

## The Ages 811

### Chapter 811 - Fifth-Level Death Phase

Within the lifebound space, Meow Meow was sleeping with all four legs up in the air. Despite the shaky and noisy surroundings, it slept on soundly, as if nothing would ever wake it. The commotion had been ongoing for quite a while now, and it was all thanks to Lan Huang running about within the lifebound space. It was playing a one-sided game of tag with the little grey egg. As for Xian Xian, it had eaten its fill during the battle with Qing Ming, so it was currently digesting all the food it had consumed. The belly of its spiritform was bloated to reflect its current state. They didn't look the least bit ready for a fight to Tianming.

"Oh well. We've been fighting a little too hard lately. I suppose I can let them rest up for a bit," Tianming said, lying down comfortably in the lava.

"What are you doing? Are you really not going to the black hole star? There might be countless treasures waiting for you! Aren't you even the slightest bit moved?" Ying Huo tempted.

"They'll only be useful to me if I'm alive!"

"You cowardly piece of trash."

"Why don't you go then?"

"Huh? Forget it. I can't afford to let those old fools mess up my hairstyle." Ying Huo spread its wings and groomed its feathers, fashioning a crown of feathers on its head and appearing satisfied with the results. "I'm far too handsome. I should be careful when I look into the mirror, lest I end up falling for myself."

In truth, it wasn't that Tianming didn't dare to make a move. Instead, it was due to an epiphany. "Now that Ghoulish King Qing Ming is dead, they don't dare to even continue their treasure hunt. All they can do is wait in ambush for me. If anything, they're the ones who are wasting time, not me. Since they want to wait like idiots, I'll just let them!"

That was a sign of his maturity. There were times when reckless abandon wasn't the worst thing he could do, but there were also times when he had to swallow his pride and endure. Not to mention, in a test of patience, he had less to lose.

"With the treasures in my hand, I can wait as long as they want to. They'll die before me anyway."

His youth was his main asset, and he was still in his prime growth phase. Even without the Old Deepstar Path or good karma, he could still engage in cultivation. "Let's cultivate on this star of fire then."

His enemies had been put in a rather awkward position. With how large the Kilostar Domain was, finding Tianming was akin to finding a needle in a stack of identical needles. And even if they did spread out to search for him, they would easily create an opening large enough for Tianming to slip through. What was even more terrifying was that with Qing Ming dead, they couldn't be certain how powerful Tianming was now. As he was probably quite far away from the last black hole star, they would have to split up and travel quite a ways away if they were to look for him, which would give him ample time to

leave for somewhere else. As such, Tianming decided to suppress his urge to charge straight toward the ninth black hole star and entered seclusion to cultivate.

The days passed one after another. He no longer cared about what was happening around the black hole star and was instead completely immersed in his own world. He was studying the mystical heavenly patterns within the Prime Tower and Grand-Orient Sword. However, it wouldn't be able to compare with the gains he got from good karma, nor the Old Deepstar Path. After all, he was now at the fifth-level life phase.

Soon, a month passed. While he didn't make much progress, he wasn't in much of a rush. "No matter how slow I am, I'm still growing much faster than those on my level. Even Ye Bodhi would have to spend at least a few years to make a breakthrough."

While he wasn't paying close attention to his enemies, he knew their patience was definitely being worn down at a staggering rate. They were the desperate ones, not him. "Let's keep going!"

He continued immersing himself in cultivation. Lately, he had broken through too quickly, so he really needed to spend some time to stabilize his foundations. Eventually, two months passed, but he still wasn't in a rush. Every day, he discovered new things within the sword and tower. He also pondered his recent experiences, picking out insights that could benefit him in his cultivation. While Imperial Will seemed to be rather complicated, there was an ironic, arcane simplicity to it.

"At the end of the day, it's a matter of will. The power of the heart. Formless though it is, it is also one of the strongest foundations an elite can have."

On top of his cultivation, he also focused on improving his swordplay. He treated the Kilostar Domain like his personal training ground, as if the angry mob waiting outside for him had nothing to do with him whatsoever. Soon, three months had passed. Since he'd started cultivating again, he hadn't spent three months without a single breakthrough before. But this time around, he didn't appear the slightest bit hasty, having stabilized his state of mind, something that allowed him to walk the path of cultivation with an even better footing. Finally, on the hundredth day since he entered seclusion, he rose to the fifth-level death phase.

"I made it." When the death tribulation force came surging, he felt refreshed through his entire being. His current breakthrough seemed to mirror his mental growth as well. "Three months is actually really slow for me. However, it's still not a speed anyone can compete with. The path through the Samsara stage to godhood isn't simple, after all."

The Kilostar Domain was basically a wasteland for cultivation, after all, and lacked any special resources he could use. He stretched comfortably on the fiery star and looked toward the black hole star.

"What options are available to me right now?"

While he felt the surging power of the death tribulation force in him, he didn't feel any suppression from the sealing formation. He casually punched, causing space itself to contort and shatter. It appeared that his power was now beyond the limits enforced by the Kilostar Domain. "Here I come, old fools!"

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The atmosphere at the ninth black hole star was tragic to say the least. More and more people realized that they were just waiting there like fools. As long as Tianming didn't show up, they wouldn't be able to go on searching for treasure. The entire progress of the Nonahall Divine Realm's foray into the Kilostar Domain had stalled. Given Tianming's current power, nobody would be able to find him as long as he chose not to show himself.

"I'll go take a walk," Li Caiwei said, finally unable to bear it. The whole time, Hexapath Swordfiend Feng Qingyu hadn't returned to their side either.

"You just can't wait to start searching for treasure again, right?" Xue Yi asked.

"Of course. How long are we going to wait here, anyway? A year? Ten years?" she said, rolling her eyes. Her words sank into Xue Yi like merciless blades.

There was no doubt that he had been under the most pressure during the past three months. Not even torturing Yi Xingyin had worked. Since Tianming wasn't nearby, he didn't even know that Yi Xingyin had been brought there.

Despite Xue Yi's cold gaze, Li Caiwei stubbornly left, displeasing the other Nonahall tribulation elders even more. Some of them seemed like they really wanted to leave as well.

"If it weren't for the unique nature of the Kilostar Domain, there's no way we'd be so easily led in circles by Tianming..."

It was a rather awkward predicament indeed. Amidst the crowd, Long Yichen sneakily approached his father. "Dad, I need to talk to you in private."

"Huh?" Long Cangyuan pulled him aside and asked, "What is it?"

"Well.... Do you have a starmap?"

"No. Why do you ask that?"

"I suddenly recalled that Ye Bodhi had a method he used to identify where treasures could be buried. He basically connected four stars in a line together. If I had a starmap, I could give it a go."

"What?! Why didn't you say so earlier?"

"We've been waiting for Li Tianming to come for so long that I'd forgotten about the treasure hunt entirely. It only occurred to me when the lunar master went off to search for treasure," he said with his head lowered.

"You pig-brain!" Long Cangyuan really wanted to give his head a hard bonk.

"Dad, can I go on a personal treasure hunt too if you can get me a starmap?" Long Yichen asked anxiously.

"Forget it," Long Cangyuan said, his expression turning stern all of a sudden.

"Why?"

"We aren't Biritual or Hexapath. We can't afford to defy Nonahall like they can."

"I see. Then should we tell them?"

"Of course." Long Cangyuan brought his son to Xue Yi and told him about what he had just learned.

"I'm really sorry for forgetting about it. Ye Bodhi only made a brief mention about it back then, so it didn't really make a big impression on me," Long Yichen said.

"Connecting four stars in a line? How does that work?" Xue Yi asked.

Long Yichen told him what he knew.

"So if you connect three marked stars on a single line, the next unmarked one on the line will likely contain treasure?" Xue Yi and the others' eyes glowed with hope. As long as they could reliably tell where the treasures were, they wouldn't have to send too many people away to locate them.

"Let's give it a try." The few ghoulish kings and sect masters started searching for stars that met that criteria. As there were quite a few of them, it would take some time.

"Everyone, how does this line look?" Long Cangyuan said as he drew a line. "It's a straight line that barely fits three stars on the map, only one of which is unmarked!"

Everyone turned to the last star.

"This is a fiery star. It doesn't look too far from here, either! We'll reach it in a short while!"

Xue Yi immediately made a decision. "Let's split into two groups. We'll leave one here and wait for Tianming to fall for the bait, while the other goes to claim the treasure."

With so many people, each group would still have around forty thousand tribulation elders. Splitting up wouldn't make much of a difference. Tianming was still mortal, after all, not a god.

Soon, they were ready to depart. "Let's go!"

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Xuanyuan Dao remained behind at Soulburn Hall to guard the sect, while Xuanyuan Yu and Xuanyuan Xiao had left with Fang Taiqing. Currently, there were five other third-origin tribulation elders from the Xuanyuan house and Fang Qingli guarding Soulburn Hall. The sun's rays gently shone on the courtyard during daybreak and Feiling was sitting on a swing, enjoying the refreshing morning breeze as it brushed through her hair and over her dress.

"Your Eminence," Fang Qingli said, standing at the entrance of the courtyard.

"Has there been news from the Kilostar Domain?" Feiling quickly asked. Fang Qingli would come to give her daily updates on the situation, after all.

"Not yet. The imperial son appears to have gone into hiding."

"He's lying in ambush, no doubt. The chance he's waiting for will come soon." Hope returned to her expression, though she felt a little more anxious internally.

"Certainly."

"You may leave now."

"Your Eminence seems to be really concerned for the imperial son."

"Of course. He's the successor of the founding ancestor, after all."

"I'm sure he will be fine thanks to the founding ancestor's blessings," Fang Qingli said, before she turned and left.

When she was gone, Feiling smiled. "No way. He's being protected by the thousand paper cranes I folded for him."

## **Chapter 812 - Flameyellow Continent's Strongest Warrior**

On the star of flames—

"After entering the death phase, my Aeonian Grandbane will drain my vitality. Breaking through to the next level should be faster than entering the death phase."

Tianming was previously on the edge of breaking through to the next level. Thus, he was almost entirely focused on condensing his samsara rings. He was pleased to be able to wreck the starry sky with a single punch.

"In fact, even the ghouls are at the seventh-level death phase. Right now, I'm able to fight eighth-level death phase samsaras."

Without a doubt, dealing with Xue Yi and the other ghouls would be more difficult than fighting Qing Ming.

With that, Tianming passed through the hot lava and erupting heat of the fiery star, and soon arrived on the surface. At this moment, he was dumbfounded!

"Holy shit!"

He saw more than thirty thousand people coming from the direction of the black hole star. When Tianming arrived on the star's surface, the elders had already surrounded the star. There was no way he could escape.

"How did they find me?"

Tianming was puzzled, because he had always been careful.

"But then again, if they could easily locate me, they would've come to me earlier. Why wait a hundred days?"

Narrowing his eyes, he finally noticed a clue.

"They haven't noticed me!" Tianming breathed a sigh of relief and quickly turned around, then jumped out of the volcanic cave and said to himself, "This means they're not looking for me."

With as many as thirty thousand opponents, Tianming didn't think he could kill them all even though he was at the fifth-level death phase.

Tianming quietly hid himself. Moving alone was indeed very convenient. For example, no one could find Dugu Jin or Feng Qingyu, if that was what they wanted.

With his third eye, Tianming was able to vaguely see through the magma and hear some of their conversations. Most of them were quiet because they were in the presence of several esteemed men. Tianming managed to find them.

"Long Cangyuan and Xue Yi."

As he stared at the red- and blue-robed men, a fierce light flickered in his eyes. Aside from them, there were some third-origin tribulation elders and hundreds of second-origin tribulation elders that were eighth-level samsarans.

"Why is such a large group of people interested in this star? Could there be treasure here?" Tianming whispered.

"How could there be such a coincidence! There's treasure on the star you randomly chose? Doesn't that mean we're rich?" said Ying Huo.

"The trouble is that the star has been surrounded and they have too many people on their side. I can't leave."

"We can give Cat Bro a try. Maybe he can escape while they're still unaware." Ying Huo pursed its beak.

"Don't worry. Let's see what they're trying to do," said Tianming.

"I think you're coveting treasure," said Ying Huo.

"So what if I am? Talents and treasure belong to those who are full of virtue."

"I don't know about that, but your 'tadpoles' are certainly full to the point of overflowing." Ying Huo laughed.

"Fuck off!"

Tianming was embarrassed to associate with the vulgar bird.

While they were talking, Tianming was monitoring Xue Yi and the others. The ghoulish king held a starmap, pointing at it as he stared at the star of flames below his feet. Tianming vaguely heard him say, "According to the four linked stars, there should be treasure hidden on this star."

"I think it's very likely. After all, my son Yichen said that the first two stars with treasures were part of four linked stars." Long Cangyuan seemed to have no trouble bootlicking.

"Ghoul King, I may be able to pinpoint where the treasure is located..." Long Yichen said softly from beside them.

"Come here!" Eyes lighting up, Xue Yi waved to him. Long Cangyuan seemed gratified—Long Yichen would have made a great contribution if they managed to seize the treasure.

Tianming was frustrated as he watched Long Yichen gesture at the starmap.

“Does he know the pattern for the treasure? If I’d known that, I would’ve interrogated and killed him!”

Throughout his time in the Kilostar Domain, Tianming had only showed benevolence that one time, yet it was this fish that slipped through the net and caused trouble.

“It looks like I must be merciless to those from the opposing side, no matter if they’re good or evil. As long as we aren’t from the same side, our hearts and minds are different.”

He was curious. Was there really a pattern on the starmap known as the four linked stars?

He too had a starmap on him. Spreading it out, Tianming contemplated the pattern of the four linked stars, but couldn’t decipher its mysteries.

At that moment, Long Yichen and Xue Yi suddenly looked in his direction.

"Ghoul King, if the treasure exists, it should be in this position. At the time, Ye Bodhi took the starmap to activate the Galactic Vortex Formation and unearth the tribulation artifacts," said Long Yichen.

“I understand.” Xue Yi looked at the starmap in his hand.

What Ye Bodhi had was the original starmap, while his was just a duplicate.

"The duplicate is unlikely to have any special effects. However, the first two times might not necessarily have been caused by the real starmap, especially since Ye Bodhi had nothing to do with it the first time.”

Xue Yi decided to give it a go.

As he approached Tianming’s position, the white-haired youth was in the midst of contemplating the four linked stars.

“Hey, the slit-mouthed monster is coming,” said Ying Huo.

“Huh?” As soon as he looked up, Tianming realized that Xue Yi was close to him.

“Holy shit!”

He bolted into the depths of the star of flames. Being discovered and surrounded by his enemies would put him in a passive position. If they were going to fight, Tianming wanted to take the initiative.

In a rush to leave, Tianming didn’t realize that the stars on the starmap had begun brightly shining the moment he entered a certain area. The dazzling light couldn’t be concealed at all, and was clearly visible to those outside. It shone through the magma, spreading all around.

“What’s that?”

“Could there be treasure? But the ghoul king has yet to enter.”

“There seems to be a figure of a man.”

Tens of thousands of elders were startled by the light.

The light was even clearer to Xue Yi, who stood nearby. His gaze followed the light and zoomed in on Tianming.

“It's him! Li Tianming!”

Even though the figure was vague, Xue Yi was certain. Even if Tianming's body had turned to ashes, he would still recognize him. The monstrous anger he had been holding back for nearly four months erupted at that moment. The intensity of his outburst was enough to break his body apart. His surging ki turned into intangible tentacles and radiated from his body. The words “Li Tianming” immediately put the tribulation elders on guard.

“You're seeking death!”

Long Cangyuan had kept up with Xue Yi, and upon seeing Tianming, their eyes turned red and full of killing intent. Tianming had to admit he was really unlucky. First, his enemies had found the fiery star. Then, he just had to go and hide in the position they were going to search. And just as he was about to withdraw, the starmap lit up in his hand. He now resembled the moon in the night sky—extremely conspicuous...

With just a glance, Xue Yi immediately launched an attack. Like an army, the tribulation elders outside surrounded the star, completely sealing it off.

“Damn it!” Tianming cursed.

The starmap in his hand continued shining. At the same time, he discovered that the surrounding magma was vibrating and the resounding roar of a dragon sounded out. The dazzling starlight that had replaced the lava shook and threw Tianming off his feet. At the same time, Xue Yi, Long Cangyuan, and others who had just caught up were also sent flying into the starry sky.

Just a moment ago, more than a dozen third-origin tribulation elders at the tenth-level pounced on him. If it weren't for the sealing formation in the Kilostar Domain, any one of them could crush Tianming like an ant. At this time, these people were sent flying. It almost seemed as though Tianming was responsible for that.

But that wasn't the case. Tianming was pushed into the depths of the fiery star and tossed in another direction, instead. Those who were suppressed knew what this sudden power was. This was the start of a formation.

Tianming quickly put the starmap away. However, the formation blossomed on the flaming lava, much like the Galactic Vortex Formation had. A dazzling light burst forth, illuminating the tribulation elders' faces.

“Another formation? Is there more treasure?” Tianming quickly stabilized himself. Although he was currently in the depths of the star, he could still clearly see the formation.

Who would've thought that my starmap could unlock treasure like a key as long as it appears in a specific location! I wonder if Xue Yi's starmap has a similar effect. Do they know about this? Tianming looked at the new formation with these thoughts in his mind.



The people outside temporarily forgot about Tianming for the moment. They stared at the “flower” on the star of flames in shock! Dragon roars sounded from within the astral formation as the endless starlight in the formation gradually formed a thousand astral dragons. The dragons were thousands of meters long, strong and brutal, made of concentrated starlight. They glared at the elders before them like tigers watching their prey.

“This looks like the legendary Kilostar Photodragon Formation....” Long Cangyuan stared wide-eyed, in shock.

“What?” Amidst the starlight, Xue Yi’s ferocious mouth opened even wider.

“In a while, when the stars have dispersed, we can confirm if that weapon is inside...” said an astonished Long Cangyuan.

“Great Emperor Xuanyuan’s weapon?”

“Yes, the one he used to conquer the world. The most powerful weapon of legend.”

### **Chapter 813 - The Kilostar Photodragon**

Tianming's perspective was slightly different from those standing outside. With his third eye, he easily saw through the dazzling light of thousands of dragons and glimpsed the formation nucleus.

“That’s it!”

The space at the formation nucleus was so small that it could only contain one weapon. And that weapon was gorgeous. It was a shining dragon trident!

After lying still for a long time, it would finally grace the world with its presence once more.

Upon closer inspection, Tianming realized that the trident was about two meters long. The front end had three parts: the center resembled a dagger, the sides were crescent-shaped blades, and the end resembled a pike. The front and back were double-edged blades; the front was suitable for slicing while the back was perfect for stabbing.

The blades on both ends flickered with dazzling starlight. In addition to the front and back blades, there was also a long handle covered in dragon scales that shone with stars. Each dragon scale seemed to be a star of different attributes such as fire, lightning, ice, wind and so on. There were exactly one thousand scales. All in all, this domineering trident seemed to incorporate the essence of the entire Kilostar Domain.

“There aren’t any tribulation patterns!”

Of all the weapons Tianming had come across, those without heavenly patterns were either scrap metal or divine artifacts.

The Human Emperor's Dragonhide didn’t have tribulation patterns, either.

At the moment, Tianming didn't have enough power to fully activate the Dragonhide, but he knew how terrifying it was. Obviously, the same was true for this weapon that had suddenly appeared.

While observing the tribulation elders, he also listened to their discussion. They appeared more excited than Tianming. Thus, he managed to obtain a lot of information.

"This is the weapon Great Emperor Xuanyuan once used on the battlefield?!" Tianming's heart was ablaze.

"The Dragonhide was the last divine artifact forged by Great Emperor Xuanyuan before he died. It was created from five dragons. In other words, he never used it. According to historical records, the only divine artifacts he really used were the Heaven Cauldron and a trident. Although the Old Deepstar Path is a divine artifact, it doesn't have combat capabilities."

The Heaven Cauldron was similar to the Prime Tower in terms of its usage. Thus, the significance of this trident to Great Emperor Xuanyuan was probably equivalent to the significance of the Grand-Orient Sword to Tianming. This was the weapon that accompanied him in annihilating the demon race.

Tianming seemed to recall seeing this dragon trident in the images he had seen in the corridors of the black hole stars. Wherever the weapon went, thousands of dragons roared and multitudes of evil demons were scattered.

"According to the legends passed down in the Archaic House of Xuanyuan, this weapon disappeared after the death of Great Emperor Xuanyuan. How did it appear in the Kilostar Domain?!" Tianming was shocked, his gaze fiery.

"Did Great Emperor Xuanyuan leave behind the treasures in the Kilostar Domain? But if that's the case, why was Nonahall in possession of the starmap?" Tianming couldn't unravel these mysteries. In fact, none of it was important. The question was, how did the weapon Great Emperor Xuanyuan used to subdue the world fall into the hands of Nonahall?

"The Kilostar Photondragon!"

Tianming overheard the name from the screams of the people outside. In truth, he had a rather superficial understanding of the history of the Nine Divine Realms, so he wasn't aware of how powerful this weapon was.

The moment the weapon appeared, Xue Yi and the others immediately arrived at the Kilostar Photondragon Formation, ready to enter.

"Listen, no matter who gets the weapon, you must hand it over to me. Do you understand?" Xue Yi said coldly. No one would dare to keep such a divine artifact for himself. Even if they handed it over to Xue Yi, the Council of Ghouls would be the one to decide who received it.

"Yes!" The third-origin tribulation elders nodded. Although their eyes were filled with excitement, there wasn't a trace of personal greed, since they would be biting off more than they could chew.

The sentence was actually meant for Long Cangyuan. The Quadform Seadragon Clan was actually related to the Archaic House of Xuanyuan. Their lifebound beasts were dragons and they shared the same yearning and reverence for the Great Emperor Xuanyuan.

The Kilostar Photondragon was a weapon that rather suited Long Cangyuan, hence, Xue Yi wasn't surprised by Long Cangyuan's eagerness.

I will try my best." Upon hearing Xue Yi's words, Long Cangyuan knew to curb his own desires. Even if he was the first to acquire the trident, he would have to hand it over.

"Thanks for the effort." With that, Xue Yi turned to the tribulation elders outside the circle. "Get ready. We can't let Li Tianming leave!"

"If we all enter, who's going to stop him?" asked Long Cangyuan.

"You stay here then," said Xue Yi.

"Alright." Long Cangyuan was rather upset. If he had known this would happen, he wouldn't have raised the question.

"He won't escape. I think he's already entered the formation." As soon as the words left his lips, Xue Yi saw a figure rush into the Kilostar Photodragon Formation.

"Listen up. Neither the treasure nor Li Tianming can be allowed to leave! Go back to the black hole formation and tell them to send over another group!"

"Yes!"

With that, Xue Yi entered the Kilostar Photodragon Formation. Logically speaking, with his cultivation level, his control and understanding of the formation should far exceed Tianming's. But the reality was, Xue Yi was immediately attacked by thousands of stars and dragons. On the other hand, Tianming was actually clad in the Dragonhide. With it, Tianming practically strolled through the formation as if he were taking a walk in the park. A thousand times faster than Xue Yi, Tianming was close to reaching the Kilostar Photodragon.

"There's no need to keep going, Ghoul King." Long Cangyuan and the other tribulation elders shook their heads helplessly.

"Fine!" Xue Yi left the formation in embarrassment.

"This kid is the successor of Great Emperor Xuanyuan. As soon as the treasure appeared, it was meant for him. There's no way we can seize it from him under the restriction of the sealing formation. However, this isn't a black hole star, so he won't be able to run the moment he has the treasure. All we have to do is kill him and take the treasure," Long Cangyuan analyzed.

"Alright. Inform Ying Zi. Tell her to bring Yi Xingyin." Xue Yi ordered those behind him.

They watched as Tianming approached the Kilostar Photodragon.

Xue Yi had arranged an inescapable net. The lifebound beasts of tens of thousands of tribulation elders appeared, surrounding the fiery star.

Even without the sealing formation, such a large number of people would form a terrifying army if placed on the battlefield. A siege and a one-on-one battle were two different things. Anyone might drop the ball in the face of such overwhelming attacks, even if they were heaven-defying geniuses.

The last time Tianming was forced to deal with two thousand people with Xian Xian's help was already the limit. In contrast, fleeing was at least ten times easier than facing ten thousand enemies.

"We must kill him regardless of everything. Brother Cangyuan, you will join hands with us when the time comes," said Xue Yi.

This opportunity was hard to come by. Additionally, the treasures on Tianming would increase his bargaining chips. Hence, they had to kill him.

"Alright," Long Cangyuan replied.

If he had known they would bump into Tianming, Xue Yi would have called Ying Zi over. His heart boiled like a bloody sea as he stared fixedly at Tianming and watched him pass through the formation, then arrive in front of the weapon.

"He must pay for forcing me into such a situation!" Xue Yi's killing intent had never been this intense.

Tianming was certainly aware of the uproar outside the formation.

"Thank goodness I've reached the fifth-level death phase. Otherwise, I'd be hopeless," Tianming sighed.

Disregarding the curses outside, he arrived in front of the weapon with ease.

"The weapon the progenitor used to conquer the world...."

Tianming's skin glowed with starlight that originated from the weapon in front of him. As the divine artifact floated in midair, the dragon scales and the Dragonhide eagerly reflected each other.

"It's a matching set!" Tianming said excitedly as he studied the weapon from top to bottom.

"I've never used a weapon like this, but its power and ferocity feels good."

He took a deep breath.

"The Kilostar Photondragon!"

Tianming emptied his mind and stretched out his hand to hold the cold weapon. The Kilostar Photongdragon vibrated in his palm, its dazzling light shocking the heavens.

Roaring loudly, the dragons in the Kilostar Photondragon Formation dove down and rushed to merge with the weapon. For a while, Tianming felt as if he was holding a thousand dragons made of stars, each of them a thousand meters long.

Ying Huo and the others had previously obtained the ultimate tribulation manna, and now he was holding a weapon filled with the power of starlight in his hands. Regardless of how shocking the Kilostar Photondragon's power was, Tianming could feel the Dragonhide's connection to the trident.

The scales on the Dragonhide and Photondragon were connected to each other, as if they were old friends who had finally met again after being separated for many years. The emotions even affected Tianming. He felt the same joy and excitement of the reunion.

That was why the weapon didn't repel him. Instead, a majestic power fused with Tianming's body, allowing him to wield the trident with ease.

As the Photondragon twirled, starlight burst forth, sweeping across the area and forming a vortex of stars accompanied by the magnificent roars of dragons.

“It feels completely different from the Grand-Orient Sword.”

Tianming had originally thought that the weapon might conflict with the Grand-Orient Sword. But they were two weapons of completely different styles, which he could slowly explore. At the moment, there was no time at all. The formation disappeared the instant he grabbed the Photondragon, exposing him to tens of thousands of tribulation elders.

This was not unlike his previous experience at the entrance of the Kilostar Domain. He had truly become a sitting duck.

Xue Yi, Long Cangyuan, over a dozen third-origin tribulation elders, and tens of thousands of other elders zeroed in on Tianming, eyes filled with killing intent.

### **Chapter 814 - Emperor Of The Kilostar Domain**

After having been played with for four months, these self-righteous elders had already gone mad. They didn't even have a moment's patience left.

The moment Tianming was exposed, Xue Yi stared at him with blood-red eyes and shouted, “DIE!!”

Under his orders, about a thousand of them attacked to kill. Most of them were second-origin tribulation elders at eighth-level samsara and above.

They were much stronger, especially those in the front—Xue Yi, Long Cangyuan, and a dozen third-origin tribulation elders. Tens of thousands of people tightened the encirclement, stacking up one after another, forming several layers. Today, they would kill Tianming no matter what happened. That was not up for discussion.

“He was able to grow from a weak and pitiful little bug into what he is today. All of us elders are actually being forced to show our most ruthless side and combine our efforts to attack him. This young man will go down in history!”

Long Cangyuan stared at the Photondragon in Tianming's hand. He couldn't help but be amazed when he recalled how weak and fragile Tianming had been at the opening of the Kilostar Domain.

In truth, he admired him very much in his heart. But the fact that he admired Tianming meant that the young man had to die! Otherwise, if this continued, the world would only become more chaotic.

“Kill him!”

The deafening roar startled Tianming.

However, his cultivation was the foundation of his determination to fight. Desire guided the Kilostar Photondragon, and the first time he held the weapon, he chose to fight. Of course, he didn't want to face more than a dozen powerful experts while being surrounded.

“Being surrounded puts me at a disadvantage. I must do something about it!”

Even if he had fought against two thousand people last time, he had been in control of the battlefield the entire time. With a frown, he fled deep into the star, Photondragon in hand.

The magma exploded. The star of flames was huge, with countless volcanoes on the surface and boiling magma underneath. Relying on his Aeternal Infernal Physique and Ancient Deepstar Godbody, Tianming managed to move freely below.

Most of the tribulation elders also had strong physiques. After all, they had been tempered for hundreds of years. However, they didn't possess abilities like his and couldn't move around as easily.

"Get him!"

They continued closing in on Tianming. More and more people surrounded him as Xue Yi went in for the kill.

At that moment, Tianming suddenly felt the Photodragon shake and the star beneath his feet burst into blazing starlight. The starlight converged in one spot on the surface of the star; this "spot" was the Kilostar Photodragon.

The starlight finally condensed into a dazzling beam of light that slammed into a red scale on the Photodragon. Tianming immediately felt it increase in strength after absorbing the starlight.

"What's going on?" He was stunned.

The tribulation elders around him suddenly broke into a commotion, and before escaping into the star, Tianming turned around one last time.

"What the hell!"

Like the tribulation elders, Tianming was also shocked. Light from the entire Kilostar Domain had converged and was shooting toward them. As the light approached the fiery star, the boundless starlight condensed into beams of light that came crashing into the scales on the Photodragon.

Each star in the Kilostar Domain is lighting up a scale? This thought appeared in Tianming's mind the moment he was engulfed by the light. It was obviously true!

With the enrichment from the light, the strength of the Kilostar Photodragon had sharply increased. Tianming could easily mobilize this force to produce a lethal attack that surpassed his cultivation level.

"This kind of power is amazing, even if it can only be used in the Kilostar Domain!" Tianming perked up. Abruptly turning around, he swept the Photodragon across in front of him and a colorful, crescent-shaped beam of light burst forth. In that instant, the Photodragon tore a crack in space.

Among the dozen or so third-origin tribulation elders who were chasing him, two of them failed to dodge in time. When the spatial tear opened, their bodies were immediately torn in half, split at the torso. The two elders on the same level as Ouyang Jianwang were instantly killed.

"That's got to be heaven-defying!"

Tianming suddenly stopped. He decided not to enter the star for the time being, but attack them head-on instead.

"The power of a thousand stars have all gathered within the Kilostar Photodragon! The progenitor is helping me!"

Tianming's gaze grew fiery.

Facing the spatial tear, even Xue Yi had stopped. He watched the two third-origin tribulation elders struggle at death's door as the violent scene fell into dead silence once more. The elders who were previously clamoring turned pale with fear.

"Avenge us...."

The third-origin tribulation elders breathed their last and disappeared.

Everyone was covered in goosebumps, well aware that this was the power of the Kilostar Photondragon. They turned to look at Xue Yi in unison.

Blood and flames blazed in his eyes. He stared icily at the weapon in Tianming's hand, his red lips trembling as he uttered a word.

"Kill!"

Obviously, they had to seize this opportunity. Otherwise, Tianming would grow into a devil and terrorize them—the true emperor of the Kilostar Domain.

Numerous lifebound beasts and countless swords shot toward Tianming, leaving him no room to resist. It seemed he had to venture deeper into the star to alleviate their attacks.

A large number of elders chased him into the magma. The fiery star was now the battlefield for Tianming's last stand.

The flames on the star erupted and magma burst into the sky as hundreds of powerhouses chased after Tianming. The entire star was riddled with holes. Those outside watched uneasily. At that moment, a star-lit young man burst out from the ground and slammed into the encirclement in the sky.

"Stop him!"

Hundreds of experts rushed out behind him. All at once, more than five thousand individuals directed their attacks at Tianming.

"Die!"

With his life on the line, Tianming didn't care any longer.

"Want to kill me? I'll send you down to hell!"

With the Photondragon in both hands, Tianming violently slashed at his opponents. The Photondragon burst in explosive force, opening another spatial tear.

The tear opened wider under that immeasurable force. Hundreds of beastmasters and lifebound beasts were swallowed into it and pulverized into pieces.

At that moment, broken corpses and blood splattered everywhere.

Countless others continued attacking Tianming. Releasing Ying Huo and the others from his lifebound space at this moment would be equivalent to sending them to their deaths.

A helpless Tianming was forced to hide in the star once more. During this time, Tianming would search for another opportunity to escape the encirclement.

### **Chapter 815 - Seadragon Sovereign**

Tianming returned to the fiery star in an attempt to split up the enemy forces so that he wouldn't have to take the full brunt of their combined attacks. Using the lava as cover, he was able to move freely around the star.

"Isn't the Kilostar Photondragon far too terrifying? With a simple swing, I'm able to rupture the space within the Kilostar Domain. I wonder if I'll also be able to do it outside."

He had just taken out hundreds of tribulation elders using a single attack. However, it wasn't over yet. He continued fighting off Xue Yi and the other elders inside the fiery star, using burning magma and boulders to divert as much of the enemy's attacks away from him as possible.

"Let's try again!" Now that he had the Photondragon, he would escape if he could. There was no sense in staying there any longer. As he burst out of a volcano, many elders immediately locked on to him. Almost instantly, thousands of different lifebound beasts' abilities covered the land and skies, blocking all of Tianming's escape routes. "These people really want to kill me! I have no other choice but to kill them back!"

He gathered all his power and slashed with the Photondragon once more, wielding it in both hands. Anywhere the trident passed, a thick spatial tear appeared before fracturing into countless net-like tears. Tianming's power combined with the weapon that had been powered up by the starlight of the Kilostar Domain, ushering in levels of destruction beyond what the domain itself could handle. The fractal net-like spatial tears swallowed up the abilities of the lifebound beasts, and even reflected them back. Not to mention, they were so fast that many elders and their beasts were unable to escape the fate of being torn apart by the spatial tears. Those that were lucky enough to only lose their limbs would still survive, but the headless were deadlier than dead.

"Fuck off!" Blood and meat rained down wherever Tianming flew; he was like a god of slaughter. However, there were far too many enemies for him to deal with. Even as he tried to avoid the attacks, he still had to take some using the Dragonhide. More and more people were starting to keep up with him, Xue Yi and the rest especially, forcing him to periodically reenter the star to shake them off for a time. Even so, he was still covered in injuries.

"Even after all the power I got from the Photondragon, I'm still not able to resist all of them." No matter how powerful his Ancient Deepstar Godbody was, it would be over once he was pierced through with a tribulation weapon. He was still human, after all, and death was an ever-present threat. That aside, he had killed around a thousand tribulation elders during his short rampage. Countless chunks of flesh were falling all over the skies of the fiery star before being burned up by the sheer heat.

"They want to gang up on me, eh? Then let's see who'll have the last laugh! Unless they're able to destroy this whole star, I can move about as I please."



Even if Xue Yi and his lot had blocked off the entire star, there was no way they could possibly destroy a celestial body thirty times the size of Taiji Peak Lake. And while they had tens of thousands with them, they might not necessarily be able to seal off the entire airspace. Thankfully, the insides of the fiery star were basically magma and Tianming would still be able to travel faster than their group, despite the obstacles.

Each time he emerged from the star, he massacred many tribulation elders and scattered the formation formed by Xue Yi and the thousands of peak elders. The battle was getting more and more chaotic.

Tianming was basically unstoppable with the Photondragon in hand. Not even third-origin tribulation elders dared to block him directly from the front. Though their might was usually unparalleled, they were nothing but fodder to Tianming within the Kilostar Domain. Yet there was one who refused to accept that fact and blocked directly in front of him. It was none other than the 'sovereign' of the Quadform Divine Realm, Long Cangyuan. Within their divine realm, the sect master was akin to the emperor.

"He's over here!" Long Cangyuan cried. Though Tianming had lost them moments before, Long Cangyuan managed to quickly locate him. The reinforcements he called for soon arrived. Tianming glared at him, then turned to leave. He didn't want to be surrounded within the star, after all.

"You think you can run?" Long Cangyuan, seeing that help was almost there, leapt directly into the fight, staring intensely at the Kilostar Photondragon. His four dragon lifebound beasts swam through the magma swiftly and surrounded Tianming from all four directions. "Accept your fate!"

Long Cangyuan attacked, though he was a little unaccustomed to the sensation of being suppressed by the sealing formation. Within fractions of a second, Tianming turned around and saw that the four dragons all had more than nine hundred stars, with the highest count being nine hundred and eleven, slightly weaker than the greenvoid skydevourer but with numbers to back them up.

"Our founding ancestor has five dragons, and you have four, all of them ninth-order tribulation beasts. How impressive," Tianming said. Turning to look at the other tribulation elders that were approaching him, he came up with a bold idea. Since he was already gambling big, why not make it an even bigger gamble? I wonder what will happen to the Quadform Divine Realm after they lose their sect master.... Long Cangyuan's status in his divine realm was far above Xue Yi and Qing Ming's in their own divine realm. He was the realm's main pillar of support!

"I didn't think you'd still be wasting your energy on pointless words. Li Tianming, I would be able to crush you with one hand if it weren't for this sealing formation!" Long Cangyuan had been suppressing his pride the entire time he was with Xue Yi, so he was planning to vent his frustrations like the ruler he was.

His four dragons were about two hundred meters long, about Lan Huang's size. As dragons from the Quadform Seadragon Clan's premium bloodline, they had four different types, namely, water-earth, water-wind, water-fire, and water-lightning. All of them dominated in the water, being aquatic dragons first and foremost, and had an auxiliary type to back them up. They were just like Long Xiaofan, his son's, beasts. Though, of the many sons he had, only Long Xiaofan had managed to inherit their powerful bloodline. That explained why he was so fond of him.

While Long Yichen also did rather well, he hadn't met Long Cangyuan's standards for the purity of his bloodline.

The first of Long Cangyuan's lifebound beasts was a strayfire ragesea dragon. Sporting the water and fire type, its body was covered in scales of blue and red. It readily coiled up in front of Tianming, one eye crimson and the other icy blue. It was half hot and half cold, generating polarizing waves of heat and frost.

The second was a skylance bolt dragon that had entirely purple cascading square scales. Countless bolts of lightning swam about its body and its abdomen was covered in a layer of frozen seawater, which further improved the conductive properties of its lightning.

The third was a stealthvoid dragon of the wind and water type, making it slightly transparent and hard to see. Its main advantage was its speed, and it could use the wind and water to create mirages, within which it could hide all its traces. However, the surrounding magma would severely limit that ability.

The last dragon was called a domination saint dragon and was a water and earth type. It was rather similar to Long Yichen's lifebound beasts, being a tortoise-dragon of sorts. However, it had a really huge body, probably even bigger than Lan Huang's. Its four limbs were thick and powerful, and there was a gigantic mountain on its back. It also had a golden dragon head, making it look particularly fierce and savage. It had the most stars of the lot.

With those four dragons, Long Cangyuan had overwhelmed countless enemies at sea. However, he was now fighting in magma and suppressed to the seventh-level death phase by the sealing formation. Even so, he and his beasts' tough defenses still gave them a better chance than most third-origin tribulation elders. While he did whatever Nonahall wanted, he was by no means weak, being the ruler of a whole divine realm. If it weren't for the sealing formation, Tianming imagined the four dragons would be far more terrifying. Even now, their abilities were about to completely swallow him up.

"Let's end this quickly! The moment it looks like we're in a bad spot, run! Quick, help me hold these dragons back!" Tianming told Ying Huo and the rest, who suddenly struck after having lain in wait the entire time. The moment they emerged, they were met with the four dragons' abilities. All of a sudden, Ying Huo's Sixpath Infernal Lotus, Meow Meow's Misty Hellthunder, Lan Huang's Primordial Wheel, and Xian Xian's Bloodrain Swords rained down on the enemy.

The magma within the star shook from the terrifying forces that resulted from the clashing abilities. Even though Ying Huo and the rest hadn't managed to do much damage, they had at least bought Tianming enough time to break out of the four dragons' encirclement and open a path through the magma straight for Long Cangyuan.

"Are you trying to instantly kill me?!" Long Cangyuan snapped. He admitted that Tianming was definitely monstrous within the Kilostar Domain, but he thought the brat was severely underestimating him for even attempting something as reckless as that. What infuriated him even more was that Tianming completely ignored him.

The Kilostar Photondragon glowed so brightly in his hands that it obscured his silhouette. All Long Cangyuan saw was a ball of blinding light charging straight for him while their eight lifebound beasts were entangled with each other. Long Cangyuan turned and could already see Xue Yi.

He let all his lifebound beasts out! If he's a little bit slow in taking them back in, they might be killed! He'll definitely lose it after that! Long Cangyuan decided to hold on. He held a trident just like his son's. It had fifteen tribulation patterns and was similar in design to the Kilostar Photondragon. It was called the Roaring Dragon of the Four Seas and could almost be described as a forgery of the Photondragon.

Without hesitation, Long Cangyuan struck!

### **Chapter 816 - Slaying Cangyuan**

Long Cangyuan used a third-origin samsaran battle art, the Ragesea Skytear Slash. It was one of the many arts he had mastered, and the most optimal given their magma-filled surroundings. The power of the four great seas filled his body, but he only got to utilize fourteen of his twenty-plus samsara rings. Almost half of them had been suppressed, but Long Cangyuan was still able to strike with more force than Qing Ming. His body glowed blindingly with a draconian aura, making him look like he had used a dragonform technique of the Xuanyuan house as countless seadragon souls gathered around his body.

"Get wrecked!" Long Cangyuan roared, his Roaring Dragon of the Four Seas lashing out. At that moment, the ball of astral radiance engulfed his entire vision. To him, it was as if the power of all the starlight in Kilostar Domain had gathered here and caused spatial tears to manifest even within the fiery star. Tianming burst out of the magma like a meteor.

Spatial tears scattered all over the place, swallowing quite a lot of magma around them into the formless void. Tianming had channeled all the might of the Photondragon he could, not knowing the full potential of that power. It wasn't entirely his own; most of it came from the Photondragon itself. It was so much power that it was beyond his control. Then, the rampaging starlight clashed with Long Cangyuan.

"A coward like you that does another's bidding ought to be the first killed. So what if you're the Quadform Seadragon King?" Tianming wasn't confident that his own abilities could defeat Long Cangyuan; instead, he was confident in Great Emperor Xuanyuan and his weapon!

Amidst the glow of the starlight, the Kilostar Photondragon and Roaring Dragon clashed magnificently, letting out an exceedingly ear-piercing sound. One of the crescent prongs of the Roaring Dragon actually snapped from the clash; it was a fifteen-patterned tribulation artifact! After the prong snapped, there was no longer anything that could stop the Photondragon's trajectory. Tianming completed his slash, using both hands and putting the full weight of his body into it in an attempt to horizontally bisect Long Cangyuan's head.

As the trident came striking down, countless small spatial tears appeared, looking like hair-thin strands that stretched out from the weapon. After the strike connected, a loud explosion came from the head of Long Cangyuan, someone who was said to have exceedingly strong defenses. That instant, he widened his eyes with pure terror. It wasn't you... it was Great Emperor Xuanyuan.... That was the last notion he held in his head before his skull exploded.

Just like that, the head of the famed Quadform Seadragon King, someone whose will had shaped the fate of the Quadform Divine Realm, was reduced to dust. Tianming swung his trident once more, striking his corpse and sending it coursing through the magma to Xue Yi.

Once again, they all felt like they had been struck by lightning. When Xue Yi grabbed the body, he found that it was headless and lifeless. Had the master of the Quadform Divine Realm really died just like that? It was so unbelievable that everyone felt their heads hurt just trying to comprehend it. How could someone like that die in such an insignificant fashion? The war they had been planning to fight hadn't even properly begun! Did a brat like Tianming actually manage to kill Qing Ming and Long Cangyuan within the Kilostar Domain? Anyone would feel their sense of reality crumble at hearing something like that.

"He died just like that," Tianming said without a hint of pleasure or joy as they scathingly glared at him. He hurried to help Ying Huo and the rest fend off their enemies so they could escape while their pursuers were still reeling from the shock. Long Cangyuan's dragons were still alive, but Tianming didn't kill them as he was short on time.

"Now that I've gotten used to it, the founding ancestor's weapon is even more powerful than I'd thought it would be." Even Tianming was shocked at the level of power he could channel. No doubt, part of it was thanks to his cultivation at the fifth-level death phase, which was already superior to Long Cangyuan's sealed level in terms of brute force. He was well aware that Long Cangyuan had fallen to his demise because he didn't have a strong enough defense. However, they were still surrounded by too many enemies all the same. Ying Huo and the rest didn't have a weapon like the Photodragon, so they would no doubt perish if they were surrounded and attacked. Still, the death of Long Cangyuan had calmed Tianming down considerably.

"I'll keep on killing them until they run on their own accord. By then, not even Xue Yi will escape! I just need to make sure I don't get surrounded!"

After his lifebound beasts returned to his lifebound space, Tianming ran off again, not the slightest bit embarrassed, leaving his pursuers empty handed once more.

"Sect Master!" Pained cries rang out from behind Xue Yi and the rest. There were about a thousand from Quadform that had seen Long Cangyuan's headless corpse and heard the mourning dragons. They all felt utter grief and pain. As far as they were concerned, the sky had completely collapsed. The death of Long Cangyuan would usher in an unprecedented era of tumult in their realm. Most humiliatingly, he had died at the hands of a brat! It wasn't just the Quadform tribulation elders; even those from Nonahall were filled with despair.

"If it weren't for the sect master approaching Ghou King Xue Yi of his own accord, he never would've ended up like this!" "This cursed Kilostar Domain and Great Emperor Xuanyuan.... There's no way Li Tianming would've been able to kill him without their help!"

"The Quadform Divine Realm is done for.... We lost our leader...."

Death was one thing; humiliation was another thing entirely. Long Cangyuan, the de facto ruler of a divine realm, had actually submitted himself to Xue Yi's authority. It was something many tribulation elders couldn't really bear to witness.

"It's his fault he ended up like this!" someone cursed.

"Enough talk, let's disperse."

"We should tone it down a notch. Our sect master is gone, so we'd better make sure we don't die with him."

The battle had caused the elders of Quadform to completely lose their will to fight. Few even bothered planning to avenge their sect master. It was one thing if he had died in a blaze of glory; if he didn't end up a laughingstock from the circumstances of his death, it would be nothing short of a miracle.

Even though his lifebound beasts were still alive and would still command a lot of sway in the Quadform Divine Realm, their power would eventually wane. Tianming had properly inflicted a traumatic experience on tens of thousands of elders with his actions. The next time he emerged from the fiery star, few dared to really attempt to stop him. Even then, he still managed to kill hundreds with each swing of the Kilostar Photondragon.

### **Chapter 817 - Massacring Tens of Thousands**

"When he becomes so strong to the point even Ghoul King Xue Yi can't deal with him, we'll be led around by the nose!"

"We'll see. I only know that more and more will die."

"Letting this monster into the Kilostar Domain set our failure in stone!"

"I have a feeling it's all the doing of Great Emperor Xuanyuan from two hundred thousand years ago! The sealing formation seems to have been made by him, and those treasures used to be his, too!"

In their eyes, Tianming represented something far greater than himself right now.

"I have a feeling that ganging up on him here was a foolish move. How could a group of rabbits attack and kill a lion, even a lone one? It isn't a matter of numbers."

Most of the tribulation elders weren't even sealed by the formation. In other words, they were mere helpless rabbits before Tianming. Just as they were talking, Tianming launched into another rampage.

"Stop him!" Xue Yi roared.

The others had no choice but to meet their enemy. No matter how injured Tianming was, he would nevertheless end up with a kill count of tens of thousands. Nobody could do anything to stop him!

"Get Ying Zi to come faster!" Xue Yi shrieked with a shaky voice. If even someone like him could lose his cool over this battle, how could the normal tribulation elders be expected to remain calm?

"Ying Zi?" Tianming heard that and didn't immediately react. There were still quite a lot of people on his tail that could strike at him at any time. Every time he burst out of the star, more enemies than he could kill appeared.

"Whatever!" So far, he had killed around eight thousand enemies. That number would reach ten thousand soon. Coupled with the thousand he had taken out before, he'd claimed the lives of close to ten thousand peak tribulation elders of the five divine realms within the Kilostar Domain.

"If I really can't take it anymore, I should take a rest in the Prime Tower. But if I do that, they'll have more time to gather even more people to surround me! How troublesome!"

Being surrounded like this was much harder than he had anticipated. The feeling of killing so many, but barely making a dent in their numbers, was despairing to say the least.

"Long Cangyuan, the seven third-origin tribulation elders, and the slaughterfest I went on back then.... Coupling them together, it'll all be worth it even if I die!" The thought of that brought calm to his mind. "Whatever. No matter how many come, I'll just take as many of them down with me as I can. Let's hope their losses here will be enough to stifle Nonahall's ambitions and cause them to seek peace."

As for his own livelihood, he no longer cared too much about it. Wielding the Photondragon, he continued his killing streak. Corpses, blood, and human remains scattered all over the place, dying the world red. He fought desperately and haggardly, constantly on the run instead of engaging the enemy's peak fighters. Though it felt like the fight had lasted a long time, it was just an illusion that resulted from the tense periods when Tianming disappeared back into the star. In reality, only about thirty minutes had passed since the whole encounter started.

All of a sudden, Tianming seemed to notice that his pursuers had vanished from the fiery star. "Where did they go? Did they give up? Or did more reinforcements arrive?"

He knew that there was another group waiting at the ninth black hole star, including a few ghoulish kings and possibly even Li Caiwei and Feng Qingyu. If he didn't escape now, it would only get harder and harder for him. The huge number of enemies were all decently competent and definitely committed to seeing him dead.

"Li Tianming, come out. Your old friend wants to see you," said a voice from above. It was Xue Yi. While he sounded calm on the surface, he was actually filled with rage and humiliation. Seeing Long Cangyuan get done in with one move still had him reeling even now. Fortunately, the 'reinforcements' he had been waiting for were finally here.

"Yi Xingyin, wake up. Let your imperial son see how pathetic you are now." Xue Yi could finally put all his grievances to rest. The moment Tianming was spotted, he had arranged for Yi Xingyin to be brought here. It was a shame that Long Cangyuan didn't last long enough for him to be brought here in time.

When Xue Yi uttered Yi Xingyin's name, it caused Tianming to lock up. "How shameless."

Now that they had a hostage, escaping would be far more complicated. "Looks like they've had him all along and just haven't had a chance to use him to threaten me yet."

Tianming saw Yi Xingyin the moment he emerged from the star. Yi Xingyin was wrapped up in a black net that pierced through much of his body, seemingly threatening to cut it to pieces at a moment's notice. His face was completely pale and he hung limp as he was swung around by Xue Yi. His eyelids were shaking and couldn't even open fully. It looked like he was only just barely kept alive.

"Palace Lord...." Yi Xingyin had gone to survey Kilostar Domain for Tianming's safety, only to end up in this predicament. Tianming couldn't imagine the suffering he had endured the whole time he was unaware of him. At that moment, Tianming's breathing intensified as rage surged within him. He knew that torture was Nonahall's staple interrogation method.

"Sometimes, dying is a kind of release. True despair comes when you have to continue suffering without being able to die." Yi Xingyin's powerless fingers, eyelids, and body as a whole were signs of how much suffering he had endured. Tianming recalled how well Yi Xingyin had looked after him back in the sect even before he had achieved any measure of prominence, which only served to add oil to his burning rage, rage he tried to channel through his glare at the ghoul king.

Xue Yi smirked and said, "Young man, let's negotiate for his survival, why don't we?"

"Out with it."

"You really are a sentimental one. I'll get straight to the point. Kill yourself here and now and I'll make sure he lives."

"Are you fucking kidding? How would I know if you really let him go if I'm dead?" Looking around, he noticed that the number of tribulation elders around him remained the same. It appeared that Xue Yi wanted to make sure he wouldn't be able to escape through the ninth black hole star no matter what. In other words, there were tens of thousands more over there. However, Changsun Shenqiong, the sect master of Heptastar, came to Xue Yi's aid.

"Since that's the case, I'll compromise. As long as you hand me the Kilostar Photondragon, I'll spare him."

Tianming fell silent.

"I won't give you too much time to consider. I have the upper hand, now. Do as I say, unless you want him to die." Xue Yi was able to tell that the young Tianming was quite bad at keeping his emotions hidden. As he expected, Tianming was indeed experiencing quite a huge turmoil.

"If you give it to him, he'll get stronger and you'll end up far weaker. Even if you do get Yi Xingyin back, he'll be a burden to you. How would you be able to escape then?" Ying Huo asked.

"He has the hostage. I don't have any leverage in the negotiation," Tianming said.

"He won't kill him. If he does, there'll be nothing to hold you back."

"But they can continue torturing him. They're more than capable of making sure he suffers a fate worse than death."

"Then there isn't anything you can do! As long as you care about Yi Xingyin, you'll have to surrender."

"But if I stop caring, will I still be me? Even if we both end up dead, at least I'll have tried to fight for it! We were already in dire straits to begin with, so this is just a little bit on top of all that. As long as we have the slightest bit of hope, we can't give up."

"Fine. The four of us will fight by your side to the very end. I don't want to live if it means coming to regret our choices."

"Am I making a dumb choice after all?" Tianming looked at the Photondragon.

"You were dumb to begin with. It's in your nature," Ying Huo said, rolling its eyes.

"Haha... then let's play the fool this time. Since I was fortunate enough to meet all of you in this life, I won't let this keep me down! Let's go!"

The others were still waiting on his decision, intently watching him as he opened his eyes.

"How can you ensure a successful exchange?" Tianming asked.

Their faces brightened up the moment they heard it. Tianming had agreed to save Yi Xingyin. Now, they all thought that no matter how terrifying he was, he was still a naive boy without any life experience who would do something suicidal for some pointless principle of his.

"Same old rules. You hand me the money, I hand you the goods," Xue Yi said.

"At least have your folks spread out a bit more. I need to see that I can at least take the goods from you before they charge in."

"Fine. Spread out."

Xue Yi looked intensely at the Photondragon, seeing it as the main factor behind Tianming's ability to engage in all that slaughter. The tens of thousands of tribulation elders backed away a considerable distance.

"Sect Master Changsun, why are you sticking so close to Ghou King Xue Yi's behind? Are you huffing something nice?" Tianming said, glaring at him.

"Hehe...." Changsun Shenqiong didn't get mad and backed off slightly too, leaving only Tianming, Xue Yi and Yi Xingyin in the vicinity. When all was in order, time seemed to slow down as the tension mounted.

"Come!" Xue Yi unrolled the black net in his hand. Yi Xingyin was now free, but he was still unconscious. Xue Yi pushed him lightly, making him slowly fall toward Tianming. "Now, it's your turn!"

Tianming casually flung the Kilostar Photondragon in Xue Yi's direction. If he didn't do that, they would still be able to pull Yi Xingyin back. That instant, each side zipped straight for their target.

## **Chapter 818 - Shocking Change**

Tianming hurried toward Yi Xingyin and grabbed his body before flying back rapidly. In front of him, Xue Yi managed to catch up to the Photondragon. All that happened in a fraction of a second.

"Xian Xian!" Tianming's order caused branches to sprout out from his chest and pierce into Yi Xingyin's heart. Within moments, they extracted ten heartscourge worms from it, which was fully within Tianming's expectations.

Now that they were gone, Yi Xingyin regained his consciousness. The moment he took in the situation, he warned, "Be careful!"

The weird thing was that Xue Yi was still waving the Photondragon about from far away. What kind of danger was Tianming in? Yi Xingyin hurriedly pushed him away, then the shadow on his body turned into a human figure. The transaction was never going to be simple from the get-go. There was another trap apart from the heartscourge worms.



If Tianming wasn't mistaken, the shadow, or, Ying Zi's true identity was likely to be the eighth ghoulish king, You Ying!

A fight broke out almost immediately. Tianming couldn't predict his enemy's move, so he immediately blocked with the Prime Tower, enlarging it to its largest configuration with its door facing him and charging inside. That was a trick he hadn't shown them so far. However, Tianming had in fact practiced it countless times. The instant he entered Prime Tower, he saw the shadow continue charging toward him and wrap the tower up with the same black net. Had Tianming not escaped into the tower in time, he would be the one wrapped up. It happened far too quickly. If it weren't for Yi Xingyin's warning, he would've never been able to avoid it.

"That was close!" The net seemed like it was formed from countless intertwining venomous snakes that seemed to have minds of their own. They wriggled tightly against the Prime Tower, and even attempted to invade it. If Tianming were the one who had ended up wrapped up by the net, it would no doubt have pierced through his flesh and wrapped its grip around his organs. From then on, there would be nothing but endless torture for him. Fortunately, he was able to react fast enough to survive a close brush with death—but that didn't make him any less anxious.

"Enlarge!" The tower continued growing in size. There was no way the net would be able to pierce the tower, and the sudden increase in size even snapped it and shook it off. It seemed like it wasn't infinitely extendible.

Xue Yi was completely flabbergasted at the turn of events. How could his surefire plan be ruined by the tower all of a sudden? "What kind of tower is that?!"

As they watched with their teeth clenched, the Prime Tower broke out of the net. While the black net hadn't been completely destroyed, it could no longer keep Tianming trapped.

"Break!" Xue Yi came charging and struck Prime Tower with Photondragon, yet it caused not a single scratch. "Yet another divine artifact?!"

The result of that clash, however, was more than welcome to Tianming. The toughness of the Prime Tower was as he expected. He also noticed that the starlight on Photondragon seemed to be dimming down. The strike Xue Yi had unleashed didn't contain even a fraction of its true power. It was nothing but a normal tribulation artifact in Xue Yi's hands.

"My guess was right after all. He's not a successor of the founding ancestor, so he isn't a worthy wielder." The trident didn't so much as squeak in Xue Yi's hands.

"That means that while you've weakened, he didn't get stronger. If we can get it back, it'd be even better," Ying Huo said.

"There's too many of them, and getting it back will be monumentally difficult. It'll already be a miracle if we could escape with the palace lord," Tianming said.

Yi Xingyin couldn't enter the Prime Tower, so he wasn't safe yet. Once Xue Yi and the rest realized that they weren't able to breach the tower, they would definitely turn their attention to him. Tianming's group wasn't out of their predicament yet. Yi Xingyin, as he was now, wasn't a force to be reckoned

with, not to mention that he was also affected by the sealing formation as well. Tianming had no choice but to come out of the tower. He used Archfiend to pull Yi Xingyin to him by the waist.

"Surround them!" Xue Yi roared, having realized that he wasn't able to utilize the full power of the Photodragon. But at the very least, he managed to deprive Tianming of this ungodly power. "Yi Xingyin wasn't completely useless after all. Kill that cur!"

Xue Yi had Changsun Shenqiong and Ghou King You Ying by his side now, yet Tianming was still trying to protect Yi Xingyin despite being weaker than he had been moments ago. Now, the tribulation elders weren't that far away. Despite having seen well over eight thousand of their own killed, they seemed to have regained their courage after seeing Tianming without the Photodragon and decided to bear down on him with a renewed and fiercer passion!

"Li Tianming, it's time for our payback!"

They all started chasing him down, each one of them not just another simple minion, but rather experienced beastmasters. Tianming had no choice but to continue hiding in the fiery star with Yi Xingyin. "Oh well. If I can't leave, I'll just hide here. When Palace Lord Yi gets better, we'll try breaking out again."

He had given up on escaping for the moment. There were up to ten thousand people chasing him within the fiery star and there was a very good chance he would meet his end here. Even so, he didn't regret his decision. At the very least, Yi Xingyin wouldn't have to continue suffering that cruel treatment.

"Palace Lord," Tianming said, feeling hurt just at the sight of Yi Xingyin.

"I'm fine. I heard you got the treasures.... We have to bring them out if we ever get the chance. You shouldn't have traded the Kilostar Photodragon for my life..."

"Artifacts are dead, people are alive. We'll definitely be able to leave here alive!"

"Alright!"

If they were going to die, they would at least take down as many of their enemies with them as they could. At least, it wasn't impossible to survive in the magma-filled star, since they couldn't really be surrounded in there.

Right as Xue Yi was preparing to act, the whole star shook and the lava around Tianming seemed to recede. It was as if a giant had wrapped its hand around the star and gave it a shake.

"What in the world?" they said in unison.

Countless cries of terror came from above, accompanied by turbulent waves of flaming 'water'. Right as Xue Yi and the rest reached the star's surface, they immediately turned back. Looking up, they saw a bloody light coming from the very center of the Kilostar Domain, washing over them in waves.

"It appeared!" Xue Yi's already wide mouth opened even wider with an expression of shock and joy. In fact, he almost seemed blissful.

"It's the blood dragon!" You Ying echoed with a similarly joyous tone.

"Who could've found it? We weren't able to locate it despite our efforts!" Xue Yi said.

"I don't know."

"Could it be...." Changsun Shenqiong seemed completely taken aback. None of the tribulation elders from Nonahall seemed to know what they were talking about either.

Then, the fiery star shook once more as columns of lava came shooting out, making the star look a little like a sea urchin.

"Xue Yi, should we continue hunting Tianming down or head to where the blood dragon is?" You Ying hurriedly asked.

### **Chapter 819 - The World Shall Know**

"You two, defend this place with the rest to your death! Don't let Li Tianming leave! I'll go myself, since we might not have any troops there," Xue Yi decided. Of the four ghoulish kings, one had died and Fu You had stayed at the black hole star to guard it, leaving only two of them at the fiery star.

"Alright."

Whether they would be able to kill Tianming was still uncertain, but at the very least, they should be able to stop him from leaving. Xue Yi immediately made his move. By then, most of the people who had entered the fiery star had retreated back out. Now that Tianming was no longer pursued, he poked his head out from the surface of the star and saw the red light that had spread throughout the whole domain.

"What's that?" he asked.

"I don't know," Yi Xingyin turned to look at Xue Yi and the rest, "but they seem rather excited. That's probably their main objective for coming to the Kilostar Domain."

"Could there be an even more impressive treasure?"

"That could well be the case."

Right as they said that, something else happened—the fiery star they were on shook so much that it seemed to be on the verge of collapse. Wild magma sprayed all over the place, turning the flaming star into a gigantic, fiery ball. The star seemed to have concentrated its light into a gigantic pillar that shot toward the very center of Kilostar Domain.

"This is the power of a formation!" Yi Xingyin said with shock.

"How powerful is it?"

"Only a god could make a formation like this!"

Just as Yi Xingyin finished talking, Tianming saw the people surrounding the star being torn apart by that pillar of light. At least a thousand tribulation elders hadn't managed to evade before being completely vaporized.

"That's our chance!" Tianming got Meow Meow to transform into the Regal Chaosfiend form. Meow Meow then charged along the side of the pillar of light at lightning speed. It had long been prepared to break out of the encirclement, and was about to succeed as some of the elders were still reeling from the shock while Xue Yi and the rest were paying attention to the bloody light.

"Li Tianming's escaping!" They began to notice what was going on.

"Fuck off!" Tianming struck with Archfiend, instantly killing a few more of them. The rest didn't dare to approach the pillar of light, either, which made it the perfect path for Meow Meow to tread. Now, they were finally out of their predicament. Even if Xue Yi and the others tried pursuing them, they wouldn't be able to catch up.

"Holy hell! It's as if the Kilostar Domain's aiding him all the way!" Changsun Shengqiong said after he gave up trying to catch up.

Neither Xue Yi nor You Ying could keep up either. "What do we do now?" You Ying asked.

"Let's ignore him for now. The blood dragon should be our main priority. Once we destroy it, our mission will be a success. Treasures are secondary to that. We'll have more than enough chances to kill that cur after we deal with the blood dragon." Xue Yi was all too annoyed at all the trouble Tianming had thrown his way. "Even though he's escaped again, the fact that the blood dragon has appeared is great news for us. Enough talking. Let's head toward it."

After Xue Yi made his decision, he came to Changsun Shengqiong. "Brother Changsun."

"What is it, Brother Xue Yi?"

"Please bring my elders here to the black hole star. You Ying and I have to leave for a while. Defend the black hole star together with Fu You, and make sure Tianming doesn't enter it," Xue Yi said.

"No problem." While he had many doubts about the situation, he knew that with his status, he shouldn't be asking about things he wasn't explicitly told. Defending the black hole star with Fu You wasn't a difficult assignment, after all. With the forty thousand elders they had there, and those here with them, they had a combined force of about sixty thousand. And now that Tianming no longer had Photodragon, he would have no choice but to run if he encountered them.

"Let's go!" Xue Yi and You Ying proceeded to head toward the center of Kilostar Domain.

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Outside the fiery star, Tianming remained hidden in the distance, watching the group split up.

"Boss, are we going to the black hole star or in the direction of the bloody mist?" Meow Meow asked, pumped and ready to accelerate.

"Let's go to the bloody mist. We have to reach it before they do!" Tianming decided.

"Alright! Sit tight!" Meow Meow said, then charged at its full speed.

There were two reasons Tianming had made this decision, the first being his feeling that it was far more important than others would let on, given how Xue Yi had even given up on pursuing him and risked him

going to the last black hole star, and the second being the sheer number of enemies waiting for him at the black hole star. Abruptly charging in now would be both a waste of time and a futile effort.

He squinted as he looked at the center of the domain. Right now, all the stars in the domain had a bright pillar of light that pointed toward the center, just like the fiery star from before. It was as if all the stars were fusing into one.

"I wonder what's happening there...."

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An hour before what had just happened, a long-haired middle-aged man in black and red robes had come to the center of the domain. One of his eyes was filled with a bloody light. It was as if dragons of blood were swimming on its surface.

The surrounding area was empty, with the nearest stars quite a distance away. The middle-aged man stood with his nose held high, as if he were trying to sniff something out.

"It should be right here. I've been looking for four months. I might finally be able to fulfill the grand wish of my clan soon. After bearing two hundred thousand years' worth of sins, we were finally able to cast away the curse and open our eyes once more. It's almost like a dream...."

He reached out his hands and felt the void with his eyes closed, focusing instead on his sense of smell to track down the familiar scent.

"Ancestors of mine... where are you? Please lead me to you..." he said in a dreamlike tone, as if he was sleepwalking.

All of a sudden, his hand seemed to touch a solid object in the void. "This is it!"

He opened his eyes with anticipation. "Come out!"

He backed off ten meters as two bloody dragons emerged from his lifebound space. Each of them were around three hundred meters in length. The two gigantic dragons were male and female respectively, each having its own unique characteristics. The male dragon was big and strong, with its flesh infused with a bloody tinge. The female dragon was savage and slender, and glowed with a bloody light. Each of them had around nine hundred and thirty stars in their eyes and seemed individually stronger than the greenvoid skydevourer. Not even Long Cangyuan's four dragons could compare to these two.

"Attack this spot." The bloody light in the man's eyes glowed far brighter than before. Then, his two dragons began ramming against the empty space. Oddly enough, something sounded like it was breaking. The man himself also attacked with all he had like a madman. On and on, the sound of something breaking continued ringing out.

"The smell is getting stronger! It's the scent of my ancestors! It's the scent of the Blood Progenitor! It's been far too long! Nobody knows that those of my clan didn't used to be surnamed Dugu.."

Bloody tears seemed to form in his eyes. They weren't tears of pain, but agitation. How long had he waited for the Kilostar Domain to open up? With a loud rumble, the formless object seemed to shatter from the attacks, resulting in a huge force that sent the man flying off. He had been shaken so badly by

the blowback that he bled from his mouth. However, that didn't dampen his enthusiasm in the slightest, instead having the opposite effect. His eyes shone with what seemed like his destiny.

The bloody mist in front of him began swirling, causing great turbulence all around that affected the entire domain. His eyes opened even wider as he watched a bloody star manifest at the empty spot in front of him. Compared to the others, this star looked to be of average size, but the bloody mist that covered it rampaged like storms. Countless blood-colored heavenly patterns swirled about it with terrifying force. The patterns looked like dragons; there were around a hundred thousand of them swirling amidst the blood mist. The rustle that came from the strong winds sounded like the songs of dragons to the man's ears.

"You... It really is all of you! Throughout the countless aeons... there is no end in sight to the sea of suffering..." The bloody tears flowed from his eyes as he knelt with a pained look. "Oh great ancestors of mine, your descendant Dugu Jin has finally come to your rescue two hundred thousand years later! Please grant me the blooddragon quintessence! From now on, the world shall know that we are the true Archaic House of Xuanyuan!"

He wiped off the tears of blood and used them to draw an eye between his brows. Then, he stood up and opened his arms wide before charging toward the bloody star.

All of a sudden, someone called out to him. "Dugu Jin!"

The first tribulation elder of the Archaic Sect, Dugu Jin, immediately stopped and turned back. The one who called out to him wore a green robe. He seemed completely tranquil, as if he had no worldly desires whatsoever, standing there like he belonged in the void.

"Feng Qingyu...." Dugu Jin's fervor from before was nowhere to be seen. "Have you been stalking me?"

"Yes. I've been wondering these past few days what you were really looking for."

"Hmph. You sure do know how to go about unnoticed."

"What is that?" Feng Qingyu asked, pointing at the bloody star. But Dugu Jin didn't answer and instead turned back to charge for it.

"Halt!" Feng Qingyu gave chase.

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Meow Meow kept blazing past the stars toward the bloody light ahead. Tianming noticed that the light from all the other stars were concentrating on a point where a bloody star was.

"What in the world is that?"

He saw countless bloody dragons formed of heavenly patterns all across the star.

"It's a formation!" Yi Xingyin exclaimed.

"What kind?"

"The whole star itself is a formation that only those on the level of gods would be able to create!"

## Chapter 820 - Hexafirmament Eradicator

"A formation made by a god? Which one?" Tianming asked with a look of wonder.

"I'm not sure. Perhaps it has something to do with the founding ancestor, based on the dragon patterns I see," Yi Xingyin said. "Even given my understanding of heavenly pattern formations, this one is completely beyond me. Despite my efforts to familiarize myself with all kinds of formations throughout my life, I've never seen one this mystical before. However, it seems to be in a rather odd state. Perhaps because it was dormant for far too long, some of its internal aspects are clashing. It might be on the verge of collapse."

"So even formations have expiration dates, eh?" Tianming said.

"Of course. Nothing lasts forever in this world. While it looks to be a little unstable, it should last another century without issue."

"That's great then."

"No matter what, there's a possibility that this formation was created by the founding ancestor. We must make sure that nobody destroys it."

Tianming shared the same thought.

"There's a commotion up ahead! It could be a fight. Someone might be trying to destroy the formation!" Yi Xingyin said in an alarmed tone. During their journey there, he had consumed quite a few healing spirit herbs and had recovered enough to be barely able to move. However, it would take a long rest before he regained the ability to fight.

"I'll go and take a look. You should stay hidden," Tianming said.

"Alright." Yi Xingyin wasn't too bothered, knowing that Tianming was more than capable of protecting himself. All he wanted to do now was not cause any more trouble than he already had.

Tianming settled him down at a nearby star before hurrying off to the blood star. As Yi Xingyin's lifebound beast had remained within his lifebound space the entire time, it was still able to fight and should still be able to hold on for quite some time against an enemy.

"Tianming, you have to make sure to stop Nonahall if they're trying to destroy the formation, no matter what! Whatever it is they're trying to do, we can't go wrong trying to stop them!" Yi Xingyin yelled.

"Alright!"

It didn't matter what the true purpose or nature of the formation was. All they had to do was the opposite of what Nonahall wanted. After parting ways with Yi Xingyin, Tianming went to the other side of the blood star and saw two powerful elites facing off against each other. While their levels were suppressed to the seventh-level death phase, they seemed more powerful than Long Cangyuan.

"Isn't that the Hexapath Swordfiend? And that's... Dugu Jin!" Tianming had heard that Dugu Jin, the one that had attempted to assassinate Feiling, had barged into the Kilostar Domain. He was no doubt an

enemy, too! Yet now his enemies were fighting each other. Tianming decided to stop and see how it turned out.

"It's said that Feng Qingyu is among the top three most powerful people on the continent. How is Dugu Jin able to hold his ground against him?" Tianming looked around and saw Dugu Jin's two blood dragons. They were terrifyingly competent fighters with high star counts, even higher than Long Cangyuan's four dragons. Flashes of blood streaked around as they attacked. Dugu Jin himself wielded a blood-colored draconic baton. If it weren't for the suppression of the sealing formation, strikes from the baton would cause landscape-altering changes.

On the surface, it looked like Feng Qingyu was being attacked by Dugu Jin and his two dragons, but that was a superficial analysis at best. Feng Qingyu was a member of the Tai'e House of Jian, and their house's unique capabilities lay in their swordbeasts. Tianming didn't know how powerful his swordbeasts were, but he noticed there were six swords by Feng Qingyu's side. All of them seemed to look roughly the same, though they were a little blurry due to the sheer speed Feng Qingyu employed while using them in the fight. However, Tianming knew without a doubt that they belonged to the set of weapons called the Hexafirmament Eradicator, which had once been used by the Hexapath Sword God.

While the Hexapath Eradicator was comprised of six swords, it was actually considered a single divine artifact. Feng Qingyu wielded one sword in each hand, while the other four moved about without even being held, as if there were invisible limbs swinging them around. Countless varieties of stances and forms could be performed with those swords; it was not for no reason that the Hexapath Swordfiend was famous. It was likely that his swordbeasts were controlling those swords. Even with the suppression of the sealing formation, Feng Qingyu's sword ki soared through the skies, forming countless blades of blinding light.

"Tell me what this is!" he snapped, glaring at Dugu Jin.

"Hehe..." Dugu Jin chuckled as he deflected one attack after another. He wasn't about to volunteer any information any time soon.

Normally, one wouldn't expect Dugu Jin to be able to hold his own against Feng Qingyu, but Tianming noticed a faint detail. Throughout the fight, countless draconic heavenly patterns on the formation of the blood star beneath them seemed to be attracted to Dugu Jin and were fusing with him and his lifebound beasts. As the fight progressed, the bloody mist around him grew thicker and thicker, gradually making him harder and harder to take on.

As the blood dragons fused with him, his aura began changing. Tianming soon realized that the one trying to break the formation was Dugu Jin, and Feng Qingyu was trying to stop him. It was almost as if the two's priorities were reversed. Dugu Jin used to be a peak elite of the Archaion Sect, after all, but with Feng Qingyu getting in his way, he wasn't able to reach the blood star, so there was no need for Tianming to step in and intercept him.

I wonder if my black arm can pass through a formation created by gods.... If it can, what could be waiting for me within it? he thought as he looked at the bloody formation around the star. Immediately, he headed toward it.



Right then, Feng Qingyu discovered him. Almost immediately, a sword flash pierced straight towards Tianming, forcing him away. The two started glaring at one another.

With a cold glare, Feng Qingyu snapped, "You of all people shall not enter!"

He sent one of his six swords toward Tianming and had it rampage around as a stern warning. Dugu Jin also noticed him and his expression was one of cold mockery, a clear sign that he wouldn't be taking Tianming's side.

Just as Tianming was considering whether he should force his way in, Xue Yi and You Ying arrived, causing the situation to develop even more confusingly. Xue Yi immediately spotted Tianming and his expression turned even more furious. But this time around, he didn't charge straight at him. Instead, he looked at the blood star and turned to Feng Qingyu. "Brother Feng, are you trying to stop Dugu Jin from entering?"

"Yes. Do you know what that is?" Feng Qingyu asked, temporarily stopping his assault.

"Of course. That's the basis of the sealing formation. Once we break the blood-colored formation, we will be able to remove the suppression of the sealing formation and recover our power. It'll make searching for treasures much easier. At the very least, we'll no longer be hindered by a mere junior," Xue Yi whispered, shooting Tianming a look.

"Are you sure?" Feng Qingyu had his doubts.

"I am. The starmap states as much."

"Then why's Dugu Jin trying to destroy it too? He's the one that caused the formation to manifest."

"I'm not too sure about it myself. Perhaps he has some kind of relationship with the creator of the formation. Either way, destroying it can only be beneficial for us. The lifespan of the formation is already nearing its end, so it would probably dissipate in a few centuries anyway," Xue Yi said, still keeping his eyes carefully trailed on Tianming. "Brother Feng, did you know that the brat actually found Great Emperor Xuanyuan's Kilostar Photondragon and killed Qing Ming and Long Cangyuan?"

"What?!" Feng Qingyu felt a chill down his spine as he stared wide-eyed at Tianming.

"No need to be so alarmed. Our power is suppressed by the sealing formation, and he seems to have the favor of the gods in here. He'll only continue growing stronger with time. I managed to grab the Photondragon from him using Yi Xingyin as a bargaining chip, but killing him is still incredibly difficult! If we don't destroy this formation, we'll have no choice but to leave the Kilostar Domain and hand it to him on a platter! Everyone in here might die! I even suspect that the sealing formation won't have any effect on him! It must have something to do with Great Emperor Xuanyuan, this formation included. Additionally, are you aware of the treasures he has on him now?" Xue Yi hissed hatefully.

"Yes." He had heard about what happened to Ye Bodhi, too. Furrowing his brow, he said, "So even the Kilostar Photondragon showed up. Mind giving me a look?"

"Feel free." Xue Yi generously handed the trident to Feng Qingyu in a show of trust.

As Feng Qingyu inspected the weapon with a look of awe, he sighed. "Divine artifact though it may be, we aren't able to utilize it at all. Are you suggesting he managed to do it?"

"Not only was he able to use it, each slash of his was able to tear the skies open. By relying on this divine artifact alone, he was able to move the power of the stars to kill ten thousand of our tribulation elders!" Xue Yi raged.

"In other words, the Kilostar Domain has a big deal to do with Great Emperor Xuanyuan, and the treasures here probably belonged to him. It wouldn't be hard to explain why the imperial son was able to open the domain, then. After all, the Kilostar Domain was something the emperor left for his descendants to bring back to his sect. It's a shame that we managed to take control of it."

"If we don't destroy this sealing formation and kill that brat, the consequences will be unimaginable. Brother Feng, we're no longer just fighting Li Tianming. We're indirectly fighting against Great Emperor Xuanyuan himself, understood?" Xue Yi said.

"Got it. Let's destroy the formation!" Feng Qingyu agreed.

Xue Yi hid his elation and turned to Dugu Jin. "I heard that Brother Dugu here has attempted to assassinate the goddess twice."