

Complete Martial Arts Attributes

- Chapter 1616: Old Han's Transformation! (1)

Chapter 1616: Old Han's Transformation! (1)

Clara was unable to stay put and keep appearances. She shouted upon seeing the hero about to leave, "Earl Wang, please wait!"

"What's the matter?" The young overlord didn't stop; he continued on his way to exit the Secondary Career Alliance's premises.

Zhuang Caixuan rushed to catch up with him.

Her friend ran a little to walk beside the hero. She said, "Earl Wang, this might be a little presumptuous..."

He cut her short. "Don't say it then."

Clara: ...

The governor's daughter at the young man, truly bewildered. Is he cold-hearted?

Neither of the young girls knew what to say anymore.

Once the hero reached the lobby, the middle-aged man who greeted him noticed his reappearance and his eyes lit up.

"Grandmaster Wang, are you done making your pill?" asked the fellow respectfully.

Wang Teng nodded. A few jade bottles appeared in his hand, which flew toward the senior after a waving motion. "These are for the other grandmasters. Please help me with delivering them to Grandmaster Alfred. He's on planet Great Qian. He knows how they ought to be distributed."

"Yes." The middle-aged man nodded quickly. He was astounded.

He scanned the bottles and saw nine grandmaster-level pills inside. Is Grandmaster Wang Teng going to give them away just like this? How generous!

This gesture attested to the hero's close relationship with the grandmasters from planet Great Qian.

He remembered the experts' indications to entertain the young earl well. This helped in confirming his guess.

Clara saw their exchange. Her eyes almost popped out from shock.

Those are nine seventh-level grandmaster pills. How could he give them away so easily?

If you think you have too many of them, you can give one to me! Clara screamed in her heart.

She suddenly processed what she heard and was astounded. Wait, did he say he's going to give them to the grandmasters on planet Great Qian?

Once the instructions were given, Wang Teng left the Secondary Career Alliance. He wasn't worried that the senior would pocket the pills for himself. If he did, all the grandmasters would go after him.

The alliance would never allow such a thing to happen.

The middle-aged fellow did his best to finish the task quickly, immediately leaving to send the pills through the alliance's internal delivery system.

Soon after, the pills were in the hands of the grandmasters.

At the Secondary Career Alliance parking area—Clara stopped Wang Teng.

"Erm... Miss Clara?" The young hero looked at her.

The woman felt somewhat at a loss.

Wang Teng nodded and continued, "Miss Clara, are we close?"

"I know this is a little sudden, but please give me one minute to say something," Clara said in earnest.

She bowed deeply to appease the hero.

At the moment she was clad in a formal dress with a high slit and a deep V-neckline. Hence, her gesture made the deep cleavage stand out.

Wang Teng was a frank person.

Hence, he openly appreciated the view; he had no intention of looking away.

She looked up, blushing upon seeing his frank appraisal. Then, she stood up straight, seemingly proud of herself.

Hmph, stupid man, you were still lured by my beauty.

"Is your chest real?" Wang Teng asked.

Clara: ...

This person is a little... shameless.

Zhuang Caixuan's face turned black. He was teasing her friend, which was infuriating.

"Earl Wang, I'm being serious," said Clara with a stern face, "I need someone to help me make a grandmaster sixth-level pill, but there's no one here who is able to make it. You're the only one."

"You can try on other planets if you can't find someone here," Wang Teng replied calmly.

The woman choked, feeling that the young earl was impervious to persuasion. She couldn't do anything to him, though. "Planet Yulan is the most prosperous one in the Yulan Galaxy. If I can't find a suitable grandmaster here, it would be the same on the rest. That's why I came looking for you."

Zhuang Caixuan couldn't bear to see Clara humbling herself to plead for the earl to help, so she said, "Earl Wang, why don't you help Sister Clara? Don't worry, she'll give you fair compensation."

"That's right. Don't worry about the money. I can fulfill any request if you're willing to help me make this sixth-level grandmaster pill," Clara agreed.

"Any request?" Wang Teng gave her an ambiguous smile.

The young girl felt anxious upon seeing the young hero's gaze. Is he thinking of taking me as payment?

Zhuang Caixuan wanted to help Clara but, yet her expression turned uglier when he heard Wang Teng's reply.

This fellow pretends to be unmoved by ladies, but deep inside, his thoughts are filthy. You must never judge a book by its cover.

"Looks like you can't do it." Wang Teng walked around Clara and got in his Force flying car. He said to his appointed guide, "Driver, lead the way."

Zhuang Caixuan was furious. This fellow treats my friend this badly and he still wants me to drive for him.

"Hurry up," Wang Teng said.

Zhuang Caixuan sighed and sat on the driver's seat. She started the engine and took one last look at her friend. Clara was still hesitating. The governor's daughter knew that further help would be inappropriate, so she drove the car and hovered toward the sky.

Chapter 1617: Old Han's Transformation! (2)

Zhuang Caixuan couldn't help but ask, "Why don't you want to help her?"

"I don't know her. Why am I obligated to help?" Wang Teng said.

"But..." the young girl wanted to say that Clara was her friend, but she suddenly remembered that she herself wasn't close to the hero, either. The words got stuck in her throat.

Wang Teng smiled, still silent. He then focused on his attributes board.

He had picked up many bubbles during the lightning calamity.

Most were of constellation lightning Force and Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning.

There was nothing much to say about the constellation lightning Force.

As for the Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning, he picked up 1,500 points.

Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning: 3800/10000 (first-rank)

This attribute had risen to 3,800 points. It was still at the first-rank, but its power had indeed increased.

Back when the League of Talents took place, Wang Teng had used his brick to bang many talents' heads. It was a handy weapon.

Aside from being easy to use, the power of the calamity lightning contained within was helpful, too.

Not many could withstand the strike of tribulation lightning, not even experts who could harness the lightning element.

Wang Teng also used some calamity lightning with some of his lightning-based techniques. The effects were satisfying.

He had used tribulation lightning for his Lightning Battle Spear, which made it capable of withstanding tribulation attacks.

The young hero believed this type of energy attacks would become his most lethal arsenal as the assimilated tribulation power became stronger.

...

Soon, the two reached the Earldom's manor.

Zhuang Caixuan left after parking the vehicle. She needed some time to clear her thoughts.

Being the pampered little princess of the Zhuangs, she had never been subject to such treatment before.

The events of that day had caused her a minor mental breakdown.

Wang Teng didn't pay much attention to the two ladies' reactions, forgetting all about them almost instantly.

"Round Ball, help me contact Old Han!" Wang Teng said as he walked into his room.

"All right!" Round Ball replied.

Wu Xingyun and Han Ping didn't know that the pill was ready, so they thought that the young earl had just returned to tell them about other matters. They hurried over to meet him.

"Wang Teng, the masters from Earth are on their way over. They should be here soon," said Han Ping with a smile as he walked in.

"I've also contacted the grandmasters I know. They've agreed to help," Wang Teng said.

"That's good. All we have to do is wait for them to come over now," Wu Xingyun said happily.

"Yes." Wang Teng nodded. "Oh right, I forgot to tell you that planet Earth is now part of the Great Qian Empire. Our citizens can apply to have the empire's identity account."

"Really?" Wu Xingyun and the others were pleasantly surprised.

"This is one of the rewards the Great Qian Empire gave me," the hero said.

"Good! This is great news. Our people will have an easier time integrating into the greater universe," Hong Tianshi said.

"Not only that, the people on Earth will be protected by the empire, as we are now their citizens," Wang Teng said.

"Why didn't you tell us about this earlier?" Hong Tianshi complained.

"Hahaha, I completely forgot." Wang Teng smiled.

"How can you forget such a thing?" Han Ping felt at a loss.

"They gave me too many rewards. How could I remember all of them?" Wang Teng replied.

Han Ping and the others didn't know what to say.

Look at what he's saying.

Too many rewards? Sounds like bragging.

"Oh right, I almost forgot about the main topic." Wang Teng took out the Thousand Grass Elixir and said, "Old Han, this is the pill I made for you. It can cure all your hidden injuries."

"What?!" Han Ping was shocked. "You made it already? When did you do it?"

"Just now," the hero said.

There was a moment of silence. Wang Teng never went by the book, so they could never predict his actions.

"Try it." The young overlord gave him the jade bottle.

Han Ping caught it, feeling flustered. It was the cure for his body and was worried the bottle would break, but Wang Teng didn't care and merely threw it over. The senior couldn't complain, so he felt a bit frustrated.

Excited, he opened the bottle, which released a dense fragrance.

"What grade is this? It smells amazing!" Wu Xingyun and the others leaned over curiously.

"Grandmaster, seventh-level!" Wang Teng replied.

"???" Wu Xingyun and the others were dumbstruck. They looked at the lad with mouths agape. "Grandmaster... seventh-level?"

"That's right. I asked the other grandmasters and they said that the Thousand Grass Elixir has the best effect in curing hidden health risks and nourishing the body. That's why I chose it," said the hero with a nonchalant attitude.

Everyone: ...

The reason was quite valid.

He chose it because it had the best effects.

Wang Teng was probably the only one who could say such things.

Come on, this is a seventh-level grandmaster pill. It must be painstaking to make it.

The hero had just returned the day prior and he had already prepared the pill. The efficiency was impressive.

"What is your grade now?" Hong Tianshi asked curiously.

"He should be at the peak of the grandmaster level, since he's able to make such a pill in one day," Yong Lianggong guessed.

Chapter 1618: Old Han's Transformation! (3)

"Erm... I'm actually only a sixth-level grandmaster." Wang Teng scratched his head in embarrassment.

Hong Tianshi: ...

The crowd was taken aback once again.

Everyone stared at the hero in a daze, completely at a loss.

He looked as though he was saying... 'I'm barely at this level. Sorry to disappoint.'

"If you're at the sixth-level, how did you manage to make a seventh-level pill?" Wu Xingyun asked.

"Isn't jumping levels a normal thing for geniuses?" the hero replied.

Everyone: ...

A normal thing?

Which normal alchemist can make a higher grade pill than his own base level?

A difference of levels between grandmasters made a huge difference. The likelihood of failure was high when attempting to make a pill of a higher level than their current means.

None of the seniors present were alchemists, but this was common knowledge.

"All right, this is nothing." Wang Teng waved his hands indifferently. Then, he urged, "Old Han, come on and try it."

"All right!" Han Ping felt a little troubled. The issue plaguing him most of his life was going to be resolved. It felt unreal.

He was forced to stop cultivating in the past due to his ailments, to later become the guard of the Huanghai Military Academy.

He would have died unnoticed if it wasn't for the sea beasts riot.

Fortunately, he met Wang Teng, who saved his life and gave him hope that he could advance to the planetary stage.

Now, the young overlord had even told him that his body could make a full recovery.

All of this made him feel deeply emotional; he was filled with gratitude towards the lad.

Still, it wasn't the right time to speak about this. He got up and entered a cultivation room while tightly grabbing the bottle with the Thousand Grass Elixir.

Everyone waited outside.

Wu Xingyun and the others saw the elder as a warrior who, just like them, had emerged from Earth's humble cradle. They naturally hoped he could truly recover and join them to explore and conquer the vast universe.

The young earl held this senior in high regard. Who knows what Earth would have become without elders like him, and how could he attain chances to grow as the young hero did?

The lad was happy he could do something to help.

Everyone was patiently waiting outside. No one spoke, but their gazes were fixed on the door.

Time passed slowly. It was already nighttime when the young hero went back to his manor. Han Ping remained in the cultivation room for an entire night.

The next morning, Wu Xingyun and the others finally got worried since their colleague wasn't coming out.

"Wang Teng, did something happen to him?" Hong Tianshi asked.

"Don't worry. There's nothing wrong with the pill I made," the hero explained, "The longer he stays there is also an indicator of how many hidden injuries he has. The medicinal effects will take some time to take effect."

The former nodded. They believed in the young hero.

Everything would be all right since the boy had said so.

Wang Teng looked at the door and activated his Real Eye. He was stunned by what he saw.

Boom!

Just then, the cultivation room's door opened.

A figure emerged.

"What?" Everyone was flabbergasted by what they saw.

The Old Han who walked out was no longer the hunched elder with wrinkles all over his face.

His back was ramrod straight and all the wrinkles were gone. Even his white hair had turned gray.

If he was around eighty years of age, he now looked like a fifty year old.

His aura was exceptional. He looked mature, tough, and dignified; he was definitely a handsome middle-aged man.

No wonder the others were dumbfounded.

"You're... Han Ping?" Hong Tianshi asked in shock.

"Yes, don't you recognize me?" Han Ping laughed. His voice was full of vitality; surprisingly enough, there was no hint of old age in it.

"F**k!" Hong Tianshi couldn't help but curse when he heard the reply.

Chapter 1619: Bertha, This Is How Much I Trust You! (1)

Hong Tianshi wasn't the only one in shock. Even Wang Teng was shocked by the drastic change in Old Han.

Is the Thousand Grass Elixir this powerful?

Suddenly, he regretted gifting the other nine Thousand Grass Elixirs away. He should have left some for himself in case he needed them in the future.

Fortunately, the pill wasn't hard to make; he could make it again in the future.

"Hahaha..." Han Ping burst out laughing when he saw their reactions. He was evidently happy.

He experienced a transformation after consuming the pill.

His body used to give off a sense of heaviness and decay; however, that feeling was gone. He felt completely at ease, as if having gotten rid of a heavy burden.

Rebirth!

To Han Ping, this was his rebirth!

Hong Tianshi turned and asked the young hero, "Wang Teng, do you know how amazing your pill is?"

"I don't know." Wang Teng shrugged. "I only knew it had good effects, but I didn't know it was this great."

Everyone: ...

Can you be a little more reliable?

Han Ping walked towards the hero and sincerely said, "Wang Teng, thank you! I would have been six feet under already if it wasn't for you."

"Old Han, you don't have to be so polite with me." Wang Teng smiled.

"You're right. I'm being too sentimental. All right, let's leave it at that; I'll remember your favor in my heart," Han Ping replied.

The hero smiled. He didn't offer help because he wanted a favor in return, so he didn't take the senior's words to heart.

"Your cultivation advanced, too," Wang Teng exclaimed.

"I've made it to the celestial stage!" The senior smiled.

"What? The celestial stage!" Hong Tianshi and the others stared at their friend in disbelief. They wondered if they had misheard.

"All of my injuries were completely healed after consuming the pill. Of course this would spur my breakthrough. It's only natural." Han Ping was all smiles, clenching his fist as he felt the immense energy coursing his body.

"Can this pill help with breakthroughs as well?" Wu Xingyun was surprised.

Wang Teng shook his head and explained, "Not really. Old Han had the accumulation but there were too many unhealed problems blocking his full potential. He would have advanced a long time ago if not for this problem."

"I see." Wu Xingyun and the others were in deep thought.

"I didn't think you would be the first to reach the celestial stage," Hong Tianshi lamented. He felt a little envious.

After all, they had the same starting line but his colleague had already taken that step.

Not even Wu Xingyun had broken through.

"Hahaha, you can only be jealous." Han Ping smiled.

"Stop showing off!" Yong Lianggong pouted.

Long Changkong couldn't help but ask, "Wang Teng, do you have more pills?"

"I have six more," the lad replied.

He had refined sixteen pills in total. He still kept six after giving nine to his fellow grandmasters and one to Old Han.

"Six? Can you give us one each?" Hong Tianshi's eyes lit up. He quickly added "You can make any request."

All of them witnessed Han Ping's change. The pill was too important for them.

All of them had accumulated a certain number of injuries over the years. They just weren't as bad as Han Ping's.

If they could consume the pill and clear all the hidden issues, their cultivation could take a huge leap.

"Here you go." Wang Teng smiled. He took out four pills and continued, "I've made many pills. I wanted to check their effect before handing them to you."

Hong Tianshi exchanged glances with the others but didn't move to take the pills. He said, "We understand their value, so we can't take them for free. However, there's nothing we can do to help you now, so we can only repay you in the future."

"Why are you suddenly so polite? I'm not used to it." The hero was smiling. "You can pay me back in the future if you wish. I'm not in a rush."

He knew they would feel bad if he didn't agree.

Wu Xingyun, Hong Tianshi, and the others heaved sighs of relief and took the pills.

The young hero said, "Please send these two pills back to Earth for my grandfather." He then gave two extra pills to Wu Xingyun.

"Okay. Don't worry; I'll have someone take care of this." The senior.

"I have nothing else to say. I'm sure you're excited to try the effects of the pills, so I won't keep you any longer," said the hero, still smiling.

"Hahaha. Indeed, we're excited. Han Ping's change is too great," said Hong Tianshi.

Then, they said their goodbyes and left Wang Teng alone.

The latter contacted Lin Chuhan in the evening, knowing she would return two days later. Hence, he planned to meet her first before heading to the Seventh Stellar Academy.

He pondered some things for a while and asked Round Ball to contact Bertha and ask her to look for him.

Bertha was the behind-the-scenes person he appointed as manager of his fiefdom, in cooperation with his round helper. Since his fiefdom had grown, he needed to make new arrangements.

A few minutes later, a rune Force flying car landed in the manor.

Chapter 1620: Bertha, This Is How Much I Trust You! (2)

A figure with long green hair stepped down from the flying car and quickly entered the manor's hall.

"Master!" The beautiful young lady half-knelt respectfully in front of Wang Teng.

"Bertha, it's been a long time!" The hero smiled. "Get up, there's no need for the formalities."

The lady stood up.

"Sit," he said, pointing at the chair next to him.

"I wouldn't dare," she replied.

"Sit when I tell you to." His tone was calm.

"Yes!" Bertha's heart jumped in surprise.

Her master was stronger than before; his current presence was a bit unbearable. However, she followed his orders to a T, so she quickly sat down.

"Relax, I won't eat you." Wang Teng said.

Her beautiful face suddenly turned red. No one knew what she was thinking.

Eat me...

How would he do that?

It wasn't her fault. A beautiful slave like her was supposed to comply with such matters.

Many people would spend lots of money to buy slaves like her so they could have a good bite.

She was powerful and gorgeous, inciting people into desiring to conquer her.

Wang Teng looked at her, feeling at a loss. He didn't know what she was thinking.

Why is it that all the women I've met recently look at me like that?

Do they think I'm a sick pervert?

Wang Teng was frustrated. He cleared his throat and said, "What are you thinking? Why do women like you think about such things?"

"???" Bertha was dumbfounded.

Master is truly shameless, playing the blame game.

He changed the subject with a straight face, "All right. Hurry up and get those nasty thoughts out of your head. Let's get down to business."

She asked after taking a deep breath, "Why were you looking for me?"

"My territories have expanded. I see that you've done a good job managing both the Milky Way and the Yulan Galaxy. It is now time for you to take on more responsibilities." He then stood up and patted her shoulder.

This came as a shock to the young lady.

She already knew that Wang Teng had become an earl.

The addition of more territories was something she had foreseen, given his rise in status.

However, being handed the reins to manage the new territories was an unexpected move.

Nobles would often choose to assign a different person for each territory as a way to safeguard their interests. Not only would it decentralize their power, the administrators would keep each other in check.

Even if one of them had a problem, it would affect the others' performance.

However, the young earl was actually assigning her to manage everything. Did he trust her that much?

Of course, Bertha was flattered by this.

She hesitated for a while before she commented, "Master, I'm afraid this isn't appropriate."

She wanted to refuse.

Being a mere slave, her life was in the young hero's hands. She would be doomed if anything went wrong.

"You seem concerned," Wang Teng said.

The response was blunt. "Yes, I'm afraid this is beyond my capabilities."

"Have you forgotten about Round Ball's existence? How does it feel to have its help so you can manage two galaxies?" he asked.

"Having Sir Round Ball guiding me is indeed helpful," Bertha replied.

"Sir Round Ball?" The young hero's expression was odd.

"Hehehe." Round Ball's snickering could be heard in Wang Teng's mind.

"How vicious of you."

The little helper cleared its throat. "Cough, I'm still an intelligent lifeform after all. I can't be looked down upon."

"Alright, I can't be bothered with you." Wang Teng then looked at Bertha. "Since you have Round Ball's help, what is there to be afraid of? I will continue to have the fellow help you."

The young administrator was still hesitant.

"Feel free to step into the role. I will give you full rights and the freedom to do so. I won't blame you in case of honest mistakes, unless you start getting other ideas. If that were the case, I'll..." Wang Teng left the sentence unfinished.

She was flustered by this, so she quickly replied, "Don't worry. My life is in your hands, I wouldn't dare have any odd thoughts."

"There's nothing to worry about, then." Wang Teng smiled.

"All right." Bertha smiled bitterly, "Looks like you want me to manage all your territories."

"This represents my trust in you, Bertha." Wang Teng patted her shoulder again.

She rolled her eyes.

He clearly wants to wash his hands off the responsibility. And yet, he says he trusts me.

Why should I believe you!

But this also showed his high regard for her work. It made her happy.

It was rare for a slave to achieve something as grand.

She sometimes thought her life had peaked.

After all, she was just a cosmos stage warrior. Not even the ordinary heaven stage warriors would have the authority to manage multiple galaxies.

Wang Teng made this possible!

The young slave looked at her master with mixed feelings. He was just a Baron when she was bought, living in unstable conditions.

However, he now had a firm foothold and became an Earl. His status had undergone a drastic change, giving her a surreal feeling.

"Oh right, how's Hardy doing lately?" Wang Teng asked.

"He must be on Earth protecting your family."

He nodded and said, "All right, carry on. I'll have Round Ball message you if there's anything."

"Understood." The young administrator got up and took her leave.

She sighed after walking out of the manor, fearing that her master would ask her to stay and warm his bed.

After all, she couldn't refuse if he ever made that kind of request.

Unless she chose death.

...

Wang Teng stretched his back after watching her leave. Dumping all the work to his subordinate was a joyful experience.

However, he realized that he was understaffed after his rise in power.

The hero shook his head. Such matters can't be rushed. It would all depend on fate.

Leaving the matter to rest, the young hero went back to the cultivation and resumed his meditation.

He had to admit it: the more techniques he mastered, the more time was needed for cultivation, even with the support of the system. Time management was critical if he wanted to keep making progress.

He sat cross-legged inside the room and began to work on the lightning domain he had obtained during the League of Talents.

His clone had already turned this domain into the Lightning Spear Domain during the elimination battle. His clone had explored the forbidden lightning zone, and the results were multiplied.

The efficiency to develop this attribute was greatly reduced when practicing on planet Yuming.

Fortunately, his accumulated enlightenment was great, which could save a lot of time.

The strands of enlightenment flashed in his mind, and his Lightning Spear Domain reached the fourth rank. Fluctuations surrounded his body; there were also faint arcs of energy leaping about. There was even a faint sound of thunder.

Just then, an extremely sharp aura made a sudden appearance in the arc filled domain. Sword glows were formed as the lightning scurried around, emitting a deadly and dangerous presence.

Golden Lightning Sword Domain!

That was the sword domain he obtained from the attributes dropped by the Third Prince; furthermore, it was a Combined Domain.

The prince's domain was merely at the second rank. However, it had already attained the fourth rank in Wang Teng's hand.

After all, his metal and lightning domains were fourth-ranked.

A combined domain would naturally reach the fourth rank, too.

Fortunately, he had already obtained the attributes for the Golden Lightning Sword Domain. He was familiar with the Combined Domain; it was just that his domain was stronger than the Third Prince's, which was why he needed time to assimilate and test it.

Time passed slowly, and the two surrounding domains had completely fused into one. The golden and purple glows flickered and danced around non stop, forming dangerous sword projections.

Chapter 1621: I Miss You! (1)

In the cultivation room—

Wang Teng gradually opened his eyes. Flashes of gold and purple flickered in each of his eyes.

"The Golden Lightning Sword Domain has been fused successfully!"

A smile appeared on his face. He used less than half a day to complete his combined domain. Such efficiency could be considered acceptable in his books.

However, he wasn't over. After some pondering, he summoned an extremely unique lightning bolt in his hand, which seemed like a living being scurrying in his palm.

Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning!

The young hero was planning to fuse it with his combined domain to increase its power substantially.

He then focused his gaze and the silver-white bolt in his hand darted out and instantly disappeared. It then turned into countless lightning arcs that were slowly integrated with the newly developed domain.

The process wasn't that simple, as the tribulation lightning was a product of nature, and was inherently much more powerful than the ordinary kind.

Just like the difference between a noble and a commoner.

It wasn't impossible for a noble to live a commoner's life. However, it would be challenging. The other nobles would naturally reject them.

The analogy was extremely similar to the current situation!

He had already tamed the tribulation energy, it was still necessary to use a slow approach to integrate it into his domain.

Closing his eyes again and carefully sharpening his senses, he went about the task. He wasn't in a hurry, nor was he impatient.

Slow and steady, time passed...

The hero reopened his eyes when night came. The integration was finally completed.

The sword projections condensed by the new lightning domain were silver and white. They were emitting extremely frightening power.

Even though it was just a scaled-down version of his domain, the aura was quietly spread out; it was enough to terrify.

"The power has greatly increased after integrating the tribulation lightning." The young hero nodded, feeling satisfied.

Having so many techniques at his disposal, the fusing and integrating was his fated path.

After that, he wanted to fuse his Lightning Tornado with other techniques. However, time was limited, so he had to put that on hold.

Wang Teng deactivated his domain and stood up to stretch his back.

Feeling a pinch of hunger, he got out of the cultivation room and ordered the maids to prepare dinner. Then, he went to take a shower.

Dinner was ready once he was done refreshing.

The young earl went to the dining room and sat down. All kinds of delicacies were laid out on the table: there was golden-coloured soup, meats and fish cooked in different styles, and seven different vegetable varieties grown on different planets. A rich congregation of aromas wafted from the table, complementing each other, increasing the guests' appetite.

A grandmaster Force chef was working in the manor, and he would usually prepare the dishes served.

Only Wang Teng was eating at the table. It was a lonely sight.

However, he was used to it. He allowed his stomach to roam free, having a good meal.

It had been a long time since he could take his time to relax and eat.

He was always cultivating or traveling somewhere; this would force him to settle for casual meals or skipping them altogether for a few days. After all, martial warriors could forgo eating during long periods of time.

Of course, the food he would cook for himself also counted as Force dishes, much better than what other warriors would have.

Right at that moment—Round Ball appeared on a chair next to the hero, just like a baby sitting there. It was interesting to look at.

The little helper looked at the feast on the table and remarked, "You really know how to enjoy yourself!"

"Humans must take good care of themselves." Wang Teng didn't even raise his head to reply. He then became curious. "Why did you come out?"

"Zhuang Weize is here to see you again. He's just outside the manor," Round Ball replied.

"What's he doing here?" The hero was puzzled by the news.

"He's probably here for his daughter's sake."

"Let him in." He had an inkling about the visit's purpose.

"Okay, I'll let him know." Round Ball nodded. It didn't rush to leave; the little fellow was still looking at the hero eating.

Some time later, the governor and his daughter Zhuang Caixuan walked in, led by the maids.

Round Ball disappeared just then.

"Earl Wang!" Zhuang Weize greeted him respectfully.

"Have a seat!" The hero pointed to the seat next to him.

The governor waved a hand and said, "We're fine standing."

The young earl didn't insist. He asked while eating, "What's the matter?"

"I'm here to apologize for my daughter's presumptuous actions." Zhuang Weize bowed.

Surprised, the hero offered a casual reply, "There's no need for that. I didn't take it to heart."

"So magnanimous of you. However, my daughter's gaffe caused you some trouble. She must offer an apology," said the governor, then sparing a glance at Zhuang Caixuan.

The young girl bit her lips and approached the hero. She offered a deep bow and said with a troubled look, "My overstepping has caused you trouble. I am truly sorry. Please punish me."

Wang Teng was caught between laughter and tears. He then waved a hand, "All right, the matter ends here."

A hint of surprise flashed in her eyes, not knowing if the overlord was being truthful. She could only look at her father for guidance.

Whenever powerful figures talked, sometimes they didn't mean what they said. It was hard to tell. If he was indeed unhappy with her, she would be in real trouble; it might even affect her family.

Chapter 1622: I Miss You! (2)

Visiting Wang Teng to offer an apology was the main reason for their visit.

The young hero was now an earl. Their family couldn't afford to offend him; their rise and fall was at his mercy.

Even though the latter didn't care, they couldn't pretend that nothing happened.

Such were the survival rules for small figures.

This was so, even if the Zhuang family was large in a certain sense.

Still, this was only the case within the influence of planet Yuming. Once they stepped out of the Yulan Galaxy, they were nothing.

The reason why those families were able to survive thus far was closely related to their cautious and careful way of living.

Zhuang Caixuan suddenly regretted helping her friend, Clara. It may be somewhat unfair to the other party, but compared to the welfare of her family, all of this was insignificant.

The governor noticed that their superior had truly let the matter to rest so he quickly said, "You are truly magnanimous, to not hold grudges against us."

"Little Xuan, quickly, thank Earl Wang."

Zhuang Caixuan immediately complied.

Wang Teng wasn't affected by their praises. He replied indifferently, "You need to think carefully about these matters in the future. I am about to report to the Seven Stellar Academies, and I don't have time to spare right now, especially with people I have no connections with.

"Yes!" Zhuang Caixuan replied sincerely. She was overwhelmed with shame.

"All right, you can leave now," the hero said.

Zhuang Weize didn't dare say more, quickly departing with his daughter.

The young earl shook his head once they were gone.

Round Ball appeared and asked, "Do you find them irritating?"

"A little. I'm too lazy to deal with such trivial matters," said the former, feeling helpless.

The small helper smiled and said, "You have suddenly risen to a high position and don't understand the troubles of the people below."

"I won't make things difficult for them as long as they are diligent and conscientious."

"This needs time, you need to be patient," said Round Ball, "However, your path lies elsewhere. You will only continue to rise in the future; the Zhuangs would only have the chance to contact your subordinates by then, as there would be no need for you to appear in person."

Wang Teng nodded and changed the topic, "When is Lin Chuhan arriving?"

"At around 10 am tomorrow," said the little one.

The hero nodded, then went about finishing all the delicious food on the table, letting out a satisfied belch in the end.

The amount served was enough for several people, yet he actually finished it on his own. A martial warrior's appetite could be quite terrifying.

Then, he went back to his cultivation room and resumed his cultivation.

...

Zhuang Caixuan immediately contacted Clara as soon as she got home.

The virtual universe, in a luxurious reception room—

Wearing a sexy dress, Clara was seated on a sofa, anxiously waiting.

The door opened abruptly and her friend walked in.

The temptress hurriedly got up to welcome her. "Little Xuan, how was it?"

"I'd rather not talk about it. Sister Clara, you really made things difficult for me this time," Zhuang Caixuan complained, "my father took me to see him and apologize. I didn't know that such a small thing would have such a big impact."

"Huh?" The host was astounded. "How did it become like this?"

"We underestimated the weight of Wang Teng's earl title. My dad is fearful of ever offending him," the governor's daughter said dejectedly. She plonked on the sofa and laid down like a deflated balloon.

Her friend's expression kept changing. In the end, she sighed and said, "The weight of an earl from the empire is indeed not something that your Zhuang family can afford to offend. I didn't think it through and made a mistake. Little Xuan, I'm really sorry. I didn't want things to turn out this way.

"Nevermind!" Zhuang Caixuan couldn't bear to see the other so distraught. She waved a hand and said, "Let's forget the matter. Earl Wang didn't take it to heart. My dad was just too worried."

"Little Xuan~" Clara sat down beside the latter and held her hand with a grateful look.

"Sister Clara, you made me lose face this time. How are you planning to compensate me?" said the former, suddenly flashing a mischievous smile.

"How do you want me to compensate you?" said the other, responding with a seductively smile of her own, while placing her hand on Zhuang Caixuan's chin.

The latter blushed, and the atmosphere became a little ambiguous.

Silence is golden.

... (let's skip this part) ...

After fooling around in the reception room for a while, the pair finally collapsed on the sofa, panting softly, looking like two fish caught on the shore. They had played too vigorously.

"Sister Clara, what about your pill?" Zhuang Caixuan's face was pink, revealing a hint of satisfaction.

"I'll think of a way out," Clara replied after some contemplation. There was a shimmer in her eyes.

"If all else fails, I can use the connections of my family to find someone who can refine a grandmaster six-level pill for you," said the other.

"It's all right, I will deal with this myself. I won't trouble you anymore." Clara shook her head. Then, she stood up and tidied her clothes. "Little Xuan, I'll be taking my leave now. We'll meet again soon."

Zhuang Caixuan laid weakly on the sofa and waved her hand gently. "All right, Sister Clara. See you soon."

Chapter 1623: I Miss You! (3)

"Remember to miss me!" Clara suddenly leaned down and grabbed Zhuang Caixuan's chest.

"Ah..." Zhuang Caixuan screamed in shock and jumped up from the sofa. She wanted to grab back, only to realize her friend was already gone. She snorted and said, "Hmph, why did you run so quickly? I'll definitely catch you next time."

...

The next morning, at 10 am—

An ordinary-looking celestial ranked spacecraft flew into planet Yuming.

The latter was a prosperous place; many ships flew in and out every day. Most were of planetary and celestial levels.

The arrival of this spacecraft didn't attract much attention because of this.

Only a small group of people who recognized the Battle Hearth Mercenary Team's logo took a second glance at it. However, they quickly looked away.

It was just a celestial level spacecraft. The people inside were very likely normal mercenaries.

A few people alighted from the vessel after reaching the docking port. Men and women, all looking young and in high spirits, they chatted and laughed as they walked.

"Chuhan, let's celebrate tonight since we've just finished our mission," said a tall and muscular brown haired youth to a beautiful young lady.

"That's right, Chuhan. The gains from this mission were good; it's worth celebrating. You must come and join us," one of the women of the group added with a smile.

"Chuhan, Brother Isah won't feel like eating if you don't come," the people beside her teased.

"Shut up! How dare you joke with me," said the brown haired fellow with a smile. However, he still looked at Lin Chuhan with anticipation.

The latter frowned. She didn't like others trying to pair them up, even if they were just joking around.

Many amongst the group started urging the woman to join them.

Her appearance and aura stood out the most, far surpassing the rest of the women.

Not many of the men in the team could resist her charm. Even the ones unaffected hoped that she could go with them.

The atmosphere would definitely be better having such beauty around.

"I'm sorry, I have some personal matters to attend to. I can't celebrate with you this time." She shook her head.

Everyone was surprised. None of them expected she would turn them down.

"Chuhan, it's fine. We can push back our gathering if you have something to do," Isah said.

Lin Chuhan felt disgusted.

The guy was overly persistent. Despite her repeated rejections, cold treatment, and her refusal to speak to him.

He didn't care. He kept pestering her.

They were in the same team, so she couldn't simply kick him away.

Just when she was thinking about how to reject him—a familiar voice came from behind.

"Chuhan!"

A look of pleasant surprise appeared on her cold and pretty face.

Isah was dumbfounded. He didn't understand how her expression could change so quickly.

The young woman ignored the fellow's reaction and quickly turned around. A black-haired youth was walking towards them from a distance. That was the person she was most familiar with.

When the others saw the youth, their eyes were as wide as saucers due to disbelief.

Is this the person we know?

Are we seeing things?

Isah was overwhelmed with shock, realizing that his last glimmer of hope was shattered as he recalled all of Lin Chuhan's reactions during the League of Talents.

"It's been a long time. Aren't you going to hug me?" Wang Teng stood in front of Lin Chuhan and spread his arms.

The young woman fell into his arms and hugged him tightly.

"I missed you!" said a soft voice.

Wang Teng was stunned. He hugged her back, just as tightly.

Crack!

Isah turned pale. He could almost hear his heart breaking into pieces.

Chapter 1624: A Small Lesson! (1)

Wang Teng stood in front of the Battle Hearth Mercenary Team and asked. "Are all of you Chuhan's teammates?"

He was no longer hugging the beauty.

Lin Chuhan stood behind him with her head slightly lowered. There was a red tint on her face; she seemed a bit shy at the moment.

That was her first time hugging someone in front of a crowd.

The mercenary group was stunned; they had just seen something unbelievable.

Is that the cold and distant Lin Chuhan we know?

She looked extremely bashful and gentle.

However, they quickly understood.

The youth standing before them wasn't a normal person.

They had already made the connection. It was none other than Wang Teng, the warrior who defeated numerous candidates in the League of Talents and claimed the top position.

Everyone was shocked due to the legendary figure making a sudden appearance; the experience was truly surreal.

Only a man like him could bring out the gentle side in Lin Chuhan.

"Thank you for taking care of my fiancée," said Wang Teng right after.

"Fiancée?!" Everyone was flabbergasted.

Isah's face looked as white as paper. There was fear in his eyes.

A celestial martial warrior called Xue Fei regained his composure and quickly replied, "You're too polite. We are a team; it's only right to help each other. Besides, Lin Chuhan plays a significant role in our team. She was really helpful during our mission."

As expected of a team leader; he spoke eloquently, neither denying the team's role nor neglecting to mention Lin Chuhan's strong points.

This would make the hero feel some gratitude towards them, even if it was just a favorable impression; that would be enough.

At the same time, offending Lin Chuhan never crossed his mind. If he said she was of no help, wouldn't it be like denying her value?

Based on the young woman's relationship with Wang Teng, offending her wouldn't do them any good.

Furthermore, their team could take this opportunity to climb higher, if they could keep Lin Chuhan on their side.

Even if they were just unimportant figures, it was good enough.

A little benefit offered by someone like the young earl was enough to produce immeasurable benefits for them.

This was the sorrow of an ordinary martial warrior!

"Looks like this experience was really beneficial for you." Wang Teng glanced at Lin Chuhan and smiled.

Lin Chuhan raised her chin and said proudly, "Of course, I'm already at the sixth level of the planetary stage."

"The sixth level of the planetary stage? Not bad!" He was surprised.

He didn't have the time to use his Real Eye to check his fiancée's cultivation just then. When he finally did, he realized that her cultivation had indeed risen greatly, compared to the past.

Lin Chuhan was delighted by Wang Teng's praises. However, she remained calm and composed on the surface. Such an attitude made her look a bit cute in the hero's eyes.

Every lady was cute and arrogant in their own way!

Wang Teng smiled, opting not to expose her. He then said to Xue Fei and the rest, "If there's nothing else, we'll be taking our leave."

"All right, all right!" The young mercenaries nodded fervently, not even daring to mention the gathering again.

They knew that Lin Chuhan had rejected them so she could spend more time with the young hero. It would be foolish to impose and become the proverbial third wheel at this point.

"I will send everyone a small gift later. Take it as my way of thanking you," Wang Teng said.

It's here!

Xue Fei and the others were elated. However, they went through the motions of refusing at first. "You don't have to do this. Lin Chuhan is our teammate; it is our duty to help each other."

"And I appreciate this. Just consider it as a small gesture." The young earl smiled. Before they could try to reject a second time, he waved a hand and took Lin Chuhan to the flying rune car parked in the distance.

Xue Fei, Isah, and the others watched as they boarded the vehicle and disappeared in the sky. Then, they looked away to exchange glances, overwhelmed by disbelief.

"Sigh~" All of them sighed.

Xue Fei wiped the cold sweat on his forehead and said with lingering fear, "Earl Wang's aura is really pressurizing. I couldn't breathe properly."

"Yes, that was a scary aura. He doesn't feel like a celestial warrior," Du Wa said.

"He's an earl of the empire who's not even afraid to go head to head against the Crown Prince. The most shocking of all, the empire even rewarded him for it; he's not like us." Xue Fei shook his head.

A young planetary stage warrior said, "An earl. I don't even dare to think about this."

Another planetary warrior chimed in, "I didn't expect Lin Chuhan to have this connection. Still, I knew she was extraordinary."

Xue Fei said angrily, "Come on, we just thought she was a direct descendant of one of planet Yuming's elite families. Who could have guessed she had this identity? It's scary."

Earl Wang is the overlord of the entire Yulan Galaxy. He's much more powerful than the elite families."

The female mercenaries gathered and discussed happily. "I wonder what small gifts he'll prepare for us? I'm getting excited."

Just then, Xue Fei noticed the silent Isah; he had yet to speak until that point. He could only look at the latter with pity. Poor fellow, why did he have to fall for someone who's not even in the same world as him, let alone the fact she's already engaged to someone else?

Chapter 1625: A Small Lesson! (2)

They knew that Isah had evil intentions; it wasn't just pure love.

The outcome was a lesson for him.

"Let's go. Don't think too much. Lin Chuhan isn't someone you can lay your hands on," said Xue Fei, patting his shoulder.

However...

"Pfft!" Isah vomited a mouthful of blood and stumbled.

Everyone was appalled.

Du Wa quickly grabbed him and asked, "What's the matter?"

"I'm fine." Isah waved a feeble hand and straightened his body with difficulty. "I'll go back first."

He stumbled his way out before anyone could reply.

Some people noticed his eyes, filled with emotions; there was fear and regret. He seemed to have encountered something extremely terrifying.

"Did that person do it?" someone whispered.

Du Wa swallowed saliva and said fearfully, "I think so. Who else could it be?"

"Looks like the guy isn't completely oblivious to our situation," said Xue Fei with a bitter smile. "No wonder. Someone with his status would never let Lin Chuhan venture out alone without any protection."

"Isah brought this upon himself. He's always playing dirty tricks and now he's finally met someone he shouldn't provoke. Even if he didn't do anything significant, it's enough to make him fall into an abyss." Du Wa shook his head. "Still, Earl Wang's strength is truly terrifying. We didn't even notice when he acted."

"Is this the might of the first place holder in the League of Talents? That was scary. I'm afraid he could kill us before we even had time to react," said the others in horror.

"Let's go. We can't do anything," Xue Fei said, "Since he didn't kill Isah in the end, he probably just wanted to give him a lesson. I don't think he'll pursue the matter again."

"Yes." Du Wa nodded and reprimanded the planetary stage warriors behind him. "See that? It's better to focus on cultivating properly, instead of coming up with nasty ideas. You may run into someone we can't handle otherwise."

"Yes!" The group replied in unison.

...

Wang Teng discarded the small episode with the Battle Hearth Mercenary Team from his mind. As for Isah, he just gave him a small lesson.

Right from the start, he noticed the fellow's strange eyes when looking at Lin Chuhan.

He too noticed how the rest were teasing the latter moments before.

Why is he having thoughts about my lady? Is he tired of living?

He didn't act overtly because she was present. He controlled himself.

"When did you come back?" Lin Chuhan asked.

"About three days ago," Wang Teng smiled.

"How long are you planning to stay?"

"Do you want me to stay a few more days?" said the hero with a smile.

"I want you to stay for a year, can you?" Lin Chuhan rolled her eyes.

"Really? Looks like you really missed me and don't want me to leave," he teased.

Lin Chuhan turned her head and flicked her hair as she replied stubbornly, "Me? No way!"

"In that case, I'll leave tomorrow." He laughed again.

"You're only staying for one day?" She was shocked.

"Hahaha..." The young earl burst out laughing. He nudged her, "You can't bear to part with me."

"You... hmph!" She snorted, realizing he was just playing around.

"All right, all right. The Stellar Academies gave me one month; I can stay for a few more days," Wang Teng quickly replied.

Lin Chuhan didn't say anything but her eyes were glowing.

The hero noticed her little burst of excitement but he didn't expose her. He just smiled.

"Let's have something good to eat," Wang Teng said.

"I want you to cook for me," she replied.

"Your standards are quite high!" He smiled and looked at her.

"Why? You can't satisfy this request?" Lin Chuhan flashed him with puppy eyes. "I can't even eat properly while I'm on missions..."

"All right, I get it!" he quickly interjected. "I agree."

"Great, we're settled then." She was delighted.

They reached the manor soon after.

The young girl was just back from a trip, so she was a bit unkempt. Some freshening up was in order.

Wang Teng stood in the main hall and spoke to a certain empty spot next to him.

"An Lan, it's been a while."

The air became distorted and a figure in black cloak gradually manifested. He removed his cape, revealing the mechanical face underneath.

"You're getting stronger. I didn't expect you to notice me." An Lan stared at Wang Teng in surprise.

"This is nothing. Have you forgotten about my space talent?" The latter asked.

"That's true." The other fellow rubbed his head.

"Thank you for your efforts during this period," said the hero, his gratitude evident.

"It's nothing. I didn't do anything. I just went out to gain more experience," An Lan replied. "Those mercenaries are quite cautious. They would rarely be in any danger, unless there was an accident."

"Being cautious is good. Lin Chuhan has matured greatly." Wang Teng nodded.

"Indeed. She has improved greatly, and is now a competent mercenary. She'll be able to explore the universe on her own when she gets stronger," the other said.

"I'm just afraid of accidents." The hero shook his head.

"Oh right, I made some gains when I followed them to a planet," said the covert expert all of a sudden.

"What was it?" Wang Teng was surprised.

"An ore mine!" The former smiled. "It has materials I need to advance to the universe stage."

"Really?" The young earl was astounded.

Those materials had to be rare and extraordinary if they could help the guy advance. He never expected An Lan to gain such valuable resources by following his fiancée.

"Of course!" An Lan said.

Wang Teng couldn't help but exclaim, "Gosh! Did you step on dog shit?"

"Don't you know how to speak properly?" The expert's face turned black.

"Hahaha. In any case, congratulations." Wang Teng laughed. "When can you make your advance to the universe stage?"

"Not so soon. I will need tens of thousands of different materials; some of them are special and hard to find. I was lucky this time."

The Mecha Race's advancements were special. Besides enlightenment and Force, they needed to absorb various special ores and metals.

This was just like a human's body had to be strengthened, along with exposure to Enlightenment and Force, or great problems could arise.

"Tell me the materials you need. I'll help you look for them," the hero said.

"Haha, I was waiting for you to say that." An Lan chuckled. He didn't reject the offer.

Anyway, he followed the young earl because he hoped to gain more access to cultivation resources so he could grow stronger.

The Mecha Race's advancement required many rare materials and he was poor. Following Wang Teng was the best choice.

The expert transmitted a list of the materials required.

Wang Teng glanced through the names and was surprised. The rarity of those things exceeded his expectations.

He nodded and stored the list "All right, I'll get them for you if I see them."

At the same time, he reminded Round Ball to take note and remind him if they ever came across any of the materials.

"I'll get out of your way then. Your fiancée is out." An Lan smiled and disappeared on the spot.

Approaching footsteps could be heard. Lin Chuhan was once again before Wang Teng, looking fresh and rejuvenated. She was clad in a long white dress that enhanced her graceful figure.

Chapter 1626: Mobang Chamber of Commerce! The Luck Tear! (1)

"Who were you talking to?" Lin Chuhan asked curiously. She didn't see anyone when she entered the hall.

"One of my friends. He just left," Wang Teng replied with a smile.

"Your friend came to find you? Was it some important matter? Do you need to see to it first?" she sensibly asked.

"Nothing is as important as you," the hero replied.

Lin Chuhan gave him a strange look.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" He felt puzzled.

"Since when are you so sweet?" Lin Chuhan was puzzled. Then, she shouted angrily, "Did you meet many ladies outside?"

Back when she was watching the League of Talents, she thought that no woman would like his man, given his blunt and insensitive ways. But now, she felt that something was wrong. This guy's words were suddenly coated with honey.

If she didn't induce him into adding that honey layer, other ladies must have done it.

"You're thinking too much." Wang Teng's heart skipped a beat. However, he remained calm on the surface and explained, "I'm the most faithful person you'll ever know. I wouldn't give other ladies a single chance."

Lin Chuhan leaned over and looked into his eyes. She wanted to see if he was lying.

The hero looked back without blinking; his gaze was filled with sincerity. Suddenly, he leaned forward and kissed her.

When a woman is suspicious, don't try to convince her. Kiss her.

Lin Chuhan felt shocked by the sudden kiss. She pushed a few times before her body went limp.

They only parted after a few minutes passed.

Wang Teng smiled at Lin Chuhan in silence.

She was panting a bit, her pretty face slightly flushed. His gaze made her feel shy; she couldn't help but roll her eyes.

"Let's go out shopping. I still haven't explored planet Yuming." The hero stood up.

"All right." Lin Chuhan tidied her slightly messy clothes and grabbed Wang Teng's arm with a natural motion.

The pair walked out and started exploring the city, buying all sorts of clothes, accessories and cosmetics. Wang Teng decided to let her buy all she wanted to compensate her.

He was lucky to have a space ring, else he would have had a difficult time carrying all those things, even if he executed his Eight Arms Devil Physique.

Never underestimate the shopping abilities of a lady.

"Hey, that's the Mobang Chamber of Commerce!" Lin Chuhan suddenly stopped in her tracks.

"From the Mobang family?" It was the first time for the young earl to hear of that family. He followed the young woman's gaze and looked over.

They had just exited a shopping mall and were at the moment standing on a bustling commercial street.

Lin Chuhan was looking to her left, where there was a peculiar-looking building; it had a massive oval-shaped symbol with two characters written in an ancient language.

The building itself was extremely luxurious, with a high-class and sophisticated exterior that immediately conveyed a sense of extravagance. One glance was enough to tell it was an upscale place.

"Are the Mobangs famous?" Wang Teng asked.

"I'm not entirely sure, but I've heard that it's part of a large conglomerate operating across various cosmic nations. They are very powerful and their forte is having products from other cosmic nations; many people are attracted to them," Lin Chuhan replied with a smile.

"Let's go and take a look." Wang Teng took her to the strange building. He wanted to see what was so unique about the place.

"Wang Teng, the Mobang family is behind the Thousand Treasure Chamber. You can notice their presence in various high-tier civilizations across the universe," said Round Ball inside Wang Teng's mind.

"The Thousand Treasure Chamber? No wonder I found the style of this building a little familiar." The hero felt enlightened.

The Thousand Treasure Chamber was the mall he had visited when he first entered the virtual universe. Back then he had paid them a visit to broaden his horizons; he was only able to look around since he couldn't afford anything.

Now, he could return with confidence after the change in his status.

Given his current wealth, he could buy most of the items offered.

Having money grants confidence.

He couldn't help feeling a bit emotional as he looked back on the past.

Once he proudly entered with Lin Chuhan, he noticed the place was just like any other Thousand Treasure Chamber; there were all sorts of strange and rare items displayed inside.

His prior visit to the sister store was in the virtual universe; now he was visiting one of the stores in the real world for the first time.

Lin Chuhan wasn't interested in armor or weapons. Instead, her gaze landed on the exquisite and beautiful accessories.

The salespeople's eyes brightened upon seeing them approaching.

One look was enough for them to tell that the pair had substantial purchasing power. Their clothes were expensive and their auras were exceptional.

Such people would normally have powerful backgrounds.

The salespeople exchanged glances and noticed the competitiveness in their eyes.

They walked forward together, but only one of them could be the fastest.

Among the representatives was a tall and slender woman with elaborate makeup on her face. She exuded a great deal of confidence, even giving a provocative glance to the others.

"Hello, how may I help you?" The latter addressed the two customers, feeling astonished. A few words entered her mind.

Chapter 1627: Mobang Chamber Of Commerce! The Luck Tear! (2)

What a dashing couple!

They are the perfect match! thought the salespeople.

Lin Chuhan waved a hand. "It's all right. We're just looking around; we'll call you if needed."

The female attendant's expression froze. However, she said, "Understood. Please call me if you need any help."

She would have tried harder to make a sale if they were ordinary customers. However, she didn't have the guts to bother the couple for some reason.

The feeling was especially strong when looking at the black-haired young man; he gave off a different kind of aura.

This kind of pressure was something she had only experienced when being in the presence of formidable figures.

Upon further thought, the fellow looked a bit familiar.

The female salesperson stepped back, keeping a prudent distance from them; not too close, nor too distant. This would prevent her from seeming intrusive and affecting the customers' shopping experience; she wouldn't allow others to take advantage of her absence, either. It was an optimum approach.

Wang Teng was impressed; the representative from the Thousand Treasure Chamber was truly extraordinary. Her ability to read her customers' expressions was amazing, all to avoid discomfort.

Lin Chuhan was happily looking at the accessories; she would ask the hero for his point of view on occasion.

The latter was patiently giving advice; however, he thought the items available weren't that good. They were too cheap, and did not match his fiancée's aura.

He glanced around, wanting to find something better.

Just then, he saw a familiar figure rushing over.

"Earl Wang!" The person bowed at him, showing off her glamorous figure.

Wang Teng squinted and asked in surprise, "Clara, why are you here?"

"I'm the manager of the Thousand Treasure Chamber on planet Yuming." Fearing she would be misunderstood, she quickly added, "We are familiar with all the important figures on the planet, and our subordinates will quickly contact us in case any of them comes to the store. Earl Wang, you are our VIP. That's why I came to greet you."

"You're from the Mobang family?" The hero was stunned.

"Yes, my name is Clara Mobang!" she replied.

"Nice to see you. I didn't know you were one of the Mobangs." He nodded.

He couldn't underestimate her, given her identity.

Of course, the change in attitude wasn't complete. This piece of news wasn't really important to him. They merely had no conflict of interests.

Clara heaved a sigh of relief; she finally found a way to interact with Earl Wang.

Their previous interaction was on the basis of being complete strangers. His aloofness was only natural, as they had no relationship to speak of.

"Wang Teng, who is this?" Lin Chuhan noticed their interaction and walked over.

Based on what she saw, a beautiful woman suddenly started talking to her man, and they seemed to be quite familiar with each other.

This put her on guard.

Bastard, didn't you say you didn't meet with any other ladies?

We came out to shop and you've already met one. Who knows if there are others?

The hero said after an awkward cough, "Let me introduce her; this is a member of the Mobang family, and manager of the Thousand Treasure Chamber." He had noticed how the former's gaze turned dangerous.

Then he said to Clara, "This is my fiancée, Lin Chuhan!"

His survival instinct was strong!

The beautiful manager was stunned, not expecting the young earl to have a fiancée. Furthermore, the latter was a rare beauty.

Lin Chuhan's suspicions dissipated somewhat after her identity was revealed. She extended a hand to Clara.

"Nice to meet you."

"Nice to meet you." The manager smiled. Being a woman herself, she could sense the other's animosity.

The feeling wasn't rare.

She was confident in her appearance, figure, and aura. Wang Teng's fiancée was indeed a rare beauty, but they were evenly matched at most.

In terms of sexiness, she was the clear winner.

The other woman's hostile attitude was understandable.

It was also normal for a talent like Earl Wang to attract outstanding ladies.

Their hands parted. The young hero felt the weird atmosphere between them.

This feels a little... strange!

"Clara, do you have better accessories elsewhere?" Wang Teng asked.

"Yes. Please follow me." Clara raised her hand and led the way. "All the good items are on the third floor. Considering your identities, you can simply go up next time."

Once they walked away, the female salespeople sighed in relief and started discussing with the others.

"So, that was Earl Wang. No wonder he looked familiar."

"A pity we can't interact with people like him."

"Didn't 048 interact with them? What do you think?" someone asked the lady who spoke to Lin Chuhan. They seemed to be gloating.

"Hmph, at least I got to speak to them," 048 snorted and walked away arrogantly.

On the other side—Wang Teng and Lin Chuhan reached the third floor, following Clara's lead. That was the topmost floor of the Thousand Treasure Chamber.

Chapter 1628: Mobang Chamber of Commerce! The Luck Tear! (3)

Clara smiled and explained, "Our Thousand Treasure Chamber is split into three tiers, one in each level. The items on the third level are more suitable for your status."

The group of three walked towards the accessories section. The young girl introduced the items while chatting with Lin Chuhan.

The strange atmosphere between them gradually faded away. The mood was exceptionally congenial afterwards.

Wang Teng couldn't find a way to join in the conversation.

Not bad... The lady was building good rapport with his fiancée, right in front of him!

He knew that the young manager had yet to give up on asking him to make a pill.

She was trying to convince him using his wife!

"Do you have any special treasures here? Bring them out," said the hero as he inserted himself between the pair; they had become like sisters in no time.

"Yes we do. We have an eternal crystal that matches Chuhan's aura. However, it's a little expensive," Clara said. She walked to the innermost counter, opened it, and took out a dazzling crystal.

"Eternal crystal?" Lin Chuhan's expression turned strange.

"What is it? Don't you like it?" The young manager thought that her customer was worried about the price, but she didn't reveal it, nor show any haughty reactions. She was very familiar with the crystal's price. It wasn't something ordinary people could afford, so she just asked if it wasn't to the young girl's liking.

"That's not it. I already have an eternal crystal of a larger size," Lin Chuhan said. She looked at the young earl sweetly.

Wang Teng had prepared a ring with an eternal crystal when they got engaged. It made many women envious and fulfilled her dreams of romance.

She didn't need such an expensive ring, but which lady could reject it?

The only regret was that the jewel was too eye-catching, so she couldn't wear it all the time.

Clara was stunned. She saw the other woman's gaze and instantly understood.

Wang Teng had gifted the girl an eternal crystal!

Did she really say that her crystal was bigger than this one?

Clara was astounded. Mind you, the price of the eternal crystal she had at hand was equivalent to the price of half a livable planet. If the one she had was bigger, how much would it cost?

Many thoughts went through her mind, and suddenly felt a little envious.

No lady could withstand the eternal crystal!

She wasn't an exception!

She had been eyeing that crystal for a long time but she couldn't afford it. Even so, she would take a look at it whenever she visited the store.

Based on her current salary, she would need to work three hundred years to buy it.

It made her feel hopeless just thinking about it.

And yet, the earl's fiancée had a bigger crystal without having to do anything. Comparisons were infuriating.

"Do you have other treasures available?" Wang Teng asked calmly.

Clara felt even more jealous when she perceived the nonchalant tone. Damn these rich people!

She complained in her heart while still wearing a smile on her face.

"We do. You came at the right time; we just received a rare gemstone yesterday."

"Really? What is it?" the hero asked.

"It's not on display. Give me a moment, I'll bring it over." The young manager placed the eternal crystal back in the display cabinet.

Then, she went to a corner, opened a door, and went inside.

"Wang Teng, everything is so expensive here. Let's just look around," Lin Chuhan said while Clara wasn't around.

"Don't worry, I have money. You can spend it." The hero patted his chest.

"Even if we have money, we shouldn't spend it like this. Just think of the eternal crystal she showed us earlier, it's so expensive. I couldn't refuse last time because you gave me the ring during our engagement banquet; this time I won't let you buy me something that expensive," said the young girl.

"Are you taking care of my money even before we're officially married?" Wang Teng smiled.

"Who's taking care of your money?" She rolled her eyes.

While they spoke—Clara returned with an exquisite purple box in her hand.

The young hero was surprised. The box itself was made of a precious ore and engraved with intricate runes. Its value alone could buy many things displayed on the first floor.

So, how valuable is the item inside the box?

He suddenly got a little curious.

Clara walked over with a mysterious smile. She placed the box on the coffee table and invited them to take a seat. "You need to have a good look at this. I was planning to send it to planet Great Qian since I don't think anyone on planet Yuming can afford it."

"Don't keep us in suspense, open it," Wang Teng said.

Even Lin Chuhan was curious. She looked at the purple box eagerly.

The manager smiled, then carefully unlocked the box and opened the lid. Something purple and sparkling appeared before them.

"What is this?" The young hero was shocked. He almost jumped out of his seat.

The box contained a teardrop-shaped gemstone of a translucent purple color; it exuded a peculiar purple radiance.

Chapter 1629: Mobang Chamber Of Commerce! The Luck Tear! (4)

There was another thing, a few attribute bubbles were dropped when the gemstone appeared.

Luck*1

Luck*1

...

Wang Teng was quick to pick them up. He was flabbergasted.

Luck attributes!

They were luck attributes!

After so long, he finally grabbed a hold of this attribute again. This time, it was produced by a gemstone. This felt a bit miraculous.

At the same time, the hero confirmed a guess. The gemstone was the...

"The Luck Tear!"

Round Ball's surprised voice suddenly echoed in the young earl's mind. If there weren't outsiders present, it would have probably popped out and pounced on the gemstone.

"What is this?" Lin Chuhan looked at Wang Teng. She noticed that he seemed to be very interested in that gemstone.

"I think Earl Wang recognized it." Clara stared at the hero, feeling surprised.

They had mobilized all their appraisers the day before upon the stone's arrival; even specially invited experts from headquarters went so they could assess what it was.

However, the young hero only took a glance and recognized it right then. It was incredible.

"This is... the Luck Tear!" Wang Teng took a deep breath and replied to Lin Chuhan.
"This is a gemstone that can give people luck."

"The Luck Tear! It can bring people luck!" the latter repeated his words. She stared at the gemstone in amazement.

The idea that a gemstone could bring luck to a person seemed quite incredible to her.

"Earl Wang is correct. The Luck Tear can bring good fortune," Clara explained,
"According to the records, this gemstone is extremely rare and no one knows how it was formed, or where it came from. It's all a mystery."

"But, some lucky people were attracted to the stone and found it."

"Those who get this gemstone will become luckier."

"It may sound a bit mystical, but it is true. There have been many people who have obtained the Luck Tear before. Whenever they encountered life-threatening situations, they managed to overcome them with ease until the stone shattered, their luck returning to normal," Clara explained.

"It must be precious." Only amazement was left in Lin Chuhan's eyes.

"I think this gem was simply meant for the two of you. The Luck Tear will attract those fortunate enough. It's not just a coincidence, otherwise, you wouldn't have come knocking at my door today, right after I received the stone yesterday," said the manager.

"I don't think I'm that lucky," Lin Chuhan said.

Clara only flashed a smile. You met a talent like Wang Teng who's able to enter the Star Rankings. Isn't this another form of luck?

"How much is it?" Wang Teng said.

"Erm... we haven't decided on the price," she replied awkwardly, not expecting the earl to be so decisive.

She wasn't lying when she said that the stone had just arrived the day prior. That was why they hadn't set the amount.

The young man believed her. "You can ask someone who can make decisions in your family to discuss with me."

"All right!" Clara nodded. She opened her contact list right in front of the earl and contacted the higher ups in her family.

Since Wang Teng was determined to get the Luck Tear, she stopped trying to persuade him.

The gemstone was indeed worth the money it could grant luck to the wearer.

Such treasures were hard to come by.

After some time, a beam of light appeared out of Clara's wristwatch, which formed a hologram in the air.

An agitated elder appeared and asked, "Clara, why did you contact me again? Is there something wrong with the Luck Tear?"

Chapter 1630: A Trade With the Mobang Family! (1)

"Third Elder, there's nothing wrong with the Luck Tear. I contacted you because someone wants to buy it."

Clara bowed at the elder's hologram projection.

The elder exclaimed in surprise, "Someone wants to buy the Luck Tear!"

"Yes, Earl Wang is interested." The manager adjusted the screen so that the Third Elder could see Wang Teng.

"Earl Wang!" The senior was surprised. The video feed confirmed the familiar image in his mind.

The young overlord got up and bowed. "Third Elder, nice to meet you!"

He carefully sized up the elder.

The latter was standing on a desolate land, with an endless gray sky behind him. It was unclear where he was.

It was a tall and lean fellow, with long gray hair cascading down his back, which floated in the wind. His gaze was deep and sharp.

There was a faint, yet powerful aura floating around him, seemingly capable of permeating through the projection.

An eternal stage warrior!

That was an eternal stage martial warrior!

"Earl Wang, I've heard many things about you." The Third Elder nodded.

The two exchanged some pleasantries before Clara said, "Third Elder, Earl Wang is interested in buying the Luck Tear. He's hoping you would set a price for it."

"It looks like Earl Wang will soon become the stone's owner. There's no such coincidences in the world." The senior smiled.

"Third Elder, you're too polite. The Luck Tear is extremely rare and precious. It would be awkward if I can't afford it," said the young hero with a smile of his own.

"Haha, Earl Wang surely likes to jest." The expert laughed. Then, he contemplated for a bit and said, "I can sell you this Luck Tear for three trillion."

"Three trillion!" Wang Teng frowned.

The price wasn't forbidding for him; on the contrary, it was too cheap.

Such a stone was definitely worth more than that.

The price for a Luck Tear had always exceeded ten quadrillion UC in past exchanges. Furthermore, having the money was not a guarantee to get one due to its scarcity.

Those who owned them would often demand a trade—goods for goods, or have other special requirements.

All in all, anyone who could afford the Luck Tear was definitely someone extraordinary. There was more to gain from them than just UC.

"It looks like he has other requests," Round Ball said.

"Third Elder, you must have another request," said the hero indifferently.

"Earl Wang is indeed smart. At first, we were planning on offering the stone to eternal stage customers. However, if Earl Wang wants it, we can oblige. We just hope you can promise to return three favors to the Mobang family," said the Third Elder.

"Three favors!" Wang Teng was in a dilemma.

The hardest thing to return was favors.

Furthermore, they would be favors for the powerful Mobang family.

Based on their original plans, they wanted to sell the stone to a mighty powerhouse and gain favors from the latter.

Since he appeared, he would be the one granting those favors.

The other party did hold him in high esteem...

"Third Elder, do you think my favors are comparable to those of an eternal stage warrior?" the young hero asked with a smile.

"It might not be the case at the moment, but it will be so in the future. They might even be worth more than that," said the senior.

He was gambling, betting on the hero surpassing the eternal stage in the future.

This expert wasn't the only one who had high hopes for the hero to rise. Many other factions valued him greatly, feeling that he would be even stronger.

The talents who entered the Star Rankings either died or surpassed the eternal stage.

Even if they didn't, they would be formidable eternal stage characters. Normal experts of the same level couldn't be compared to them.

Wang Teng pondered for some time, but didn't agree. "Three favors is too much."

Now was the time for the elder to be stunned. I asked for three favors because of his potential but he said it's too much?!

Isn't he a little too confident?

The Third Elder frowned. He felt that the young fellow wasn't being appreciative of his kindness. If it were someone else, he would have taken offense and gotten angry.

The Mobangs didn't lack favors from eternal stage warriors. If the young earl wanted to wait and see, they would rather not make a deal with him.

They did hold the young man in high regard, but that didn't mean they had to befriend him.

They had formed many ties with other talents.

"Third Elder, calm down." Wang Teng smiled. "How much do you know about me?"

"Oh? Is there something we don't know about Earl Wang?" the senior asked.

The young hero didn't keep the other in suspense. "I'm a triple-field grandmaster. Did you know this?"

"A triple-field grandmaster!" The Third Elder was shocked.

Even Clara widened her eyes in shock.

"Is this true?" the expert asked.

"This is my identification from the Secondary Career Alliance." The hero opened the alliance's internal website and showed them his credentials.

"Gasp..." the sound came from beside him. Clara stared at him, truly bewildered.

She didn't understand how someone could be so monstrous.

At first she thought that the hero was impressive by merely being a grandmaster alchemist. And yet, that was just the tip of the iceberg.

Chapter 1631: A Trade With the Mobang Family! (2)

It was unimaginable to meet such a young triple-field grandmaster.

The Third Elder was stunned into silence for a long time. He didn't know how to continue. The news had shocked even someone of his stature.

"Earl Wang, you really surprised me," he exclaimed after a moment, "A three-field grandmaster, and such a young one at that. You'll become a legend in the future."

A legend was the level above grandmaster.

The weight of a legend was too heavy.

Eternal stage warriors treated legends as equals.

Even a large family like the Mobangs had to tread lightly in their presence.

"Third Elder, Earl Wang can produce seventh-level grandmaster pills. I saw this personally," Clara added in a hurry.

"Oh, seventh grandmaster level!" The expert was even more surprised. "The earl's achievements have already reached such a level."

"I've just reached the sixth grandmaster level," said the young hero modestly.

Both the Third Elder and Clara were astonished. A sixth level expert able to produce seventh-level pills. Such a talent was beyond ordinary.

The young hero had truly exceeded their expectations time and time again.

They had good reasons to suspect he wasn't being humble. He was putting up a front.

However, it was understandable. Wang Teng was using this as leverage.

"Earl Wang, I have to admit that your potential is immense." The senior took a deep breath and remarked, "In that case, I'll remove one, no, two conditions. But, you have to help us three times with your secondary skills, whether it's refining pills or forging weapons."

Wang Teng smiled. "Third Elder, you're really not one to easily take a loss."

"I'm a businessman." The senior smiled back.

"I can promise you that." Wang Teng pondered for a moment and continued, "But, I also have conditions of my own."

"Go ahead." The senior gestured.

"First, according to my situation and circumstances at the time, I will choose whether to accept the proposed conditions. I will not agree to things that endanger my life," the former said.

"Of course." The Third Elder nodded. "We're hoping that you thrive. This will be better for us."

"Second, I can help you with my secondary skills three times, but two of those will be limited to the grandmaster level." The hero was direct on this.

The Third Elder laughed. "You're good, Earl Wang. No one has ever been so calculating in my presence."

"I can get in trouble if I don't." The hero smiled.

"All right, I agree to your conditions." The Third Elder nodded.

"I have no other questions. I look forward to our cooperation."

"Looking forward to our cooperation!" said the elder, "I'll have Clara prepare the contract. Once it's signed, the Luck Tear is yours."

"Okay!" Wang Teng nodded.

"Also, future arrangements with Earl Wang will be left to you, Clara," added the senior, complimenting the young woman, "You did good this time."

"Yes!" she quickly replied. There was joy in her eyes.

Receiving praise from the Third Elder meant that her status in the family could rise.

"Do a good job. The family will remember your merits."

After finishing that sentence, the elder's hologram vanished.

"Wait a moment, Earl Wang. I will draw up the contract for you," Clara said as she did her best to hide her excitement.

She became more respectful towards the young overlord. She could tell that her senior held him in extremely high regard.

Moreover, she had just become aware of the hero's three-field grandmaster identity. She would naturally respect him more, or she would be an idiot.

"All right." Wang Teng nodded.

She then turned and walked into the previous door, the same room from where she fetched the Luck Tear.

A while later, she returned with a scroll in her hand.

"Earl Wang, this is the contract. Please have a look." The young manager handed the document over.

Wang Teng opened it and had Round Ball check if there were any loopholes. There was no one else better than his little helper at this.

"Everything seems in order." The hero nodded a few moments later.

"You can just sign your name," Clara said.

Without hesitation, he signed two contracts; one was his, while the other was the Thousand Treasure Chamber's.

Three trillion had to be paid to the other party afterwards.

The Great Qian Empire had just rewarded him with five trillion, and he just lost more than half of it in an instant. It pained him.

"I'm poor again," Wang Teng exclaimed.

Clara was flabbergasted. The earl was filthy rich; to actually hand over three trillion just like that. Ordinary heaven stage warriors would be hard pressed to raise such an amount.

"The Luck Tear is yours!" She pushed a purple box his way and smiled.

The young man took out the stone and examined it for a moment. The intoxicating purple light was reflected in his eyes. It was magical.

"Beautiful indeed," he said.

"Only a talent like you is worthy of such a rare gem." Clara aimed to flatter.

Wang Teng smiled, not trying to deny it. He then placed the stone back into the box and stored it.

He and Lin Chuhan stood up and said to the manager, "We'll be taking our leave now!"

"I'll send you off." She wanted to say something else.

"The sixth-level grandmaster pill you wanted me to make. That's your personal matter, right?" Wang Teng was in a good mood after the deal was made. He smiled when he saw the look on her face.

"Yes." The young woman was surprised and elated. She looked at the hero with glimmering, hopeful eyes.

He pondered for a moment and said, "Since you helped me obtain the Luck Tear, I can help you refine one. Prepare the materials tomorrow and wait for me at the Secondary Career Alliance."

"Really?!" Clara was overjoyed.

"If you don't believe me, you can just not show up tomorrow." He smiled and walked out with Lin Chuhan.

"I'll be there, I'll definitely be there," the young manager said in a hurry.

She scuttled toward the exit and sent the pair to the door. She then watched them leave and went back to her office.

"Yeah!" She waved her clenched fist in the air, extremely excited as she jumped around.

Wang Teng and Lin Chuhan ended their stroll right then, then went back to the manor with their flying car.

"You're helping Clara make pills?" Lin Chuhan asked in the car.

"Yes. She's a member of the Mobang family, and it doesn't look like she's taken very seriously. We can get her on our side," Wang Teng replied.

Apart from the fact that the young manager helped him get that expensive gem, the main reason he agreed to help her was that she wasn't valued much by her own family.

The Third Elder did say that the family would make note of her efforts, those were just empty words to the hero.

If an undervalued individual was able to get a high position with his help, this could represent an unexpected help in the future.

Anyway, refining a sixth-level grandmaster pill wasn't difficult for him. It was just a bargaining chip for him.

If he wasn't willing to, it would be really difficult for others to get his help.

However, he could easily act if he wanted to.

Lin Chuhan nodded. She didn't say much regarding these things, even if the other party was a beautiful woman.

"If she finds me again, do I need to continue interacting with her?" she asked.

It turned out that her conversation with the manager was just for appearances. Lin Chuhan wasn't daft.

"You can, but don't get too close. Just act as you see fit." Wang Teng smiled, "That woman isn't simple.

"Besides, you have to take charge of the relationship, since you're my fiancée."

She nodded and replied softly, "I understand." She was touched by the gesture.

Chapter 1632: To Hell With Love, Your Love Is a Little Unfaithful! (1)

The sky gradually turned dark as the young pair returned to the manor.

Wang Teng had agreed to prepare a good meal for Lin Chuhan, so he started working on it as soon as they arrived.

He bought a large quantity of rare and expensive ingredients, all to prepare the meal for the evening.

He was even ready to use the light-element star beasts he caught back in planet Light Velvet; they were absolutely top-notch cooking ingredients.

Normal people would never have a chance to eat those creatures.

The manor's kitchen was immense, equipped with a wide range of utensils.

Force Chef Grandmaster Murray exclaimed in surprise, "Earl Wang, are you making Force dishes yourself?"

He was the expert hired by the young overlord, and would be available whenever the latter visited the estate; the rest of the time would be left to the man's own discretion.

Honestly, working for Wang Teng was relaxing and the pay was decent.

"Oh right, I'll handle things myself tonight," the hero replied.

The cooking expert smiled, not taking it to heart as he imagined the couple just wanted to spend some time together.

However, he was soon unable to remain calm.

Boom!

Wang Teng took out a light element crab more than a meter long and placed it on the giant chopping board.

Most importantly, it was still alive and kicking. It tried to crush the earl's head with its pincers.

Even so, the hero managed to press it down with ease, using just one hand.

After a swift move, accompanied by a crisp sound, the two large pincers fell to the ground.

Chef Murray felt the corners of his eyes twitch.

Being extremely familiar with various ingredients, he could easily tell at a glance that the crab before him was undoubtedly the finest light-element ingredient, a rare gem among culinary ingredients.

He didn't know that his young boss was a Force Chef Grandmaster too, so he felt that the ingredients would go to waste.

What a waste of such a valuable resource!

"Can I do anything to help you?" Lin Chuhan asked. She didn't want to stay idle.

"Help me wash the vegetables." He made a sweeping gesture, and a variety of brightly colored produce appeared on the clean and tidy metal table nearby. They looked incredibly fresh.

"This is..." Murray widened his eyes in astonishment.

He saw light-element vegetables. The ingredients emitted a faint white glow; just being in their presence brought a sense of comfort and relaxation to anyone nearby.

Of course, there were other glowing vegetables of the water and wood element. They were all top-class ingredients.

Then, he witnessed how the young woman carelessly placed the vegetables in water and washed them without any proper technique.

He... couldn't bear to watch anymore.

Oh god, what crime did I commit, to witness how my masters waste such top-notch ingredients.

He instinctively glanced at the young overlord and was suddenly stunned.

Wang Teng twirled the kitchen knife in the air, creating streaks of dazzling flashes. A few swift movements were enough to expertly dissect the large crab, extracting the tender meat and elegantly arranging it on a plate.

"Gasp..." The Force Chef gasped all of a sudden.

The contrast between the two situations was too vast!

Earl Wang doesn't seem like a novice...

While the man was immersed in bewilderment, the hero had already finished with the crab. He took out a pig leg from his space ring, and started working on it.

The stationed chef could no longer underestimate the earl. He paid close attention to the young one's methods. The more he looked, the more astounded he became, almost biting his own tongue.

It was astonishing!

Wang Teng's handling methods left him in awe, and couldn't help but sigh at his own inadequacy.

Mind you, he was a Force chef grandmaster, yet he felt that his own skills were inferior.

The whole situation made him suspect that the young earl was also a Force Chef Grandmaster.

The following actions completely overthrew Murray's beliefs. From ingredient handling to the entire cooking process, Wang Teng displayed the qualities of a true chef.

Even though his fiancée washed the vegetables in a rough manner, causing some unnecessary damage, it didn't affect the cooking process.

The final product caused the hired chef to feel ashamed of himself.

His guess was confirmed: Wang Teng was indeed a Force chef grandmaster. Furthermore, his mastery was high.

The man was speechless. He could lose the job.

You're an earl. Why do you have to learn cooking and excel all the way to the grandmaster level? Why?

Can't you give the rest of us a chance?

Murray couldn't help but ask when the hero left the kitchen. "Earl Wang, you're a Force chef grandmaster!"

"Yes!" The latter nodded. He thought that the fellow was worried about his position, so he patted his shoulder and said, "Don't worry. I only cooked this one time. You are still in charge."

The man didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He stood at the same spot, speechless.

Wang Teng and Lin Chuhan reached the manor's garden, where the dining table had already been set, while a variety of delicately prepared dishes were carried over by servants.

Steamed crab, baked lobster, grilled steak, braised pig trotter, stir-fried mushrooms...

The table was adorned with an opulent array of culinary delights, a feast for both the eyes and the palate. Aromas wafted in the air, as the dishes beckoned with their tantalizing presentation.

The attendants kept their eyes on the food, swallowing saliva.

How can they be so fragrant!

This is torture!

Wang Teng and Lin Chuhan sat face to face. A simple yet elegant tablecloth covered the table, graced with the presence of pristine white candles flickering gently. A bottle of red wine completed the setting.

Chapter 1633: To Hell With Love, Your Love Is a Little Unfaithful! (2)

"What do you think? Are you satisfied?" Wang Teng asked with a smile.

"This is amazing. A man who cooks is the most handsome." She gave him a thumbs up, while being generous with compliments.

"Hahaha, nice!" The hero laughed because of her response. He took the wine bottle and poured a glass for her; then, he poured one for himself.

"Come, let's celebrate the success of your mission."

"It was just a small mission. What's there to celebrate? Your first place in the League of Talents and your appearance on the Star Rankings is much more worthy of celebration." She raised her glass and lightly clinked it against Wang Teng's.

"Let's celebrate both!" he replied.

They smiled and took sips of their wine.

A lovely blush appeared on Lin Chuhan's delicate face as the rich and aromatic red wine flowed down her throat.

"Have a taste and tell me if it's good," said the young earl while pointing at the delicacies.

"They must be good. I was salivating just now." She eagerly picked up her chopsticks and opened the crab shell, revealing the tender crab meat inside. She gently picked up a piece and popped it in her mouth, savoring the flavor.

"How is it?" Wang Teng asked, looking forward to the answer.

He was confident in his skills, yet he still wished to hear praises from his fiancée.

The young woman closed her eyes and savored the meat for some time. Finally, she said, "This is amazing. Honestly, I admire Force chef masters like you. How can people like you make such delicious food?"

"Haha, have some more if it's good." Wang Teng picked up his chopsticks and took a piece of pig trotter for himself.

"No problem." She nodded fervently, setting elegant manners aside and eating heartily.

They ate and drank to their heart's content.

Lin Chuhan let out a satisfied burp and said, "Well, that's it. I would find it hard to eat any other food in the future."

"I'll prepare some Force dishes for you so you can store them in your space ring. It'll be enough for you to eat for a while. I'll replenish the stock once you finish them," said the young man with a smile.

"Really?" Her eyes lit up.

"Of course," said the hero, nodding.

"But that will make me seem utterly useless. Even your cooking skills are better than mine," Lin Chuhan said dejectedly.

"Don't worry, the one able to surpass me has yet to be born. No need to feel discouraged," he reassured.

"You're boasting again." She laughed.

The pair sat on the lawn, admiring the night sky and leaning against each other while savoring the rare moment being together.

"I wish we could stay like this forever," she said in a soft voice.

"We will."

"I believe you." Lin Chuhan nodded and turned to smile at him.

...

A silent night.

The next day, Wang Teng woke up bright and early. His gaze turned gentle when he saw Lin Chuhan lying in his arms.

Cough... don't overthink. They didn't do anything. They were as pure as a piece of white paper.

A soft sigh escaped from the young woman's lips as she made an effort to open her eyes. She was startled to see him next to her, blushing upon realizing what had happened.

"You're awake," Wang Teng said.

"Yes."

"Did you rest well?" He smirked.

"Seriously!" She pushed him and ran out of the room.

"Hahaha..." The hero's laughter resounded.

Lin Chuhan washed up before reappearing. They had breakfast together.

"I'm heading to the Secondary Career Alliance. Do you want to come with me or..." He left the sentence unfinished.

Lin Chuhan wiped her mouth and said, "I'll go with you."

He looked into her eyes and teased, "Are you afraid of me being alone with Clara?"

"What are you saying? I just want to explore the place." She then looked away.

The hero smiled, fascinated by her reaction.

Then, they took a Force flying car and drove to the Secondary Career Alliance.

Clara was already there, waiting for them. Her eyes lit up when she saw them and hurried over.

"Earl Wang!"

"Chuhan!"

She addressed the latter with a sense of intimacy, like long-time close friends.

"You're here early." Lin Chuhan gave her a reserved smile, maintaining a subtle distance while seemingly approachable. Such perfect balance left Wang Teng pleasantly surprised.

Is this an innate talent ladies have? he wondered.

"I arrived with ample time in advance since Earl Wang finally agreed to make a pill for me," said the young manager pitifully.

"Come on, I'm already giving you face by agreeing to make the pill. Don't act miserable," the hero said with a smile.

"Yes, yes. I know you're busy," Clara replied in a hurry, "It's my fault for interrupting your time together."

"No problem. I'm here to watch him make the pill. There was no interruption," said Lin Chuhan, expressing a broadminded stance.

"Earl Wang!" said another voice. It was Zhuang Caixuan.

The girl was behind Clara; she only greeted Wang Teng just then.

Why is she here? Wang Teng felt a headache coming.

Chapter 1634: To Hell With Love, Your Love Is a Little Unfaithful! (3)

"This is?" Sure enough, Lin Chuhan immediately shot Wang Teng a dangerous look.

Clara quickly made introductions. "Oh, this is Governor Zhuang's daughter. She's my... best friend." There was a slight pause at the end.

"So you're Governor Zhuang's daughter," said the aloof mercenary with a nod. She didn't register the abnormality.

"This is Wang Teng's fiancée, Lin Chuhan," said the former.

"My father has told me about you," said the young Caixuan as she bowed respectfully. "He said that only a woman like you was worthy of the Earl Wang. Seeing you today, I must say you are truly stunning."

"Governor Zhuang is too kind," Lin Chuhan replied with a calm smile.

Wang Teng went straight to the topic, "Have you prepared all the ingredients?"

"Yes," Clara replied.

"All right, follow me." The hero led the three women into the Secondary Career Alliance. He heaved a sigh of relief in his heart.

Good, good!

Things didn't go out of control.

They reached the already prepared alchemy room. The young hero took Clara's space ring and said, "Wait for me outside."

He and Lin Chuhan entered the room.

"The fiancée treatment is something else," Zhuang Caixuan said through voice transmission after the doors to the alchemy room closed.

"Bulls**t, how can we be compared to her?" Clara replied, also transmitting her message in secret.

"However, she really is exceptional. I heard that she also came from Earth, Wang Teng's planet."

"The one closer to the water's edge gets the moon first." Clara chuckled. "Your father wants you to get close to Earl Wang, right?"

"I'm afraid he'll be disappointed. Earl Wang doesn't like me."

"Maybe not. We might have a chance if we act together."

Zhuang Caixuan was flabbergasted. "How can you have such a thought?"

"I thought about it the entire night. I need a man who can help me." Then Clara asked, "Also, don't you think he's a man worth entrusting yourself to?"

"You're selling yourself." The other girl snorted.

Clara clasped her hands in front of her chest and said with a longing expression, "How can entrusting myself to an outstanding man be considered as selling myself? It's love."

"To hell with that. Your love is a little unfaithful," said Zhuang Caixuan, feeling at a loss.

"What are you saying? My love is pure," the other's reply was laced with anger.

"You're trying to belong to a third party. No, Sister Clara, you're mine." The governor's daughter remained firm.

"Wrong. You're mine." Clara placed her finger on the girl's chin and flashed a seductive smile. "We can get closer if both of us follow him. Wouldn't that be good?"

"No." The former blushed after the young manager's actions, but she was still unyielding. "I don't like males."

"I didn't like them in the past but now... I do," Clara said, "At least I realized that I don't dislike him. It seems that I only dislike men who aren't exceptional enough."

Zhuang Caixuan didn't know what to say. "Today I realize how shameless you can be."

"Really? Isn't it our nature to like outstanding people?" said the young manager in a nonchalant tone.

"You're betraying me." Zhuang Caixuan was furious. She looked like a feisty little cat.

"I'm not betraying you. You're still mine." Clara laughed. "Don't you think he's handsome? We rarely get to see anyone as handsome as him."

"You're... shallow!"

"Yes, I'm shallow."

"Damn it, you..." Zhuang Caixuan was at a loss of words. Suddenly, her eyes brightened. "Lin Chuhan is cautious around you. You don't stand a chance."

"Mmm, that does pose a problem," Clara said, resting her chin on her delicate hand, visibly distressed. Then she smiled. "But that's okay. After all, no man can remain faithful, right? There will be chances if I put my mind to it."

"You're... you're hopeless." Zhuang Caixuan gave up altogether. She turned around and fumed in silence.

Chapter 1635: Clara's Gratitude! Forging the Luck Tear! (1)

In the alchemy room—

Wang Teng sat in a cross-legged position, facing the Black Meteorite Furnace, which was enveloped in flames at the moment. A peculiar medicinal aroma wafted through the air.

Lin Chuhan sat some distance away, her chin resting over her hands as she quietly watched the figure before her.

She knew that her fiancé's talent for professions was strong. Be it alchemy, blacksmithing or runes, his mastery had surpassed most people.

He even became a Force chef grandmaster, which wasn't a profound craft.

She had only heard but never seen it in the past.

The aloof woman had seen him display his remarkable culinary skills the day prior. This day, she would be witnessing his alchemic prowess. The seamless and effortless movements, his flame control mastery—all of it left her utterly surprised.

This guy is a monster!

She soon understood how terrifying the geniuses in the rest of the universe were, once she entered that greater stage. And yet, even in such an environment, her man was still capable of standing out as one of the best.

Is it really possible that someone with such talent and ability would emerge from her home planet?

If she hadn't witnessed the hero's growth with her own eyes, she would have even suspected that the person before her was an alien stranded on Earth.

Wang Teng didn't know what she was thinking. He was solidifying the pill at the moment; although confident, he wouldn't dare to be careless.

The congregating process was crucial. There was no room for error.

The pill Clara asked him to make was the Jade Dew Green Elixir, which was used for detoxification. It didn't have any special features and wasn't as demanding to make.

Some time later, an eruption occurred within the furnace. Invisible energy ripples were spread in all directions, first colliding into the furnace walls, producing clear clanging sounds. It was then followed by a beam of light that shot straight to the sky.

Boom!

Dark clouds gathered high above, accompanied by flashes of lightning and thunderous roars.

The pills rose up inside the beam and rose to the air.

Many people were astounded.

Are there many experts making grandmaster level pills these days? Just a few days before, a grandmaster successfully refined some, and the phenomenon was being repeated at the moment.

Outside the alchemy room—Clara and Zhuang Caixuan widened their eyes in shock. They had prepared themselves to wait for a long time, but much to their surprise, Wang Teng only stayed inside for half a day before the lightning calamity descended.

Such speed was amazing!

"He's... done?" the young manager asked with uncertainty.

Zhuang Caixuan, forgetting her anger towards Clara, exclaimed in astonishment, "This was even faster than last time."

"You can't call a man fast. My future happiness lies with him," Clara said.

Zhuang Caixuan: ...

Why are you making such a bad joke!

The two ladies looked at each other in silence.

Boom!

Lightning crashed into the beam of light.

Clara was unknowingly clenching her fists, afraid of accidents occurring.

Soon, three bolts of lightning attempted to destroy the light beam. They were all blocked.

The pills inside the ray were unaffected.

The tribulation was weaker than the previous one. Clara felt relieved upon noticing this.

Boom!

A fourth bolt of lightning descended. The light beam was no longer capable of resisting and a figure rose to the sky; he hurled a punch towards the lightning.

Two additional bolts fell; however, both were effortlessly destroyed by that man. The dark clouds disappeared.

"That person looks familiar. He looks like the grandmaster from a few days ago."

Many people caught a glimpse of Wang Teng's silhouette. Although blurred by lightning, it did not hinder them from witnessing his martial arts skills.

The battle technique was the same, and was just as powerful. Most people were quick to make the connection.

The middle-aged man who greeted the young hero recently was among them. The man was astounded.

The success rate of Grandmaster Wang Teng's refinements was very high.

Two days ago, he used one day to make the extremely difficult Thousand Grass Elixir. Now, he used half a day to make a sixth-level grandmaster pill.

Which other grandmaster has this speed?

He had never met anyone else with such skill.

No wonder the young hero was sought after and befriended. They did it for a reason.

The senior felt that doing something would be proper. Wouldn't it be good to develop a relationship with such a prominent figure?

In the alchemy room—Wang Teng kept the pills and walked out.

Clara and Zhuang Caixuan immediately crowded around him.

"Earl Wang, how did it go?" Clara asked nervously.

"I'm done." He passed her a jade bottle.

"Thank you! Earl Wang, you have been of great help." The young manager held the bottle as if it were some precious treasure. She was overwhelmed with excitement, expressing her gratitude repeatedly.

Judging by her actions, if Lin Chuhan wasn't present, she might have thrown herself into his arms.

Zhuang Caixuan felt the corners of her eyes twitch when she saw the single pill inside the jade bottle.

She had noticed five pills hovering inside the light beam, but only one was recovered.

It was obvious where the pills went.

Evil!

However, she didn't make a fuss about it. She knew the rules that applied when asking to have pills made.

Clara only wanted one pill. Hence, any extras belonged to the alchemist.

"You're welcome," Wang Teng replied calmly.

The young manager said with utmost sincerity, eyes blinking, "If you ever have any requests, feel free to come find me. Since I work at the Thousand Treasure Chamber, I have some connections when it comes to acquiring certain special goods."

Wang Teng blinked and nodded. "I'll have it in mind."

Chapter 1636: Clara's Gratitude! Forging the Luck Tear! (2)

Clara went through a few more thank rounds and left in a hurry; she seemed to have some matters to attend to.

The governor's daughter glanced at Lin Chuhan. Her gaze turned strange when she remembered what her friend said. There was no reason for her to stay so she left with her friend.

"Why do I feel like the gaze Zhuang Caixuan gave me was a bit strange?" said the hero's fiancée, furrowing her brow.

"Really? I didn't feel anything," Wang Teng said, apparently surprised.

"Women's intuition," Lin Chuhan said, "but it shouldn't be an issue. It's not like she would do anything to me."

"Of course, unless she doesn't care about the welfare of her family." The hero smiled.

He still had this belief. A mere Zhuang family wouldn't dare to offend an earl of the empire.

Zhuang Weize's performance proved that he wouldn't dare overstep his bounds.

Lin Chuhan glanced around and asked, "Are we going back now?"

"Nope, there's still one more thing to do. Follow me." He smiled and led the way.

They walked past the alchemy rooms and reached the smithing area. Both sections were right next to each other, but they were segregated to facilitate distinction.

The hero found the room reserved under his name and opened the door using his identity account. He ushered Lin Chuhan inside.

"Are you going to forge something?" she asked curiously.

"Yes. Have you forgotten about the Luck Tear I bought yesterday?" the hero replied with a smile.

Lin Chuhan nodded in deep thought. "What are you going to make?"

"You'll know in a while," he said mysteriously.

"Why are you being so secretive?" The young woman pouted. However, she didn't probe further; maintaining a sense of anticipation wasn't bad.

She felt that watching him work on alchemy or forging was fascinating.

Someone knocked on the door while they talked.

The hero opened the door. It was the middle-aged man who greeted him the previous time. "Grandmaster Wang, here are all the materials you requested."

"Thank you." Wang Teng took the box.

"You're too polite. It's an honor to serve you," said the mature fellow in a hurry.

The latter took his leave right away, not daring to disturb the hero.

Wang Teng took the chance to release his spiritual power and collect all the attribute bubbles scattered in the room.

Smithing*50

Smithing*40

Smithing*70

...

He soon collected a fair amount of smithing attributes. There were 1260 points in total.

He only grabbed those dropped by grandmasters or above. The ones from ordinary blacksmiths were useless to him.

Raising attributes after reaching the grandmaster level was a tough matter.

Wang Teng didn't want to waste his blank attributes so he just collected whenever he could find them. Hence, the process was slow.

Smithing knowledge of grandmaster level entered his mind and his mastery gradually increased.

He looked at his attributes board.

Blacksmith: 6840/10000 (Grandmaster)

The young hero's eyes brightened. The attribute was much higher than before.

He had forged high-tier weapons like the Thousand Armaments Vessel in the past, but the process was arduous back then. It would be much easier if he were to attempt it again.

Considering his current expertise, he had even more confidence in forging the item he was planning to make.

He closed the door, then approached the smithing table and opened the box. There were several pieces of metal inside, mostly palm-sized and not particularly large.

The materials were quite small and delicate, as opposed to the ones needed for weapons; they would require several kilograms of metal ores.

Lin Chuhan leaned over to take a look.

Erm... I still can't see anything.

Those materials were unknown to anyone who didn't practice the craft; it was understandable she didn't recognize them.

Wang Teng took out a gray stone and said, "This is a Luck Confining Stone (in Chinese, it's called Bi Yun Stone)!"

"What?" Lin Chuhan was stunned. "Contraception Stone?" (In Chinese, contraception has the same pronunciation, which is Bi Yun.)

The hero was startled. He said quietly, "Yun, as in luck."

"Hahaha..." Round Ball rolled around inside his head. "This is so funny."

"Why are you laughing!" Wang Teng said.

"Why didn't you say it clearly?" The young woman rolled her eyes, fuming a bit.

"Back to the main topic. This Luck Confining Stone can mask the Luck Tear's aura so others can't detect it," he explained.

"I see." She nodded, feeling enlightened. Then, she frowned and asked, "But then, wouldn't the Luck Tear become useless?"

"That's why we need another material called Luck Channeling Stone." Wang Teng took out another ore with a purple glow and continued, "It's this one. As the name implies, it can channel the fortune power emitted by the Luck Tear. As long as they come into contact, the owner will be gradually benefited by good luck."

"You're going all out." She couldn't help but marvel at his cautious and prudent approach. This not only ensured that the stone would remain a secret but also allowed it to function properly. Perhaps only a skilled blacksmith like Wang Teng possessed such abilities.

"All right, I'm about to start. You can watch from the side," he said with a smile.

"Yes." Lin Chuhan nodded.

Without further ado, he waved a hand and the materials rose to the air. The Emerald Glazed Flame emerged from his body, completely covering the different ores.

The materials quickly began to melt, thanks to the divine flame's extreme temperature. All impurities were expelled.

It is necessary to acknowledge the great benefits of having divine flames. Regular flames would require a considerable amount of time to remove all impurities. Even after the job was done, some particles could still remain inside.

That was the disadvantage of using normal flames.

However, the young hero possessed multiple flames to choose from, so he didn't have to worry. That was why the pills and weapons he made were superior.

Once the impurities were removed, he raised his left hand and summoned the nearby forging hammers, which started striking the ores with rhythmic clangs.

The six hammers hammered six different materials simultaneously.

Lin Chuhan was taken aback. The way he forged exceeded her imagination; it was completely unexpected.

Is it possible for a person to control six hammers at once?

She hadn't witnessed other blacksmiths in action, but she was well aware it was impossible for anyone to handle six different hammers during the forging process at the same time.

This defied common logic!

However, she felt she could be overreacting, considering her fiancé's usual way of doing things. She quickly calmed down, avoiding any expression that would invite his mockery.

If she knew that Wang Teng had once controlled more than ten hammers in one go, what would her expression be like?

It would probably be... quite cute!

The entire room was filled with the hammering sounds, but she didn't find it irritating.

The sounds had a peculiar cadence that resembled a melodious piano piece, which resonated within the tranquil smithing room.

If other grandmaster artificers were present, they could have been too startled to say anything.

Those who could achieve such a level were top-notch blacksmiths.

Many grandmasters unique rhythms for their forging, but only a handful of them could transform those rhythms into a full-fledged composition.

This required a high level of control and mastery!

Only peak experts could achieve it, while Wang Teng was only at the fourth-level.

Time flew. Soon, all the materials were hammered and set on the smithing table. They gave off a dazzling glow that seemed exceptionally divine.

Still, that was just the start.

Wang Teng merged the other three materials with the Luck Confining Stone, gradually forming a unique blue-gray alloy.

Finally, he took out the purple box with the Luck Tear and opened it.

The stone floated out of the casing thanks to his spiritual control. Next came the most important step...

Chapter 1637: A Peculiar Lightning Calamity! (1)

The Luck Tear floated in midair.

Meanwhile, the strange gray-blue alloy also rose into the air, once again turning into liquid under the scorching heat of the Emerald Glazed Flame. The molten material drifted towards the stone of fortune.

Wang Teng covered the Luck Tear with a layer of ice Force, all to prevent it from being affected by the strong flames.

That was just an additional protective layer. The stone was extremely hard, with a high melting point. Considering his current control, the heat would not cause any damage.

Then, the gray-blue liquid gradually enveloped the Luck Tear, leaving only a hint of purple visible, just like a small window ajar.

Now, he needed to use spiritual power to carve its shape.

He transformed the power into a sculpting knife, smoothly carving intricate runes along the metallic veins of the solidifying alloy.

Time passed slowly...

The molten metal became increasingly solid, taking a teardrop shape with complex and enigmatic patterns decorating the surface.

The Luck Tear was merely the size of a thumb after being wrapped by the metal.

Lin Chuhan saw this process as an invisible knife at work, filling the metallic surface with magnificent patterns, evoking a sense of enchantment and wonder.

"This is beautiful!" Her eyes glimmered. She stared intently at the jewel's metallic encasing with her pretty eyes.

Although the stone's appearance was now concealed, the gray-blue metal exhibited a dazzling radiance, with faint traces of purple seeping from underneath, adding an extra touch of mystery to its allure.

The surface of the end product was rife with a patterned array, bathed in hues of purple, which gave it an extraordinary and captivating appearance.

The young woman finally guessed what the hero wanted to forge.

Such a beautiful accessory wasn't something a man would use.

Her expression changed. Honestly, she wanted to reject a gift as precious, but she didn't want to disturb Wang Teng's concentration. Besides, he had already completed the core portion, and saying anything beyond this point seemed useless. She had no choice but to watch as he continued with the forging.

"This fellow..." Lin Chuhan gritted her teeth.

Her gaze turned tender and gentle.

Wang Teng heaved a sigh of relief.

Having finished the core component, he released spiritual power, hoisting the remaining two materials into the air; one of which was none other than the Luck Channeling Stone.

The Emerald Glazed Flame's intense heat melted and fused both materials, which gradually became one. The Luck Channeling Stone was completely fused with the other silver-white metal; the hero's deft control transformed them into a silver-white necklace.

Similarly, the necklace also had engraved patterns, but they differed from those used on the core component.

The patterns on the latter were purple, which possessed sealing power.

The etchings on the necklace were also light purple, but they radiated a channeling power.

The rune sets were completely different, serving different purposes.

Wang Teng guided the necklace towards the main component and gradually fused them. He deliberately left an open circular link to achieve a seamless result.

There was a strange fluctuation once the two components were combined. However, the effect disappeared in an instant.

Boom!

Right then, a pillar of purple light was shot to the sky.

Dark clouds gathered and terrifying bolts of lightning appeared out of nowhere.

The necklace soared into the air, hovering within the pillar.

"Success!" The hero flashed a calm smile as he looked at the thunderous sky.

The process was a success for him once that step was reached. The lightning calamity wasn't an issue.

Meanwhile, many people noticed the thunderclouds manifesting in the sky and looked up in astonishment.

That was the second lightning calamity of the day.

Is today a special day? Why are there so many tribulations?

Phenomena of the like were supposed to be rare, and they kept repeating on the same day. Everyone was awestruck.

Boom!

The dark clouds rumbled in the sky; the atmosphere was oppressive. Suddenly, a thunderbolt crashed down with a deafening roar.

Then...

The bolt of lightning narrowly brushed past the pillar of light and landed on the array activated by the Secondary Career Alliance.

Wang Teng: ...

Lin Chuhan: ...

The young hero was stunned.

More like dumbfounded.

What just happened?

Did the lightning miss the target? Is it drunk?

This is absurd!

This was the first time he met with such a bizarre situation.

The onlookers were also dumbstruck. Some even rubbed their eyes and wondered if they were seeing things.

The pillar of purple light remained untouched. The necklace swam around happily like a fish in the water.

It was like a silent provocation.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

Instantly, the second, third, and fourth lightning bolt struck simultaneously, all of them heading for the light pillar.

And yet, surprisingly, the same situation was repeated.

None of the bolts reached the pillar. Instead, they landed directly on the alliance's protective array.

On the other hand, the array started trembling violently; it was on the verge of collapsing.

Everyone was stunned.

The lightning calamity is messed up!

It can't hit the target!

Boom!

The successive failures seemed to enrage the sky. Endless thunderclouds churned and gathered, summoning more lightning bolts. A profoundly oppressive and terrifying aura descended from the sky.

Chapter 1638: A Peculiar Lightning Calamity! (2)

"Quick! Activate the second defense array!" shouted the person overseeing the Secondary Career Alliance. He was in a frenzy.

The first four lightning bolts had almost destroyed the active array and the fifth one seemed to be more frightening. The first array would definitely fail to withstand it.

Furthermore, he had reason to believe that the fifth tribulation strike would still miss the pillar of light.

Damn it, what the hell is going on!

Boom!

A moment later, the fifth bolt of lightning completed its formation. Paired with a thunderous roar that shook the earth, it descended like a lightning dragon, charging straight towards the pillar.

It headed straight for it!

Everyone had their eyes peeled as they saw the bolt descend.

Its path was true. Nothing should go wrong, right?

Right?

Even Wang Teng was staring at the sky. The tribulation was a bit off for some reason; he couldn't predict the outcome.

Amid all the gazes, the bolt of lightning narrowly missed the pillar of purple light, then headed straight for the Secondary Career Alliance's protective array.

Crack!

A crisp sound was heard and the array's first layer was breached.

Fortunately, the second layer had been activated and was much stronger. The tribulation strike exhausted much of its energy when it dealt with the array's first layer, weakening considerably.

Boom!

Even so, the second protective layer still shook violently.

The face of the alliance's overseer turned black. His gaze was fixated on the array, cold sweat pouring down his forehead.

Some time later, the bolt of lightning dissipated. The second layer managed to withstand the attack.

The dark clouds in the sky scattered slowly and the terrifying tribulation disappeared without a trace.

The overseer let out a long sigh. He almost collapsed due to fear.

What a close call!

He almost asked his subordinates to activate the third layer of the protective array.

The alliance's facilities were actually pretty safe. Many grandmasters would often be making pills, making calamities a normal occurrence. The multi-layered array was set for that very reason.

The place would have suffered greatly otherwise.

"Go and find the person who forged the item. This is truly bizarre," said the overseer as he wiped the cold sweat off his forehead.

The middle-aged man who greeted the hero rushed over and offered, "Sir Achilles, I think it was Grandmaster Wang!

"Grandmaster Wang? The three-field expert whom the empire asked us to take care of?" The man was surprised.

"Yes, that's him!" replied the other.

"Bowen, go and ask what happened... Nevermind, I'll go there myself," said the administrator as he made his way to the smithing room the hero was using.

Being in charge of the alliance chapter covering planet Yuming, he had numerous matters to take care of every day; that was the main reason why he didn't greet the young earl in person. However, the recent phenomenon was so peculiar he had to go there and find out.

Concurrently, those who witnessed the tribulation were engaged in heated discussions. The crowd had yet to disperse, even after a long time passed.

There was no doubt that the calamity would soon become one of the planet's hot topics.

Such news could even go farther, outside the planet.

It was understandable; such strange calamity wasn't a common sight.

Back in the smithing room—Wang Teng grabbed the successfully forged Luck Tear and gave Lin Chuhan a meaningful glance. Then, they both stared at the jewel, keeping an eerie silence.

The lightning calamity had seemed rather dull.

It felt all too easy; there was no sense of accomplishment!

"Wang Teng, what just happened?" the young woman asked after some hesitation.

"It's one of the Luck Tear's effects... maybe?" he replied, unsure.

He didn't expect such a strange event to be triggered by the item.

"Round Ball, do you know what happened?" Wang Teng asked in his mind.

"How should I know? No one has ever forged the Luck Tear. You're the first one I've seen doing it," the little fellow replied with a helpless tone.

"Erm, so... I don't have to worry about news of the jewel's creation leaking out?" he asked.

"I doubt anyone would associate it with the Luck Tear," Round Ball said, "after all, the stone is quite rare, and no one has ever seen such a result before."

"That's good!" Wang Teng heaved a sigh of relief. He then sighed and added, "But the effect is too strong. It was even capable of evading the lightning calamity."

The little one speculated, "I think it's because of being newly made. Maybe the effect will only come into play during critical moments."

"Oh right, will resisting the calamities use up too much luck power?" The young man quickly probed for any changes in the fortune power contained in the stone.

Right. It would be troublesome if too much power is consumed.

"I don't think so. The consumption should be low since no one was in real danger," Round Ball replied.

"Well, it's good that the luck power seems to be almost the same," the hero said, feeling relieved.

"Wait, you can sense luck power?" The little helper was astounded.

"What? Isn't that normal?" The hero was visibly confused.

Round Ball: ...

Normal your head!

"Luck power is elusive and ethereal. How could ordinary people sense it?" remarked the small fellow.

Wang Teng was stunned. He quickly tried to cover it up. "Oh right! Haha... well, maybe because I'm really lucky. Don't you think my luck is decent?"

"Well, it does make sense." Round Ball touched its chin. "But, this is still ridiculous. There's something strange about you."

The young earl quickly interrupted the little one's train of thought, "Come on, what's strange about me? I have one head, two arms, and three legs."

Round Ball: ...

What do you mean by three legs! it complained inwardly, successfully distracted.

Of course, since Wang Teng didn't want to say anything, it wouldn't press the matter. There were too many inexplicable things about the hero, questioning everything would drive the little one crazy.

The young man smiled and looked at the sky, while collecting the attribute bubbles floating about.

Constellation Force (Lightning)*1500

Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning*100

Luck*1

Luck*1

...

Indeed, there are luck attributes! Wang Teng thought with a glimmer in his eyes.

Back when he checked the newly forged jewel, he noticed that there wasn't much difference from before. However, there was still some consumption involved.

He had a sudden thought—

If the Luck Tear can drop luck attributes, can I replenish it?

To others, luck power was a fleeting and intangible matter, invisible to the naked eye. However, the young hero was capable of quantifying the attribute.

This could open an opportunity for him.

He wanted to try it out as soon as the idea popped up.

He held the Luck Tear and silently moved his luck attributes.

The next moment, he felt an invisible force flowing into the gem through his hands.

Meanwhile, he felt a slight emptiness in his heart, as if having lost something.

The hero was quick to check the attributes board.

Luck: 39 (Limit of a normal person: 10)

He had picked up two luck points when he first came into contact with the fortune stone. Furthermore, he had just acquired two additional points. Adding to the existing thirty-six points, it was a total of forty.

However, the sum went down to thirty-nine after the wisp of luck entered the Luck Tear. He lost one point.

It's possible! Wang Teng was elated.

Luck Tears were considered as consumables in the hands of others. In his case, however, it had turned into a valuable and sustainable treasure.

This is amazing!

He could keep using the Luck Tear in the future.

However, the one frustrating aspect was the Luck attribute scarcity. The hero would rarely come across opportunities to acquire them.

Once his luck attributes were transferred to the stone, his own luck would decrease permanently; it wouldn't be automatically replenished.

Therefore, he had to make sure his luck attribute was sufficient before transferring more to the jewel; otherwise, all of it would be useless.

Chapter 1639: Departure! A New Journey! (1)

Wang Teng temporarily dismissed the idea of transferring luck points to the Luck Tear. Sending all his points over wasn't viable.

He was used to having good luck and couldn't imagine what would happen with a drop in fortune.

How scary!

He then focused on a different attribute... the Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning!

Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning: 4500/10000 (first-rank)

It was a sizable increase. The hero nodded.

"Let's go!" he said to Lin Chuhan and got ready to leave.

The young woman nodded.

The couple ran into a few individuals the moment they walked out of the smithing room. Wang Teng raised his eyebrows.

"You must be Grandmaster Wang. Indeed, young and promising," said a middle-aged man in front of a group. The slightly plump fellow was all smiles as he walked over with enthusiasm.

It was a heaven stage martial warrior!

"You are..." Wang Teng was puzzled.

He noticed that the person standing behind the man was the senior man who was serving as his liaison.

The plump middle-aged man introduced himself. "I'm the person in charge of this branch, Achille."

"Nice to meet you." The hero offered a polite nod.

While the Secondary Career Alliance's overseer held a respectable position, the young hero was grandmaster, a person of an even higher status. There was no need to be overly polite or deferential. He needed to uphold his status.

"Grandmaster Wang, what did you forge? How could it cause such a lightning calamity?" the overseer asked prudently.

"Is there a problem?" Wang Teng saw it coming.

The recent tribulation had been anything but normal; drawing attention was only natural. Being responsible for the alliance's operations justified him showing up to find the cause.

"No problem at all. However, the lightning calamity..." Achille was afraid of offending the earl, so he was caught in a dilemma.

"I think it was just a fluke. I'm in the dark about this, just as you are," said the hero while shaking his head, appearing genuinely puzzled. He continued, "I will compensate accordingly if needed be."

"Look at what you're saying. Only one array suffered damage; that is not a problem. No compensation is needed," the overseer replied in a hurry. "Since it was just a coincidence, I won't keep you any longer."

Wang Teng nodded and left quietly with Lin Chuhan.

Achille stared at the hero's back with an ambiguous gaze.

The staff member behind the plump fellow asked. "Sir, this..."

"Since Grandmaster Wang says that it's a coincidence, it's a coincidence." The former glanced at his aide and laughed.

"Yes." The staff member shuddered and quickly nodded.

"Bowen, do you think the lightning calamity summoned by Grandmaster Wang was... reliable?" Achille asked, rubbing his chin as he looked at the middle-aged fellow next to him.

Bowen gave him an awkward smile and replied, "I don't think so."

"That's right. How can a normal tribulation fail to strike its target? It must be something wrong with the calamity itself." The overseer clapped his hands.

"You're right." Bowen nodded, the corners of his lips twitching.

...

The young pair left the alliance chapter and drove their flying rune car and went back to the manor.

"Will this matter affect you?" Lin Chuhan asked worriedly.

The tribulation had indeed been strange. She was worried that someone could start to investigate the matter.

"Don't worry. They wouldn't risk offending me just for an unknown factor." He flashed a lighthearted smile.

The young woman nodded in silence.

The sky had grown dark by then. Wang Teng only took a day to make a pill and forge the Luck Tear. His efficiency level was sky high.

The pair ate dinner and took a stroll within the manor. Then, the hero pulled Lin Chuhan into a room.

"What do you want?" She blushed. Is this fellow going to do something weird? Has the day finally arrived?

"What are you thinking?" Wang Teng was stunned for a moment before he leaned towards her with a smirk.

"Nothing. I'm not thinking of anything." Her ears turned red. The hero had the urge to pinch them.

He reached out and gave a gentle squeeze. His eyes lit up at once; the feeling was superb.

Wang Teng felt he discovered something extraordinary, never imagining that a girl's earlobe could be so soft. It felt like... jelly!

He wanted to lick it.

Lin Chuhan felt weak. She murmured in a shy and sweet voice, "Don't..."

The young earl couldn't bear it anymore. He kissed her.

The two parted after some time. Wang Teng still had a lingering desire for more.

She lightly tapped him and said with a playful pout, "You've become naughtier."

"Haha, really?" Wang Teng smiled. He took out the Luck Tear and said, "Let me put it on you."

"Wang Teng, this is too precious. I can't take it. You need it more than me," she said.

"Take it. I bought it for you."

"But..." Lin Chuhan wanted to reject it again.

"No buts." Wang Teng ignored Lin Chuhan's rejection and placed the jewel around her slender and fair neck.

"Seriously..." She was a bit annoyed by Wang Teng's domineering behavior, and yet, she felt a hint of sweetness in her heart at the same time.

"Actually, you're mistaken. It doesn't have much effect on me," said the hero with a smile.

"Really?" The girl still had her doubts.

"Why would I lie to you?" Wang Teng said as he observed the bejeweled result. He nodded in satisfaction. "Yes, it looks great on you."

Chapter 1640: Departure! A New Journey! (2)

Lin Chuhan lowered her head to take a look; the Luck Tear became more exquisite after Wang Teng's forging. The jewel exuded a sense of mystery; any woman would like it, and she was no exception.

She had to admit that his craftsmanship was remarkable.

Most importantly, she felt a subtle change in the surrounding aura once she had the jewel on her. It was comforting.

Could this be the Luck Tear's effect?

"I deserve credit for forging it," the hero said with a smug expression.

"You're so full of yourself." She rolled her eyes.

He laughed and asked, "How does it feel?"

"It feels... good!" Lin Chuhan thought for a while and could only describe the sensation with the simplest of words.

"That's it. From now on, your fortune will be influenced by the Luck Tear. Everything will go in the right direction," Wang Teng said.

"How magical."

He offered a warning, "You need to have it on at all times, but don't reveal it. Don't let others see it."

"Okay." The young woman nodded.

"No need to worry too much, though. Besides yourself, no one should be able to sense the strange fluctuations emitted by the jewel," the hero said.

"Mmm. I feel a lot more at ease with this in mind." She flashed a faint smile.

"Put it away when you no longer feel that comfortable sensation and bring it to me."

Although a bit puzzled, she didn't ask further, and only responded with a nod. "Okay."

The hero used the remaining time to stay at home and spend time with Lin Chuhan. He had always felt indebted to her, and wanted to keep her company now that he finally had some time.

Clara and Zhuang Caixuan paid them a few visits, although brief. They had some conversations with the hero to strengthen their relationship before leaving.

This was especially the case since his fiancée was still around; they couldn't find an opportunity to come in the way of their relationship. This made Clara feel helpless.

As for Zhuang Caixuan, she was just there to cause trouble. She had no intention of improving relations with the hero.

She didn't want Clara to succeed, either.

Later on, she realized that her friend didn't stand a chance, and this made her happy.

However, she understood that the Zhuangs had to keep the hero as their backing, so she kept a good relationship with him.

Wang Teng also took the time to meet up with the younger generation of experts from Earth.

This included Han Zhu and Ji Xiuming—

—As well as classmates Baili Qingfeng, Lu Shu and Song Shuhang.

Shortly after the young earl took his leave, they went to planet Yuming and were exposed to the most advanced cultivation methods in the universe.

Those young warriors were motivated by Earth's top hero and pushed themselves relentlessly to become better with great determination.

Now, they were among the best of the younger generation. They had the potential to advance beyond the planetary stage!

One had to admit that—even though the universe was dangerous—it was a suitable place to cultivate young talents.

Eagles can only soar in a vast sky.

Their growth on Earth was restricted by the environment's limitations.

Good times never lasted for long. The hero stayed on planet Yuming Planet for fifteen days and knew it was time to leave.

A peaceful home was akin to a burial ground in the eyes of heroes!

He couldn't immerse himself in it.

He did win first place in the League of Talents, he knew it was only within the Great Qian Empire. He was aware that there were many powerful forces beyond the empire's influence.

Ferya's Pan-Cosmic Alliance was one of them, and there were many others like it.

He could only meet those factions in the Seven Stellar Academies.

That was the place where our hero could truly witness the vast skies.

Of course, the most important thing was to farm attributes from those talents. He couldn't wait any longer.

Wang Teng said to Round Ball that evening, "Round Ball, inform the Seventh Stellar Academy that I'll be on my way to report!"

"Are we finally leaving? I've been waiting for a long time." The little one was filled with excitement.

The fellow wanted to see the legendary Seven Stellar Academies, as it didn't have a similar chance when it followed Nangong Yue in the past. Now, it could finally see a broader world by following the young earl.

"We should leave." The latter showed a troubled expression.

"Okay, I'll inform them right away," Round Ball replied.

They didn't know how fast the academies' ships were. Two days later, Wang Teng received a notification that the spacecraft was about to arrive.

Planet Yuming, space docking port—

Zhuang Weize, Zhuang Caixuan, Clara and the others went to see him off.

Wu Xingyun, Han Ping and the rest were there as well.

The Earth's experts had undergone some transformations after taking the Thousand Grass Elixir.

This was especially so for Hong Tianshi and Yong Lianggong. They were advanced in age, and the effects were more prominent; like Han Ping, they became much younger.

Lin Chuhan was astonished by their appearances, and barely recognized them.

Even Zhuang Weize was surprised. He wasn't unfamiliar with those seniors.

They used to look ancient, but now, they had youthful looks. The change was tremendous.

It was understandable, as his daughter had told him about the earl preparing seventh-level grandmaster pills for them.

The governor was a bit envious.

Seventh-level grandmaster pills!

Those warriors from Earth actually enjoyed a benefit he couldn't even afford.

Had those seniors not been from the hero's home planet, they wouldn't have had such an opportunity, even after cultivating for several centuries.

Based on this, Earl Wang's sentimental trait was evident.

Zhuang Weize became even more determined to cling onto him.

After all, he had some personal connections with the young overlord. As long as he served him faithfully, he believed he would gain recognition in the future.

On the other hand, Wu Xingyun's changes weren't significant. He still looked like a middle-aged man; only his white hair turned black after consuming the Thousand Grass Elixir.

This made him feel a bit disappointed.

However, the young earl used his Real Eye to examine their physical conditions and confirmed that there were no more lingering injuries. They would undoubtedly achieve twice the result with half the effort in their future cultivation.

Right then, Wang Teng and Lin Chuhan stood together, gazing silently at each other.

The young woman was silent. There was a trace of reluctance in her eyes as she tightly held the hero's hand.

Wang Teng didn't say much, only grasping her hand firmly, offering comfort.

Han Ping interrupted their moment and teased, "Don't be like this. It's not like he can't come back. You can just meet in the virtual universe if you ever miss each other."

Lin Chuhan instantly felt embarrassed.

Wang Teng rolled his eyes in exasperation.

Wu Xingyun walked over and chimed in, "Both of you are still young, there's still a long road ahead."

Just then, a violent spatial fluctuation was felt.

A dimensional rift was suddenly torn open outside planet Yuming, and a large ancient warship emerged from within at a slow speed.

All the locals saw the massive craft and exclaimed, "It's the warship from the Seventh Stellar Academy!"

They had only seen the warship through the live broadcast. But now, a real one had just appeared outside the planet's atmosphere.

The ancient aura overwhelmed them; many were holding their breath, hearts skipping a beat.

The warship was similar to the ones that appeared during the League of Talents. It also had a strange symbol as insignia.

The latter meant 'seven' in the Paleo Clan's Language!

"I have to go!" Wang Teng looked up. He knew that the ship was there to pick him up.

Lin Chuhan took a deep breath and gently released the man's hand with a smile on her face. "Go on. I will catch up to you."

Wang Teng gave her a deep glance and slowly rose to the sky. He then finally turned into a streak of light and headed towards the floating warship.

"Until we meet again!" said a voice that slowly echoed in the sky.

A beam of light descended from the warship and guided the hero inside.

Then, the ancient warship transformed into a ray of light and disappeared from its current spot, vanishing from everyone's sights.

Wang Teng had just embarked on a new journey.

Chapter 1641: An Ancient Warship! Ancient Runes! (1)

An ancient warship flew through the emptiness at a swift speed, too fast to be seen by the naked eye.

At the ship's bottom deck, in a spacious and luxuriously decorated room—Wang Teng saw a familiar figure.

"Invigilator Sikong!" the hero exclaimed in surprise when he saw the expert.

"Haha, surprised to see me?" asked the senior with a laugh.

Wang Teng: ...

This invigilator is a little cheeky.

"Invigilator, why are you here?" he asked.

"To welcome you personally. Our academy values you highly." The elder laughed once more.

Wang Teng blinked; he was honestly startled. "I'm honored."

Sikong the Second was a profound eternal stage expert. Even so, he personally went there to greet him.

Is it true, as he said, that the Seventh Stellar Academy values me greatly?

"Don't overthink. You entered the Star Rankings; this treatment is only natural," said the elder.

The hero nodded in response.

"You can call me Instructor Sikong from now on, as I also teach at the academy."

"All right." Wang Teng was surprised, only then realizing the man's additional identity. Nodding, he said, "Instructor Sikong!"

"Good. Rest assured, choosing our Seventh Stellar Academy is the wisest decision you could make," the elder replied happily.

"I've never regretted the choice I made," Wang Teng said calmly.

Now it was time for the instructor to be shocked. He glanced at the young student and chuckled. "I like your character. No wonder you've come this far."

"You flatter me, Instructor," the hero replied in a humble manner.

The senior beckoned him and said, "Come, let's sit and have a chat."

Wang Teng accepted the offer and sat down on a comfortable sofa. "Instructor, how long does it take to reach the academy?"

"Our warship, although equivalent to eternal class, is three times faster than the ordinary vessels at full speed. We'll reach the Seventh Stellar Academy in just a few

days," Sikong the Second explained while pouring a glass of fragrant wine for the hero. He then crossed his legs.

"What?" Someone gasped in Wang Teng's mind. It was Round Ball, taken aback by the revelation.

The hero was similarly dumbfounded, knowing how fast similar-class ships were.

Previously, when he returned to planet Yuming, he had actually used an eternal-level spacecraft. Such a speed was far beyond what a universe-level ship could compare to, saving him a considerable amount of time.

And yet, Sikong the Second told him that their vessel's speed was three times that of a normal eternal-level spacecraft. It was terrifying!

"Wang Teng, ask him if the warship was built using the Paleo Clan's technology! Ask him! Hurry!" Round Ball's eager voice resonated in Wang Teng's mind.

"The Paleo Clan's technology?!" A trace of curiosity flashed in Wang Teng's eyes. The fact that the ship was related to the Paleo Clan surprised him. Keeping his composure in check, he asked, "Instructor Sikong, why is this warship so fast?"

"Because it's a Paleo Clan's warship," Sikong the Second glanced at him and said.

"A Paleo Clan's warship!" Wang Teng pretended to be confused. "How amazing."

"All right, enough with the acting. You should know a little about the Paleo Clan," Sikong the Second said.

"Instructor, what are you saying? I don't understand. I don't know what the Paleo Clan is." The hero kept playing the oblivious part.

"Kid, stop pretending. The physical skill you used back in the League of Talents belongs to the Paleo Clan," said the elder as he pointed at his new junior with a wry smile.

"Cough, all right. The secret is out." Wang Teng coughed awkwardly.

He should have guessed that he couldn't fool the instructors from the Seven Stellar Academies. The golden symbol that appeared on his forehead whenever he executed the Ancient God's Body was written with the Paleo Clan's Language.

Perhaps he could deceive the ones unaware, but he couldn't deceive the instructors from the Seven Stellar Academies.

The senior smiled and said nonchalantly "How cautious of you. That's good. Being cautious will keep you alive."

"However, I don't know anything about the Paleo Clan's warships," Wang Teng said.

"Let me explain to you then." Sikong the Second contemplated for some time before continuing, "The warship was discovered in some ancient ruins, and the consensus is that it was behind by an ancient race. Not only does it possess astonishing defensive capabilities, the speed surpasses that of modern ships, and the difference is significant. It garnered much attention when it came out; we conducted research on it and managed to acquire some ancient runic knowledge. We found that the runic technology from back then differs greatly from the ones used today."

"It seems that we are far inferior to those ancient clans!"

"Oh my..." Wang Teng didn't know what to say. It was truly shocking to hear such a statement from his instructor.

The man admitted that they were inferior when compared to the ancient races!

While our hero was aware of the immense power those ancient clans held, and of their countless legends throughout the universe, he had always believed that modern day humanity was stronger.

After all, the ancient clans were already gone, while the human race was the true dominator of the universe in recent times.

"Surprised?" Sikong the Second asked with a smile.

"Yes." The young man nodded.

"There's no shame in admitting that we're not as great as our predecessors. We are still researching what they left behind, hoping to one day surpass them," the senior said.

Chapter 1642: An Ancient Warship! Ancient Runes! (2)

"Is that why the Stellar Academies wanted to capture the Great Lightning Monster? Was it for research?" Wang Teng asked. It was a sudden thought that popped up in his mind.

"Looks like you've connected the dots." Sikong the Second nodded. "We want to find something in the creature's bloodline."

"Find something?" Wang Teng was surprised. He asked, "What do you want to find?"

"Certain things that are recorded in its bloodline. You'll learn of this in the future," the elder replied.

"I see." The hero understood this as a closing statement, so he dropped the matter for the moment.

He asked a few more questions about the Seventh Stellar Academy. The instructor offered clarification in a patient manner.

After chatting for a while, the young earl was finally led to a room to get some rest.

Sikong The Second said, "We will arrive at the academy in approximately five days. You can walk around and explore the warship if you're curious." He turned to leave after relaying the message.

Round Ball urged, "Wang Teng, don't cultivate for now. Let's have a look around first; it's a rare opportunity to see an ancient clan's warship."

"All right, let's do that." Wang Teng shook his head and said, "Why are you so curious about a Paleo Clan warship?"

"This is an artifact of an ancient clan; it contains the wisdom of their civilization. Of course I'd be curious," replied Round Ball.

"It's hard to tell much from the exterior." The hero wandered aimlessly along the corridor while conversing with the little fellow. "Unless we get one of these in the future."

"It wouldn't be easy." Round Ball was pessimistic. "These warships are only found in ruins, and the ruins themselves aren't easy to find. Moreover, even if we manage to locate any, there's no guarantee that we'll find large objects like warships."

"Who knows?" Wang Teng was just throwing out ideas.

He noticed that the ship's interior was completely done in a contemporary style; he could hardly sense any ancient decor.

"Looks like they've done some redesign," the hero lamented.

"It's normal. You can't expect people to appreciate ancient clan aesthetics," Round Ball said.

"It's a pity we can't see the ancient designs."

"Go deeper. We might find sections with the original design."

Wang Teng nodded and complied.

They had just passed through a living and leisure area, with nothing of particular interest. He scanned the area using his Real Eye and found something interesting.

There was a slightly dim corridor with a touch of antiquity!

A thought crossed the hero's mind, and he took a step forward. He felt a chill sweep over his body all of a sudden. He noticed a staircase leading downwards appear before him after taking a few steps.

"We can go further down?" Round Ball was stunned. "Let's go and take a look," said the little one.

Wang Teng proceeded down the stairs; each step reverberated in the vast, empty space.

"I hope we don't find any strange things like ancient ghosts down there," Round Ball said.

"Why is an intelligent lifeform like you afraid of that?" The hero felt at a loss.

"I'm not afraid. I'm just worried you'd be afraid," the other replied nervously, feeling guilty.

"Thank you. No need to worry about me; I'll beat those ghosts if I have to," Wang Teng said angrily.

He reached the bottom of the staircase while they spoke. He looked around and noticed something, then quickly walked towards a metallic wall.

"This is..." The little helper was amazed.

There were ancient rune engravings on the wall. It was the first time seeing the like for our hero; he found them profoundly intricate and complex.

Just a few glances and he already felt dizzy and overwhelmed.

His expression changed somewhat, then he quickly shook his head and looked away, feeling astonished.

"Wang Teng, this seems to be the ship's core," Round Ball said.

"The core should be behind this wall. Look, there's a door right there." Wang Teng pointed at a corner.

"You're right!" The little one nodded in deep thought.

"These must be Paleo Clan runes." The hero tried once more to check the engraved wall.

"These ancient runes are mysterious." The little helper was dumbstruck. It quickly looked away, only daring to analyze the cyphers a short while.

Wang Teng frowned and looked around, noticing that only that particular wall had those runic adornments, which emanated a sense of ancient wisdom and times of yore.

That section had been left untouched, keeping its original look.

Suddenly, his gaze turned sharp.

—An attribute bubble seeped out of the carved wall.

This place can drop attribute bubbles! Wang Teng was shocked. He swiftly collected them with spiritual power.

Ancient Runes*10

...

In Wang Teng's mind—intricate runes were manifested, shimmering with a golden hue, as if sketched with spiritual power. However, they quickly dissipated, transforming into a profound realization that merged into his memory.

He closed his eyes to receive the associated enlightenment.

He opened his eyes a moment later. There seemed to be fleeting glimpses of golden symbols within his pupils, flashing by and disappearing in an instant.

So these are the ancient runes! Wang Teng had a deeper understanding of their nature.

He had barely received ten points of the attribute, but that was enough to turn the switch on inside him. This enabled him with the capability of understanding the symbols, unlike before when he was completely ignorant on the subject.

Now, he no longer felt as dizzy when looking at the wall full of runes.

Furthermore, there were even two specific runes he could now comprehend and glean their meaning.

He was a rune master to begin with, making his rune discernment superior to that of the normal person. Now, adding some ancient knowledge, his perception grew even deeper.

"Wang Teng, why are you daydreaming?" Round Ball's voice pulled him back into reality.

The former shook his head and replied, "Nothing. I'm just wondering if these ancient runes are connected to the runes we have in modern times."

He didn't reveal the fact that he acquired the related attribute. It was hard to explain such things.

"It's possible," Round Ball mused, "I've heard that modern runes evolved from the ancient ones. They are in fact a simplified version."

"A simplified version?!" Wang Teng frowned. He was stunned.

"But these are just rumors. There's no definitive information available." The small helper shook its head. Seemingly done with exploring it said, "We probably can't access the core area. Let's go."

"What's the rush? Let me take a closer look." Wang Teng paused and continued to gaze at the stone wall. He wanted to see if more attribute bubbles would pop up.

"Why do you want to look when you don't understand them?" Round Ball was puzzled by the hero's decision.

"What if I suddenly understand something?" The hero flashed a meaningful smile.

"If you can do that... I'll bark like a dog," said the little one, reinforced with an eye roll.

"You were the one who said it." Wang Teng smiled, thinking that the latter had dug its own grave.

"Yes, I said it," Round Ball said confidently.

"I've recorded everything you said. Wait and see." Wang Teng laughed. He swept his spiritual power and collected another attribute bubble.

Ancient Runes*5

...

A gleam of excitement flickered in his eyes. The hypothesis was proven: the wall was capable of producing attribute bubbles.

It was a special wall!

A wall capable of dropping attribute bubbles! This was extraordinary.

Wang Teng became extremely curious about what was on the other side of the wall. However, no matter how much he tried with his Real Eye, he couldn't see what was beyond it.

He could raise the level of his analyzing skill, but that would undoubtedly exhaust a lot of his Blank Attributes. He didn't feel it was worth it.

He stood in front of the wall for the following half hour and collected more bubbles. In the end he managed to accumulate sixty-five points for the Ancient Runes' stat. His grasp of the old symbols was greatly increased.

Chapter 1643: Your Expression Seems Weird... (1)

Ancient Runes: 65/1000 (foundation)

Wang Teng glanced at his attributes board. His Ancient Runes mastery had reached the foundation stage.

Now he was able to comprehend a small portion of the runes whenever he looked at them.

The feeling of dizziness had lessened further.

Round Ball noticed something amiss. The longer his master stared at the wall, the more appalled it was.

Is Wang Teng really able to comprehend Ancient Runes?

This guy is cheating again!

This was not the first time happening. Whenever the little helper felt that something was impossible, the young hero made it possible.

Wang Teng furrowed his brow, realizing that the symbols were indeed profound and difficult to grasp. Just the foundation stage alone required a thousand points. Mind you, he only had sixty-five points at the moment.

However, it was surprising to find that the runes stat was appearing as a separate category on the board, as if unrelated to the attributes of a rune master.

The Ancient Runes element was considered as a separate component altogether.

Of course, Wang Teng's rune mastery was at the grandmaster stage; this implied that his cypher understanding had far surpassed that of an average rune master. That was an unchangeable fact.

Round Ball no longer urged the young man to leave. It now wanted to see how much the latter could comprehend.

Half an hour later, the hero shook his head and turned to leave.

"You're not looking anymore?" Round Ball asked.

"I'm done," said the former as he left in the same way he came.

Alas, the wall had stopped dropping attribute bubbles, so there was no use in staying any longer.

The little one asked after some hesitation.

The fellow didn't find it strange, as it was impressive enough that Wang Teng could resist for so long.

"I comprehended a little," he replied casually.

Round Ball took a deep breath, feeling stimulated.

This fellow is definitely not normal!

"What do the ancient runes on the wall mean?" the helper asked curiously.

"It's a protective and isolating runic array, with much greater effectiveness than our current rune sets. However, I only understood a small portion of it." Wang Teng shook his head in the end.

"Protection and isolation? Kind of what I was guessing." Round Ball thought for some time and asked, "Can you understand more of those symbols?"

"I need more examples. That wall alone is not enough," Wang Teng said.

"You're right. The ancient runes shown on the wall aren't that many. It's already impressive that you were capable of deciphering some of them. It's definitely easier to comprehend and extrapolate when there's a larger number of runes; this would help us understand the meaning and implications behind them."

Wang Teng blinked and nodded. "Meaning and implications?"

The thing on the other side of the wall had to be the main reason why it could drop attribute bubbles.

The hero returned to his room, choosing to end the exploration for the moment. He locked himself in the cultivation room and started to meditate.

He was well aware of his strengths. The system had allowed him to achieve a well-rounded development; he also acquired a wide array of battle techniques.

Since his cultivation stage couldn't be improved for the moment, he shifted his focus to his battle techniques and domains.

Universe and eternal stage battle techniques could be used to tackle normal talents, but they were definitely insufficient for the geniuses in the Stellar Academies.

If our hero wanted to defeat someone of a higher stage, he would need powerful moves at the eternal stage or above.

He had a few extremely powerful ones: Ancient God's Body, Godslayer Sword Scripture, Huang Heaven Blade, The Twelve Tyrant Swords.

There was shock after carefully assessing his stock, since he had four techniques of divine level!

He also had his self-created Space Tornado!

Its power was definitely on par with the other techniques.

The ones of the tornado series were also good, but they weren't as strong as the Space Tornado.

He couldn't increase the first four's level unless he used his blank attributes. However, the hero was planning to keep them for his breakthrough to the cosmos stage.

Once he broke through to the cosmos stage, he foresaw that he would be completely different from ordinary warriors.

Thus, he shifted his attention to his tornado series.

Those include the Blade-Sword Tornado, Snowstorm Tornado, Firestorm Tornado, Lightning Tornado, and Space Tornado.

Those moves were incredibly powerful as they were. The hero wondered what kind of transformation would take place if he were to combine them.

He felt excited just by thinking about it.

Wang Teng's gaze shimmered as he decided to give it a try.

He raised a hand; the lightning and wind Force surged from his body. They gathered and combined in his palm, forming a mini Lightning Tornado.

Thunder crackled and echoed within the cultivation room, accompanied by a deep rumbling.

The mini tornado was only palm-sized but the power it contained was nothing to sneeze at.

The hero didn't want to cause damage to the warship if he released a larger-sized tornado. Hence, he made a mini one.

Moreover, he wanted to fuse the two powers. Success on the first try wasn't certain; there was a risk of producing a massive explosion upon failure, potentially unleashing an even more astonishing force.

Once the mini Lightning Tornado was formed, he started to add ice Force.

An intense repulsion force was immediately produced. The power of lightning was overwhelmingly dominant; incorporating another Force into the already formed tornado was a challenge.

It was especially the case when using the equally powerful ice Force.

Suddenly, a violent power erupted from the vortex, causing a drastic explosion.

Wang Teng's expression changed a bit. He released the mini-tornado and darted out of the cultivation room.

Boom!

The entire cubicle vibrated as a violent explosion took place within.

Fortunately, his foresight paid off. It would have been perilous to release a bigger tornado.

The aftershock gradually subsided. Wang Teng reentered the room and tried again.

He closed his eyes and pondered for a moment, recalling the details of the previous merging, trying to identify the cause of failure.

An idea popped in his mind. I instilled the fire, metal, and wind origins into the Space Tornado when I fought in the League of Talents, but nothing bad happened.

His eyes opened with an abrupt motion, knowing what he should change.

He extended his palm once again, but this time he didn't unleash a Lightning Tornado. Instead, he released a miniature Space Tornado, even smaller than the previous attempt.

This vortex was in fact several times more powerful than the other.

The cultivation room could withstand eternal stage attacks, but it was better to be careful.

Furthermore, his choice would help him economize the use of his Force reserves, and could make more experiments this way.

The miniature Space Tornado took shape, and the hero gradually began to infuse it with the power of lightning. The spatial power exhibited some resistance at first, but the repulsion wasn't as strong as before. The space element soon took the dominant position, and the lightning power was on par with the wind power.

The hero's eyes lit up. He controlled the three powers and slowly merged the lightning power.

It can be done. Wang Teng heaved a sigh of relief after some time.

There was no explosion this time. The three powers coexisted in a peculiar state of balance.

The power of space was acting as the leader, while the powers of wind and lightning were like its subordinates. They existed in harmony.

"Continue!" Showing determination, he manifested ice power, and gradually merged it into the existing combination.

The emergence of a fourth power disrupted the existing balance. Lightning was the first power to react, furiously resisting the new element.

The newfound understanding helped the young expert to immediately harness the power of space to suppress the insurgent lightning.

That way, both ice and lightning were subdued by the power of space.

Of course, the process wasn't as simple as it sounded. Time and effort were needed to ensure that the four different powers kept a balance.

The integration took half an hour this time. Wang Teng finally heaved a sigh of relief.

The formerly conflicting ice and lightning could be vaguely seen inside the tornado.

Wang Teng blinked and the fire Force appeared on his other hand. He wondered if he should add it, given that ice and fire were opposing elements, and the new addition could trigger another turbulence.

He gritted his teeth after a moment of hesitation.

The fire element was a powerful attacking Force. He wanted to use his divine flames in the future, so he couldn't ignore it.

The fire in his left hand gradually approached the vortex. The hero felt a bit nervous.

The next second—the fire Force was completely merged with the tornado.

Bang!

A loud explosion was heard and Wang Teng's expression changed somewhat. He quickly threw the vortex away, rushed out of the cultivation room and swiftly closed the door behind him. The series of actions were executed with remarkable fluidity.

The turbulence within the cultivation room lasted for a long time.

Even though it was just a miniature tornado, there was a qualitative change after fusing various Forces. There was an immense power increase.

A figure suddenly appeared behind the hero. The person stared at the cultivation room curiously and asked, "What are you doing?"

"Instructor Sikong!" Wang Teng jumped in fright. Turning around, he saw the old expert. He didn't expect that his actions would disturb the senior, so he awkwardly said, "Ah, it's nothing. I was just trying out a self-created skill!"

The expert had a sudden thought. "Was that the move you used to defeat the Crown Prince back in the League of Talents?"

"Yes," Wang Teng nodded. He didn't hide the fact.

"That move is powerful." Sikong the Second sized up the young earl in astonishment, "I didn't know it was a self-created move."

"Just a series of coincidences," Wang Teng replied humbly.

The elder touched his chin and asked, "I noticed space power in that move. Do you have the talent to harness space Force?"

"Yes." The young one nodded.

"Space talent is rare and special. I'm afraid only a few individuals possess special talents that can compare to yours, even those found in the Seven Stellar Academies." The old fellow sighed.

"Instructor, are there many people with special talents in the campuses?" Wang Teng's eyes lit up.

Sikong the Second looked at him curiously. "Your expression seems a little weird."

"You must be mistaken," the young hero replied with an earnest expression.

Chapter 1644: Endless Tornado!

"Really?" Sikong the Second gave Wang Teng a meaningful glance.

"You probably imagined it," the young hero said.

"There are indeed many geniuses with special talents in the Seven Stellar Academies. They're all extremely powerful, so you shouldn't provoke them." The wizened senior didn't dwell on the matter.

"Great!" The young one was elated.

"What did you say?"

Great?

Shouldn't new students like him feel a little apprehensive when they hear such things?

Why does Wang Teng seem a little excited?

"I mean, the Stellar Academies must be interesting since there are many talents," the young hero said.

"You're quite an interesting fellow. It's been a while since I last saw a student like you." The senior smiled.

"Instructor, if there's nothing else, I'll be going back to cultivate."

Sikong the Second waved a hand. "No problem, go ahead."

Wang Teng went straight back to the cultivation chamber and resumed his tornado technique's amalgamation.

Sikong The Second stood outside the cultivation chamber and extended his perception to read the fluctuations of Forces within. A glimmer of excitement appeared in his eyes.

He was looking forward to the hero's self-created move.

Inside the cultivation chamber—Wang Teng blinked and pondered for a moment. He continued his experimentation and began infusing the power of lightning into the Space Tornado.

The power of ice and fire appeared on his left hand. The two forces became intertwined and gradually merged, reaching an equilibrium.

All the different Forces in Wang Teng's body had attained a certain balance. This had given him some insights on the matter.

This process was undoubtedly easier than the previous fusion with the Space Tornado, because there weren't other interfering forces.

Wang Teng didn't add the fused powers into the Tornado immediately.

He was going to fuse more Forces.

Next was water.

However, the instant it was added, both ice and fire Forces started raging. They exploded.

It was another failure!

He had to pause and contemplate, realizing that brute force alone wouldn't suffice to merge the various tornados. He needed to experiment and reflect simultaneously, identifying any potential issues that might arise during the process.

If not, he would keep on failing.

After a moment, he suddenly realized where his mistake was. No, my approach was wrong from the beginning!

His gaze turned sharp as he immediately dissipated the mini vortex in his right hand and released his five basic element Forces; they formed a balanced energy sphere in his hand.

The five elements generated and restrained one another.

For this very reason, merging them simultaneously allowed them to reach an equilibrium, continuously circulating and sustaining each other.

"It's too ugly!" Wang Teng muttered to himself. He changed the ball made of Forces into a multicolored lotus flower, each Force being a petal.

At the center, a golden stalk was formed from spiritual power, which maintained the overall balance.

Executing the Space Tornado needed the use of his spiritual power.

Stabilizing the five Forces also needed the latter. It worked as the belt binding them together.

Next were the lightning and ice Forces.

He sent the two into the five-colored lotus flower.

The merging process was extremely smooth once he found the crux.

The added pair created two more petals outside the lotus. They were purple and ice blue in color.

A seven-colored lotus flower appeared before his eyes.

Indeed, it worked!

Wang Teng was elated. His approach was the right one.

He wasn't in a hurry to merge his Forces into the tornado, but he managed to bind them using their internal circulation as reference. Then, he finally transformed them into a tornado.

"Since I've already reached this point, I shall go all the way."

There was a slight movement within Wang Teng's heart as he mobilized the poison and light Forces in his body. He also sent them to the seven-colored creation, gradually transforming them to make an additional pair of petals, their colors also different.

The seven-colored lotus was turned into a nine-colored lotus.

Except for dark Force, he used all the other Forces in his arsenal.

"Perfect!" Wang Teng looked at the nine-colored plant floating before him and nodded with satisfaction. He felt a high sense of accomplishment as he admired his own masterpiece.

There was a tremendous amount of energy brewing inside his creation. He could make the thing explode if he wanted it to, transforming it into an incredibly terrifying means of attack.

However, that was just the beginning.

Wang Teng's expression turned grim. He gradually manifested the Space Tornado.

In one hand, he held the nine-colored lotus, while the other held the miniature vortex.

He took a deep breath and cautiously placed his hands together.

Boom!

A deep rumbling sound rang as the two manifestations gradually merged.

Wang Teng stared at the vortex while holding his breath. He was filled with anticipation.

He was also ready to retreat if any accidents occurred.

However, the possible crisis didn't take place. The Space Tornado calmed down, with the nine-colored lotus circling slowly inside. It became... the tornado's core.

A suffocating and dreadful aura permeated the surroundings!

Success!

Wang Teng was overjoyed. He almost crushed the ominous vortex in his hand out of excitement.

Fortunately, he managed to keep his emotions in check. He took a deep breath and calmed down.

He kept admiring the small tornado in his hand. The more he looked at it, the more satisfied he felt.

That was his final approach.

The several fused energies working as the core became a hidden threat within the vortex.

He didn't need to merge them completely into the Space Tornado. They only needed to exist in another form.

In the event of a fight, he could merge the core with the outer vortex and make it explode right at the last moment.

There would be no need to control the tornado at that point. The raging energy inside would become the most potent weapon against the enemy, while being the essence of the storm itself.

Shall I test how powerful it is right here? the hero wondered.

He looked around inside the cultivation room. The place was inscribed with arrays capable of withstanding attacks even from eternal stage warriors.

His conjured tornado was a miniature version, and thus the power was limited. It wouldn't be as powerful as an eternal stage attack; he didn't have to worry.

He pushed his palm forward and the tornado was thrown away.

A low shout was uttered by the hero, "Explode!"

The nine-colored lotus within the Space Tornado was disintegrated. The stalk made of spiritual power fell and the nine-colored core lost its equilibrium; it immediately transformed into nine different streams of energy that swept through the storm.

Boom!

It was a terrifying explosion.

It was clear that the different Forces—such as ice, fire, lightning, and more—were all rapidly spinning and merging into the storm, all of it in an incredible manner.

Moreover, influenced by the metal Force, beams of sword and blade projections emerged. Even the elements transmuted to create swords and blades.

Besides their original forms, there was an added sharpness.

That was the Blade-Sword Tornado's essence.

If the hero wanted to merge his tornado series, he would need to integrate the essence of each storm, not just their superficial aspects.

It was obvious that he had succeeded.

He didn't leave the cultivation room. He stood on the spot and observed the tornado's transformation. This helped the young hero to guess the attack's power.

Boom!

Just then, the tornado exploded, producing a terrifying backlash.

The air became distorted at the center of the explosion. Thin dimensional rifts were formed.

This was astonishing!

Mind you, Wang Teng had only created a miniature version of the attack, and its power would be limited. And yet, it still managed to create dimensional rifts.

At the same time—Sikong the Second looked towards Wang Teng's cultivation room in bewilderment.

What did I just sense?

Ten different Forces!

Metal, wood, water, fire, earth, wind, lightning, poison, ice, and light!

There were indeed ten different Forces.

This young fellow grasped all these Forces.

The elder was flabbergasted, and couldn't help but curse, F**k, pervert!

Inside the cultivation room.

Wang Teng had manifested a Force shield around him, ensuring he wouldn't be hurt by the tornado's effects.

The smile on his face grew wider when he sensed the fluctuations on his Force protective shield.

The hero was truly satisfied with the results of the fusion.

If I execute the attack fully, I should be able to kill a universe stage warrior, right? Wang Teng wondered.

Apart from its tremendous power, the most significant aspect of the improved Space Tornado was the abundance of Forces contained within. The power of lightning, ice, fire, and even poison had turned it into an unstoppable force that was difficult to defend against.

Some fighters could resist one or two Forces, but could they resist nine of them?

Wang Teng was essentially cheating!

Still, he had the capability to do so. Others would have no chance to do the same, even if they wanted to.

This is just the initial fusion. I can incorporate tribulation power, divine flames, Nether Frost, Netherworld Water, and other special powers. I may even tap into origin powers. Only then can I truly harm a universe stage warrior. The young hero was well aware of the move's potential. Relying solely on merging Forces wouldn't be enough to defeat truly powerful warriors. At best, it could deal with cosmos-stage opponents.

Round Ball was appalled.

The fellow had been observing all this time, keeping mum to avoid disturbing the young hero.

Now, after seeing the tornado's power, it was finally unable to hold back.

"What a terrifying strength!"

"It's all right!" Wang Teng smiled. "This is just an experiment. I haven't executed it to its full force."

The little one nodded in agreement. Having seen the previous tornado, it noticed the changes.

"Still, I can't call it Space Tornado anymore." He was in deep thought, wondering what name to give it.

He thought for a long time but had no idea.

Indeed, he was weak when it came to giving names.

"Round Ball, do you have any good suggestions?"

"Why not call it Endless Tornado?" the little one suggested.

"Endless Tornado!" Wang Teng's eyes lit up with a smile. "Not bad. Let's call it that."

Chapter 1645: The Void Torrent Belt!

The Endless Tornado's success left Wang Teng overjoyed.

That was his most powerful offensive technique thus far!

No, it might still be his most powerful offensive technique in the future!

The move would continue to become stronger as his own strength grew.

This would be so when his origin powers became stronger!

It would rise whenever the level of his Space Physique improved!

This would also happen whenever he found more unique items, like divine flames, the Nether Frost, and the Netherworld Water!

The power of his Endless Tornado would multiply!

Wang Teng had a vague idea. If he managed to instill the power of time to the Endless Tornado... what kind of qualitative transformation would it undergo?

It was hard to imagine.

The hero didn't have an inkling of the ultimate power this battle technique could achieve.

The potential was limitless!

Such was his evaluation of the Endless Tornado.

The sheer joy made him want to laugh out loud. To think he created such a powerful battle technique!

He was amazing!

However, Round Ball was right there, so he kept a serious expression, appearing calm and unaffected, as if it were no big deal.

As expected, his response left the little one at a loss, feeling that it couldn't understand Wang Teng anymore.

After completing the current advancement of his tornado, the hero thought for some time and decided to switch and study another battle technique, or rather, a divine ability.

It was the World Devourer ability of the Devouring Nihilism Beast!

Based on Nihilism's memories, this divine talent was incredibly terrifying, as it could engulf any and all objects!

He didn't have time to examine it in the past, or to properly develop it.

There was one time when he executed the Dark Devour Domain during the League of Talents, after the Crown Prince was in a devilized form. Such a technique contained the power of devouring inside.

This power wasn't as powerful as the World Devourer move, but it was also terrifying.

Thanks to that test he finally started to give the divine ability some attention.

World Devourer could become frightening if he developed it along with a domain.

It wouldn't just devour 'food' to replenish himself; it would also become a mysterious and unpredictable attack method.

The universe stage warrior he fought with in the past was trapped in the Devouring Space because of this divine ability.

Oh right, speaking about him, the hero suddenly remembered that the fellow was still there.

Indeed, it wasn't easy to kill a universe stage warrior. Even then, he had yet to be completely devoured.

He didn't understand experts of that level, so he thought that the Devour Nihility Beast's power was enough to completely devour the fellow.

However, from the looks of it, unless Nihility reached the heaven stage or even stronger, it would be unable to easily consume the other party.

Wang Teng sensed that the warrior had used some method to seal his origin, limiting his exhaustion, even in the Devouring Space. He was able to hold on for a long time.

The situation was regrettable. The young hero was looking forward to obtaining more treasures from the expert.

Of course, being able to suppress a universe stage warrior was enough to prove the terrifying nature of the Devouring Nihility Beast.

Boom!

A loud explosion interrupted Wang Teng's thoughts.

"What happened?" He was surprised.

"Let's go out and take a look," Round Ball said.

The hero nodded and walked out of the cultivation room to reach the warship's lobby.

Sikong the Second looked at him and smiled. "Don't worry. Our warship has already left the Liuguang Territorial Domain where the Great Qian Empire is located."

Wang Teng was surprised. "The Liuguang Territorial Domain?!"

"Looks like you're unfamiliar with the world outside the Great Qian," said the elder.

The young man nodded. He searched through Nihility's memories and finally understood what a territorial domain was. He was shocked.

Sikong the Second also expounded on the subject. "A territorial domain is a vast collection of stellar domains. The human race has found 136 territorial domains, which are exceptionally vast.

"The Liuguang Territorial Domain is one amongst the 136, and the Great Qian Empire is but one of the factions inside it. Considering all existing factions, they are within the top three in terms of strength."

"136 territorial domains!" Wang Teng compared it with the information in his memory and his surprise grew.

The vastness of the universe stretched far beyond the limits of human comprehension, and the Great Qian Empire was just a tiny speck within it. Even the Liuguang Territorial Domain was just a small component of the whole.

"Going beyond humanity's area of influence, there are domains of other unique races." Sikong the Second allowed the young hero to process the information before he continued, "There are many domains that are still unknown to us. The universe is boundless, and humans have yet to fully explore its depths."

The elder glossed over the subject, not wanting to go into detail.

As for Wang Teng, the memories he had just retrieved made him realize that the instructor's words weren't baseless. There were indeed countless domains beyond humanity's 136 territories, and they weren't any weaker in comparison.

For instance, the Mecha Territorial Domain, owned by the Mecha Race.

There were mecha races like An Lan in the Great Qian Empire, but they were rare. Similarly, humans could also exist in the Mecha Territorial Domain.

That was the real home of the Mecha Race. They thrived there and all the race variants were powerful.

Humans had ventured into the territory to train, but their understanding of the Mecha Race was limited. They were a mysterious bunch.

The Mecha domain was an extremely mysterious place in the entire universe.

Another example was the Solar Dragon Territorial Domain.

That was a place controlled by the Solar Dragon race. Naming a territorial domain after a race proved how powerful the latter was.

Wang Teng frowned, suddenly realizing that the Solar Dragon Race was more troublesome than expected.

How could he compete with them, when they controlled an entire domain?

The corpse of the Solar Dragon Race expert he had acquired earlier was like a ticking bomb, ready to bring him major trouble at any moment.

The only information he had in the past was that their kind was a mighty force in the universe. He didn't expect them to be that powerful.

This was the downside of going over the Devour Nihility Beast's memories. The creature was a formidable existence, so it didn't hold much regard for the Solar Dragon Race. That was the reason why it registered those dragons as insignificant.

And the hero took the information at face value, stupidly so.

He only realized how terrifying they were after the comparison.

Heavens!

Wang Teng felt regretful.

But, it was too late.

The joy of taking advantage was directly proportional to the misery experienced later.

His frustration kept growing, and could only sigh.

"What happened?" Round Ball asked.

"Round Ball, I suddenly feel that my life is filled with darkness," the hero said.

"Are you crazy?" The little one asked with a strange expression. "The universe is vast, but given your talent, you're capable enough to rival against their top geniuses. Don't feel discouraged."

"It has nothing to do with them. I just remembered something troublesome." Wang Teng shook his head.

"Tell me about it." The little helper was surprised.

"Forget it, I won't talk about it. I'm afraid you'd lose sleep because of it," the other replied.

Round Ball: ...

Why are you keeping me in the dark when you've already said so much?!

Are you purposely trying to make me feel uncomfortable?

The hero's unwillingness to speak made the little one even more curious. It kept pestering the former.

In the end, he relented. "Do you remember the Solar Dragon Race's corpse?"

"I see." Round Ball was enlightened. It smiled and continued, "That might be troublesome, but don't worry. The Solar Dragon Race is arrogant; they wouldn't bully a junior. Only members of your same age would come looking for you."

"Really?" Wang Teng's eyes lit up.

"Of course." Round Ball stared at him weirdly. "Were you thinking you'd be forced to be on the run?"

Wang Teng coughed awkwardly and said, "No way. I'm just thinking I would need to lay low in the Seventh Stellar Academy and cultivate for a few hundred years until I became invincible if there aren't other options. Only then would I come out."

The little one was stunned.

What kind of thoughts is this? What is he thinking?

Does he think he can become invincible by cultivating in secret for a few hundred years?

I don't believe it!

"Actually, it's not a bad idea!" Wang Teng touched his chin.

"What are you saying? You'll become useless if you stay in the academy for a few hundred years," said the angry helper.

"You don't understand. Staying hidden is a deep and profound skill," the hero said.

Round Ball: ...

Deep and profound skill?

Only Wang Teng had the ability to make a timid act sound so refreshing and righteous.

The conversation was brief, taking place in their minds. Right then, Sikong the Second waved a hand and activated the panoramic simulation. The boundless universe appeared in the air.

Right before them was a strange-looking 'river'.

"What's that?" Wang Teng was attracted by it.

"That's the Void Torrent Belt!" said the little one in the hero's mind, the tone grim.

At the same time—the instructor also offered an answer.

"The Void Torrent Belt!"

Wang Teng looked ahead, astonished.

It was like a river dotted with countless celestial bodies, with neither an evident beginning nor an end. It was a spectacular sight.

"Void torrent belts exist between the various territorial domains like natural barriers. They have various celestial bodies, complex energy currents and unknown life forms inside, making it extremely dangerous," the instructor explained.

"When did these void torrent belts appear?" said the hero in a stern voice. He used his Real Eye to inspect the belt, but realized that he could barely see up to a kilometer in depth. This was incredible.

Sikong the Second blinked and said in a meaningful tone, "No one knows when they appeared. Some say they were naturally formed, while others say they were made by invincible warriors. There's no clear answer."

Chapter 1646: Void Fishing! (1)

"The belts were formed by invincible martial warriors? How powerful must they be to create such terrifying things?" Wang Teng was flabbergasted.

"No one knows." Sikong the Second shrugged.

"Not even instructors like you know?" the hero exclaimed in astonishment.

"Only those in the top tier would know about the secrets of the universe," said the elder with an ambiguous gaze.

Wang Teng tried his best to calm down. He nodded in deep thought and left the matter to rest.

"Let's get moving. I stopped because I wanted to show you this place. The energy in the void torrent belt is too disorderly, and our warship can't enter the Dark Universe. We need to cross directly," said the instructor as the warship charged forward again.

Boom!

The next moment, the craft vibrated and entered the chaotic void torrent belt.

Wang Teng was inside the warship, but he could still feel the inertia. The ship's speed had decreased tremendously.

"Did you feel it?" Sikong the Second placed his hands behind his back and smiled.

The hero nodded.

"No one would venture the void belt with normal eternal level spacecrafts. Special vessels are needed," said the elder, "But, that doesn't apply to us. These ancient warships handle the stress and collisions."

Wang Teng stuck out his tongue and asked, "What if an eternal level spacecraft enters the belt?"

The senior touched his chin. "The most likely outcome would be the ship being destroyed and the crew dying!"

The former was astounded. That would be the ending of an eternal level spacecraft? How frightening is this place?

"Come, let's go out and take a look." Sikong the Second smiled when he saw Wang Teng's expression.

The two went to the warship's upper deck. The ship's construction was different from that of a regular universe spacecraft. It was like a large, seafaring ship with an ancient style. The upper deck was the ship's actual control deck.

The hero followed the instructor. There was a transparent protective shield enveloping the whole ship like a bubble.

They later reached the edge of the ship. Sikong the Second signaled Wang Teng to look down.

"This is..." The hero widened his eyes in surprise.

"Did you see it?" the elder asked.

"Liquid energy? And it's not just originating from the different Forces. I feel like there are other types of energies present as well. It's very complex," Wang Teng said with a serious expression.

"You're right." The senior nodded. "The protective shields of ordinary spacecraft are easily pierced by such complex energy. If they can't get out in time, they can basically forget about getting out at all."

The young hero didn't know what to say, awed by the new information learned.

"If warships made by the ancient races can travel through the void torrent belt, does that mean the belt can be traced back to ancient times?" Wang Teng asked all of a sudden, his mind racing.

"Your mind does spin quite fast," Sikong The Second said, looking at him in surprise. "According to historical records, it does date back to an ancient period, but the specific time is unclear."

Wang Teng stayed silent. He stared at the void torrent belt with shimmering eyes.

The universe was a mysterious place with myriads of unimaginable existences, and the void torrent belt they were traversing was just one of them.

He wanted to explore it, but he didn't have the ability to do so.

Sikong the Second brought out two fishing rods all of a sudden. "Let's fish!"

"What???" Wang Teng thought he heard wrong. He stared blankly at his instructor who was holding the two rods at the moment. "Here?!"

"Yes. You might have some unexpected gains. Want to try?" The expert smiled.

"Instructor, you seem to be gloating," the hero asked curiously.

"How's that possible? I'm your instructor. Why would I trick you? You're making me sad," Sikong the Second said.

Wang Teng stared at him and finally took the fishing rod.

He didn't mind fishing.

Also, he was curious about the things he could fish out in the void torrent belt.

Round Ball was also curious. "Your instructor is interesting. The void torrent belt is scary, so others would want to pass through it as quickly as possible. Even so, he brought you here to fish."

"Instructor Sikong is a little unreliable," Wang Teng thought to himself.

"Hahaha..." Round Ball burst out laughing.

"Watch carefully!" abruptly said the elder.

Wang Teng squinted and he quickly looked over. Sikong the Second flicked his fishing rod; the fishing line was shot outward, smoothly passing through the ship's protective shield and straight into the liquid energy below.

The process was no different from normal fishing.

"Don't you need bait for this?" Wang Teng noticed that no bait was used.

Isn't this a bit reckless? Can you really catch fish like this?

"Energy is the best bait. It all depends on whether your energy is tempting enough," Sikong the Second said.

"Energy?" The hero was enlightened.

"Why don't you try? You have many Forces, so there must be one the fishes would like," the instructor said.

"Are there really fishes below?" Wang Teng asked.

"Who cares what they are. Anything that takes the bait is a fish, right?" the senior replied.

"Instructor, you make sense." The young lad was too lazy to complain.

He stopped hesitating and threw the fishing line out, copying the instructor's movement.

However, his expression changed the next instant. A powerful suction force climbed up the fishing rod; his hand trembled and he almost lost his grip.

Chapter 1647: Void Fishing! (2)

Wang Teng truly realized how scary the void torrent belt was. The currents below their ship were rapid and complex, with a strange and immense liquid energy floating within.

Some special energies even surged up along the fishing line, which might cause serious injuries or even death.

Sikong the Second was startled. He wanted to witness the young hero's embarrassment but the latter managed to hold on. The elder chuckled and said, "Be careful. My fishing rod is expensive."

"You won't make me pay for it if I drop it, right?" Wang Teng exerted some force, gripping the fishing rod tightly.

Honestly, deep inside, he was a little nervous.

An artifact capable of fishing within the void torrent belt was undoubtedly extraordinary.

What if he dropped it and he couldn't pay for it?

Still, no matter how anxious he was, he wouldn't let others see it. He remained calm and composed on the surface.

The elder didn't answer. Instead, he smiled and said, "Why don't we have a competition? Let's see who can catch something of higher value. If you win, I'll owe you a reasonable favor. This condition might come in handy when you arrive at the Stellar Academy."

"Of course, if you lose, you'll have to owe me a favor."

"No problem." Wang Teng's eyes lit up.

He knew very little about the academy at the moment, but having a favor promised by an instructor would undoubtedly provide an additional layer of assurance.

Sikong the Second smiled after the other accepted. He turned to check the fishing rod he was holding, acting like a professional and serious angler.

He did look the part.

Wang Teng thought for a moment and realized that using the five basic Forces would probably not draw much attention. It would be better to use a special Force. However, seeing the elder's confident expression, that was probably not the safest choice.

One had to consider that the senior was an eternal stage warrior. To surpass him, the young hero realized he needed to catch the latter off guard.

A normal bait wasn't enough.

Maybe I should use origin power, he wondered. Then, he shook his head. No, an eternal stage warrior is also able to use origin power, and it's definitely stronger than mine.

So, what do I have that he doesn't?

Oh right! I have divine flames and the Heaven-Earth Calamity Lightning. I can use them as bait too, right?

Wang Teng wasn't certain but that didn't stop him from trying.

However, before he did that, he asked, "Instructor, what if the thing I attract is too scary?"

"You'll have to rely on yourself." Sikong the Second sniggered. "Are you expecting me to help you? Come on, we're having a competition here."

F**k! Wang Teng felt at a loss.

Both the Divine flames and the tribulation lightning were legendary items. It was highly possible that they would attract a particularly terrifying entity; it would be a wasted effort if he were unable to handle it.

I guess I can make a smaller bait. Wang Teng's eyes glistened. He stopped hesitating and released a wisp of tribulation lightning; it flowed down the fishing line and twirled around the hook at the end.

Honestly, it was just a little wisp. He wouldn't dare to release more as he was afraid of accidents.

The void torrent belt was unpredictable and mysterious, so it was better to play it safe.

"Huh?" Sikong the Second gasped. He noticed something and a hint of bewilderment flashed across his eyes.

However, he wasn't sure of it. That power was peculiar; it felt a little unreal. He wasn't sure if it was the same kind of power he was familiar with.

Wang Teng was giving him more and more surprises.

The fishing competition was becoming increasingly interesting.

The elder turned serious and infused a trace of origin power into the fishing line, which then disappeared into the void torrent belt.

The two of them stood on the deck and waited patiently.

Patience was crucial in fishing. A skilled angler had to keep a calm and composed demeanor.

After all, the prey could be somewhere close.

...

Time seemed to pass slowly, yet half a day flew by in the blink of an eye. Wang Teng and Sikong the Second had yet to catch something.

They engaged in casual conversation as they waited. The hero learned that it would only take them one day to travel through the void torrent belt.

This meant they only had half a day left.

Sikong the Second remained patient. He smiled at the young hero, but the latter's response disappointed him.

Even though he knew there wasn't much time left, Wang Teng showed no signs of impatience. Instead, he remained calm and indifferent, as if he didn't really care about the outcome of their competition.

"Aren't you going to add more bait? It may not attract any prey with such a small amount," the instructor said.

"No need to hurry. The willing ones will take the bait!" The hero chuckled lightly while giving the elder a fleeting glance. "As for you, instructor, it won't look good if you end up not catching anything. After all, you are the instructor."

The elder's expression froze.

Gosh, he managed to turn the tables on me.

"Hahaha, I've long passed the age of being overly competitive. I'm just here to have some fun with you. Winning or losing doesn't really matter." The elder laughed. "By the way, do you know why I'm called Sikong the Second?"

Wang Teng decided to play along. "Why?"

"I've been the first in everything since birth. No one has ever surpassed me in anything I do, so things became boring. I wanted to experience being second, and that's why I changed my name to Sikong the Second." The elder spoke with a touch of melancholy. "I'll be quite happy if you can make me lose just once, even if it's only in fishing."

Round Ball couldn't take it anymore and started complaining, "Wang Teng, your instructor is quite arrogant!"

The hero felt the same way. He wanted to give his instructor a thumbs up.

Changing his name was quite a remarkable move!

Why not call yourself Sikong Outstanding?

While the young man and his little helper complained—ripples suddenly appeared on the currents below.

"Hey, something took my bait." The elder's eyes lit up.

Wang Teng and Round Ball were startled. They immediately looked over, eyes fixed on the turbulent currents beneath them.

They were very curious about what the senior would catch.

The hero was only able to see a kilometer deep when peering into the void torrent belt while using his Real Eye. At first he couldn't make out what had taken the bait.

Sikong the Second slowly reeled in the line, pulling up whatever he caught.

This was easy for an eternal stage warrior. The suction force within the current seemed nonexistent to him.

The entity below got closer and closer; Wang Teng finally saw its true appearance. He was taken aback—

Bang!

The next instant, a black shadow jumped out of the liquid energy and darted out of the void torrent belt.

"Come here!" The elder chuckled and pulled his fishing rod. The black shadow was then pulled onto the deck.

The creature wanted to escape, but the elder suppressed it using a Force restraint.

"A silver-scaled yellowfish. Not bad!" The latter smiled as he looked at the fish on the deck.

"It's really a big fish!" The hero was surprised, finally able to see the catch.

The instructor caught a large yellowfish with a silver scaled patch on its forehead. About a meter long, the creature emitted a faint golden glow, which gave it a peculiar appearance.

From a Force chef grandmaster's standpoint, our hero felt that the fish had to be delicious.

"You can get fish, or it could be something else. It all depends on luck." Sikong the Second chuckled. "Boy, this silver-scaled yellowfish is a top grade ingredient. The flesh is delicious, but the best part is that consuming it can... enhance your beauty! It will fetch a high price in the Stellar Academies!"

"Enhance one's beauty?" Wang Teng couldn't help but facepalm, but he had to admit that the fish would be quite valuable.

"It's your turn now." The elder smiled and stored the fish. Once again, he threw his fishing line.

It seemed that luck was on his side. He managed to catch three more silver-scaled yellowfish half an hour later.

Two were the same size as the first one, but the third was more than three meters long.

"This three-meter fish can easily be sold at least ten times the price," the elder exclaimed happily.

Wang Teng found his smile a little disturbing for some reason. He felt that his instructor didn't just plan to exchange the fish for money.

- Chapter 1648: The Turbulent Void Whirlpool!

Chapter 1648: The Turbulent Void Whirlpool!

Sikong the Second caught three fishes in succession; on the other hand, Wang Teng had nothing thus far.

There were less than two hours left, and the ship would soon leave the void torrent belt.

"Little Teng, you're going to lose!" The elder gloated.

"Instructor, I'm sure you've fished here more than just once," the hero replied calmly.

"Ahahahaha, what are you talking about? I don't understand what you're saying." The senior laughed awkwardly.

Wang Teng rolled his eyes but didn't press on the matter.

He was considering whether to add some extra bait. He didn't want to lose.

Although risky, there was no other choice. He could only give it a try.

Sikong the Second smiled when he saw the young hero like that.

He was eager to see what the latter would do. The most dangerous part about void fishing was not knowing what you would catch.

If not managed properly, the angler might very well become the prey instead.

In the end, Wang Teng decided to wait a little longer. The void torrent belt was unpredictable; just the flux of currents below was enough to keep him occupied.

He would be toast if he encountered something difficult to deal with!

Time flew.

Half an hour passed. The hero suddenly focused his gaze.

Even the instructor became serious for a moment as he looked towards the left.

There was a turbulent whirlpool with chaotic energies; it seemed extremely violent.

The warship immediately steered clear of the area, but the pair still felt a tremor coming from the ship's hull.

It was clear that the craft was resisting the whirlpool's pull.

While the turbulent vortex shocked the hero, he was happily surprised at the same time.

Attribute bubbles!

Wang Teng saw a few of those goodies floating above the whirlpool.

What a surprise!

He was truly amazed, not expecting to find attributes in the void torrent belt.

The young hero immediately tried to collect them.

However, an unexpected situation took place at the moment.

Just as his spiritual power approached the whirlpool, the wisp was pulled in severed, losing all contact.

Wang Teng's expression changed a bit. He couldn't believe it; his spiritual power was not working.

"This turbulent whirlpool is dangerous; even spiritual power can be pulled in." Sikong the Second smiled and said, "But you can try and see how far you can go."

The hero's eyes flashed as his spiritual power surged again. He sent more of it.

If his previous incursion was like a thin thread, now it was as thick as a rope.

Boom!

Wang Teng suddenly felt his mind shake as a powerful suction force came from within the whirlpool, traveling towards his spiritual power.

The sensation was overwhelming. The suction force was too great.

However, he still managed to pick up some attribute bubbles.

Time*20

Time*15

Space*250

Space*300

...

Wang Teng instantly felt a shiver run across his body. He was astonished.

Time and space attributes!

There were lots of them.

He managed to obtain thirty-five points of the time attribute.

The prior collecting rate in the past was one or two points. Never had he gotten dozens of points at one go.

Wang Teng was in disbelief while the unusual power circulated within him. His face almost revealed the surprise he felt.

Fortunately, he managed to control his emotions, not letting the instructor to notice.

Time: 565/10000

Space Physique: 4050/400000 (fourth-rank)

Wang Teng glanced at the attributes board.

The time attribute climbed slowly as usual. However, he could clearly feel that the stat's mastery reflected a slight improvement.

He didn't know what would happen when he reached the ten thousand marker. He could only endure and wait.

His current gains could at least provide him with some help now.

If he didn't have the time attribute when he faced Devil Emperor Bare Brain, the universe stage expert, he wouldn't have been able to fight against him. He would have been killed with just one slap, and he wouldn't have been able to unleash the Space Tornado.

As for his Space Physique, it remained at the fourth rank. The progress wasn't significant.

This constitution required more attribute points to advance as he progressed. Unless there were special circumstances, it would be difficult for him to make significant improvements.

Sikong the Second thought that the young hero had failed, so he asked with a smile, "Well? Do you want to try again?"

"Of course. I'm just getting started; I have to see how deep I can go." Wang Teng turned to glance at him, then released his spiritual power. The surge was still as thick as a rope, but now it was more condensed.

He did this only to buy time and see if he could collect more time attribute bubbles.

The attribute was too rare; he couldn't miss the opportunity to get some.

Of course, he was also genuinely curious about what laid on the other side of the whirlpool. Why was it generating time and space attributes?

He straight out sent his spiritual power into the whirlpool to investigate.

The prior attempts had obviously prepared him; he condensed half of his spiritual power into a single strand. However, the power was instantly crushed into pieces as soon as the power entered the whirlpool.

Wang Teng sighed and decided to stop trying.

Damn, this whirlpool is just a trap. It wasn't something he could touch at the moment.

However, just then, a few attribute bubbles emerged from the whirlpool, right before Wang Teng's eyes.

He raised an eyebrow and immediately collected them, losing another tenth of his spiritual power.

Time*25

Time*35

Space*500

Space*650

...

There actually more than before! His eyes lit up, truly surprised.

He had a sudden thought. Could it be that the attribute bubbles emerged because of the whirlpool's reaction to my spiritual power?

The more he thought about it, the more he felt that it was possible.

The undying flame in his heart lit up again.

Why not give it another try?

Just one more time!

The hero gauged his remaining spiritual power. There should be enough for one more.

Without hesitation, he immediately released the remaining spiritual power into the whirlpool.

Boom!

His spiritual power was obliterated!

Wang Teng glared intently at the whirlpool.

He rejoiced the next moment. As expected, several attribute bubbles emerged from the whirlpool.

Without thinking, he used his last trace of spiritual power and collected them.

Time*20

Time*30

Space*400

Space*450

...

The young hero was overjoyed after getting many attribute bubbles.

However, that was the end of it; he no longer had enough spiritual power to try again.

Three times was the limit, leaving him in bad shape. His spiritual power was shattered and almost used up. He could only focus on recovering slowly.

Fortunately, he was able to use his spiritual power to explore the whirlpool for a bit—

It would have been much more troublesome if he were just an ordinary martial warrior.

His gains were impressive. The amount of time attribute bubbles he collected was worth many days of farming.

His prior chances to collect the attribute were only when he stared into the Dark Universe while traveling in his spacecraft.

The methods were similar, but the whirlpool needed much less time and effort in comparison.

"How was it?" asked Sikong the Second.

The man thought that the hero was merely curious about the sudden maelstrom, unaware of the benefits the latter obtained. The fellow seemed to be teasing his junior.

"I didn't feel anything." Wang Teng pretended to be dejected.

"Hahaha..." The instructor laughed again, seemingly relishing the lad's defeat. "It's normal for young people to be curious. I understand."

"Laugh all you want!" The young hero rolled his eyes. Does he really think I enjoy doing useless things?

The instructor was too naive!

"All right. We should go." Sikong the Second waved a hand, and the warship started to escape the whirlpool's pulling influence.

Boom!

Just then, the young man's fishing rod sank all of a sudden; a wave surged from the currents below.

"It can't be!" The expert was taken aback.

"Hahaha, instructor, I caught something." Wang Teng was filled with joy.

It seemed that flowers wouldn't bloom when you want them to, but they did when you least expect it!

He tightly held onto his fishing rod while a tremendous force was pulling back, trying to take him down.

The instructor became serious as he cautioned, "Don't get too happy. Hold on tight."

Catching something near the whirlpool was very likely something of low value, but it would definitely be fierce.

Wang Teng naturally understood this and immediately used his Ancient God's body. A golden pattern appeared on his forehead.

Boom!

There was a terrifying surge of power coursing through his body. The muscles in his arms swelled; it wasn't to a dramatical degree, but they released unimaginable strength that rushed into the chaotic flow of the void along the fishing rod.

Never had the hero thought that one day he would use that mystic constitution to fish.

The people of the Ancient Gods' race would probably want to strangle him if they could see what he was doing.

Sikong the Second was standing right next to him, and immediately sensed the blood and energy coursing within the lad. He was astonished.

He had seen the young hero's performance during the League of Talents, but only from a distance; he didn't have such a clear sense of it back then.

That was why his astonishment was greater.

"What ancient race did this come from? It's so terrifying!" the instructor muttered to himself.

Wang Teng and the existence beneath the turbulent whirlpool engaged in a tug of war. The fishing line was constantly being extended and pulled back; neither could overpower the other for a while.

No one knew whether the fish would break free or if the hero would ultimately succeed.

Chapter 1649: Lightning Spirit! (1)

Wang Teng and the fish were at a deadlock.

Sikong the Second showed no signs of wanting to offer help. He just smiled and watched from the side.

The hero rolled his eyes. He felt that the instructor loved to tease others.

The fish moving in the void was more than a kilometer below, so he couldn't tell what it was.

He could only keep on increasing his strength. Even his arm muscles were writhing.

The Ancient God's Body was an incredibly powerful physical technique. All of Wang Teng's physical potential was unleashed, and a terrifying energy kept surging from his body.

Conventional techniques couldn't do this.

This was especially so given that the opponent was a presence beneath the void torrent belt. Ordinary celestial warriors would have been dragged down by the frightening pulling force from the very beginning.

Wang Teng turned grim. He noticed that, no matter how much force he exerted, the creature below continued to struggle wildly. The creature seemed unfamiliar with fatigue.

He couldn't go on like that.

He didn't know what creature he was struggling with, so he wouldn't know how long it could last.

What if it could last longer than him?

He needed to take care of it swiftly.

What if the creature was more powerful than him?

Those thoughts had already been discarded by the hero. He would drag it out first and then keep a safe distance. That way, he could still win.

Sikong the Second wouldn't allow the creature to destroy the warship, right?

Hahaha...

Wang Teng gave himself a thumbs up. I'm so smart~

Many thoughts went through his mind. Finally, his gaze landed on his attributes board.

Dragon Blood Battle Physique!

That was a physical talent that could be stacked with the Ancient God's Body. There was no doubt that the effects would be amazing.

This is it!

Activate!

Wang Teng immediately activated the dragon physique. Several types of divine flames became intertwined and formed a network of fiery patterns that covered his body.

However, the patterns didn't appear on his face or exposed skin.

Boom!

A powerful aura burst forth from his body, accompanied by a surge of scorching heat.

The instructor was standing at the side, so he felt the heat directly. The man felt that his new student became a little sun, glaring and scorching.

The heat produced by divine flames was no joke!

Furthermore, there were three divine flames and six special flames.

Emerald Glazed Flame! Soul of Thousand Beasts Flame! Holy Flame!

Ocean Whale Flame! Star Phoenix Flame! Scorching Beast Flame! Wood Polaris Flame! Ash Flame! Solar Dragon Flame!

Wang Teng didn't hold back. He unleashed them all.

If someone were to see the skin beneath his clothing, they could be horrified by the sight. The multitude of flame patterns covering his body resembled a totem of some primitive tribe, akin to that of a tribal chief.

Still, the result was also obvious.

The hero felt amazing. His body was filled with strength.

Ah!

He screamed in his heart and the power of the Dragon Blood Battle Physique and the Ancient God's Body erupted simultaneously. The resilient fishing rod was bent into an exaggerated arc, while the fishing line remained perfectly taut.

"My fishing rod!" Sikong the Second was nervous. He was afraid the lad would break his fishing rod with brute force.

He didn't expect such great strength to come from a celestial stage warrior.

What a monster!

Indeed, all the martial warriors able to enter the Star Rankings were monsters!

Wang Teng's eyes shone brightly as wisps of steam rose from his skin. He then shouted, "Come on up!"

Boom!

A black shadow emerged from the void torrent belt and flew towards the warship's deck.

With a bang, the black shadow pierced through the protective shield and slammed onto the deck.

The warship seems to have an automatic recognition system. It recognized the creature as the hero's prey, so it created a gap in the protective shield for the latter to pass through.

The unknown monster would suffer grave injuries if it crashed into the shield.

Any catch would drop in value if that happened.

However, Wang Teng didn't care. Once the creature was pulled up, he instantly jumped away and kept his distance.

Everything went according to plan.

Sikong The Second: ...

This young man is a little sneaky!

He felt amused by the lad's obvious intentions.

Wang Teng looked over from afar, his gaze filled with astonishment.

The situation didn't unfold as expected. The creature remained eerily quiet, not trying to struggle in the slightest.

This was completely different from what he was expecting.

The instructor was curious, too. He looked at the creature and exclaimed in shock when he saw what it was. "This is a... Lightning Spirit!"

"A Lightning Spirit!" Wang Teng walked over. He was flabbergasted by the revelation.

It was a lifeform born from the gathering of lightning and thunder, a manifestation of the wonders of nature.

Such beings were extremely rare, because their birth conditions were exceptionally demanding, somewhat similar to the divine flames and the Netherworld Water.

If divine flames were to attain intelligence, they could be referred to as Fire Spirits or Flame Spirits. They would become lifeforms just like that Lightning Spirit.

But, why was there a Lightning Spirit there?

And Wang Teng caught it?

This didn't make sense!

Mind you, this type of being was typically born in environments where the power of thunder and lightning were highly concentrated. Their current surroundings didn't seem like such a place.

Sikong the Second wasn't the only one in disbelief. Even the hero couldn't believe he had caught that spirit.

Chapter 1650: Lightning Spirit! (2)

The main question to answer was: if that was a Lightning Spirit, how could it lie so quietly on the deck? It should have been trying to escape by then.

Lightning Spirits were living creatures and wouldn't passively wait for their demise.

Wang Teng was looking intently at the creature, which resembled a silver-white ball; semi-transparent in appearance, with occasional glimpses of purple within. Overall, it looked... round, flattened, and quite bouncy.

The odd fellow remained still on the deck, seemingly lifeless.

However, the hero used his Real Eye and noticed that the creature possessed life origin. It was very likely alive.

An absurd thought appeared in his mind, Is it playing dead?

He asked curiously, "Instructor, is this really a... Lightning Spirit?"

"It should be." The instructor touched his chin and pondered. "But, it should be a newborn, so its lightning power is weak."

"I caught a Lightning Spirit then!" Wang Teng was startled.

"You're incredibly lucky. Lightning Spirits are legendary creatures, and I've never heard of anyone ever catching one in the void torrent belt. Moreover, judging by its appearance, this seems to be a newborn with great potential for cultivation." Sikong the Second turned to look at Wang Teng, unable to hide his envy, jealousy, and resentment.

It was an extremely rare creature. Even he was tempted.

"Hahaha, I've always been lucky." Wang Teng laughed.

It was tantamount to hitting the jackpot. Sikong the Second's favor became a bonus instead.

"Darn it! I wouldn't have competed with you had I known this before. Not only did I lose one favor, but you also ended up getting a precious Lightning Spirit for free," the instructor lamented with overt frustration, shaking his head. "You know, it's not easy to fish in the void torrent belt. You need a ship capable of traveling through it and a fishing rod able to resist the forces found here. These are not possessions ordinary people would have. I've just let you use them all for nothing. What a huge loss I've made!"

"Instructor, the more you say, the happier I feel." Wang Teng was overjoyed.

Sikong The Second blinked and said, "Kid, why don't you sell me the Lightning Spirit. I'll give you a good price."

"No way. You're an instructor, and an eternal stage warrior at that. You wouldn't do something unethical like snatching my Lightning Spirit, right?" The hero looked at the elder warily.

The elder swallowed the words he wanted to say.

If he kept asking for the creature, it would be an open admission of him being unethical.

He couldn't embarrass himself.

"Oh right, instructor, I won this competition, right?" Wang Teng asked.

Sikong the Second felt another stab in his heart. His heart was aching.

"Instructor, why aren't you speaking? Does your throat hurt?"

To hell with my throat hurting!

The elder was speechless. He snorted and replied angrily, "Yes, you won. I owe you a favor."

"Instructor, you truly are a person who keeps promises. I was right about you. I will make every effort possible to promote your virtues when I get to the academy." Wang Teng showered flattery without reservation, making the senior feel pleased and happy. All his previous frustration faded away.

The young hero suddenly remarked, "Instructor, since I beat you once you can rightfully be called Sikong the Second. Doesn't this make you happy?"

Splurt!

The instructor didn't want to speak to him anymore.

"Wang Teng, you're ruthless. Aren't you afraid he'll slap you to death?" Round murmured in Wang Teng's mind.

"Haha.. I'm sorry, I couldn't help myself. I felt like giving him a little taste of humble pie after seeing him act so arrogantly before." The lad chuckled in his heart.

"Be careful, he might give you a hard time once we get to the academy," the former warned.

"Don't worry. An eternal stage warrior should have a broader mindset. Don't judge others based on your own narrow perspective."

"F**k, am I a narrow-minded person now?" Round Ball cursed.

Wang Teng ignored it and tried to save his Lightning Spirit. He blinked and asked the senior, "Instructor, instructor... is this Lightning Spirit going to die?"

"It won't die. Didn't you just use that thunder energy to catch it? Just feed it a bit more." The elder glanced at the creature and continued, "But you should still subdue it before it recovers. It might escape later."

"Yes, you're right!" Wang Teng smiled in secret and nodded fervently. Indeed, Instructor Sikong was soft-hearted.

"Do you know how to subdue it?" asked the elder. "You can ask me if you don't."

"Thanks, Instructor. I know." Wang Teng searched through Nihility's memories and immediately knew the process.

Actually, it was similar to how he tamed divine flames. Just leaving a spiritual mark on the Lightning spirit and establishing a contract for mutual coexistence was enough.

Of course, there were some differences.

The Lightning Spirit was a living creature so he couldn't be too brutal about it. It would be a huge loss if he killed it.

Fortunately, the devouring beast's memories included a method to establish spiritual contracts with such spiritual lifeforms.

The Devouring Nihility Beast's memory was indeed comprehensive. It even had such obscure knowledge.