

Chapter 991: Eternal Scene

Not only were the Inniverse's Sword Sect Elder and other such powerhouses gathered just beyond the cosmic phenomenon, but there were also rulers and elders from some of the Neoverse's great powers. They were the final barrier that the Sixth Mainland needed to break through.

Both sides had silently agreed to have the older generation leave the Cosmic Sea so that it would be a battlefield for the younger generation. However, if the situation truly reached a critical juncture, then how could they continue to silently abide by such an agreement?

Lu Yin turned away after seeing all this. He did not know where the Sixth Mainland's older generation powerhouses had hidden themselves, but it seemed that they were actually able to entirely conceal their rune lines. He was reminded of Aegis's Cloakstone, and although it was possible that there were other similar items, it was unlikely for there to be that much.

As the Champions' Stage drew closer to the border of the Whitecliff Region, the expressions of Bu Kong and the other Sixth Mainland cultivators all suddenly changed as they backed away as one. Bu Kong then tapped out with a finger, which gave God Taiyi a sense of extreme crisis. Qiu Shi and the others were also all completely astonished—at this moment, Bu Kong had changed.

Bu Kong threw out one sourcebox after another, and as he moved as though he was lockbreaking, but his actions actually caused the sourceboxes' formless danger zones to spread out.

Lu Yin was alarmed. "Watch out for the sourcebox array!"

Amidst the millions of cultivators currently embroiled in battle, Xin Nü looked up, her face solemn. Only a Advanced Lockbreaker was qualified to even try comprehending a sourcebox array. As one of the Daosource Three Skies, Bu Kong was clearly already someone who was very powerful, but it was still shocking that he had comprehended a sourcebox array method.

When Bu Kong started arranging the sourcebox array, the apprehension that Lu Yin felt towards the young man reached an entirely new level. Not only had this person achieved such tremendous combat strength at such a young age, but he had also comprehended a sourcebox array arrangement method—Bu Kong's future could not be estimated.

Zhi Yi was similarly overwhelmed, as even she had not known that Bu Kong had comprehended a sourcebox array arrangement method. Even if she was more confident in herself, she would doubt her chances at defeating a powerhouse within the same realm as her if they were able to use a sourcebox array. Even if sourcebox arrays could not quite compare to secret techniques, as long as one was given enough time to set one up, the resulting destruction would be endless.

Bu Kong was attempting to use a sourcebox array to trap Qiu Shi, Xing Kai, and the others. However, at this moment, someone else took similar action: Qiu Shi.

Every person in the Cosmic Sect was a Lockbreaker, as the Cosmic Art was widely regarded as all Lockbreakers' dream technique as it was extremely helpful to lockbreaking. Originally, Lu Yin had relied on the Cosmic Art to calm the chaotic energy in a starburst orb, which had allowed him to catch Master Wusheng's attention and thus given Lu Yin the opportunity to join the Lockbreaker Society. Qiu Shi was

the Cosmic Sect's true disciple, and she was also known as the All Rounder Fairy. She was talented in every aspect, and one of them was lockbreaking; she was also a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker.

Bu Kong's movements were fast, but Qiu Shi was by no means slow. Bu Kong relied on his innate gift of decomposition, while Qiu Shi relied on her Cosmic Art; each one had their own advantages.

Bu Kong had not expected that a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker would be hiding on the other side. It was no wonder why Zhi Yi had always felt that Qiu Shi was hiding something quite deeply, as her suspicions had turned out to be true.

Still, Qiu Shi's efforts would be useless even if she had hidden herself even deeper. Bu Kong's sourcebox array did not require much time to arrange, and it possessed dozens of variations. He used one variation to cover another's and then yet another variation to hide the first.

Qiu Shi continued unlocking the sourceboxes, altering their danger zones while also attempting to break through and halt the array's activation. But in the end, her efforts were still a bit lacking, and her actions could not keep up with her intentions. Bu Kong had been a step ahead from the very start, and a sourcebox array soon enveloped the Champions' Stage. It then slowly took the form of a boulder that trapped the crowd within it.

After that, Bu Kong's figure flashed, and he unleashed a palm strike at Qiu Shi. At the same instant, the sourcebox array restricted Qiu Shi's movements, leaving her with no choice but to let it land on her. With a soft thump, she was struck in the body, and fresh blood flowed from her lips as her body fell down to the Champions' Stage.

However, Bu Kong did not stop there. The sourcebox array was also suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon, and it was only able to trap the crowd for a brief moment.

He struck out with five total palm strikes in quick succession, hitting five people and causing Xing Kai, Serati Phoenix, Shu Jing, God Taiyi, and Qiu Shi to all fall from the Champions' Stage. Shockwaves reverberated through the void, accentuating his godly image, as he had just defeated five peak experts in an instant.

Millions of cultivators watched this development take place with shock and disbelief written on their faces.

What came next were cheers, as everyone was shouting Bu Kong's name. This was the power of one of the Daosource Three Skies, the image of unrivaled and unstoppable youths.

Bu Kong looked like a deity as Xing Kai's group fell down from the Champions' Stage. Everyone here would remember this scene for the rest of their lives. This scene was the symbol of strength that the Daosource Three Skies deserved to have.

Di Fa, the Sword Scholar, Shi Zhongjian, and Little Arrow Saint all took action as well, and they attacked the five who had fallen from the Champions' Stage.

Bu Kong had used the Time Reversal Technique in his palm strikes, and whoever was struck by that technique would be temporarily returned to their childhood. This was the moment when they were at their weakest, as there was no way that children could withstand an attack from a Realmking.

This was Bu Kong's ultimate plan, and he had succeeded. Each of the falling powerhouses had been struck, but shockingly, none of them had reverted back to children.

Di Fa and the others' attacks were all stopped, and they were only able to knock the five people down to the surface of the sea, unable to wound the five fallen youths. Actually, the only injury that they had suffered was from Bu Kong's palm strike, but that had only shocked them and caused them to vomit out a bit of blood. They were not actually severely injured.

Bu Kong was astonished; how was this possible?

Qiu Shi scanned the battlefield and saw that Gu Xiao'er's face had gone pale.

When the battle atop the Champions' Stage had first started, Gu Xiao'er's white smoke had emerged and twisted around the stage. As the battle raged on, especially after a full day of intense combat, everyone had gotten accustomed to the ubiquitous smoke. However, while Bu Kong had been throwing out his sourceboxes, Gu Xiao'er had gathered and condensed the white smoke onto the bodies of some people in the crowd. To be more specific, he had used it to protect a small place on everyone's bodies, the exact place where Bu Kong's palms had struck.

Qiu Shi had been struck in the abdomen, and the white smoke had coincidentally condensed on her abdomen.

Xing Kai had been struck in the head, and the white smoke had coincidentally been there as well.

Serati Phoenix, Shu Jing, and God Taiyi were all the same. Because the white smoke had acted as a barrier, they had been able to endure Bu Kong's palm strikes, and the smoke had also protected them from the Time Reversal Technique.

This white smoke was very mysterious, and it was even able to tear through Vitality Qi. It was no wonder why the white smoke was the foundation of the great power Smoke Eater Peak, as it had just blocked a secret technique and rescued five of the Fifth Mainland's strongest youths.

If not for this white smoke, Bu Kong's palms would have reverted the five to their childhood, and they would have been in grave danger.

Bu Kong had been planning this attack for a long time, and he had been biding his time while fighting with God Taiyi and the others, all for this precise moment when he would be able eliminate five absolute experts at once. However, his goal had been foiled by Gu Xiao'er.

Naturally, Gu Xiao'er had not been able to predict where Bu Kong would attack on his own; he had actually relied on Starsibyl, who was some distance away from him. That woman had told Gu Xiao'er where to condense his smoke, as she had seen through all of Bu Kong's attacks.

Bu Kong had been scheming for this moment for a good while, but his plan had been instantly destroyed by Starsibyl. This was the capability of the Starsibyl Sect—this was divination.

At this moment, Bu Kong was standing atop the Champions' Stage, staring down in disbelief. How was this possible? They had actually stopped his secret technique! He could not process what had just happened in this short amount of time.

Zhi Yi seemed to think of something, and she retreated a thousand meters back as she searched through the entire battlefield. She had nearly forgotten about Starsibyl. Who on their side could have known that, at the most crucial juncture of the battle, that woman would prove to be the most useful. Divination: formless yet fatal.

The Fifth Mainland simply had too many mysterious inheritances. After all, it was essentially five mainlands that had merged together.

Bu Kong once again remembered the advice he had been given before the beginning of this battle.

Below, Xing Kai and the others had survived Bu Kong's attack, but they all looked up at the Champions' Stage with ugly expressions. Even though they had not been incapacitated or severely injured, Bu Kong had revealed the terror of his full might. When they also considered the inexplicable Zhi Yi and the four Realmings who were also present, they had no chance of winning.

Lu Yin stored his terrible item away, as there was no longer any need for it since the older generation was about to arrive. Countless groups of rune lines were approaching them, and the two furthest in the lead were especially terrifying. They simply glanced at Lu Yin, but just that was enough for his scalp to go numb. These two were definitely terrifying old monsters with power levels over 1,000,000.

Since the Fifth Mainland's older generation was joining the battle, the hidden monsters from the Sixth Mainland would definitely make an appearance as well. They were sure to be hiding somewhere within the chaotic battlefield that had millions of cultivators.

One cultivator from the Fifth Mainland had been fighting against someone from the Sixth Mainland for several days with no indications of a victor. At this moment, the Sixth Mainland cultivator suddenly revealed an unimaginable level of strength as he raised a hand to casually wipe away his opponent. He then looked off into the distance. "It's time to determine the victor."

Similar scenes took place all across the battlefield above the sea as one old powerhouse from the Sixth Mainland revealed themselves after another, each one displaying a terrifying level of strength.

They all charged forward together as they raced towards the Whitecliff Region's border. They were planning to break out of this region that was suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon and then use their unrestricted power to determine the victor of this invasion.

Bu Kong was helpless in this situation, as that had been his final attack. However, he had not killed a single one of the five whom he had attacked. Now that the experts from the older generation were joining the battle, he would have no further opportunities to gain any merits. Although the Fifth Mainland was much weaker than the Sixth Mainland, there were still many people in the older generation whose power levels were above 500,000, and the attacks from those powerhouses would be more than enough to scare even Bu Kong.

This was no longer a battlefield for the younger generation.

At the border of the cosmic phenomenon, a group of powerhouses from the Fifth Mainland charged forward. Leading them was an elder from the Cosmic Sect and an elder from the Hall of Honor, each of

whom had a power level of more than 1,000,000. Multiple Envoy-level powerhouses followed behind them, some from the Innerverse and others from the Neoverse.

In the Fifth Mainland, only the Neoverse had monsters with power levels above 1,000,000. In the Innerverse, the Sword Sect and the Daynight clan were the only groups that might have such powerhouses, though it was also possible that they did not. A power level of 1,000,000 represented a qualitatively different level of strength.

On the other side, the Sixth Mainland's older cultivators were similarly led by two old people, and they were both Cosmic Imprinters. They were followed by another group of old monsters.

This was the highest level battlefield.

Just as the two sides were about to collide, the cosmic phenomenon high above them started to roil. Lu Yin, God Taiyi, and everyone else who practiced Truesight were the first to discover the change, and they all looked up. As they did so, all of their expressions instantly changed.

The Rune Progenitor's phenomena had begun moving as though it had gained sapience, and it suddenly suppressed everything.

Everyone froze and looked up in terror as the sky... collapsed!

The Progenitor realm was an indescribable realm; they were the source of everything. The universe had existed for an unknown number of years, and nobody knew how long humans had been around for. Since ancient times, the number of Progenitors that had emerged could actually be counted. It was not a matter of one being born from some amount of people, but rather one being born from some amount of eons.

Progenitors were in a completely different realm of existence, and the Rune Progenitor had even created a mysterious civilization of unique cultivators, and it would not even be too much to say that he had been a god. In fact, just his remnant spiritual force had been able to injure even the Progenitor of Combat. After that, the leftover power had covered the Innerverse and nearly half of the Cosmic Sea. Although the Progenitor had died long ago, he was still able to have such a massive influence on this inter-mainland war after countless years. This was the strength of a Progenitor.

No matter who they were, if they had not become a Progenitor yet, they could not touch or fathom the strength of one.

Even Emphyrean Imprinters were no exception to this rule.

Under the influence of the Rune Progenitor's cosmic phenomenon, runes covered everyone, and they all felt terrified and desperate; even Lu Yin felt the same. He did not know what the Rune Progenitor's phenomena was about to do, but the Sixth Mainland's forces' action of trying to break away from the suppression seemed to have unlocked another hidden aspect of the Rune Progenitor's cosmic phenomenon. The moment this power was activated, it instantly shone down upon one of the unassuming elders from the Sixth Mainland.

Chapter 992: Forceful Eradication

Everything in the surrounding area was covered by the Rune Progenitor's cosmic phenomenon as this entire region sank into darkness. Then, a solitary beam of radiance illuminated one of the Sixth Mainland elders. The old man looked up as his gaze turned sinister and a giant hammer appeared in his hand. "Are you trying to kill me? So what if it's a Progenitor! One day, I'll be able to step into that realm, and then I will lead the Toolwielder bloodline to kill our way into the Fifth Mainland, which will forever—"

At that point, his body began to shatter.

The elder screamed as indescribably boundless rune lines swept across his body. His death shocked everyone within the Whitecliff Region as he dissipated before their eyes. The entire Cosmic Sea trembled as the wave flowed out, spreading over the rest of the Innerverse. It was as if it was trying to topple the universe itself.

The strength of this wave of rune lines was something rarely ever seen. Even though Lu Yin had seen Yuan Shi and the other peak powerhouses go all out in the Outerverse, their full power could not match the terrifying power of this elder who had just spoken up. He had not been a Cosmic Imprinter, but rather one level higher—one of the Sixth Mainland's few Emyrean Imprinters, who were second only to the three Progenitors.

Additionally, he had been carrying the hammer, which indicated that he should have been Ancestor Toolwielder from the Toolcasting family, one of the Four Emyreans of the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect.

Ancestor Toolwielder had been an Emyrean Imprinter with a peerless strength. The Sixth Mainland was divided into nine realms, and Emyrean Imprinters were similar to the Progenitors in that they were not limited by the realms; they were existences that existed above the masses.

Lu Yin had participated in two of the Innerverse's battles and three of the Outerverse's border warfronts thus far. However, this was his first time seeing the terror of an Emyrean Imprinter, and this was not a strength that he could even fathom. Just one glance from someone of that level was enough to send his mind spiralling into chaos.

This powerhouse had been strong enough to be an entire universe's hidden trump, but his runes had been gradually erased along with himself.

The others could not see what was truly happening; they could only see that Ancestor Toolwielder's body was cracking apart. Only those who had cultivated Truesight like Lu Yin and God Taiyi were able to see Ancestor Toolwielder's runes dissipate away. He was being forcefully erased.

Ancestor Toolwielder's participation in this invasion had been no accident. Even if the Fifth Mainland were even weaker, they would still absolutely have terrifying powerhouses at the same level as an Emyrean Imprinter. Ancestor Toolwielder had come specifically to deal with such powerhouses.

While Ancestor Toolwielder was still being erased, another light ray illuminated a middle-aged man within the Sixth Mainland's forces. He was quickly overwhelmed, and he quickly charged toward the south in an attempt to escape from the area of the cosmic phenomenon. This man was actually another Emyrean Imprinter.

Everyone from the Fifth Mainland was horrified at this discovery, as they had never expected the Sixth Mainland to actually be hiding an Emphyrean Imprinter among their ground forces. This person should be the Sixth Mainland's true trump card that they had been relying on to break through the region suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon—Ancestor Toolwielder had been nothing more than bait. This second person was the assistant who would have been the one to truly forge a path out of the phenomena for the Sixth Mainland.

Two Emphyrean Imprinters had joined this battle, which had given the Sixth Mainland's invasion a great chance of success. On top of that, the Sixth Mainland had even hid other powerhouses like Cosmic Imprinters with power levels of over 1,000,000 among their forces. Just how many experts of that level could Fifth Mainland defend against?

Only colossal forces like the Hall of Honor or the Cosmic Sect would have old monsters on the same level as Cosmic Imprinters. As for Emphyrean Imprinters, perhaps not even the Cosmic Sect had such a powerhouse.

This battle had seemed like a guaranteed victory for the Sixth Mainland, but no one had expected the cosmic phenomenon to transform for a second time.

Ancestor Toolwielder wanted to resist its influence, but as long as he was not a true Progenitor himself, there was absolutely no way for him to withstand the power of a Progenitor.

Under everyone's horrified stares, Ancestor Toolwielder was simply erased. Only a hammer remained of him, which summarily fell down from the sky and crashed into the sea.

The other Emphyrean Imprinter who had been next to the border of the cosmic phenomenon was similarly erased, and he only left a petrified face behind for a moment as he disappeared. In the end, there was not even a trace of his aura remaining.

Everyone watched this scene take place in stunned stupefaction, and at this moment, no matter if they were from the Fifth Mainland or Sixth Mainland, everyone felt that they had just witnessed an impossible event. Two invincible powerhouses had disappeared just like that, and the strength that had erased them was nothing more than a cosmic phenomenon; a Progenitor hadn't even appeared! No, even more shocking was that this Progenitor was already dead! This had all been caused by a piece of remnant strength left behind by a dead person, but it had easily erased two Emphyrean Imprinters.

Everyone was shocked at the terror of a Progenitor, but at the same time, their desire to become one themselves grew stronger than ever.

Lu Yin also had fervent eyes, as he now understood why the Sea King had been willing to risk the entire Fifth Mainland in a gamble. Even if the chances of them losing were greater than 90%, they still had to make this gamble. That was because the Sea King had restored the Fifth Mainland's skies in hopes of birthing a new Progenitor. Numbers could not make up for a single Progenitor's might, and the Sea King hoped that the Fifth Mainland could give birth to a new Progenitor so that it could resist the Sixth Mainland.

Three of the Sixth Mainland's nine realms had joined forces to invade the Fifth Mainland's Human Domain while another three realms were invading the Astral Beast Domain. In other words, the majority of the Sixth Mainland's forces were participating in this invasion of the Fifth Mainland. Seizing resources

was just one of this invasion's goals. More importantly, they had to eradicate the Fifth Mainland's cultivation civilization to eliminate any possibility of the Fifth Mainland ever giving birth to a Progenitor.

Lu Yin had previously assumed that seizing resources and eradicating the cultivation civilization were both equally important motives for the Sixth Mainland's invasion, but at this moment, his thoughts changed. It might actually be possible that the Sixth Mainland had always wanted to eliminate the Fifth Mainland's cultivation civilization but that the Progenitor realm was too intimidating for them. The fearsome strength of such powerhouses could not even be imagined.

Millions of cultivators on both sides of the battlefield had been determined to give their all to massacre the enemy, but that conviction suddenly vanished in a puff of smoke. Everyone was in absolute awe of the strength of a Progenitor.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed, and he raised his head to see that the phenomena previously filling this region had suddenly vanished. He did not know if the phenomena throughout the entire Inverse and Cosmic Sea had disappeared or if it was just this area. Actually, it had not vanished entirely, as there were still some remaining remnants.

The sky was still dark, and the crowd was similarly still lost in shock that two Emphyrean Imprinters had been erased by the cosmic phenomenon. Countless rays of light suddenly appeared, and everyone's hearts trembled. These rays of light were like the death god's hands—whoever was illuminated by them would perish beyond a shadow of a doubt.

At this time, four people had been illuminated; two were from the Sixth Mainland, but the other two were from the Fifth Mainland. They were the two powerhouses with power levels higher than 1,000,000 who had been leading the way.

A familiar scene occurred, and these four experts whose power levels were higher than 1,000,000 were all eradicated by the phenomena without any ability to resist. Although the Emphyrean Imprinters had still been able to make a bit of sound before disappearing, these four powerhouses were not able to even speak before instantly vanishing.

The next moment, the older cultivators from the Fifth Mainland who were present all raced out of the region affected by the cosmic phenomenon. They did not dare to remain behind, as the phenomena clearly did not differentiate between friend or foe, only caring about one's power level. First, it had been the Emphyrean Imprinters. Then, it had been the experts with power levels exceeding 1,000,000. Could it be that the experts with power levels of 800,000 would be eliminated next?

The Cosmic Imprinters from the Sixth Mainland also felt their hairs stand on end, and they similarly raced to escape from the suppressed region. The people from the Fifth Mainland wanted to stop their enemy, but they did not. Whoever tried to stop these old monsters at this moment would receive their desperate retaliation, as no one wanted to die.

The top experts were not the only ones terrified, as everyone wanted to leave this region. Who knew how many people would end up being erased by the new cosmic phenomenon? In fact, even some Explorers felt petrified.

Only those like Lu Yin who could see runes were not nervous, and that was because the rune lines that had been previously covering the entire sky had vanished.

Lu Yin's heart sank, as the disappearance of these rune lines meant that the suppression from the cosmic phenomenon no longer existed. In other words, the Sixth Mainland would be able to unleash their full power now.

A desperate and panicked atmosphere continued to fill the Cosmic Sea. No matter if they were from the Fifth or Sixth Mainland, everybody rushed out of the suppressed region, as they were unable to see the runes and thus uncertain of if the phenomena had disappeared or not.

A chaotic battle inevitably broke out, but everyone did their best to hold back. Most were so anxious that they suppressed their power level all the way to a commoner's to minimize their chances of aggravating the phenomena.

Lu Yin wanted to let the Fifth Mainland's older generation know about the phenomenon's situation so that they could make some preparations and go all out with their attacks, but at that moment, an endless amount of rune lines reappeared off in the distance, and Lu Yin's eyes went wide. This was the same cosmic phenomenon that had just vanished. What had disappeared was merely a portion of the phenomena, and now, it was descending upon this area from other regions.

So even this was possible?

Were the Empyrean Imprinters the fuse that had led to the phenomena suddenly activating? Or was it when the Empyrean Imprinters had approached the edge of the suppressed region that the phenomena had erupted?

Lu Yin did not know what had been the exact trigger, but he could see that the sky was once again covered by an overwhelming number of rune lines.

Nearly everyone charged out of the suppressed region, which meant that Lu Yin and the few others who were still motionless would quickly draw attention. He also raised his foot and moved to the south.

God Taiyin did the same along with a few others who were from Gods' Origin, though not a single one of them spoke as they all headed to the south.

The phenomena had completely destroyed the two mainlands' desire to battle. The Sixth Mainland's forces were no longer focused on how they could invade the Neoverse. Rather, they were only thinking about how they could survive this situation and what they would do if the phenomena activated again.

Atop the Champions' Stage, Bu Kong and the others were quaking in fear. They were the most powerful elite experts of the younger generation, but they were still just a part of the younger generation. Even if some of them had seen Progenitors before, the power of this cosmic phenomenon was still enough to strike fear into the depths of their hearts.

Little Arrow Saint, the Sword Scholar, and most of the others had never even seen a Progenitor before, but the scene that they had just witnessed had a very deep impression inside of them. They had personally experienced what it felt like to be nothing more than a mere ant. The Fifth Mainland that they had all believed to be easy prey was actually home to such an unimaginable power. Even after a powerhouse of this level died, they still were capable of unleashing an unfathomable power.

Zhi Yi was breathing heavily, and she had long since retracted every last bit of her Vitality Qi. She was like a quail whose foot had been stepped on and had completely withdrawn everything in response, not even willing to show its head. What Sky Dipper? That barrier was as frail as paper in front of this cosmic phenomenon.

As for the few World Imprinters who had not been erased by the phenomena, they all felt their scalps go numb as they stared at the sky. They did not know if they would be able to survive entering the area suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon, so they simply did not know where to go. However, they did not think for too long, as the Neoverse lay to the south, and currently, there was an astounding number of runes approaching from that direction. Everyone could feel a powerful strength approaching them, and they all looked over.

Lu Yin also gazed southwards, and his eyes shrank. Is that... a blood-red bell?

Lu Yin had a very deep impression of a blood-red bell that looked just like this one, as he had once Pilfered a power vessel that looked just like this little bell. It had been a power vessel that was inferior only to a Progenitor's item, and that bell had come from the Hall of Honor's Interstellar Supreme Court's Chief Justice. That bell was actually the Chief Justice's emblem, and it carried the Chief Justice's strength with it.

That one blood-red bell had allowed Yuan Shi to contest Ancestor Di, which had changed Endless Weave's border warfront's situation and allowed the Outerverse to survive the Bloodburn Realm's invasion attempt.

At this moment, everyone was still worried about whether or not the phenomena would continue erasing people. Not many noticed that, when the blood-red bell appeared, there was a hand holding it that looked like an insubstantial black shadow without any sign of a humanoid figure. There was just a smear of a black shadow that had torn through the distant void, and as this vague figure descended, it was accompanied by the gentle ringing of the bell.

The sound of the bell stunned everyone, and they felt as though they could see a massive hand descending upon them from the distance. Regardless of their cultivation realm, this vision was the same for all, even Imprinter and World Imprinters. The shadow streaked across the sky as the color of blood rolled over with it, staining the sky red. It was just one attack, but a World Imprinter and two Imprinters from the Sixth Mainland died at that moment. When the crowd was able to finally react, all they could see was a sky darkening once more.

The vague shadow had covered everyone.

"It's one of the Interstellar Supreme Court's Judicial Commissioners: the Shadow of Death, Lord Shadow!" someone cried out.

Chapter 993: Righteousness And Reward

The remaining World Imprinters of the Sixth Mainland were all enraged, but since they were still worried about the cosmic phenomenon, none of them dared to use their full strength.

The Judicial Commissioner known as the Shadow of Death had a power level of more than 800,000, and although his power level did not reach 1,000,000, with the blood-red bell, he was invincible and unafraid

of death. The cosmic phenomenon had just erased two Emyrean Imprinters and four other powerhouses whose power levels exceeded 1,000,000, but this Judicial Commissioner still dared to attack.

There was a clear look of admiration on Lu Yin's face, though he quickly thought of something—was this Judicial Commissioner aware of some special information that allowed him to act without any restraint? For example, had he heard from the people of Gods' Origin that the cosmic phenomenon had already vanished? But that did not seem quite right, as the phenomena had already covered this area again, and nobody could be certain if it would start erasing people again. This Judicial Commissioner was actually unafraid of death!

This time, the Sixth Mainland had prepared adequately for its assault. Two Emyrean Imprinters, two Cosmic Imprinters, three World Imprinters, and five Imprinters had been sent out. This power should have been enough to sweep through the Inniverse and break into the Neoverse. Even the Hall of Honor's full strength might not be comparable to that of this army. However, the cosmic phenomenon's sudden surge had instantly made the Sixth Mainland pay a heavy price.

To add insult to injury, the arrival of the vague shadow that was the Judicial Commissioner caused their situation to worsen even further. The final two World Imprinters immediately attacked the Shadow of Death, and their attacks shook the entire region. However, they had restricted the range of their attacks. The Fifth Mainland had more than just one expert whose power level exceeded 800,000 like this Shadow of Death. They were already quite close to the Neoverse, and nobody knew if more powerful experts would arrive.

The presence of the cosmic phenomenon meant that the Sixth Mainland had not dared to send any additional experts to reinforce their invasion forces. The other Emyrean Imprinters absolutely did not dare to appear, and neither did the Cosmic Imprinters. In other words, the Sixth Mainland had already lost this battle.

Well, that was assuming that the cosmic phenomenon would not vanish entirely. Otherwise, the recent events would become an eternal nightmare for the Sixth Mainland whenever.

At this time, the Cosmic Sea was like a boat that could capsize at any moment. The sky shattered while Lu Yin and the others were all heavily pressured by the fight between the members of the older generation. All of the youths had to retreat to the region that was still under the cosmic phenomenon's suppression. Otherwise, any random aftershock would instantly eliminate them.

Lu Yin still had his universal armor, but at this time, there were almost ten powerhouses whose power levels exceeded 500,000 who were participating on this battlefield, and to such monsters, his universal armor would not be much different from paper.

Lu Yin was not the only one who did so; Starsibyl, Xing Kai, Liu Tianmu, and the other experts from the Fifth Mainland, as well as Bu Kong, Zhi Yi, and Little Arrow Saint from the Sixth Mainland, fled into the region suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon.

The Cosmic Sea was thus divided into two battlefields: one outside the phenomena, which was the site for the extreme battles whose participants included the likes of the Shadow of Death, and the other was

within the suppressed region, and that was the battlefield for those whose power levels were under 200,000.

Lu Yin had hoped to use this opportunity to steal back the Champions' Stage with his Yu Secret Art, but the stage was simply too large. His Yu Secret Art was only able to make it twitch, which simply caused Bu Kong and the others to launch some attacks at Lu Yin.

Liu Tianmu's sword qi streaked by and slashed at Bu Kong.

Bu Kong's eyes went wide. "How perfect, you've come."

He then raised a hand and actually dissolved the sword qi. At the same time, he took out multiple sourceboxes and started arranging a sourcebox array that would trap anyone who approached the Champions' Stage.

The youths had assumed that a vicious battle would unfold between the older generation of the two mainlands, but instead, the final two World Imprinters from the Sixth Mainland had turned to flee. The two of them were no match for the Fifth Mainland powerhouses who could receive reinforcements from the Neoverse at any moment. The World Imprinters did not want to die.

Staying behind would mean certain death, so if they wanted to survive, they had to travel back through the region covered by the cosmic phenomenon. That was their only hope of survival.

The Sixth Mainland's forces began to withdraw in one massive wave, and the various experts from the Fifth Mainland's older generation did not give chase. The older powerhouses from the Sixth Mainland had to risk quite a lot to travel through the regions suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon, and the people from the Fifth Mainland did not want to risk their necks either. After all, the phenomena did not differentiate between friend and foe—it only cared about power level, and nobody wanted to die meaninglessly.

Lu Yin and the others hurriedly retreated, as the World Imprinters were not a force that they could contend against even with the suppression.

The Sixth Mainland withdrew, but they also brought away the Champions' Stage with them.

Without the older generation's reinforcement, even those who were terribly ambitious like Liu Tianmu did not dare to give chase.

Lu Yin stood high in the sky and stared to the north. Before long, the Sixth Mainland cultivators had disappeared from sight. To the south, the older people from the Innerverse and Neoverse were also staring to the north, but not even the Shadow of Death pursued the fleeing enemy. Not one of them was willing to enter the region suppressed by the cosmic phenomenon.

Xia Tian was somewhat close to Lu Yin, and the man sighed as he watched the Sixth Mainland withdraw. "The Champions' Stage was the symbol that motivated the younger generation. Now that it's been taken away, even though we were able to force them back, it means that we still lost this fight."

Lu Yin was rather moved; the stage represented honor, and it held a special meaning. It was very similar to a military flag of the ancient battlefields. Once the flag was taken away by the enemy, how could anybody consider the result a victory? Also, how would they account for such a loss to others?

From a standpoint of pure logic, losing the stage might not seem like much of a loss, but this loss had struck a heavy blow to the Fifth Mainland's confidence. If another battle between the two mainlands broke out later, the Sixth Mainland could bring out the Champions' Stage, and that would deal an incomparable blow to the Fifth Mainland's confidence.

Beheading enemy generals and seizing their war flags was the most effective method of destroying the enemy's morale. And now, the Fifth Mainland's flag had been stolen by the Sixth Mainland.

The Fifth Mainland had tried to use the Champions' Stage to bolster the younger generation's morale and confidence, but now that it had been stolen, that just made the negative effect even stronger.

Lu Yin had unified half of the Outerverse, and he had a deep understanding that such a power blow to a group's morale could be fatal. He wanted to seize the stage back, but it was impossible for him to do so, even if he teamed up with Xia Tian, Liu Tianmu, and the others.

"The Champions' Stage was still taken away. We did our best." Gu Xiao'er came over, also crestfallen.

"The Champions' Stage should not be taken away," Lu Yin stated firmly. He looked to the north as he clenched his fists.

Some distance away, Xing Kai also clenched his fists. "Who has the courage to follow me and take back the Champions' Stage?"

"Me!" Serati Phoenix declared.

Shu Jing confidently said, "We have to conduct ourselves properly, and we must stand and fight even if it's to the death. I want to die on the Champions' Stage."

His tone was cold, but that was because the elder from the Hall of Honor who had been erased by the cosmic phenomenon had been his master.

Qiu Shi did not speak, but she also took one step forward. "I can break Bu Kong's sourcebox array."

Liu Tianmu's eyes were cold. "Leave Zhi Yi to me."

"The cosmic phenomenon has stabilized, so rest assured about acting!" God Taiyi shouted. He was always arrogant, and he looked around as if he had been the one to create the cosmic phenomenon.

More and more youths stepped forward, each of them wanting to snatch back the Champions' Stage.

Their voices joined together into a loud chant, and their determination even spread to the region outside the cosmic phenomenon's suppression. Out there, the older experts simply shook their heads and sighed. "Youths do not know their limits. Merely three of the Sixth Mainland's nine realms appeared, but the Innerverse was already overrun. There are still so many experts on their side, so how can these children take back the Champions' Stage?"

"Keke, it's good for young people to be ambitious. Let them go—they will naturally return after suffering through some hardships. This invasion should come to an end soon, as the Sixth Mainland's Progenitors do not dare to come out. Under this cosmic phenomenon, nobody will dare to act recklessly, so let those youths go kick up a fuss."

“The Champions' Stage is not a power vessel, so there's no need for them to risk their lives bringing it back.”

Of course, there were also some experts from the older generation who approved of the youths' hot-bloodedness. “Since this part of the invasion started with us granting titles from the Champions' Stage, then it should also end with the Champions' Stage. If even the Champions' Stage is taken away by the enemy, then won't that be a terrible joke?”

“Youths should be hot-blooded. Dying on your feet is better than living on one's knees.”

...

While the older generation experts discussed the situation, quite a few of the elite youths wanted to charge towards the north. They could not accept this humiliation. Bu Kong had used the Champions' Stage to challenge every expert within the Fifth Mainland's younger generation, and no one was willing to be labeled a coward. If the Champions' Stage was really taken away, then they would forever become the joke of their generation.

Liu Tianmu's eyes were steady. Their generation had given birth to the elites known as the Ten Arbiters who were supposed to be invincible throughout the universe and whose names would be recorded down in history. If the Champions' Stage was stolen, that would be a blemish upon the record of their deeds. Not only would they lose their fame, but they would also become complete jokes.

Whether it was for honor or for something else, the Champions' Stage had to be taken back.

At that moment, a voice spoke out from right beside everyone's ears. “Even if my Fifth Mainland loses this war, we cannot lose our righteousness. As an order from the Hall of Honor, everyone, chase down the Champions' Stage! The person from the younger generation who seizes it back will receive an exclusive qualification to receive an inheritance from the Astral Tower.”

Lu Yin had intended to fly north along with everyone else, but they all suddenly turned back and blankly stared at the south when they heard this. There, they saw a fuzzy figure in the sky staring at them, and the voice had come from that person.

“Chief- Chief Justice?” Shu Jing was astonished.

Lu Yin and the others were instantly overwhelmed; was this person actually the Interstellar Supreme Court's Chief Justice? That man was an existence who surpassed even Yuan Shi, and he was the origin of the blood-red bells that had turned the tides of two different battles. Yuan Shi was an expert with a power level of 1,000,000 while the Chief Justice might even be at the same level as an Emphyrean Imprinter.

In fact, it should not be a surprise that the Chief Justice had appeared. The Fifth Mainland did not have as many powerhouses as the Sixth Mainland, but it was impossible for there to be none at all. This battle had been a crucial one where they had to defend against the Sixth Mainland's Emphyrean Imprinters, so it was natural for someone of that level to appear on the Fifth Mainland's side.

With a roar, Xing Kai charged to the north, eager for blood.

Serati Phoenix, Shu Jing, and others followed soon after.

They had heard the Chief Justice's promise that they would receive an exclusive qualification to receive an inheritance from the Astral Tower if they succeeded. This meant that whoever seized the Champions' Stage would essentially become one of the Cosmic Five.

This was a promise for a Progenitor's inheritance, an inheritance from the Sierrasea. If the conditions allowed it, there was even a possibility of becoming a Progenitor in the future.

The mighty force of a Progenitor was absolutely limitless, and becoming one meant that their name would be forever recorded down in history, as they would stand at the very peak of the human race. No, at the peak of the entire universe.

The final goal of cultivation was the Progenitor realm, and everyone dreamed of becoming a Progenitor. At this moment, an opportunity of doing so had been set right before them.

The Chief Justice's promise was countless times more valuable than the promise that Zhi Yi had made to the Sixth Mainland cultivators, and his words temporarily roused everyone's confidence. Even the previously hesitant cultivators had started racing to the north.

Naturally, Lu Yin was no exception to this trend. Regardless of all else, he was very excited as he also wanted such things like the Astral Tower and a Progenitor's inheritance.

As for the members of the older generation, they were hesitant to step forward and move north into the region under the suppression of the cosmic phenomenon, but nobody dared to disobey the Chief Justice's orders.

"Bro, let's team up! I still have some of that white smoke, so I can protect you," Gu Xiao'er quietly suggested as he moved over beside Lu Yin.

Lu Yin did not respond.

Xia Tian appeared on his other side, and it seemed as though he was able to find Lu Yin quite easily, but that might be related to Xia Luo. "The three of us moving together will be safer."

Gu Xiao'er's eyes lit up. "That's reasonable."

The Sixth Mainland's combatants in the Cosmic Sea had numbered in the hundreds of millions, but for the Sixth Mainland, this was not a large number. However, the cultivators who could truly contribute to the battle had to be Explorers at the very least. There were not too many cultivators at this level, and the rest were just there to tidy up the battlefield and manage some random task, such as going on patrol or acting as scouts.

Many cultivators from the Sixth Mainland were traveling, but they naturally did not travel aboard spacecraft. Instead, they flew atop a power vessel that had been made by the Sixth Mainland's Daosource Sect: a small continent. As the name suggested, it was actually a flying mainland.

Chapter 994: Lu Yin Vs. Shi Zhongjian

Back at the edge of the Astral River, the transport continent that had been transporting resources back to the Sixth Mainland was actually a specific type of a miniature mainland. Additionally, the Sixth

Mainland invaders had been carried to the Cosmic Sea by a miniature mainland. The Whitecliff Region also had its own miniature mainland that specifically transported Sixth Mainland cultivators to and from the Whitecliff Region.

The Sixth Mainland was now withdrawing all their forces, and they directly fled to the miniature mainland, activated it, and then took off towards the Innerverse.

With the abnormal change in the cosmic phenomenon, everyone knew that unless a Progenitor took action, the Sixth Mainland would no longer be able to conquer the Fifth Mainland. The Empyrean Imprinters and Cosmic Imprinters did not even dare to come to this place anymore, so how could they achieve victory?

The Sixth Mainland's World Imprinters openly and directly led everyone to retreat. The best outcome would be if they successfully invited the Progenitors to act, but there was absolutely nothing that could be done if the Progenitors refused.

Even Empyrean Imprinters had died there, though no blame could be put on those powerhouses.

The Champions' Stage fell to the surface of the miniature mainland with a rumble, and the ground began to split apart.

Atop the Champions' Stage, Bu Kong stared to the south with a reluctant expression on his face. They had fought all the way to the border of the cosmic phenomenon's suppression, and they had been just one step away from allowing their Empyrean Imprinters to unleash their full strength without any limitations. They could have had a decisive battle with the Fifth Mainland's forces at that time, but in the end, the situation had played out very differently from what they had expected.

He was unwilling to accept this outcome, and all of the Sixth Mainland's cultivators were the same. However, they had no choice but to do so.

Zhi Yi looked up at the sky. Who knew which Progenitor's remnant spiritual force had taken action? Not only had they injured the Progenitor of Combat, but they had also protected the entire Fifth Mainland.

Off in the distance, one World Imprinter stared at the sky without blinking, terrified that the phenomena would descend and end his life.

The miniature mainland trembled as it started to fly towards the Innerverse. If no more mishaps took place, this invasion would soon come to an end, not only in the Cosmic Sea, but also throughout the entire Fifth Mainland.

The Sixth Mainland would not risk sacrificing their Empyrean Imprinters to continue this war. Although Empyrean Imprinters were not on the same level as Progenitors, even Progenitors had to give such powerhouses a certain degree of respect. If such experts were unwilling to participate in the war, then nobody could force them. However, if they did not participate, then the war could not be won, as the Sixth Mainland would simply incur more and more casualties.

Qiu He moved over next to Zhi Yi and in a sullen tone, said, "If we don't eliminate this Fifth Mainland, then they will only become harder to deal with in the future. Just what are the three Progenitors thinking? What are they waiting for?"

Zhi Yi turned around and raised a hand. Vitality Qi burst out and slammed against Qiu He's body, launching him nearly a hundred meters away. His entire face flushed red, and his organs trembled. He nearly spat out a mouthful of blood.

"How dare you criticize the three Progenitors! If you are so impudent in future, then I will slay you on behalf of the three Progenitors."

Qiu He hastened to apologize.

Zhi Yi's mood was terrible. They had only just joined the war efforts, and everyone had confidently assumed that they were guaranteed victory. However, just what was their current situation? They had been forced to flee with their tails between their legs!

The crux of the matter was that Wu Taibai had not arrived, and Zhi Yi felt annoyed whenever she thought of that man's smiling face. That was right—there was also that Lu Yin. When Zhi Yi thought about Lu Yin, everything about her grew more serious. He had been able to ignore her Vitality Qi, which was even more intriguing than his secret technique. Even though their invasion was over, she still wanted to find a way to capture him and take him away if an opportunity presented itself.

Perhaps reporting the details to the higher ups of the Daosource Sect would be a good method, as there was no way that this cosmic phenomenon would last indefinitely. Once the cosmic phenomenon disappeared, a Daosource Sect expert could simply make a move and directly capture Lu Yin.

The sound of enraged voices having a heated discussion could be heard some distance away; everyone was in a bad mood. Although the invading forces had not been truly defeated, they had not been victorious either as they had sacrificed two Empyrean Imprinters for this outcome. If one looked solely at the results, the Sixth Mainland could be considered as having been defeated.

Zhi Yi turned to look at the Champions' Stage. Fortunately, at least they had stolen this thing. The name of the Champions' Stage had spread across the Sixth Mainland, and there would be some merit for bringing it back. As long as the Champions' Stage was taken back, the Fifth Mainland would eternally suffer from the shame of its loss.

Even further away, Miss Qing stared towards the south. "A desolate battlefield, but things have finally ended. Your true enemy isn't even us."

The weather in the Cosmic Sea constantly changed, but the miniature mainland continued to soar through the sky as the sea roiled below them. Then, the entire sea suddenly surged into the sky like a reverse waterfall.

It was absolutely horrifying to see the sea flow upwards, but in reality, there was not much power behind the surge, and it merely smacked the bottom of the miniature mainland, resulting in a light shower of rain landing on the miniature mainland.

Fortunately, this strange event had not occurred in the Whitecliff Region. Otherwise, if that white water had surged upwards, it would have been enough to corrode the entire miniature mainland.

As the seawater fell down, quite a few cultivators who were already in bad moods became even more upset when they were drenched by the water, and they cursed aloud. However, they stopped their

exclamations midway when they looked to the south. There, a bunch of black dots had suddenly appeared. Then, the alarms started blaring.

Zhi Yi also looked to the south and realized that the black dots were actually Fifth Mainland cultivators chasing after the miniature mainland. Her pupils shrank, as there was actually a group of people who dared to pursue them.

Although they might not have any Empyrean Imprinters or Cosmic Imprinters with them due to the cosmic phenomenon's effect, none of the Fifth Mainland's old monsters whose power levels were greater than 1,000,000 dared to appear either. In other words, the strongest experts on both sides were roughly the same. As they continued to fly further north, more experts from the Sixth Mainland would join the brawl as they had already taken over the Inniverse. Were the people in this group all unafraid of death?

A battle broke out once again, and this time, the older generation of the Fifth Mainland confronted the powerful experts from the Sixth Mainland. The Ten Arbiters went up against the Realmings while Liu Tianmu sought out Zhi Yi, just as she had said. Zhi Yi had been left to the powerful Arbiter.

Lu Yin did not really care about the others, as his current opponent was Shi Zhongjian.

As the Rock Realm's Realming, Shi Zhongjian had also been present for the battle in the Daosource Sect's ruins where everyone had been fighting for the jade talisman. Back then, he had launched multiple sword qi attacks at Lu Yin. If not for Wen Sansi and the White Knight, Lu Yin might have died to this Realming.

Shi Zhongjian rarely spoke, and he always carried a stone sword that he would use to sweep through the void. The sword qi covered everything in sight, and even with Lu Yin's speed, he was still not fast enough to dodge the sword qi. Fortunately, he was able to weaken the power level of Shi Zhongjian's attacks, which allowed him to barely dodge them. Still, Lu Yin was pushed around by the sword qi without any way to retaliate.

The people chasing after the Sixth Mainland had preemptively discussed amongst themselves how they would team up to fight against their enemies. However, the massive surge of seawater had scattered the crowd. Lu Yin had bumped into Shi Zhongjian by himself, and the Realming had also sought out Lu Yin while ignoring the others.

Those who were adept with swords were all quite powerful, such as Liu Tianmu. Although she was one of the Ten Arbiters, she was still capable of going against one of the Daosource Three Skies on her own, and she was even strong enough to make Zhi Yi nervous. Although Shi Zhongjian did not have any exquisite sword techniques that could compare to the Thirteen Swords, his sword qi was incredibly destructive, and it also contained a tearing property.

If Lu Yin had access to that white smoke, then that would be the best defensive option. But when Lu Yin looked around, Gu Xiao'er was nowhere in sight.

"I remember you," Shi Zhongjian suddenly commented as the tip of his stone sword sliced through the void and crashed down towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin reinforced his palm with his eight lined battle force as he tapped out with a finger, causing the Dream Finger to appear and the void to congeal. Shi Zhongjian paused upon seeing this attack before the tip of his sword struck the finger, but the solitary finger could not overpower the stone sword. Shi Zhongjian took advantage of this to turn around, his sword spinning out and slicing at Lu Yin's head. Lu Yin gathered his star energy over his palm, and the First Sun emitted a pulsating light as it collided with the tip of the sword.

There was a crack as the ground of the miniature mainland split open, prompting the two youth to retreat at the same time. The destruction released by the First Sun had warped the void, which caused spatial cracks to radiate outwards in all directions, though they were all successfully repelled by Shi Zhongjian. However, Shi Zhongjian had sliced open Lu Yin's palm with the tip of his sword, and a drop of fresh blood fell to the ground.

Lu Yin kept a wary eye on Shi Zhongjian, as Lu Yin was still a bit weaker than the Realmling at this moment. The Realmlings were just as famous as the Ten Arbiters, and this stone sword was difficult to defend against.

"You had the courage and resolve to crush an inheritance item that came from the Sierrasea, and I admit that I admire you. To cause one of the Daosource Three Skies to place a bounty on your head actually amazed me even more," Shi Zhongjian growled as he stared at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin frowned. "I thought that you didn't really speak."

"There's no need to talk to worthless people," Shi Zhongjian said as he slowly raised his stone sword with the tip pointed down. "Actually, there's no need for a sword to be sharp—it can also be heavy."

He then moved the sword as if he were slapping with it. It clearly was not a slice, as he had swatted out with the flat of his sword. The Realmling's body then passed through the void to directly appear before Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's expression instantly changed. The stone sword was not very large, but this swatting motion left Lu Yin's entire body petrified. It felt as if the sword was unendurably weighty, and Lu Yin hurriedly used the Yu Secret Art to divert the path of the stone sword. It passed dangerously close to his body before smacking into the ground. The void distorted slightly before the entire ground was crushed into tiny fragments as an indescribable weight emerged from the void.

Now that an entire area of the miniature mainland had simply disappeared, fierce gale winds blew in every direction, even affecting the cultivators who were fighting far away from Lu Yin and the Realmling. One such group was sent flying, and the bodies of the weaker cultivators were practically crushed to death.

Lu Yin's eye twitched, as that slap carried more than just physical strength; it was actually a sword technique that he could not understand, a very heavy sword technique.

Shi Zhongjian was similarly astounded. "A secret technique?"

Lu Yin glanced at the stone sword before striking out with a palm, unleashing One Hundred Stacks. Shi Zhongjian raised his stone sword to block the palm, but a thump rang out as the Realmling was sent

flying 10,000 meters back. A shockwave rippled out, each ring containing the power of the Overlaying Stacks Path. Additionally, the further the ripples traveled, the greater the strength they contained, until space was finally torn apart.

In the distance, many cultivators hurriedly moved to different areas. In their eyes, this was a battle between Realmings.

Shi Zhongjian stared at Lu Yin with astonishment as bloodlust appeared in the Realming's eyes. "It's no wonder why the Daosource Three Skies are so concerned with you—you have a secret technique, and you also use the Overlaying Stacks Path. You really are qualified."

He then held his stone sword in a reverse grip and swatted out again. The invisible heavy sword technique swept forth once more, targeting an enormous area. Lu Yin's pupils transformed into runes, and he weakened the rune lines in Shi Zhongjian's arms as the Realming swung out with his sword. This actually affected the heavy sword technique so much that Lu Yin did not even need to dodge it.

Shi Zhongjian looked at both of his hands with a strange expression before looking back at Lu Yin. "Another secret technique."

Lu Yin's brows rose. Against a Realming, aside from his secret technique and One Hundred Stacks, he did not have any other attacks that were strong enough. Even his One Hundred Stacks would not be able to injure Shi Zhongjian unless it landed on his body head on, but the presence of the stone sword made it impossible for Lu Yin to land such a hit.

However, it was not easy for Shi Zhongjian to defeat Lu Yin either.

Right at this moment, a middle-aged man tore out of the nearby void, looking quite dishevelled as he emerged. When he turned around, horror was etched across his face.

He coincidentally appeared around 100 meters away from Shi Zhongjian, and the Realming lifted his stone sword as he slapped out with it once again. The middle-aged man was stunned; he was already injured, and there was simply no way for him to defend against this heavy sword technique, which caused him to lament his unluckiness. He was an Enlighter with a power level of several hundred thousand, but he was being casually overpowered by a child.

Lu Yin's pupils transformed into runes once more as they flickered, weakening Shi Zhongjian's arms and influencing the heavy sword technique. This time, Shi Zhongjian seemed to have been prepared. Even though he was still affected, he was able to complete his attack, and he forced the middle-aged man to the ground.

Lu Yin's figure flashed, and he attacked with a palm from the side. A seemingly gentle strength with One Hundred Stacks struck out, pushing the middle-aged man away from the sword attack, which smashed straight into the ground and shattered it.

Suddenly, Shi Zhongjian appeared before Lu Yin. He had attacked that older man purely to force Lu Yin to save the man and reveal an opening for Shi Zhongjian to take advantage of.

However, Lu Yin had not deliberately rescued the man. Rather, he had purposely revealed an opening.

Chapter 995: Outlandish Reason

Shi Zhongjian slapped out with the flat of his sword yet again, only to be welcomed by the interchange of day and night. This was the Daynight Punch, Lu Yin's only battle technique that could make use of his spiritual force.

Lu Yin believed that his spiritual force was able to rival even the Ten Arbiters'. Although he might not have caught up to them quite yet, he definitely was not that far behind. However, he had never been willing to use spiritual force attacks against the Sixth Mainland cultivators who were at the level of a Realmling. This was because the Sixth Mainland's cultivation focused heavily on imprints, and Lu Yin knew that imprints could refine spiritual force. Thus, he had been worried that his spiritual force would be insufficient to pose any threat to such powerhouses.

However, at this time, Lu Yin wanted to take the risk. Even if his spiritual force could not threaten this Realmling, Lu Yin wanted to see if it could at least create an opportunity.

The Daynight Punch shot out, and Lu Yin's spiritual force erupted as Shi Zhongjian swatted down with his sword. The Realmling was stunned by the punch, which caused his stone sword to fall from his hands, out of his control. Lu Yin then activated the Yu Secret Art to teleport the sword away while also slapping at Shi Zhongjian with his left hand with a One Hundred Stacks, One Hundred Fiftyfold Shockwave Palm.

There was a soft thump when Lu Yin's palm connected with Shi Zhongjian's abdomen, and the swordsman spat out a mouthful of blood, though he did not take even one step back. Instead, he raised his hand up high and swung it down at Lu Yin. "Heaven Splitter."

Even without his stone sword, Shi Zhongjian was still able to use his most powerful Swordstar technique. However, Lu Yin had already been prepared for this, and his Fatesand as well as his eight lined battle force both emerged to defend him from this attack. However, the Fatesand was only able to partially cover Lu Yin's body. As a result, the Heaven Splitter was able to bypass the uncovered sections and strike down, tearing right through Lu Yin's eight lined battle force to leave a massive wound on Lu Yin's back.

The two both retreated after trading blows and injuries.

Lu Yin had tried to plot against Shi Zhongjian, but Shi Zhongjian had also been trying to scheme against Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had forgotten about one particular detail: Shi Zhongjian came from the Rock Realm, which was part of the Progenitor of Secret Arts' territory. Thus, Shi Zhongjian had also comprehended the Reversal Cycle.

Lu Yin stared on, stunned, as Shi Zhongjian's injuries visibly recovered at an astonishing speed. Then, the stone sword suddenly tore through the void and returned to the Realmling's hand. "You are one of few who have ever injured me. Even if you can't match up to the Ten Arbiters, as long as we are suppressed by this cosmic phenomenon, the difference between us is not too much. Still, this fight is over."

After he finished speaking, Shi Zongjian's figure flashed.

A ripping pain spread out from Lu Yin's back, as the Heaven Splitter was not an attack that merely cut once. Rather, each stroke from the Swordstar would continue wreaking havoc within a person's body, exactly like how the White Knight had suffered from Shang Rong's remnant energy in the past. In fact,

back then, Lu Yin was actually the reason why the White Knight had been able to recuperate so quickly. However, at this moment, the remnant destructive energy of the Heaven Splitter was still rampaging through his back.

Shi Zongjian's words were true. Lu Yin was indeed quite a bit weaker than the Realmings and the Ten Arbiters; even with the cosmic phenomenon's suppression minimizing the difference between realms, there was still a disparity between them.

Lu Yin did not hesitate, and he quickly fled as he took out one of Shamrock Enterprises's special medications to treat himself. A smear of shadow also appeared on his back, which was the Ghost Monkey. Lu Yin had ordered the monkey to help him take care of the Swordstar's remaining energy in the wound on his back.

The Ghost Monkey wailed, "Seventh Bro, how am I supposed to have the ability to remove a Realming's remnant energy?"

"Aren't you a Lockbreaker?" Lu Yin endured the pain, but Shi Zhongjian appeared behind him and smashed down with his stone sword.

The Ghost Monkey was so frightened that he instantly vanished.

Lu Yin simultaneously activated both the Yu Secret Art and his Truesight to divert the stone sword's path while also weakening its power. In the end, the sword slap still smashed into Lu Yin's right side, blasting him to the ground.

The Time Reversal Technique was too absurd, or at the very least, that was what was racing through Lu Yin's mind at this moment. Just how could it heal someone's injuries so quickly?

Shi Zhongjian's gaze focused as he looked below him. Then, he picked up his stone sword once more. This time, he sliced out with a massive Heaven Splitter, and at the same time, from another direction, countless arrows shot through the sky, piercing the void as they streaked towards Lu Yin.

Lu Yin's eyes narrowed. Little Arrow Saint, not good!

The attacks from the two Realmings arrived at the same moment, and Lu Yin's heart skipped a beat as he tried to dodge. Why were there two Realmings here? Had everyone else died already?

Lu Yin managed to dodge the arrows and the sword, but he could not escape from Shi Zhongjian, who was still chasing after Lu Yin. The tip of the Realming's sword hung low in the sky, as he was in the stance to launch the heavy sword technique again. At that exact moment, the void broke open, and Xin Nü appeared, who swatted a hand at Shi Zhongjian. Shi Zhongjian was startled, and he hurriedly shifted his stone sword to block this new attack, but his body was still sent flying with a bang.

He looked in front of himself, amazed when he saw the calm Xin Nü. "What are you doing?"

Xin Nü arched her brow. "I want to challenge you for the position of Realming."

Shi Zhongjian was caught off guard.

Lu Yin was also stunned.

Even Little Arrow Saint, who was approaching them as fast as he could, was also stunned. Was she really challenging Shi Zhongjian for his position of Realmking right now?

Shi Zhongjian squinted at the girl. "You want to save this person?"

Lu Yin also looked over at Xin Nü. She had already rescued him once back when he had been attacked by both Zhi Yi and Little Arrow Saint. Now, she had saved him yet again, and it was even during a public battle. The repercussions that she would face from this move would be severe, as this was no different from betraying the Sixth Mainland.

Just what was she trying to do?

Xin Nü replied, "Any Realmking can capture him alive, but I want to give him to Sky Zhi to obtain the opportunity to meet the Progenitor of Bloodlines."

Shi Zhongjian's eyes flashed. Although this reason was rather far-fetched, it was at least somewhat plausible.

Nearby, Little Arrow Saint said, "In that last battle, you also blocked Zhi Yi to save this person. There must be some relation between you two."

Xin Nü ignored Little Arrow Saint and continued to stare at Shi Zhongjian. "We are both from the Rock Realm, so decide: either give up your Realmking position or fight me!"

Shi Zhongjian replied in a gloomy tone, "What exactly is your relationship with this person? Why do you need to help him so much?"

"I've already told you the reason. I just want to meet with the Progenitor of Bloodlines," Xin Nü answered.

Lu Yin's brows rose up, and he looked over at Xin Nü. "Woman, as long as you defeat him, I won't resist, and I'll follow you."

Shi Zhongjian glanced over at Lu Yin and then swatted out with his stone sword again. Xin Nü jumped up to block the attack before it could reach Lu Yin. "He's mine."

She threw out a palm strike, and although it looked completely ordinary, it made Shi Zhongjian nervous.

Although he was the Realmking of the Rock Realm, he was not invincible within the realm's younger generation. Xin Nü was not any bit weaker than him, but she had simply never desired the position of Realmking. This was why, when facing off against Xin Nü, Shi Zhongjian did not dare to be careless. Although he did not believe Xin Nü's words, he did not have any proof that this woman was blatantly siding with Lu Yin. Anyone would want to seize an opportunity to meet the Progenitor of Bloodlines, and it was thus normal to do something unreasonable to win such an opportunity.

Meanwhile, Little Arrow Saint raised his bow and fired at Lu Yin. He was familiar with this scene, as Xin Nü had blocked Zhi Yi during the previous battle. This time, her target had simply changed to Shi Zhongjian.

Lu Yin was still suffering from some remnant injuries as a result of his battle with Shi Zhongjian. He knew that all of the Realmkings were extremely strong, and he did not dare to underestimate any of them. Of

them all, he was especially cautious of Little Arrow Saint. The young man's arrows' ruthlessness and destruction were different from a sword's. On a battlefield, an arrow was even more deadly than a sword.

Lu Yin did not want to directly fight against these people, as none of these people were fools who were easily deceived. On top of that, Little Arrow Saint was also from the Progenitor of Secret Arts' Territory's East Realm. Lu Yin hated fighting against people from the Progenitor of Secret Arts' Territory, as the Reversal Cycle was simply too outlandish.

Lu Yin wanted to dodge these arrows and run off, but Little Arrow Saint refused to let Lu Yin go. This Realming was also determined to meet the Progenitor of Bloodlines, as he hoped to become a Progenitor's disciple.

The center of the miniature mainland was the battlefield occupied by the older generation, and there were World Imprinters, Imprinters, and Enlighters fighting there. However, the Champions' Stage was located in the southeastern region of the miniature mainland.

On top of the Champions' Stage, Bu Kong was facing off against two people on his own: Shu Jing and Qiu Shi.

Outside of the Champions' Stage, Liu Tianmu was fighting alone against Zhi Yi. Although the Arbiter could not break through the Daosource Three Skies' member's Sky Dipper, it was not easy for Zhi Yi to defeat the swordswoman either, especially since she was afraid of the Thirteen Swords. The Eleventh Sword was able to counter her most powerful attack that she could use while under the cosmic phenomenon's suppression. If Liu Tianmu used the Twelfth Sword, then it might even be possible for her to break through the Sky Dipper. However, if she used that technique, then it was also possible that her attack might surpass the power level limit of the cosmic phenomenon.

However, Zhi Yi did not want to gamble on such a thing, as her personal defenses were not very impressive for her level. If her Sky Dipper was breached, then there was a good chance of her being severely injured if not defeated outright.

The invasion of the Fifth Mainland had already come to an end, and she did not want to be defeated or even injured after just stepping onto the battlefield. And that wasn't even mentioning the shame such an outcome would bring to the reputation of the Daosource Three Skies.

Not everyone could qualify to make someone from the Daosource Three Skies apprehensive.

Every inch of the miniature mainland was covered with battling cultivators, and during this entire time, the mainland continued to speed towards the Innerverse.

News of the changes in the Cosmic Sea's cosmic phenomenon had already spread across the Innerverse and the Cosmic Sea, as two Emyrean Imprinters and two Cosmic Imprinters had been directly erased. This had dealt a huge blow to the Sixth Mainland's forces, but the cosmic phenomenon was still present.

None of the Sixth Mainland cultivators felt safe anymore, and all of their ambitions crumbled away when they received this news.

The World Imprinters were especially nervous, as if the cosmic phenomenon intensified anymore, then they would be the next group to be erased.

At this moment, they all felt as if the cosmic phenomenon could descend upon them at any moment.

As a result of this fear, all of the World Imprinters moved to leave, not one of them daring to remain behind. Right behind the World Imprinters were the Imprinters, and finally, not even the Enlighters felt safe.

Normally, if the sky collapsed, there would be a stronger powerhouse who would prop it back up. However, everyone had turned tail and was running away, as none of them wanted to be the one to carry such a heavy burden.

The Sixth Mainland cultivators had devolved into a chaotic mess, and everyone only felt the fear in their heart grow when they looked up at the cosmic phenomenon.

Subsequently, within just ten days, all the cultivators who had joined the three Realms to invade the Inniverse had fully retreated to the Mara River. They had already abandoned any and all thoughts of invasion, unless the cosmic phenomenon vanished.

Of the cultivators from the three realms, every single expert at the Imprinter level or above withdrew, and the Enlighters left one by one soon after.

After the older generation left, the remaining Sixth Mainland cultivators could not possibly fend off the various experts of the Fifth Mainland. Thus, they also left, and without any other choice, the invasion was postponed. Every cultivator from the Sixth Mainland started heading towards the Mara River to return to the Sixth Mainland.

From their perspective, even if their invasion had failed this time, they could always make another attempt later. They did not believe that another cosmic phenomenon would appear after the present one vanished.

They also did not believe that the cosmic phenomenon would buy the Fifth Mainland enough strength to qualitatively improve its strength to the point where it could resist the Sixth Mainland. It had to be stated that only three realms had invaded the Human Domain during this attempt, and the Sixth Mainland still had its own Progenitors.

The Sixth Mainland's experts constantly withdrew, and the Fifth Mainland powerhouses popped back up like weeds to launch a counterattack that covered the entire Inniverse.

The battle on the miniature mainland had lasted for more than ten days now, and it still had not ended. Constant reinforcements from the Sixth Mainland arrived and joined the battle, but the same was true for the Fifth Mainland's side. The most noticeable example was the numerous Daynight clan cultivators who arrived.

Lu Yin was still being chased about by Little Arrow Saint. He had decided not to fight back against the Realmings and was instead focusing on evading them. Little Arrow Saint could not really do much to Lu Yin as long as he could use his secret technique and Truesight. In fact, not even an Imprinter could do much to Lu Yin as long as the cosmic phenomenon's suppression existed.

In the meantime, Lu Yin tried to gradually move a bit closer to the Champions' Stage. As he approached it, he discovered that it was Bu Kong's battlefield. There were a few of the Ten Arbiters and several Realmings engaged in battle all around this area. Finally, he saw Liu Tianmu's sword qi and Zhi Yi's Vitality Qi clashing, and he no longer wanted to get any closer.

He also saw Gu Xiao'er, though by this time, the young man's white smoke had been severely depleted, and he could only envelop himself within the smoke. Still, he found the occasional opportunity to ambush some Sixth Mainland cultivators, though he did not fight against anyone head-on. For some reason, Gu Xiao'er reminded Lu Yin of Ling Que, though Lu Yin had not heard any news about Ling Que ever since he had fled the thunder region.

One day later, the miniature mainland passed over the Cosmic Sea's border and entered the Inniverse.

Chapter 996: A Pitiful Old Friend

Above the small continent, the sky endlessly stretched out in all directions, but it continued to speed along, now toward the west. Along the way, it did not stop even when planets appeared in its path, simply ramming straight into them. The mass of the mainland was much greater than the planets', and it had also been reinforced to be more robust. Thus, the impact of the planets were unable to even cause the mainland to tremble.

Atop the miniature mainland, Lu Yin dodged another arrow, and Little Arrow Saint's face grew ugly in the distance. He had chased after Lu Yin for more than ten days now, but he had not been able to catch up at all. All of his arrow techniques had been dodged by Lu Yin.

"You dare to go against Shi Zhongjian but not me?" Little Arrow Saint shouted. He rarely spoke when he fought, but Lu Yin had forced him to do so.

Lu Yin turned around. He had no choice in this matter, as the best that he could do with his strength was to occupy one Realming. However, it would be far too difficult for him to actually win—just stalling was enough.

Little Arrow Saint had a resilient character, or to be more precise, he had too strong of a desire to meet the Progenitor of Bloodlines. Even though he was aware that Lu Yin was deliberately buying time, the Realming still did not give up.

The two youths passed through one area after another, and their battle took them across almost the entire miniature mainland. In the process, they were seen by countless people, and the intense aftershocks of their battle affected many people, but nobody ever tried to intervene. Even those who could, like Xia Tian, did not show up. Lu Yin was stalling a Realming, and that alone was a great contribution to the battle.

As for Shi Zhongjian, he was still battling against Xin Nü.

In one corner of the mainland, the ground was shattered and broken. There, Nightqueen Yanqing was panting heavily. Her innate gift of purple eyes were staring straight at a cultivator from the Sixth Mainland. This person was from an Imprinter family, and although he was not the family heir, he was still an elite disciple, and his strength rivaled that of the top few on the Top 100 Rankings. During the last few years, Nightqueen Yanqing had improved at a rapid pace, and she had also broken through to the

Explorer realm. Still, at best, she could rival the people ranked at around eightieth or so on the Top 100 Rankings, which was somewhat weaker than the elite disciple she was currently facing.

“Woman, you must be from the Nightking clan. How interesting. Follow me, and I can let you join my Sixth Mainland and receive an imprint. It’s definitely better than slowly cultivating here in the Fifth Mainland.” The man battling Nightqueen Yanqing stared at her with eyes filled with lust.

It had to be admitted that Nightqueen Yanqing was quite impressive and beautiful, and she also typically dressed rather scantily. That, combined with her detached expression and exquisite purple eyes, meant that she was extremely attractive to most men. And that wasn’t even mentioning how she was also from the Nightking clan; such a woman was the dream of all men.

Nightqueen Yanqing’s eyes flashed, and the man across from her began to be petrified. This was Nightqueen Yanqing’s innate gift, as her purple eyes could petrify any living thing.

However, the man laughed as an imprint appeared behind him. Strange, blood-colored lines appeared on the man’s body, and they pushed back against the petrification.

“It’s no use—your innate gift has no effect on my bloodline. Your Fifth Mainland is too weak, and if not for that stroke of fortune that allowed a Progenitor to create this cosmic phenomenon, then the entire Fifth Mainland would have already been turned into my Sixth Mainland’s breeding ground with all of you as our slaves. This cosmic phenomenon can’t last forever, and it will eventually dissipate one day. At that time, all of you will still inevitably become our slaves,” the man proudly proclaimed.

Nightqueen Yanqing barked, “So much nonsense!”

The man’s eyes went cold. “I’ve already been very courteous to you, but since you can’t appreciate my kindness, then just become a slave.”

He then charged straight at Nightqueen Yanqing.

The pressure on Nightqueen Yanqing sharply rose, but at that moment, a figure streaked between the two of them, creating a powerful gale that swept out and forced Nightqueen Yanqing to retreat.

Nightqueen Yanqing merely backed away, but the cultivator whom she had been fighting against had already died. There was a palm imprint in his caved-in chest which had exploded; it was the Overlaying Stacks Path.

Nightqueen Yanqing turned around to look at her savior, and she was overwhelmed since Lu Yin had coincidentally also turned around to look at her. The two exchanged glances.

Nightqueen Yanqing’s expression changed—it was actually him.

Lu Yin was also astonished. He had simply been too focused on dodging Little Arrow Saint’s attacks. During a moment of respite, he had spotted some conveniently closeby Sixth Mainland cultivators that he dealt with in one move, but he had never imagined that he would actually end up saving Nightqueen Yanqing.

The hatred that he felt for this woman was as deep as an ocean, but he had just made things easy for her by rescuing her.

Nightqueen Yanqing had never thought that Lu Yin would rescue her, as this person would already be considered exceptionally kind if he did not simply kill her.

But before she could think any further on the matter, an arrow streaked across the sky, tearing through the void as it traveled. The power of this arrow made her scalp turn numb, and Nightqueen Yanqing turned around in horror. She was shocked to see Little Arrow Saint standing high above her, traveling through the void as he chased after Lu Yin.

Nightqueen Yanqing stared at Lu Yin's departing figure with complex emotions. After not seeing each other for several years, this person had actually reached the point where he could fight against Realmings! Before this moment, she had not quite believed the rewards that Zhi Yi had promised for Lu Yin's capture, and Nightqueen Yanqing had simply thought that Lu Yin had acquired something that the Daosource Three Skies' member really wanted. Yanqing had never imagined that he would have actually grown so powerful.

Although she did not want to believe what she had just seen, she had no choice but to accept it. It was possible that even her brother would find it difficult to defeat this person now.

Little Arrow Saint continued to chase after Lu Yin. To the Realming, Nightqueen Yanqing was just some random passerby.

As the two continued their game of tag, there were many others who experienced a similar encounter as Nightqueen Yanqing. However, nobody else had as deep a relationship with Lu Yin as she did.

Two days passed in this manner, after which Lu Yin saw the Champions' Stage again. At this time, it was no longer the same few people fighting atop the stage, as one other person had appeared. This person had arrived the moment those Daynight cultivators had appeared: Nightking Zhenwu.

Lu Yin glanced at the stage, but he did not approach it. Instead, he took the long way around before leaving.

Since the Fifth and Sixth Mainlands were still fighting against each other, Lu Yin believed that most people would set aside their internal disputes and unite against the external enemies, but he did not trust Nightking Zhenwu. Back in the Daosource Sect's ruins, when everyone had been fighting for that jade talisman, Nightking Zhenwu had simply disregarded Lu Yin's life and death when he had acted, and this battle would be no different.

Lu Yin had not noticed it, but there was another familiar person fighting on the other side of the Champions' Stage. Although her participation might seem negligible, this was someone Lu Yin cared about: Zhuo Daynight.

Zhuo Daynight had also broken through to the Explorer realm, and she was currently fighting against two Sixth Mainland Limiteers. Limiteers who could battle against an Explorer were Realmbreakers, and they were not average Realmbreakers at that. If such a battle had occurred before the invasion, then it would have attracted a lot of attention. However, after the war began, such realm-crossing battles had become commonplace.

Usually, the Sixth Mainland's cultivators would be the ones crossing realms when they challenged Fifth Mainland cultivators, as they were capable of doing so.

Zhuo Daynight was currently in a deadlock with the two Sixth Mainland Limiteers.

Lu Yin led Little Arrow Saint around on another loop of the miniature mainland, and he gradually ran into more and more Daynight clan members, and among them were some old acquaintances. He passed by Zhanlong Daynight as well as Chilian Daynight, who had attended the Astral Combat Academy at the same time as Lu Yin. Lu Yin also passed by Tiangkok Daynight and other old acquaintances.

These people had once been considered all-powerful with a bit of a reputation among the younger generation, but now, they were only capable of fighting against the most ordinary cultivators of the Sixth Mainland. With their strength, they could casually be eliminated in this chaotic battle that millions of cultivators were participating in.

Even the Daynight clan only had a few individuals who could stand out on this battlefield. Zhanlong Daynight was only able to deal with the heirs of Imprinter families, and even then, his victory was not guaranteed.

Although not many dared intervene in a Realming's battles, that did not mean that nobody would dare to do so. Lu Yin had a feeling that the person in the distance could affect such a battle and that they could even block several attacks if necessary.

A nearby Sixth Mainland cultivator was smashed dead by a bone-thin man. This person was another member of the Daynight clan, and he had an abnormally tough body despite being as skinny as a skeleton with almost no flesh at all. He was Nightking Gu.

Back on Planet Pyrolyte, during the contest for the pyrolyte ore, Nightking Gu had fought against both Lu Yin and Wendy Yushan on his own. If not for Lu Yin piercing the Nightking's heart with one shot of his gun, the man would not have left.

At this moment, Lu Yin saw the man once again, and he was still so tough despite his frightening physique.

When Lu Yin passed by Nightking Gu, the Nightking was caught off guard, as he had recognized Lu Yin. But before the man could even speak, an arrow streaked through the sky. Its mere presence caused Nightking Gu's hair to stand on end, and he instantly used his Nightking's Body. He reached out with his powerful innate gift as a shower of sparks lit up the area. The arrow pierced the Nightking's hand and sent him flying into the ground.

"Sorry to drag you in," Lu Yin called out unapologetically as his figure vanished.

Little Arrow Saint did not even glance at Nightking Gu, and he simply continued his pursuit of Lu Yin.

Nightking Gu trembled in agony, as not only had Little Arrow Saint's arrow injured his hand, but its remnant destructive energy had also settled into the wound. He raged at Lu Yin's retreating figure, but he did not even know if he should curse the youth. After all, this was a battlefield.

When Lu Yin saw a powerful enemy whom he had once been nearly helpless against be taken down by just one of Little Arrow Saint's arrows, Lu Yin did not know whether he should laugh or cry.

Nightking Gu was not weak, and he had previously been ranked fifteenth on the Top 100 Rankings. In fact, Wendy Yushan and Lu Yin combined had been unable to even retaliate against the Nightking in the past. In just a few more years, the Nightking would no longer be considered a part of the younger generation. He had steadily improved his strength, but he had still been severely injured by just one arrow.

Lu Yin had dealt with countless arrows that had been fired at him over the course of the last ten or so days.

Lu Yin had truly become too strong, but as he watched the other Fifth Mainland cultivators be destroyed by Little Arrow Saint, Lu Yin still could not feel comforted by his increased strength.

'Seventh Bro, I've taken care of it,' the Ghost Monkey reported with exhaustion. Its shadow then moved off of Lu Yin's back and merged back into his right arm.

Lu Yin stretched his arms and heaved a sigh of relief. The remnant energy from Shi Zhongjian's attack had finally been removed by the Ghost Monkey's lockbreaking techniques, and Lu Yin felt much more relaxed upon hearing this.

Another arrow flew toward him.

Lu Yin was rather impressed by Little Arrow Saint, who had stubbornly chased after Lu Yin for more than ten days without ever giving up. By now, the miniature mainland was actually about to reach the Astral River's tributaries. After passing over that, they would be in Chaos Flowzone, and with the miniature mainland's speed, it would not take them long to reach the Mara River.

Although the Innerverse's Astral River tributaries were not as wide as the true Astral River, most people were wary of the creatures living within the liquid energy. Thus, each tributary had its own ark that crossed the tributaries at fixed positions, ferrying people between the two flowzones.

With the great changes in the Innerverse and the Outerverse, the Astral River Arks had been forced out of the tributaries. Thus, at this point in time, the Innerverse's Astral River tributaries did not have any Astral River Arks that could transport people.

The energy in the tributaries had also surged, just like the Astral River itself. However, currently, massive fissures had been torn through the tributaries, allowing for safe passage. This was the Innerverse, and there was no lack of experts here.

The miniature mainland directly flew into the gap in the tributary waters and charged towards Chaos Flowzone.

The Astral River tributary was not very wide, and as the miniature mainland passed through it, Lu Yin looked around to see the limitless liquid energy of the tributary pass over him, as well as the strange giant fish that occasionally swam by.

Soon, the miniature mainland passed through the tributary and arrived in Chaos Flowzone.

The main force from the Sixth Mainland occupying Chaos Flowzone was the Toolcasting family, but with Ancestor Toolwielder's death, the entire Toolcasting family had already pulled back to the Sixth Mainland. The cultivators from the Fifth Mainland were still in hiding at this time, and they had been

operating in small guerilla units. Thus, there was not much of a reaction when the miniature mainland passed through this flowzone.

They were getting closer and closer to the Mara River. Once the miniature mainland reached the Mara River and moved just a bit past that, they would be in the Sixth Mainland, which would mean that they would be out of the cosmic phenomenon's suppression's range. At that point in time, nobody would be able to steal back the Champions' Stage.

The battle at the Champions' Stage became even more intense.

Lu Yin wanted to shake off Little Arrow Saint so that he could participate in the battle for the Champions' Stage. He knew that he likely would not be able to seize it, but he still wanted to at least try. Doing so would give him the unique qualification to enter the Astral Tower, which would mean that there would be no need for him to compete with others for the opportunity. Thus, his odds of becoming one the Cosmic Five would be that much higher.

Chapter 997: People Of Affection

The Cosmic Five did not seem to be all from just one power, as they represented the entire Fifth Mainland's human race. Thus, reaching such a position would instantly elevate one to universal success.

However, it would not be easy for Lu Yin to shake off Little Arrow Saint, as the Realmking was hellbent on killing Lu Yin. Little Arrow Saint did not believe that his allies would lose the battle for the Champions' Stage, as neither of the two Daosource Three Skies present could be defeated by anyone from the Fifth Mainland—their presence alone was the greatest safeguard.

Unknowingly, while Lu Yin was leading Little Arrow Saint in a circle around the central part of the miniature mainland, many members of the older generation's experts were battling in that place. As he approached, Lu Yin saw a familiar face: Nightking Yuanjing.

Honestly, Lu Yin had interacted far too much with the Daynight clan. When the miniature mainland was crossing the Cosmic Sea, it had coincidentally passed through a battlefield where the Daynight clan was fighting against some Sixth Mainland cultivators. Nightking Yuanjing was coincidentally one of the numerous Daynight clan experts there.

Lu Yin had assumed that the old man was an Enlighter with a power level of somewhere around or a bit higher than 200,000. After all, when the Outerverse was first isolated from the Innerverse, Lu Yin had only been a Limiteer, and every Enlighter had been an incredible existence to him. Only at this moment was he able to see that the old man's strength far surpassed his previous assumptions.

During Lu Yin's visit to Northline Flowzone, an ancient centipede's body had suddenly appeared, and in there, he had obtained three ancient pikes. To avoid the disaster of having too much treasure, he had used Nightking Yuanjing. At that time, Northgate Taisui had also been present, and Nightking Yuanjing had treated the Northgate elder very politely, as if he were a junior speaking to a senior. Even if there had been a bit of pride in Nightking Yuanjing's tone, it had felt like the pride of the Daynight clan, not his own personal pride.

At that time, Lu Yin had interpreted the situation as Nightking Yuanjing not possessing the same strength as Northgate Taisui. However, at this moment, Lu Yin realized that he had underestimated the

old man. If Nightking Yuanjing could participate on this battlefield in the central region of the miniature mainland, then his original power level, before the suppression of the cosmic phenomenon, had to be around 400,000.

Strangely, Lu Yin felt some affection towards the old man. Though, of course, this was not any sort of true affection.

Before the Innerverse and Outerverse had been separated, Lu Yin had sought out Nightking Yuanjing for many matters to avert various disasters. Although Lu Yin had also paid the corresponding price, he had still used his wits to battle against the old man multiple times, and Lu Yin had finally succeeded in the end. He simply hoped this time would not be an exception. As he thought about it, Lu Yin called out, "Grandpa Yuanjing!"

Off in the distance, Nightking Yuanjing was busy fighting with a Sixth Mainland expert. Ever since the Outerverse had been cut off from the Innerverse and the Sixth Mainland had invaded them, everyone had been sent to the battlefield, and the old Nightking was no exception. Even more powerful powerhouses from the Daynight clan had died on these battlefields, but his luck had been a bit better. He had managed to survive until the cosmic phenomenon appeared, and he had continued to survive since then as well.

Recently, the cosmic phenomenon had changed, and the Sixth Mainland had begun to slowly withdraw from the Innerverse. Nightking Yuanjing was aware that the war was going to enter a lull in the near future, but he had never expected this miniature mainland to suddenly appear. He had not originally intended to make a move, and neither had the rest of the Daynight clan. However, they had received orders from the Hall of Honor's Chief Justice to do exactly that, so they had no choice but to try to take back the Champions' Stage.

Nightking Yuanjing did not want to die right when the war was about to end, so he had randomly found a Sixth Mainland cultivator to fight as soon as he had arrived on the miniature mainland. Of course, the Nightking's opponent could not be someone too weak, as these orders had been personally given by the Hall of Honor's Chief Justice. If it was discovered that Nightking Yuanjing was slacking, then the consequences would be severe.

In fact, the Sixth Mainland cultivator fighting against the Nightking was very powerful in his own right with a power level that was originally near 300,000. This meant that he was quite outstanding even though his power level had been suppressed to under 200,000. However, the battle was quite unforgiving, and this man was at the limits of his endurance.

Nightking Yuanjing had been planning on extending the fight with this opponent so that he could muddle through this final part of the invasion. Then, he would retreat once the miniature mainland drew to the cosmic phenomenon's border. For the old man, this was a surefire way to survive this catastrophe.

However, things often did not go according to plan. When Lu Yin called out the words "Grandpa Yuanjing," the old man's entire body trembled, and he was nearly struck by his opponent. He quickly blocked one attack after another as he turned around to see a familiar figure dashing towards him. Since they had been separated for several years now, the Nightking was a bit lost, and he blinked in shock as he stared at the approaching youth.

With a final leap, Lu Yin arrived close to Nightking Yuanjing, and he very happily greeted the old man. "Grandpa Yuanjing, it's been a long time! Do you still remember Little Yin?"

Nightking Yuanjing was taken aback, but before he could even react, an arrow shot out of the void and across the sky. He had already been on guard, and he raised a hand to forcefully divert the arrow's path. After all, he was an Enlighter with a high power level, and the Realmking's attacks were still within the Nightking's ability to endure.

"Grandpa Yuanjing, there's an enemy pursuing Little Yin! You have to help me!" Lu Yin wailed as he pointed behind at Little Arrow Saint.

Nightking Yuanjing then noticed Little Arrow Saint, who was exceptionally young, but the might of the arrow just now was proof that this youth was almost definitely a Realmking-level expert from the Sixth Mainland. Lu Yin was using the Nightking to avoid a disaster, but this was not the first time Lu Yin had done such a thing. The Nightking had not particularly cared before, as the prestige of the Daynight clan had been enough to shake the entire universe, and everyone had to show them proper respect. However, they were currently on a battlefield between two mainlands, and this was even a crucial battle. Despite that, this stupid kid still wanted to use the Nightking to save his butt.

Recently, Nightking Yuanjing had seen the bounty that Zhi Yi had posted on Lu Yin, and the old man had realized that the kid had greatly improved during the recent years. But even then, the old man could never have guessed that Lu Yin had already climbed to the stage where he could fight against a Realmking-level expert. Also, wasn't this kid supposed to be stuck in the Outerverse? The Nightking had many questions about Lu Yin himself as well as some related to the Third Nightking, but Little Arrow Saint did not give the old man any time to think as more arrows flew over.

The Sixth Mainland expert who had been fighting against Nightking Yuanjing this entire time also took this moment to launch a fierce attack.

Lu Yin shrieked, "Grandpa Yuanjing, be careful!"

Nightking Yuanjing glared at Lu Yin, this bastard. He would have to settle scores after this battle was over. This kid actually wanted to use him, a Nightking, as a shield during such a dangerous battle.

Little Arrow Saint did not care about what sort of relationship Nightking Yuanjing might have with Lu Yin. To the Realmking, since this old man was standing in the way, he would have to die.

Before long, all four people were embroiled in a messy battle. Lu Yin was quite adept at evading Little Arrow Saint's attacks. Thus, when Little Arrow Saint and the other expert from the Sixth Mainland focused their attacks on both Nightking Yuanjing and Lu Yin, the youth simply dodged everything while Nightking Yuanjing was struck several times. In his mounting rage, he quickly raised his power level to the highest possible level, and a giant face formed in the sky that opened its mouth with an angry expression: Nightking Howl.

The Daynight clan's attacks all contained spiritual force elements, as it was the most adept Innerverse clan at using spiritual force. This one Nightking Howl sent out a pulse of spiritual force that swept through the entire area, and even Little Arrow Saint was forced to retreat 10,000 meters.

Lu Yin also ended up trembling because of the Nightking Howl, but fortunately, it had not been aimed at him. Also, his spiritual force was not weak. Otherwise, he would have been forced back just like Little Arrow Saint.

Nightking Yuanjing angrily glared over at Lu Yin. "What is a rascal like you doing in the Innerverses?"

Lu Yin quickly put on a smiling face. "The Sixth Mainland tore through the Astral River in an attempt to invade the Outerverses. The Hall of Honor's Senior Yuan Shi forced the enemy to retreat, and he then sent me to the battlefield in the Cosmic Sea to gather information."

Nightking Yuanjing was stumped. "Yuan Shi? You're talking about the Hall of Honor's Yuan Shi? That incredibly ancient senior?"

Lu Yin nodded and replied in a respectful tone, saying, "That's right. Senior Yuan Shi is very kind and he treats this junior too well. Not only did he give me many life-preserving objects, he even personally sent me to the Cosmic Sea's battlefield to gain military achievements. He's truly a respectable elder."

Nightking Yuanjing had originally been used as a shield, and his belly had been full of fire that was about to erupt, but he no longer could do so. Yuan Shi's reputation was well known across the entire universe, and the Nightking did not know if what Lu Yin was saying was true or false. This kid could do too many unexpected things, and he also ended up encountering far too many lucky opportunities. Everything about Lu Yin made people feel that he was unfathomable.

"What's your relationship with Yuan Shi?" Nightking Yuanjing asked doubtfully.

Lu Yin suddenly pointed behind the old man and shouted, "The enemy is coming! Grandpa Yuanjing, you have to stop him! Senior Yuan Shi has entrusted an important mission to this junior, but the battle is about to end. As long as I finish this mission, I will definitely put in a good word for Grandpa Yuanjing with Senior Yuan Shi."

And with that, Lu Yin raced away.

Nightking Yuanjing opened his mouth, but he could not say a thing. He truly did not know if what Lu Yin had said was true or false. However, if it was a lie, then just how had the kid made it into the Innerverses from the Outerverses? Also, how had he gotten to the Cosmic Sea? The distance was simply too vast without a powerhouse like Yuan Shi helping him traverse it. But why would Yuan Shi entrust this kid with any sort of mission?

The Nightking was well aware that Lu Yin's story was not very logical. However, the old man simply could not stop himself from believing some of it. During Lu Yin's time cultivating, the youth had encountered too many lucky chances, and he was even able to fight against a Realmking despite his tender age. It actually would not be unreasonable for this youth to have received some kind of mission.

Little Arrow Saint fiercely charged out again, chasing after Lu Yin and not giving the old man any time to think.

Lu Yin shouted from the distance, "Grandpa Yuanjing!"

Nightking Yuanjing reflexively attacked Little Arrow Saint, striking out with a punch that was imbued with an eruption of spiritual force.

Little Arrow Saint's face grew solemn as he evaded the attack. He then stared at Nightking Yuanjing. "Old man, my battle with that kid has nothing to do with you."

Nightking Yuanjing gritted his teeth as he looked over at Lu Yin, who was just about to vanish from sight. The Nightking truly did not know if Lu Yin's words were true or not, as he could not verify anything at this time. However, it would not take him much effort at all to block Little Arrow Saint. If Lu Yin's words were lies, then Nightking Yuanjing would have at most ended up serving as a shield that helped Lu Yin avoid a disaster. In that case, the Nightking could simply find that kid and give him some trouble in the future. However, if everything that Lu Yin had said was true, then the Nightking might strike it rich, especially if he was able to meet Yuan Shi. No matter what price he paid, that would be worth the cost.

Nightking Yuanjing could not be blamed for taking the bait. If Lu Yin had used someone else's name, then he definitely would not have made any sort of move to help the youth. However, Yuan Shi was different.

Of all of the Hall of Honor's powerhouses, Yuan Shi's reputation was unmatched. He had taught countless disciples throughout his life, and the outside world's opinion of the ancient powerhouse was very high. It was well known that Yuan Shi enjoyed guiding juniors, as otherwise, he would not have been called Yuan Shi.

Nightking Yuanjing knew of Yuan Shi, and after thinking through Lu Yin's story, the old man believed that it was possible that Lu Yin might have told the truth. As long as Yuan Shi was willing to guide the Nightking, then his position in the Daynight clan would change drastically.

For even the trace of such a possibility, there was no need to consider the effort of simply raising one hand.

Little Arrow Saint was left with no choice, as he had actually been stopped by someone.

Off in the distance, Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief. He was lucky to have run into Nightking Yuanjing.

"Seventh Bro, that old man helped you escape a disaster. What an idiot!" The Ghost Monkey started sniggering.

Lu Yin turned back around. Foolish? No, not at all. If he hadn't used Yuan Shi's name, then the old man would have never helped him. Fortunately, Yuan Shi was too famous, and Lu Yin understood Nightking Yuanjing too well. Without the possibility of any benefits to be had, the old man would toss Lu Yin aside like a bit of trash. However, if there were good benefits dangling above his head, the Nightking would leap forward like a hungry wolf.

No matter what, Lu Yin had finally shaken off Little Arrow Saint, who had chased him around for more than ten days.

Lu Yin first looked around for a place to rest. The miniature mainland was incredibly large, and although there were battlefields all over it, there were also many regions still unaffected by the fighting.

Lu Yin hid in a corner and concentrated on recovering. Occasionally, he would look at the stars and try to determine his position.

At this time, he suddenly remembered something, and he took out his gadget from his cosmic ring to see if there was any signal in this place.

In the end, he was left disappointed, as there was no signal. The war between the two mainlands had been too intense. Once the Sixth Mainland had occupied the majority of the Inniverse, they had cut off any and all signals in order to leave the Fifth Mainland blind. Besides, the Sixth Mainland had their own means of communication.

Without any signal, Lu Yin did not know how he could determine his location, but a rough estimation of how long they had been traveling, with the information that they were headed west, meant that they were moving in the direction of the Starfall Sea. That was also where the Astral River bank could be found as well as the fissure in the Astral River that connected the Inniverse and Outerverse. The Mara River also lay in that direction, which was the Sixth Mainland's destination. To retreat, they needed to reach the Mara River and then travel upwards. Thus, they could not be too far away from the Mara River at the moment.

As a reminder from , Yuan Shi means Teacher/Leader of many since ancient times.

Chapter 998: The Greatest Battlefield

Lu Yin heaved a heavy sigh of relief. Whether or not the Fifth Mainland would be able to take back the Champions' Stage would all depend on their final push. He had no confidence in succeeding by himself since two of the Daosource Three Skies were present, but even if it cost some people their lives, they had to fight and take it back.

The miniature mainland continued to fly towards the west, and soon, several more days passed.

Lu Yin spent all of his time during these days recuperating, though the occasional aftershocks from the surrounding battles did wash over him. However, he did not go back to the central battlefield, and the ripples from the other battles were not strong enough to significantly affect him.

Little Arrow Saint did not reappear, as Lu Yin had long since escaped from Little Arrow Saint's sight. Unless Lu Yin directly appeared in front of the Realmking, it would be very difficult for Little Arrow Saint to track down Lu Yin again.

Lu Yin looked towards the sky once more. Yesterday, the miniature mainland had passed through Chaos Flowzone and arrived in a familiar area of the Inniverse. This was where Hai Qiqi and Lu Yin had appeared when they had passed through the Astral River to reach the Inniverse. It was also where the chaotic battle on the transportation continent had occurred.

Lu Yin had not expected the Starsibyl Sect's methods to be so extraordinary that they could actually allow one to travel across half of the Inniverse. That was on the level as what Mister Mu was capable of.

Since they had arrived in this place, then it meant that they were not very far away from the Starfall Sea, which was where this miniature mainland would connect to the Mara River.

Lu Yin stretched out his arms. With the speed at which the miniature mainland was traveling, it would not take long for it to arrive at the Mara River. Once it did so, the final battle would commence. Otherwise, if they entered the upward current of the Mara River, then they would be leaving the area under the cosmic phenomenon's suppression, which would spell deep trouble for them.

Lu Yin was not the only one who had recognized where the miniature mainland was in the Inniverse. Others had as well, and they all knew that this would be the final battlefield.

Atop the Champions' Stage, Nightking Zhenwu had joined forces with God Taiyi to fight against Bu Kong. Qiu Shi's status was unknown.

Bu Kong was indeed frighteningly powerful. While they fought with him, Nightking Zhenwu had a solemn expression, and God Taiyi was breathing heavily. They had fought for more than ten days now; these members of the Daosource Three Skies were simply too fearsome.

Bu Kong's eyes swept past God Taiyi, looked over at Nightking Zhenwu, and then moved past the Arbiter towards the distant battlefield. He did not actually care about Nightking Zhenwu, as this Arbiter's reputation was undeserved—he had already been struck by Bu Kong multiple times, and Nightking Zhenwu had likely sustained some rather serious injuries during this battle. This member of the Daosource Three Skies was more concerned about Qiu Shi; while he did not know what that woman was scheming, she was definitely plotting to seize back the Champions' Stage.

The Champions' Stage could not be lost. Bu Kong's gaze turned sharp, and he attacked again. His use of the Time Reversal Technique forced both God Taiyi and Nightking Zhenwu to be wary.

Even further away, Zhi Yi was battling against Liu Tianmu, and nobody could interfere in the battlefield of these two women. One had an unfathomable defense and the other a penetrating attack. Thus, very few could approach their battlefield.

Liu Tianmu could clearly see that Zhi Yi wanted to keep multiple Fifth Mainland experts occupied on her own, as her impregnable defense allowed her to do so. However, in response, Liu Tianmu had cleaned up the battlefield on her own, rendering Zhi Yi unable to stall anyone else. The Sword Sect's Arbiter was helping the Fifth Mainland by keeping one of the Daosource Three Skies busy.

Zhi Yi was feeling quite helpless. Although Liu Tianmu was unable to defeat Zhi Yi or even injure her, this woman's sword techniques were simply too sharp. One time, Zhi Yi had once tried to shift their battlefield, but the swordswoman had used her Eleventh Sword, which was something that not even Zhi Yi could be complacent about. More importantly, Zhi Yi was constantly on guard against Liu Tianmu using the Twelfth Sword, as Zhi Yi had a feeling that the swordswoman was saving that technique for an opportune moment.

Di Fa, the Sword Scholar, Qiu He, and the others were fighting in an intense battle against the Fifth Mainland's Xing Kai, Xia Tian, Shu Jing, and Serati Phoenix. On top of these peak elites, even Ye Xingchen, Gu Xiao'er, and Zi Jun—who had participated in the Tournament of the Strongest—were all staying close to the Champions' Stage during their battles.

Even if they were unable to step onto the battlefield where the Realmings and Ten Arbiters were fighting, everyone wanted a chance to snag the Champions' Stage. If they somehow managed to succeed, then they would rise above everyone else in a single step.

Even Gu Xiao'er, who seemed like a simple-minded person, had these thoughts. Thus, there was no need to mention any of the others.

However, with their current situation, it did not seem very likely that they would be able to steal back the Champions' Stage back, as there was nobody who was capable of defeating Bu Kong.

When Lu Yin arrived, he was quickly spotted by Gu Xiao'er. The young man struggled to extricate himself from the battle as he moved over next to Lu Yin. "Bro, take out that toy to disgust them again."

Lu Yin was puzzled. "What toy?"

Gu Xiao'er looked very excited. "That thing with the nasty smell."

Lu Yin pursed his lips. "It's no use. Zhi Yi is being held up by Liu Tianmu, and Liu Tianmu won't be able to break through that barrier, not even if that girl is grossed out. On the other hand, people like Bu Kong are already busy with their own battles."

"There's no other option! I've already used up the last of my white smoke, and I can't help anymore. Also, there's no way you want to go to the Champions' Stage to fight with Bu Kong, right?" Gu Xiao'er asked with clear frustration in his voice. "If we really can't do this, then we can only retreat. This mainland is about to fly up the Mara River, and when it leaves the suppressed region, we'll all be done for."

Lu Yin frowned, as this battle was indeed drawing to a close. He looked over at the Champions' Stage, which was a place that he had avoided early due to his caution of Nightking Zhenwu. At this time, Lu Yin could only remain on guard towards Nightking Zhenwu while thinking of some way to knock Bu Kong off the Champions' Stage and take it away.

After thinking about it, Lu Yin dashed over to the Champions' Stage. He did not plan on directly joining the battle directly, but with his strength, he could still mess with Bu Kong a bit, even if it did mean helping out Nightking Zhenwu.

There were so many people engaged in intense battles all around Lu Yin that there was no way that Nightking Zhenwu would brazenly attack Lu Yin. Besides, Lu Yin was no pushover himself. Within this place where power levels were suppressed, not even an Imprinter would be able to defeat Lu Yin in a short period of time. He had exchanged blows with Shi Zhongjian and Little Arrow Saint, so he was also unafraid of Nightking Zhenwu.

The battles above the Champions' Stage were the most intense. God Taiyi worked with Nightking Zhenwu to fight against Bu Kong, but neither side had managed to gain an upper hand. Bu Kong had his secret techniques while God Taiyi had his Truesight and Nightking Zhenwu his spiritual force attacks. All of the techniques being used in this battle were things that ordinary people could not have.

Lu Yin's arrival caught all three of them by surprise.

Nightking Zhenwu's eyes flashed, as he had never expected that Lu Yin would appear in this place. This person was improving far too quickly, as shown by the fact that Lu Yin was willing to step onto Nightking Zhenwu's battlefield. The Nighthking thought about it for a moment, and star energy gathered at his fingertip as he tapped out: Nighthking Finger.

The Nightking Finger shot out, and the void exploded while being accompanied by a terrifying spiritual force wave that swept out in all directions.

Bu Kong remained as immovable as a mountain. Something was wrong with this Arbiter's brain; why would he unleash a spiritual force attack against someone from the Sixth Mainland? The Sixth Mainland cultivators valued imprints the most, and those who wanted to use imprints had to strengthen their spiritual force. Even if they were not proficient with using their spiritual force, their resistance to such attacks was still very robust. Moreover, Bu Kong was one of the Daosource Three Skies. How could he not know how to use spiritual force?

The Nightking Finger was ineffective against Bu Kong, which was something that Nightking Zhenwu should be aware of. However, this finger had not been directed at Bu Kong, but rather towards Lu Yin, as he needed to demonstrate his qualifications to step onto this battlefield.

Lu Yin's body trembled slightly, but he still stepped onto the Champions' Stage with one foot before glancing over at Nightking Zhenwu. Lu Yin's pupils transformed into runes as he looked over at Bu Kong, directly erasing some of the youth's rune lines.

Bu Kong frowned, as God Taiyi's Truesight alone already made the Daosource Three Skies very uncomfortable, and now, another person who was capable of similarly weakening him had arrived. Bu Kong redirected his attack and slapped a palm at Lu Yin.

Lu Yin had no thoughts of being struck by this palm, as both Bu Kong's innate gift and secret techniques scared Lu Yin. He definitely would not allow any attacks to touch him.

"Be careful of his Time Reversal Technique," God Taiyi warned.

Lu Yin retreated, but Bu Kong would not let Lu Yin move about as he pleased, and limitless palm prints struck out at him. These palm prints contained a strange power that not even the Ten Arbiters knew about, which might be Bu Kong's innate gift of decomposition. Regardless, just being touched by these palm imprints was certain death. It was also possible that some of these palm imprints were used to unleash his secret technique, which meant that just a touch would send someone back to their childhood. This was why it was so terrifying to fight against Bu Kong.

He had power, physical strength, reflexes, star energy, and a deft command of his spiritual force that was comparable to the Ten Arbiters'. On top of all of that, he also had his innate gift and secret techniques, which were actually the thorniest problems.

Nightking Zhenwu had originally been planning to attack Bu Kong, but he suddenly stopped and allowed Bu Kong's attack to land on Lu Yin. The Nightking absolutely hated Lu Yin. Even when Lu Yin had been in the Astral Combat Academy, he had already formed a grudge with Nightqueen Yanqing, and all of the various events afterward had contributed to Nightking Zhenwu's loathing for Lu Yin. In particular, when he had been fighting for the jade talisman back in the Daosource Sect's ruins, Lu Yin had actually dared to not hand it over to Nightking Zhenwu. Furthermore, Lu Yin had even destroyed the piece of jade. Thus, Nightking Zhenwu wanted nothing more than to see Lu Yin dead.

Others could not see Bu Kong's attacks, but Lu Yin and God Taiyi could since they were both looking at the attack's rune lines rather than the attack itself.

Lu Yin was not able to dodge all of the palm prints, so he picked the one with the fewest number of rune lines to be struck by. He raised both of his arms, and there was a thump as his entire body was thrown back a hundred meters. After landing, he looked up to stare at Bu Kong.

Bu Kong frowned, as this person had actually evaded most of his attacks, which was exactly what God Taiyi did. From this, Bu Kong knew that his enemies were able to see through his attacks.

At this moment, Nightking Zhenwu's attack arrived, and God Taiyi took this opportunity to erase a portion of Bu Kong's rune lines while Lu Yin did the same.

Bu Kong had already mentally prepared himself for the double weakening. Thus, even though his rune lines were weakened twice as much as before, he was still able to instantly compensate for the change.

Erasing twice as many of Bu Kong's rune lines did not equate to a multiplicative reduction in his power. Otherwise, Gods' Origin would have long since become invincible. Lu Yin and God Taiyi had joined forces with their Truesight, but that simply allowed them to erase a few more rune lines—their techniques did not reinforce each other.

Nightking Zhenwu's attacks were not too effective against Bu Kong, and Bu Kong did not really care about the Nightking. Still, it would not be easy for him to defeat this Arbiter, as he was simply too cunning.

With Lu Yin added to the mix, the trio stood firm against Bu Kong, though the result was no different from before. Lu Yin's arrival did not provide too much help to the two experts, but fortunately, he did not hinder them either. At the very least, God Taiyi and Nightking Zhenwu did not need to distract themselves to assist Lu Yin, and he could also alleviate some of the pressure from their enemy.

Gu Xiao'er stared at the battle atop the Champions' Stage from a distance, and he felt rather envious. In the end, if someone was able to seize the Champions' Stage, then there would be no piece of the pie left for anyone who was not on the Champions' Stage. Lu Yin was capable of joining that battle, and Gu Xiao'er felt that he could do so as well. Although he would not fight, he could still watch from the side!

Gu Xiao'er comforted himself and then charged over.

There were quite a few other people who felt the same as Gu Xiao'er. They were all elite disciples from the Fifth Mainland's various powers, and there were also some top ranked experts on the Top 100 Rankings as well as a few experts from the Neoverse like God Taiyi.

A total of five cultivators charged towards the Champions' Stage, and Gu Xiao'er was among them.

However, one of them was struck by Bu Kong's Time Reversal Technique, and he was knocked back to his childhood before being pulverized by a stray aftershock from the fight between the four people atop the stage.

Another one was caught by the Sword Scholar's sword qi and cut in two.

Another two were swept away by Nightking Zhenwu's spiritual force. They fell down like idiots, and it was impossible to know if they were dead or alive.

In the end, Gu Xiao'er was the only one who managed to successfully charge onto the Champions' Stage. There, he was faced with the aftershocks of Bu Kong's battle with the other four. A terrifying destructive force accompanied by a powerful spiritual force swept out, frightening him and forcing him to quickly retreat. Fortunately, Gu Xiao'er still had some white smoke left to block the shockwave. Otherwise, he would have suffered the same fate as the other four.

Bu Kong and the others did not care about these five people, as they were just some random trash in their eyes.

Lu Yin was left speechless, as that little group had approached the battle only to end up as a joke! Those who did not have the strength to receive the title of King or Queen were not qualified to step foot onto this battlefield. If Gu Xiao'er had managed to replenish his white smoke, then he would have the ability. However, only a small bit of his smoke remained, and it was not enough to even fill the gap between his teeth.

Gu Xiao'er was scared out of his wits, and he turned to look back at the Champions' Stage after escaping. "So scary! I was almost done for! I should stay away from this place. Actually, something like the Champions' Stage can just be copied, and as long as nobody says anything, who would even know that it was taken away?"

Chapter 999: Separation

It had just been a random thought, but the more Gu Xiao'er thought about it, the more plausible it seemed. He became incomparably excited, and he felt as if he had just discovered a new line of thought—if the Champions' Stage was taken away, then he just needed to forge a replacement. Could those hypocrites from the Hall of Honor expose such a thing even if they knew about it? That was impossible, as they also had to give face. If they did not expose the fraud, then everyone's prestige would be maintained. Even if, in the end, the secret was revealed, they could simply push the blame onto him and claim that they had not known about it. In any case, those old folk would not take the initiative to expose such a thing.

After thinking about it, Gu Xiao'er left the battlefield. He had no intention of fighting any longer, as this battle was essentially done. Instead, he needed to go forge something.

The fate of the five people who had attempted to join the fight on the Champions' Stage made sure that no one else had the courage to even get close. Lu Yin's example could not be followed by just anyone; if they did not have the strength of someone who could receive the title of King or Queen, then it was impossible for them to step onto the stage. It should also be known that the battlefield between the Realmings and the Ten Arbiters took up more than just the Champions' Stage; it also included all of the surrounding area.

After one day passed, the balance of the battlefield still hadn't changed. At this time, the miniature mainland had already passed through the entrance to the Starfall Sea, and it was currently headed towards the Mara River. Their destination was not only where the Mara River was located, but it was also where the Astral River separated the Inniverse from the Technocracy. It was a point of convergence for three different places.

The people from the Fifth Mainland began to grow anxious, and many of them made plans to leave as more and more Sixth Mainland cultivators who wanted to leave the Fifth Mainland began to show up in this area.

On top of the Champions' Stage, while Bu Kong was busy fighting with Nightking Zhenwu and the others, the Daosource Three Skies member had a nagging feeling that he had forgotten about something. His eyes swept through the area, and he saw a bit of sword qi fly off into the distance from where Liu Tianmu and Zhi Yi were fighting. He also saw Xing Kai suddenly grow big and small as well as the Undying Bird releasing a cry. He saw straight lines of attacks that tore through the void that came from Shu Jing. His expression suddenly changed. That's right, where is that woman?

Back on the battlefield in the Whitecliff Region, Bu Kong had used a sourcebox array to instantly shift the balance of the battle. However, he had not had a smooth time setting up the sourcebox array, as there had been a woman present who was also a Boundless Advanced Lockbreaker. When the battle on the miniature mainland had started, that same woman had stopped Bu Kong from using a sourcebox array with all sorts of lockbreaking attempts. However, at this moment, she was missing.

Bu Kong forced Nightking Zhenwu's trio back and then approached the edge of the Champions' Stage. As soon as he arrived, he saw Qiu Shi. Coincidentally, Qiu Shi looked up at that very moment, and the two exchanged glances. Bu Kong's eyes grew incomparably sharp, as seven sourceboxes had been arranged around the Champions' Stage, and it was impossible to tell how long they had been there for.

Bu Kong's expression changed, as the situation was looking bad. This was a sourcebox array, and he charged towards Qiu Shi as fast as he could.

The next moment, a danger zone spread out, coming from the various sourceboxes as their danger zones overlapped. It created a strange scene, but it caused the Champions' Stage to quiver. Actually, it was not the Champions' Stage that was quivering, but rather the miniature mainland that was carrying the Champions' Stage. Then, due to the multiple danger zones layering upon each other, the Champions' Stage slowly floated up. At the same time, the formless danger of the sourceboxes tore through the void, spreading out to affect everything within a hundred kilometers.

No matter if it was Bu Kong, God Taiyi, Lu Yin, or those who were a bit further away like Xing Kai, everyone was enveloped within the sourceboxes' danger zone.

Xing Kai and the others immediately retreated, as a sourcebox array was absolutely terrifying.

The might of the sourceboxes erupted, and Bu Kong's figure flashed as he raised a hand while working to dissolve the formless danger zones.

Lu Yin was similarly surrounded by the sourceboxes' danger zones, but he was able to clearly see their rune lines. The might of the danger zones were right at the cusp of a power level of 200,000 without surpassing it. Still, they were not any weaker than a power level of 200,000, so the danger zones were a hazard to everyone here.

God Taiyi cursed, "Stupid woman, here we go again!"

He then looked over at Lu Yin. "Hurry up and leave—that lunatic will do anything!"

At that moment, a small section of the miniature mainland broke off and began to float up as it separated from the rest of the mainland. The sourcebox array was pushing the segment up and off into outer space.

Countless people witnessed this development take place, and many of them even leaped up to try to take control of the Champions' Stage. However, they were all torn to shreds the moment they entered the sourcebox array's range.

Bu Kong flung out a sourcebox in an attempt to challenge the existing sourcebox array.

Qiu Shi's face went pale. She had no idea what would happen if a second sourcebox array was superimposed upon the first.

Nightking Zhenwu pressed a hand upon the Champions' Stage and flew through space. He was determined to be the one to take the Champions' Stage away.

The power of the sourcebox array's formless danger zone was not something that ordinary people could resist, and any cultivators whose strength was not at the level of a King or Queen would be instantly torn to shreds the moment they entered the range of the sourcebox arrays. The power of two overlapping sourcebox arrays was simply too terrifying.

A small piece of land flew into space, as Qiu Shi's intention had been to separate the Champions' Stage from the miniature mainland so that she could keep it in the Innerverse, or at the very least, stop the Sixth Mainland from taking it away.

A frosty glint appeared in Bu Kong's eyes, and he wanted to attack Qiu Shi. However, he had to first deal with the sourceboxes' formless danger.

The small continent was quickly embraced by the vastness of outer space. Aside from God Taiyi, who had fled due to his fear of the sourcebox array, Xing Kai and the others, including Nightking Zhenwu, Lu Yin, Bu Kong, and Qiu Shi, were all still in the area. Further away, there was also another group of people who had tried to hide from the sourceboxes' formless danger, but they had simply died one after the other.

Those who did not have the strength to receive a title of King or Queen simply could not survive or flee from the sourcebox array.

Lu Yin observed the rune lines and evaded them whereas Nightking Zhenwu relied entirely on his own strength. He hadn't expected that even God Taiyi would flee without the courage to stay behind.

Lu Yin did not want to stay behind either, as the rune lines permeating the small continent were still growing in number, and they were all from the sourcebox arrays. Besides, the Champions' Stage had already been taken away from the miniature mainland, and with Qiu Shi and Nightking Zhenwu around, Bu Kong would not be able to take it back. Thus, Lu Yin's current top priority was to retreat to safety.

Lu Yin was afraid of the power of the sourcebox array, but he was also wary of Nightking Zhenwu. The Nightking would not hesitate to take advantage of any opportunity to conveniently deal with Lu Yin, and Lu Yin was not confident in being able to stay alive within the sourcebox array's danger zone even without the Nightking's interference.

Lu Yin wanted to leave, but Nightking Zhenwu would not allow him to do so that easily. Off in the distance, a group of people were slaughtered by the sourcebox array, so Nightking Zhenwu was not afraid of there being any witnesses. He looked at Lu Yin with icy cold eyes.

The Arbiter completely hated Lu Yin, as this person had dared to stand up to the Daynight clan in the Astral Combat Academy, and he had even used Nightking Yuanjing to save his own life. Lu Yin had shamed Nightqueen Yanqing, which had challenged Arbiter Zhenwu's own dignity. He had been forced to send out Liu Shaoge to restrict Lu Yin. Also, in the Daosource Sect's ruins, Lu Yin had ignored the Nightking's order and crushed the jade talisman. These were all contributing factors to Nightking Zhenwu's endless loathing for Lu Yin.

In fact, before the Outerverse was isolated from the Innerverse, when the Nightking had learned that Lu Yin had gone to Planet Pyrolyte, Nightking Zhenwu had wanted to go himself to get rid of Lu Yin. But ever since the Outerverse had been isolated, the matter had been shelved away. However, this person had reappeared once more, and he had even become more powerful. This had caused the Nightking's bloodlust to surge, and he wanted to kill Lu Yin more than ever at this moment.

Despite the ongoing war between the two mainlands, Nightking Zhenwu's first priority was still to eliminate Lu Yin.

A chill ran down Lu Yin's spine, and he locked eyes with Nightking Zhenwu. When he saw the Nightking's raging murderous intent, Lu Yin's expression instantly changed, and he quickly moved to flee from the range of the sourcebox array. Although Lu Yin was able to escape, it would take him some time.

Nightking Zhenwu immediately moved towards Lu Yin.

Fortunately, Lu Yin was able to see rune lines, and he was also a Lockbreaker. Thus, he managed to escape from the sourcebox array one step ahead of Nightking Zhenwu.

Nightking Zhenwu realized that Lu Yin was about to get away, so he immediately attacked. The Arbiter's spiritual force swept across the Champions' Stage and shot out past it.

Lu Yin's brain was jostled, but he was alright since his own spiritual force was rather formidable.

At that moment, Qiu Shi and Bu Kong's sourcebox arrays began to grow frenzied for unknown reasons. The two had originally been overlapping, but at this moment, it was as if the strength of the two arrays had multiplied.

Lu Yin could see an endless amount of rune lines filling the entire small continent, and the rate at which they appeared had sped even further. He felt that something was amiss.

Unfortunately, he was still one step too late. The sourcebox arrays' formless danger fully erupted and swept out without rhyme or reason. Qiu Shi had been outside the sourcebox array, so she was able to leave by just taking a single step back. Bu Kong had been rather close to Qiu Shi, and when he saw that the sourcebox arrays had gone out of control, he similarly did not dare to dally behind, also escaping.

Lu Yin and Nightking Zhenwu both had the exact same intentions. A sourcebox array was already quite mysterious, and nobody wanted to try to deal with a berserk sourcebox array.

The ground of the continent began to break apart, and the sourcebox array's formless danger zone tore through the void without any sort of pattern. Everything that it touched was destroyed.

Nightking Zhenwu was in no mood to chase after Lu Yin at this moment, as even Bu Kong and Qiu Shi had fled. Lu Yin intended to make his escape as well.

However, just as he was about to escape from the continent, a familiar figure appeared nearby, desperately struggling to stay alive. She had long, black-and-white hair that flew about with blood dripping from the long strands. Her body was hunched over, her hand was clutching a red sword, and her entire body looked extremely feeble. This was none other than Zhuo Daynight.

Lu Yin had not expected to bump into Zhuo Daynight here. Scenes from the past flooded through his mind, but all he could currently see with his eyes were the rune lines filling the sky that were about to press down upon her. He immediately moved to help her, using his Skybeast Claw to pull Zhuo Daynight over. She was astonished by the attack, and she instinctively resisted, but she did not have the ability to resist Lu Yin. In this desperate situation, she was right about to give up on everything and use Night's End, Daybreak when she suddenly saw that Lu Yin was the one who had pulled her over.

Lu Yin grabbed Zhuo Daynight and leaped away from the continent.

The next moment, the formless danger zone that had gone berserk unleashed lines of force that destroyed the entire continent without any discernible pattern. The Champions' Stage was thrown far away by an unseen power, and it coincidentally flew towards where Lu Yin was fleeing with Zhuo Daynight.

Lu Yin saw the Champions' Stage rocketing towards him, and he was left speechless. Everyone had been fighting over this thing, but at the very last moment, it had chosen to fly towards him.

He quickly dodged the stage before grabbing onto it with one hand. It dragged him off into the distance while he kept his other arm wrapped around Zhuo Daynight.

Zhuo Daynight really was too weak at this moment, as this battlefield had been too cruel to her. Even if someone had reached the Explorer realm, a cultivator at that level of strength did not belong on this battlefield. They would only be able to rely on their luck to survive here.

Zhuo Daynight could be considered one of the Daynight clan's elites, but the Daynight clan was only comparable to one of the Sixth Mainland's Imprinter families, and at best, a Cosmic Imprinter family. On this battlefield, there were too many youths who were heirs of such families.

Lu Yin kept a firm grip on the Champions' Stage, and he evaded the odd sourcebox array fluctuation while clutching Zhuo Daynight tightly with his other arm.

She coughed, and looked up to see Lu Yin. There was a trace of red to her pale face, and she looked down at where Lu Yin's hand was completely holding her chest. She pursed her lips and said nothing.

More than half an hour later, the Champions' Stage finally slowed down, as the formless danger zone from the sourcebox arrays that had been propelling the stage had finally started dissipating.

Lu Yin heaved a sigh of relief, and he hugged Zhuo Daynight as he moved on top of the Champions' Stage. When he looked down at her, he saw that she had fallen unconscious.

His right hand twitched, and Lu Yin blinked. He silently removed his hand, as he had been touching something that he should not have.

“Seventh Bro, this Monkey finds that there are some problems with your character,” the Ghost Monkey commented.

Lu Yin angrily shot back, “Shut up!”

“Each and every time, without fail, you are able to grab that particular area of a girl’s. Can you teach me how to do that? You must have had some special practice,” the Ghost Monkey sniggered.

Lu Yin ignored the beast. His mood was actually pretty good at the moment, as he was basically in control of the Champions’ Stage.

He slowly set Zhuo Daynight down flat and muttered, “There seems to be some sort of fate between us. I get to save you every time.”

“Thank you.” Zhuo Daynight opened her eyes and calmly looked up at Lu Yin.

Chapter 1000: Lu Yin Vs. Arbiter Zhenwu

When he heard the sound of her voice, Lu Yin was caught off guard, and he looked down. “You’re awake?”

Zhuo Daynight stood up and cleaned the blood on the corner of her lips. “Thank you.”

“No problem,” Lu Yin replied.

Zhuo Daynight surveyed their surroundings and then lowered her head. “Is this the Champions’ Stage?”

Lu Yin nodded. “That’s right, I was lucky enough to get control of it.”

Zhuo Daynight stared at him. “Be careful of Nightking Zhenwu.”

Lu Yin was about to answer, but then, a dozen cultivators suddenly flew towards them from the distance. They were all Explorers and Limiteers, and the Limiteers were carrying some strange-looking tools.

As soon as he saw them, Lu Yin took action. There was no way to determine if someone was from the Fifth Mainland or the Sixth Mainland by sight, and only an imprint could reveal the truth. Even at this time, nobody from the Fifth Mainland had ever cultivated an imprint, so this was the best way to determine a person’s origins.

Lu Yin attacked with a Skybeast Claw that fell upon the crowd as a beast howl echoed through space and time. The newcomers all felt a terrible crisis befall them, and they immediately revealed their imprints as they attacked Lu Yin, though a few of them instead turned to flee.

This group of Sixth Mainland cultivators only had about a dozen people among them, and their strongest person was merely an Explorer. Lu Yin easily dealt with the situation, and he even captured a cultivator who had tried to escape. “Do you recognize me?”

That Sixth Mainland cultivator was terrified, and he shook his head. “N- no.”

Lu Yin was confused. “Since you don’t know who I am, why are you fleeing?”

“Because you’re a Cruiser while we are only Explorers,” the Sixth Mainland cultivator quickly answered.

Lu Yin sneered. “You people from the Sixth Mainland commonly fight against people in higher realms, and there were even so many of you in your group. It doesn’t make sense for you to flee the moment you saw me. You only have one more chance to answer.”

The Sixth Mainland cultivator was terrified by Lu Yin’s blatant bloodlust. He quickly replied, “I- I recognized the Champions’ Stage.”

Lu Yin was flabbergasted, but he quickly came to an understanding. The Champions’ Stage was where titles were given to members of the Fifth Mainland’s younger generation, and it was also their symbol of honor. It was always in the Cosmic Sea, but then it had suddenly appeared here. Anyone who was able to fight over control of the Champions’ Stage had to at least be a titled powerhouse, and that group was incapable of dealing with experts of that level.

This young man was rather intelligent.

Lu Yin directly knocked the man unconscious. He had no desire to kill someone who could not resist, so instead, he threw the man to the side, treating him as a prisoner of war.

The Champions’ Stage continued to fly towards the northwest, but Lu Yin had no idea where it was headed. Thus, he started to control the Champions’ Stage to make it fly towards where the fissure that led to the Outerverse. Once they arrived in the Outerverse, they would be in his territory, and there, he would not be afraid even if a Cosmic Imprinter arrived.

Suddenly, Zhuo Daynight looked up and stared into the distance.

Lu Yin turned to look in the same direction, and off in the distance, he saw a figure streaking through the void at a startling speed, headed straight for the Champion’s Stage. The figure had black-and-white hair, and they cut a striking visual as they soared through outer space. It was actually Nightking Zhenwu.

Lu Yin had never expected Nightking Zhenwu to catch up to them so soon.

Zhuo Daynight quickly told Lu Yin, “Hurry and flee! He’ll definitely kill you.”

Lu Yin clenched his fists—flee? He refused to consider such an option since he was not willing to run away. If he fled, then the Champions’ Stage would belong to Nightking Zhenwu, and the sole qualification to go to the Astral Tower, along with the greater chance to become one of the Cosmic Five, would also go to the Nightking. If Lu Yin fled, then he would also be relinquishing that opportunity, and he would actually be contributing to Nightking Zhenwu’s success.

Nightking Zhenwu’s strength was something that really could not be fathomed at this time. If he also received a Progenitor’s inheritance, then Lu Yin did not even dare to imagine what heights Nightking Zhenwu would reach. Even if Lu Yin was confident in eventually overtaking the Nightking, it was not something that could be done within a short period of time.

“Hurry and escape! You aren’t his match,” Zhuo Daynight growled at Lu Yin, her face pale.

Lu Yin was truly unable to abandon the Champions' Stage, and during his hesitation, Nightking Zhenwu tore through the void and stepped onto the Champions' Stage. His hands were clasped behind his back as he looked at Lu Yin. "You're quite brave to stay here."

Lu Yin clenched his fists and took a deep breath. He had encountered Realmings while in the Inverse, and he had even faced the Daosource Three Skies before, and more than one of them at that. Logically, Lu Yin should be strong enough to fight with Nightking Zhenwu, at least with the suppression of the cosmic phenomenon.

However, for some reason, Nightking Zhenwu gave off a sense of pressure that Lu Yin had never felt before, which made him dejected. This person was one of the Ten Arbiters, but Lu Yin had traded blows with Realmings who were able to rival the Ten Arbiters. So why did Nightking Zhenwu give off such an exceptional amount of pressure?

Lu Yin could not be sure, but the young man currently in front of him made him feel an excessive amount of pressure.

"Do you want to kill your own ally?" Lu Yin asked in an icy tone as he kept a wary eye on Nightking Zhenwu.

Nightking Zhenwu arrogantly replied, "So what? Nobody knows, and besides, the war is already over. Even if anything is revealed, I, Nightking Zhenwu, can accept the burden of this crime."

Lu Yin's eyes went wide.

"Do you really believe that the Lockbreaker Society is enough to protect you? If not for Nightking Yuanjing needing you to find the Third Nightking, you would have died a long time ago. Now, I'll fulfill your destiny."

Nightking Zhenwu attacked by tapping out with a finger. The colors black and white were suddenly the only colors in the world. This was the Nightking Finger, and back in the Daosource Sect's ruins, Nightking Zhenwu had used this technique to severely injure Lu Yin, as not even his Yu Secret Art had been able to divert it.

At that time, Lu Yin had failed to divert the attack with the Yu Secret Art, and the situation had not changed this time either. This Nightking's attacks were very crafty, and although his finger strike appeared to consist of just one attack, in the next instant, dozens of phantom images appeared, and Lu Yin could not divert all of them. Also, this finger was extremely powerful.

Lu Yin's pupils shrank as he stared at the descending Nightking Finger. Just when it was about to land on him, he also moved a finger: Dream Finger.

Force clashed against force, but Lu Yin was not afraid. His physical body had transformed several times, and his physique could not compare to what it had been back in the Daosource Sect's ruins. At that time, his Dream Finger had been unable to block the Nightking Finger, but his strength had advanced considerably since then, and furthermore, they were still under the cosmic phenomenon's suppression.

There was a bang as the void rippled. After that, a powerful shockwave lashed out in all directions. A terrifying gale filled with spiritual force swept over the edges of the Champions' Stage. Zhuo Daynight's breathing grew sluggish, and she was thrown away, almost falling off of the stage. The Sixth Mainland

cultivators who had been knocked unconscious by Lu Yin all died, as they were not able to survive this aftershock.

Dong dong dong!

Nightking Zhenwu retreated several steps, and he stared at Lu Yin as if he was looking at a monster.

“You-”

Lu Yin retracted his finger, the tip trembling slightly. He had over-exerted himself, but he was both excited and emotional at this moment, as he had actually forced back Nightking Zhenwu!

Ever since Earth had suffered its apocalypse and Lu Yin had first started cultivating, the Ten Arbiters had always been like a sun traveling through the heavens. To him, each and every one of them had been an unreachable existence, especially Arbiter Zhenwu. The first time Lu Yin had seen this person’s name was in the corridor of the Daynight clan’s stone of inheritance. At the very top of a list of names was Nightking Zhenwu’s name. At that time, Lu Yin had already sensed that this person was a blazing sun.

Arbiter Zhenwu was the king of the Daynight clan’s youths, and he was also the king of the youths in the entire Daynight Flowzone. With one sentence, he had been able to strip Lu Yin of his qualifications to join the Council of Astral Academy. One word from that person had forced Lu Yin to come up with all sorts of means to stay alive. Eleven years had passed, as Lu Yin had cultivated for almost eleven years now. At this moment, he could finally stand up to this person with his own strength.

On the other side, the bloodlust in Nightking Zhenwu’s heart had erupted completely. Lu Yin had been able to join the battlefield atop the Champions' Stage, which had proven his strength. However, from Nightking Zhenwu’s perspective at that time, Lu Yin had simply relied on his secret technique to do so, and he did not have the true strength to stand on that level. On top of that, Nightking Zhenwu had always been concealing some of his strength, as he did not want to be targeted by Bu Kong.

However, he had not held back with that Nightking’s Finger just now, yet his attack had actually been stopped by Lu Yin. The confrontation between the two was very similar to what had happened in the Daosource Sect’s ruins, but the outcome was vastly different.

At that time, Nightking Zhenwu had been able to easily crush this person without any effort. Even when Lu Yin had used his secret technique, he hadn’t been able to evade the Nightking’s finger attack. But at this moment, Lu Yin was actually able to directly challenge the Nightking’s attack; just how much time had passed since their last confrontation?

Nightking Zhenwu did not say anything, but in the depths of his eyes, his overwhelming bloodlust was palpable. His body flashed as he appeared right in front of Lu Yin. The Nightking tapped out with the same finger again, still using the Nightking Finger, but this time, the finger was wrapped with red lines. This was—nine lined battle force.

Lu Yin was surprised, and he quickly tried to dodge away, but how could the Nightking Finger be avoided that easily? Spiritual force spread out and covered the entire Champions' Stage as if an entire mountain was pressing down upon it. No matter where Lu Yin tried to hide, he would be struck by this finger, as this finger was not targeting Lu Yin’s physical body, but rather his spiritual force.

Helpless, Lu Yin's pupils transformed into runes as he weakened the strength of the finger strike. He then raised his right hand and converged his star energy to unleash the First Sun.

There was a collision, and the sun exploded, unleashing visible shockwaves that swept out in all directions. Zhuo Daynight had already been tossed to the edge of the Champions' Stage before this, and her enfeebled body was barely able to even stand. All she could currently see was a fuzzy, distorted void in front of her. She was unable to see what was happening in this fight, and Lu Yin and Nightking Zhenwu had already exchanged a dozen blows.

Nightking Zhenwu wanted to use his nine lined battle force to reinforce his Daynight battle techniques in order to crush Lu Yin.

However, Lu Yin was able to rely on his robust physique and Truesight to endure these blows.

The two of them were on the Champions' Stage, and their battle had erupted almost instantly.

Zhuo Daynight frowned as she observed the exchange with worry. She knew that Lu Yin's battle prowess had improved drastically, but nonetheless, she still did not believe he had caught up to Zhenwu of the Ten Arbiters. She simply hoped that the suppression of the cosmic phenomenon would be able to reduce the disparity between the two.

Nightking Zhenwu's berserk storm of attacks did not give Lu Yin the slightest chance to catch his breath, but fortunately, Lu Yin was not weak. He was actually treating Nightking Zhenwu like an Imprinter, and he cautiously took each step, which allowed him to manage to hold on. He hoped that someone else would come, and it would be best if they were one of the Ten Arbiters or some expert from the Neoverse. Lu Yin knew that he would not be able to protect the Champions' Stage himself, so he was merely hoping that it would not land in Nightking Zhenwu's hands.

Nightking Zhenwu had not expected Lu Yin to be able to last for so long. "In the Innaverse, Outerverse, and even in the Neoverse, there are no more than twenty people who can fight me like you. You should be proud of yourself."

Lu Yin did not answer, as Nightking Zhenwu's spiritual force was putting a great deal of pressure on him. The Daynight clan's battle techniques that used spiritual force were definitely not limited to what Lu Yin had seen so far.

"I'll give you this chance to join my Daynight clan and follow me. I can allow you to stand at the peak of the universe, and when I become a Progenitor in future, you may even have the chance to become a powerhouse with a power level of over 1,000,000, and you will be radiant for ages to come," Nightking Zhenwu offered.

Lu Yin mockingly replied, "Is this what you promised Liu Shaoge?"

Nightking Zhenwu's gaze trembled. "I didn't offer him any promises, as he followed me of his own accord."

After seeing that Lu Yin would not respond, Nightking Zhenwu frowned. "I'll ask you again—are you willing to follow me?"

Lu Yin swatted out with a palm, replying with his actions.

Nightking Zhenwu's eyes narrowed. "It looks like you don't understand the true disparity between us. Very well, let me give you a taste."

He then suddenly backed away and raised his right hand. The next moment, the entire sky seemed to become a scroll with Nightking Zhenwu in the very center.

"Lu Yin, hurry and escape! That's Skybreaker!" Zhuo Daynight suddenly screamed.

Lu Yin's scalp went numb, and he heard the Ghost Monkey's horrified shriek within his mind.

"Skybreaker? Someone actually learned that thing? Hurry up, Seventh Bro. RUN! That's one of the two unrivaled battle techniques that belong to the Daynight clan, and it's just as famous as Night's End, Daybreak. It can beat an entire generation into submission—you definitely won't be able to block it."