

The Ages 1691

Chapter 1691 - Blood Of The Old Gods

Sovereign Starfeather kept repeating the words 'no wonder!' Qingyu's cultivation level surpassed other octabane geniuses on Violetglory Star who were of the same age. "The Astraldome is your brother's playground, and might be yours in the future," he sighed. In his opinion, Qingyu's talent definitely surpassed that of Lingfeng, Xiaoxiao, and Feiling.

"Sovereign, I actually have something more important to tell you," Tianming said.

"Please speak." Sovereign Starfeather put aside his look of surprise.

"Look at these bane-rings. Do you see anything special about them?" Tianming asked.

"Special?"

Sovereign Starfeather was a little puzzled. Eyes solemn, he lowered his head and stared at the bane-rings on Qingyu's arm. With his eyesight, he clearly saw faint traces of red that formed ghost faces.

"This..." frowning, he added, "can you explain?"

"Someone dripped blood into her bane-rings. Another person who received the same treatment completely changed. Her bane-rings changed, her totems became evil ghosts, and she turned hideous. However, her strength, cultivation level, and talent seemed to skyrocket," Tianming replied.

"This is?!" After listening to his explanation, Sovereign Starfeather's expression drastically altered.

"What is it?" Tianming and Lingfeng anxiously asked. Judging from his expression, Sovereign Starfeather was definitely familiar with it.

"It's most likely the blood of the old gods! What an eye opener this is. The legendary blood of the old gods actually exists!" His eyes were filled with more admiration now than they were when Tianming had conquered the Gods in.

"Blood of the old gods? What exactly is it? What are the old gods?" Tianming asked.

As a sovereign and totemancer, Sovereign Starfeather definitely possessed vast knowledge. Even so, he took some time to think before answering, "According to ancient legends, every totem is in fact real. They're supposedly the gods of gods. We call them old gods. Because of that, the Violetcloud Imperium still has statues of various totems that we worship every day to thank the old gods who give us strength through our totems."

"You said that they're legends. So you're not sure if these old gods really exist?" Tianming asked.

"How should I explain..." After further contemplation, Sovereign Starfeather continued, "Maybe a million years ago, there were altars and temples dedicated to the old gods everywhere on the Violetglory Star. There were many religions based on them, and some people even claimed to be messengers of the old gods. However, this gradually faded. People realized that their totems wouldn't be affected even if they failed to worship the old gods, so a new belief gradually emerged—that is, old gods don't exist and totems were innate. We started to believe that, like beastmasters, our strength

comes from cultivating under the laws of heaven and earth and had nothing to do with old gods. In today's world, this belief is more popular, so faith in old gods has almost disappeared. I can't say with certainty that old gods exist, but you've brought me strong proof today. From the very beginning, I always believed that greater beings beyond sovereigns existed, that true gods exist!" Sovereign Starfeather became more excited as he spoke, while the look in Qingyu's eyes repeatedly changed.

Faith in old gods! Tianming had seen it in the Divine Moon Realm, where they enshrined the moonfiend or the canine voidgod. It turned out that the astralscape of order called them old gods and considered them the source of totems.

"Tianming, what do you think?" Sovereign Starfeather asked.

"Me? I only believe the truth, and seeing is believing. Maybe I'll have an answer if I see them one day," he said. After all, heavenly being totems were merely one type of totem. There were all kinds of totems, even strange ones like the gonggong watergod. It might be an ancient god, but what about sword totems? Could a sword be an ancient god? Taking a deep breath, he asked, "So the blood in my sister's bane-rings from an ancient god? Are you sure?"

"Of course. According to historical records, only the blood of the old gods can transform and evolve totems. Because totems were bestowed by old gods, all totemancers are their believers. And as you said, it existed in the form of blood before being dripped into her bane-rings, not flames or stones. That's consistent with historical records." Sovereign Starfeather's excitement signified that he had determined his beliefs. His certainty was important to him.

"So is there any way to remove the blood of the old gods?" Tianming asked. The names and effects of the nine drops of blood might be closely related, but saving Qingyu was most important.

"Remove it?" Hearing Tianming's words, Sovereign Starfeather was stunned and looked at him in disbelief.

"Yes!" Tianming nodded.

"Are you kidding? The blood of the old gods isn't a bad thing. On the contrary, it's extremely precious. I'll be honest with you, it's more valuable than a nine-star universal manna or a grade-nine divine artifact, even in the Mysterium Cluster. As a nonabane, Qingyu is already way ahead of others, the cream of the crop. With the blood of the old gods, she might become first in the entire universe when her bane-rings complete their transformation. At least in terms of totems, she'll be better than you," Sovereign Starfeather seriously, solemnly, and firmly said.

This was the first time Sovereign Starfeather had shown such fanaticism. Tianming was quite speechless. Seeing Qingyu and Lingfeng's confused expressions, he took a deep breath and said, "You're right, it may be a transformation, but there's a price to pay. Both my sister and her totems will become hideous and resemble ghosts. She'll become bloodthirsty and her power will transform from divine to evil."

"I understand. Will she forget everything and lose her mind?" Sovereign Starfeather asked.

Except for Li Wushuang's distorted thoughts at the beginning, she was clear-headed and retained reason. So he shook his head and said, "No."

"Isn't that fine then? In this world, power is divided into different attributes. Some look holy and others are evil. It all depends on who holds the power. Some use good to slaughter, while others use evil to save. What the eyes see and the ears hear are merely superficial. Power itself isn't good or evil. As cultivators, we shouldn't be limited by the world's prejudices," Sovereign Starfeather said.

"Sovereign, the problem is, if this goes on, her face will turn hideous and bleed. She won't be able to go out and see anyone," Tianming argued.

"Beauty is skin deep. Strength, talent, and bearing are every person's foundation. When she stands at the top one day, no one will care what she looks like," Sovereign Starfeather said.

"But she's just a little girl now. Who doesn't love beauty?" Tianming said.

"Beauty fades. No matter how beautiful the weak are, they'll turn to dust in the end. Only with supreme strength can one be respected for all eternity," Sovereign Starfeather explained.

Tianming blankly stared at him. He felt as if he only really met Sovereign Starfeather today. This was his view of the strong, similar to the sun emperor. Qingyu had heard the same words from the sun emperor as well.

"Trust me, Tianming, Qingyu. Don't give up. This is an opportunity for you to create history. The person who gave you the nine drops of blood must deeply love you," Sovereign Starfeather said.

Qingyu was speechless.

"Is there no way to remove it?" Tianming asked. "If we can remove it, we can still reconsider later, or even give it to someone else." Tianming understood Qingyu. Anyone who had seen Li Wushuang would know that this kind of power would only cause disaster. Qingyu wouldn't be happy.

"Give it to someone else?" After pondering it for a while, Sovereign Starfeather helplessly shook his head. "I'll be honest with you. I wish you could give it to me. I'm already old, so I don't care if I look like a ghost. Besides, I've heard that the blood of the old gods may even increase the number of one's bane-rings and transform their talent.... However, the blood has integrated with her bane-rings. There's no way to remove it." It seemed there was nothing he could do about it.

Qingyu couldn't hide her disappointment and sadness. Lingfeng gritted his teeth.

"Alright, thank you for clearing our doubts, Sovereign." Tianming cupped his fist.

Smiling, Sovereign Starfeather continued, "Believe me, you have a great future ahead of you."

"I hope you're right."

The siblings left Kilostar City with a heavy heart.

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On the way back, Lingfeng suddenly pulled out a small knife and looked as if he wanted to slash his face.

"What're you doing?" Qingyu asked.

"Don't be afraid. No matter how ugly you are in the future, I'll make myself uglier than you, so you won't have to worry that I'll despise you," Lingfeng said.

"No, it's bad enough that I'll be ugly. I don't want you to be ugly as well. Anyway, you'll be the one that's disgusted, not me." Qingyu bit her red lips, unable to control her tears as she spoke.

"I won't be disgusted," Lingfeng wiped away her tears and comforted, "Don't cry."

Tianming glanced back at them. In fact, he understood that it would forever be Qingyu's fear. The more indifferent she acted, the more panic she actually felt. "Let's not resign ourselves to fate yet! No one on the Violetglory Star can help you. I'll try the Astraldome. The universe is so big, there must be a way," he added.

"Thank you, Big Brother."

His words had given her a little hope.

"How do you feel?" Tianming asked.

"To be honest, because of the changes in my bane-rings, I feel like it's easier to achieve enlightenment, as well as break through to the next level," she said. It seemed the effects of the blood of the old gods had materialized.

Chapter 1692 - Nonabane Siblings

There wasn't a solution to Qingyu's problems for the time being. Thus, she could only focus on cultivation and fighting her way through the Astraldome with her totems and lifebound beast. By her side were Lingfeng and Xiaoxiao. The number of contestants from the helical-class Violetglory Star shot up to five, which surpassed the average skypiercer-class world. The three of them had just begun a ten-way battle in the Tranquil Battlefield, and Tianming had entered the wondersky realm to watch them. Victory came easily for Lingfeng, a second-level solarian, and Xiaoxiao, a third-level solarian. The two of them had long been on the Violetglory ranking. Their current performance caused another sensation on the Violetglory Star. The fact that they were all from the Violetcloud Imperium caused an imbalance in the fight between the two great factions of the Violetglory Star. Ever since Ye Chen had been defeated by Tianming, the Divineglory Dynasty was suppressed by the Violetcloud Imperium's momentum. After the ten-way battle, Tianming and the Violetcloud Imperium were celebrating, while the Divineglory Dynasty was enveloped in silence. Half of the Violetglory Star turned dim.

"Tianming was so eye-catching that we've all ignored the geniuses behind him."

"It looks like those two are on par with Ye Chen."

"If that's the case, why should the Divineglory Dynasty even bother competing with the Violetcloud Imperium?"

"The scales have tipped too far to one side. If the Divineglory Dynasty fails to make a move, the Violetglory Star will soon enter an era of Violetcloud Imperium supremacy when these people grow up!"

"You're overthinking things. I don't think the Violetglory Star can keep a genius of this level. Tianming previously defeated the number one genius of Skyway Tristar, so the mysterians' astralships must be on

their way. When the time comes, they take Li Tianming, Ye Chen, Ye Lingfeng, and Lin Xiaoxiao away, and peace will return to us."

"You must be from the Divineglory Dynasty. Do you really think it'll work out that perfectly? The reason Tianming and his friends were able to come so far is thanks to our resources and *mana imperius*. Even if they leave for the Mysterium Cluster, they'll return and take over! Wouldn't it be great if he could become the emperor of a nova source world?"

Because of Lingfeng and Xiaoxiao's performance, the Violetglory Star was filled with admiration and praise. Discussions and debates seemed to flow on without end. As they entered the Tranquil Battlefield, the craze entered hyperdrive. The month of Tianming's dormancy was destined to be their time. Things reached a peak when Qingyu participated in the ten-way battle. As an eleventh-level constellier, Qingyu's cultivation level wasn't considered high. In this battlefield, her talents were ordinary. As a nonabane, she was still incomparable to the sixteen-year-old Shenwu Yin, who was a second-level solarian. That was influenced by cultivation time. But with the halo of Tianming's sister, she stepped into the battlefield, first fighting as a beastmaster in an understated manner and persisting till the critical moment when she revealed her nine totems. The Violetglory Star's wondersky realm was almost frozen in shock. More than eighty percent of the spectators were speechless. Because Qingyu had never appeared before, few were watching her. However, nonabanans were capable of causing a sensation wherever they were.

"Tianming's younger sister is also a nonabane!"

As the crowd watched in excitement, Qingyu emerged victorious in the ten-way battle without having to use much of her combat power, successfully entering the first level of the Tranquil Battlefield. Nine totems shone in the light. Her lifebound beast and totems were synonymous with beauty. In that moment, she took on a new role: the goddess of Violetglory Star.

Their performance would be transformed into faith and be received by Tianming, thus acquiring countless Omniscient Threads without him actually doing anything. Although he stayed low profile and had yet to reveal the Godsin, the number of Omniscient Threads reached a hundred and twenty million and was steadily increasing. "It turns out that faith constantly fluctuates, so the Omniscient Threads will sometimes increase or decrease. If I make the mistake of disappointing the entire Violetglory Star, the Omniscient Threads might disappear in an instant." That would be caused by the collapse of their faith. He constantly reminded himself to remain steady and behave with caution.

"Right now, we'll be stronger than a team of five Ye Chens if the five of us form a team. Ye Chen can't fight us, so he's no longer a threat to the Violetcloud Imperium! But the most important thing now is to determine the distance between the Mysterium Cluster and Violetglory Star." The plan was to develop in the Violetglory Star for some time to maintain a balance with Ye Chen, but now the situation had changed. "The Violetglory Star has given me so much. Apart from bringing them glory, there's nothing I can give them now." Some things couldn't be rushed. As long as the Violetcloud Imperium didn't have any sinister intentions, Tianming would treat them as he had treated the Xuanyuan Dragon Sect and Azaresoul Palace. The only problem was the violet fog that Mu Ziyun poured into his *vita* during their soul-nourishing sessions.

"I'll deal with it later. I can't just lay out all my cards on the table. But then again, I've shown her that my vita isn't so simple in the process of conquering the Gods. If she has wicked intentions, I hope she can forget them." He started nourishing his soul before participating in the Astralium Seeking, but now he had a higher status in the astralscape of order and had gained the attention of the deific-class worlds. Whatever it was that Mu Ziyang had originally been planning, Tianming believed that it would be different now. Of course, he would still remain cautious. "I won't harbor any ill intent against others, but I'll never relax my vigilance against evildoers." That was the only way to survive.

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The three of them entered the Astraldome, while Tianming and Feiling remained in Violetpeak. The time Feiling and Tianming spent alone was quiet and peaceful. On this day, the sky was filled with bright stars, the cool breeze gently caressed their skin. In the courtyard pavilion, Feiling sat on the bench with Tianming's head in her lap. He brushed his face against her tummy, enjoying the tranquility of the moment.

"Let me have a look," Tianming said, glancing at her eyes. The cold blue had completely dissipated, which meant that her other personality had disappeared for the time being. At this moment, Feiling was gentle, sweet, and playful. In his eyes, this was the most beautiful version of her.

"Are you alright?" He lay back on her lap, looking up at her face.

"I'm fine, but don't look at me from this angle. I must be hideous." Feiling pouted.

"Don't worry. Your nostrils are beautiful, even those nose hairs of yours are sweet and attractive." He smiled.

"Go away!" Squeezing the bridge of his nose, she threatened, "If you keep up this nonsense, I'll flatten your nose!"

Tianming sat up, took her into his arms, and whispered into her ear, "I want to know. How do you feel? You must tell me if you're uncomfortable."

"I'm alright now. The other me won't appear for the time being," she softly said.

"That's good."

Feiling felt delighted that he was happy. Ears red, she bit her cherry lips and said, "Big Brother, I'm finally all better. You're not thinking of going to the wondersky realm to do something naughty, are you?"

Tianming quickly shook his head. "Of course not. What kind of man do you think I am. Your safety is the most important thing to me."

"But...." Pinching his arm, Feiling stared into his eyes, her gaze turning misty.

"But what?" Tianming was confused.

"It felt so good... I want more."

Tianming choked.

Chapter 1693 - The Stirring Of The Kunlan Realm

Feiling kept her head lowered as she spoke, her cheeks turning red in an instant as if she was drunk. Tianming sat up straight and looked at her in disbelief. "Holy crap! Feiling, I didn't think you were that kind of girl. How can an innocent little boy like me bear it?" Feiling glared at him. Not even a second passed before Tianming broke out in laughter and carried her in his embrace. More anxious than a monkey, he rushed into the room, breaking through the door despite the formation.

"Heavenly locus formation! Hurry up!" He appeared to be clearing the field for an important matter. Although it wasn't an actual fusion of the flesh, the sensations one experienced in the wondersky realm were just as strong. They soon entered the wondersky realm and arrived at Soulburn Hall, where snowflakes drifted down from the sky, transforming the world into a beautiful white paradise. The world seemed completely still and empty except for the young couple.

"Ling'er, aren't you afraid?" Tianming still had his senses. His gaze met with hers.

"There's nothing to be afraid of. I've thought about things... my fear that I'll never solve the problem, fear that I can't conceal the existence of another me. I came to the conclusion that it's better to face the problem head on than give in to 'her'. I'll do anything she refuses to do and we'll just see who's braver. If I don't fight and determine a winner, I'll forever be trapped in this scary whirlpool. I won't be able to be free in front of you." She spoke passionately, her eyes red with emotion. Tianming could sense strength within her. This was Feiling! She had never looked weak to him. Her Perpetual Nirvana, a hundred rebirths, had proved she wasn't weak. She had immense faith in herself. Maybe she had been frightened by her other self at first, but at this moment, she chose to fight. And how would she fight? She would do everything her other self hated, in both the wondersky realm and the real world. The victor had yet to be decided.

Her domineering words infected Tianming. Eyes red, he stared at the lovely woman in front of him and took a deep breath. "You're right. With everything that's happened, from Xuanyuan Xi to this, we'll be defeated if we retreat in fear. There's only hope if we fight it head on." Tianming wasn't always the dominant one in their relationship. Feiling's occasional outbursts of courage and tenacity surpassed his, because she truly loved life and longed to live. She didn't want her other self to live on.

"Big Brother, let's take it easy. Forget everything else. Life's too short, let's live in the present. I don't want to limit myself. I want to live freely like before. I'll hug if I want to, kiss if I want to. I don't care what she thinks." She was trying to prove that her body belonged only to her. In the cold snowstorm, her faith made her shine. Her firm gaze and unyielding courage were what made her unique. Tianming realized that looks were merely a small part of a woman's allure, but her soul and beliefs elevated her beauty to new heights.

"Forget everything, follow your instincts, and enjoy life." Such pure and honest love belonged to the young. There might be many rules in the secular world, but in this place, where only two of them existed, the dry flames and boiling passion were enough to make them forget everything and retain nothing but the undying courage to break the shackles between the two of them.

"I'm not afraid."

"I'm not afraid either."

Feiling had no way of predicting the consequences of provoking her other self. But if she didn't do so, she would never have the slightest hope of winning. Their fiery gazes met in the world of ice and snow where only pure love remained. After their first experience, the union of their souls was naturally more intense. In the frantic indulgence of their senses, they only had eyes for each other.

Snow fell on the glazed tiles of Soulburn Hall.

"Don't stop. Keep going. Don't ever leave." Sheer ecstasy eroded their souls and their lovemaking lasted for several days, until they were exhausted and fell into a deep sleep in each other's embrace.

This time, they were no longer afraid. There might be another battle once they awakened.

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Early in the morning, they woke up and began dual cultivation once more. After indulging, they had to face whatever was headed their way. This time, their intimate union had brought their souls closer to each other. The fighting spirit kindled by the nourishing of their spirit had made them completely fearless.

"Let's go!" Hand in hand, they stared into each other's eyes as they left the wondersky realm.

Their lovemaking had been so wild that they left traces all over Soulburn Hall. How could her other self, the Lord of Perpetia, be anything but furious? As soon as he left the wondersky realm, Tianming sensed a lethal threat. 'Feiling' wanted to kill him! The moment he opened his eyes, two dazzling blue lights descended from the sky.

"Bring it on."

It was as he had expected.

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Meanwhile, three days prior at the lake-like entrance to the Kunlan Realm, light and shadow flickered. Countless shimmering wings were faintly discernible—it was another surge of wings. It hadn't been long since the last one, but there were changes to the Kunlan Realm once more, which attracted the attention of all the primalwingers. Numerous primalwingers had already gathered there, such as Lady Floral and Ji Lingxian, the overlord's granddaughter.

"Will there be celestialwings this time?" They waited with bated breath. Countless wings flew out, each of them choosing a lucky primalwinger.

"There are many wings this time."

"How many are there in the Kunlan Realm? An infinite amount?"

The shimmering light illuminated the dim space at the bottom of Primary. Hundreds of millions dreamed of those dazzling wings that fluttered everywhere like butterflies, lighting up the world.

"There's so many of them." Ji Lingxian flew among the crowd, her pupils tinted with bright colors. One by one, primalwingers received wings and celebrated.

"Celestialwings...." As if she were obsessed, Ji Lingxian approached the Kunlan Realm. Her mother quickly caught up to her and said, "Xian'er, don't go any further. Be careful. You might fall into the Kunlan Realm!" There would be no coming back once she entered the Kunlan Realm.

Chapter 1694 - Sapphire Skywings

Countless wings flew past Ji Lingxian. Hypnotized by the beautiful scene, she couldn't extricate herself. "Will the Kunlan Realm fulfill my wish?" Her eyes were filled with obsession. With the passage of time, terrestrialwings were born. This time, there were more terrestrialwings than ever before, which suggested the possibility of the birth of celestialwings. At that moment, the entrance to the Kunlan Realm turned blue. The entire lake resembled gorgeous blue ice crystals that seemed to dance. It was as if hundreds of millions of sapphires were rolling around a plate.

"Celestialwings!" they all screamed. In the midst of the excitement, the blue lake condensed into a pair of shimmering blue wings that were composed of sapphires, like a bright and magnificent array of precious gems. Even if a small piece were removed, it could be worn as a necklace. These wings could conquer the entire cosmos with its beauty alone; they were the most gorgeous wings the primalwingers had ever seen in their lives.

"Sapphire Skywings!"

The crowd exploded in shock. They were definitely the most beautiful celestialwings in all of history, and according to the legends, only the most exquisite primalwinger could inherit them.

Tears welled up in Ji Lingxian's eyes. "How beautiful...." She was standing closest to the wings. The cause of her tears wasn't excitement, but sadness. If those wings hadn't been born, she wouldn't have felt such a strong sense of loss. It was heartbreaking to have laid eyes on the thing she most longed for, yet know she was destined not to have it. Even if she was recognized as a beauty, Ji Lingxian knew that she couldn't match that gorgeous blue and the glow of the swirling sapphires.

"Who in the world can match their beauty? Who's worthy enough? Who'll merge with them?" Tears streamed down her cheeks.

The primalwingers blankly stared as the wings flapped and moved across the sky, leaving a silvery clink that resembled a wind chime. Dazzling blue reflected in the eyes of every primalwinger. There was no doubt that these wings were more coveted than the Flashsoul Skywings that gave one agility and speed, as the Sapphire Skywings were top-grade attack type wings. According to historical records, they were steely and believed to be as hard as a grade-nine divine artifact once they matured. For the primalwingers, possessing the Sapphire Skywings was equivalent to being a nonabane.

The wings flew up, looking for a master. Who'll it be? Who'll soar to the top? Speechless with excitement, they all wondered the same thing. Their eyes darted around, trying to locate the lucky owner of the wings.

"Ji Lingxian! Only she is worthy!"

Collectively holding their breath, the crowd turned and stared at her. Most of them immediately recalled her failure to obtain the Flashsoul Skywings and the stunning primalwinger who had appeared for the first time. Those who had laid eyes on her couldn't forget her, even if they wanted to. At the

thought of that, their hearts skipped a beat and they helplessly watched as the pair of gorgeous wings flew past Ji Lingxian, who was ruthlessly eliminated. She bitterly wept.

"If she's not worthy of them, who else could they belong to?" They looked at one another in dismay. Like a butterfly, the wings ascended into the sky, nimbly avoiding many primalwingers.

"Who's it looking for?" Since Ji Lingxian had failed, many wondered if they might be the lucky one. But soon, the blue wings fluttered past the crowd, continuing to accelerate toward the eye of the storm and soaring up.

"How can it be?" They had never seen something like this happen. The wings born in the Kunlan Realm couldn't possibly leave Primary, but at that moment, one had disappeared before everyone's eyes.

"Follow them!" The primalwingers scrambled to chase after the blue wings, their eyes filled with madness. However, Ji Lingxian wasn't part of the crowd. All she felt was heartache; she had given up, because she understood that they didn't belong to her. Chasing after them would be useless.

"They've gone to look for someone who's a perfect fit," an elderly voice sounded in Ji Lingxian's ear. She looked up and saw an old thin man standing in front of her. With a kind smile on his face, he stretched out his hand and helped her up.

"Grandfather...." Ji Lingxian curled up in his arms, bitterly sobbing.

"Don't cry. If it's not meant for you, it'll only bring you trouble," said the old man.

After a while, Ji Lingxian looked up. Most of the primalwingers had already left. "Where will the wings go?" she asked.

"The Violetglory Star."

"Are there primalwingers there?" Ji Lingxian asked.

"There's only one," the old man replied.

"Oh." Ji Lingxian remembered. Sure enough, it still belonged to her.

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"Fuck!!"

The moment Tianming left the wondersky realm, an ice crystal came crashing down. Fortunately, he dodged in time or he would have lost his little guy.

"What the hell?" Just as the words left his lips, the entire hall was turned upside down. In the smoke and dust, the two blue lights above his head were extremely dazzling. Upon closer inspection, Tianming realized it was a pair of wings.

"That's so cool!" He clearly saw the neatly arranged sapphires. In that instant, the wings descended and appeared in front of him. Tianming could never have imagined that it had only taken them three days to fly from Primary. Three meters away from him, a woman slowly rose to her feet, her smooth skin appearing lustrous under the blue glow. Against the blue light, she appeared majestic and ethereal. She was none other than Feiling! But at that moment, she was a stranger to Tianming because her eyes were

the same blue as the wings. She was beautiful, but devoid of the warmth she had shown a few days ago. Although Tianming had expected it, he hadn't foreseen the arrival of the wings.

At that moment, she spread the wings on her back. After fusing with the Flashsoul Skywings, the three pairs of wings now had white thunderbolts imprinted on their feathers, which made her look fast and violent. When the blue wings merged with the other three, they all transformed into Sapphire Skywings. Eyes glowing blue, she rose into the air like a god of ancient times, the three sets of wings behind her brilliantly shining. Just looking at her made Tianming heat up.

"Boy! Do you have any last words before I kill you?!" Her voice was icy cold. Countless sapphires floated out from her wings and a three-meter-long crystal spear appeared in her hand, which she pointed at Tianming.

"Yes I do!" Tianming raised his hand.

"Speak!" she said.

"Can you spread your wings next time we're being naughty...?"

Chapter 1695 - Ferocious Girl

Spread your wings... Whatever for? A spiral in the air? Tianming was extremely brave to behave so arrogantly in the face of such a dignified goddess. Against the fluttering hair, elegant dress, and dazzling blue wings on her back, her light blue eyes seemed even more imposing, tinged as they were with an air of indifference and a certain arrogance. The three-meter-long spear made of broken sapphires in her hand flickered in the light, sending goosebumps prickling across his skin. She frowned, uncertain of what Tianming meant at first, but then realization dawned upon her. An icy wave washed over her as the wings on her back shook. White lightning and sapphires intertwined amidst an ear-piercing screech.

"That's the last straw!" No matter how good her temper was, she was now filled with killing intent.

"You make me forget about everything else," Tianming said calmly.

She bit her cherry lips, her delicate body slightly trembling as she clenched one fist and held the spear tightly in her other hand, her emotions on the verge of explosion. "From this moment on, any feelings we had in the past are over. You and I have nothing to do with each other!"

"Oh, that's not for you to decide," Tianming lightly said, but really he was moved. Although she seemed disgusted with him, the notion of their past affection was rooted in her subconscious. Past affection was still affection; it was clear that her time with Tianming had stirred up certain emotions despite her cold nature and strong refusal to allow the approach of others. But in the end, indifference prevailed over emotion. Tianming and Feiling's intimacy in the wondersky realm had pushed her over the edge.

She stared at Tianming's crotch, as if deciding whether or not to castrate him before their lovemaking in the wondersky realm moved to reality. Without another word, she made her move. The power from the Flashsoul Skywings gave her terrifying speed. In an instant, she appeared in front of Tianming.

"Hurry up!" Ying Huo shouted from a distance. Meow Meow, Lan Huang, Xian Xian, and a large number of Yin Chens quickly made their way over to Tianming.

"Little Li is in danger!" Xian Xian turned pale.

"Move faster or we're going to regret it!" Ying Huo shouted. They held on to Meow Meow's tail, looking extremely anxious. When they finally arrived, their dangling hearts found solid ground. But instead of joining the battle, they found a comfortable position to watch the fight.

"Sis, got any snacks?"

"I have dried fish."

"Take it out! Tortoise Bro, we need drinks!"

"Coming!" Xian Xian pulled out the "little" dried fish that was actually a hundred meters long.

"Wow!" They ate and drank, watching with relish.

"Go Ling'er!"

"Beat that scumbag!" Xian Xian clenched its fists in encouragement.

"Break him!" Spinning around in excitement, Lan Huang raised its two heads and roared, drawing the attention of many.

"Fuck!" Tianming thought they were here to save him. Being stuck with this group of lifebound beasts was depressing.

Feiling fiercely attacked. The Flashsoul Skywings gave her amazing flexibility, while the Sapphire Skywings could be used as a weapon and create a crystal storm. Her original abilities alone would be enough to deal with Tianming. After her first Perpetual Nirvana, she had quickly recovered her strength and even recently made a breakthrough. She was now a third-level solarian and comparable to Tianming in terms of astralforce.

"This won't be easy. Ling'er finally has the power to protect herself, as well as attack. She's fierce!" In less than twenty breaths, Tianming had experienced numerous close calls. With the Flashsoul Skywings, Feiling managed to dodge all his attacks. The power she currently possessed was a result of her Perpetual Nirvana, gifts born of suffering. Of course, the two celestialwings from the Kunlan Realm didn't hurt, either. Feiling's strength was comparable to Lingfeng and Xiaoxiao; she was strong enough to fight in the Astraldome on her own. For Tianming, her abilities were more annoying. Due to her control over space, Tianming found himself slamming into walls that slowed him down. The Flashsoul Skywings made her untouchable, and, at the same time, the Sapphire Skywings unleashed attack after attack. When retracted, the wings became a spherical shield that could easily withstand blows from a grade-eight divine artifact. The sapphire spear in her hand was equally resilient.

"Ling'er's combat strategy seems to have taken shape." Although Lingfeng, Xiaoxiao, and Feiling's abilities were distinctive, the latter was more balanced. But because she wasn't as effective at one hit kills, she had still failed to slay Tianming despite giving it her all.

In the face of this angry woman, Tianming couldn't use his ultimate move. After all, his abilities were lethal. "It's pointless to keep fighting. What Ling'er and I need is to conquer her other self!" At the thought of that, Tianming surrounded himself with the nine godswords, creating an impenetrable defense against Feiling's spear, shouting at the same time. "Don't just stand there, help me! Tie her up so she can't move even a single strand of hair, but don't hurt her."

"Yes!" those around him shouted.

This was Violetpeak, in the Violetcloud Imperium. In the real world, Tianming was protected by hundreds of Starchasers, all of whom had been immediately drawn there by the loud noises. Each and every one of them were at least tenth-level solarians and had cultivated for thousands of years. Even if Tianming and his friends were talented, this was merely a small fight in their eyes, but Feiling seemed to have ignored this.

"You shameless, despicable man!" She was so angry she couldn't breathe.

"Fine, I'll let you see just how shameless I can be," Tianming calmly said. The Starchasers rushed to surround Feiling.

"Tianming, fight me alone if you dare!" she sneered.

"Sure thing. We'll have a go when we're alone again." He smiled.

When these experts attacked, they could rip a hole in the heavens if they wanted to. Because the group of elders crowded around Feiling, she couldn't spread her wings. After all, the Sky Wings also had a distance limit.

"Tie her up and bring her to my room!" Tianming arrogantly said.

"Yes!"

"No problem!"

"Got it!"

"She's Astralking Tianming's wife. Let us women handle it. Rough men like you might hurt her delicate skin." Among the Starchasers were more than thirty women; Feiling despaired at the sight of their suggestive smiles.

No matter how fierce she was, she was restricted by her current body. There were limitations to her lethality; she wasn't invincible. In a matter of seconds, several rope-like divine artifacts were wrapped around her. As Tianming had requested, she couldn't move a single strand of hair.

"She's even beautiful when she's angry. This primalwinger and Astralking Tianming are a match made in heaven."

"Not bad. Her wings are so cool, too! She looks stronger than Ye Lingfeng and Lin Xiaoxiao."

"They're perfect for each other."

"Hurry up, let's send her to Astralking Tianming's room right away. We mustn't delay him."

As the women chattered, their hearts burned with excitement over the gossip. Feiling was almost hyperventilating, mad, yet helpless. Her cold blue eyes no longer seemed scary.

"You're on my turf now, so whatever I say goes. Got it?" Tianming smirked. He was worried about the blue in her eyes, which had yet to fade. It was clear that he hadn't subdued her. He wasn't making a fool of himself, but pushing her to the limit.

"Go in!"

She was bound like a rice dumpling and carried inside. No matter how she struggled, she couldn't tear away a single divine artifact loaded with the Starchasers' power, let alone seven or eight of them. The attentive seniors even fixed up her hair so she looked presentable.

"Astralking Tianming, she's a cutie. You must be gentle."

"Yes, you have to take it slow. If you're too rough, you might leave behind bad memories," they lectured.

"Don't worry, I'm a good man." Tianming patted his chest, his face the image of righteousness.

"Knock it off, the young lady is clearly just playing hard to get. I'd be thirsty if I were a man." They cheekily smiled.

Feiling was about to die of rage. How did her struggle become playing hard to get? The women left, keeping an ear out for any noise. Today's events were enough gossip material to last them a long time.

"Huh?" Ying Huo and the others were stunned.

"That's it?"

"But I still have dried fish!" Meow Meow was sprawled over the 'little' dried fish that was ten thousand times its size.

"Shameless! Little Li is too shameless! I must get justice for Ling'er," Xian Xian indignantly said.

"Forget it. You'll go blind if you go in there." Ying Huo quickly stopped Xian Xian.

With its heads stretched out, Lan Huang loudly asked, "Chicken Bro, what're they doing?"

"Shh... be quiet. They might be making a baby," Ying Huo said.

"What? A baby?!" Lan Huang exclaimed in wide-eyed shock, its voice so loud it echoed throughout Myriadmile City. A baby, a baby, a baby....

"That's great. Now everyone knows that Astralking Tianming is making a baby." Ying Huo covered its forehead.

Chapter 1696 - Woodpecker

Feiling was placed on the bed, tightly bound and unable to move. A terrifyingly cold light flickered in her eyes as she glared at Tianming, her expression frosty. She didn't need words to give her most vicious warning.

"Are you trying to scare me?" Leaning in, Tianming stared straight into her eyes. When he was less than three centimeters away from her, both of their breaths were audible.

"Don't you know everything? We've tried every trick in the book, and each time, you lay in my arms and shyly ask for me to go again. But now you pretend you don't know?"

"Shut up!" Voice hoarse, she bit her lips. The more she struggled, the colder her gaze became. While she was brimming with killing intent, Tianming stretched out his fingers and squeezed the corners of her mouth, forming a little 'O' shape. No matter how angry someone was, they would look adorable with their lips squeezed.

"Li! Mmm... die...." Despite her struggles, the divine artifacts remained secure. The difference in strength between Feiling and Starchasers was insurmountable, and the only part of her body that she could move was her eyes.

"We're a family. You're the one I love most. Don't do this, alright? Ling'er, maybe there isn't another personality. You're the Lord of Perpetia, and also Feiling. They're just different stages of your life. In the last ten years, you've accepted me as your lover, but not in the long years before that. Although rejection is engraved in your bones, it's also the reason you deny yourself," Tianming said.

"You're... wrong... I...." She couldn't speak clearly with her lips squeezed, but the more angry she was, the cuter she looked.

"Fine. We don't have to talk if you don't want to. Let's kiss instead," Tianming said.

"No... Mmph!" Her refusal couldn't stop Tianming. She could only helplessly watch as the man before her used her lips. After a long time, Tianming finally released Feiling, only to see her cheeks red from the squeezing.

"Oh? Are you blushing? My dear wife, that means you feel it too," Tianming laughed.

Feiling grit her teeth, so angry that she couldn't speak. How was this considered blushing? It was clearly due to his pinching!

Lips sore, she angrily, asked, "Are you a woodpecker?!"

"That's right. I'm a woodpecker, above and below, and I have both strength and stamina."

Such a man could even melt icebergs that had existed for a billion years. Not because of the temperature, perhaps, but out of sheer rage. Feiling had exhausted all the profanity she could think of.

"Baby, don't be angry. Listen to me, what you need is some time to get used to it. Anyway, we've already done everything in the wondersky realm. Give me a chance and we'll suppress that instinct of yours. I get it, intimacy makes you uncomfortable. But that just means you need a handsome young man who's as spirited as spring. As it happens, you're a lucky girl because I'm that man."

"Fuck off!"

"Do you mean on the bed? If that's what you want, I have no objections. After all, it's my duty to serve you. This may be my first time as a husband, but I was born for this role. If there's a rating for husbands, I must be one of the best."

"Shut up! You're so noisy!"

"Noisy? How can this be considered noise? My voice is so sweet. If anything, it sounds like the gentle caress of love. Do you feel it?"

Feiling glanced at his hand. What did it have to do with love? It was clearly his hand! She screamed in frustration. With how much she instinctively resisted, she was about to go mad. "Go away! I'm begging you...." She collapsed, light blue tears rolling down her face so her originally cold, aloof gaze appeared beaten and despondent.

Tianming quickly let go of her. Feiling was the most important thing in his life, so of course he wasn't willing to torment her; he didn't have a choice. Although he appeared easygoing, he panicked the moment her eyes dimmed. "Give me a chance, won't you? I won't let you down. I'm not clear about your real identity, but fate brought us together. These years may be short for you, but for me they're my whole life. I can't let go of you." Tianming stood in front of her, enduring the hatred in her eyes.

"No, that's impossible." Her hazy gaze swept over him like an icy wave.

"Don't force me," Tianming said.

"I'll never be yours if you touch me against my will. This isn't a joke. How am I supposed to love you when I hate you? How can I fall for a rude rapist who wants to suppress me?" She stared into his eyes, her every word solemn.

Tianming's mind was sluggish with shock. This was counterproductive; subduing her wasn't a good idea and might backfire. The harder he pushed, the more she hated him.

"If you really love me, you must respect me. We might have gone through life and death in the last ten years, but that doesn't mean I have to accept you in my long life. You're still far from that," she coldly said. Feiling seemed divided. It was as if she had amnesia and had become another person—that is, the Feiling who belonged to him. However, memories of her past had emerged little by little, causing a change in her personality. The two parts had their own beliefs and opinions, so it seemed like she was two separate people.

Tianming deeply inhaled. He understood now; what he wanted wasn't to conquer. That would be disrespectful to Feiling, and would only cause the two personalities to drift farther apart. Only by finding common ground could they be integrated and become one—the real Feiling.

"We can't change the past, deny who we used to be, or remove parts of our life," he said, his voice low.

"It's good that you know that." Saying that meant she was giving Tianming a chance, an opportunity to pursue her again. Perhaps the day her heart softened would be the day she was no longer divided. Seeing the cold and loneliness in her eyes, Tianming felt that he had a long way to go. The person in front of him was definitely the Lord of Perpetia he had seen in Xian Xian's visions. She might even be the old undying 'monster' related to the decapath era godswords.

Chapter 1697 - A Surge Of Wings

Tianming used to think that the solution was to destroy the Lord of Perpetia so that Feiling, who was in her twenties, remained, much like they had dealt with Xuanyuan Xi. But now it seemed inappropriate, because the Lord of Perpetia was her past self. They weren't two different souls. In fact, Xuanyuan Xi had never really disappeared. She was also part of the Lord of Perpetia's soul. After her soul dissipated, it merged with Feiling's vita, which was actually the integration of her innate and acquired godchild. In the beginning, Feiling's soul had split from Xuanyuan Xi's. However, because the latter's short life was

filled with cultivation and little else, it had no effect on Feiling. The Lord of Perpetia, Xuanyuan Xi, and Feiling were one and the same. They were her, parts of her that would always be there. If Tianming wanted to convince her, he would have to overcome those challenges.

Taking a deep breath, he said, "I understand. I was wrong, I'm sorry."

"It's too late," she coldly said.

"It's never too late." Tianming smiled.

Although she didn't think so, Tianming felt he had a chance. He couldn't convince her, but she failed to discourage him. With that realization, his conviction grew stronger. He was fortunate to have found an opportunity to return to the right path through conversation.

"Ladies, come in and untie her." Without hesitation, Tianming walked out and called the Starchasers.

"That quick? Astralking Tianming, you can do a lot better in this area. Sure enough, no one's perfect. You're better in certain areas and lacking in others," shouted one of the Starchasers.

"Oh, fuck off." Tianming grinned.

But when the women entered, they immediately knew what had happened. It was obvious they hadn't done it!

"Astralking, are you sure you want to untie her?"

"Yes!"

"Alright." Untying her was a simple matter of withdrawing their divine artifacts.

"That's really thoughtful of you, Astralking. It's not as fun when you're tied up with a divine artifact." They left laughing.

The two of them were alone once more, the only difference being that Feiling was no longer angry or trying to kill Tianming. Instead, she calmly looked at him. It seemed like her feelings of rejection had grown stronger. The air in the room was heavy; under her gaze, Tianming felt his entire body go cold.

"How about we find a way that works for both of us?" Tianming asked.

"Go on," she said.

"I'll keep a distance from you in the real world. I won't try to touch you, but you have to ignore everything I do in the wondersky realm. That way you won't be angry, and if you aren't angry, you won't appear. It's better that way," Tianming said.

She laughed coldly. Sure enough, it wasn't that simple.

To his surprise, she nodded. "Fine, keep your hands to yourself and I'll mind my own business. But if you break your promise, I'll never forgive you." Though she was reluctant, she could accept their intimacy in the wondersky realm. What she feared was intimacy in the real world.

"Thanks," Tianming said.

"Thanks for acting before it was too late," she said with her eyes closed.

Despite her words, Tianming felt as if he had profited. Judging by her actions, Feiling didn't want the situation to develop into a life and death struggle. Wasn't she the one with the upper hand? Why give in? It seemed like she was frightened of Tianming's advances.

"You can leave now and return Ling'er to me," he said.

"I don't want to see you, either!" Turning her back to Tianming, she closed her eyes and the chill in her demeanor gradually faded. The Feiling he was familiar with slowly came back. However, he failed to catch her resolute smile in that last moment. When she opened her eyes again, the blue had dissipated and her temperament had drastically changed. She was now the same carefree and bright young woman she had been in Soulburn Hall.

"Big Brother." Despite the tears trailing down her cheeks, she laughed with her hands covering her mouth.

"Ling'er." Tianming rushed to pull her into his embrace. But upon physical contact, Feiling's body immediately turned cold, like a warning from her other self reminding him of his promise, and he was forced to release her.

"Damn it!" he helplessly said. "Let's go back to the wondersky realm and make love until dawn!"

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Three days after the Sapphire Skywings had left Primary, the stillness of the Kunlan Realm was once again interrupted. This time, the movement was even more violent. The lake expanded, reaching ten times its original size. Countless wings flew from its surface as if they were escaping a catastrophe.

"My God!"

"Something's happening to the Kunlan Realm. We must inform the overlord at once!" Not even the birth of the Sapphire Skywings could compare to such intense activity. Almost all living creatures in Primary were startled.

"This is the first time in history we've seen such a great surge of wings!"

"We'll rise again! Primary is saved. When we're powerful enough, we'll occupy a nova source world. Our race will live on forever!" Races that existed in astral holes had no future, only death and extinction. Every generation lived in despair, and their desire for nova source worlds was no different from the specters of the Ninefold Hell.

"The Kunlan Realm is bursting with wings!"

Countless primalwingers excitedly shouted as transmission stones whizzed through the air. They gathered at the entrance of the Kunlan Realm, their numbers reaching more than a hundred times what they were before, and the number was steadily increasing. This was the first time in hundreds of thousands of years that the Kunlan Realm was so lively.

"The overlord is here!"

"The primalwinger royals are here."

"What happened to the Kunlan Realm? Who's behind all of this?"

A cacophony of voices swept across the area like a wave. Alarmed by the commotion, the cultivators of the Violetglory Star quickly sent personnel to deliver the news. A dense crowd had gathered at the entrance of the Kunlan Realm, so packed that the primalwingers were pressed against one another; no one would miss such a momentous event. Those closest to the entrance stared with wide eyes, not wanting to miss a moment. At the forefront was the overlord, as well as Lady Floral and Ji Lingxian, with whom Tianming was familiar. All of the primalwinger royals were present, even children as young as three years old.

Chapter 1698 - Reentering The Starcore

"The progenitor has appeared. The heavens have blessed us!" Tears streaming down his face, the overlord couldn't contain the excitement and joy welling up inside of him. The primalwingers followed as he knelt before the entrance to the Kunlan Realm. Just then, hundreds of millions of unowned wings flew out from the lake. Compared to the past, where they appeared in stages, wings of all levels surged out. Wings of all colors soared into the sky, forming the most beautiful scene in all of Primary's history, like a formation of hundreds of millions of butterflies.

"Kunlan Realm!" the overlord shouted. As he raised his arms and kowtowed, a pair of dark blue wings merged with his flesh. When the shock passed, a touch of icy blue flooded his eyes and he had completely changed. The indifferent man stood up and turned around to see the eyes of all the primalwingers turn blue. But in just a moment, each of their eyes returned to normal.

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As soon as Tianming entered the wondersky realm, Violetpeak began stirring with activity. It seemed Yin Chen also had something to say, so Tianming and Feiling left again.

"What's the matter?" Tianming asked Yin Chen. Before departing from Primary, he had left numerous Yin Chens behind. Having witnessed the events that happened, Yin Chen quickly recounted the situation.

"Countless wings? Enough for every primalwinger?" That meant an immense increase of strength for their entire race. "Were there any other changes?"

"No, but... it's kind... of weird!" Yin Chen said.

"Weird?"

Yin Chen's words weren't clear. Assuming that news from Primary had already arrived, Tianming sent a transmission stone to Gong Xiong, who used to be stationed there. Soon, the tall, bald man turned up with a smile. "What're your orders, Astralking?"

"What's going on in Primary?" Tianming asked.

"The Kunlan Realm is bursting with wings, and apparently, it's the first time this has ever happened. Every primalwinger has gotten new wings, so their strength will increase. But then again, it's been a long time since their nova source collapsed. They've lost much of their legacy, so even if they grow stronger,

they won't be a threat to us," Gong Xiong explained. If it weren't for the lack of resources in Primary, the Primalwingers would have long been conquered.

"The first time this has ever happened? But why?" Tianming frowned, turning to look at an equally confused Feiling. The Flashsoul Skywings, Sapphire Skywings, Prime Tower, and now a surge of wings in the Kunlan Realm.... He couldn't be certain if this had something to do with the Prime Tower or the Lord of Perpetia.

"Who knows? That's some crazy good luck. I heard that the overlord is ecstatic. They better stay out of the Violetglory Star or they'll face destruction. Can the Kunlan Realm save a crumbling world?" Gong Xiong sneered.

"Were there any other changes?" Tianming asked.

"No, but we're monitoring them. They're staying low after getting their wings," Gong Xiong said.

"Let me know if you hear anything else."

"No problem!"

After saying goodbye to Gong Xiong, Tianming turned around to see Feiling frowning. "Big Brother, I feel like I've forgotten something really important. It's there, but no matter how much I try to recall, I just can't remember anything. Why is this happening?"

"Maybe you don't want me to know," Tianming said.

"But I do," she anxiously said.

Shaking his head, Tianming grabbed her shoulders with a smile. "It's alright. Take it easy and maybe it'll come to you. This'll take a while, so don't worry about it."

The conscious and subconscious mind were different. Although she was aware, her subconscious rejected it. In fact, it didn't mean that she had a split personality. The awakening of another consciousness in her body led to a conflict with regard to Tianming, so both consciousnesses were isolated from each other.

"I don't want to be like this," Feiling bitterly said.

"It's alright, don't worry." Tianming patted her shoulder to calm her down.

"Thanks for being so understanding. Others must think I'm crazy." Feiling's eyes were red.

"Don't worry." Squeezing her shoulder, he softly continued, "Don't think about it for now. Focus on your fight in the Astraldome and keep yourself occupied, and maybe you'll figure it out."

She firmly nodded. When confused, working in a team and moving toward a goal would keep a person so busy they wouldn't have time to think. That way, one might recall certain things their subconscious mind was trying to forget.

"I'll go right now." She held Tianming's hand with a determined look in her eyes.

"Alright."

Taking her hand, Tianming stared into her eyes and said, "Remember, I'll be protecting you at all times. You can forge ahead bravely, I've got your back."

Her sorrow turned into joy.

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With Feiling, there was now a total of six Violetglory Star cultivators in the Tranquil Battlefield, five of them from the Violetcloud Imperium. All Violetglorians knew that the four geniuses, who possessed completely different styles and talents, were related to Tianming. He was at the heart of this quintet. A man unlike the specters, Lingfeng was like a sworn brother to Tianming. The nonabane beastmaster, Qingyu, was Tianming's sister. As a beastmaster whose lifebound beast was comparable to Ye Chen's Desolate Chaos Progenibeasts, Xiaoxiao was rather low key and no one knew how she was related to Tianming.

Having recently entered the Astraldome, Feiling had altered the Violetglory Star's views on the primalwingers. Her gorgeous looks, dazzling wings, and incredible abilities.... Ever since she entered the Tranquil Battlefield, the atmosphere reached a boiling point, but the most interesting part was her relationship with Tianming. When news about them spread, most people thought they were a match made in heaven.

To Tianming's utter shock, there was a decrease in Omniscient Threads. When they learned that he was taken, Tianming had lost millions of female believers. Thus, he was extremely eager to enter the Astraldome and show off his abilities again, but before that, Tianming focused all of his effort on cultivating. After familiarizing himself with the Godsins, the first thing he did was head to Kilostar Capital so that Sovereign Starfeather could take him back to the starcore.

Chapter 1699 - Bloodweep Swordheart

"It all depends on your own choices. There's nothing I can do to help," Sovereign Starfeather said.

"Understood. Thank you nonetheless, Sovereign." After Tianming expressed his gratitude, he gripped Godsins and entered the cloud of divine hazards in search of the grade-eight ones. It was said that there were ten or more of those within.

"They were attracted here by the Galactic Godsins, so I'll use it to search for them." Galactic Godsins was both a grade-nine divine pattern and the name of a grade-nine divine hazard. Reaching the center of the cloud, he raised the sheet-thin but razor-sharp Godsins up. When he channeled his astralforce into it, green 'veins' began surfacing on the blade as if it was a living being. The veins were actually grade-nine divine patterns.

An inky-green aura of death began to emanate from the sword; it was the power of Galactic Godsins and the origin of the frostskey plague. The aura was able to seep into the flesh of the living, absorbing all the warmth they contained until its prey froze to death. Only then would it leave the body, larger than before, and continue spreading until all life around it was extinguished. Without anyone to stop it, it could extinguish all of the mundane lifeforms on an entire astral world. Only astral physiques could resist its power. If Frozen Glasstree could be considered the king of divine hazards, Galactic Godsins was their ancestor. Its power dyed the cloud of divine hazards an inky green the moment it was released.

Tianming waved the sword around and heard a clink. "Here, eh?" The yellowspring fish within the sword had served as an artifact soul for a long time and was even more embedded than the artifact soul of the Lifesteal Silverdragon. As such, Tianming could interact with it somewhat, and even direct it around, especially after it had been domesticated. Tianming had it guide him through the cloud, and he eventually felt that his target was close. Rumbling was coming from ahead, like the beating of a heart.

"This is...." Tianming was a little stunned to see the divine hazard up close. It actually looked like a gigantic heart! Every time it beat, it sent a drumming sound through the clouds. The strong smell of blood that wafted over almost made him puke. "This is a strand of sword ki?"

His horizons were expanded. For grade seven and below sword ki, they still somewhat looked sword-like. However, the Frozen Glasstree already hadn't conformed to that expectation, and this time he saw a heart.

"If this is like the Frozen Glasstree, it isn't real flesh and blood. It just took a form similar to a heart. However, there must be a reason why it assumed this outer form. The Frozen Glasstree took the form of a tree as it was best able to utilize its destructive capabilities that way."

Looking closer, Tianming saw the element of the sword ki. Outside the heart were many dense blood vessels that got filled with blood every time the heart beat, constantly cycling the blood. Those blood drops all looked like swords. Though they didn't seem sharp, they appeared sinister, and that was just the blood visible from the surface.

"This sword ki is perfect for the Blooddragon Sacrifice!" His eyes shone. While the Frozen Glasstree suited the Fienddragon Blood Transience, that synergy paled in comparison with that of the Blooddragon Sacrifice and this heart.

"It's called the Bloodweep Swordheart," Sovereign Starfeather said when he approached with a look of praise. "Having never left the nova source, it's bound to be much more powerful than the Frozen Glasstree. The powers within are so powerful that you wouldn't stand a chance of absorbing it without the Galactic Godsins. Even so, it's still rather dangerous. Do you want to try out something else first?"

"I'll eventually have to get to it, so I might as well try it now!" Tianming couldn't think of a better name for it. The sword ki within the heart formed a sea.

"Fortune favors the young and the bold, huh. How envious." Sovereign Starfeather watched as Tianming fearlessly approached the beating heart. It felt the presence of the Galactic Godsins and beat even faster, letting out loud thumps. Though it was a beating heart, it seemed like clashing planets. The bloody sword ki from within surged out and pointed toward Tianming.

"Go!" Tianming raised the sword and charged toward the heart, unleashing Galactic Godsins from his weapon. The inky-green miasma spread out like a gigantic beast and enveloped the heart. The Bloodweep Swordheart respectfully bowed to the more powerful divine hazard, but Tianming would still have to endure terrifying pain to absorb it into his sword body.

"The path of cultivation is the path of self-torture! I'll proceed for the sake of the future!" He was truly facing too much pressure. So far, he still didn't know what had befallen his parents. Not to mention, he needed power to protect his lover, sister, friends, and bestial pals, and eventually save his godfather,

whose fate was yet unknown. There was also the upcoming threat of the Mysterium Cluster, pushing him on a path of no return. He yelped with pain within the cloud of ink green.

Sovereign Starfeather listened with his hands behind his back, seemingly shaken. "Looks like he's shouldering quite the burden...."

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Once the process to assimilate the sword ki started, it was only a matter of time before it infused into the albi of Tianming's body. As long as he endured and persevered, he would be able to take on even more in the future, equipped as he was with a new weapon and his ultimate technique. It was far easier than becoming a solarian.

Chapter 1700 - Regal Return

Being able to endure suffering wasn't hard; many people were capable of such a thing. However, breaking through himself to grasp an even higher mastery over his Imperial and Lifesbane Wills to transform their constellations into sacrosuns was the truly hard part. Tianming used all his efforts to continue advancing toward the Solar stage. Apart from that, he also practiced the seventh strike of the Ninedragon Tribulation, assimilated divine hazard sword ki, and cultivated his soul. For that, he used a portion of his time to cultivate his soul with Mu Ziyang, which always left her drained and worn out.

"I was sucked dry by you again, brat... I'm getting old and useless," she said.

"Rest well and train. Don't slack off. I'll come back again," Tianming said.

"Talking back at me, eh, even though I just did you a favor.... Get out of my sight."

With her nourishing his soul and guiding him on how to cultivate it himself, his soul had greatly improved. Within a short month, he was close to the third regal soul level. Most solarrians had third regal souls, apart from geniuses who were too young, so Tianming was actually only catching up. As usual, his soul would be covered in violet fog every time, which he removed with the Soul Tower. He didn't dare to confront Mu Ziyang about it, and he wasn't sure whether it was truly dangerous or just a misunderstanding anyway. Either way, their relationship would remain good as long as that wasn't exposed.

"I hope this will be a place that continues warmly welcoming me." That was his heartfelt desire, but whether it would come true would depend on the actions of others. "Well, my safety shouldn't be a concern now, after all that happened in the Astraldome. If anything were to happen to me, the Violetglorians would have a hard time explaining it to the mysterians when they come."

He couldn't wait to return to the Astraldome. When a month had passed, he was finally allowed back in. Over that month, he had obtained two strands of grade-eight divine hazard sword ki thanks to Godsin, namely the Bloodweep Swordheart and Ireflare Silkworm. The latter was a fire-type grade-eight sword ki, which was a level higher than his infernal dragon sword ki. It was shaped like a silkworm and contained boundless flaming sword ki, being comparable to Frozen Glasstree in power and incredibly suited for the Blazedragon Fireblast.

Now, he was much stronger than he had been a month before. The only things that he hadn't yet managed to crack were the seventh strike of the Ninedragon Tribulation and becoming a solarian. He was just a hair's breadth away, but he couldn't break through for some reason.

"If I can break through this level, I'll grow much stronger than before." He resisted the temptation to charge back into the Astraldome, instead choosing to keep searching for the path to break through in the Imperius Ruins. As long as he broke through, he would be able to clear the fifth level of the Tranquil Battlefield without having to quit halfway!

Within the Imperius Ruins, he sought out caeli like a thirsty man in a desert, seeing how sovereigns of the past broke through the crucial bottleneck and became solarrians in their youth. For Xiaoxiao, it was consuming caeli. For Lingfeng, all he needed to do was to consume pills. But those methods wouldn't work for him. Both he and Qingyu had to do things the normal way, and they were similarly stuck. Even so, despite his desperate desire, he still had no results after another month at the Imperius Ruins. By then, two months had passed since he last went to the Astraldome.

"The path is right before me! Why can't I step on it? Is it the problem with Imperial Will or Lifesbane Will? Which should I take?" He took a deep breath. "My head hurts...."

He took some time off to relax and calmed down. "I think I'm pushing myself too hard. I should just try for the fifth level of the Tranquil Battlefield as a twelfth-level constellier either way. Maybe I'll get something out of it." He had wanted to shake the Violetglorians once more once everything was ready, but achieving everything he'd set out for was still challenging. Patience was what he needed now.

"Not to mention, I already broke through once and got three strands of grade-eight sword ki and the grade-nine Godsinn, not to mention a manna imperius. It should be enough, right?" His gaze ignited once more.

"I kept myself secluded for an entire month and haven't shown up in the Astraldome for the past two months. I bet the Violetglorian spectators are getting anxious." It turned out that he had actually lost hundreds of thousands of fans, a sign that their patience for him was still limited; it was getting harder and harder to inspire them. By now, even the mysterian spectators were getting frustrated.

"It's time to head back!"

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During Tianming's two-month absence, the Violetglorian spectators sated their hunger by watching Lingfeng and the rest at the Tranquil Battlefield. So far, Lingfeng and Xiaoxiao had made it to the fourth level. They both participated in the Astralium Seeking, but this time around, there wasn't a separation between cultivators under thirty and those under a hundred, so they were temporarily stuck at that level. Feiling made it to the third level and was on her way up the Myriadeyes Wonder. Qingyu, however, was lingering at the second level, having not become a solarian yet. However, her identity as a nonabane and Tianming's younger sister caused some waves in the Mysterium Cluster.

The four of them didn't have a chance to face off against top geniuses from deific-class worlds, so they didn't get nearly as much attention. Their experiences were plainer in comparison, which made the Violetglorians crave Tianming's return even more. Seeing his badassery was addicting. The personalities of the other four, on the other hand, were a little too plain.

Eventually, Tianming returned to the wondersky realm.

"Violetglory Disciple Li Tianming, are you here to challenge the Astraldome?" the wondersky fairy asked like usual.

"Yes!" he said, his fighting spirit burning bright. "But before that, shift that bird of mine to another spot."

"Apologies. That's part of your biology and we are unable to change it," said the fairy.

"I'm talking about that lifebound beast tattoo!"

"Understood." The wondersky fairy had never seen someone who asked to change tattoo locations every time he came in.

Once Ying Huo was moved away from Tianming's crotch, it came back to life and sighed with relief. "Looks like we're pretty lucky today."

Before the rest spoke, the wondersky fairy made an exciting announcement across the wondersky realm. "Attention! Li Tianming will enter the Astraldome once more and head to the Tranquil Battlefield's fifth level!"