruler of the Shenwu Empire, which would be rather troublesome. It would be impossible for the ruler of the Shenwu Empire to conduct their affairs from the Great Yu Empire, and it would also be too difficult for Lu Yin to meet with Ming Yan if she took over the empire in the future.

According to the description in Ming Zhaoshu's letter, there had been no signs whatsoever of him being poisoned, only the result of the poison quickly depleting his life force.

Lu Yin dismissed En Ya and then summoned the Great Yu Empire's imperial physician.

"Depletion of life force? Your Majesty, there are countless poisons in the universe, but your subject has never heard of a poison that will so ruthlessly sap away at one's life force without showing any other symptoms. Thus, I have no way to treat it," the man answered respectfully.

Lu Yin waved his hand to dismiss the man. Then, he immediately contacted the Limiteer Mistchild.

"A poison that can directly sap away at one's life force? Where is it?" Her eyes lit up brilliantly.

Lu Yin replied, "I'm asking you how such a poison can be treated."