

Walker 1191

Chapter 1191 Two Dead Experts

The sound and force of the explosion rocked the entire battlefield.

But this time around, the weaker cultivators had learned from the earlier experiences. They had already started to move to the back of the battlefield seeing what had been happening.

Besides, their part in the battle had already ended with over 90% of the cannon foddors of the Northern Tribes dead under the bombardment of the Myriad Armament Canopy Abode.

And because of their retreat, they had managed to stay awake to witness it all this time. They saw everything from the start to the end, carving it deep into their souls, for they would pass on their story to their descendants for eons to come.

With the explosion of Master White Mountain's body, Lin Mu had already disappeared into the parallel world using Fade. Even he wouldn't come out unscathed from the explosion of an Immortal Ascension realm experts body and had to do that.

The Centennial Sword Ancestor on the other hand, pulled out all the defensive talismans he had while getting back as well, preventing himself from getting injured in it.

"AHAHAHA! THE FIRST ONE IS DEAD!" Jing Luo's loud laughter could be heard in the sky, amplified by the Myriad Armament Canopy Abode's power.

~SHUA~

Lin Mu moved through the parallel world without stopping, heading towards Little Shrubby.

He had originally intended to kill the Dao Treading realm experts first, but Jing Wei's breakthrough and the subsequent distraction from it gave him the best chance to act. Lin Mu's spirit sense had already been alert and scanning for everything, thus he knew the best opponent to attack.

Master White Mountain was in the worst position and became his target, allowing the Centennial Sword Ancestor to finally finish him off.

Additionally, the explosion of Master White Mountain's body also killed of the four Dao Treading realm experts of the Northern Tribes that were nearby. Those from the alliance on the other hand, were still under the protection of the Profundity Carving shield.

Albeit, even that was now cracking.

~KACHA~ KACHA~

Several cracks covered the Profundity Carving shield and some of its sub-shields were already broken.

Its power was falling by the minute and it wouldn't be long before it dissipated entirely.

Back on the side of Little Shrubby, Master Cull Mountain felt her energy being blocked as a mass of multicolor smoke surrounded her.

"Haha, the oldest rule in the book is to never lose focus in battle. And you did that very thing." The Rainbow Pill Ancestor couldn't help but mock.

"You!" Master Cull Mountain gritted her teeth in fury as she stared daggers at the man in multicolored robes.

Her own robes were scorched and a long claw mark could be seen on her exposed back. It had been seared black and faint embers could still be seen glowing in it, the Dao Traces of fire still trying to reignite.

~PTUI~

Master Cull Mountain bit her tongue forcefully and spat out a mouthful of blood. Her complexion turned pale, but the restriction on her energy was lifted.

Her body started to age and within a few seconds, her hair turned snow white while her skin became wrinkled like an old tree's bark. If before she looked to be in her fifties, she now looked like she was in her nineties!

"Oh? You actually burned away your lifespan?!" It was the Rainbow Pill Ancestors' turn to be shocked this time.

By forcefully igniting her vitality, she created her own pulse of energy that broke the poison's shackles. The multicolored smoke was made by the pills that Rainbow Pill Ancestor had thrown out.

All of them were peak grade pills that on their own were greatly beneficial to a cultivator.

But when they were combined, their effect changed. From a medicine, they became a poison and worked to block the spirit Qi and energy of an expert. Even an immortal Ascension realm expert wouldn't be free from its effects.

And if they wanted to dispel its effects, they would either need a peerless healing technique or the cure made by Rainbow Pill Ancestor.

No one would have expected for the old woman to burn away her precious lifespan for it. From the vast change in her appearance, it could be seen that she had burned away a large part of it too.

"This is all for the glory of the tribes!" Master Cull Mountain said out loud as she gathered her power.

The sacrifice in her lifespan had provided her with a boost in her strength too, and the energy fluctuations coming from here were creating cracks on the ground far below.

~SHING~

~COUGH~

"How!?" But then to her horror, a sword protruded through her chest.

"LITTLE SHRUBBY, DO IT!" Lin Mu ordered.

~ROAR!~

Little Shrubby pounced towards the old woman and clamped his flaming jaws around her and Lin Mu himself.

"AHHHHHHH!" The old woman cried out in pain and tried to struggle, but she was being held in place by Lin Mu.

Lin Mu's robes had already turned to dust, but his gold skin could hold back against the flames. Additionally, Lin Mu had the affinity to the fire element too and his resistance was good.

Little Shrubby could have avoided burning Lin Mu even if he was in his mouth, but in the current situation he needed to use all his power. Lin Mu had told him to do so as well and that he would be fine.

The old woman's cries continued for a few seconds before they died down, her tongue and vocal cords having been burned away.

~CRUMBLE~

Fragments of black coke fell from the flaming jaws of Little Shrubby, being none other than the remains of an Immortal Ascension realm woman.

~shua~

Little Shrubby opened his jaws, and the flaming figure of Lin Mu walked out, the short sword in his hand.

The burning figures struck a terrifying chord in the eyes of everyone that watched it. Even Master Bell Mountain felt like he had made a mistake in attacking the South now.

'The Ancestral Bell was right... the warning was far greater than I made it out to be...'

Chapter 1192 A Seed And Unending Danger

While regret and fear filled Master Bell Mountain's heart, Lin Mu and Little Shrubby stabilized themselves.

Both of them had expended a lot of energy in killing Master Cull Mountain after all. Little Shrubby especially had to exhaust even more energy due to the fact that he was already in the Seven Beasts Burst form and was directly using the power of his Dao Embryo.

Normally, killing an Immortal Ascension realm expert, even with the pure power of a Dao Embryo like that, was not possible. It was actually Little Shrubby's unique Dao Embryo that allowed this to be possible.

The Dao Embryo erupted with flames that were like the flames of hell, directly burning away the old woman as well as her Nascent soul, not letting her have a chance at escaping. The flames even used her own energy and spirit Qi as the fuel.

This left Little Shrubby with no body nor soul to consume, but it was a cost that they had to accept.

~shua~

The large flaming body of little Shrubby started to shrink as the flames started to dissipate.

"I'm... exhausted master." Little Shrubby said through their link.

The flames soon disappeared entirely, and Little Shrubby's true body was revealed. Several injuries such as cuts, tears and open wounds could be seen on it. It was evident that while it looked like the beast was fine, it was only being masked by the flames.

In reality, he had sustained a lot of injuries fighting against an Immortal Ascension realm expert on his own. After all, the beast had one something that should have been deemed impossible by most others.

But the change didn't just stop there. Little Shrubby's body kept on shrinking more and more until he turned into a small kitten. He was even smaller than his normal cat form and now looked like a newborn kitten.

Lin Mu's eyes narrowed as this change was a little too drastic and he was worried if the beast was fine or not.

"Little Shrubby, are you okay?" Lin Mu asked anxiously.

But he received no answer, Little shrubby had already fallen asleep.

~rustle~

But then suddenly, a mass of green energy emitted from Little Shrubby. The energy gave of a feeling of freshness and vibrancy.

'This smells like flowers...?' Lin Mu was confused.

The green energy coated Little Shrubby's body and started to condense. And before Lin Mu could react, the energy solidified, turning into vines that tightly covered Little Shrubby within.

~shua~

The ball of vines with little Shrubby inside it started to fall, but Lin Mu quickly caught it.

"What happened?" Lin Mu was afraid now.

If it were not for the fact that he could still feel the link with Little Shrubby in his mind, he would have assumed the worst.

"Using Seven Beasts Burst has exhausted a lot of his power and also taxed his bloodline. His ability from the Fume Wood Panther, the Vitality Reversal, is protecting him now." Xukong explained.

~Phew~

Lin Mu let out a breath of relief. He had almost forgotten about the Vitality Reversal, but this time around; the difference was also quite great, so it was obvious as to him not figuring it out quickly.

After all, Little Shrubby had never reverted to such an age before. And then the vines covering him were even more surprising.

"Little Shrubby looks like a seed now that I think of it." Lin Mu spoke, recalling the how the ability worked.

"Send him to the ring. I'll watch over him." Xukong suggested.

"Yes, that'll be better." Lin Mu agreed.

Since little Shrubby was now in a dormant state and was similar to a plant, storing him in the ring was no issue. Plus, if something did happen, Xukong would be able to act to fix the situation.

~shua~

The large 'seed' in Lin Mu's hand disappeared and when it reappeared inside the ring, it was resting on a soft cushion.

The seed wasn't alone either. There was a companion to it. A grey egg that was emitting rich vitality, looking as if it would be born soon. From time to time, faint flickers of light could even be seen on its surface as if fireflies in the night.

'Rest well, Little Shrubby. You've done enough.' Lin Mu said in his heart and looked towards the final enemy remaining.

Master Bell Mountain was still being pressured by Jing Wei while being supported by several others including the Sky Precepts Ancestor, the Rainbow Pill Ancestor and the Centennial Sword Ancestor.

Surrounded by four Immortal Ascension experts along with the Immortal Weapon, the Ever-reaching Sword, Master Bell Mountain knew it wouldn't be long before he lost.

'All the efforts of our ancestors... the cost of our descendants... and yet... it was for naught.'

Master Bell Mountain felt regret.

Though he didn't feel regret that they had chosen to attack the South, but rather that they had acted too quickly. He reckoned that they should have waited after hearing about the death of Gu Yao.

Gu Yao was a man that even Master Bell Mountain had to take seriously. While Gu Yao wasn't as strong as him, his ability to scheme and plan was terrifying. After all, Gu Yao was the one who had accelerated their plans by several years due to his efforts.

"Give up and be slaughtered. Perhaps then you might have the chance to pay for your sins." The Centennial Sword Ancestor spoke.

"Your people have already fallen and there is nothing left for you to do." Jing Wei said. "You really should have thought well."

The taunting words of everyone sparked a strange anger within Master Bell Mountain's heart.

"ENOUGH!" He shouted.

"Careful! He might detonate!" The Sky Precepts Ancestor warned.

"Humph! Even if he does, we can easily resist that. The juniors have already escaped anyway." The Rainbow Pill Ancestor said.

Jing Luo had used the Myriad Armament Canopy Abode to pick up the weaker members of the alliance and those that were injured as well. Of course, the bombardment had not stopped either and now barely three Dao Treading realm experts of the tribes were left.

Their morale had already collapsed, and they were barely hanging on. The patriarchs on the ground, as well as the other Dao Treading realm elders, were ganging up on the three, and it wouldn't be long before they died.

~HONG~

But much to their surprise, Master Bell Mountain did not detonate.

Instead, the Ancestral Bell started ringing in a deep tone. The vibrations from the bell made the very space tremble and an ominous feeling filled everyone's hearts.

"STOP HIM!" Jing Wei's instincts told him that the man was up to no good. 'This feeling is just like back then...'

Jing Wei recalled the war that had happened over a thousand years ago. He had fought on the front lines back then and the northern Tribes were on the losing side as well. But they had done something terrifying.

They had used one of the ancient relic shrines and tried summoning a beast from beyond the worlds.

Jing Wei and the others had barely managed to stop them back then, and the experience was still heavy in their hearts.

~RUMBLE~

"You all will pay for this! If the tribes can't have this world, then... NO ONE CAN!" Master Bell Mountain yelled as he directly jumped, not the Ancestral Bell.

The bell continued to ring as a strange fluctuation of energy spread from it. Master Bell Mountain started to bleed from his seven orifices and it became evident now that the man was sacrificing himself.

~SHUA~

Then much to everyone's shock, the Ancestral Bell inverted, with its mouth pointing to the sky. A black dot appeared inside it which soon expanded and filled the entire mouth of the bell.

Swirling black aura poured out of it and the surrounding space started to crack.

"He's summoning something!" Jing Wei warned, as he slashed out with the Ever-reaching Sword.

~CLACK~ CLACK~

The others attacked as well, but their attacks never reached the Ancestral Bell. They froze a few meters away from the bell as if there was nothing beyond it.

"Spatial Lock!?" The Sky Precepts Ancestor realized.

The Ancestral Bell had sealed up the space around itself, preventing anyone from disturbing it.

There was no way Master Bell Mountain could do something like this and only an Immortal Tool could achieve this.

~WUGUGUGU~

From the swirling black aura of the Bell's mouth, a strange sound was heard. It felt like something was flailing around in waters but at the same time it was different.

Lin Mu narrowed his eyes as his spatial perception activated. He soon saw what was happening and was stunned.

"A portal?" Lin Mu's eyes could see beyond the black aura and saw the spatial portal that had opened up there.

He was familiar with them, having opened several himself after all. But this portal seemed different from the ones that he had opened. The spatial fluctuations coming from it were highly unstable and were eroding the space around the bell.

~SLICK~

Then a few moments later, something long and black rose from the portal. It looked like it was made out of black tar and was sticky. But that was merely the start as more and more such tentacles rose from it, before finally a large black blob was pulled out.

There were many bones and skulls stuck inside it, while an ominous aura spread from it that shook everyone's heart.

Lin Mu felt alarmed at this and the mark of ordained shone on his forehead.

"The invader!"

Chapter 1193 Gu Yao's Return

Lin Mu felt the mark of the ordained thrumming on his forehead. It was as if the world itself was warning him about who had just appeared.

Lin Mu's eyes scanned the being standing on the Ancestral Bell and observed it closely. The Invader had several tentacles that appeared from its tar like glob body and also had many bones that moved around it.

Sometimes these bones would disappear into the tar and sometimes they would appear on the surface. But they never actually fell out of its body.

A dark aura surrounded it that felt simply repulsive to Lin Mu and could be felt even from here. And when he tried to use his spirit sense to check further, it was simply repelled.

'It's defenses are too high... and this pressure too.' Lin Mu thought as he started to feel something new from the invader.

"AHAHAHA!" but just as he was analyzing the invader, a burst of laughter was heard coming from it.

"It can speak?" The people were surprised, including Lin Mu.

So far, all the avatars or fragments of the invader that Lin Mu and the others had encountered were simply acting on instinct and weren't really 'intelligent'. Of course, Lin Mu knew that these fragments weren't the true form of the invader.

The true invader had always been hiding somewhere in the void, but it was unknown where it exclude was. With its spatial abilities, the Invader could easily swim around the void and hide its presence.

Besides, the Invader wasn't in the lesser void. Lin Mu didn't even know which upper layer of the void it was truly hidden in. Even Xukong couldn't really estimate it with his avatar, since its senses were limited too.

Lin Mu's main goal had always been to eliminate the invader, and the Xiaofan had given him the same duty as well. But he had not encountered any traces of the invader after getting rid of Gu Yao.

It made Lin Mu think that perhaps Gu Yao was the one who held the true access to the Invader, and with him out of the picture, the invader was also unable to appear. The lack of invader during the fight also made him think the same as the tribes should have made use of the invader if it really was within their grasp.

It simply made no sense to hold back at all.

But soon the people realized that the laughter didn't belong to the invader at all.

~SLICK~

A bulge appeared on the side of the invader and started to expand.

~POP~

Then once it reached a large enough size, it popped like a pustule.

~SPLAT~

Black tar like fluid sprayed everywhere and more dark aura appeared. But what was the most shocking was the person who had appeared out of the broken pustule.

It was a bald man with a short black beard. His skin was tanned like he had been working in the harsh desert sun for ages. His pupils were deep red and glimmered like rubies. He was wearing robes that matched his character, having red inner robes and black outer robes with black boots.

"HOW!?" Lin Mu couldn't help but exclaim.

"Gu Yao!? You're alive!?" Master Bell Mountain spoke, his voice trembling.

He had stopped bleeding from his seven orifices now, but the blood was still there on his face. While he had not died yet, it was evident that he didn't have long to live now, as his cultivation base was falling like no tomorrow.

It wouldn't be long before he became a common mortal.

"That's Gu Yao!?"

"Wasn't he killed by the Alliance Leader?"

"How's he still alive?"

A mass of confusion soon spread among the alliance, along with a hint of fear as well. After all, one of their most dreadful enemies had turned out to be alive.

"Ahh~ so you are the one who kicked my plans off course and destroyed my minor plane." Gu Yao spoke, his voice eerily deep.

"How are you alive? I'm sure the destruction of the plane killed you." Lin Mu questioned the man outright.

"Oh that? I did die." Gu Yao said, much to their shock. "But in death... I found my new master." He continued.

"That thing... the Invader." Lin Mu guessed.

"Hahaha! Indeed. I had experienced the abilities of my master several times before and had even adapted them as my own, but I never thought that they were merely a drop in the ocean.

After my death, my master found me and revived me with his powers, giving me a part of them." Gu Yao proudly said.

Lin Mu found it all to be strange, as Gu Yao's tone was a little too confident.

'Why is he not just attacking?' Lin Mu wondered.

~RUMBLE~

And just as he was thinking that, he felt the space shake once more.

"What in the..." Lin Mu quickly found the source of the disturbance, finding it to be coming from right behind the invader.

~RIP~

The tentacles of the invader moved like whips and struck the air. But they were actually aiming for something else entirely. They actually hit the fabric of the space, or the boundary of the world itself!

The tentacles had managed to poke a hole through it and were now tearing it apart even more.

"WE NEED TO STOP IT!" Jing Wei shouted, knowing what the invader was trying to do.

After years of experience, he knew how the invaders couldn't fully enter the world due to the restrictions it held. Not to mention a world would innately reject an invader that was too powerful for its residents.

Thus to overcome this, the invader had to take a different approach. It sent out weaker fragments of its avatars to taint the world's senses as well as its beings. After enough time, it grasped the restrictions of the world and figured out a way past them.

The Invader certainly had intelligence, and it was beyond what they had all thought.

Chapter 1194 The Invader's Plan

The invader didn't just need raw power to get into the world, but to also adapt to it. After all, even if it could brute force his way into the world, the world would also not just wait idly.

In dire straits, a world could conjure a power that was beyond what any immortal could comprehend. It could call down storms that would blast apart an immortal, or even spew the flames of its core, burning down everything.

But this was only when its baseline laws were violated. The Invader overcame them all by becoming a part of a being that was originally a resident of the world. Now, even if the world wanted to expel the invader by any means, it couldn't.

As it would mean harming one of its residents, which it could not do. This was a natural law that it was born with and simply could not be violated at all.

~CRACK~

~CRACK~

The three Immortal Ascension realm ancestors of the top sects attacked while Jing Wei slashed at the Invader. But the attacks didn't reach the invader at all. I stopped the attacks of the three ancestors before they even reached the invader by the spatial lock, while Jing Wei's attack barely went a few inches deep before being stopped as well.

"Humph! you think being a mere immortal Ascension realm expert is enough to go against my master? You are all fools!" Gu Yao said before waving his hand.

~SHUA~

A dark red aura spread out from his body and expanded past the limits of the spatial lock.

"Retreat!" Lin Mu ordered everyone.

The experts of the alliance that were still there all flew back and avoided the dark red aura. Lin Mu didn't know what it exactly was, but could tell that it was not good. Surprisingly though, the dark red aura didn't seem to be targeting the alliance members.

"What is he doing?" Lin Mu wondered as he saw the red aura spread over the ground.

But he couldn't pay attention to it for long as the Invader was still tearing open the space.

"What are you doing?" Lin Mu questioned.

"You'll see soon." Gu Yao said and turned back to face the spatial crack that was being expanded.

Lin Mu didn't stand there and moved towards Gu Yao and the invader fearlessly. If there was anyone who could battle against spatial abilities, then it was him.

Lin Mu's eyes twitched as spatial perception activated at full power. He could now see the spatial lock around the invader, Gu Yao, and the entire Ancestral Bell. It was like a dense net that was directly embedded into the fabric of space.

He came to stand next to it and placed his hand on it, trying to sense any flaws in it.

Not finding any of them outright, Lin Mu tried to use his own abilities. Blink simply didn't work as the two spaces were technically separated and neither did Phase. Lin Mu even tried Fade and went further according to the distance there was, but when he deactivated it, he found himself on the other side of the spatial lock instead.

"Those abilities won't work since the Spatial lock has essentially isolated the two spaces." Xukong explained.

Hearing this, Lin Mu tried to use the ring's ability to open a portal, but even that didn't work.

'While it is separated, it's not actually in the void... I can't use the portal to access it... then how...?' Lin Mu racked his brains to figure out a method while the invader continued its work.

The crack had now expanded to become over a hundred meters tall and a smile was on Gu Yao's face.

'Won't be long now..' Gu Yao thought.

~WOONG~

Soon the crack started to widen and its inside could now be seen. Upon seeing it, Lin Mu found it to be different than the void he had seen so many times now. Instead of just the darkness of shimmering spatial energy inside it, this spatial portal was different.

There was an eerie green haze flickering inside it along with the darkness and streaks of green lightning also pulsed by. This green haze even came out of the portal like an aura. And when it did, the spatial crack expanded as if it were some acid that was corroding it all.

A few moments later, a large presence was felt inside the portal.

~SLICK~

The sound of something sticky wiggling and moving was heard which Lin Mu first thought was the invader. But it was actually coming from the spatial portal.

"What in the..." Soon, the appearance of the presence could be seen inside the spatial portal.

It looked similar to the invader that was in front of them, but it was many times bigger. In addition to black tar, there were also masses of flesh and thick blood mixed in it, along with many kinds of bones and skulls.

The bones and skulls didn't seem to belong to just humans either, and there were many other creatures mixed in it.

"That was not the invader?" Lin Mu finally realized.

"It's Summoning its true body!" Jing Wei and the Sky Precepts Ancestor said in unison.

Lin Mu had thought that the invader was already here, but this turned out to be a mere avatar in the end. Even though it was strong, he was unable to tell just how strong it exactly was.

After all, his spirit sense was unable to get near it.

"Shit!" but when Lin Mu felt the aura of tree being appearing from the spatial crack, he knew it was beyond anything he had felt before.

"An immortal... we are doomed..." Patriarch Hua muttered in disbelief.

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While this was happening on the northern part of the Great Zhou Continent, another chain of events had been triggered far to the East of the continent. Deep in the great ocean, where the storms churned endlessly, there was a dark hole.

At the bottom of this dark hole, there was a coffin that was chained to the ocean bed.

Upon the intrusion of the Invader and its aura spreading, this coffin started to tremble!

Chapter 1195 A Coffin In The Storm

The coffin was rather strange looking, and no one knew of its existence. It was about the right size for an average man and looked to be made out of wood.

There was something written on it, but it could not be seen due to the many chains that were binding it. The chains themselves looked to be rusted and mottled, and yet they held a power that was simply unimaginable.

The chains wrapped around the coffin several times, almost covering it in its entirety before attaching to the ocean bed. There, they were seemingly tied to twenty posts that were made out of solid rock.

The posts had dense runes carved into them that seemed to be otherworldly. They weren't written in Dao Script and neither were they written in the common language of the Xiaofan world.

And if one gazed at them for too long, they would find a chill going down their body and their hearts would turn cold. It was simply too uncomfortable to watch the runes. Thankfully, they were hidden deep in the ocean, within a storm that not even an Immortal Ascension realm cultivator would be able to cross into.

There was no life here, either.

There were no aquatic beasts or plant life within a thousand kilometers of the border of the storm, not to mention the area that was underneath it. The conditions were far too harsh for any kind of life to develop here, after all.

~CLANG~

The sound of chains being pulled was heard as the coffin trembled. It moved slightly at first but soon it got louder.

~CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!~

The sound of the chains was heard non-stop until finally... the first chain broke.

~KACHA~

A single chain link shattered, freeing one of the posts to which the Coffin was attached to.

This allowed the coffin a lot more freedom to act and it continued to struggle, this time having a far greater power.

~CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!~

The coffin moved in the direction of the broke chain and tugged at the rest of them a few times before another chain broke!

~KACHA~

With two chains in the opposite direction broken, the Coffin moved even more vigorously until four chains snapped at the same time!

~CRACK~ CRACK~ CRACK~ CRACK~

After this, the coffin got a lot more freedom of movement and it broke the rest of the chains one after the other. In just a short while, all the chains had been broken, and the coffin let out a wave of energy.

~SHATTER~

The chains wrapped around its lid and base crumbled like chalk and it was now free.

~WHOOSH~

It directly flew up and shot out from the ocean.

~BOOM~

The massive storm surrounding it was dispelled from its force, and the ocean became eerily calm in a matter of seconds. It was as if the storm never existed there and the large hole in the ocean wasn't there either.

The coffin paused high up in the sky for a few minutes, as if sensing something, and then flew towards a certain direction to the northwest. Its speed was faster than anything in the Xiaofan world, even exceeding that of Little Shrubby.

~BOOM~ BOOM~ BOOM~

The sound of a sonic boom was heard as it tore apart the very air itself. And if one looked closer, they would see faint cracks appearing in the space wherever it passed.

Back on the battlefield, Lin Mu and the rest were still struggling against Gu Yao and the invader, trying to get past the spatial lock.

"Dammit! Even Meld doesn't work..." Lin Mu cursed.

He had now tried all of his skills, but none of them were effective against the spatial lock. It wasn't that the skills didn't work, but that Lin Mu was simply against something that had a far greater comprehension of the space than him.

If he had more time and a higher cultivation bases, he might have been able to overcome this, but this was not the time.

"Lin Mu... Get ready to use that." Xukong's voice rang in his head.

Lin Mu's expression turned cold upon hearing that and a trace of unwillingness also appeared on it.

"I don't want to abandon them, senior..." Lin Mu said.

"I'm not telling you to do that... there is another way to use the World Essence crystal..." Xukong spoke something to Lin Mu, eliciting a new wave of shock in his mind.

While Lin Mu and Xukong conversed in his mind, the Invader was seemingly appearing in the Xiaofan world. Its tentacles extended from the portal and merged into the already existing avatar of the invader there.

Like two drops of water merging, they were soon indistinguishable from each other.

~GONG~

Then for the first time, Lin Mu heard a sound from the invader. It was strange and certainly didn't seem like a human, or a beast for that matter. It was simply... unworldly.

"Welcome master!" Gu Yao spoke, a wide smile on his face.

The Invader seemingly wiggled in a receptive manner and 'gazed' at everyone. The way it did so was also strange as the skulls floating in its body moved and 'watched' at things for it.

Everyone felt a chill going through their bodies at that moment, as a pressure greater than anything before was released.

"Heavens save us..." Patriarch You Yi muttered, his breath wavering.

Many others felt the same and since they couldn't even resist, they were feeling even more helpless.

"Gu Yao! What are you doing?!" Master Bell Mountain suddenly shouted.

"I'm simply doing what you wanted." Gu Yao replied.

"Then why are you—" before Master Bell Mountain could reply, the earth shook and everyone stumbled.

Some fell and some barely managed to hold on.

"AH! Master has already begun his work." Gu Yao said, as he nodded his head.

~RUMBLE~

Then under the Invader, a large fissure appeared. The fissure was at least a few hundred meters deep as its bottom was pitch black and nothing could be seen at all!

Chapter 1196 The Shadow Gloom Bone Lord

"What's that thing doing!?" Patriarch Shandian questioned.

The others had the same question as well, and even Lin Mu wondered.

"All of you should feel honored that my master has chosen this world and has deemed it worthy." Gu Yao said in a fanatic tone.

"Just what are you intending to do Gu Yao?" The Sky Precepts Ancestor demanded.

"Me? I'm not doing anything. I'm simply here to serve as my master's voice. Everything shall be done by my master." Gu Yao replied casually.

"And what might that be?" The Centennial Sword Ancestor said as he pulled his sword back and slashed again.

"Tch~ Tch~ Tch~ You should just give up and sit down from now. All of you will serve as the perfect appetizer for the master before he eats this world." Gu Yao stated.

"Eat this world?!?" Jing Wei was surprised.

"You aren't destroying it?" The Rainbow Pill Ancestor was surprised.

"Destroy it? Why do that? It would be such a waste." Gu Yao chuckled. "This world has been nurtured for such a long time and even has the best kind of resources that my master needs. Why throw away a perfectly good meal?"

Silence descends on the battlefield as no one had expected for this to be the case. All of them were sure that the invader wanted the world's resources and perhaps destroy it. But not only did the invader want to consume all the resources in the world, but also the world itself.

~TREMBLE~

Another quake was felt as the earth shook. The fissure under the Invader grew wider and it was unknown just how deep it had become now. The invader's body was still coming in from the spatial portal and going into the fissure.

The invader's body above the fissure was still the same mass, but the fissure was slowly being filled.

In a couple of minutes, the an entire three kilometer wide area of the fissure was filled with the body of the invader. All that could be seen inside it was a mass of wiggling tar and bones that floated in it.

"What is the name of your master?" Lin Mu spoke after a bout of silence.

Gu Yao who was focused on his master's work, looked towards Lin Mu and raised his brows.

"Hmm... you are certainly an enigma... a little familiar too." Gu Yao said instead. "You killed me once, but that aura... now that I sense it, I have felt it before." He continued and didn't answer Lin Mu.

"How about you tell me your master's name and I'll remind you who I am." Lin Mu suggested.

The patriarch and ancestors were a little confused as to why Lin Mu was asking this, but reckoned that he must have some plan. Jing Wei glanced at him and understood his actions.

'So we are to buy time... will that being be acting?' Jing Wei recalled a terrifying memory.

Wanting to support Lin Mu, Jing Wei withdrew the Ever-reaching blade and started to gather power in it secretly.

'You shall erupt with the greatest power I've ever mustered.' Jing Wei spoke to the sword in his heart.

~hummm~

The sword lightly hummed in his hand but could only be heard by those that had comprehended Sword Intent.

The Centennial Sword Ancestor looked towards the immortal weapon and instinctively understood it as well. The level of communication was something on an entirely different level. It was like a language that only those that had comprehended Sword Intent could use.

'Perhaps today's the day for it... time for my end. A worthy end!' the Centennial Sword Ancestor said in his mind, and a determined expression appeared on his face.

Gu Yao watched Lin Mu for a few seconds after he had spoken and suddenly started laughing.

"HAHAHA! Do you think you are even worthy of that?" Gu Yao said out loud.

"I shall speak first then. Perhaps then you will realize if I'm worthy." Lin Mu said confidently.

"Go on then... tell me about you. You might have killed me before and have some ability, but you are nothing in front of my master." Gu Yao said in a prideful tone.

"You are right, that I foiled your plan and killed you. But that wasn't the only time I did that. Rather, it was the second time I did it directly. We've fought before too and I defeated you as well... forced you to change everything." Lin Mu taunted.

As soon as Lin Mu finished his words, Gu Yao felt his memories turn and a certain memory appeared in his mind. It was a still vivid in his mind and the ten glowing eyes still made him shudder.

"So it's you... Lin Mu. I never thought it would be the same kid as back then." Gu Yao said, as a hint of anger appeared on his face. "Good!"

"GOOD! GOOD! GOOD!" Gu Yao exclaimed loudly. "Now I'll get to pay back the debt. Your master humiliate me before and now I'll shall do it to you!"

"Because you know what?! MY MASTER IS STRONGER THAN YOURS!" Gu Yao said as he raised his hands. "FOR HE IS THE SHADOW GLOOM BONE LORD!"

~RUMBLE~

The name seemingly made the very skies shake and the earth tremble. The Invader even let out a screech that could be heard everywhere in the Xiaofan world. The screech was something that was heard within the minds of every being in the world, striking a level of fear that was never existing before.

At that moment, everyone came to know of the Shadow Gloom Bone Lord as it announced its presence.

"Now that you know of my Master... time to die!" Gu Yao said and sent out a palm attack towards Lin Mu.

~BOOM~

A red and black aura gathered around Gu Yao's palm and shot forth, making the space shake.

Lin Mu flickered and dodged it with Blink though, irking the man.

"Humph! So you have some capabilities, but it won't allow you to live lo—" Just as Gu Yao was threatening though, an object appeared in the sky.

"A coffin?"

Chapter 1197 A Strange Skeleton

The appearance of the Coffin was the most unexpected for everyone.

Not only because it was a coffin, but due to the fact that no one had sensed it appearing. One must know that the battlefield was filled with the strongest cultivators in this world and their senses would know everything around them.

Thus, the appearance of the coffin was highly suspicious. Even Gu Yao furrowed his brows and held back his words as he saw the coffin. On the lid of the coffin, a few words were also written but could not be read by anyone here.

"What ploy is this?" Gu Yao guessed that it was the work of Lin Mu and the Alliance, no doubt.

~CREAK~

He didn't get to think long as the sound of the coffin opening was heard. It felt like someone was prying apart the lid and the body of the coffin with a crowbar and the nails holding down the lid were being forcefully pulled out.

"Is this your work, Lin Mu?" The Patriarch's asked Lin Mu through the jade slips.

"No." Lin Mu replied, feeling confused.

"Then what is it?" They asked.

"I have no idea... I can't sense it... it's as if it doesn't exist at all..." Lin Mu said, finding it all too alarming.

He was about to do what Senior Xukong had told him to do, but had to do a double take when the coffin appeared. Just like Gu Yao thought, this was Lin Mu's work, he thought it was Gu Yao's work.

Just as they all wondered about the mystery of the Coffin, it moved once more.

~THWACK~ ~THWACK~ ~THWACK~ ~THWACK~

Twenty rusty nails were pulled out along with the lid of the coffin as it started to slide to the side.

"HEEEEEEEEEEEEE~" A long wispy breath was heard coming from the coffin.

It was strange, as if someone was trying hard to breathe but could not. It could even be said to be closer to a wheeze rather than a breath.

~clack~ clack~ clack~

The sound of bones could be heard as a hand peered out from the side of the coffin. The hand was just bones, having no flesh or skin on it. The skeleton fingers clasped onto the edge of the lid and pushed it aside completely.

This revealed the inhabitant of the coffin.

"A Skeleton?!" Everyone was stunned upon seeing it.

The skeleton was dressed in unique white robes that had gold endorsement on its sleeves, shoulders, and waist. It even had a strange golden talisman hanging from the top of its skull.

The talisman had runes written on it that were far too small for one to read. But the most eye-catching part was the intricate ornament that it was wearing on its torso. It looked like a long necklace that had five golden and silver discs.

There were two disks near its neck, two below those around its chest and then one final large disc that was near its abdomen. The four upper discs were cross linked with the same golden thread that strung the entire ornament.

~clack~ clack~

The bones of its legs made sounds as the skeleton moved forward and came out of the coffin.

It moved around its neck and gazed at the people on the battlefield. But in the end, its gaze came to settle on three people, Gu Yao and the Invader, as well as Lin Mu.

And when it looked at Gu Yao, the man felt fear. It was a strange fear that came from the depths of his soul.

"ATTACK!" Gu Yao struck out without a thought in the next moment.

A wave of red energy sprayed out at the Skeleton and everything that was behind it.

But much to everyone's shock, the skeleton merely put his palm upfront.

~HONG~

The red energy wave that was coming towards it was dispersed as if it were nothing.

"WHAT?!" Gu Yao was extremely alarmed.

Then the skeleton moved its hand and pointed at Gu Yao with its forefinger.

"Eliminate." The skeleton spoke.

A dot of light appeared on the tip of its bony finger and soon turned nearly a meter wide!

"IMMORTAL QI!?" Gu Yao shouted in fear.

"What?" Even Lin Mu and the other Immortal ascension realm experts were stunned.

"Get back Lin Mu," Xukong urged.

~SHUA~ SHUA~ SHUA~

Lin Mu directly used Blink several times in a row and retreated half a kilometer away. The Immortal Ascension realm ancestors did the same, and Jing Wei retreated as well. All of them could tell that the Qi fluctuations coming from the skeleton were not spirit Qi at all.

The Qi seemed far more powerful than spirit Qi and gave one a feeling of pressure just by existing. It even went so far as to directly pull in all the spirit Qi around it and consume it.

Or rather, it could be said that the spirit Qi moved into the Immortal Qi of its own volition. It was like two magnets being attracted due to having opposite poles.

The ball of light on the skeleton finger reached a critical point and exploded!

~BOOM~

A beam of light shot forth from the ball and struck Gu Yao.

"AHH!" Gu Yao shouted in pain.

Everyone watched on in a mix of confusion and fear as the Skeleton attacked Gu Yao, completely suppressing him.

A few seconds later, the attack faded away, and the Skeleton lowered its hand.

"Haa.... Haa... Haa.... YOU! HOW DARE YOU!" Surprisingly Gu Yao was still alive!

Lin Mu and the rest looked at him, finding that his lower half of his body had been melted away. And even his torso was greatly damaged.

Being alive in this state was very unnatural and when Lin Mu watched Gu Yao closely, he realized why. His body wasn't really made out of flesh and blood, but rather the same substance the Invader's body was made out of.

It was merely imitating the appearance of a human body and how its anatomy was. Gu Yao had long since given up on being human!

Chapter 1198 The Immortal Of The Western Continent

The revelation of Gu Yao's body as well as the Immortal Qi of the skeleton was too much for everyone.

Immortal Qi was something that only immortals could use and would not exist in a low leveled world like the Xiaofan world. After all, it was directly against the natural laws of the world and if Immortal Qi appeared here, it would directly pull in all the ambient spirit Qi towards it.

While this might be fine, if there was a small amount of Immortal Qi, it would be like that for long. If enough time was given to it, the Immortal Qi would absorb more spirit Qi and increase in quantity, thereby absorbing even more spirit Qi.

Then there would come a time where there would be simply no spirit Qi left in the world.

This was the same as the growth of the world being halted directly!

It was unacceptable! And thus against the natural laws!

If a world's natural laws were to change to accommodate Immortal Qi, the world would have to steadily grow step by step. Only by doing this would it reach a point of allowing the co-existence of Spirit Qi and Immortal Qi.

But all this meant that the Skeleton in front of them was simply an anomaly.

~WOONG~

The Invader didn't feel pleased by the appearance and attack of the Skeleton and swung a tentacle at it. The tentacle moved with the power to shatter mountains and struck the Skeleton.

~BANG~

The skeleton blocked it with its left hand but was still pushed back several steps.

"My master will not let you off, whatever you are." Gu Yao said as he retreated a little.

The red energy he had spread around the area started to gather back toward him and clung to his fragmented body. It slowly started to repair and the 'flesh' regrew.

While the Skeleton and the Invader battled, Lin Mu was analyzing the situation.

"What even is that, Senior? How can a skeleton like that move? And why does it have Immortal Qi?" Lin Mu questioned nonstop.

"There are many ways to make a skeleton of course, a lot more than I can list right now. But looking at this particular skeleton and the level of sentience it has, it seems like a puppet." Xukong answered.

"A puppet?" Lin Mu furrowed his brows. "Like those of the Mu clan?" he asked.

"It is similar to that in concept, but a lot more power. Considering the fact that it is using Immortal Qi to attack, it was made from the body of an Immortal Realm cultivator. And if I add the other things such as the coffin and the talisman on its head, I am sure that it is an Immortal Puppet." Xukong explained.

"How can it exist in the Xiaofan world? Did it come from a higher world too? But then I don't feel the same rejection from the world's will." Lin Mu said in confusion.

"There can only be one reason for that... That skeleton, or whoever it belonged to, used to be a resident of this world and was born in it." Xukong replied.

The only time a world would not fully reject an Immortal expert was if they originally belonged to the world and had left it after their ascension. They could technically return to their home worlds, but only temporarily.

"Seems like there were many restrictive seals added to the skeleton puppet to allow it to exist in Xiaofan world without it being rejected." Xukong added.

"I see..." Lin Mu said as a few ideas appeared in his mind.

With the information that Xukong provided, he could come up with a few scenarios of his own as to why the Skeleton puppet appeared now.

"I RECOGNIZE THAT!" just as Lin Mu was thinking to himself, someone exclaimed.

Looking at the source, Lin Mu found it to be the Sky Precepts Ancestor.

"What? What did you recognize?" Jing Wei and the others inquired.

"The robes that the skeleton is wearing. Do you all recall the story of the four immortals?" The Sky Precepts Ancestor replied.

And when he said this, Jing Wei had an expression of realization.

"How can this be... didn't they all leave the world?" Jing Wei said in confusion.

"Only three of them did. One did something else, remember? The immortal from the Western continent." The Sky precepts Ancestor spoke. "We never got to know for sure what happened to him. We simply know that he disappeared. We just assumed that he must have left like the others." He added.

When Lin Mu heard this, he correlated it with Xukong's words and felt it all linking up.

"Could it be... the Immortal of the former Western continent turned himself into a puppet?" Lin Mu found it absurd. "But wouldn't it mean he killed himself to do this? Why would an immortal do that?"

"Attachments can force oneself to do a lot of things that are often against logic and hard to comprehend. We don't know what kind of a state he was in, so there is no way to confirm it all. Perhaps it was even possible that he was close to death and did this to preserve himself in a manner. And even protect his home world." Xukong suggested.

Lin Mu thought it over, and it did seem somewhat reasonable to him. But even then it was a little confusing over all.

~BANG~

Everyone's focus was pulled back to the battle as the dust settled. The Skeleton and the Invader were in a strange stalemate now. A strange barrier surrounded the invader and the attacks of the Skeleton were being blocked by it.

"Should we assist it somehow?" Lin Mu asked.

But just as he said that, the skeleton looked towards him.

"Threat! To be eliminated!" The skeleton spoke all of a sudden and pointed at Lin Mu.

~WOONG~

Immortal Qi gathered on its forefinger and the same attack as before was readied.

"SHIT!" Lin Mu cursed. "Why's it targeting me? I'm of this world."

"It might be because of your abilities. They don't exactly fit the level of this world. The Skeleton puppet probably considered them as a threat to this world, which it is supposed to protect as well and it attacking you now." Xukong said, his tone a little worried as well.

~BOOM~

The ball of energy exploded on the Skeleton's finger and shot toward Lin Mu.

"FADE!" Lin Mu directly used Fade to enter the parallel world.

Even he wasn't confidence to tank the attack made with Immortal Qi. Lin Mu's body might be strong enough to go against an Immortal Ascension realm cultivator, but it certainly wasn't strong enough to go against an Immoral realm expert.

Even if the expert was dead and was a mere puppet, it could still use Immortal Qi, which Lin Mu's body and skills won't block. The only way he could survive was to evade it entirely.

~KABOOM~

The beam of energy struck the place Lin Mu was in moments ago and created a twenty meter deep crater.

Lin Mu returned some distance away and took a breath of shock.

"You can't do this on your own. Not anymore." Xukong spoke. "You need to do that now... Use the World Essence Crystal!"

Chapter 1199 The World Comes To A Stand

It would have been the best if the Immortal Skeleton had taken care of Gu Yao and the Invader, but it was evident that it was no longer safe.

The Skeleton had deemed Lin Mu as a threat as well and was trying to attack him as well. With the first attack dodged, Lin Mu knew there was no way he could take the risk.

'We were going to do this before anyway, so it doesn't change it much. The number of targets has increased by one at most.' Lin Mu thought to himself as he continued to retreat.

~BOOM~

Another attack came towards Lin Mu as the skeleton targeted him again. Lin Mu barely dodged it it using Fade.

While retreating, a crystal appeared in his hand. It was clear but prismatic light could be seen coming from it time to time. A strange energy also swirled around it that was different from any kind of Qi.

If one observed it for a while, they would realize that the power exuding from it was even greater than that of the Immortal Qi that the Skeleton was using. It was simply unfathomable.

This was of course, nothing but the World Essence Crystal!

It was something desired by nearly every great power in the world and was always in short supply. And when it appeared in his hand, nearly everyone could feel its presence.

"What is that?!" The patriarchs felt their hearts shake.

Even Gu Yao looked towards Lin Mu and felt the strange energy coming from him.

~KREEE~

The Invader let out an angry cry and gave out orders to Gu Yao.

"DIE!" Gu Yao was urged by his master to kill Lin Mu or that something terrifying would happen.

~CRACK~

But before Gu Yao's attack could even be released, the crystal in Lin Mu's hand was broken!

~SHATTER~

The World Essence Crystal crumbled into fine dust that flew into the air and disappeared. At that very moment, it was as if the world stood still and time came to a stop.

The ancestors watched with wide eyes as their bodies became frozen; the same was experienced by others. But the most shocked was Gu Yao, who felt the very space tremble.

'This isn't like what the master just said.' Gu Yao understood.

His master had told him that the crystal that Lin Mu just took out would push them out of the world. But that didn't happen at all. Instead, it felt like the target of the crystal wasn't them but the entire Xiaofan world, which didn't make sense to him.

After all, Lin Mu was supposed to be protecting the world as the world's ordained and not trying to harm it.

~KACHA~

While he wondered about this, a fine crack appeared high up in the sky. The crack was barely the thickness of a hair, but soon started to expand. Its size increased to cover the entire sky, from the horizon in the east all the way to the horizon in the west.

It was almost as if someone had split the sky in half!

Everyone across the world could see the crack and wondered if this was the end of the world?

~WHOOSH~

Then wind started to move, and stormy clouds formed.

~RUMBLE~

Peals of thunder raged across the sky, as if angry about something.

"Are those Tribulation clouds!?" The cultivators were confused and scared.

~BOOM~ BOOM~ BOOM~

But instead of striking the earths, the tribulation lighting went towards the crack in the sky. All of it seemed absurd to them, and it was as if their understanding of the world had been flipped on their head.

They always thought that the lightning only fell to the ground. But this time it was hitting the skies!

"Ancestors save us!" The peasants in villages huddled around their loved ones watching the sky break apart and the thunder rage.

In the Sky Precepts sect, several complex formation arrays, including the Start catching formation array which had newly been repaired, were broken. They all broke apart under an unknown force but the people running them were strangely unharmed.

Strange phenomenon occurred all over the world and people didn't know what to do.

Even the animals were left in a tizzy as they ran around randomly, unable to comprehend anything. All their instincts were screaming at them, telling them that a calamity was approaching.

But where could they run when the very world itself seemed to be breaking?

~GONG~

Suddenly, the lightning bolts that were striking the sky let out a strange sound. It was like a bell had been struck, but it was not so.

A layer of light appeared around the entire Xiaofan world and could be seen from the space. The barrier was translucent at first and countless runes swam in it. The runes were mystical and were a mix of Dao script as well as several other runes.

The complexity of them was beyond anything that the people of this world could do, and it was certainly made by Immortals.

"HEAVENS! THE WORLD BARRIER!" The Sky Precepts Ancestor exclaimed.

The people of the Sky Precepts sect were quaking in their boots upon seeing the scene. After all, they had a close relation to the world barrier and had been given a duty to maintain and protect it.

One of the creators of the world barrier was none other than the Immortal from the Sky Precepts sect. They had watched over it all these centuries, ensuring nothing happened to it.

The World barrier itself was invisible and shouldn't appear even if it was attacked or something passed through it. But today they saw it reveal its true appearance for the first time ever.

"It is marvelous..." High elder Han couldn't help but say.

Similar thoughts appeared in the hearts of everyone as they saw the marvel that had protected their world for thousands of years.

~SHATTER~

But all of it turned to despair when the barrier shattered apart!

"NO!!!" The ancestors of the sects cried out.

Even if the Sky Precepts Sect was in charge of the world barrier, all of them knew that without the world barrier, they wouldn't be able to be safe for long.

If this one invader was this troublesome to deal with, what would they do when tens of such invaders arrive without the barrier to protect them?

And while all of them feared for their world, the crack in the sky started to expand. Pitch black darkness could be seen behind the crack and no one could tell what was hidden there. The mortals couldn't even see till that distance anyway.

The only ones who could were strong experts and cultivators.

~WHOOSH~

The clouds and lightning that were striking the sky disappeared in that moment, sucked into the crack.

It was as if someone had used a vacuum to suck it all away. But this was merely the start as the crack continued to expand. In a short time, the crack covered the entire sky, making one feel as if it was night time.

The sun disappeared, while the blue sky was no more. Only pitch black darkness was witnessed above them.

All this felt even more terrifying than the Invader that was in front of them.

"Master... what is this..." Gu Yao questioned, feeling lost but received no answer.

Instead, he could feel a stream of fear coming from the link he had with his master.

'Master is afraid?' Gu Yao thought.

~CLACK~ CLACK~ CLACK~

"THREAT! WORLD BARRIER IS BROKEN! ELIMINATE!" The Immortal Skeleton on the other hand, knew no fear.

It changed its target from Lin Mu to the crack in the sky.

~BOOM~ BOOM~ BOOM~

Several blasts of pure immortal Qi were shot out by the Skeleton. They were even more powerful than when it had attacked the invader or Lin Mu. It was clearly taking this as the greatest threat.

~poof~

But the result of it was anticlimactic as the blasts of immortal Qi simply disappeared into the dark sky.

~WENG~

This was soon changed though, as the sky shook once more.

Ten Golden Yellow lights appeared in the darkness, as if new suns adorning it. But the humans who saw it all turned horrified.

"Are those... eyes?"

The ten Golden Yellow lights were clearly not just lights since they had pupils inside them! They were eyes!

The eyes glanced upon the people of the world, making them feel as if they were mere insects before it.

"W-what... what is this..." The ancestors of the sects felt completely lost.

But there were a few that found it all to be familiar.

"I can't believe it... he did it... he really did it..." Jing Wei muttered and stammered.

He recalled the fearful memory of the past when he was warned by these very eyes.

Gu Yao was the same as he too experienced it, but it was far too strong this time.

Finally, a voice was heard in the heavens.

"Lin Mu... I can only do this once... Observe!"

Chapter 1200 Pull Of The Weaver

The dark sky looked ominous, and the voice that came from it was even more ominous.

But when it spoke to Lin Mu, the people of the Xiaofan world were left stunned.

"W-why... why is that... that being speaking to Lin Mu? Why does it know him?" The Sky Precepts Ancestor questioned.

The others had similar thoughts and wondered why something so powerful and otherworldly would talk to Lin Mu, that too something that had destroyed the world's barrier and even shattered the skies.

Lin Mu was supposed to be protecting the world and now he was acquainted with someone that was destroying it?

This only made everyone confused.

'What is happening in this world? First the invader, then the Immortal Skeleton, and now the ten golden eyes? What secrets are hidden in this world?' Master Bell Mountain who was lying on the ground thought.

His cultivation base had basically been dispelled, and his body had aged greatly. Even now, he was only holding on through sheer will. If it were not for the fact that he was still within the range of the ancestral Bell and was being protected by it, he would have died from the mere appearance of the invader and the great being in the sky.

"That thing you all see in the sky... that is Lin Mu's backing... That is his master!" Jing Wei answered.

"His master?!" each and everyone was left speechless.

To them, an immortal realm expert was already something beyond their understanding, but now there was a new being that could easily exceed the immortal realm. Just from the mere pressure it was exuding on the world, it was evident that it was strong beyond the limits of this world.

'Observe and learn Lin Mu.' Xukong instructed.

Lin Mu nodded his head, knowing that this was an opportunity that was very hard to find.

~HONG~

The ten golden eyes that reigned in the dark void shone brightly and illuminated the expanse. Soon, the surroundings of the golden eyes became visible. The first to appear were massive white pillars that flickered in and out of existence.

They even shone with a prismatic light, looking beautiful. The white pillars were of various sizes, some looking like mere hair compared to the larger ones that were like mountains. These pillars were seemingly holding up the very void itself.

Covering these pillars and attaching them at the base were intricately woven threads. Only those at the Immortal Ascension realm could even see them somewhat clearly since they were too far.

Once the entire background became visible, the people realized that the vast and dark expanse in the sky wasn't just empty; it was actually a giant temple!

And within that temple stood a being bigger than the entire Xiaofan world. Bit by bit, the body of Xukong was revealed. His massive head with ten golden yellow eyes and long fangs that alone were enough to pierce through the world.

His colossal body that could eclipse the sun and the moon and long bony white legs that were like the legendary pillars that held up the heavens. Each and every thing was awe inspiring and at the same time struck a fear that was carved into the souls of everyone that watched.

Gu Yao trembled nonstop, feeling twice the amount of fear that others were. Not only did he feel his own fear, but the fear that came from his master. The worst part of it all was that, his master the Shadow Gloom Bone Lord, seemed to be even more scared than him!

"What realm is that being in, master?" Gu Yao couldn't help but ask.

Unfortunately, he received no answer at all. Or even if he did, there was a great chance he simply might not be able to comprehend it at all.

~SHUA~

While everyone trembled in fear, and the immortal Skeleton continued its attacks, Xukong made his move. One of his legs moved slightly and pointed towards the Xiaofan world. A thin thread detached from one of the pillars and shot towards the world.

It seemed to be coming from very far and yet covered the distance in the blink of an eye. And when it passed from the void into the border of the Xiaofan world, it suddenly enlarged by several times.

It was like a hair had turned into a bamboo!

But that was simply an illusion. It wasn't that the thread had enlarged, but rather it was always this size. It was simply looking small due to how far it was compared to the Xiaofan world, just like how a sun seemed small, even though it was exponentially bigger than a planet.

The large thread looked like it would fall upon the Xiaofan world, but when it got close it seemed to have passed through everything.

It turned ethereal and directly passed through the Immortal Skeleton as well as the large body of the Invader, even going beyond that and reaching into the Forbidden continent!

An ominous feeling filled the minds of Gu Yao and the Invader, while Lin Mu's eyes turned sharp as they observed everything. Merely the movement of the thread from the void into the Xiaofan world had already taught Lin Mu a lot more than he had comprehended on his own.

He could sense the changes in the space as well as the movement of the void. The fabric of space reacted differently too and the fine intricacies of the space were shown to him. His eyes continued to track the thread until it could no longer be seen.

Millions of fine threads spread out from the main thread and covered the area. They directly entered the spatial fabric and wove themselves into it.

It was at this point that it felt like the thread had come to a stop, but then... Xukong's voice was heard once again.

"Pull of the Weaver: Unraveling the Void!"

The main thread suddenly retracted and disappeared at a moment's notice.

~SCREECH~

Then... it happened.

The space around the immortal skeleton and the invader started to unfurl.