#### **STAR ODYSSEY 951**

#### Chapter 951: Influence

The forces that had gathered in the astral cemetery were also capable of launching special attacks. The Neo-Vestige Sect, the Dark Phoenix family, Millions City, and the Hall of Honor all had their own methods, not to mention the Sea King's Dome and powerhouses like Elder He. The Outerverse's strength did not appear to be weak at all.

Lu Yin had arrived at the astral cemetery half a month ago, and he was feeling a great deal of pressure. Everyone else who had gathered here was simply wondering if war would actually break out, and even Yuan Shi was no different. Lu Yin was the only person who was absolutely certain that war was about to start. The Tong family had invaded the Starfall Sea, and now that the Starfall Sea had completely fallen under their control, they had accomplished the objective of their invasion. In this situation, it would be perfectly normal for them to redirect their attention towards the Outerverse, as there were no other places within the Innerverse that they could step in.

But Lu Yin was not as certain about the Sightless Clan's situation. They might be in the same situation as the Tong family, or they might have just been invited by Ancestor Tong.

No matter what, it was guaranteed that the Tong family would eventually invade the Outerverse. Otherwise, Madam Hong would have never allowed Mr. Yi and Mr. Da to cross the Astral River.

That order that had been given out on the spur of the moment was enough to show that the family had already been considering invading the Outerverse.

Speaking of those two, Lu Yin wondered how they were, and he thought of Mr. Yi.

There was a saying that thinking of someone would cause them to appear; right as Lu Yin was thinking about Mr. Yi, the Imprinter's rune lines appeared.

Lu Yin stared blankly at where the man was standing proudly in space. Lu Yin blinked in surprise, lifted a hand, and then contacted Elder Daggs.

"Elder, has Mr. Yi surrendered?" Lu Yin asked.

Elder Daggs replied, "Not quite. He is willing to lend his strength to resist, but he will not take the initiative to attack anyone from the Sixth Mainland."

Lu Yin grunted in acknowledgement. He then ended the call and flew over towards Mr. Yi. Lu Yin wanted to get a handle on Mr. Yi's emotions, as this person held a unique place in Lu Yin's heart. When he had stood at the highest point in his entire life, he had been led there by Mr. Yi.

This man was an Imprinter whose power level was even greater than 600,000, and there was no one in the entire Outerverse who could match up to such an expert aside from Yuan Shi. However, the Imprinter had been repeatedly driven back by Lu Yin, which was something that no one would believe without seeing. Lu Yin missed that invincible feeling, and as he thought about that time, his hand felt itchy, and he even felt an impulse to bring out that stinky fruit.

Mr. Yi had long since noticed Lu Yin, and a nauseous feeling had reflexively welled up, but he had forced himself to pretend to not see Lu Yin.

"Mr. Yi?" Lu Yin probed.

Mr. Yi looked over with a cold expression and snorted. He then looked elsewhere.

Lu Yin moved closer. "It's been a long time. How has Mr. Yi been doing?"

Mr. Yi frowned and turned to stare at Lu Yin. "Go away."

Lu Yin mocked the Imprinter, saying, "About that, Mr. Yi, let me ask you some questions. When you charged into the Astral River back then, how was the Sea King?"

Mr. Yi sneered. "Dead."

Lu Yin was taken aback. "Dead? How could he have died so quickly?"

Mr. Yi looked away and did not answer. However, he released a terrifying might from his body that caused Lu Yin to be pushed away.

When facing a top powerhouse whose power level had almost reached 700,000, Lu Yin was not even able to react before he was sent flying far away. Fortunately for Lu Yin, Mr. Yi was still scared of Yuan Shi, so he did not harm Lu Yin. Otherwise, even if Lu Yin had been wearing his universal armor, he would have been instantly killed.

Lu Yin was furious, and he really wanted to take out the stinky object now. However, after thinking it through, he decided not to.

In the Innerverse, Lu Yin had been able to use the stinky fruit to deal with Mr. Yi purely because both sides' power level had been suppressed to under 200,000. Under those circumstances, Lu Yin had been able to rely on his secret technique to endlessly harass the Imprinter. But now, in the Outerverse, Mr. Yi had no such restrictions, so that odious fruit simply would not even be able to approach the powerhouse.

Lu Yin felt depressed, and he decided to forget about it and to stop trying to speak with the old man. Next on his to-do list, Lu Yin was to take a trip to Central Coalition and evaluate them since they were now allied troops. But at that moment, his gadget suddenly beeped; it was a call from Elder Daggs.

Lu Yin accepted the call, and Elder Daggs's voice called out, "Alliance Leader Lu, may I ask if you still have any of the poison from before?"

Lu Yin's eyes grew bright. "Yes! How much would Elder like?"

"How much do you have?" Elder Daggs asked.

This sentence was too generous, and Lu Yin quickly did some brief calculations. He still had some portions of Elder Wu's poison left, and each one cost him 600,000 star essence to upgrade. With his current star essence stores, Lu Yin had enough to upgrade no more than four bottles at this time.

"Junior still has four vials," Lu Yin replied.

Elder Daggs replied, "We'll buy all of them."

There were not many poisons that could pose any sort of threat to experts with power levels of more than 300,000. At the very least, such poisons were rarely ever found in the Outerverse. As such, these powerful poisons could be used to incite panic in their enemies in the upcoming battle.

Elder Daggs was willing to purchase anything that could bolster their strength regardless of its price tag.

Lu Yin grew emotional, and he quickly agreed to a time for them to carry out the transaction. He then spent some time calculating the numbers only to realize that this deal would allow his net worth to surpass four million star essence, which was almost too wealthy.

Not long after Elder Daggs contacted Lu Yin, the Neo-Vestige Sect's Gong Ling also contacted the youth, asking about purchasing more of those high-quality arrows.

In the past, the Lu's Grand Auction had sold off some arrows that had been upgraded by Lu Yin, and they had been too perfect a fit for the Neo-Vestige Sect. Now that a bloody war was about to start once again, Gong Ling also hoped to improve his sect's strength.

Reportedly, the arrows at the Neo-Vestige Sect's Arrow Mountain were nearly gone, as the cruelty of the border invasion had shocked the Neo-Vestige Sect. All of their qualified disciples had visited Arrow Mountain to search for arrows in hopes of increasing their chances of survival on the battlefield, even if it was only a small bit.

Lu Yin really wanted to do business with the Neo-Vestige Sect, but this was not a suitable time. It would be very easy for others to realize what he was doing, so he could only reluctantly decline Gong Ling's proposal.

With the Outerverse's full strength gathered in one place, battle naturally broke out on a daily basis. There were internal conflicts within every weave, and the interweave conflicts were even more common. The Hall of Honor was forced to send out many people on a daily basis to deal with the constant conflicts, and they were barely able to maintain the peace.

It had taken a tremendous amount of resources to mobilize all of these troops, and this was acutely felt by each organization since the resources were shouldered by each individual power. Each day, someone would ask Elder Daggs when the battle would start, as well as who had provided information concerning this upcoming war.

Elder Daggs did not dare answer, as he himself was hoping that the war would never happen. As for who had provided the information, if he shared that Lu Yin had been the one to supply the news, then it would definitely incite great dissatisfaction if an invasion did not occur.

Lu Yin was not afraid of other people being unhappy with him, and he actually looked forward to finding an excuse to fight his way further westwards. However, Elder Daggs did not want to be the fuse for an internal war within the Outerverse.

Eventually, the elder closed his doors and refused all visitors. He used Yuan Shi as an excuse for many things, and so nobody dared to say too much.

However, gathering countless troops from all over the Outerverse to the astral cemetery became increasingly troublesome as more time elapsed.

Disagreements constantly arose, and there would also be fights, not to mention the appearance of some weirdos as well.

One such example was Zhu San. He seemed bent on completely letting himself go, and he completely disregarded what others thought of him. Now, he no longer wore anything other than feminine clothing as he incessantly chased after Qiong Xi'er. His actions actually led many people to assume that they were allowed to bring their partners on this military campaign, which led to even more incidents.

Qiong Xi'er herself was no better, and she spent all of her days teasing various maids.

In the end, Elder Daggs had to order Qiong Xi'er to not leave Millions City until the war started. This was the only way to deal with the strange pair.

Wei Rong had also been conscripted, as his suggestion had been adopted during the defense at Endless Weave's border warfront with great success, and his military contributions had ranked quite highly, which attracted Elder Daggs's attention. This, combined with his efforts against Lu Yin in the war for Armament Weave, allowed Elder Daggs to understand Wei Rong a little better. This time, Elder Daggs had recruited Wei Rong to the astral cemetery and even given the young man certain special privileges that allowed him to directly meet with Elder Daggs, as the elder hoped to receive some good suggestions.

However, Wei Rong made his attitude very obvious; he would only report to Lu Yin about any matter.

During this time, Angie also met with Wei Rong once, and although nobody knew what the two had talked about, Angie's expression had been very dark when she left.

More and more spacecraft gathered in the astral cemetery.

Lu Yin observed the Astral River every day, and it was impossible to tell if he was hoping that the other side would force their way over or that they would not.

At one point, he even made it a special point to tour through the Central Coalition, and his presence there attracted everyone's eyes.

Central Coalition had been specifically established to curb his ambitious activities, and he was the enemy of all these troops. And yet, nobody dared to stop him.

In another place, Wei Rong was stopped by Elder Tie.

At one point in the past, Lu Yin had arranged for the people from the Mt. Stacks Dojo to create some trouble for Wei Rong so that Lu Yin would be able to subdue his former rival. However, because of Wang Wen, although that plot had never been carried out, the conflict between Wei Rong and the Mt. Stacks Dojo had not been resolved yet. At this time, after much difficulty, they had finally found Wei Rong, and Elder Tie's group was not going to let the youth off so easily.

Ever since he declared his allegiance to the Great Yu Empire, Wei Rong had remained on Zenyu Star, and Elder Tie did not dare to go to that place and make trouble. However, at this moment, they could finally settle things.

Wei Rong looked at Elder Tie's group in a calm manner. "You guys really don't know how to give up."

Elder Tie's expression grew cold. "I'll give Lu Yin a bit of face, so follow me back to the Young Master and kowtow to him in apology. Then, we can let go of this matter."

Wei Rong did not reply. Instead, Aden and Cai Jianqiang suddenly appeared from the side and faced Elder Tie. Along with Huo Qingshan and the Blind Monk, they were the four Thirteen Imperial Squadron Captains who had been drafted.

More Hunters similarly appeared behind Elder Tie.

In terms of Hunters, unless the Great Eastern Alliance or the Rapid Response Team was dragged into this confrontation, then the people behind Wei Rong could not compare to the Mt. Stacks Dojo's numbers.

Furthermore, the people from Mt. Stacks Dojo were all from the Innerverse, and they possessed a certain unspoken arrogance towards the denizens of the Outerverse.

Elder Tie coldly looked at Aden and Cai Jianqiang. "Do you guys intend to become enemies with my Mt. Stacks Dojo?"

"So arrogant! This is the Outerverse, not the Starfall Sea," Cai Jianqiang replied.

Elder Tie's gaze turned sharp. "Since that's how it is, then don't say that I didn't show Lu Yin any face. Capture them all and bring them along."

At this moment, the Neo-Vestige Sect's Gong Chou and his people passed by, and they hurriedly caught up as soon as they caught wind of what was happening. They moved to stand beside Aden and the others to confront Elder Tie's group.

It was not that Gong Chou was actually close with the people from the Great Yu Empire, but rather, they were all a part of the Great Eastern Alliance. If they remained indifferent while their own allies were bullied, then they would be the ones who would end up being embarrassed.

Next, quite a few other experts from the Great Eastern Alliance arrived and also confronted Elder Tie's group.

Elder Tie was about to act, but at that moment, a cold killing intent locked onto him. It was from Black Mask, who had also arrived. At the same time, from another direction, the old lady who was supported by the Nalan family, Mr. Tradeo from Amethyst Exchange, and the Windflower Crew from Endless Borders also arrived.

The astral cemetery was not very large. Thus, Enlighters could easily see what was happening in various places.

Elder Tie's scalp went numb. Although he could easily disregard one or two Enlighters, there was no way he could ignore this many. Moreover, there were even powerhouses among them whose power levels were greater than 300,000, and all of these people seemed to be siding with Wei Rong.

Elder Daggs also rushed over. Since this incident had attracted this many experts, he could not continue to remain in hiding.

"What's going on?" Elder Daggs had an ugly expression.

Wei Rong bowed and respectfully answered, "A small misunderstanding has dragged Elder out. I am truly sorry."

Elder Daggs turned to look at Elder Tie. "Is there any issue here?"

Elder Tie did not even have a chance to reply when Lu Yin arrived. He glanced over the gathering, nodded towards those like Black Mask and Mr. Tradeo, and then looked at Elder Tie. "You're still holding on to matters from back then?"

Elder Tie frowned. "Alliance Leader Lu, this matter concerns the reputation of our young master, who's one of the Ten Arbiters. Some Explorer from the Outerverse dared to try to use one of the Ten Arbiters, and if it was you, you would not let such a thing go easily either."

"And what if I said that those accusations were false?" Lu Yin responded coldly.

# **Chapter 952: The Changing Astral River**

Elder Tie was confused. "What do you mean, 'fake?'"

Lu Yin was just about to explain when Wei Rong stepped forward. "This was all my fault, and I hope that Elder Tie can convey my apologies to the Arbiter."

Lu Yin turned to look at Wei Rong, but the young man just shook his head at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin turned his head away. He did not actually care if he offended Lan Si, as from his few interactions with him, Lu Yin was aware that Lan Si was not a petty person. Moreover, a petty person would not have been able to become an Arbiter.

A person's attitude determined the heights that they could reach, and although Lan Si's personal strength had helped him to achieve his current status, the man also had an impressive spirit.

However, Wei Rong had his own opinion, and so, Lu Yin remained silent out of respect for Wei Rong.

Elder Tie's expression softened when he saw that Wei Rong was behaving apologetically even with Lu Yin and many other powerhouses present. He then nodded. "Very well, I will convey your apologies. Let's go."

Wei Rong smiled. "Thank you."

Black Mask and the others also left when they saw that the conflict was settled.

Elder Daggs glanced over at Lu Yin. This youth truly possessed an impressive level of influence in the Outerverse, and so many experts had moved out just to help one of his subordinates. Elder Daggs suddenly realized that he had still been underestimating Lu Yin.

"Your Highness, we should not make any more enemies if we can help it. Even if you don't care about what Lan Si thinks, you still should consider the other Arbiters' reactions to this," Wei Rong said.

Lu Yin nodded. "You did the right thing. We don't know when the connection between the Innerverse and Outerverse will be restored, and once it does, there will be tremendous chaos within the Ten

Arbiters. Lan Si is a nice person, and he's also not petty and knows how to be grateful. Thus, we shouldn't make him an enemy."

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Soon, another month passed by. By now, it had been about five years since the Outerverse had been isolated from the Innerverse. There had been huge changes in both places during these five years.

A person who had been famous just within the younger generation was now a major figure who was able to decide the fate of the entire Outerverse.

500 years was not enough for someone to gain complete control of all of the weaves in the Outerverse, let alone just five years. However, Lu Yin had done the right thing by establishing an alliance, as he only needed the status and the resources provided by the Outerverse. He had no need to gain total control of it.

Meanwhile, in Ironblood Weave, Wang Wen initiated his next scheme. If this plan succeeded, then it would just be a matter of time before Lu Yin achieved his goal of uniting the Outerverse.

The conflicts among the forces stationed in the astral cemetery kept worsening, and many people were on the verge of leaving.

The amount of resources that were spent every day just to maintain this number of troops in one place was astronomical.

Everyone who had gathered in this place was a cultivator, and thus, apart from regular military expenses, cultivation resources were also needed. The end sum of all these expenses was enough to bankrupt even major powers.

The Astral River suddenly experienced a change during this situation.

The Astral River, which ran along the edge of the astral cemetery, suddenly started surging, and the energy barrier that separated the Outerverse from the Innerverse was shredded apart as an enormous fish barreled into the Outerverse.

Mr. Yi calmly stepped forward to push the fish aside, but the moment he touched the fish, the clothes on his arms were torn apart. Two separate streams of force entered his body and tore him to pieces.

Yuan Shi stepped forward and casually waved a hand, causing the fish to fly off into the distance.

Everyone was stunned; a powerhouse with a power level exceeding 600,000 had died just like that!

Lu Yin hesitated. The fish had been covered with a terrifying number of rune lines that were equivalent to a Cosmic Imprinter's power. Mr. Yi, who only had a power level that was a bit higher than 600,000, would obviously be torn apart when pitted against the power of a Cosmic Imprinter.

Mr. Yi's death had simply been a waste.

However, Mr. Yi's death was just the start. Everyone's attention was drawn to the Astral River as two streams of energy shot out, creating a visible shockwave that swept through the crowd.

Yuan Shi bellowed and tore the shockwave apart. Two figures emerged from the Astral River, and their aura intimidated everyone. They somehow both resembled Ancestor Di; they were Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless, and both of them were Cosmic Imprinters.

There were also countless experts from the Tong family and the Sightless Clan behind the two men, and there were even three Imprinters among their forces. All of these people rushed towards the Outerverse's forces.

This was an unbeatable strength, and their power was enough to cause the entire sky to tremble.

Yuan Shi immediately charged towards Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless while the rest of the experts from the Outerverse recovered from their shock. They soon released shouts of their own as they confidently rushed towards the Astral River.

This fight would likely be even more intense than the war that had occurred at the border.

Right when the cultivators from the Sixth Mainland believed that the battle had begun, Lu Yin and Wendy Yushan used the Yu Secret Art from a hidden position within the crowd. They diverted a large amount of pyrolyte right next to the Astral River.

Yuan Shi was the only powerhouse in the Outerverse who could compare to a Cosmic Imprinter, and his actions were being closely monitored by Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless, which made it impossible for him to launch any sort of ambush attempt. However, Lu Yin and Wendy Yushan were only Cruisers, and nobody was paying attention to anyone at their level. Moreover, they had used their secret technique, which did not have many signs.

They had transferred about a hundred grams of recently mined pyrolyte, and this was their entire stockpile. Lu Yin had even added in his own personal stash of eight grams, and the two youths detonated the entire pile right next to the Astral River.

Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless had never expected to encounter such a rare mineral like pyrolyte here, and they were about to stop the explosion when Yuan Shi attacked both of them at the same time. He managed to occupy them for a single second, which was enough to allow the pyrolyte to erupt. The resulting explosion had a power level of one million that affected both sides of the Astral River.

Although the center of the explosion was quite far from the Outerverse's troops, they were still within the radius of effect as this explosion had a power level of one million. Fortunately, the Hall of Honor had made adequate preparations and created many defenses. Yuan Shi also threw a power vessel towards the weaker cultivators to help them block the shockwave of the explosion.

The Sixth Mainland's cultivators responded the same way, and the three Imprinters worked together to block half of the explosion's force. The rest of the explosion was blocked by the various Enlighters among the troops.

Although the explosion had a power level of one million, it would not be able to cause much damage if the opponent was sufficiently prepared. If they had still possessed the blood red bell, then the explosion would have been enough to kill the three Imprinters.

However, the goal of this explosion had never been to cause damage; it was just a distraction for the Neo-Vestige Sect to take action.

Right as the shockwaves of the explosion faded, the members of the Neo-Vestige Sect loosed countless arrows towards the Astral River, aiming at the invaders from the Sixth Mainland.

At the same time, Elder He, the headmaster of Astral-9, and Millions City, all of which possessed the strength of an Envoy, attacked the three Imprinters, not giving the three of them any time to block the arrows.

Regardless, these arrows were not even powerful enough to threaten Imprinters.

A dozen Enlighters within the Sixth Mainland's crowd moved forward to block the arrows from striking the rest of their Mainland's forces. However, they had underestimated the power of these arrows. The pyrolyte explosion had served as a distraction for these arrows, as they were coated with poison.

Not only had Elder Daggs purchased poisons from Lu Yin, but the Hall of Honor had also bought the strongest poisons available in the Outerverse. At this moment, all of those poisons had been shot at the Sixth Mainland through the Neo-Vestige Sect's arrows.

The people from the Sixth Mainland were shocked. "Despicable!"

"The Fifth Mainland is despicable!"

"Despicable natives!"

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White Silkworm instantly swallowed a pill and fell down as the poisons had included a poisonous gas that could even harm Enlighters.

Elder Yuan, who was from the Tong family, bellowed as he tried to force the poisonous gas away. However, he suddenly felt a strong killing intent behind him as Black Mask suddenly attacked the elder. At the same time, the Sixth Mainland's powerhouses that had not been affected by the poison were all simultaneously attacked by the various powerhouses of the Outerverse.

Yu Mu, the Starmaster of Astral-9, the old lady from the Nalan family, Yuehua Mavis, and other experts all launched their attacks in unison.

An intense battle broke out along the border between the Astral River and the astral cemetery. Yuan Shi fought against the two Cosmic Imprinters, the Envoys battled against the Imprinters, and the united forces of the Fifth Mainland battled with the two major clans from the Sixth Mainland. The entire galaxy was shattered by the unending violence.

The attack prepared by the Outerverse had damaged the forces of the two large clans from the Sixth Mainland, as many of their cultivators, including some Enlighters, had died to the poisonous gas. However, the sudden attack had not affected Ancestor Tong or Ancestor Sightless in the slightest.

When they learned that Tong Zhan had inadvertently revealed that they would be attacking through the Astral River to someone from the Fifth Mainland, they had already expected to run into an ambush. However, they had still chosen this particular location and continued on with their plan as they wanted to eliminate all of the experts in the Outerverse in one go. They would not be able to take complete control of the Outerverse without defeating these powerhouses anyways.

The war in the Innerverse had reached a standstill since the Sixth Mainland's three realms had not been able to completely suppress the opposing powerhouses. Thus, the two Venerables did not want to repeat that mistake with the Outerverse.

The two Cosmic Imprinters had been willing to run into the ambush and sacrifice some of their people as long as it allowed them to defeat all of the Outerverse's experts at once.

This was especially true for the sole expert in the Outerverse who could rival a Cosmic Imprinter; they were determined to kill that person.

With the power that Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless possessed, either one of them would have been enough to deal with Yuan Shi, which would allow the other to annihilate everyone else from the Outerverse. Nevertheless, they did not do that, as they were worried that Yuan Shi would escape if just one of them was fighting him, and that would be a disaster for their clans.

An expert with the power of a Cosmic Imprinter was enough to ruin both of their families, and such a person could easily kill countless people in an instant. Hence, they had decided to cooperate against Yuan Shi and eliminate all future problems this way. As for the remaining Fifth Mainland natives, they were just ants that could be dealt with after Yuan Shi died.

The battle between Yuan Shi and the two Cosmic Imprinters occurred in a place that nobody else could even see. It might have even been in the true universe that Yuan Shi had mentioned to Lu Yin before.

Lu Yin had no time to think about such things at the moment. He put on his universal armor and focused on fighting against an Enlighter from the Sightless Clan whose power level was more than 300,000. The Enlighter paid absolutely no attention to Lu Yin since the youth was just a Cruiser.

However, when Lu Yin managed to deflect the Enlighter's attack, the expert instantly realized that Lu Yin was not a normal cultivator. If a Cruiser possessed an item that could deflect an Enlighter's attack, then this person must hold a high status in the Outerverse.

The Enlighter quickly decided to capture Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had attacked the Enlighter because he had noticed that the Enlighter was heading towards the Great Eastern Alliance's Rapid Response Team. Lu Yin was worried that the Rapid Response Team would be annihilated by the Enlighter, and thus, he had decided to pester the expert and tie him down. Although he was not able to defeat an Enlighter with this level of strength, this Enlighter would similarly be unable to injure Lu Yin. And so, their battle was dragged out.

## Chapter 953: Lu Yin's Evolution

In the distance, Lan Si had been targeted by White Silkworm ever since the Sixth Mainland youth had recognized the Arbiter. Surprisingly, everyone else was avoiding the region where the two youths were fighting.

White Silkworm's position within the Sixth Mainland was very special, and even Imprinters did not want to hinder him.

However, White Silkworm was still one step behind the Ten Arbiters in terms of combat prowess, and so, he was quickly injured by Lan Si. However, no one made any moves to help or protect White Silkworm. Although he was greatly respected within his clan, it seemed as though no one particularly cared about his life and death.

Lan Si did not understand why they would have such indifference, but he started attacking even more ruthlessly.

There was a row of over 10,000 battleships floating at the back of the battlefield. When they fired off their first volley of attacks, light beams covered the entire region of outer space as they crossed over half of the battlefield, aimed at the back of the Sixth Mainland's forces. This was where the members of the two large clans were the most concentrated. Right now, there were not very many powerhouses present among the two clans, and while a handful of experts had moved forward to the front of the battlefield, the people at the back were mostly riding atop strange flying creatures that were similar to spacecraft. However, these people had not acted yet. Most of these people were not even Explorers yet, and they were simply following behind the fighting forces in order to accomplish the next stage of work for the invasion.

Even though these people could not survive in outer space by themselves, they were not all cannon fodder. Some of them even had exceptional innate gifts, and the hopes of the two great families were pinned on these youths. Hence, the moment those countless beams of light shot towards the weaker family members like a crashing mountain, two Enlighters with power levels of more than 400,000 moved out. They easily tore through the light beams, protecting the weaker cultivators.

The people who had been targeted showed no fear when the attacks were eliminated. They simply calmly waited atop their flying creatures and stared excitedly in the direction of the Outerverse, as this place would soon belong to them.

In normal circumstances, the Outerverse would never be able to achieve victory here. The Sixth Mainland had two Cosmic Imprinters and three Imprinters, not to mention a dozen Enlighters; this force was something that the Outerverse fundamentally could not withstand. The average strength of the Sixth Mainland cultivators' also surpassed the Outerverse cultivators', and the invaders were even further strengthened by their imprints, bloodlines, and martial prints. All in all, they were able to effortlessly crush their Outerverse counterparts who were within the same cultivation realm.

However, all of this was mere theory. The Outerverse had Lu Yin, which gave them access to many more possibilities, such as the Ultra Flash Tearbombs. These baubles were not very effective against powerhouses, but on this gigantic battlefield, they could be used to extraordinary effectiveness. As the fight raged on, every once in a while, a powerful light would explode in space, and it was even possible for just one Ultra Flash Tearbomb to change the entire fight's momentum at times.

Half a year ago, when Lu Yin had used his die to upgrade four vials of Elder Wu's poisons that he had then handed over to Elder Daggs, Lu Yin had also taken that opportunity to upgrade quite a few of his Ultra Flash Tearbomb as well as countless pills. Later, he had come up with the excuse that he had found a powerful sect in a hidden parallel space, thus obtaining countless natural treasures and pills. This story could only be reluctantly accepted, as it was the only explanation for where these potent ancient pills had come from. Additionally, it also served as the apparent source of the natural treasures that were regularly sold off at the Lu's Grand Auction as well as Lu Yin's poisons.

Everywhere on the battlefield, it was possible to see Outerverse cultivators who were unable to beat their opponents start vigorously swallowing pills.

Even if the Outerverse's cultivators were unable to beat their peers from the Sixth Mainland, they still kept consuming pills nonstop. These pills had all been upgraded to the point where their rune lines nearly matched an Enlighter's, making them amazingly effective. These powerful consumables shrank the gap in strength between the two sides, and this sight made the Sixth Mainland cultivators want to vomit blood.

All of these items had actually originally been ordinary pills, but they had all been upgraded by Lu Yin until their rune lines nearly matched an Enlighter's, with each one costing him 10,000 star essence. The money that Lu Yin had received in exchange for the poisons that he had previously sold, along with the 4.3 million star essence that he had owned before that, had been nearly all used up in preparation for this decisive battle.

Upgrading 400 pills and over 200 Ultra Flash Tearbombs was a clear demonstration of Lu Yin's attitude towards this decisive battle.

Elder Daggs had actually been very emotionally moved when he had received these items from Lu Yin. At that moment, the elder had promised Lu Yin that if the battle never took place, then the items would be returned to Lu Yin along with an additional million star essence reward from the Hall of Honor. If the battle was fought, and if they survived once it was over, then not only would the Hall of Honor provide Lu Yin with a large amount of star essence, but it would also award him with excessive military contributions.

Lu Yin had done more than demonstrate his stance when he promised to protect the Outerverse with his life; his actions had also made Elder Daggs even more conscientious that a great battle was about to come. Thus, he had quickly distributed these upgraded pills and Ultra Flash Tearbomb without hesitation. This was the Outerverse's most crucial preparation that had given them a chance of survival in this invasion.

It could be said that, without Lu Yin's initiative, the Outerverse would not have nearly been so well prepared.

Although just 400 pills had been given out, the experts who were qualified to receive such pills among the Outerverse's powerhouses did not even amount to 100. Each person was a Hunter at the very least, and the supply was more than sufficient for each such person to be given several pills.

For example, Aden was able to use his massive lightning shield to tank attacks from multiple Enlighters. When the Hunter was beaten to the point of vomiting blood, he swallowed a pill which allowed him to quickly recover. Then, he continued to face his opponents head on, which frustrated the Sixth Mainland cultivators endlessly.

There was also Cai Jianqiang, who ferociously attacked the enemy seemingly without any consideration for his own life, and his opponent was another Enlighter.

Further along the battlefield, Gong Ling directly faced off against an Enlighter whose power level was at 300,000.

Nightqueen Qiuyu swallowed a pill and killed her way towards a crowd of Sixth Mainland cultivators.

Topmist hid himself and attacked from the dark.

The Enlighters from Ironblood Weave had also been drafted to this battlefield.

This battlefield had been prepared to the Outerverse's best abilities, and although the Sixth Mainland had assumed that they would easily and completely roll over the Outervese without any real resistance, reality had left them stumped.

The truth was that the Sixth Mainland's invasion preparations had been quite sufficient. After all, when the Bloodburn Realm had failed to invade the Outerverse, it was because the Sixth Mainland had assumed that a single Cosmic Imprinter would be enough to eliminate most of the Outerverse's strength. Who would have expected that the initial attack from two Cosmic Imprinters would only be able to take out one Mr. Yi!? The only person who had died to that first attack was actually someone from the Tong family!

Even if the Outerverse had managed to withstand the onslaught for the moment, the ones fighting against the Sixth Mainland's Imprinters were in a dangerous situation.

Millions City was still just a mobile fortress, and it was not truly an Envoy-level powerhouse. Its cannon fire was easily dodged by the opposing powerhouses, and the fortress was unable to hold up even a single Imprinter despite Yuehua Mavis's cooperation with it.

Elder He was an Envoy with a power level of only 510,000, and as the weakest Envoy on the battlefield, he simply could not block the Tong family's Granny Gui.

Astral-9's Headmaster was the only person who could exchange blows with the Sightless Clan's Imprinter. However, it was impossible for him to quickly defeat the Imprinter.

As another Imprinter from the Sightless Clan knocked Yuehua Mavis back, the scales of the battlefield began to tip in favor of the Sixth Mainland. No one else in the entire Outerverse could resist an Imprinter.

These Imprinters were not under the suppression of the cosmic phenomenon that pervaded the Innerverse, but rather true Imprinters whose might could affect an entire region. The Imprinter stretched out a hand, and Millions City began to crack. Additionally, the unlucky Sall Phoenix and disciple of Elder Lohar, Akira, were both instantly killed without any chance of dodging the attack.

With the Imprinter's second strike, Astral-9's Headmaster Zhang vomited blood and collapsed.

Then, he moved to make his third attack.

Yuehua Mavis's face turned deathly pale, and she swallowed a pill. However, it was one whose rune lines merely approached the level of an Enlighter's, and it was not very helpful to her.

Within Millions City, Qiong Shanhai's body trembled while Qiong Xi'er's face went pale as she watched the Imprinter launch his attack.

At that moment, a solitary arrow streaked through the void and shot towards the Imprinter.

The Imprinter was startled and tapped out with a finger, freezing the arrow within the void. However, a trace of blood appeared at his fingertip: he had been injured.

In the distance, Gong Ling was breathing heavily, and there was despair in his eyes. He had just shot one of their inherited arrows, but he was just an Enlighter. Even though he had used an inherited arrow, his attack still was not powerful enough to harm an Imprinter.

The Sightless Clan's Imprinter tried to grab the arrow, but it suddenly vanished before he could do so. He then turned his head in another direction and noticed Lu Yin holding the arrow while repeatedly retreating from an Enlighter's continuous palm strikes.

The Imprinter smiled. "Just a puny Cruiser who has a secret technique. Little one, follow me." The Imprinter then stepped forward. Space could not endure the man's strength, and he instantly appeared in front of Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's eyes went wide, and he turned to look at the Imprinter behind him. He also noticed that, even further back, Elder He was in a disheveled state. The Envoy was falling down while vomiting blood, and Granny Gui was smiling cruelly. She then looked at Lu Yin and also rushed over towards him. "Little bastard, so this is where you've been."

Although Lu Yin had altered his appearance in the Innerverse, it was not difficult for powerhouses such as Granny Gui to recognize him.

Lu Yin threw the arrow towards Granny Gui. "Old witch, this is for you."

The Imprinter from the Sightless Clan frowned, and he raised his hand to grab at the arrow.

Further away, Granny Gui's eyes turned cold, and she was just about to reply when Lu Yin suddenly smiled. "Goodbye."

He then pulled out the walnut and unleashed its energy at Granny Gui and the Sightless Clan's Imprinter.

The walnut was a power vessel that had been personally made by Yuan Shi, and it contained an attack with a power level of 700,000. It would affect everything in a straight line, so it would not affect the user as long as that person stood behind the walnut.

This walnut had been given to Lu Yin after the previous invasion by the Sixth Mainland, and Yuan Shi had provided it as compensation for the blood-red bell that had been destroyed. Even if Yuan Shi had made it, it was not easy to manufacture such a power vessel.

At this moment, the power vessel's attack exploded forth. Although an eruption with a power level of 700,000 was not on the same level as the initial explosion of pyrolyte, this was a power vessel that had been personally made by Yuan Shi, and its compressed power could not be compared to the dispersed explosion of the pyrolyte.

The universe was split into two, or at least, the visible portion of the universe was split asunder.

The energy within the power vessel blasted forwards, and nothing was left behind except for a spatial crack that only held nothingness.

Both of the two Imprinters had completely vanished to the point where even their rune lines had been completely obliterated.

The two of them had possessed power levels of 600,000 at best, and against one of Yuan Shi's attacks that had a power level of 700,000, it would have been a miracle for them to survive.

With Yuan Shi's strength, Imprinters likely would not be able to survive an attack from him even if its power level was only at 500,000, not to mention one with a power level of more than 700,000. This was the strength of someone who could rival a Cosmic Imprinter.

The battlefield fell deathly silent as everyone stared at Lu Yin in horror. He had taken out two Imprinters in one strike.

Countless people felt their hearts drop. It wasn't just the Sixth Mainland cultivators, but also people from the Outerverse. They all shared the same thought: Lu Yin had evolved.

In the past, when Lu Yin had been a Limiteer, he had used various external items to kill Enlighters and acquired the title of Enlighters' Bane as a result. With this one move, he had evolved and with his items, he had killed Imprinters while just at the Cruiser realm. That meant that he was capable of killing Envoys! He had evolved to a completely new level.

However, nobody could understand Lu Yin's agony, as he had just used up the power vessel that he had received as compensation for the blood-red bell. It had been a power vessel that contained an attack with a power level of 700,000! That power vessel had allowed Lu Yin to confidently roam about wherever he wished, and it had even been able to cause the most cautious powerhouses to feel fear, such as Black Mask.

And now, it was gone.

Lu Yin could not help himself, and he looked back. The Hall of Honor absolutely had to make a note of this military contribution. If possible, he definitely wanted to obtain another, similar power vessel.

The inherited arrow was also gone. It might have vanished into one of the multiple spatial cracks left behind by the fearsome attack, though it was also possible that it had been reduced to dust.

The Neo-Vestige Sect had held three inherited arrows for ages. One had been taken away by Yan Cheng during the previous invasion, and it was impossible to know where it had ended up. Now, another one had disappeared. Thus, there was now only one remaining, which was with Lu Yin.

In the distance, Gong Ling sighed. The moment he shot out that inherited arrow, he had already known that there was no way to reclaim it. However, he had done what he had to.

Nobody had imagined that Lu Yin would take out two Imprinters with one attack, and his actions completely changed the battlefield's situation.

Astral-9's Headmaster was fighting against another one of the Sightless Clan's Imprinters, but the headmaster was not losing and was actually holding the upper hand. That was a fight that could be already noted as won.

#### **Chapter 954: Progenitor Items**

The people of the Outerverse were revitalized after seeing Lu Yin's awe-inspiring attack. The Central Coalition's and the various experts from the western region who all viewed Lu Yin as an enemy were excited. Everyone started fighting against the Sixth Mainland cultivators with renewed vigor.

At that same moment, the confidence carried by the Sixth Mainland cultivators crumbled.

White Silkworm stared at Lu Yin in shock. This person must enjoy a truly special position within the Fifth Mainland for him to possess such a powerful item while just at the Cruiser realm.

However, at this time, the most frustrated person on the battlefield was the Enlighter from the Sightless Clan who had been battling with Lu Yin for several days. He also felt relieved that he had never forced Lu Yin to attack with full power. Otherwise, the Enlighter absolutely would have died to such an attack.

The man no longer wanted to fight against Lu Yin, as he did not know what other items Lu Yin might still have in his possession.

Lu Yin turned to look at Enlighter with a meaningful gaze.

The expert from the Sightless Clan was frightened, and he immediately turned to leave.

"Seventh Bro, you scared him away!" the Ghost Monkey commented with a laugh.

Lu Yin sighed in response as he looked up. The most important battlefield was the one with Yuan Shi and the two Cosmic Imprinters. Once a side lost, the remaining people on their side would no longer be able to survive. Lu Yin hoped that the item that he had given Yuan Shi was of help to the old man. Otherwise, he would have to ask Mister Mu to help.

Mister Mu was definitely more powerful than the two Cosmic Imprinters.

Actually, Ancestor Di had experienced Mister Mu's power in the past. During their confrontation, Ancestor Di had not even been able to react when Mister Mu shifted the entire defensive line back. Thus, Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless had to be aware of Mister Mu's existence. However, they still had the courage to invade the Outerverse. Could they actually be confident in defeating Mister Mu?

Lu Yin's expression turned grim, and he hoped that he was simply being paranoid.

In another place, Wendy Yushan was in a dangerous situation. A dozen cultivators from the Outerverse, including Wendy Yushan, had been attacked by the Tong family's Elder Yuan. Wendy had managed to survive by using the Yu Secret Art, but everyone else around her had been killed, even the two Hunter realm powerhouses.

Elder Yuan stared at Wendy Yushan in shock. He felt that this secret technique was very familiar. "Young girl, what secret technique is that?"

Wendy Yushan immediately swallowed a pill while keeping a wary eye on Elder Yuan.

Elder Yuan laughed. "All of your defenses are useless against my attacks." He then grabbed for Wendy Yushan.

It was just a normal attack, but its power level was over 400,000. In the face of such overwhelming power, Wendy Yushan was completely helpless.

She was not able to divert such an attack with the Yu Secret Art as the space around her had been frozen, preventing her from moving even the slightest bit.

At that moment, a blue spear shot towards Elder Yuan.

Elder Yuan altered the direction of the spear with a flick of a finger. He then turned around and saw a young man who bore a strong resemblance to the Sea King glaring at him.

He was the Sea King's eldest son, Hai Feng, and he was an Enlighter with a power level of more than 300,000.

Hai Dashao moved over and checked on Wendy Yushan with clear concern. "Are you alright?"

Wendy Yushan frowned as she looked at Hai Feng.

"That's my older brother. He's very powerful, so he won't be defeated by that old man." Hai Dashao had complete, blind trust in Hai Feng.

Wendy Yushan coldly said, "Let's go."

She did not want to distract Hai Feng.

Elder Yuan sneered. "Don't even think of running away!" His figure flashed as he moved towards Wendy Yushan. Simultaneously, Hai Feng appeared next to Elder Yuan with his spear reaching out towards the Enlighter.

Elder Yuan fiercely bellowed, "I'll kill you!"

He then grabbed Hai Feng's spear as he formed a ring with his star energy that trapped Hai Feng. After dealing with Hai Feng, Elder Yuan tried to grab Wendy Yushan again with the same ring.

Hai Dashao used his spear to block the attack out of reflex. He knew that he would suffer greatly by confronting an Enlighter, but his spear still managed to pierce Elder Yuan's palm and stab into the man's shoulder. Blood trickled down the spear shaft.

Hai Feng's eyes narrowed, but then his gaze suddenly turned ecstatic. The Sea King was still alive!

Hai Dashao suddenly felt the same thing as well. At this time, he was using the Sea King's Trident that contained the Sea King's power. He had also felt the Sea King's power surge at this moment, and as a result, he had managed to injure Elder Yuan.

The Sea King still lived.

Elder Yuan's right arm had been pierced through by the Sea King's Trident, but he endured the pain shooting through his arm and snatched the Sea King's Trident away from Hai Dashao. The Enlighter then used his star energy to form another ring that shot towards Hai Dashao.

Wendy Yushan reflexively used the Yu Secret Art but she couldn't divert this attack either.

The Sea King's shield suddenly appeared in front of Hai Dashao and blocked the ring of star energy. However, the amount of power left within the shield from the Sea King was insufficient, and it shattered from the attack.

However, the shield had stalled for enough time, giving Hai Feng the opportunity to escape from the ring and to thrust his spear at Elder Yuan once more.

Elder Yuan stored the Sea King's Trident away, and his star energy burst forth to form an enormous ring that trapped Hai Feng yet again.

Hai Feng's strength was comparable to Elder Yuan's, and he would not be easily defeated. However, Elder Yuan possessed much more star energy than Hai Feng, which allowed the Enlighter to easily trap Hai Feng.

"You brat, I'll kill you!" Elder Yuan"s right arm was still bleeding, so he lifted his left hand and threw out another ring at Hai Dashao.

Hai Dashao's expression changed, as he had nothing left that he could use to defend himself.

Fortunately, Elder Tong appeared at that moment and blocked Elder Yuan's attack.

Wendy Yushan turned around and started looking for Lu Yin.

At that moment, the space above their heads cracked open, and a person suddenly fell out. His weight alone tore space apart as he fell, and it was as if the universe was unable to withstand the man's very presence.

Everyone stared up in a daze before finally realizing that the figure was Ancestor Tong.

Lu Yin glanced up in excitement; they had succeeded!

However, another person fell out right behind Ancestor Tong: Yuan Shi.

Yuan Shi's face was pale, and he was panting heavily. Blood could be seen trickling down the corner of his lips.

The results of the most important battle had become clear.

Lu Yin focused on Yuan Shi's right hand, and it was gripping the piece of Progenitor Wushang's hide that Lu Yin had lent to the powerhouse.

Lu Yin had relied on Progenitor Wushang's hide to kill Enlighters with a gun. But Progenitor Wushang's hide was not merely useful against Enlighters; as long as a cultivator was not a Progenitor themselves, the hide would be able to stun them for a moment since Progenitor Wushang had been a Progenitor realm powerhouse.

Since they had known beforehand that two Cosmic Imprinters from the Sixth Mainland would be participating in this invasion, Lu Yin felt that Yuan Shi needed something to help turn the tides of battle. Progenitor Wushang's hide was Lu Yin's ultimate trick, and aside from that one item, Lu Yin did not own anything else that could affect Cosmic Imprinters.

The clothes covering Yuan Shi's chest were stained with blood, but no one knew if the blood was from Ancestor Tong, Ancestor Sightless, or even Yuan Shi himself.

The sky was torn apart again, and this time, Ancestor Sightless emerged. The cultivators from the Sixth Mainland had thought that Ancestor Sightless had defeated Yuan Shi and won the battle, but it turned out that Ancestor Sightless had also been injured.

At this moment, Ancestor Tong finally managed to stop himself from falling, and he glared over at Progenitor Wushang's hide. "How do you have so many Progenitor items?"

Lu Yin was shocked. He suddenly noticed that there was a broken bone in Ancestor Sightless's hand and that Yuan Shi was also holding an oddly shaped stone. Were both of those items also from Progenitors?

The stone that Yuan Shi was holding suddenly shattered into dust.

Similarly, the bone that Ancestor Sightless had been holding crumbled away.

This was similar to the current situation of the border warfront. power vessels were the first to be used up during an intense battle.

However, in this case, it seemed that the various combatants were all using Progenitor items.

Despite that, Progenitor Wushang's hide had turned out to be the most powerful of these items.

"Even the Sixth Mainland doesn't have that many Progenitor items, and most of them are stored in the Daosource Sect. However, the Fifth Mainland should have many more such objects since this is the graveyard of five mainlands and countless Progenitors once lived here. Aside from that unspeakable Progenitor Chen, the unrecognized Rune Progenitor, there was also Progenitor Hui who created technology, Progenitor Wushang who is the ancestor of all beasts, and finally, Progenitor Ce and Progenitor Youming who were both from an ancient era. If I'm not wrong, then that should be a bit of Progenitor Wushang's hide," Ancestor Sightless spoke softly.

Most of the people who heard his words were confused and unable to understand anything. Typically, most people did not know anything about the Progenitors, and they would not even be aware of the Progenitor realm's existence.

Lu Yin was surprised, as this was his first time hearing of Progenitor Hui, Progenitor Ce, and Progenitor Youming. The Technocracy had most likely been created by Progenitor Hui while the Astral Beast Domain was definitely Progenitor Wushang's legacy. As for Progenitor Ce, could he be related to the Ce family? Could the Court of Seven Names have been created by Progenitor Ce? Regardless, only Progenitors were able to create secret techniques, and since the Ce family possessed the Ce Secret Art, then it would not be surprising if that family had once produced a Progenitor.

But in that case, since each of the families in the Court of Seven Names possessed secret techniques, then did that mean that each family had once had a Progenitor?

Had Progenitor Youming been from the You family?

Lu Yin still had a strong impression of the You family's secret technique.

Yuan Shi tightly clenched Progenitor Wushang's hide. "So long as I am here, none of you will be able to enter the Outerverse!"

Ancestor Sightless remained silent.

Ancestor Tong moved forward and coldly said, "You're alone, and you won't be able to defeat the both of us even if you do possess Progenitor Wushang's hide."

Yuan Shi glared at Ancestor Tong. "But I can absolutely kill one of you before I die, so which one of you would like to die with me?"

Ancestor Tong arched a brow as he warily looked at Yuan Shi. Progenitor Wushang's hide was very powerful since it could stun someone for a moment without exception. And for a battle at their level, even a shorter moment could be fatal, and Ancestor Tong had been forced out by Yuan Shi while he had been stunned by Progenitor Wushang's hide.

Ancestor Sightless might not possess any eyes, but he was still affected by Progenitor Wushang's hide. Yuan Shi was not Lu Yin, and the ancient powerhouse was able to use Progenitor Wushang's hide to stun his opponents without them even looking at the hide.

Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless were both very wary, though Yuan Shi was even more concerned than either of them. He truly could not deal with both of these opponents with only Progenitor Wushang's hide, and actually, he was not even that confident in being able to kill one of them. Thus, he was hoping that his threat had been successful.

Lu Yin suddenly thought of something and secretly sent a message to Yuan Shi.

Yuan Shi was elated at what he heard. "That's certainly useful! Give it to me!"

Lu Yin took out the small arrow that Peach had given him before waving a hand and using the Yu Secret Art to send the arrow into Yuan Shi's left hand.

"I'm sorry, but I'll have to ask both of you to stay here, as I have another Progenitor item," Yuan Shi slowly said in a satisfied tone.

## **Chapter 955: An Emotional Scene**

Across from Yuan Shi, Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless were rendered speechless. Were Progenitor items really that easy to obtain? Where had this old man gotten another one from?

The Neo-Vestige Sect's inherited arrows originated from the Sixth Mainland's Arrow Progenitor, but they could not be considered true Progenitor arrows. Still, this arrow had once been used by the Arrow Progenitor in the past. The Arrow Mountain Elder had used one inherited arrow during the Sixth Mainland's first invasion of the Outerverse, and it had been taken away by a World Imprinter since Yuan Shi had not dared to reveal his true power at that time.

To hide his true strength at that time, Yuan Shi had been able to do nothing but merely watch on as the Sixth Mainland had taken the arrow away. It had all been for the greater good.

But now that the ancient powerhouse had received another inherited arrow, it was time for him to reveal his true strength.

Lu Yin felt that this was a true pity. If he had remembered this matter a bit earlier, then he would have made sure that the inherited arrow that Gong Ling had used would have been given to Yuan Shi beforehand. That would have been less of a waste than letting Gong Ling use it as he had.

Such a person simply did not have the strength to harness the true power of a Progenitor item.

Gong Ling was an Enlighter with a power level that was greater than 200,000, and yet, he had been able to injure an Imprinter with that arrow. Someone like Yuan Shi would have been capable of doing far more with that arrow, and the strength of his attack would have been incomparable.

In an instant, the top three powerhouses all disappeared.

"Kill!" someone's voice boomed out, startling many people. After that, the battle resumed.

Countless light beams from the numerous battleships in the back shot through outer space, all aimed in the direction of the Astral River.

Explorers, Cruisers, Hunters, and Enlighters all fought against each other.

People died every second.

Lu Yin saw an Enlighter be killed by a sneak attack from the Arrow of Valiance.

The child-like assassin from Aegis almost managed to kill an Enlighter from the Sixth Mainland, but he was ambushed by yet another Enlighter, who destroyed the assassin's heart.

Moore died. Lu Yin saw a young man from the Sixth Mainland stab the councilor with a knife.

He had been a councilor on West San Dios, and he had also been ranked twelfth on the Top 100 Rankings, but none of that had been enough to save him from dying a terrible death at the hands of a young elite from the Sightless Clan.

"Stop, stop!" A sharp voice echoed in the distance. Granny Chan had been killed by an expert from the Tong family.

It seemed like a talented expert was dying every second.

Lu Yin unleashed his domain as he witnessed Granny Chan's death. Killing a person was like extinguishing a candle; their enmity had ended then and there.

Not many people had willingly stepped onto this battlefield. Instead, most of them had been forcefully conscripted.

For instance, it was extremely unlikely for the assassins from Aegis to be willing to sacrifice themselves for the Outerverse, and the same was even more true for someone like Granny Chan. The experts from the Innerverse all looked down upon the Outerverse, and thus, it was preposterous for them to willingly sacrifice themselves for it.

Nevertheless, regardless of whether their participation was forced or voluntary, all of the sacrifices for the Outerverse would make these people war heroes.

In the distance, wooden figures trapped an expert from the Sightless Clan. However, after a short while, all of the wooden figures shattered. Mu Nichang watched as an expert descended before her, but at the same time, a fierce attack with the Overlaying Stacks Path swept by and sent the Sightless Clan expert flying. It was Lan Si, and he had once again saved Mu Nichang, which caused her to start tearing up.

No matter how bitter the fighting became, the final outcome still depended on the three individuals at the Cosmic Imprinter level.

With a thud, one of Lu Yin's items was completely destroyed. It was a power vessel that had been upgraded in the same session as Elder Wu's poisons. Lu Yin was not surprised that the item had been destroyed, as all power vessels had limits, and exceeding those limits would cause the power vessel to be completely destroyed.

Lu Yin released a sigh.

Suddenly, a bit of residual light shone out, and the sky was filled with rune lines moving away from the center of the battlefield. They belonged to an Enlighter from the Sightless Clan who had a power level greater than 400,000. This attack was not aimed at any of the Outerverse Enlighters, as it was actually intended to destroy the battleships at the back of the battlefield.

Aside from the battleships at the back of the battlefield, there were also many cultivators who had not become Explorers there. Wei Rong and many others were all at the back, and they were all inside the battleships.

To begin with, the Outerverse had far fewer Enlighters than the Sixth Mainland, and despite such a powerful enemy launching an attack, none of the Outerverse's Enlighters were able to block it.

Lu Yin panicked, and he rushed over.

The battleships were all evenly lined up across the entire region. When an expert from the Sightless Clan drew close, all of the battleships' systems started failing one by one. This Sightless Clan expert was someone who had received Ancestor Sightless's imprint, and with the wave of a hand, star energy coalesced into a massive attack that swept through a vast area. Just one attack was enough to eliminate all of the Outerverse's battleships and supply ships that had been positioned at the back of the battlefield.

Even space itself was unable to withstand this attack.

Ye Gui, Topmist, and Liu Qiuyu were responsible for protecting the battleships, and when they saw the massive attack heading towards them, Ye Gui and Topmist were both at a loss for what to do. They were both Enlighters, but their power levels were only slightly above 200,000. On top of that, they were more skilled at guerilla warfare and were rather inept at dealing with direct attacks. Liu Qiuyu was the only one who stepped up, and a solemn expression appeared on his face.

He had been the former patriarch of the Sword Sect's Liu family, but he had voluntarily abdicated his position when he had reached a power level of 290,000. He was considered the weakest patriarch that the Liu family had ever had. In reality, he had never even wanted to become the patriarch. If given a choice, he would have preferred to oversee the Autumnspring Fort in Ironblood Weave and help humankind protect the border.

When faced with an attack that had a power level of over 300,000, Liu Qiuyu simply took a deep breath as he slowly drew his sword and thrust it forward to defend.

He had not inherited the Thirteen Swords, but this move was not a bit inferior to the top three moves of the Thirteen Swords. Liu Qiuyu had been just like Liu Xiaoyun; although neither of them had inherited the Thirteen Swords, they still wanted to obtain sword skills comparable to the Thirteen Swords. This move was one that Liu Qiuyu had developed after spending countless years in Ironblood Weave. Most of the moves that he had developed carried the spirit of Ironblood Weave, and they were completely different from the Sword Sect's techniques.

These techniques had all been refined by the fire of battle.

This move managed to stop the attack from the Sightless Clan expert.

The expert from Sightless Clan was shocked, and he could sense that his opponent was much weaker than him. However, the technique that had just been used had emotionally stirred the man.

Lu Yin had been rushing over like his life depended on it, but he was still quite a distance aways. He heaved a heavy sigh of relief as he had almost been too late. However, he was also completely stunned by Liu Qiuyu's display of power. The attack that had been launched towards the back lines had clearly surpassed a power level of 300,000, but Liu Qiuyu's counterattack had given Lu Yin the same feeling as the Thirteen Swords, though it was also distinctly different from the mysterious, indistinct techniques of the Thirteen Swords. This attack seemed to be even more deadly.

Nevertheless, despite the shock that Liu Qiuyu's sword technique had given everyone, Liu Qiuyu definitely would not be able to withstand another attack from the Sightless Clan expert. The expert had keen senses and was well aware of Liu Qiuyu's limits. That counterattack had been extraordinary, but it had also pushed the Enlighter to his limits.

Liu Qiuyu tightly clenched the hilt of his sword. Regardless of whether or not he would be able to withstand the next attack, he was willing to try even if it meant sacrificing his own life. He had long been prepared for this day, and protecting the border was a duty that came with a high mortality rate.

He slowly raised his sword and made a sharp motion as he forcefully chopped his sword down, his movement's force charging into the sky. However, he was facing another attack from the Sightless Clan expert, and a powerful attack crushed Liu's attack and shattered space before continuing on towards Liu Qiuyu and the battleships.

Inside the vessels, everyone despaired.

At this moment, Lu Yin charged forward with both of his arms raised. His eight lined battle force burst out, and an attack with Hundred Stacks erupted in an instant. He was not wearing his new universal armor at this time. Instead, he was wearing the damaged universal armor. Even though this universal armor was cracked, it was still able to withstand attacks with power levels higher than 400,000. The only problem with the armor was that attacks from an opponent could easily pass through the cracks and strike Lu Yin's body. With a loud crunch, the cracks in the universal armor became even larger. At the same time, Lu Yin's secondary defense, the Backlash Pearl, split open where it had been placed within the cracks of the universal armor.

The remainder of the attack's power seeped through the cracks in the armor's protection, slicing into Lu Yin's abdomen. Blood dripped out of the armor, dying his torso red.

Liu Qiuyu's eyes went wide, and he rushed forward as he wielded his sword once again in an attempt to block the attack.

At the same time, Ye Gui and Topmist charged out while using defensive maneuvers from a distance in order to try helping them nullify the power of the attack.

Many watched on as Lu Yin risked his own life to stop the attack, and they were all moved by his actions.

Everyone in the Outerverse knew about Lu Yin's ambition of unifying the entire Outerverse. His methods were harsh and firm, which led many people to fear him. The reason why so many weaves in the central and western regions saw him as an enemy was in large part due to his ambition. This, coupled with the numerous smear campaigns that the major powers had launched against him, meant that Lu Yin had a terrible reputation in both regions of the Outerverse.

However, at this moment, as all of them watched Lu Yin protect them with his life on the line, their impressions of him transformed. Even during life and death battles, not everyone would be willing to sacrifice their lives the same way that Lu Yin was currently doing.

Lu Yin was not thinking very far ahead, as all that he wanted to do at this moment was protect the people aboard the battleships. Many of the people in these vessels were from the Great Eastern Alliance and the Great Yu Empire. Among them were people who were important to him; some idolized him, and some were his subordinates. Since he had led these people here, he intended to bring them back home as well.

Besides, this attack was not even close enough to kill Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had been confident that this strike would not be able to kill him since his universal armor had blocked a massive portion of the damage. Despite that, he was still suffering from considerable pain as the cracks in the universal armor had allowed a portion of the attack to seep through, badly injuring almost half of his waist.

He swallowed the pill that he had preemptively placed in his mouth and unleashed his strength once again. From beside Lu Yin, Liu Qiuyu launched various sword attacks in quick succession while two more Enlighters, Topmist, and Ye Gui, joined the duo from behind.

Finally, the strike was resolved. If it had lasted for just a bit longer, then the battleships would have been affected.

With a tremendous crushing sound, the universal armor completely shattered, exposing Lu Yin and the remaining fragments of the Backlash Pearl. These items had both been destroyed after receiving an attack that went beyond their limits.

Not too far away, the expert from the Sightless Clan was stunned to see that his attack had been blocked again. He was shocked that these natives were able to block his attack not just once, but twice. He scowled with a dark look on his face. "You may have blocked two of my attacks, but let's see if you can do it a third time."

And with that, he lifted his hands to unleash another strike. This was his third attack, and it was a huge one that split the void in twain. It was clearly stronger and sharper than the previous two attacks.

The people in the battleships all despaired at this moment. Who could possibly receive this third strike?

Even Lu Yin, who had repeatedly performed miracles, was clearly unable to defend against this attack.

Lu Yin felt that he had no other option but to absorb one of the pearls from Yuan Shi's bracelet into his body to temporarily upgrade his power level to 300,000. However, just before he did just so, a beam of light shot over from a distant place. It enveloped the Sightless Clan expert, as well as his attack. The powerhouse scrambled to evade the attack, but despite his fast reflexes, he was still a split-second slower than the light beam. Half of his body burst into pieces the moment he was touched by the beam, and his entire attack crumbled.

## Millions City had struck.

With one attack, Lu Yin had destroyed two Imprinters, which had freed Millions City and Elder He to do other things.

The expert from the Sightless Clan tried to slink away with the remaining half of his body, but Lu Yin rushed forward after donning a new set of universal armor. He had simply lost too much during this battle, and he needed to make up for those losses. At this moment, there was a cash cow right in front of him.

An Enlighter with a power level of more than 400,000 was bound to have a cosmic ring that contained extremely valuable treasures, and Lu Yin urgently needed those resources.

Lu Yin caught up with the fleeing powerhouse very quickly. Although the Sightless Clan expert had lost half of his body, he was still an Enlighter with a power level of more than 400,000, which was someone that an ordinary Enlighter would never dare to chase after. Lu Yin was perhaps the only person who would dare to do so.

There was a fierce look in the Enlighter's eyes. His injuries were not fatal due to his innate abilities from being from the Sightless Clan. He loathed Lu Yin at this moment, as if not for Lu Yin's interference, the Enlighter's second attack would have succeeded. The powerhouse's attention would not have been divided by him, and he would not have been so severely injured.

"You must have a death wish!" The expert from Sightless Clan raised a hand and pointed at Lu Yin with a single finger. Just this single attack had a power level of more than 200,000, and the man refused to believe that Lu Yin had that many items that could contest him, an Enlighter. After all, the youth was just a measly Cruiser.

## Chapter 956: Eyes

Nobody really knew just how many items Lu Yin had, and although the Sightless Clan expert's finger struck Lu Yin, it could not break through his universal armor's defenses. This armor had not been upgraded to the point where it could withstand attacks with power levels of 400,000 like the last one, but it was still able to withstand attacks with power levels of about 300,000.

The attack from the man from the Sightless Clan was fruitless, and Lu Yin grinned savagely at the man. "My turn."

He then pressed a single palm against the Enlighter's abdomen, which was instantly stained red with the blood of the Sightless Clan expert. "Hundred Stacks, Hundredfold Shockwave Palm."

With a solid thump, the Sightless Clan expert spat out a mouthful of blood as he was sent flying. Lu Yin was just about to continue giving chase when the expert suddenly whirled around as white lines wrapped around his body. Lu Yin's pupils shrank as he watched the powerhouse's number of rune lines suddenly spike.

Before, the attack from Millions City's cannon had reduced the Enlighter's rune lines to the point where they were about equal to Ye Gui and Topmist's. However, at this moment, the number of his rune lines had rapidly increased. What was going on?

The Sixth Mainland's Blackblood Realm, Sightless Clan. The entire clan possessed a bloodline that left them without sight, and they also all shared another characteristic: cocoonify. This ability allowed exceptionally talented clan members to boost their own cultivation realms. Additionally, when they were on the brink of death, they could experience a rebirth through the cocoon while also upgrading their power level. This was the Sightless Clan, and they were the only Cosmic Imprinter family in the Blackblood Realm.

Lu Yin watched as the Sightless Clan's expert's rune lines increased explosively and seemingly endlessly. From behind Lu Yin, a slash of sword qi streaked by and sliced through the Enlighter's body, cutting through the white lines that had wrapped around the expert. Liu Qiuyu had launched another attack after sensing that something was amiss.

An endless amount of sword qi tore through the void and fell down upon the cocoon.

Although the Sightless Clan's expert's recovery ability and cocoonify were very mysterious, the clan members were not invincible. Liu Qiuyu seemed to completely disregard his own survival as he slashed down with a boundless sword qi. Over a thousand swords were unleashed all at once, which was finally enough to stop the momentum of cocoonify. When the white lines were about to completely break down, the Sightless Clan expert still only had half of his body, but his power level had partially recovered, to around 300,000 at best.

The expert glared at Liu Qiuyu with venomous eyes before turning to leave.

At this time, all he wanted to do was retreat to the rear and recuperate from his injuries; he had no plans to continue fighting against these people. Also, given how much strength he had managed to recover, none of these people would dare to stop him either.

However, the Enlighter had forgotten about Lu Yin. Although the youth was shocked by the Sightless Clan's bloodline ability, he still had not given up. He was willing to gamble against an opponent with a

power level of 300,000. After thinking about it, Lu Yin pulled out the beaded bracelet that he had received from Yuan Shi and tapped out: Dream Finger. One of the five pearls on the bracelet melted into his body, and the power level of his Dream Finger absurdly increased by 300,000.

This finger caused the void to congeal and space itself to tremble.

It also caused a pair of clear eyes to open once again in that foreign sky that revealed their displeasure. This caused an event to take place in the depths of the Starfall Sea, as the third door, which had been opened and then resealed, opened slightly once more.

At this same time, Yuan Shi blocked Ancestor Sightless' attack and threw the inherited arrow at him.

Logically, this arrow was something that was within Ancestor Tong's expectations. Even if it could hurt him, it should not be able to severely injure him.

This was also what Yuan Shi believed to be the case. However, he had no other choice but to do this and could only proceed. At this moment, the only thing that remained to be seen was whether or not Progenitor Wushang's hide would be able to allow Yuan Shi to achieve a miraculous effect.

But right at that moment, Lu Yin coincidentally tapped out with his Dream Finger which had a power level that had been increased by 300,000. This action had garnered the notice of that pair of clear eyes that belonged to an unhappy owner. This had then resulted in the large door in the depths of the Starfall Sea to open slightly, which caused an endless might to sweep through the large door and into the Starfall Sea. It broke through the endless void and shot through the Innerverse and Astral River until it finally arrived at the battlefield. In that instant, Ancestor Tong, Ancestor Sightless, and Yuan Shi were all immobilized. The three top experts on the battlefield felt as though the sky was collapsing, and the pressure of an unimaginable strength left them without the courage to even twitch.

The infinite might descended upon them and formed a verdant jade finger that tapped against Lu Yin. In response, Lu Yin raised his head, and his pupils abruptly shrank. This was his first time seeing that jade finger while in a conscious state. At this moment, an endless rage erupted within him, and he defiantly barked, "Audacious!"

The jade finger suddenly pressed down, with the intent of reducing Lu Yin to a puddle of blood. But at the same instance, the jade talisman that Mister Mu had given to Lu Yin suddenly flew out and blocked that finger while still in midair. The talisman shattered, but the jade finger also dissipated.

Everything that had just happened felt like an illusion; the large door in the depths of Starfall Sea had closed itself tightly, and the clear pair of eyes had also closed themselves. At the present moment, there was only Ancestor Tong clutching at his neck, as fresh blood was running down from it without end.

Right when the jade finger with a boundless might had descended, they had all been left unable to move, but Yuan Shi had already thrown out the inherited arrow, and as a result, the lone arrow had pierced straight through Ancestor Tong's neck. The arrow contained the strength of the Arrow Progenitor, and it had decimated Ancestor Tong's vitality. He was currently immobilized and had unbelievably been injured.

The more powerful one was, the more clearly they would be able to feel the power that had just descended upon the battlefield. Out of everyone present, only the three Cosmic Imprinters had been

able to feel that strength; even the Enlighter from the Sightless Clan had felt nothing despite being extremely close to the finger.

If he had not personally seen the jade finger, then Lu Yin would never have been able to sense that strength either even though that power had been about to obliterate him.

Lu Yin's entire body was left trembling—not from fear, but rather from suppressing his rage. He did not know why such wrath had welled up within him, but he simply could not control it. Whose jade finger had that belonged to? And why had it suddenly appeared? If not for the jade talisman that Lu Yin had received from Mister Mu, would he have died there?

At this moment, thunder echoed through space, and Ancestor Sightless appeared. He quickly grabbed Ancestor Tong and charged back towards the Astral River. "Retreat!"

That one word had determined the final outcome of this battle: the Sixth Mainland had been defeated.

Across the battlefield, everyone was still stunned when Yuan Shi appeared, holding Progenitor Wushang's hide as he chased after the Cosmic Imprinters fleeing towards the Astral River. In his other hand, he still held that arrow, though fresh blood had stained the arrowhead.

Lu Yin looked over; had Yuan Shi emerged victorious?

"Pursue them! Eliminate everyone from the Sixth Mainland!" Yuan Shi ordered.

Countless people from the Outerverse became excited. "Kill, kill, kill..."

The experts from the Sixth Mainland's Tong family and Sightless Clan felt a chill crawl down their spines, as their two Venerables had just been defeated. Who else could stand up to the Outerverse's Cosmic Imprinter? Not a single person dared to stay behind, and they all fled towards the edge of the Astral River.

The battleships continuously fired their attacks, and light beams filled the heavens and indiscriminately rained down upon the fleeing combatants from the Sixth Mainland as they fled towards the Astral River.

Right before Lu Yin's eyes, the Enlighter from the Sightless Clan who had only recovered half of his body had actually died as the Dream Finger that Lu Yin had unleashed and boosted by a power level of 300,000 had killed the man. His corpse was floating through space and drifting into the distance.

Lu Yin let out a deep breath. He did not have much time to think, so he quickly snagged the dead Enlighter's cosmic ring, used the man's fresh blood to open it, and then poured everything within the ring into his own. Lu Yin's actions were practiced and smooth, and after he finished, he chased after Yuan Shi and slaughtered as many fleeing enemies as he could while making his way towards the Astral River.

Liu Qiuyu and the others had also moved out to chase the retreating army.

Lan Si, Wendy Yushan, and even Black Mask killed the fleeing cultivators as they fled towards the Astral River.

All of the defenders had believed that the battle did not bode well for them, and they had never imagined that they would actually emerge victorious. Yuan Shi's power raised the crowd's morale to

new heights. They no longer feared the Sixth Mainland, as they all felt that, as long as Yuan Shi was present, they would have nothing to fear even if two more of the Sixth Mainland's ultimate powerhouses showed up.

In fact, even Yuan Shi himself was in a daze. After he had shot out that arrow, where had that boundless might suddenly come from? He could only think of that absolute expert who had shifted the border in Endless Weave, as only that person seemed capable of doing such a thing.

That person was the most powerful entity in the Outerverse, and he had perhaps reached the level of a Semi-Progenitor.

In an instant, Yuan Shi overtook the Sixth Mainland's normal cultivators and vanished from the crowd's sight as he chased after Ancestor Sightless.

At this time, the battle between Astral-9's Headmaster and the Sightless Clan's final Imprinter had also come to a conclusion. Astral-9's Headmaster had won, but the defeated Imprinter had not been injured that badly, and he was even able to block the Outerverse's pursuit and protect the fleeing Sixth Mainland cultivators.

Millions City shot out powerful light beams that shot over the Outerverse's forces and continued on to fly at the Sixth Mainland cultivators.

The Sightless Clan Imprinter tried to block this attack as well, but he was repelled by the combination of Astral-9's Headmaster and Elder He. Thus, Million City's light beam was unobstructed as it detonated within the passageway that had been torn through the Astral River, obliterating countless people from the Sixth Mainland.

Once Lu Yin took out two Imprinters, the Sixth Mainland's forces had only relied solely on Ancestor Tong and Ancestor Sightless to win this battle. No matter how many Enlighters there were, or how powerful they might be, cultivators at their level could not change the overall situation, and in the end, the invaders had ultimately been defeated. Yuan Shi's victory had also added some good luck into the mix.

The final result was that the two large families from the Sixth Mainland were chased down like stray dogs.

Beneath the surface of Millions City, Qiong Shanhai's face had gone pale. Each time Millions City's cannons fired, they consumed a tremendous amount of resources. This battle had devoured an unfathomable amount of the city's reserves, and they were nearly exhausted by now. He decided not to fire the cannon again, as he could not cripple Millions City over just a single battle. In any case, the Sixth Mainland's invasion had already failed.

Millions City did not need to attack any longer, as Astral-9's Headmaster and Elder He worked together to send the Sixth Mainland cultivators to their graves.

Right behind the two Envoys were Yu Mu, Yuehua Mavis, and the other Enlighters, closely followed by the next batch of experts that consisted of people like Lan Si and Lu Yin.

The Astral River was torn apart, leaving a large gap. While the Sixth Mainland cultivators retreated, the remaining Imprinter from the Sightless Clan pulled out all sorts of various strange creatures from the Astral River to block the aggressive defenders. Although the beasts were all massive, they were only as strong as Cruiser realm cultivators at best, and they were able to do nothing more than block the defenders' vision or stall them for a moment.

Against the Fifth Mainland cultivators' onslaught, the Imprinter continued to drag out more creatures from the Astral River.

Lu Yin used the Yu Secret Art to throw over an Ultra Flash Tearbomb. He did not know if it would be of any use, but there was no harm in trying.

The outcome proved that it was indeed useless. Such a weapon might be useful against Enlighters, as they could temporarily blind powerhouses at that level, but they were useless against Imprinters, and they were particularly useless against the Imprinter from the Sightless Clan.

Quite a few gave Lu Yin strange looks. These invaders were from Sightless Clan and had no eyes at all, so why had he still tossed out a flash bomb? Was he simply not thinking?

Lu Yin felt embarrassed, as he was simply too used to throwing such toys about.

Before long, the remaining invaders from the Sixth Mainland had escaped to a place that was close to the Innerverse. The Sightless Clan's Imprinter protected their rear without any consideration for his life, forcing himself to endure the attacks of Astral-9's Headmaster and Elder He. Behind the Imprinter, the few surviving Enlighters were unable to endure the combined might of two Envoys, and they all died. This even included the Tong family's Elder Yuan as well as a few experts from the Sightless Clan.

If another intense battle broke out between the two sides at this moment, then the strength of the two families from the Sixth Mainland would no longer be comparable to the Outerverse's. Even in terms of Enlighters, the Outerverse would come out on top.

The Outerverse's group became even more excited when they saw the heavy casualties that the Sixth Mainland had suffered, and their bloodthirsty cries shook the sky.

Lu Yin was the same. Against the invaders from the Sixth Mainland, this was their first time gaining such a distinct advantage. If they did not eliminate these two great families, then they would fail to live up to the momentum generated by Yuan Shi's arrow.

Suddenly, Lu Yin froze, as he looked beneath himself in shock.

## **Chapter 957: Transport Continent**

The Astral River was wide, and it also stretched up and down as far as one could see, dividing the universe in two.

At this moment, Lu Yin had seen an indescribably terrifying amount of rune lines flash past within the Astral River. Those rune lines had caused his entire body to tremble with fear, and his scalp had gone numb. Although he had not seen anything clearly, he was certain of how terrifying the owner of those rune lines was, as they were in no way inferior to what he had seen from Ancestor Tong or Ancestor

Sightless. In other words, a strange creature within the Astral River had just swam by them that was powerful enough to rival a Cosmic Imprinter.

Nobody knew how the Astral River had been formed, but it split the entire universe, or rather the entire Fifth Mainland, to form the Innerverse and the Outerverse. There were also its tributaries that flowed throughout the Innerverse, sectioning it into countless flowzones, but all of these tributaries were connected to the Astral River.

Every year, countless people explored the Astral River, and every year, countless people also ended up dying within it.

The simplest example was fishing from an Astral River Ark. One had to be a Cruiser at the bare minimum to even qualify to participate, and that was just the most basic qualification.

If even fishing in the Astral River was so dangerous, then one could just imagine how terrifying the Astral River itself was.

Nobody knew what lived within the Astral River, and it was possible that only Progenitors were able to clearly explore its depths.

At this moment, Lu Yin had just seen the terrifying side of the Astral River.

Fortunately, that creature that had a power level of about a million did not stop, and it vanished instantly. Its speed was incredibly fast. Perhaps, in the creature's eyes, they were nothing more than some miscellaneous fish in the river, and it merely might not have had the interest to spare them even a glance.

The crowd continued to cheer as they chased down and killed the fleeing Sixth Mainland cultivators.

The Sixth Mainland cultivators were just about to return to the Innerverse.

The width of the Astral River at the area where it separated the Innerverse and the Outerverse was actually not very far.

On the other side of the river, where the Astral River bordered the Innerverse, the situation should have been very peaceful. However, at this time, one spacecraft after another was approaching from the distance, and they all lined up near the edge of the Astral River upon arriving. Even further away was an extremely large continent whose end was impossible to see. It was floating through space at a surprising speed, and it was covered with all types of resources: ores, star essence, strange creatures, various weapons, and even a few buildings and people.

These were the resources that the Sixth Mainland had plundered from the Innerverse. At regular intervals, the Sixth Mainland's forces would transport a large amount of resources back before dividing them among the three participating realms. The amount of plundered resources was staggering, and they were also all-inclusive, though ores and star essence were the most common items. The buildings on this continent were the library collections of the Innerverse's powers, and they contained battle techniques, arts, and secrets that had been gathered by these powers over the course of countless years.

Aside from those resources, there were also a countless number of captured Innerverse cultivators who would also be sent back to the Sixth Mainland. These people were valuable for the Sixth Mainland as some of them had rare innate gifts while others had impressive power levels and could be used as sparring partners. There were even some that simply looked exotic, and of course, there were also incomparably beautiful girls who were being sent back to become servants.

The Sixth Mainland had put forth strenuous efforts in their invasion of the Innerverse because the Sea King had restored the Fifth Mainland's sky. This meant that the Fifth Mainland once again had the possibility to birth a Progenitor. The Sixth Mainland had to eliminate any such possibilities, and they wanted to eradicate the Fifth Mainland's cultivation civilization while also plundering them.

War was fought for profits, as only profits could drive a war machine.

These resources were the profits that the people of the Sixth Mainland were able to see with their own eyes.

This continent loaded with resources was just a drop in the ocean, but even still, the amount that it held was very exaggerated. The war in the Innerverse had lasted for more than five years now, and the Sixth Mainland had transported similar floating treasure continents back home numerous times. Each time they did so, they had to deal with Innerverse powerhouses that ambushed them and attempted to destroy things, and they were rarely able to peacefully return to the Sixth Mainland.

This time, the ones escorting the resources were from the War Martial Realm's Toolcasting family. In contrast to the Tong family and the Sightless Clan, the Toolcasting family held a higher status as their family contained an Empyrean Imprinter.

They were the War Martial Realm's most powerful family. They were not "one of" the most powerful families simply because there were no other families in the realm. The entire War Martial Realm only had the singular Toolcasting family, and the entire War Martial Realm viewed toolcasting as their sole privilege. As such, the War Martial Realm also had its own grading system that was distinct from all the other realms: they had Augmenters.

The War Martial Realm's Empyrean Imprinter was known as the Ancestor Toolwielder, and their Realmling was simply known as Toolwielder. Aside from these two, the rest of the cultivators from the Toolcasting family were known as Augmenters, and they were differentiated by stages that went from first to ninth with first being the lowest and ninth the highest. The family's Ninth Stage Augmenter was actually a Cosmic Imprinter.

This time, the most powerful individual among the treasure continent's escorts was a Ninth Stage Augmenter. There were also Seventh Stage and Fourth Stage Augmenters present, and even their Realmling, Toolwielder, was there.

Although the treasure continent was not very wide, it was very long, and it traveled parallel to the Astral River as it steadily headed towards the Sixth Mainland's Mara River.

The side of the treasure continent that was next to the Astral River did not have that many powerhouses standing guard because the entire reason why they were traveling so close to the Astral River was to use it as a shield. It would be hard for the Innerverse's experts to attack that side of the treasure continent, and thus, more guards could be stationed on the other side.

On the side of the continent that faced away from the Astral River, countless hammers floated in the air, showing the presence of the Toolcasting family.

With the Ninth Stage Augmenter escorting this continent, plus the multiple experts from the Toolcasting family, this transport was considered absolutely safe, especially the side that was facing the Astral River. Logically, it would not have to deal with any sneak attacks by Innerverse cultivators.

However, things don't always go according to plan. The place where the Tong family and Sightless Clan tore through the Astral River to invade the Outerverse was ultimately also where they fled back to the Innerverse in defeat. And the retreating Sixth Mainland cultivators were not the only people to appear in the Innerverse, as Astral-9's Headmaster and Elder He were also chasing after them along with a group of experts.

The two opposing sides streamed out of the Astral River as a massacre unfolded in the Innerverse. Coincidentally, this was also when the treasure continent and its transport crew appeared in the distance.

Lu Yin looked to the east and saw the floating continent, which made him blink. What is that?

The people from the Tong family grew excited, and they rushed off to ask the escorts for help.

Atop on the continent carrying the plundered resources, the Toolwielder Realmling stared off into the distance. "It's the people from the Tong family and the Sightless Clan! That- did they tear through the Astral River?"

Since the Innerverse was under the suppression of the everpresent cosmic phenomenon, the Tong family and the Sightless Clan's worries went away as soon as they entered the Innerverse. Although they might not have had as many experts as the Outerverse's forces, since everyone's power level was suppressed, the two families felt that they should be able to pull through.

Even Ancestor Sightless and Yuan Shi were forced to suppress their power level the moment they entered the Innerverse.

The fight had suddenly become a contest of numbers.

The scales of the battle tipped once again, this time in favor of the Sixth Mainland.

This was especially true when an expert from the Toolcasting family flew out from the treasure continent. Elder He was left helpless, and he looked over at Astral-9's Headmaster. "Retreat. That's the Toolcasting family, and they're even stronger than the Tong family and the Sightless Clan. We'll just have to guard the other side of the Astral River as Yuan Shi restores the Astral River to its previous state."

Astral-9's Headmaster was frustrated, but they really did not have any other choice. "Withdraw!"

Upon seeing the people from the Outerverse start trying to withdraw, the Sixth Mainland cultivators were unwilling to let them leave so simply. They wanted to chase after the Fifth Mainland cultivators and capture them.

The Sightless Clan's Imprinter suppressed his injuries and attempted to block the path back to the Astral River, determined to prevent the Outerverse cultivators from escaping.

As long as they took out this group of cultivators from the Outerverse, then even if that Outerverse powerhouse who was able to rival a Cosmic Imprinter won his battle, there would be no one for him to give orders to. In that situation, the Outerverse resources could still be plundered.

In the distance, a group of experts from the Toolcasting family charged out from the floating treasure continent. Their orders were not to actually battle against the group from the Outerverse, but rather to scare them and to prevent any of the transported resources from being lost. Even the Toolcasting family did not want any mishaps to happen at this time, as this task was related to the division of profits between the three realms that had invaded the Innerverse.

They only wanted to ferry these resources back to the Sixth Mainland and then return to the Innerverse to assess the situation.

However, the Toolwielder Realmling wanted to detain one person in particular: Wendy Yushan.

Back in the Daosource Sect's ruins, he had been attracted to the young woman the moment he had laid eyes on her. He had never imagined that she would be someone from the Fifth Mainland, but this was even better. Now, he could capture her and take her back.

Ancestor Sightless appeared from the void, still carrying Ancestor Tong with a hand. By now, Ancestor Tong had slightly recovered from his injuries, but it would be impossible for him to fight anytime in the near future. He had been injured by an item from the Arrow Progenitor, not some random run-of-the-mill weapon.

Yuan Shi appeared across from Ancestor Sightless with a serious expression.

Within the Innerverse, due to the suppression by the cosmic phenomenon, he was unable to display his full strength despite his monstrous power. His advantage had suddenly become seemingly nonexistent whereas his opponents had been reinforced by a group of experts.

Yuan Shi did not know that the people from the Toolcasting family merely wanted to scare the Outerverse cultivators away, but he also wanted to withdraw.

Across from him, Ancestor Sightless was able to see through Yuan Shi's thoughts, and the Cosmic Imprinter tossed Ancestor Tong towards the continent before clapping his hands together. A formless halo gradually spread out, and in an instant, it enveloped all of the people who were next to the edge of the Astral River. This whole time, Ancestor Sightless had not used his innate gift. This was not because he did not have one, but rather because it had not been the right time yet.

Now was the right time.

Yuan Shi's expression changed drastically, and he immediately moved towards Ancestor Sightless.

But he was already too late. As the halo spread out, everyone was teleported onto the treasure continent, and they left the Astral River behind them.

Ancestor Sightless's innate gift could instantaneously transport any people or items within the halo to another place within view. In truth, such an innate gift was not very useful to someone at Ancestor

Sightless's strength level, as he could cross the universe with just one step while the range of his sight was too small. However, at this moment, his innate gift had been used to great effect.

If the Outerverse crowd still wanted to escape, then they now needed to escape from the treasure continent first. The continent was covered with Sixth Mainland cultivators who were protecting the resources as well as experts from the Toolcasting family, and they had just been joined by the Tong family and Sightless Clan's experts. Escaping was practically an impossible mission, and it seemed certain that the Outerverse cultivators would be taken to the Sixth Mainland along with this shipment of resources as prisoners.

The continent was small compared to the Astral River, but was still very large since it had specifically been built to ferry all these resources that had been plundered from the Innerverse back to the Sixth Mainland. When Lu Yin opened his eyes, he saw all sorts of minerals that stretched endlessly into the distance, and nearby, there was a very wretched-looking person hiding within some ore.

That person could never have imagined that Lu Yin would suddenly appear next to him, and he turned around to exchange glances with Lu Yin. At this moment, Lu Yin felt completely incredulous; wasn't this Ling Que?

Ling Que blinked, also in disbelief of what he was seeing. He then rubbed his eyes vigorously, focused his gaze, swallowed his saliva, and raised a hand to awkwardly wave at Lu Yin. "How are you doing?"

Lu Yin nodded out of reflex. "Still good."

"Oh," Ling Que grunted in acknowledgement. He then stopped speaking, as the atmosphere had become awkward.

However, the next moment , the two charged forward and stared at each other. "Did you betray the Innerverse?" they asked each other at the same time.

"Nonsense, of course not!" they said, in unison again.

"Stop copying me!" They were still speaking the same words, and then they both backed up several meters and stared at each other.

Lu Yin's finger twitched. This fellow was actually on the Sixth Mainland's treasure continent—what could he be doing if not betraying the Innerverse? Lu Yin did not believe that, with Ling Que's strength, he could hide right under the noses of the experts of the Toolcasting family.

Across from Lu Yin, Ling Que had the same thought, as he did not believe that Lu Yin was capable of hiding right underneath the eyes of the Toolcasting family.

At that moment, the sounds of battle could be heard in the distance. The two looked over at the same time, and they saw the cultivators from the Outerverse fighting against the transport crew as well as the other cultivators from the Sixth Mainland.

Lu Yin instantly attacked Ling Que, and Ling Que did the same.

Ling Que had already prepared his Mighty Slash, and he was ready to ambush Lu Yin at a moment's notice. The two had not met each other in five years, and Ling Que clearly had not noticed the disparity between himself and Lu Yin.

## **Chapter 958: Chaotic Battle**

Lu Yin casually flicked Que's Mighty Slash aside, and at the same time, he seized Ling Que's entire body. "Talk. Why are you here?"

Ling Que bellowed back, "That's exactly what I wanted to ask you!"

At this moment, Yuan Shi and Ancestor Sightless appeared in the sky, fighting.

Ling Que blankly stared at the two powerhouses, and even if he was any slower in the head, he still would have realized that something was off. A group of people had suddenly appeared in this place and started fighting. He suddenly thought of something and looked over at Lu Yin strangely. "Weren't you in the Outerverse?"

Lu Yin grabbed Ling Que tightly. "The Astral River was torn apart, and we fought our way through."

"You guys must be crazy! Just the Outerverse alone dared to fight their way into the Innerverse?" Ling Que cried out in surprise.

At that moment, a giant hammer soared through the sky and far into the distance while an endless sword qi rose into the sky and sliced at the hammer.

Ling Que's expression changed. "The elder was discovered, so the plan is going to be pushed forward. We were going to rob this transport."

Lu Yin released Ling Que and stared off into the distance. That streak of sword qi just now did not belong to anyone from the Outerverse. Even if the wielder's power level had been suppressed to below 200,000, Lu Yin was certain that the sword wielder was extremely powerful. Just their sword qi had instilled a sense of fear within him, and it even surpassed what he had felt from Liu Qiuyu. There was someone with Ling Que, and they had been hiding for a long time. This person was an expert.

"Robbing? Who else is here aside from you?" Lu Yin asked.

Ling Que proudly answered, "Many people! These resources belong to my Innerverse, so it's impossible for us to let the Sixth Mainland take them away."

At this point in time, multiple battles had broken out all across the treasure continent. When Ancestor Sightless's teleported all of the Outerverse cultivators onto this continent with his innate gift, they had also been separated. The people from the Outerverse, the Tong family, and the Sightless Clan had all been scattered across the continent at random.

Separation was not a good thing for the Outerverse cultivators, as there were simply too many enemies from the Sixth Mainland, especially when the escort crew was taken into consideration. The number of experts escorting the treasure continent were no fewer than the combined power of the Tong family and the Sightless Clan that had invaded the Outerverse. If nothing unexpected happened, then once a bit of time passed, perhaps everyone from the Outerverse would be either killed or captured.

However, if there were other Innerverse cultivators like Ling Que who had been lying in ambush on the treasure continent, then things were different. Since these people dared to attack this continent that was transporting so many resources, they must have had a certain degree of confidence.
However, Ancestor Sightless's innate gift had separated everyone from the Outerverse, and some of them had appeared in very unlucky places. For example, one fellow had appeared right in front of the Toolcasting family's Ninth Stage Augmenter, and he had been instantly crushed into a puddle of blood. Others had appeared in the area where the Innerverse cultivators were being imprisoned.

On the entire continent, the place that had the strictest security was where the imprisoned Innerverse cultivators were being held. There were three Fourth Stage Augmenters guarding the prisons, and these existences had power levels of roughly 400,000—Enlighters. One of the guards was even a Seventh Stage Augmenter, and their power level surpassed 720,000.

Even if Yuan Shi wanted to break these people out at this time, it would take him some time to do so.

However, there were others who were extremely lucky. They appeared right behind where the prisoners were being kept, and they managed to successfully release the Innerverse cultivators.

Chaotic battles broke out all over the continent. There were the Outerverse cultivators, the Innerverse cultivators lying in ambush like Ling Que, as well as the released Innerverse prisoners. All of these people caused the Fifth Mainland's forces to swell until they almost matched the Sixth Mainland's. Simply too many Innerverse cultivators had been released.

Throughout the Sixth Mainland's entire campaign against the Innerverse, this was the most unlucky resource transportation continent.

The entire continent descended into chaos.

Also, the person who had organized the ambushing Innerverse cultivators, like Ling Que, was Starsibyl. It was not the Starsibyl who had been at the Astral Combat Academy, but rather the one who had appeared at the Sea King's Dome and chatted with Lu Yin.

Even with Starsibyl's calm and calculating personality, at this moment, she felt a bit lost and was not certain exactly about what was happening. However, since they had been exposed, their only option now was to fight their way out.

The most frustrated person at this moment was the Ninth Stage Augmenter from the Toolcasting family. Everything had been going smoothly, and just as planned. Previously, their worst issue had been some mice that had sneaked aboard, but those pests could be easily taken care of. However, they had ended up running into a battle involving Ancestor Sightless, and that man just had to bring all those Outerverse experts over, which even allowed the Innerverse prisoners to escape. If the guilty party was not Ancestor Sightless, then the Augmenter would have actually suspected them of being a spy of the Fifth Mainland.

Lu Yin and Ling Que were both quickly discovered, and a group of Sixth Mainland cultivators surrounded the two youths. Lu Yin instantly attacked. Since he had returned to the Innerverse, he had already removed his universal armor. However, since there was the suppression of the cosmic phenomenon, there was not much reason for him to even bother wearing the armor.

However, Ling Que had a serene expression. "You slaves of this rigid cultivation system, you guys have no future. You guys..."

Lu Yin looked at the other man with a strange look. "What are you doing?"

Ling Que answered in full seriousness, "I'm trying to see if I can scare them to death."

Lu Yin was left speechless; this fellow had gone crazy!

Lu Yin himself did not remember how, back when he had possessed a Sixth Mainland cultivator, he had walked up to Ling Que's face and then killed himself. This event had shocked Ling Que quite badly, and he had subsequently developed a habit of always trying to talk his enemies to death, as he felt that talking people to death was much more impressive than straightforwardly killing them. Although he had not succeeded yet, he had never tired of it.

Lu Yin ignored him, as the man was nuts.

The Ghost Monkey was similarly astonished. "Seventh Bro, has the Innerverse been suppressed this badly? Can someone actually go this crazy?"

There was a lake not too far away from Lu Yin and Ling Que, and some bizarre ores had been stored at the lake's bottom. These ores were special ones that could only be preserved in water.

Among the ores, there was a stunning lady who slowly opened her eyes as she retrieved a simple lyre from her cosmic ring. She then began to slowly play it.

The song was melodious, but it was also filled with a boundless killing intent.

As the music played, it gradually spread across the treasure continent and formed a domain that seemed to be able to differentiate between friend and foe.

The melody passed by Lu Yin, though it made him pause. This was a very powerful domain.

When the melody came in contact with the Sixth Mainland cultivators, many of them felt their thoughts freeze, and they fainted in droves.

Ling Que stopped saying nonsense, and he suddenly looked excited. "It's Elder Redmoon!"

Lu Yin felt lost. "Who?"

Ling Que explained, "She's one of the elders from the Souldream Tribe, and her power level is higher than 400,000. Shockingly, her strength even approaches that of an Envoy. She was the only Souldream Tribe member who was able to escape when the tribe was captured by the Sixth Mainland."

"Even the Souldream Tribe was captured?" Lu Yin was shocked. He remembered that someone had once said that the stronger powers from the Innerverse had mostly escaped.

Ling Que sighed. "The Souldream Tribe can be considered unlucky, but who decided to make them so beautiful? They caught the attention of the Toolcasting family, and those despicable people decided to distribute the tribe members as spoils of war. During these years, quite a few of the Souldream Tribe's girls have been given out as prizes, and some have already been sent back to the Sixth Mainland as trophies."

Lu Yin's expression sank, and he involuntarily clenched his hands into fists.

He had certain connections with the Souldream Tribe, and Xi Yue could even be considered somewhat of a friend. On Planet Pyrolyte, he had struck a deal with the Souldream Tribe, and he had even rescued

some of their members while there. He had not expected the tribe to suddenly face such an unexpected calamity, and their fate was even worse than the Starfall Sea's.

Ling Que's eyes grew dim. Actually, he had a choice to opt out of participating in this ambush on the transportation treasure continent, but when the Sixth Mainland had invaded the Soulseal Flowzone, the Lingling Clan had abandoned the Souldream Tribe to escape. This had become a guilty weight on Ling Que, so he had decided to join this attack because of it. He had joined not just because these resources belonged to the Innerverse, but more so because he wanted to rescue the members of the Souldream Tribe.

Although he acted quite pompous and seemed unreliable on the surface, at least he had a persistent heart.

"Let's go find Elder Redmoon. She has a power vessel known as Moonlyre, and it is simply too powerful in large battlefields. Someone will definitely try to deal with her," Ling Que said.

Lu Yin nodded, and the two made their way towards the lake.

They were not the only ones moving over. Every Innerverse cultivator who heard the melody and was a part of the raid team charged towards that particular lake. Long ago, they had all agreed upon this strategy. Elder Redmoon's domain was able to envelop the entire treasure continent, and her melody domain was able to cause too much damage to the Sixth Mainland, so she had to be protected.

If one looked down at the continent from high above, they would see that countless people were converging upon the lake from all directions. Cultivators from the Innerverse as well as ones from the Sixth Mainland moved as though a life and death battle was about to unfold at the lake.

A giant hammer crashed down towards the lake from high in the sky. A true expert from the Toolcasting family had arrived, and they were a Fourth Stage Augmenter at the very least. Although their power level had been suppressed, the power that they were able to unleash was still enough to leave many of the Outerverse cultivators in awe.

One figure dashed up from the bottom of the lake and charged towards the hammer.

There was a thump as shockwaves spread out in all directions. In the end, the figure spat out a mouthful of blood as they were pounded back into the lake.

The void split open, and an old man appeared above the surface of the lake with a hammer gripped in one hand. There was a symbol that consisted of four segments embossed into the hammer, which was the symbol of a Fourth Stage Augmenter.

"Little one, for you to be able to receive my hammer, you clearly have great potential. Follow me back to the Sixth Mainland, and I can let you join my Toolcasting family." The elder held his hammer as he looked down with cold eyes.

On the surface of the lake, a figure looked up. This person was a young male, but he was just a Cruiser. This young man was Cang Mu, and he was a follower of the Ten Arbiters' War King, and he was also ranked ninth on the Top 100 Rankings, which surpassed even Cool Sis. He was one of the top members of his generation in the Innerverse.

"Old man, your hammer isn't much." Cang Mu spat out a mouthful of blood and sneered at the Augmenter.

The elder snorted. "You must be tired of living!"

The hammer then crashed down towards the lake once again. At that moment, the melody floating out from beneath the lake surged, and visible ripples swept up towards the old man.

As a great elder of the Souldream Tribe, Elder Redmoon's true power level surpassed 450,000, and she was very close to the Envoy level. She was the Souldream Tribe's top expert, and she was also using the Souldream Tribe's strongest power vessel, Moonlyre. With the power vessel's reinforcement, she was unafraid of any powerhouse at her level, but she was facing one of the Toolcasting family's Fourth Stage Augmenters.

The Toolcasting family was different from all the other families and powers from the Sixth Mainland simply because they had a Empyrean Imprinter. Each and every weapon that any expert from the Toolcasting family used was something that had been personally forged by them alone. Thus, their weapons suited them the best and allowed them to use their peak strength.

This Fourth Stage Augmenter had a power level that exceeded 400,000 as well, but on top of that, he also had his martial print and an imprint. He used his hammer to smash away the ripples of the musical notes.

Although both powerhouses were fighting while suppressing their power levels to below 200,000, Elder Redmoon ended up being just one notch inferior to the Fourth Stage Augmenter in both offense and defense. This slight but vital difference between the cultivators of the Innerverse and the Sixth Mainland was commonly seen during the war.

With his hammer, the old man smashed away the musical notes and then valiantly charged towards the bottom of the lake with his hammer raised, ready to smash it down onto Fei Yue.

Cang Mu roared and dashed over in a desperate attempt to use his body as a shield.

The old man sneered; just an ant.

At that moment, the old man caught a glimpse of a cold light in the corner of his eye as it streaked over. He frowned and shifted his hammer to sweep out in the direction of the approaching flash. The Que's Mighty Slash was shattered within the void, and in the distance, Ling Que spat out a mouthful of blood. The figure originally charging towards the lake suddenly froze, as if it had been smashed by something.

The Que's Mighty Slash had caused the hammer to change directions. Thus, it did not strike Cang Mu, who then took advantage of this opportunity to attack the Augmenter. However, his attacks did not harm the old man in the slightest. The elder's star energy was easily able to suppress the youth, and even the void was solidified by his powerful star energy. He then raised a hand and reached out towards Cang Mu's neck.

Elder Redmoon suddenly leaped up from the bottom of the lake, her lyre's strings vibrating and unleashing sonic booms that blasted towards the Augmenter.

The old man grabbed at Cang Mu with one hand while his other lifted his hammer up high and smashed it back down as he completely ignored Elder Redmoon.

To this expert from the Toolcasting family, such a gentle attack was not enough to delay him by even the slightest bit.

## Chapter 959: Young Master Changbai

Just as the Fourth Stage Augmenter's hand was about to grab a hold of Cang Mu's neck, the void split open, and another hand similarly stretched forward to protect Cang Mu. This second hand clashed with the Augmenter's palm, and the elder's eyes went wide. His five fingers instantly closed together into a fist that tried to break through the obstructing palm. However, the next moment, the old man found that a bit of his strength had vanished without any reason. An explosion rang out, and the two hands both pulled back as a figure appeared behind the second hand. It was Lu Yin.

Cang Mu was also forced by the collision between the two palms, and he looked at Lu Yin with a stunned expression.

Lu Yin looked at the old man in a serious manner. In terms of pure physical strength, Lu Yin was able to rival an Enlighter, but only an Enlighter with a power level of about 200,000. This old man had a power level of at least 400,000, and his physical body was incredibly formidable. If he hadn't used Truesight to shave away some of the strength in the old man's palm, Lu Yin's hand would have been crippled by this impact.

Lu Yin had been too careless by using force to reply to force. He had momentarily forgotten that he had removed his universal armor when they had entered the Innerverse. If they were still in the Outerverse, then not even his upgraded universal armor's defense would have been enough to stop this old fogey's strike, since his strength likely surpassed that of the Sightless Clan expert who had tried to attack the battleships.

The Fourth Stage Augmenter elder looked at his hand in astonishment before turning to look back at Lu Yin. The man seemed to be at a loss. In the instant before their hands had touched, his strength had decreased rather significantly. Could this be a secret technique?

"Kid, you have a secret technique?" The old man looked at Lu Yin with fervent eyes.

Lu Yin waved his arms, and they released cracking sounds. He stared back at the old man. "Nope."

The Augmenter sneered at the youth. "If that wasn't a secret technique, then how could you have weakened my power?"

"You're overthinking things—nobody was weakening your strength," Lu Yin replied indifferently.

The old man grinned. "Interesting. The only members of your Fifth Mainland's younger generation who can receive one or two of my attacks are those who have received the title of King from the Champions' Stage. Those who can actually fight me are even fewer. Little fellow, you're from the Outerverse? So the

Outerverse actually has someone like you. You can follow me." And with that, the man leaped towards Lu Yin and pounded at the youth with a hammer.

Lu Yin felt his scalp go numb. Although he was much more powerful than when he had been journeying in the Starfall Sea, it was still a bit much for him to fight against such an old powerhouse. Against an Enlighter whose power level was above 400,000, or even an Imprinter, Lu Yin was able to use all sorts of methods to survive, but it was too difficult for him to win. Even now, the only Enlighter with a power level greater than 300,000 whom Lu Yin had actually killed himself was the Tong family's Elder Song.

At that time, Elder Song had been the strongest person who Lu Yin could actually fight against. However, since then, he had become a Cruiser and also completed the First Sun. Thus, perhaps there was a chance that he could even fight against Enlighters whose power levels were higher than 400,000, but it was still unknown whether or not he could actually win, especially against a member of the Toolcasting family.

When he saw the hammer smash towards him, Lu Yin immediately moved to dodge, as he could not take this attack head on.

The hammer smashed the void apart, releasing a powerful ripple that swept out in all directions. Everything above and below the hammer was flooded by this strength, and Cang Mu was flung even further away while Elder Redmoon also hesitated for a moment. Vast waves could be seen on the surface of the lake.

In the distance, Ling Que could only feel his breathing be stifled, and he nearly choked.

Lu Yin felt a stifling feeling rise within his chest as well, and he looked up to see the elder swatting down at him with a single hand. Lu Yin gritted his teeth as he released his eight lined battle force and Fatesand while his pupils transformed into runes. He then used Truesight to directly weaken the elder's attack while raising a hand to unleash One Hundred Stacks.

The elder's gaze trembled; at that moment, he sensed his strength being weakened once again, which meant that he had not been wrong before.

With the rumbling of an explosion, the void tore open, and a fissure spread out in all directions.

The elder was thrown back a hundred meters by Lu Yin's attack.

Under the suppression from the cosmic phenomenon, the elder's power level could infinitely approach 200,000, and Lu Yin was no different. However, Lu Yin was able to use Truesight to reduce the elder's runes by a bit, and correspondingly, his strength. This meant that the expert's power level had dropped slightly, which determined the victor in an instant.

That was particularly true at this time, as Lu Yin was capable of removing far more rune lines than when he had last been in the Innerverse. He did not have much time to consider the implications of this improvement, but the situation was just as he had suspected: the Rune Progenitor had caused this cosmic phenomenon, which meant that the current Innerverse had become a testing ground for the inheritors of the Rune Technology civilization. Anyone who had managed to cultivate Truesight to the Clarity realm would gain an advantage over all others, even if they were facing off against an Imprinter.

However, the old man was still a terrifying existence with a power level that was higher than 400,000. Even if his attack had been weakened, it was not possible for Lu Yin to defeat the Augmenter.

An adult with an empty fist would still be able to suppress a knife-wielding child. The current fight between Lu Yin and the Augmenter contained the same principle, even if that adult was crippled with a dismembered arm.

"Sure enough, child, you've definitely comprehended a secret technique." The old man was completely unharmed by Lu Yin's attack, and he lifted the hammer up to once again pound down. This time, the Augmenter did not attack Lu Yin. Instead, he struck at the void.

The void distorted as waves of force rippled outwards and suppressed Lu Yin. It also affected Elder Redmoon who was trying to use her Moonlyre to complement her domain and influence all of the Sixth Mainland cultivators on the entire continent.

Lu Yin punched out, and the Daynight Punch appeared, causing the colors black and white to interchange as a spiritual force attack enveloped the area.

However, the attack was only able to stall the old man for a moment; the difference between the two was too much.

"Out of everyone from the younger generation whom I've seen, child, you're second only to those few," he expressed his admiration as he raised his hammer up high once again. The Augmenter's star energy expanded nearly endlessly as it formed into the shape of a hammer high in the sky. Then, the hammer fell.

This attack was the most powerful one that the old man could display while being suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon. It covered the sky, the lake, and even the surrounding mountain range.

Numerous people rushed over from all over, including people from the Sixth Mainland as well as cultivators from the Innerverse and the Outerverse. At this moment, they all watched in astonishment as the giant sledgehammer covered the sky. This hammer would smash all of them to death!

Even Ling Que began to pray.

Suddenly, Elder Redmoon's lyre music burst forth from the surface of the lake, and everyone heard an unprecedentedly explosive melody echo through the void. The sound caused the Augmenter's body to waver, as his internal organs had borne the brunt of the attack.

Lu Yin's pupils transformed into runes, and his lips moved slightly as he quickly eliminated the runes that he could see around the old man's heart. The Augmenter's expression suddenly changed, and in the next moment, an even more intense melody rang out, and the sound formed explosive notes that blasted at the Augmenter's heart.

The old man spat out a mouthful of blood. Elder Redmoon was a powerhouse who was at his level, and as soon as she coordinated her attack with Lu Yin's rune removal, the old man had been severely injured. He was even forced to abandon the hammer that he had wanted to use to smash everything.

Lu Yin stormed towards the elder and slapped out a palm. "Go die, you old fart!"

He was hoping to force the elder to use a power level of more than 200,000, as Lu Yin wanted to witness the extermination power of the cosmic phenomenon once again.

Elder Redmoon suddenly warned, "Be careful!"

The elder's lips curled up even as blood flowed from his mouth, which made him seem exceptionally malevolent. "You people want to die."

He then bent his right index finger as his knuckle smacked at Lu Yin's palm. Even if he had been injured, he had not used any battle techniques this entire time, and his strength had also been reduced multiple times. This had allowed the old man to gain some understanding of Lu Yin's ability to weaken his opponents. This attack of his was powerful enough to severely injure the youth, and it was based off of the premise that the old man's strength would be weakened.

Someone who could cultivate to such a level would not be an idiot, and they would not repeatedly suffer from the short end of the stick against the same techniques.

But Lu Yin was no fool either; he still had—the Yu Secret Art.

He casually waved a hand and activated the Yu Secret Art. The old man's attack was diverted and did not land on Lu Yin, but the youth's palm landed on the older man's chest, adding even more pressure atop the foundation that had been laid when Lu Yin had used Truesight to eliminate the rune lines around the elder's heart. The Augmenter's eyes narrowed, and he was unable to stop himself from spitting out a mouthful of blood as his body was flung into the ground like a meteor. The strength of the Hundred Stacks, Hundredfold Shockwave Palm had erupted within the man's body.

Originally, the old man had been unafraid of Lu Yin's attacks due to his physique as an Enlighter, but the man had first been severely injured by Elder Redmoon's sonic attack before being forced to endure an attack of the Overlaying Stacks Path. This second strike had severely injured him even further, precisely because of the circumstances that had led to some of his rune lines being erased.

Lu Yin wanted to seize victory, and he continued to give chase, but at that moment, snow suddenly began to fall from the sky. The snow was white and very beautiful, but it was also quite deadly.

The surface of the lake was frozen in an instant.

The snowfall became even heavier, to the point where people were almost unable to see their hands in front of them.

Lu Yin turned to his right, where there was a man silently standing there while looking at Lu Yin with interest. "Are you one of the Fifth Mainland's Ten Arbiters? Or are you from the Neoverse?"

Lu Yin's gaze grew sharp. "And you are?"

The man's lips curled up. "I am from the Sixth Mainland's Bright Rainbow Realm—Skylake's Young Master Changbai."

Lu Yin grew solemn, as this person's rune lines were right at the power level limit of 200,000. This indicated that this person's true power level should be at the Enlighter level at the very least despite the man only being a Cruiser. For someone to be so young and yet have so much strength, the only possibility that Lu Yin could think of was the Realmlings.

"You're a Realmling?" Lu Yin asked.

Young Master Changbai shook his head. "I am still unable to reach that level."

Lu Yin instantly understood. Although this person had not quite reached the level of the Realmlings, he was definitely one of the few youths from the Sixth Mainland who approached the power of a Realmling. He clearly surpassed Autumnfrost Qing and Hong Ying in strength. This person should be about as strong as White Silkworm.

"You are able to fight against one of the Toolcasting family's Fourth Stage Augmenters. That's truly impressive. However, you still haven't answered my question. Are you one of the Ten Arbiters? Or are you from the Neoverse?" Young Master Changbai asked.

"I'm from the Outerverse," Lu Yin indifferently replied.

Young Master Changbai was blown away. "The Fifth Mainland's Outerverse? There are actually experts like you in that place?"

At this time, Elder Redmoon's music rang out once again, and the music formed rippling lines that blasted towards where the Fourth Stage Augmenter had fallen.

The old man coughed up more blood. He was not able to resist the attack as easily as before.

Elder Redmoon had been hiding her strength all along, just to take advantage of this crucial moment.

Young Master Changbai's gaze trembled, as he was also responsible for protecting the resources being transported on the continent. There were countless geniuses from the Sixth Mainland's nine realms fighting in the war against the Innerverse, and each one had their own tasks. Young Master Changbai's responsibility at this time was to escort these resources to safety, and he could not allow anyone to disrupt the operation.

As he thought about his task, the snow in the area began to dance, and the temperature dropped once more. By now, even the void had begun freezing.

Lu Yin leaped down and raised a hand that was shrouded with eight lined battle force, causing a distant howl from an ancient beast to ring out. With his Skybeast Claw, Lu Yin did his best to put some pressure on Young Master Changbai.

Young Master Changbai was not confident in being able to deal with Lu Yin, as the Sixth Mainland youth knew that he would not have been a match for the Fourth Stage Augmenter himself. Lu Yin had been able to severely injure such a powerhouse, and although he had only succeeded by coordinating with Elder Redmoon, that accomplishment was not so simple. Young Master Changbai wanted to fight against Lu Yin, but had no plans of facing Lu Yin headon.

As he watched Lu Yin charge towards him, Young Master Changbai immediately dodged aside.

However, he had underestimated Lu Yin's speed. Lu Yin's physical strength could not compare to the Fourth Stage Augmenter's, but Lu Yin's physique was more than just a bit stronger than Young Master Changbai's. Lu Yin was extremely fast, and he easily caught up to Young Master Changbai in an instant. Lu Yin's star energy converged over his right palm. "First Sun."

Young Master Changbai was shocked, and a flurry of snowflakes converged in front of him while the imprint of a beautiful figure appeared behind him.

The First Sun collided with the snowflakes. Although the snowflakes contained a deep chill that had been reinforced by an imprint and was cold enough to freeze normal Enlighters, it quickly melted against Lu Yin's First Sun.

Lu Yin had absorbed the cauldron energy of one whole cauldron to complete the First Sun, and that completion had multiplied the technique's strength many times over. For this attack, Lu Yin had gathered enough star energy to bolster the attack's power level to approach 200,000. As a result, this attack was not something that Young Master Changbai could not endure, and he was forced to retreat back multiple steps. As the last of the snowflakes melted, Young Master Changbai's palms moved together. "Skylake Snowpunch."

## Chapter 960: Secret Technique: Power Transfer

Any icy-blue palm imprint struck Lu Yin's First Sun, and the colors blue and gold intermingled as they tore across the void. After that, the two colors spread out in all directions. The surface of the lake froze over only to quickly thaw once again as the water became quite volatile.

Lu Yin exerted some strength through his hand, and his First Sun exploded, unleashing an unstoppable shockwave that blasted Young Master Changbai away.

The snowflakes that had gathered behind Young Master Changbai's back continuously melted away, and he was forced 10,000 meters back before he was finally able to completely dissipate the force of Lu Yin's First Sun. The young man's face was pale, and he was breathing heavily.

Lu Yin frowned, as the power that this person had demonstrated so far was not as impressive as his rune lines. In fact, Young Master Changbai was quite lacking when compared to White Silkworm. Even though his Skylake Snowpunch was stronger than what Autumnfrost Qing was capable of unleashing, and even though he had been able to withstand Lu Yin's First Sun, that was only because Lu Yin had not poured all of his star energy into the First Sun. If he had, then Young Master Changbai's Skylake Snowpunch would not have been able to even delay it for even a second.

Young Master Changbai smiled bitterly. "Sure enough, under normal circumstances, I'm not your match. Although you have not reached the standard of a Realmling yet, you're not far away. For a Cruiser of the Fifth Mainland to have such strength is shocking—not even the Ten Arbiters could have compared to you when in your realm. I've really struck it big this time, being able to meet a genius like you."

Lu Yin was surprised. "Under normal circumstances?"

Young Master Changbai straightened his body and let out a deep breath. "The Bright Rainbow Realm is in the territory of the Progenitor of Secret Arts' Brahman Realm. Do you know who the Progenitor of Secret Arts is? They are the Progenitor... of secret techniques."

After that, the star energy on Young Master Changbai's body twisted almost as if it was burning, and his face suddenly flushed red as he spat out a mouthful of blood. "Secret technique: Power Transfer."

With a roar, veins bulged out on Young Master Changbai's eyes as a terrifying aura surged and spread outwards.

Beneath the two combatants, Cang Mu hurriedly shouted at Lu Yin, "Don't let him finish using it! That's the Sixth Mainland's secret technique, Power Transfer. It burns the user's blood essence, and in exchange, increases their strength several times over!"

Lu Yin was astonished, and he instinctively launched an attack at Young Master Changbai. However, as a secret technique, it naturally was not easy to disrupt.

Young Master Changbai laughed. "Power Transfer was developed by the Progenitor of Secret Arts, and it can connect one to the strength of the Progenitor of Secret Arts! Some can even summon the Progenitor of Secret Arts to possess them! Although I can't do that quite yet, I can still raise my strength a bit, like this-" He then raised a hand. "Skylake Snowpunch."

A giant, icy-blue palm imprint swirled in the sky before slamming down at Lu Yin.

Before the palm had even finished descending, the freezing temperature had already chilled Lu Yin's limbs to the bone, and its power had more than doubled compared to before.

Lu Yin himself had also comprehended a secret technique, but he seldom bumped into others who also had secret techniques. This was not because there were too few secret techniques, but rather because they were almost non-existent. Secret techniques were able to turn the rotten into the mysterious, and the Power Transfer secret technique did exactly that. This secret technique had forcefully raised Young Master Changbai's power substantially, and Lu Yin was even forced to rely on Truesight to weaken the power of his attacks.

Young Master Changbai experienced the same sensation as the Fourth Stage Augmenter, and the iceblue palm was penetrated as Lu Yin's hand swatted down.

Young Master Changbai was sent flying once again, being pushed 10,000 meters away just like last time. He stared at Lu Yin, flabbergasted. "Was that a secret technique?"

"Weren't you watching from the side?" Lu Yin barked. He then chased after his opponent as his pupils transformed into runes, weakening Young Master Changbai's strength once again. Young Master Changbai almost spat out a mouthful of blood; he had been relying on his increase in strength from Power Transfer, but Lu Yin was using Truesight to cripple the youth. Although the increase in strength provided was greater than the amount that Lu Yin removed, Lu Yin had not weakened the overall strength of the attack. Rather, he had concentrated his efforts on just a certain portion of it.

This nauseated Young Master Changbai. Every aspect of his strength had been improved, but a specific portion had been weakened. And coincidentally, it was right where Lu Yin was targeting its attacks. It was useless even if Young Master Changbai's strength had been improved several times over.

At this time he understood how the Fourth Stage Augmenter had been beaten to the point of spitting out blood.

Even if Power Transfer was able to improve a person's strength, it was not very useful against this person.

Young Master Changbai was very decisive, and he immediately turned to escape. Since he was unable to beat Lu Yin, he would only be waiting to die if he stuck around.

Lu Yin chased after Young Master Changbai, and they quickly moved further and further away from the lake. At this time, a new battle broke out over the lake.

Two figures simultaneously appeared from the distance. One was determined to kill Elder Redmoon while the other had arrived to help her, and they both arrived at practically the same time.

Fortunately, Elder Redmoon was no weakling. Otherwise, the aftershocks from the battle taking place above the lake would have already claimed her life.

One of the two was another Fourth Stage Augmenter from the Toolcasting family while the other was Yan, a super powerhouse with a power level of 470,000. Yan was not from one of the various great powers of the Innerverse, but rather, was from Shamrock Enterprises. In fact, he was actually the secretary of Shamrock Enterprises' Innerverse Chairman. His appearance was not a coincidence.

Yan's innate gift complemented Elder Redmoon's. According to the original plans, the two would have carried out a massacre of the Sixth Mainland's transport crew. This was because Yan's innate gift was fantasy gas.

Unfortunately, this plan had been ruined before it could even begin.

Although the Tong family and Sightless Clan had caused a bunch of cultivators from the Outerverse to suddenly appear and join this great raid to seize back the Innerverse's resources, the appearance of these people had also disrupted the plans of Starsibyl's team.

In the distance, the Toolwielder Realmling had been constantly searching for Wendy Yushan, intent on capturing her.

He did not end up finding her, but he did somehow bump into Lan Si.

The Realmlings and Ten Arbiters were natural enemies.

The battle of these two youths shocked all who saw them.

Even further away, countless Innerverse prisoners escaped while being pursued by Sixth Mainland cultivators.

Xi Yue's face was pale and her clothes were in tatters, making her look quite pathetic. She had been one of the prisoners, but fortunately, she had escaped.

Behind her group, a Sixth Mainland Imprinter who had been standing guard over the prisoners this entire time took action. Nobody could stop the powerhouse, and even Cang Song, who was an elder from Chaosgod Mountain, was severely injured by the Imprinters attacks, his status unknown.

Xi Yue's gaze revealed her terror, as she did not know if she would be able to escape. If she could not, then she would commit suicide, as that would be better than being sold as a slave. Lan Yue had already done so.

Many others held the same thoughts as Xi Yue. When they had been prisoners, they had not even been able to commit suicide, but then, they had managed to break their chains and flee. Even if they did not escape, they at least had the power to end their own lives now.

The escaped prisoners' luck was not bad. Even though Starsibyl's raid team did not have any Envoy-level powerhouses who could stop Imprinters, there were several such powerhouses among the Outerverse cultivators. Elder He appeared, and he blocked the Imprinter.

Lu Yin wanted to eliminate Young Master Changbai, as the youth was an elite genius from the Sixth Mainland, and taking care of one such person meant that there would be one less expert in the future. However, despite Lu Yin's relentless pursuit, Young Master Changbai was able to use his secret technique, Power Transfer, to raise his speed to extraordinary levels. In the end, Lu Yin was unable to catch up, and he could only turn back helplessly.

Before long, he was drawn to another battle taking place rather close to him.

It was actually a fight between Starsibyl and an Imprinter.

The escort crew transporting the resources back to the Sixth Mainland did not have just one Imprinter among their forces. Starsibyl's mission was to delay one of the Imprinters. Although her strength was not high enough to allow her to win, with the Starsibyl Sect's mysterious divination methods, the Imprinter was completely stalled against the young woman.

Lu Yin was astonished, as he had seen one of the Starsibyls fight in the past, during the Tournament of the Strongest when he had still been in the Astral Combat Academy. With the power of divination, that girl had avoided attacks before they were even launched, and she had preemptively attacked empty areas where her opponent would then move to. Back then, Tian Hou had to attack the entire arena to force Starsibyl to admit defeat. Otherwise, it would have been impossible to determine a victor between the two of them, and Tian Hou had admitted it himself.

That was Starsibyl's strength.

However, that had been the Starsybil attending the Astral Combat Academy, and there was not just one Starsibyl. At this moment, Lu Yin had run into the Starsibyl who was in the same generation as the Ten Arbiters, and she was against an Imprinter. Her divination abilities were effective even against an Imprinter.

Based on the rankings used by the Toolcasting family, the powerhouse who Starsibyl was fighting against was not an Imprinter, but rather a Seventh Stage Augmenter.

At this time, the Seventh Stage Augmenter was feeling rather depressed and sullen. The woman in front of him was like a mouse, and she dodged his attacks time and time again. It would have been fine if that was all that she did, as he could target an entire region with his attacks, which would definitely have resulted in the woman's death. However, the Augmenter was frustrated because he could not unleash such an attack in this area, as there was a mountain of star essence beneath them.

Star essence was made of star energy, so if he attacked, the gathered star essence would release star energy and explode with a power level that easily surpassed 200,000. In addition, this was not some natural phenomenon. The moment the Augmenter attacked, the star essence would release a power level that surpassed 200,000, and he did not know if he would be erased by the Innerverse's cosmic phenomenon. Thus, he did not dare to take such a gamble.

Starsibyl had made sure to choose this battlefield before having the confidence to hold back this Imprinter, as not even the Ten Arbiters were guaranteed to be able to stall an Imprinter.

The Ten Arbiters could fight against Imprinters, but that was merely exchanging blows, not true life and death confrontations. Achieving victory was even more impossible.

"Woman, can you only hide?" The Seventh Stage Augmenter was furious.

Starsibyl's expression remained calm, and she looked at the old man as his hammer fell once again. She had already dodged it in advance, and the hammer merely blasted at where she had been previously standing. A wave rippled out from the hammer, but strangely, the young woman even dodged the ripple. It was not even able to affect her clothes.

"My apologies, Senior, but you can only remain here," Starsibyl calmly replied.

The Seventh Stage Augmenter wanted to leave, but there were far too many star essence stored here, and it was too valuable. Nobody knew if this woman had brought a super-capacity cosmic ring with her that was able to take away all these star essence.

During all these years of war, this Augmenter had come to understand the Fifth Mainland cultivators quite well. Among them, there were many scheming individuals, and it would actually be fine if they lost the star essence, but he did not want to be fooled and laughed at by others.

Left with little choice, the Seventh Stage Augmenter could only accompany Starsibyl and waste his time in this place.

He had thought that he would waste a great deal of time during their battle, but he suddenly noticed Lu Yin out of the corner of his eyes and grew excited. He gave up on Starsibyl and dashed over towards Lu Yin. "Kid, you dare to come here? Time to die!"

Starsibyl frowned, as someone coming here would just be a hindrance to her. During the planning phase, she had clearly told everyone to keep their distance from this area, but it seemed that this person was from that Outerverse group. As she thought about it, she looked over, only to be rather astonished. It was actually him, that unequaled Limiteer.

This Starsibyl had a deep impression of Lu Yin, all because of Lu Yin's answer to her question: with money, he could become stronger. This answer had left too deep of an impression on her. On top of that, she had tried to divine this person's future, but she had not been able to come to any meaningful conclusions.

Out of all of the unequaled Limiteers at that time, Lu Yin had been the one whom she had paid the most attention to.

She had never dreamed that they would bump into each other here.

Starsibyl felt a pang of regret, as this youth would certainly die after drawing the Seventh Stage Augmenter's attention. Even she could not save Lu Yin, as she was only able to save her own life.

Such a pity. This genius, if allowed to mature, might have been able to overtake the Ten Arbiters in the future.

The Seventh Stage Augmenter was an Imprinter, and once one was targeted by a powerhouse of that level, aside from the Ten Arbiters, only those like Starsibyl, who had divination abilities, would be able to stay alive. Lu Yin was just a mere Cruiser, and even Starsibyl did not believe that he would be able to survive.

Divination was not omnipotent, and its foundation lay in making countless analytical decisions, taking the current circumstances into account, and then choosing the one that had the greatest likelihood of occurring. These circumstances were not simply what normal people could see. Rather, they were more so what normal people could not see, and it involved the domain of mysteries.

However, what was even more mysterious was that, although divination was not omniscient or omnipotent, it could not calculate something that had never been seen before. That unequaled Limiteer from before had already matured to a level that was quickly approaching the Ten Arbiters.

Even Starsibyl could not have expected such a development, let alone the Seventh Stage Augmenter.