

Splitting the Heavens #Chapter 1461: He's Back - Read

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In the only large-scale Star Ship of the Destiny Pirates... Destiny Merchant Group, the leader stood at the side with his hands beside him as a youthful-looking expert had already taken his seat. The expert stroked his chin slowly and thought slowly to himself.

Around him, on the bridge of the Star Ship, a bunch of experts of the Merchant Group stood shaking in their boots. The second in command was on his knees as he pressed his forehead close to the deck.

“Oh? Such a long time has passed already? Looks like there was really more than 1 Sage who fought in the chaotic streams back then...” The youthful-looking expert mumbled to himself after learning what happened from the leader of the Destiny Merchant Group.

The chief seemed to have heard what the expert said as he quickly lowered his gaze as his eyelids twitched violently.

“So... The reason you chose to skirt around the chaotic streams was to catch those lone Star Ships off guard and rob them, right?” The youthful-looking expert glanced at the Star Pirates around him and mumbled softly.

“No, no... We wouldn't call it that...” The chief felt the fats on his chin trembling violently as he quickly denied “We're a legitimate merchant group now and we are no longer Star Pirates! The reason we approached you is because we were clouded by our greed...”

“Oh. Alright, I get it. All of you became a legit merchant group now, but when the time calls for it, you can still act like Star Pirates. Since I came out of the chaotic streams alone, I became the best target, right?” The youthful-looking expert asked.

“No, we wouldn't dare! Of course not!” The chief quickly waved his thick arms in the expert's direction and cried out in panic, “It was an accident! It really was an accident! Please forgive us and show mercy...”

With perspiration pouring down his back, the chief couldn't help but yell in indignation. He didn't expect a high-level True Immortal to act like an ordinary True Immortal to catch them off guard.

In the Chaotic Sea of Stars, be it Star Pirates or other groups, everyone acted as flamboyant as possible. Intimidating others was a way of survival and no one would act like the high-level True Immortal before them who hid his aura, seemingly afraid he wouldn't be able to attract trouble to himself.

Fuck! To hide his cultivation so well... Is he really afraid no one would try to mess with him? He definitely did it on purpose!

He grumbled inwardly, but he didn't show the slightest change in expression. He continued to wear the subservient smile on his face as he hoped the other party would let him off.

In front of absolute strength, acting weak was another way of survival in the Chaotic Sea of Stars.

The youthful-looking expert asked suddenly, "Has the situation in the Essence Xing World really worsened to such a state? Why would people be fleeing through the chaotic streams?"

The chief of the Destiny Merchant Group answered carefully, "Actually, something similar happened before. The exchange between Martial Emptiness Realm Sages would cause massive chaos in a Heavenly Field and the safe passages that had been established in the past would be destroyed. The merchant groups of experts within the Heavenly Field would try to escape through the chaotic streams in order to preserve their strength..."

"So... You mean to say that there are still many people trapped around the Essence Xing World?" The youthful-looking expert asked.

The chief nodded hastily and the youthful-looking expert's expression didn't change. He continued, "The Essence Xing World is powerful and even if we don't mention the Sages, they have countless True Immortals. All of them have the ability to pass through the chaotic streams, and establishing another safe passage should be easy, right? It's not like the Essence Xing World lacks Stargazers either..."

A bitter chuckle emerged from the lips of the chief of the Destiny Merchant Group, "You can say that, but it's said that the mighty Sages were fighting in the chaotic streams. Massive spatial storms were created and True Immortals don't have the ability to pass through those unharmed... As for Stargazers... How reliable do you think their Stargazers are?"

The youthful-looking expert fell silent for a moment before he continued, "Does that mean that the safest way is for the spatial storms in the chaotic streams to subside before trying to make their escape? How long would that take?"

The chief of the Destiny Merchant Group heard the youthful-looking expert's tone softening and he felt a lot more assured that he wouldn't die anytime soon. Naturally, he didn't dare to dally either as he replied quickly, "No one knows how long it will take. We need to see how many Sages made their move, and how intense their battle was. However, it will take at least a year for the spatial storms to finally subside."

The youthful-looking expert nodded slightly and seemed to understand why they didn't barge into the chaotic streams.

The sea of stars was massive and flying around for a couple of years was nothing to a merchant group. Of course, that was only if they could keep in contact with others. The moment they lost contact, traveling through the sea of stars would become a lot more complicated. By the time their Star Ship reappeared, everyone on board might have already died.

Any merchant group capable of traveling through the sea of stars between various Heavenly Fields definitely had a True Immortal among them.

Also, it was fortunate people had already escaped from the Essence Xing World. News of everything that happened there had already started to spread.

From what he learned, the situation in the Essence Xing World was a lot worse than expected.

Due to the heavy losses of the Qi Dynasty Dao Field, along with the loss of world origin, many continents shrank. The Essence Xing World wouldn't be able to produce a third Sage for the foreseeable future.

There was also the matter of the deaths of 27 True Immortals. The grudge between the dynasties and the other factions in their worlds had reached a point of no return.

However, in the eyes of the youthful-looking expert, everything that happened to them was only some interest he was collecting. The matter with the Essence Xing World was far from over!

Only then did the youthful-looking expert decide to ask about the merchant group's true intentions.

"Senior... We were actually heading to the Essence Hong World..." The chief of the Destiny Merchant Group explained respectfully.

"Essence Hong World?!" The youthful-looking expert gasped and he quickly perked up. "I heard that Hollow Heaven Stones appeared in the Essence Hong World. Is that true?"

The chief of the Destiny Merchant Group was stunned for a full second before he responded, "I heard about Hollow Heaven Stones appearing there, and I also know that it's an important resource to construct Arks. However, I feel like things aren't as simple as they seem. Hollow Heaven Stones might be expensive, and Spirit Arks are definitely important treasures, but it's uncharacteristic for the Essence Hong World to make such a big deal of it."

The youthful-looking expert nodded slowly. He revealed a look of disbelief and asked again, "Tell me about the Essence Hong World. No, wait. Tell me about their Heavenly Field."

The chief of the Destiny Merchant Group finally raised his head to look at the youthful-looking expert before lowering it again. "The Essence Hong World is far from the Essence Xing World. However, it's said that they have 2 Sages present. Only 1 of them would show their face around, but that is also why there are rumors going around that they only have a single Sage. However, no high-level True Immortals of the Essence Hong World has verified the rumors."

"As for the Essence Hong Heavenly Field... There are 4 Spirit Worlds under their command, 6 Azure Worlds, and more than 10 Barbaric Worlds. There are also countless Earth Stars and floating land masses contained within. Even though their strength might not be the greatest, their Heavenly Field can be considered one of the most complete and strongest in the sea of stars."

The youthful-looking expert continued to ask, "So, what are you guys going to do in the Essence Hong World?"

"This... This..." The chief of the Destiny Merchant Group felt alarm bells in his mind ringing again and he quickly became a lot more cautious.

Glancing at him, the youthful-looking expert scanned through the fleet with his divine soul.

"Alright, Got it. You guys are going there to plunder them..."

There might be some resources stored in their fleet, but it was far from full. There were tons of random resources lying around and for a fleet of ex-Star Pirates to be roaming around on pretense of doing business, the youthful-looking expert understood their intentions clearly.

"Senior, please show mercy! We... We only wish to live!" The leader felt beads of perspiration dripping down his forehead and when he bowed, he realized that his clothes had long since been drenched.

"Enough. Let's head for the Essence Hong World before talking about anything else." The youthful-looking expert slapped the shoulder of the chief and felt his body trembling violently.

The youthful-looking expert shot the chief a glance and mumbled, "Don't go around telling everyone that I didn't give you a chance to live. Your fate will depend on your performance along the way."

Seeing the flustered look on the chief's face, the youthful-looking expert continued, "The restriction I placed on your dantian can't be undone by anyone beneath the Martial Emptiness Realm. You can also try to get a Sage to try it, but I'm very curious to see if they can deal with my restrictions."

No one knew why, but after hearing what the youthful-looking expert said, the chief became a lot more calm. He heaved a sigh of relief, which made the youthful-looking expert a lot more curious.

Does this guy actually have a way to contact a Sage to help him? Can he actually be backed by one? Is he also putting up an act of being weak?

A hoarse laughter escaped the youthful-looking expert's lips as he thought about the possibilities.

Perhaps he hadn't realized that he was no longer as respectful when speaking about Sages after surviving the pursuits in the past.

"If you do your job properly, not only will you be able to live, I'll even give you an opportunity!" The youthful-looking expert declared before rising to his feet and entering the main cabin used to belong to the chief of the Destiny Merchant Group. He didn't waste any time as he started to cultivate again.

Chapter 1462: Shang Xia's Conclusion

In the main cabin on the large-scale Star Ship, Shang Xia entered seclusion after they started to travel through the sea of stars again. He quickly received reports from the chief of the Destiny Merchant Group about matters related to the Essence Xing World.

Speaking of which, Shang Xia hadn't destroyed the Star Observatory that might have existed in the Chen Dynasty. He wanted to get rid of their Star Observatory to destroy any chances of them threatening the safety of the Heaven Observation Field.

It was a pity the situation changed abruptly. He was dragged into their conflict, and he managed to cause the Essence Xing World to suffer huge losses. However, he had to charge into the chaotic streams after being pursued by Sage Yu Tang, and he couldn't deal with the Stargazer and Star Observatory.

Even though he knew that the Star Pirates that were disguised as merchants out there were probably in a state of panic, he didn't give half a shit. He wasn't worried they would pose a threat to him either.

He didn't even bother laying down restrictions in the main cabin to deal with any accidents that might arise.

After a series of intense conflicts outside, the Star Ship regained its original calm. The merchant group started to travel to the Essence Hong World as per their original plan. Not a single person or ship left the fleet.

After several days, the Destiny Merchant Group ran into other ships or people escaping the Essence Xing World, but they didn't reveal their fangs and took up their old job of robbing them. Instead, they simply asked about matters related to the Essence Xing World.

It was said that after the battle, the 3 dynasties' cooperation ended and the Yu Dynasty did whatever the Chen Dynasty did in the past to suppress the factions in their territory. The experts of those factions made up the majority of those who had fled the Essence Xing World.

According to their original plan, after the Qi Dynasty Emperor entered the Martial Emptiness Realm, he would do the same.

However, that would have to wait. More than half the energy they saved during the passing of Qi Jing was lost, and the Qi Dynasty Emperor was also wounded after the battle with the Chen Dynasty Emperor. The Qi Dynasty Emperor entered seclusion right after the battle and no one knew his condition. At the same time, there were no signs of him attempting a breakthrough.

The Qi Dynasty started to withdraw their trips and from their original 9 continents of influence, they only retained 4.

The continents they gave up on showed signs of shrinking and it was said that someone stole a large amount of world origin that caused them to do so.

All the continents that the Qi Dynasty had given up on had surpassed the size of 17,000 miles and they were close to reaching a state of perfection in terms of an Essence World. However, all of them shrank and their size fell below 15,000 miles, allowing the newly established Wanyun Continent to quickly climb the ranks.

Other than the continents the Qi Dynasty had given up, the Chen Dynasty and Yu Dynasty also had close to 3 continents each that shrank. The only thing they could be thankful for was that those continents didn't suffer as much as the 5 continents the Qi Dynasty gave up.

Information continued to pour in as Shang Xia heard that it wasn't just a single person who had stolen world origin from the Essence Xing World. It was rumored that there was a group of experts working together, or even multiple groups.

From their investigation, they determined that the theft started at the Dynasties Edge. However, the thief stole world origin from all 3 dynasties, not alarming any of them.

Next came the World Origin Source connected to the Tong Continent and the Qi Dynasty Dao Field. The actions of the culprit, or culprits, caused the failure of the dynasties' operation.

The reason they believed that there were multiple people involved was because they didn't believe that anyone had the ability to steal so much world origin alone.

Of course, they didn't rule out the fact that the entire operation to steal world origin had been premeditated.

As the situation in the Essence Xing World eventually calmed down, many experts understood that the Essence Xing World suffered a huge blow. It wasn't even a stretch to say that they regressed by more than 200 years because of the conflict. Be it the Chen Dynasty Emperor or Qi Dynasty Emperor, it would be difficult for them to break through to become Sages in the future.

After the battle, the Yu Dynasty attempted to suppress the factions in their territory like what the Chen Dynasty had done, but from a general standpoint, the other factions managed to buy some time to catch their breaths.

...

In the main Star Ship of the Destiny Merchant Group, Shang Xia listened to the reports from their leader, Zhu Nang. He detected something strange and he sneered. "From what you're saying... I have a feeling the Essence Xing World is about to birth another Sage..."

"Huh?" Zhu Nang stared at the reports he received on the Essence Xing World and looked at Shang Xia whose emotions he couldn't see through and asked cautiously, "Lord, from what those people who escaped said, it would be difficult for the Essence Xing World to produce another Sage. However, you think that another will be produced soon... In that case, which emperor do you think it would be?"

Shang Xia stared at Zhu Nang with a smile that wasn't really a smile and Zhu Nang quickly lowered his gaze with an obedient smile on his face.

Shang Xia didn't plan on explaining himself.

Everyone might not know who the person or group who stole world origin from the Essence Xing World was, but how could Shang Xia not know?

From the amount of world origin he stole, he could even be sure how much the continents would shrink.

When he stole world origin in the Dynasties Edge, he took enough to fill the World Origin Source connected to a single continent.

The Chen Dynasty and the Yu Dynasty would definitely discover what he did now that the conflict had ended and they would definitely try to minimize the impact of his actions. From that point alone, it wasn't surprising if 2 to 3 continents shrank a little.

Reports about them were normal, but the same couldn't be said for the Qi Dynasty.

Other than the world origin he absorbed from the Dynasties Edge, he also took a third of the world origin from the Tong Continent. The rest had been directed at the Qi Dynasty Capital.

In other words, the losses the Qi Dynasty suffered were only slightly more than the other dynasties, but they chose to give up 5 continents that shrank significantly. It far surpassed the losses they suffered!

Where did all the world origin go then?

There can't be someone else other than me stealing world origin, right?

Shang Xia came to the conclusion that there was only 1 other possibility and that was the fact that the Qi Dynasty Emperor was absorbing the rest of the world origin for himself!

For him to do that would mean that he would soon break through to become a Martial Emptiness Realm Sage!

After going through all the reports provided by Zhu Nang, Shang Xia was sure the Qi Dynasty Emperor was about to advance. Once that happened, the Essence Xing World would once again possess the combat strength of 3 Sages!

Chapter 1463: Essence Hong Heavenly Field, Essence Hong World

Shang Xia might be far away in the Tong Continent causing trouble for the Essence Xing World back then and might not have seen how much energy was lost by the Qi Dynasty Dao Field, but he knew that there was no way all the energy could have disappeared completely.

The Qi Dynasty Emperor was the most suspicious. Even if experts of the Essence Xing World tried to steal world origin after the fluctuations in the World Origin Source calmed down, they would have been discovered by the Sages as they didn't have Shang Xia's skills and special methods.

He had to admit that the Qi Dynasty Emperor played a good hand. He managed to gain a lot of world origin while blaming it all on the mysterious thief.

As for how he used the energy to break through... That would definitely be related to the special arts of the Qi Dynasty!

Shang Xia also knew that even though the Qi Dynasty Emperor managed to hide his actions from the rest of the world, there was no way he could avoid the detection of the World's Will. As such, he definitely paid a huge price.

At the same time, his karmic bonds to the Essence Xing World would also increase greatly. The connection between him and his world would most likely remain even after he became a Sage, becoming another obstacle stopping him from growing stronger. However, for the current Qi Dynasty Emperor, he had no other choice.

As for the Chen Dynasty Emperor, breaking free from his constraints of the Essence Xing World was also getting more difficult. At least, for the foreseeable future, he couldn't find a chance to break through any longer. Unless he gave up on his original plan to sever his connections to the world, he wouldn't be able to advance.

Shang Xia truly wondered if an Essence World would be able to house more than 3 Martial Emptiness Realm Sages. If there was a possibility of there being 2 Sages in the Chen Dynasty...

The Destiny Merchant Group didn't stop to rest as they traveled to the Essence Hong World. Shang Xia would calculate the time that passed from time to time and he realized that he had left Star Beast Nest No.2 with Xin Lu in the 32nd year of the Spirit Luxuriant Calendar.

He entered seclusion for a little while in the Wanyun Association and he messed around with them after that, causing him to be discovered by Yu Tang and hunted down. Several more months had passed since then and he went into seclusion in the chaotic streams to reach the large completion stage of the Six Direction Realm. When he finally left, more than half a year had passed and the 33rd year of the Spirit Luxuriant Calendar had already rolled around.

He wondered if Xin Lu had followed his original plan to meet up with Song Zhen and if she found the Twin Star Pirates as he suggested and brought the information he wanted to send over to them.

He didn't forget the promise he made to the Twin Star Pirates. However, he had already passed the agreed-upon time and thankfully for him, the news of the chaos in the Essence Xing World had spread across the Chaotic Sea of Stars. Shang Xia had an excuse to be late, especially since he also sent them a powerful Stargazer like Xin Lu to assist them in whatever they wanted to do .

She was a mighty Stargazer who held a complete inheritance of how to become one. There was no way they could compare two-bit Stargazers outside the Heaven Observation Field to her!

...

The journey of the Destiny Merchant Group was considered peaceful as they made their way over. They might have run into some obstacles along the way, but Shang Xia didn't need to make a move. Zhu Nang was capable enough to deal with everything.

They didn't arrive at the Essence Hong World after entering the Heavenly Field. Instead, they located an Azure World to ascertain their position before passing through the chaotic streams. After passing through the space around several Barbaric Worlds and a Spirit World, they finally approached the Essence Hong World.

Staring at the Essence Hong World, the heavenly screen was much weaker than that of the Essence Xing World. Moreover, their world wasn't as well developed either. The only superiority they had was the completeness of their Heavenly Field!

As they arrived, Shang Xia relayed his intentions to leave.

Hearing the news, Zhu Nang couldn't believe his ears. He was extremely excited, but he didn't show it on his face. Instead, he asked respectfully, "Lord, we have just entered the region of space around the Essence Hong World. Why are you leaving so suddenly?"

"I came along with you just to learn of the way. Now that I know where the Essence Hong World is, there is no need for me to stay any longer." Shang Xia laughed as he shot Zhu Nang a glance.

Zhu Nang couldn't help but lower his head as he knew that Shang Xia had already seen through his intentions. "Lord, about the matter you instructed..."

"Do it on your own. There's no need to make it too obvious either. As long as you give it your best and report back to me, it's good enough." Shang Xia paused for a second before he continued, "After you do what you need to do in the Essence Hong World, head to the Ruined Market of the Sea of Stars. Bring this token and meet up with Song Zhen. Bring your men and join his merchant group. You shall be the second in command from now on."

Zhu Nang lowered his head and responded, "Lord, please rest assured that I will definitely listen to Leader Song when I get there!"

Shang Xia nodded slowly before taking a single step and disappearing completely. Zhu Nang failed to catch a glimpse of where he had gone.

Shang Xia used his Five Element Movement Art and raced through the void before tossing out his small Star Ship to continue on his way.

As he poured his inner qi to power the ship, it flew extremely quickly. He left the Essence Hong Heavenly Field before long and rushed towards the Ruined Market in the Sea of Stars.

He knew that he had already missed the timing to meet up with the Twin Star Pirates, and the meeting point they had set was most likely not going to be used again. As for where they would be... Other than their territory, they wouldn't stay in any place for long. In order to find them, he would have to head to the Ruined Market.

If the Twin Star Pirates didn't wish to lose a powerful helper like Shang Xia, they would definitely try ways and means to contact Song Zhen to establish a line of communication with Shang Xia.

No one knew how many exchange platforms in the Chaotic Sea of Stars, but the Ruined Market was where most people would go.

One couldn't tell the time by the rising and setting of the sun while traveling in the sea of stars, and Shang Xia could only calculate silently. After several days, he approached the vast marketplace.

Chapter 1464: News from the Institution

"If you didn't show up soon, I would have risked it all to enter the chaotic streams around the Essence Xing World..." Song Zhen felt a wave of relief washing over him after he met Shang Xia. A look of joy finally appeared on the face of the leader of the merchant group that had been making a rise in the Ruined Market of the Sea of Stars.

"Brother Song, there's nothing to worry about. Even though there were some small hiccups in the Essence Xing World, it was a pretty smooth journey." Shang Xia grinned.

Shang Xia's casual smile reassured Song Zhen even more. He gestured to lead Shang Xia into the market.

As they entered a warehouse and arrived at a specially constructed secret chamber that served as a teahouse, Song Zhen finally continued. "After bringing Young Lady Xin Lu back to the Ruined Market, I heard that you actually infiltrated the Essence Xing World again! Soon after, when I tried to find more information about you, I heard that a Martial Emptiness Realm Sage passed away in the Essence Xing World and a huge conflict broke out among the various powers stationed there. Sages from other Heavenly Fields also went over to take advantage of the situation."

"I panicked when I learned of what happened. I sent some people to inform those back in our world and sent another group to continue looking out for more information regarding the Essence Xing World. I was also planning to head there myself. Just as I prepared to set off, I heard the news of Martial Emptiness Realm Sages fighting in the chaotic streams, blocking off all access to their world. News from within also stopped coming out right after. The heavens help the worthy... You actually made it out so easily." Song Zhen concluded.

Shang Xia waved his hand in response and muttered, "Let's talk about matters regarding the Essence Xing World later. How is Xin Lu?"

Song Zhen roared with laughter in response, "Lord, rest assured. I already know that you wish for Young Lady Xin Lu to continue training in the arts of stargazing. The Twin Star Pirates' leaders learned that she was a Stargazer and after observing her skills, they have already been treating her as their most treasured guest. She won't suffer the slightest bit of indignance."

Shang Xia nodded as though he had expected as much. "That would be great."

Song Zhen hesitated for a moment, but he suddenly asked, "Lord, After we lost all contact with you after the chaos that happened in the Essence Xing World, the institution quickly sent back news for me to inform them if I hear anything about you..."

Shang Xia frowned slightly. His External Avatar was still in Star Beast Nest No.2 and it contained a portion of his divine soul. He could detect his true body's condition to a certain extent and the institution shouldn't be in such a rush to contact him.

"Did they mention anything about the changes in our world or the Heaven Observation Field?" Shang Xia asked. He guessed that something should have happened for them to be in such a rush.

Song Zhen replied, "The transmission from the institution didn't go into details. It only mentioned how True Immortal Ge became a second tier Elysium True Immortal and how the preparation for the second Elysium in the Jiao Continent had reached its end. According to them, they don't plan to make the news public soon and I think they are waiting for the next Elysium True Immortal to be ready before revealing any information."

"What about news regarding other factions in the Spirit Luxuriant World?" Shang Xia asked.

Song Zhen shook his head. "There hasn't been too much information on them. Most of the transmission mentioned how everyone was in seclusion. Other than that, Patriarch Kou was invited over to the Spirit Thistle World to practice their battle formation..."

"Wait!" Shang Xia interrupted, "Has there been news about Patriarch Kou reaching the level of Returning to the Origin?"

"Huh?" Song Zhen stared at him in shock before shaking his head, "No?"

If news of Kou Chongxue becoming a fifth tier True Immortal came from the institution, he would definitely have paid attention to it.

Shang Xia grunted softly, "That's where the problem is. Ever since I left the Spirit Luxuriant World, I left my External Avatar in the Star Beast Nest. They don't have to send another high-level True Immortal over there, and I did it because Patriarch Kou is about to enter the next level. He needs to enter seclusion in the Jiao Continent in order to do so, but he left for the Spirit Thistle World before breaking through..."

Song Zhen also noticed where the problem was, but he was still a little optimistic as he guessed, "Could he have already succeeded and is hiding his cultivation from the rest of the world?"

After he spoke, he realized how stupid his guess was. There was a need to hide his breakthrough from outsiders, but Shang Xia was no outsider!

He quickly continued, "Lord, where do you think the problem lies?"

Shang Xia's eyes darted around as thoughts ran through his mind rapidly. In the end, he mumbled, "Something might have happened to the Essence Ping World..."

Song Zhen was shocked. He had already gained the trust of the higher-ups of the Tongyou Institution with his contributions and he was privy to some secrets because of his cultivation realm. He understood what the Essence Ping World meant to the Spirit Luxuriant World and the Heaven Observation Field as a whole.

"Lord... Do you need me to arrange a way for you to return?" Song Zhen asked cautiously.

With a look of contemplation on his face, Shang Xia made his decision. He shook his head in response. "No. If they are in urgent need of help, they should have informed you to tell me to head back the moment you saw me. Now, they might still be able to deal with any trouble that may arise. It's most likely related to the movements of the Star Origin Dao Field, or the Spirit Mammoth World or Spirit Abundance World. The alliance had no choice but to mobilize everyone."

A strange light flashed in his eyes the next moment. "There's no need for you to think too much about it. If the Institution is really wary of you, why would they allow Yan Ming and Xin Lu to find you? The Spirit Ark is also with you..."

"Yes... I wouldn't dare. However, if we are really going against the Essence Ping World, I believe I should head back with a batch of subordinates in order to provide some reinforcements." Song Zhen replied hastily.

Shang Xia nodded in response. "It's good that you have this consideration. You're a powerful fighting force of our institution and there will only be more places for you to shine in the future."

After speaking, Shang Xia seemed to have thought of something. “Right, I have another question. Have you heard of the Destiny Pirates before?”

Song Zhen racked his brains before shaking his head. “Nope. The Chaotic Sea of Stars is vast and there are too many Star Pirate groups. Some might appear before being destroyed the next day... I have only heard of a few more powerful and reputable ones.”

Lowering his voice, Song Zhen asked, “Lord, for you to bring up the Destiny Pirates... Is something the matter?”

“Oh. It’s nothing much.” Shang Xia laughed. “For you to only have a Spirit Ark and a large-scale Star Ship, your foundations are slightly lacking. In time, a True Immortal called Zhu Nang will bring his subordinates and join you. They seem to have changed the name of their organization to the Destiny Merchant Group, but it’s all the same. When they come, you will gain another large-scale Star Ship and a small fleet. There will be a lot of subordinates as well. Whether or not you can command them is up to you.”

“That’s great!” Song Zhen roared with excitement. “Lord, how is Zhu Nang’s cultivation? How many subordinates do they have?”

Shang Xia replied casually, “He’s a first tier True Immortal who barely stepped into his current realm. He’s slightly flamboyant and slick. However, he should be pretty lucky to get his hands on a large-scale Star Ship. There are a lot of bootlickers under him and you can reorganize them as you wish. Just don’t make it too ugly...”

Song Zhen heaved a sigh of relief after hearing of Zhu Nang’s cultivation realm.

After sending the world fragment back to the Spirit Luxuriant World with Shang Xia, he gained some benefits. Along with his dozens of years of accumulation, he managed to become a third tier True Immortal. He was more than confident in controlling the new second in command Shang Xia was sending his way.

“Alright, enough. Let’s talk about the Twin Star Pirates. I missed the meeting time back then. Do you have another way to contact them?” Shang Xia asked.

Chapter 1465: Original Star Corner

Ever since Shang Xia was ‘robbed’ by the Destiny Merchant Group, he learned that staying lowkey in the Chaotic Sea of Stars wasn’t actually a good thing.

With what he learned, when Shang Xia was traveling through the sea of stars in his Star Ship alone, he left behind a long trail of light that he released with his powerful inner qi. The streak of light extended for miles and he didn’t hide his aura as a high-level True Immortal either. That way, he could scare away 99 percent of Star Pirate groups and avoid a lot of unnecessary trouble.

Of course, he might run into some fearless fools, but those people were easily dealt with.

If one roamed about the Chaotic Sea of Stars and didn't have a good eye to pick their battles, they wouldn't live for long.

After learning about the situation with the Twin Star Pirates from Song Zhen, Shang Xia left the Ruined Market of the Sea of Stars and rushed to a region of space where they were active.

The Twin Star Pirates managed to earn big when they worked with the Wanyun Association to attack the Spirit Dawn World, but they also suffered heavy losses. More than half their experts were killed and they were only left with 2 Star Ships. One of them was even their Spirit Ark.

After news of their deeds spread, the Twin Star Pirates basically shot to fame overnight. However, the poor state they were in also caused their enemies to come circling.

Any other super Star Pirate group would be able to easily replenish their losses as there was no lack of crazy experts willing to join Star Pirate groups in the sea of stars, but the Twin Star Pirates had strange requirements where only twins would be accepted. As such, they were unable to quickly fill the gap in their strength.

Even though Shang Xia missed their meeting back then, the Twin Star Pirates also heaved a sigh of relief. They hadn't completed their preparations either.

Also, when trying to hear about the Twin Star Pirates' current situation, Shang Xia heard a piece of bad news. Their location might have already been compromised.

He didn't know exactly what was happening, but there was news in the Ruined Market that several powerful Star Pirate groups had already made their way over to outlook for them. They formed an alliance to surround the region of activity of the Twin Star Pirates and were about to force them out by closing the encirclement.

Obtaining a Star Chart from Song Zhen, Shang Xia rushed towards a region called the Original Star Corner.

According to their original agreement, Song Zhen should have followed behind Shang Xia. After all, they would have to join hands in order to attack an Azure World. No one knew how much resources they would obtain in the process and as the leader of a merchant group, Song Zhen had his ways of distributing the loot. Shang Xia knew very well to give most benefits to his people first.

Song Zhen was also a third tier True Immortal. He had a large-scale Star Ship and a Spirit Ark he could mobilize. Soon, he would also take in another merchant group with a

first tier True Immortal and their own fleet. Their strength would experience a huge period of growth.

After learning what had happened, Shang Xia rushed over alone first while Song Zhen was left to deploy his forces. They would gather their fleet before heading over to assist in the operations.

Shang Xia traveled quickly since he was alone. Since he didn't hide his aura, he didn't run into much trouble. He closed in on the Original Star Corner in a few short days.

The Origin Star Corner was located in a relatively desolate region in the sea of stars. There were several Earth Stars and floating land masses, but there wasn't a single world fit for cultivation. It was so barren that there was no point developing it. As such, there were very few people in the area and not many people even took note of the place.

From that point alone, it was reasonable that the Twin Star Pirates chose the Original Star Corner to recuperate.

Of course, the Twin Star Pirates weren't fools. They had more than 1 place to hide. The Original Star Corner was but one of their many temporary hiding grounds. Even if they didn't hear that they would be surrounded by other Star Pirate groups, they would leave after some time.

When Shang Xia was 1,000,000 miles away from the region of space, he started to conceal his aura again. He kept his Star Ship and hid his presence as he flew through the void alone. He even transformed his appearance slightly to become more unrecognizable.

As he passed through the outer periphery of the region, he already discovered several Star Ships on patrol.

Thankfully, he already made his preparations. Even though there were other formations or restrictions along the way, they were far from capable of discovering a True Immortal.

With the extent of the encirclement, Shang Xia started to show a frown on his face. The Twin Star Pirates was probably in an extremely bad spot at the moment.

He noticed 3 batches of patrol ships and discovered that they were actually made up of experts from 3 different Star Pirate groups.

They were the Star Embracing Pirates, Noon Yang Pirates, and another group that was actually no stranger to Shang Xia, the Cloud Piercing Bandits.

Shang Xia had long since started gathering information about Star Pirate groups back in the institution, but because of their lack of presence, they could only rely on Song Zhen.

Song Zhen might not be the leader of an extremely powerful Star Pirate group, but he heard of those groups at the very least. Their collective strength was also most definitely stronger than Song Zhen's merchant group. According to their abilities, they could be classified as Super Star Pirate groups with a high-level True Immortal at the helm at the very least.

The Twin Star Pirates could actually be classified on the same level in the past as when their leaders, the Ying Twins, worked together, they were unbeatable by most experts in the Martial Void Realm. Be it their reputation or collective strength, they would surpass any of the 3 Star Pirate groups individually.

However, with the setback they suffered, they could only become prey to the alliance of the 3 Super Star Pirate groups.

As Shang Xia flew deeper into the Original Star Corner, he discovered that floating land masses might be few in number, but there were tons of asteroids. They formed a massive belt and if large-scale Star Ships wanted to travel quickly across the region, they would definitely be obstructed by those asteroids.

Other than that, there were massive nebulas surrounding the region which interfered with the senses of any experts who might come near.

From the looks of it, the Twin Star Pirates didn't just choose the region because it was barren and unnoteworthy...

Chapter 1466: Twin Star Pirates, Surrounded!

Shang Xia charged straight in.

Even though he ran into the patrol teams of the 3 Super Star Pirate groups, none of them detected the presence of the mighty True Immortal.

However, he could tell that they were acting very cautiously. Even though their alliance consisted of 3 super powers, they didn't dare to underestimate their opponent.

Shang Xia became even more solemn when he realized how serious they were about eliminating the Twin Star Pirates for their treasures with such a powerful lineup.

When he crossed close to half of the region, he still hadn't discovered the presence of any battles. If not for running into the experts of the other Star Pirate groups, he would have thought that he had gone to the wrong place.

No one knew how long had passed when he slowly stopped around several Earth Stars.

If anyone could see the look on his face, they would be able to discover the gloom he felt as his Divine Soul detected what was happening up ahead.

He continued to fly and when he finally passed several Earth Stars, he saw a region of complete destruction. Space itself was fractured there due to the intense battle that happened.

Beside it was a massive region of empty space. Not even a single rock remained and the only thing visible were the space dust that was created from the debris of the remains of random Star Ships.

Shang Xia's heart sank. He thought that he was late and the Twin Star Pirates had been wiped out.

Only after a little more probing around did he learn that it wasn't the case. The destruction was left behind by the Star Ships of the 3 Star Pirate groups. That might also explain why the patrol ships were so cautious.

The 3 Super Star Pirate groups probably engaged in a massive battle with the Twin Star Pirates there. From the destruction he observed, the Twin Star Pirates might have suffered a huge loss, but they probably survived. At the very least, a portion of their core strength managed to escape.

Shang Xia didn't notice any other signs of destruction around, and that could only mean that the Twin Star Pirates' leaders, the Ying Brothers, managed to run away successfully. The only question was where they went.

After passing through the region of space, Shang Xia found several small-scale Star Ships belonging to the 3 Super Star Pirate groups picking up their spoils of war and most of them were in the Martial Intent or Martial Extermination Realm. Martial Dipper Realm experts weren't commonly seen among them. He didn't wish to mess with them and he continued to fly to wherever he could find Star Ships debris.

Looking at the chart Song Zhen provided, Shang Xia could tell that he would leave the Original Star Corner if he continued to fly.

It was then that he discovered a region of twisted space with his divine soul in the distance. There were powerful fluctuations there.

"Chaotic streams?" Shang Xia frowned. From the chart he was given, there shouldn't be a region of chaotic space there.

"Could it be because of the battle?" Shang Xia continued to travel in that direction and when he finally saw what was before him, he saw a region of chaotic space.

However, the chaotic streams didn't look like something the battle could create. When he looked closely at it, he determined that the Twin Star Pirates barged into the chaotic streams while making their escape and the others followed closely behind them.

“In that case... The Twin Star Pirates should have gained the advantage after running inside the chaotic streams...” Shang Xia stroked his chin as he entered the chaotic streams.

He didn't forget that Xin Lu was with the Twin Star Pirates. With her abilities as a Stargazer and her relationship with Shang Xia, the Ying Brothers should protect her at all costs.

After rushing into the chaotic streams, the Twin Star Pirates held the advantage with a Stargazer on their side.

Of course, danger was all around, and even with Xin Lu, they might not be completely safe, but it was better than the other Star Pirate groups.

What caught Shang Xia's attention was that according to the Star Chart Song Zhen provided, the region of chaotic space shouldn't have existed. However, its existence also assisted the Twin Star Pirates in their escape.

Thinking about the promise he made to them, he wondered if they would arrive at the Azure World after exiting the streams of chaotic space. Since they had been hiding in a place where also existed a strange region of chaotic space...

Well, those were just some guesses Shang Xia had.

It wasn't as though a world would exist every time they exited the chaotic streams, but it was still a possibility.

What Shang Xia wanted to know at the moment was how he should go around tracking the Twin Star Pirates.

Thinking about a bunch of ideas, Shang Xia felt the space fluctuating around him suddenly as his aura was weakened by half or more. Instead of panicking, Shang Xia revealed a look of joy. He even started to immerse himself in the feeling as he followed the strange fluctuations into the chaotic streams.

...

In the chaotic streams, the Twin Star Pirates only had their Spirit Ark left. On it was their final batch of talented disciples and the core of their strength.

Around them, 6 different Star Ships had gathered around in a tight encirclement.

“How can this be?” On the Spirit Ark, Xin Lu nearly collapsed. She felt utterly defeated as her qi had been completely sucked dry from unleashing her stargazing secret arts.

“It’s nothing strange. Since we have a spy among us, no matter how amazing your skills are, they would have found us regardless.” Ying Lianxi snorted as a young girl who was close to 10 or so years old quickly rushed over to support Xin Lu off the temporary platform they had built.

“But why? True Immortal Tian has followed you guys for more than 10 years, why did he suddenly...” Xin Lu couldn’t help but ask.

Facing her questioning, the Ying Brothers revealed a pained smile. They knew exactly why True Immortal Tian betrayed them. With his twin killed during the operation to the Spirit Dawn World, his path of growing stronger in the Twin Star Pirates had been severed. He could only find another way to improve.

“Apologies for dragging you into our troubles, Young Lady Xin.” Ying Lianxi revealed an embarrassed look as he muttered.

Waving her hands hastily, Xin Lu replied, “There’s no need to blame yourself. No one expected this to happen.”

Ying Lianquan sighed at the side, “Young Lady Xi, the Chaotic Sea of Stars truly lacks Stargazers. For someone with your skills and inheritance, you’re basically a godly existence here. If you are...”

Xin Lu interrupted him before he could finish, “Please, there is no need to continue. Since the time I entered the Chaotic Sea of Stars, all of you have treated me well. I will not abandon you to find a path to live.”

After speaking, Xin Lu touched a small pouch hanging on her waist. It was a Spatial Pouch the Tongyou Institution crafted specially for her and there were many high-level talismans Shang Xia gave to her back on the Earth Star around the Essence Xing World. She used a talisman to protect herself from True Immortal Tian Zhen who wanted to capture her alive, which also alerted everyone else to the existence of the traitor in their ranks.

Chapter 1467: Betrayal

Even though the Star Pirates had the geographical advantage, they were surrounded by too many Star Pirate groups. They suffered huge losses and all the manpower they replenished was gone.

That was what the Ying Brothers felt the most strongly about.

The Chaotic Sea of Stars was a place filled with battle and plunder. It wasn’t rare for Star Pirate groups to attack each other, but it was rare for a Super Star Pirate group to be beaten into such a state without falling apart.

Other than several core members, the experts of the Star Pirate group would usually submit to those who defeated them. That way, Star Pirate groups were usually able to replenish their strength and continue expanding. At the same time, they would gain a bunch of Star Ships and resources.

Even though that was usually the case, the actions of the 3 Super Star Pirate groups pushed the Twin Star Pirates to the limit. There was no surrender, only death.

The Twin Star Pirates originally hid a trump card that would allow them to flee from their attackers. In a special region of space called the Original Star Corner, they discovered a spot that would experience powerful spatial fluctuations from time to time, turning into streams of chaotic space.

That was the reason why they chose that as a hiding spot.

They fought valiantly against the encirclement of the other Star Pirate groups and lost the rest of their fleet, finally rushing into the chaotic streams with their main Spirit Ark and a large-scale Star Ship. The Ying Brothers thought that they had successfully escaped, especially since they had Xin Lu, a mighty Stargazer.

However, everything that happened next forced them into a state of despair.

After entering the chaotic streams with their final 2 ships, the other Star Pirate groups rushed in behind them. Their core strength ignored looting the smaller Star Ships back in the Original Stars Corner.

With Xin Lu's art of stargazing, the Twin Star Pirates were able to avoid a bunch of danger in the chaotic streams. The other Star Pirate groups weren't so lucky, and they showed signs of escaping once and for all.

They didn't expect the situation to turn so quickly. No matter how they avoided the dangers, they would eventually run into the Star Ships of the other Star Pirate groups. The experts of the other groups even showed signs of slowly surrounding them.

Even if the Ying Brothers were dumb, they would have realized that something was wrong. They had a spy among them, and the spy was definitely someone of super high rank.

Actually, when the Twin Star Pirates were surrounded in the Original Stars Corner, the Ying Brothers already had a faint suspicion.

However, things happened too quickly and they lost too many subordinates. After rushing into the chaotic streams, they felt that even if the spy was alive, he wouldn't be able to transmit information to the opponents so quickly.

Reality slapped them in the face. The spy seemed to possess some tracking function that allowed the other Star Pirate groups to locate them easily!

With the ever-approaching Star Pirate groups, the Ying Brothers already understood that the spy had to be one of the remaining True Immortals. There were 3 of them in total, and 2 of them were made up by the Ying Brothers. That left True Immortal Tian Zhen whose twin had been killed back then.

As soon as the other Star Pirate groups surrounded them, the first tier True Immortal also knew that his identity had been revealed. He decided to rush at Xin Lu without hesitation.

He knew that as long as he controlled Xin Lu, the Twin Star Pirates wouldn't be able to travel freely through the chaotic streams any longer.

More importantly, True Immortal Tian Zhen knew about the Ying Brothers' plan to conquer an Azure World. He also knew that the Azure World was located outside the chaotic streams and that was the reason they camped there in the first place.

He felt that the moment he captured Xin Lu alive, the mighty Stargazer whose skills were godly in their eyes would be able to quickly help them to locate the Azure World quickly. Also, he would also be able to force the inheritance out of her. He was also supposed to be a Stargazer, but he was nowhere as good as Xin Lu in terms of their ability to use the art of stargazing. He felt that after he made up for his weaknesses, he would be able to take another step forward.

It was a win-win-win situation for him, and there was no way he would give up the chance easily.

Too bad for him, no matter how much he tried to anticipate Xin Lu's actions he didn't expect her to be so hard to deal with. She might be a cultivator who barely stepped into the Martial Dipper Realm, but she was a rose with thorns.

The Ying Brothers were able to determine they had a spy among them, but how could Xin Lu not think of the same?

The second Tian Zhen rushed at her, she tossed out a bunch of high-level talismans in his face.

With the activation of 3 rank five talismans, lightning and flames filled the air, causing Tian Zhen, the first tier True Immortal, to be flustered. After getting rid of them, he suddenly discovered that he was trapped in a region of sealed space.

"Rank six talisman?!" Tian Zhen might be slightly taken aback, but he quickly brought out his life-saving treasures.

Right before he could do anything, he watched as Xin Lu activated yet another talisman that looked like a scroll.

It was another rank six talisman, and with the sound of loud snaps and cracks, a giant palm appeared in the void above the Spirit Ark. With a single slap, Tian Zhen was sent flying.

Even though Tian Zhen was a True Immortal, his twin was slain. He was much weaker than experts of the same level if he was unable to use his secret art and he was already flustered when Xin Lu activated a bunch of rank five talismans. There was no need to mention how he fared against rank six talismans.

As soon as the palm appeared, the Ying Brothers who detected the commotion rushed over to help.

They were slightly too slow.

Tian Zhen might have been seriously injured by Xin Lu's talisman, but the Star Pirate groups wouldn't watch their spy die. 2 high-level True Immortals rushed out from their Star Ships and grabbed Tian Zhen.

"Fifth Brother Tian, why...?" Ying Lianquan asked as he stared at Tian Zhen who had just been saved.

With blood leaking from every hole on his face, Tian Zhen looked like he was seriously injured. In his extremely sorry state, he still gasped, "Chief, I can't take this anymore. I am grateful to you, but I can't watch as my path ahead is severed."

Chapter 1468: Showdown

The Ying Brothers' inheritance in the Chaotic Sea of Stars could be said to be unique but it was just too limited. It could only be practiced by twins and the moment someone died, the remaining expert would be too weak compared to peers of the same level.

The Twin Star Pirates had 3 pairs of twins who reached the Martial Void Realm but after the assault on the Spirit Dawn World and escaping from the Essence Ling Heavenly Field, other than the Ying Brothers who were the leaders of the Twin Star Pirates, there was only 1 True Immortal left.

After losing his twin, True Immortal Tian Zhen knew that his path in the Twin Star Pirates had been severed. In his desperation, he ran into True Immortal Fei Wuyang of the Noon Yang Pirates coincidentally who promised to help him with another inheritance so that he would be able to continue growing.

After Staring at Tian Zhen who was hiding behind 2 high-level True Immortals and felt their hearts dripping in blood, they sighed, "Fifth brother, do you really think you will be

able to practice another inheritance so easily? Aren't you going to avenge your brother?"

Tian Zhen revealed a bitter smile and didn't say anything else.

In response, the well built expert standing in front of Tian Zhen snorted, "Who said that he wouldn't be able to continue training in the future?"

Ying Lianquan stared at the person who spoke and snorted coldly, "Fei Wuyang, don't tell me you don't know the immensity of heavens and earth as a fifth tier True Immortal. It's not that I'm looking down on you, but I don't think you will be able to help him."

The well-built expert was Fei Wuyang, the leader of the Noon Yang Pirates.

Facing Ying Lianquan's mocking, Fei Wuyang didn't care too much. He chuckled, "Your special art for twins is special and I might not be able to make the promise, but what if there's an existence stronger than me who steps in?"

"You..." Ying Lianquan seemed to have thought of something and he revealed an unsure expression.

Even Ying Lianxi's expression sank as he thought of the same possibility.

Beside Fei Wuyang, the other high-level True Immortal also started to laugh. "You guys might not know, but True Immortal Fei has already contacted the Sage of the Essence Ling World. He is working for them right now."

The Ying Brothers' expression sank and understood why the 3 Super Star Pirate groups would join hands.

"So that's it..." Ying Lianquan sighed and his fighting spirit wavered slightly.

The high-level True Immortals shot each other a glance and subtly signaled to each other that it would be for the best if the Ying Brothers would give up without a fight.

The next second, Ying Lianxi, who didn't speak much, snorted, "Looks like I have to congratulate you in advance, True Immortal Fei. You managed to hug the huge thighs of the Essence Ling World and I believe your Noon Yang Pirates will soon become a super power. However, I am really curious... Didn't the Piercing Cloud Bandits also plunder the Spirit Dusk World of the Essence Ling Heavenly Field back then? Why weren't they eliminated by us?"

The other high-level True Immortal beside Fei Wuyang was the high-level True Immortal of the Piercing Cloud Bandits, Gao Takong, and he roared with laughter, "True Immortal Ying, your method of sowing discord is a little lacking. Since I can stand here, I naturally received the pardon of the Essence Ling World's Sage. It's a shame you don't have the

same luck. From this day on, the name of the Twin Star Pirates will cease to exist in the Chaotic Sea of Stars!"

Fei Wuyang laughed along, "The Sage of the Essence Ling World has been in seclusion for hundreds of years and he has grown stronger now that he is out. He has already reached a level we cannot comprehend. I chose to submit to the Essence Ling World and so did True Immortal Gao and True Immortal Bao of the Star Embracing Pirates. The only thing we are lacking right now is a way to make a name for ourselves. Once we wipe your Twin Star Pirates out, we will have everything we need to establish ourselves!"

Ying Lianquan wanted to say something else, but his expression changed slightly. He turned to the side. Ying Lianxi did the same and one of them sent a punch into the void while the other sent a palm.

Their inner qi ripped through the void and a powerful spatial storm was kicked up.

Boom...

Rumble...

With intense shaking, the void started to shake. The disturbance was so intense that even the Spirit Ark beneath them trembled.

In the void, a sorry figure was forced out and he tumbled unsteadily in the void. Only after being thrown around for dozens of miles did he find his footing.

When the Ying Brothers made their moves, Fei Wuyang and Gao Takong attacked suddenly.

"Hehe... I already told you that your idea won't work. Their secret art is amazing and it's not easy to avoid detection. In the end, we had to work together anyway." Gao Takong sneered while rushing at the Ying Brothers.

"Don't destroy the Spirit Ark! Force them out before fighting!" Fei Wuyang was the leader behind their operation and he led the rest in an intense assault on the Twin Star Pirates.

With 3 high-level True Immortals attacking them in unison, despite the Ying Brothers' special secret art, they quickly fell to a disadvantage.

Forcing the Ying Brothers away from the Spirit Ark, there was no True Immortal left on board and those left behind could only fend for themselves.

Once they were gone, at least 5 True Immortals emerged from the Star Ships of the other Star Pirate groups to surround the Spirit Ark.

The next second, Fei Wuyang's voice boomed in the ears of the other True Immortals. "There's a Stargazer on board! Take her alive and bring her to me!"

At the same time Fei Wuyang completed his sentence, a miserable cry rang through the void. Soon after, the heavenly phenomenon that happened during the death of a True Immortal filled the void and the other 4 True Immortals who surrounded the Spirit Ark retreated hastily.

Chapter 1469: Give Me POWER

...

The Twin Star Pirates' Spirit Ark might possess powerful defensive formations, but facing the combined might of 5 True Immortals, it was a matter of time before it was breached.

The leaders of the 3 Super Star Pirate groups even specially informed their subordinates to not damage the Spirit Ark and no one went all out when attacking.

All of them also knew that there was a Stargazer from the Heaven Observation Field on board who held complete inheritances for the art of stargazing. Because of that, there was even more reason to not destroy the Spirit Ark.

Not only did they want the inheritances, but they might also be able to force the Stargazer to reveal a way into the Heaven Observation Field. It was something the other worlds outside had been dreaming of for a long time.

It was precisely why the 5 True Immortals of the Star Ship felt a lot more relieved to surround and slowly wear the Spirit Ark down after detecting no True Immortals on board.

Of them a second tier True Immortal from the Star Embracing Pirates had some sort of secret art that could find the weaknesses in formations and he quickly entered the range of their defenses.

Even though the 3 Super Star Pirate groups were working together and they also decided that the Noon Yang Pirates would be the leader of the group, the other Star Pirate groups also wished to obtain more speaking rights.

Anyone who could control the Stargazer of the Heaven Observation Field who had complete inheritances would definitely possess a lot of power in the alliance.

That was why the True Immortal of the Star Embracing Pirates quickly forced his way into the Spirit Ark and the moment a portion of his energy could pass through the defenses, a giant palm was condensed in the air as it grabbed at Xin Lu.

Throughout the process, the True Immortal didn't even hide his identity.

He wasn't Tian Zhen who had lost his clone and could be sent flying by Xin Lu even if she had rank six talismans. She was a Martial Dipper Realm expert at the end of the day. In the eyes of True Immortals, she was nothing but an ant.

Confident he would be able to take her alive, he saw how she grabbed a rank six talisman in panic and didn't dare. Taking advantage of the time before the other True Immortals from the other Star Pirate groups arrived, he continued to reach for Xin Lu.

What he didn't know was that his actions spelled his doom.

It was Xin Lu's second time confronting a True Immortal. This True Immortal was even stronger than Tian Zhen she sent flying earlier!

The energy that passed through the protection barrier seemed messy, but with her safety under threat, she recalled the Heaven Liberation Talisman Shang Xia had left with her.

The second she activated the talisman, a mighty aura descended. Xin Lu felt her cultivation rising rapidly. The aura around her quickly reached what a grand completion stage Martial Dipper Realm expert could possess. It then reached a level she couldn't comprehend.

Is this... Is this what a first tier True Immortal feels like?

Xin Lu felt like she was staring at herself from another point of view. She could feel the changes to her aura as though she was wrapped in a powerful layer of energy.

Xin Lu understood that it was a portion of Shang Xia's energy.

The power around her didn't stop increasing after reaching that level. It continued to rise, quickly reaching the level of a second tier True Immortal.

Even though Xin Lu knew that she might be mistaken, she felt that the energy around her would greatly assist in her cultivation in the future if she could properly comprehend it.

Well, the thought barely went through her mind when she noticed the attack of the second tier True Immortal of the Star Embracing Pirates approaching.

Rising into the air, she raised her hand only to feel herself wielding a godly power. She was a true blue Martial Dipper Realm expert, but at that moment, she was able to wield the energy of a True Immortal! Of course, she didn't know any rank six inheritances and could only make her move according to what she knew.

Watching the giant palm reaching for her, she unleashed her rank five martial art, Rushing Star River!

It was a technique she used to fight enemies head-on, it was an extremely practical move and both of their attacks clashed.

Xin Lu used Shang Xia's energy with the Heaven Liberation Talisman, and the second tier True Immortal could only send a portion of his energy through the defenses of the Spirit Ark. It was clear who would win.

The second their moves collided, the giant palm was crushed.

What the second tier True Immortal found out the next moment was that the Stargazer he was targeting who was trembling in fear a moment ago, could wield the energy she borrowed as her own!

Of course, she was fighting on borrowed strength and with his experience in battle, he knew better than to face off against an opponent whose energy would eventually run out.

He decided to retreat but before he could leave, something around his arm seemed to tighten up. He didn't know when Xin Lu had rushed over to him to grab his arm. Both of them were barely 3 feet apart by the time he realized what had happened.

With a chilling running through his heart, he gasped to himself as he desperately tried to free himself. His other hand formed a fist as he sent a punch flying at Xin Lu, causing the space around his arm to ripple violently.

The power it contained might have been reduced by 70 percent, but the rest barreled directly for Xin Lu.

Dodging, Xin Lu also reached out her other hand to protect herself on instinct and unleashed another rank five technique, Starlight Veil.

It was a move that brought starlight over to protect her, but with Shang Xia's Six Direction Qi, it drew over a river of starlight that easily stopped the fist.

At the same time, Xin Lu twisted her other wrist and sent a stream of Shang Xia's Six Direction Qi flying at her enemy. Amidst a miserable cry, the second tier True Immortal's arm was torn from its socket.

His yell was twisted by the fluctuating space.

Holding the torn arm in her hand, Xin Lu noticed that she didn't suffer the slightest injury and the fear in her heart dissipated. What came after was confidence in the power she wielded.

Taking advantage of the situation, Xin Lu pulled off the most basic battle technique employed by the Tongyou Institution, beating their enemies when they were down. Watching her enemy tumble into the void, she rushed out of the Spirit Ark and bashed his head in with a Falling Star Hammer, another one of her rank five moves. His head was crushed like a paper ball before exploding into countless pieces.

Chapter 1470: Mutual Destruction

The second tier True Immortal was careless when he rushed to the Spirit Ark and was caught by surprise.

In the end, Xin Lu, who drew on a portion of Shang Xia's strength, managed to pull off an amazing turnaround, killing a second tier True Immortal as a Martial Dipper Realm cultivator.

Even though there were many factors at play, the other True Immortals didn't know what actually happened. All they saw was a Martial Dipper Realm expert killing a True Immortal.

With the heavenly phenomenon that arrived, everyone was sure that the second tier True Immortal was slain.

He wasn't able to retaliate before he was killed... Those who were flying behind knew that they were no match for someone who wielded the strength to kill a second tier True Immortal so easily!

Instinctively, the 4 other True Immortals who were rushing at the Spirit Ark chose to retreat. At the very least, they wanted to know what just happened before making their move.

It was then that True Immortal Tai Gu of the Star Embracing Pirates roared loudly, "Do not retreat! The other party is at the Martial Dipper Realm and only borrowed some strange power. Guan Le died because he was careless. The talisman will wear off soon and they won't be able to do a thing to you!"

His voice might be twisted slightly. But the True Immortals were able to hear him clearly.

No longer rushing back, they started to surround Xin Lu who was enveloped in Shang Xia's energy she was starting to find hard to control.

Xin Lu was also extremely cautious. After killing the second tier True Immortal, she knew that she had gotten lucky. She wanted to retreat to the Spirit Ark as soon as possible.

Behind her, the 4 True Immortals of the Star Pirate groups launched a round of attack on the Spirit Ark the moment she returned.

The Spirit Ark managed to hold them off, but it started to tilt to the side.

In the void, because of the protection formations around the Spirit Ark, it wouldn't capsize, but it still swayed violently.

"Be careful! The chiefs want to obtain the Spirit Ark!" Someone among the 4 True Immortals yelled.

"It's not an easy task!" Someone else replied.

"If it's easy, why would the 5 of us... I mean, the 4 of us, be tasked with doing this? It's just a Spirit Ark without a True Immortal and there's nothing to worry about! If we slowly grind it down, we'll destroy the protection barrier!" The third True Immortal spoke.

"The talisman the Stargazer used seems to possess some weird properties. Even if Brother Guan was careless... How could he be unable to escape?" The last True Immortal seemed friendly with the True Immortal who was slain and he asked.

"Could it be a high-level talisman?" The third True Immortal asked.

The second True Immortal who spoke earlier continued, "To make a Martial Dipper Realm expert possess the strength of a True Immortal... How can it just be a high-level talisman? Could it also be related to her art of stargazing?" He threw out a random guess as he didn't know too much about the art of stargazing either.

It was then that Xin Lu hurriedly called for the Spirit Ark to change directions. She was so adamant about the change that she didn't care if the Spirit Ark sustained some damage.

With the trust they had in Xin Lu and their desperation, the experts of the Twin Star Pirates on board listened to her and they started to fly in another direction.

The 4 True Immortals quickly raced after them, not letting up on their efforts to destroy the protection barrier.

However, it continued to fly and the originally peaceful space experienced a rogue current that rushed at the 4 True Immortals after appearing behind the ark.

Fortunately, all 4 of them were experienced experts. They might be following behind the ark, but they still kept their distance. 2 of them were able to react in time, but the other 2 weren't so lucky. 1 of them tried to resist the powerful spatial current, but he lost control of his body after he was sent tumbling into the void. He only stopped tumbling after some time and by the time he was able to gather his thoughts, the Spirit Ark was far in the distance.

The last True Immortal was even more unlucky. He was the weakest among the 4 and after being swept away by the spatial current, he disappeared into the void. All contact was lost and no one knew if he would even be able to find his way back.

With everything happening too suddenly, the True Immortals who were from the 3 Star Pirate groups weren't the only ones who were shocked. Even the members of the Twin Star Pirates on board couldn't believe what had happened.

Only after staring at Xin Lu with flabbergasted expressions for some time did cheers erupt on the ship.

The cheers didn't spread too far from the ship, but it once again ignited their hope.

The Spirit Ark didn't just consist of the experts of the Twin Star Pirates. It also held a large amount of resources which they had plundered over the years. There were also family members of the Star Pirates on board.

The boost to their spirits didn't last for long. Seeing as the Spirit Ark managed to shake the True Immortals off, the Star Ships of the Star Pirate groups didn't remain idle. They started to surround the Spirit Ark once again.

"That's the importance of a proper stargazer! She has complete inheritances with her and that is what we value!" Gao Takong, who was fighting the Ying Brothers, sighed as he addressed the others.

"You won't succeed!" Ying Lianquan gnashed his teeth and growled.

Fei Wuyang raised an eyebrow and sneered, "The Spirit Ark probably isn't all the valuables you have. Hand over the location of the Azure World you wish to attack and I'll make the decision to spare those on board now. Of course... It's a shame we can't let you live. You guys angered the Sage of the Essence Ling World and you have to pay the price!"

A sneer formed on Ying Lianxi's face suddenly. "The 2 of us might not be able to defeat you, but it won't be difficult to drag one of you to the afterlife with us. Heh, who is it going to be?"