

F.D Emperor 1331

Chapter 1331 Whereabout Disaster

Wang Wei appeared above Origin Seal City. His presence brought a somber presence to the entire city, directing all eyes or attention toward him. However, he did not care. He looked in the distance, trying to sense, and after he failed, a terrifying aura released from his body. It was so mighty that most of the citizens in the city were forced to kneel. Luckily, the City Lord acted swiftly and activated the formation, thus protecting these people.

Wang Wei did not notice these changes. After failing to sense what he wanted, he waved his hand to force a drop of blood from his finger and cast a Bloodline and Karma Tracing Technique, but to no avail.

'Damn it, why did my parents' presence suddenly disappear?' He entered the Taboo Realm before summoning his Baxian Turtle Shell to boost his divination, trying to find their location. Wang Wei's face turned ugly, so he waved his hand to summon a projection of the River of Fate. He also used his control over the Origin Seal Continent to borrow power from the artificial River of Fate.

"Nothing?" Wang Wei muttered with an ugly expression. He exhaled to calm down, and as he was about to try something else, he sensed something condensing next to him.

"Ancestor?" He asked after seeing the Sword Emperor's projection.

"What happened?" Yan Hai asked with a severe frown.

"What do you mean?"

"Why did your father's destiny to spread the Ultimate Sword Path come to me?"

Wang Wei's aura once again fluctuated, but he quickly controlled himself. This information completely removed his slight hope that the sect might have somehow discovered his father's ascension and hidden them. Now, he knew this was impossible — unless the sect somehow could manipulate destiny on the level of the Ultimate Sword Path.

Wang Wei raised his hand to summon a coin with one side white and one side black. He flipped the coin and caught it, and luckily, it landed on the white side.

"The good news is they are alive, but they suddenly disappeared," he said calmly, but Yan Hai could tell the terrifying emotions brewing behind that calmness.

"Did he just disappear? Did you find any information?"

"Nothing at all," Wang Wei replied. "I had a feeling they were about to ascend, but out of nowhere, our bloodline link was cut off, and no matter what I tried, I couldn't find or sense them."

Yan Hai frowned: "What are you going to do?"

"I need to see a few people," Wang Wei said, and without wasting time, he opened a dark portal and left. Wang Wei ignored the dark atmosphere or the intense Yin energy in his surroundings. As soon as Wang Wei arrived, he bowed and said, "Grandmother, I don't want to bother you, but something urgent happened."

"Are you here about your father?" said a grand voice.

"Yes," Wang Wei said, and he hurriedly asked, "Do you know what happened?"

"It wasn't me."

Wang Wei's heart sank.

"I noticed it the moment he disappeared, but I also cannot find him. Whoever or whatever took action did not leave a trace, and only a few people can hide so completely from me."

"I understand." Wang Wei bowed. He always remained respectful when doing things in the underworld because he knew this was a place of strict rules, and his relationship with his grandmother might negatively affect her. So, now that he had gotten the answer he wanted, it was time to leave.

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grandmother might negatively affect her. So, now that he had gotten the answer he wanted, it was time to leave.

"Thank you for your help." As Wang Wei was about to leave, the grand voice sighed: "Take care of yourself, and don't worry about your grandfather."

Wang Wei paused briefly before leaving. He appeared before a small Buddhist Temple. His eyes were red as he thought: 'Supreme Unity, you better have nothing to do with this.'

Boom!

The sky above this domain became cloudy, followed by red lightning bolts flashing occasionally. The people were confused because it was sunny and clear a second ago, so why the sudden weather change? Only a few powerful cultivators could detect this change in the sky was due to a powerful cultivator.

Wang Wei glanced at the sky, and with a thought, he dispersed the celestial phenomena. He did not immediately enter the temple but closed his eyes for a good minute. He only entered after his emotions were under control. He headed to a bronze Buddha Statue, and under Wang Wei's manipulation, everyone left the area of the statue, nor did they dare to approach.

Wang Wei condensed a lotus-shaped incense bowl before putting three lit stick incense inside. He clapped his hands and bowed: "Mother Maitreya, I really need your guidance now." Wang Wei did not receive any response, but he stood in the bowing position for a good five minutes before he sensed the aura in the room changed.

"I...don't...know...what happened...to...your family."

Wang Wei raised his head and looked at the speaking statue, his eyes terrifyingly calm.

"I...know...he...did...not...make...a move."

The statue seems to struggle to keep its connection and deliver the message.

"Whoever...did it...did...not...leave...any trace...They...might...be...more...powerful...than...us."

"I understand," Wang Wei said. "Thank you for your help." The statue returned to its ordinary state, and Wang Wei bowed before walking out. His mind was running on overdrive. He took one step and returned to the Origin Seal Continent.

"Did you find something?" Yan Hai asked as her projection appeared next to him.

"No," he replied succinctly.

Yan Hai frowned, and after pondering briefly, she raised her hand to condense a black orb. "Miscellaneous; Don't you have an unknown relationship with that woman from the Tribal Sacred Mountain?"

"The relationship between Sui'er and I is strictly platonic," a voice quickly explained.

"How did you know which woman I am talking about? I wasn't specific at all."

Miscellaneous was immediately embarrassed, so he coughed to change the subject: "Why are you asking about this?"

"The kid's parents just disappeared; this might be the only way to find them."

"The kid? Oh, I see." Then, there was nothing else.

"Well?" Yan Hai asked.

"It's pointless even if he tries."

"How do you know without even trying?"

"She purposely hurt her [Existence] and fell down to the Empyrean Realm to escape execution. Do you think she, or even the demon race, would allow outsiders to see her?"

"Maybe for others, but I'm sure she gave you a token. With it, there is still a chance."

"Well, you can try it, but like I said, don't have too much hope." The black orb vibrated slightly before a token manifested. "How much is this going to delay my return?" Miscellaneous complained. Interfering with the world of living while in Limbo has certain prices, but Miscellaneous still paid it since Yan Hai asked.

Wang Wei took the token. "What's this for?"

"The demon race has a rare 3-star Star Sage. With this token, you can ask her about your parent's whereabouts. However, as you heard, her situation is complicated."

'3-Star Sage?' Wang Wei had dealt with the race known as Star Sages before in the lower dimension. However, he also knew they were classified differently in the upper dimension. The best 5-star Sages in the lower dimension are only 1-star here, and 3-star in this place meant the latter had access to information on par with Paragons.

"I know what to do," Wang Wei said. Truth be told, he did not have much hope for this sage after what Maitreya said. However, he decided to try it in case of a miracle. Wang Wei teleported to faraway places from this continent. The distance, this time, was so far that it took him more than ten minutes to reach his destination despite bending space to his will.

He soon found himself before this long but ordinary mountain range. He sent a notice of his presence to the void and waited. Soon afterward, a middle-aged man appeared before him. Wang Wei could tell at a glance that his real form was of Purple Thunder Ant.

"Who are you? And what are you doing here?"

"I am a descendant of Miscellaneous Paragon and came here to see...the Senior Star Stage. I have a token."

The steward was about to reject Wang Wei's request until he saw the token. He observed for a few seconds: "Wait a while." The man disappeared and did not return until more than an hour later.

"Follow me," the steward said. "Don't look at nothing, don't touch anything, and don't wander around. Once your business is finished, leave as soon as possible."

Wang Wei did not mind this man's attitude. Although the relationship between humans and demons is not as bad as the lower dimension, they are also not friendly to each other in the upper dimension. Additionally, this is a sensitive time, and the demon race does not welcome his presence.

Wang Wei followed him through a portal, and he found himself in another world. He looked around, and the only way he could describe this place was that it was a mountainous world. There were mountains everywhere, countless of which reached above the clouds. He sensed many presences in these mountains, especially at the peak.

'Hmm? This causal line?' Wang Wei sensed something. 'Ao Shen? He chose the demon race over the Innate Demon Gods?'

Chapter 1332 The Board Is Set

After mulling it over briefly, Wang Wei did not find Ao Shen's choice to be strange. Anyone with a bit of brain can see the situation of the Innate Demon Gods. In the past, they represented one of the three paths: Primordial, Emperor, and Heaven. However, during the Golden Era, it only took one group — the demon race — amongst countless acquired lifeforms to compete against them. To say that the mighty has fallen in this situation is a gross understatement.

Ao Shen is intelligent, so it makes sense that he chose the most influential group of the two. Of course, he must have other considerations. For example, he was once the leader of the demon race and held their destiny. Although he's an Innate Demon, he probably identified more with the demon race.

There are also political reasons. The Myriad Emperor World is significant in the lower dimension because they are the destiny center, meaning the demon race there is also valuable. During Wang Wei's reign, the demon race reached a level of prosperity unlike anything they've ever seen in their history; this fact also benefited the upper-dimension demon race.

Ao Shen, the former chief of the demon race, has a significant amount of luck and destiny. It would deal a major blow to the demon race if he were to join the Primarch Origin Temple. On the contrary, his joining of the demon race allowed them to steal some luck from the temple.

As for Ao Shen's identity, will it cause him trouble in the demon race? It will, but not as much as one would think. It's pretty common for Innate Demon Gods to betray their kind and join the demon race. The upper echelons greatly encouraged such behavior.

Additionally, many demon race members have innate bloodlines. It's common for them to hunt Innate Demon Gods for their bloodline. Many people don't know this, but one of the demon race's ultimate goals is to swallow the Innate Demon God; they want to take the latter's destiny and make them into a branch of the demon race.

'The Myriad Emperor World, as the lower dimension's destiny center, will often give birth to characters that will play a significant role in major events happening in the upper dimension. Could Ao Shen be one of the major players in the battle between the Demon Race and the Innate Demon Gods? Could his choice be a hint as to which side fate is favoring?'

There is a high possibility that this is true. However, Wang Wei decided to observe more and maybe plan ahead. He is interested in what will happen once the Innate Demon Gods are completely defeated and the Path of Heaven is officially the loser in the trinity competition.

'The Eternal Ascension World is the semi-destiny center of the Chaos Universe, so the defeat of the Heaven Path might be the last nail in the coffin for all Innate Demon Gods in the universe or the beginning of their hands.

Their end will also mean the final confrontation between the Emperor and Primordial Path. The Fiendgods are losing this fight, but will they allow themselves to lose like that without fighting back? I doubt that.'

Wang Wei furrowed his brow. He suddenly realized that many events that can affect the entire Chaos Universe are slowly brewing, and as expected, the storm will start from the Eternal Ascension World.

'I had a feeling that my path of transcendence would lead to the Third Origin War. Are those events the prelude to this? But if such grand events are only the prelude, what the hell will the actual war be like?' Wang Wei did not know he would achieve transcendence, but his intuition and the information he had gathered about his future self told him that it would not be a peaceful method.

'Forget it. There is no point in thinking so much. I'm just a little Emphyrean.'

"Hey," said the steward. "Why are you distracted? What did I say about not looking?" Wang Wei glanced at him, and the man felt the fear of God rushed down his spine. He almost instinctively changed to his true form.

"What are you doing? This is the demon race. Watch yourself."

"Lead the way," Wang Wei said calmly. The steward felt ashamed for his previous reaction but did not dare show it again. So, he quietly led Wang Wei to an isolated mountain with a small cottage. The mountain was simple, especially compared to how lavish and grandiose the others are. Additionally, he only sensed the presence of one person.

"The sage is waiting inside."

Wang Wei did not say anything and walked inside the cottage. He saw a woman sitting cross-legged, waiting for him. She wore a simple black robe; she was devastatingly beautiful, but for some reason, no one would immediately notice her beauty, and that's because of her strange presence.

Her face was youthful, and did not look over 25 years old, but her hair was all white and gray, like an old woman's. Her aura was ancient, and her all-white eyes were so profound that even someone with Wang Wei's willpower and soul was lost in them for a few seconds.

'This woman is not simple,' Wang Wei thought. Of course, he had known this before. Anyone who can injure their [Existence] to escape persecution from the two suns is ruthless, so how could they be simple? Furthermore, she was obviously a Paragon and probably one of the best ones, but she did not participate in the Ultimate Taboo — that's another suspicious point.

"Senior," Wang Wei bowed.

The Star Sage, also called Fan Sui and with the title of All-Knowing Sage (a title she did not like), looked at Wang Wei. "Heavenly Dao made a wise move to choose instead of Kong."

'This woman knows a lot,' Wang Wei thought. He soon realized it would be odd for her not to know much. "Thank you."

"Sit down," Fan Sui said. "Did he give you a token? Let me see it." Wang Wei handed her the token, and she caressed it with her thumbs. She looked like she was reminiscing and had some other hidden emotions.

"What do you want to know?"

"My parents — they disappeared. I want to know what happened to them."

Fan Sui nodded. Her eyes glowed for a few seconds before she frowned. She raised her hand to summon a book and flipped through it page by page.

'Her information does not come from divination or any form of calculating the secrets of Heaven and Earth. Instead, she can directly access the archive/records of Heavenly Dao,' Wang Wei analyzed. If Wang Wei's way of gathering information falls into the category of Fate Dao, Fan Sui's method is under Heaven Dao.

"Your father and mother should have ascended, but an anomaly occurred," Fan Sui said.

"Everything about them has disappeared: their fate, destiny, and even causal link. I'm sorry, but I don't know what happened to them."

"I see," Wang Wei sighed.

"You're not surprised? It seemed you expected this."

"You could say that."

Fan Sui nodded. "I want to talk with you, but I can tell you're not in the best mood, so let's wait another time." She raised her hand to condense a second token before handing both to him.

"Return the original one to him, which is for you. You can come to see me if you have any problems in the future."

Wang Wei was surprised. Based on how Miscellaneous reacted and a few things he read, he knew how valuable this token was. One of the ways the demon race makes an absurd amount of money is by selling these tokens. Many top powerhouses will sell most of their wealth to find certain secrets, especially those involving their or their lineage's future.

"Thank you, senior." Wang Wei bowed politely and left soon afterward. The steward quietly guided him to the exit while Fan Sui calmly looked at him leave.

"All the pieces of this grand chessboard have been set, and now, it's time for the players to officially start making their moves. How can the demon race survive the upcoming era?" Fan Sui muttered. Her eyes penetrated the distance, and saw a handsome coiled dragon with its eyes closed, deep in meditation.

'Ao Shen, the future of the demon race might lie on you. Don't disappoint me.'

...

Wang Wei returned to the Origin Seal Continent, and Yan Hai's projection appeared. "So?" Wang Wei only shook his head.

"If even she cannot help you, that can only mean..."

"Let's not talk about this," Wang Wei said. It was pointless to say anything else. Yan Hai patted his shoulder: "I'm sorry, kid. If you need someone to talk with, I'm here."

"Thank you, ancestor, but I just want to be alone now." Wang Wei entered his room and sat on a cushion; he was deep in thought.

Unbeknownst to him, someone was watching him from somewhere or someplace.

"Things have gotten a little out of control, so you need more pressure," said the voyeur. "These people are not enough to prepare you for what's coming."

"Are you being a little too harsh? At least tell him," said another voice.

"It would defeat the purpose of pressuring him if I told him the truth. As long as he doesn't know it's me for sure, he'll be motivated to improve himself as swiftly as possible," the first voice responded. "As for being harsh? You and I both know that we can reach such a level only by being ruthless to ourselves."

Chapter 1333 Heaven's Lock

Wang Wei sat in the empty room alone and left his thoughts. He wished nothing more than to see her to be here. Even if she did not say her word, her presence alone would have improved the situation. He sighed as he focused.

There are two possible explanations for his parent's disciples, but he did not like any of them. The first is that his enemy took it, and the other is his future self. But regardless of the truth, he hated the sense of powerlessness he felt at the situation.

He looked at his palm and clenched it. "Paragon-level strength is not enough. In novels about the Prehistoric Era, there was a famous saying on Earth, which says that everyone is an ant in the eyes of the [Saints]. This statement can now be applied to these transcending beings.'

Wang Wei looked in the distance, feeling a sense of urgency. It won't be long before he becomes a Paragon, but that is not enough for him, especially since it usually takes at least 1 million yuan epochs to increase their cultivation by 1% — and that number only applies to geniuses with the best resources. Furthermore, the higher the cultivation, the more time is required.

'I cannot, nor do I want to wait that long,' Wang Wei thought. He had already broken all cultivation records by now, even becoming an outlier, but he was still unhappy. 'Destroying these parasites will grant me immense luck, destiny, and merit, allowing me to cultivate in the Paragon Realm at record time, but it's still insufficient. I need to speed things further up.'

If it were before, Wang Wei's thoughts would have been nonsense. The Eternal Ascension World's cultivation civilization has reached its peak in resource utilization, meaning the best Wang Wei could have done was keep the cultivation speed of the top geniuses during the Golden Era, and that was only possible in the first place because he was living in a time of chaos where destiny and luck are abundant — similar to the time of the Devil Catastrophe.

'Old Man Tianji's technique,' Wang Wei thought. That's his method of ensuring an absurd cultivation speed. Through participating in or creating major events that fundamentally affect the entire world, he condenses these [Pure Fate Power] that can boost his cultivation dramatically.

'During the retreat, Hong'er and I created a prototype of that technique, but it never reached the desired level, so I left a clone to use Mongke's Battle Tower to complete it. Let's check on it.'

Wang Wei closed his eyes to sense the clone's situation. 'It's quite the improvement.' Wang Wei nodded. Compared to their versions, this one had improved significantly. The clone was now even studying the effects of Dao Rhymes to make further progress.

Wang Wei sighed deeply. The current technique was only 50% as effective as the power he took from Old Man Tianji, but that power was billions of times less potent than the one the Transcendent Old Man Tianji created to cultivate his people.

Wang Wei shook his head to focus. He always knew he had a long way ahead of him, so he wouldn't let anything discourage him. 'Let's contact the team to deal with the upcoming changes in the world.'

Boom!

Wang Wei's thoughts had just finished when something changed. He looked outside the continent and saw a grand vision that covered the entire world. There were purple clouds, Purple Qi coming from the East, golden lotus, Dao Sounds, celestial and fortune beasts, and Sages celebrating.

'This is...' Wang Wei thought as he swiftly saw the source of these visions. "Someone has become a Paragon. No, not just that, but a Boundless Paragon. Moreover, they seemed to be hiding in the Lawless Zone."

Wang Wei saw a man with his body flowing with brilliant immortal light released from his body. An unknown power isolated him from the effects of the Lawless Zone; the power also protected him to ensure he finished his final transformation.

'Why does he feel familiar?' Wang Wei thought. He did not recognize the man's face or aura, but his intuition told him he knew this person. Wang Wei wanted to divine the person's identity quickly but stopped himself from doing something so stupid. This person was under Heavenly Dao's protection, and his actions could be considered an insult, resulting in severe backlash. So, he slowly observed while deducing. 'Could it be him?'

Wang Wei waited for a few minutes until the process ended. Then, the man opened his eyes and declared: "Today, Empyrean Jimin will be known as Paragon Jimin. The world should celebrate." His voice echoed throughout every corner of the Eternal Ascension world.

All life, no matter how weak, could hear these words. For mortals, this was simply the birth of another powerful cultivator, but for cultivators, this was something else. This day represented hope. This era existed for 256 million yuan epochs, and today, a new Paragon finally appeared again in the world.

'So, it's him,' Wang Wei thought. This was not good news for him since he had basically taken over the rebellion. Although he was on guard and kept his hands off Empyrean Jimin's men, it did not change the fact he took over the latter's foundation. Wang Wei waved his hand to send a message to his people to abandon the rebellion and go underground.

He looked at Empyrean, no, Paragon Jimin, in the distance. 'Such a vast destiny,' he commented. As the first Paragon of this era, he brought hope to this world so Heavenly Dao would reward him immensely. With this destiny, Paragon Jimin will have no problem cultivating to the peak of the Paragon Realm, even if his talent is not up to par.

'A new Paragon in the world,' Wang Wei thought with squinted eyes. 'Will things really be that simple?' His thoughts were indeed a jinx. Before the visions in the sky even ended, another one occurred. Five bright moons manifested above Heaven and Earth, followed by five terrifying aura.

Five people stood in the Heavens, looking above all sentient beings. One was a handsome young man with a black robe and green hair. He had a weird aura around him that constantly changed from young to old.

'Time Eater,' Wang Wei thought.

Time Eater looked coldly in Jimin's direction but did not immediately attack. Instead, he looked at the sky and said: "Activate." A white cover that resembled an eggshell appeared above the sky, covering the entire world. Most cultivators were confused about this, but a few could tell this was a terrifying formation.

'The Hong Protective System,' Wang Wei said with squinted eyes. He knew this thing because his future wife built it. However, according to her, these people should not have full access to its control, but now...

'So, you're finally making your move,' Wang Wei thought, feeling uneasy. Sadly, his intuition was correct. A pair of indifferent eyes manifested between Heaven and Earth; the aura was so powerful that even someone like him instinctively felt fear and respect.

'Supreme Unity,' he thought with gritty teeth.

The pair of eyes coldly looked at the world. It seemed to have seen through all its secrets and hidden truths with a glance. Then, it said one word: "Lock." Massive and incomprehensible chains manifested above the Heavens to surround the globe.

"Amitabha," said another voice, followed by a humongous golden palm heading for the chains. However, the pair of eyes remained indifferent. The five moons suddenly acted as they summoned their territories' Luck Condensing Artifact and condensed the luck of the Eternal Ascension World.

A mighty purple-white dragon manifested between Heaven and Earth before rushing into the sky. The dragon flew toward that golden palm and opened its mouth to fire the characters for [Exile]. The golden palm resisted but only briefly before dissipating. Then, the chains completed their missions of imprisoning the world.

'So, that's how it is,' Wang Wei thought with gritted teeth. 'He needed to wait until Heavenly Dao was at its weakness or occupied for him to take action, and the best opportunity was for the celebration of a new Paragon.'

With the birth of the new Paragon, according to Heavenly Dao's codings, it would celebrate and also reward the Paragons with blessings since the latter represented hope for the world. But this is also the best time for Supreme Unity to take action.

'More importantly, these people have entirely sided with Supreme Unity.' The situation has genuinely changed beyond his expectations, but he remained calm. Wang Wei watched these moons enter the Lawless Zone; to be precise, four entered, and one stood at the entrance.

'They know that I've taken all the talents from the Lawless Zone,' Wang Wei's eyes squinted. These people do not want a Boundless Paragon existing next to them, so they plan to besiege him. Now that most of the powerful talents from the Lawless Zone are gone, Paragon Jimin must rely on himself to survive this ordeal.

'I can't let them succeed, but for now, I'm more worried about the effect of that Heaven's Lock.'

Chapter 1334 Devastating Move

Wang Wei pondered briefly. He first tried divination even though he knew it might not work. However, he immediately felt something wrong with his utilization of the Dao. 'It felt slightly clunky and out of sync.' Most people might not notice this difference given how minor it is, but for people like him with great control over his Dao, this chance was no different than a burning star in the middle of a dark room.

"What's going on?" Wang Wei thought. His divination failed, but he was more concerned about the problem with his Dao. He closed his eyes to sense it as he used more techniques, and the result was the same. No matter what techniques he used, there was this slight delay.

'Suppressing the use of techniques? What's the point of doing this — especially at such a minor level? No, there must be something else that I don't know.'

Wang Wei decided to take some risks. He first built the best soul/mental defense he was capable of before slowly extending his senses to the Heaven Lock above. Due to his cautious approach, it took him a while until he sensed something — he heard whispers.

[What is the Tao? Some people say the Tao that can be described is not the real Tao, while others believe the Tao is the manifestation of all things in the universe — a manifestation of nature. Nature follows the way of Yin and Yang. Yin cannot exist...]

Wang Wei felt these words contained the ultimate truth of the universe and immediately comprehended them. Then, his Dao was slowly changing — especially his Yin-Yang Dao. This Dao was previously attached to his Fate Domination Dao, so the essence of his Yin-Yang Dao was all about controlling fate and pursuing freedom, but after hearing that sermon, his Yin-Yang Dao started to emit more Taoist Rhymes and ideologies.

Wang Wei found himself respecting Heaven and Earth and following the laws of nature. Many of Wang Wei's rebellious ideas were slowly abandoned as he realized the ultimate truth of Heaven and Earth. His consciousness was rapidly changing, and he did not even notice it. His terrifying willpower and borderline obsession with pursuing freedom meant nothing before this ultimate truth. At this rate, it would only be a matter of time before he became a Taoist Priest who believed in the supremacy of Heaven and Earth.

"Wake up," yelled a voice. Wang Wei's eyes opened, and he spewed a mouthful of blood, followed by his complexion turning whiter than snow. He did not hesitate to swallow a Soul Healing Pill before forcibly breaking his Yin-Yang Dao.

Wang Wei's aura fluctuated violently, followed by blood oozing from all his orifices. Additionally, his cultivation was reduced to 70%, signifying this injury was, at best, a Dao Injury and, at worst, reached the level of his [Existence].

'Damn it, I was careless,' Wang Wei thought as he swallowed a few more pills to stabilize his condition. In the lower dimension, he realized his personality was being changed to better fit his

role as a Fate Seed, so he sealed a clone into his Sea of Consciousness to monitor him; he even removed his memories to ensure he did not know of its existence.

It was that clone that saved him. Otherwise, he would have been assimilated and become Supreme Unity's dog. Wang Wei shuddered as he thought how he was about to live a life worse than death. He gritted his teeth in anger before calming down. He was not in good shape, so he focused on recuperating.

A few minutes passed before his aura returned to a semi-peaceful state. Wang Wei then looked at the chains in the sky. He understood what they did — they prevented anyone from understanding their Dao. People can access and control their Grand Dao Source, but the chains served as a blockage and a filter — that's why Wang Wei sensed the irregularity when he used his techniques.

If that were the only problem, those chains would not be a big deal. The problem is that people can no longer cultivate and raise their ranks. Anyone who tries will only listen to Supreme Unity's understanding of his Dao and be assimilated.

'If even someone like me could not resist this temptation, what would happen to the rest of the world?' Wang Wei's face became ugly, and he swiftly checked the people of the Origin Seal Continent. He frowned as he discovered that only a few lost people could not wake up. Most of the others woke up and were injured. He understood.

'This was a trap,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'He was waiting for me.' He sneered. Should he say he was flattered that such a powerhouse paid attention to him? Wang Wei exhaled to control his emotions before contacting Wang Qi and asking if everyone was alright. He also sent orders to his clone in the Fate Changing Hall to check on the people.

After dealing with these things, he started thinking about the situation. 'What is the point of preventing people from cultivating?' There must be a more significant reason behind this move. Wang Wei suddenly thought of something. He scanned the surrounding worlds and teleported two people before them — all devil cultivators with immense karma, both in the Empyrean Realm.

Before these people could react, Wang Wei controlled them and forced them to cultivate. However, they did not comprehend their Grand Dao Source; they were training their souls and bodies.

Arrhg! Boom!

Wang Wei watched in horror as a bolt of black lightning descended from the sky, ignoring all the protection on this continent or his room, and annihilated the devil cultivator training his body. Meanwhile, the other one had her soul collapse, but with all of Wang Wei's knowledge and experience, he had no idea how or what happened.

A ruthless light flashed in Wang Wei's eyes. He took a few more devil cultivators and had them train using different systems. Some were forced to cultivate only their bloodline, while others used orthodox systems like only training Dao Heart or Willpower. However, the result was the same — death.

"This world is now officially a cage. No one can improve — no matter the approach," he muttered. However, he was extremely calm. The worse the situation was, the calmer he became.

"What the hell is going on?" Yan Hai said as she barged into the room. Her face was also pale, and she seemed to have suffered some minor injuries, indicated by the blood on the corner of her mouth and on her shoulder.

"What happened to you?"

"I saw the changes outside and wanted to send a projection to talk to you while I continue my retreat, but why did lightning suddenly attack me?" Wang Wei sighed before explaining the situation.

"Are you telling me all the cultivators in the world are now screwed?" Yan Hai asked with gritted teeth. "Damn it. If I had known this would happen, I should have killed that bastard—" Wang Wei swiftly waved his hand to cast a spell that closed her mouth. He had learned from his mistake and would not readily say these entities' names.

Yan Hai used her tongue to release a Sword Qi and break the spell. "Why are you scared?"

"Ancestor, don't make the situation worse," Wang Wei said with a wry smile. He sensed she was about to say something and stopped her again: "I feel like I missed something, and your words were the key to it. What is it?" He reviewed everything she said since entering the room a few seconds ago.

"All cultivators? Damn it, the mortals." His facial expression turned grave.

"What about them?" Yan Hai asked.

Wang Wei did not answer but instead summoned three devil cultivators and handed them a Heaven Will, a Dao Seed, and Immortal Qi. As expected, they all died as they tried to enter Tier 10 and become immortal. Yan Hai looked at this with a severe look. She was not stupid. After seeing what just happened and with Wang Wei words, she understood the severity of the situation.

Without the ability to improve, all cultivators below Tier 10 will die of old age due to their restricted lifespan. In slightly over one yuan epoch, 99% of all cultivators in the world will die of old age. Everyone else will die, except for the few who can get their hands on Immortal Pills or the Dao Children.

"Why would he want to kill all the cultivators?"

"Weakening Heavenly Dao so he can fully take control," Wang Wei said calmly. The death of all the cultivators will significantly blow Heavenly Dao, which is the perfect opportunity for Supreme Unity to annex the latter's power.

"So, what's the plan?" Yan Hai asked, but Wang Wei did not answer. He was still analyzing the situation, thinking of his next move.

"Could it be that we have to let everyone die and wait until we deal with him to restart civilization with the surviving non-cultivator mortals?" Yan Hai frowned.

Chapter 1335 Quick Response

"From a purely logical standpoint, this event has a positive side," Yan Hai continued. "As long as we can deal with him and rebuild civilization, our sect will receive great luck and destiny. However, even I feel uncomfortable thinking about how many people will die."

This world is vast, meaning there are simply too many cultivators. Even if the number of cultivators was less than 1% of the world's population, the number of people is still astronomical. Yan Hai is a veteran. . She has participated in and survived two Origin Wars, so she's seen countless people die—better yet, she has watched numerous worlds crumble.

However, it's different when it's the people from her homeland. It's even more heartbreaking knowing that one of their own is responsible for such devastation. Wang Wei looked at her and finally responded:

"You assume there will be mortals left."

An intense killing intent flashed in her eyes. "That's right. That bastard is in charge of Heaven and Earth, so it will be easy for him to eradicate all the mortals in the world — especially since it's another method of weakening Heavenly Dao."

"He won't use such a crude and direct method," Wang Wei said.

"Oh?"

"He only needs to allow these cultivators to increase their lifespan or be capable of cultivating by absorbing the flesh and soul of regular mortals. Then, they will turn on these people. Such an act of its people committing mass genocide can be considered going against the natural laws of Heaven and Earth, which also means—"

"It's a better way to weaken Heavenly Dao." The killing intent in Yan Hai's eyes was almost tangible. "This is why I despise you people with deep scheming minds." Wang Wei looked at her strangely.

"You and Brother Qiyuan are on my side, so you're different."

Wang Wei rolled his eyes. He was not in the mood to debate her weird thinking logic. "Alright, it's time for me to make my move."

"I know you wouldn't let him have his way so easily," Yan Hai smirked. "Do you need my help?" Wang Wei hesitated. "What is it?" she pressed.

"I really didn't want to drag the sect into this mess."

Yan Hai looked at him up and down before smiling in satisfaction. "Do you think the sect can stay out of this if you don't interact with it?" She shook her head.

"Although we are considered the second most powerful amongst the Overlords, everyone knows that is only on the surface. Our sect has the most profound foundation, our luck and destiny are the

most condensed, and more importantly, we have something the bastard has been lusting for for many years."

'The Trinity Venerable Inheritance,' Wang Wei thought.

"So, whether you exist or not, that bastard will target us someday."

"I understand," Wang Wei nodded. "Send a message to the sect. If there are signs that cultivators' longevity can be improved by killing mortals, they need to create an alliance with other sealed lineages to make rules that this practice is forbidden. They must create a task force to kill anyone who disobeys."

"No problem," Yan Hai nodded.

"One more thing, well, two more things. First, try to see if you can still contact the people in limbo or even if you can revive them," Wang Wei added. "Secondly, see if you can leave this place through the Source Qi Space. Be careful, and don't try it yourself."

Yan Hai rolled her eyes. Although she wasn't as bright as these bastards, it did not mean she was stupid. Even a big will become a genius full of wisdom after living as long as her. "Get lost, brat."

Wang Wei disappeared from the room, teleporting to a desolate area. He closed his eyes briefly before waving his hand to summon countless rare Emphyreans and a few Paragon Ores to build the fanciest altar possible. 'No response? Could it be that the usage of resources is not under strict limitations? Well, at least, resources that cannot directly raise cultivation.'

Wang Wei took note of this before finishing the altar. He looked in the direction of the Lawless Zone. 'He should be able to hold on a little longer, right? After all, he still has destiny protecting him.'

He took a few minutes to shower and change clothes before starting the ceremony. In a rare act, Wang Wei followed the proper procedure, including giving sacrifices and kneeling before the altar.

"Heaven and Earth above, the world faces a Calamity of Longevity. I have created a technique called [Health Preserving Technique], which allows cultivators to live to the limit of one yuan epoch. I'm willing to share it with the world, so please accept my sincere offer."

The clouds above his head started to condense as if a vision was about to manifest. However, they soon dispersed before condensing again; they repeated this pattern for a while. Wang Wei observed with worry.

'Come one, Heavenly Dao — this is your chance to fight back.' He watched the changes in the sky for five minutes before something happened. Wang Wei's face changed as he acted swiftly. He wore the most formidable armor from the Origin Seal Continent's armory.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Numerous terrifying lightning bolts descended from Heaven and Earth. All the cultivators who saw this were shocked since this was the first time that most of them saw Divine Punishment. In the upper dimension, the laws of Heaven and Earth are more ruthless, so it's rare to see anyone being punished by Heaven and Earth — especially in such a direct manner.

...

Lawless Zone's Entrance:

The Earth Emperor — a middle-aged man with short black hair, black and silver clothes, and an icy and domineering aura — looked in the distance. His divine sense has been keeping a watch on Origin Seal City for any signs or movements from Wang Wei, so he noticed the latter the moment he appeared in that deserted area.

'What is he doing?' he thought as he saw Wang Wei build that altar. 'Should I stop him?' He soon shook his head. There is a high chance that this was a plot to lure him from his spot, so the Earth Emperor decided to wait. So, even when Wang Wei finished the ceremony and suffered from Divine Punishment, he observed with cold eyes.

'I hope this bastard dies,' the Earth Emperor sneered. However, his expression changed as he received a direct message. He sighed before preparing to head over there and attack. As soon as he had this intention, someone blocked his way.

"A puppet?" He suddenly remembered that his people reported that Wang Wei had a Paragon Puppet. He sneered. "Do you think you can stop me with a puppet?" An armor and spear suddenly

appeared on the puppet, both of the best quality. The Earth Emperor did not care until the puppet did something else.

A strange array appeared on its torso before disappearing. This time, the Earth Emperor had to be serious. That's because that array was a Self-Destruction Array.

'Damn it. If that thing explodes, I'll lose a life. At best, I'll be severely injured, given these people a chance to deal with me.'

The puppet sneered. Wang Wei knew how to utilize these people's mindsets against them. This puppet was not enough to defeat the Earth Emperor and wasn't even enough to delay for long. However, it would be different if the latter were fighting with the constant thought of a possible death-dealing explosion.

The puppet looked at the Earth Emperor before pouncing on it. Wang Wei ordered it to use a madman style of fighting that disregards any defensive techniques and only attacks; its purpose is to put as many injuries as possible on the enemy.

"Damn it," Earth Emperor cursed once he realized this; he felt aggrieved. However, now that he had returned home and did not have to fight on the frontier, he valued his life even more than before.

...

After noticing the puppet was doing its job, Wang Wei paid no attention to it and focused on the punishment. He did not care that he was being punished since he knew this was a desperate move from Supreme Unity to prevent him from getting merit. Wang Wei went all out to survive this punishment, pushing himself to the limit. His bet worked.

A few minutes later, the dark clouds dispersed, and a vision manifested between Heaven and Earth. Wang Wei's voice reached every corner of the Eternal Ascension World, followed by merit descending from the sky.

'This should help me recover,' Wang Wei said as he put the merit away. 'More importantly, I've broken the situation. No, that's too optimistic. I've given us a fighting chance.'

The fact that he received the merit means that Heavenly Dao's fundamental rules are still in operation; it also means that Heavenly Dao has a great chance at fighting Supreme Unity without allowing one side to have too much of an advantage.

'The next step is Jimin. This era's first Paragon cannot fall immediately after being crowned,' Wang Wei thought.

Chapter 1336 Rescue?

Wang Wei looked at the Lawless Zone, calculating how to reverse the situation. He could not personally enter the fight for various reasons, primarily because he was currently in terrible shape. Luckily, he had another way.

He had long suspected Jimin and the Crazy Thief Gang Lord, and now, he knew he was correct. However, this is not the point. Wang Wei left means to secretly monitor the Lawless Zone, meaning he could use these means to secretly enter without alerting anyone.

Wang Wei did not immediately act but put the altar away. Then, he condensed a drop of blood that turned into 1.269 trillion pillars with Dao Rhymes for the Health Preservation Techniques and rhymes to make it easier for people to comprehend. He then waved his hand to send these pillars to different areas of the Eternal Ascension World.

'This is not enough,' Wang Wei thought. He knew these parasites would not allow these pillars to remain in their territories, so he needed better ways to spread them. 'Should I start the Dream World again?' Wang Wei never recreated the Dream World because the upper dimension had its version — the Void Illusion Realm. Although it was now closed, it was meaningless to build the Dream World since he wouldn't receive any merits.

'Rebuilding it to spread this technique is a great way to get merit and help Heavenly Dao, but the question is whether it can be built.' Supreme Unity already had the overwhelming advantage with the [Heaven's Lock], so he did not know whether he would succeed.

'Let's try it and see.'

Wang Wei returned to the Origin Seal Continent. Now was not the time for the Dream World. Everything had its priority, and his current one was rescuing Paragon Jimin. As Wang Wei looked at his room, he realized it would soon be time for him to leave this place. His whereabouts were already known, which is detrimental to his actions.

He sat on a cushion and swallowed a few more pills. His body was not in the best state — not to mention his Dao Injuries. However, he could still not rest since work was to be done. He closed his eyes, and when he opened them, he had condensed a projection in an isolated area inside the Lawless Zone.

The projection sensed the battle going in the distance. It pointed at the arrays around, and they fused with its body. Wang Wei frowned as he looked at this array. His current expertise saw so many flaws in this former array, many of which he cannot change since his Array Dao level was so low. Regardless, he modified the places he could to ensure he would not be detected. Once he was sure there was no problem, he slowly approached the battlefield while remaining invisible.

Paragon Jimin's situation was far from ideal. Five Feather, Undead Phoenix, Seven Cauldron, and Time Eater besieged him. His body was full of wounds, and with each passing second, even more appeared. However, he fought bravely.

'His Dao,' Wang Wei thought. 'The Dao of Thievery? What a strange and unique path.' Most people would look down on such a Dao, meaning most talented people would not cultivate such a Dao. Non-talented people would not go far, so seeing a Paragon with [Thievery] as their Dao was odd.

'Let's see, there is a Plunder Aspect of his Dao, similar to Devouring Dao. Then there is stealing,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'So, he can steal people's Dao, similar to Xun Junyao's copy? Better yet, it seems he can steal their lives.' Wang Wei was shocked. With this ability, Paragon Jimin must have countless identities that are not easy to distinguish.

'If I can get my hands on his [Life Stealing Technique], I can improve the Fate Guard's ability to steal fate and become someone.' Wang Wei's eyes lit up. The current situation was severed, to say the least, so he will take any advantage he can. He continued to observe the battle and frowned.

'These people's battle experience is not nearly as bad as I expected,' he observed. During the past 10,000 Yuan Epochs, he asked Xun Junyao for her memory of that fight, and based on his analysis, the Blood Dragon seemed to have the worst battle IQ of the group.

'It's not that he's the worst, but these people have improved in the past 10,000 yuan epochs.' The frontier contained countless influential invading foreigners, meaning it was an excellent place to train. Thinking of the frontier, Wang Wei suddenly thought of something, so he looked at the [Hong Protective System].

'Who or what is powering that thing? If it's Supreme Unity, then it's fine. But if Heavenly Dao is forced to use the World Source as the power source, this is another way of weakening.'

Wang Wei's facial expression became grave as he thought of something else. The protection should have no issue blocking the Paragons coming, but what if this current blockade forced the foreign Half-Step Transcendents to move earlier than anticipated?

'Damn it, Supreme Unity, are you playing with fire?' Wang Wei cursed. 'Unless that's what you want. Use foreign aid to continue weakening Heavenly Dao, thus allowing you to control it and ultimately make up for your flaw.'

'Then, there is you — Maitreya. How can you be so useless? Aren't you supposed to balance him?' Wang Wei had to control himself not to let his thoughts flow out publicly. He calmed down and focused on the fight. Sometimes, he truly found his intelligence a curse. There were too many things he knew that he wished he did not.

'Time is running out,' Wang Wei said as he focused on the battle — focusing on Time Eater. His eyes could tell the latter was league different from the others. In fact, Wang Wei could tell he was hiding his incompetence and did not fully show all he was capable of.

'A man with deep thoughts and scheming. However, why was he like this? From the information I gathered about him, he was not this extraordinary or capable during the Golden Era,' Wang Wei analyzed. In that era, Time Eater was talented, but he never truly reached the upper echelons. Moreover, he never showed any signs of being a master manipulator.

'Was he someone like Supreme Unity, always hiding, or did something happen in the middle to change him?' Wang Wei desperately wanted to know the answer to this question. 'Maybe I should use the opportunity to ask the Star Sage.'

Wang Wei sighed before directing his gaze toward the Hidden Master – Old Man Dai. The latter stood in the void, his facial expression showing his anxiety. However, he did not rush to help Paragon Jimin. He couldn't even if he wanted to since Time Eater had a clone/projection prepared especially for him.

"Paragon Jimin, I've come to make a deal with you," Wang Wei secretly communicated.

"That voice — Wang Wei?"

"It's me," he acknowledged. "I'll save you and —"

"No need," Paragon Jimin said. Wang Wei observed him from a distance and shook his head.

"What an idiot," he said directly to Jimin. "I guess I shouldn't be surprised since you're a loose cultivator."

"What do you mean by this?"

"Do you think these people haven't won against you because of how weak they are in the Lawless Zone? You're dreaming." Wang Wei did not hide the sneer in his voice.

"They are buying time to find your Time Mark to erase you from the timeline."

'Time Mark?' As soon as he thought of these words, Paragon Jimin acquired some basic information about the concept.

"That's right. You just became a Paragon, meaning you don't know much about Time Marks or have a ChronoSpirit. It's only due to your destiny that they haven't completely figured it out yet, but it's only a matter of time. By then, they can isolate your influence from the Primordial Timeline, go to the past, and erase younger versions of yourself. "Once that happens, it won't matter how many ways you have to survive as a Boundless Paragon."

An intense horror ran deep down Paragon Jimin's back. The confidence he had acquired after becoming a Paragon was instantly shattered. Luckily, he received the news now, or he would have died before even knowing what had happened.

"What do you want?" he asked Wang Wei. Despite the turmoil going on in his mind and the conversation, Paragon Jimin showed no signs on the surface. As someone who considered himself the best thief in the world with countless identities, he was a master of acting and hiding his emotions or thoughts.

"It seems you've awakened from the confidence of suddenly acquiring such power. Good. We can talk now," Wang Wei said, nodding in satisfaction. No matter who it is, they will become a little arrogant after becoming a Paragon, primarily due to the vast difference in power between the previous realm.

"I want two things," Wang Wei continued. "Firstly, I want your [Life Stealing Technique]."

Chapter 1337 Negotiation & Action

'Life Stealing Technique?' Paragon Jimin thought before realizing the latter was talking about his [Existence Stealing Spell]. Jimin hesitated after hearing this request. His technique was not unique since he knew there were different ways to achieve the same effect. However, he has gotten away with it for so many years due to his Dao.

Thievery is a minor Dao, meaning most people do not expect much from it, given its unpopularity or unknownness. Because of this unfamiliarity, people haven't figured out his technique. If more people started using this technique, its effects would be reduced.

'I agree with your request, but only you can use it,' Paragon Jimin decided.

'That's not possible,' Wang Wei replied. He needed to use it for his Fate Guards. Although he would fuse it with his own technique, he did not want any restrictions on its utilization. 'I understand your reservation, but after today, many people will know about your Dao; they will be precautious, so if you don't update that technique, most of your other identities will be discovered.'

Jimin was quiet. He knew Wang Wei was correct. He sighed. 'Fine. What else?'

'Secondly, I need you to sacrifice yourself to curse one of these people,' Wang Wei stated.

'I thought you came to rescue me,' Paragon Jimin sneered.

'I do, but how I do it is up to me.'

'And how is this saving me?'

'Let's not play useless mind games,' Wang Wei continued. 'With a clever person like you, I'm sure you anticipated, to some extent, how dangerous becoming a Paragon in the current political climate would be. So, I'm willing to bet all my wealth that one of your [True Avatars] has a peak Empyrean Cultivation Realm. So, even if you die, that Avatar would not take long to return to the Paragon Realm.'

Paragon Jimin was briefly quiet. His mind remembered the first time he had met that young man. He knew the latter was extraordinary, and he even predicted the latter might be the [Chosen One] that would end this era.

Paragon Jimin sighed. 'You're right. However, if being rescued required me to abandon this body, what's the point of you helping me? I can just do it myself.'

'Try it.'

'Excuse me?'

'I say try to end your life to see if you can,' Wang Wei reiterated. Jimin's heart skipped a beat as if he thought of something. He observed his opponent briefly before a look of determination flashed in his eyes. His fighting became more reckless while his soul was brewing to explode itself.

"Have you become impatient, or did you realize something?" Time Eater suddenly said. He waved his hand, and Jimin's preparation to blow himself was dismissed. "Well, it doesn't matter either way." The group continued besieging him while Time Eater continued to trace the latter's Time Mark. The process should have ended by now, but Jimin's destiny was working extra hard to keep him alive.

'Do you see now?' Wang Wei said.

'Fine, I agree with your terms,' Jimin said. Although he tried to remain calm, Wang Wei could sense the anger in his tone. It was understandable. Jimin had just reached the pinnacle of his life, and he suffered such humiliation immediately afterward.

'Excellent,' he uttered. 'You only need to sign this contract, and I'll hold these people long enough to buy you time to cast the curse.'

Jimin looked at the binding contract in his Sea of Consciousness, and his lips twitched. With this contract, he couldn't go back on his words or use Wang Wei as bait to escape. There is no honor among thieves, so why would he easily keep his word? Unfortunately, Wang Wei never trusted him — especially after knowing what his Dao was.

Paragon Jimin swiftly read every corner of the contract and frowned; 'What is this clause about erasing my memory? Are you trying to take advantage of my situation?'

'Calm down,' Wang Wei replied. 'I need you to use a specific Curse Technique on the target, and I don't want this technique to flow out. The clause is just a precaution.'

'Can't you change it to me never distributing your technique?'

'No,' Wang Wei was adamant. Paragon Jimin pondered briefly. 'What if I refuse to sign this?'

'Oh?'

'My intuition tells me you want me alive for some reason, probably the lock that appeared in the sky. Am I right?'

'Great intuition,' Wang Wei admitted but said nothing else.

'So?' 'Believe in that intuition and see if you can walk out of this place alive,' Wang Wei said calmly. His words sent a chill down Jimin's spine. He realized he was indeed valuable but not that important. He begrudgingly signed before signing the contract begrudgingly: 'Who is the target?'

'It's...' Wang Wei answered as he sent him the Curse Technique. It was highly complex, but Wang Wei included his memories and utilization of the technique. So, with Jimin's Paragon-level soul, it did not take him long to master it.

'Damn it, what is the origin of this technique?' he thought, feeling slightly scared. This curse was terrible. Luckily, he was not on the receiving end of such an attack. Jimin took a moment to cast this thing secretly. He ignored the increasing injuries in his body or the sense of foreboding that his destiny warned him of.

'I'm ready.'

'Good,' Wang Wei said. He's been preparing since his projections arrived. He then released a terrifying Soul Storm that ravaged anyone in its path. During his retreat, Wang Wei's most remarkable improvement was his understanding of Soul Dao and its application in battle.

The parasites' faces changed. Wang Wei's soul attack was genuinely terrifying. A potent and devastating force capable of finding the weakness in the Sea of Consciousness rushed directly toward their souls. It was so fast that they barely reacted. Unfortunately, fate was on their side.

Although this technique had reached the pinnacle of soul applications and was a sneak attack, these people were lucky to be in the Lawless Zone. The terrifying power was forcefully reduced to the level of Emphyreans, and with the passive activation of their top Soul Defensive Treasure, they survived with minor injuries.

Wang Wei's eyes ignored these people and focused on Time Eater. 'Not a single reaction, and it seems he has noticed Jimin's actions.' He did not hesitate as he showed up, immediately attacking with another soul attack.

Bang!

Time Eater blocked the attack and looked at Wang Wei. He sighed: "I guess I should have known Shu Ren was insufficient to prevent you from interfering."

"A peak Paragon Soul," Wang Wei said instead of addressing the latter's words. "With such a powerful soul, there is no way for your cultivation not to reach the peak after so many years. So, why are you stuck at 98% Grand Dao Source? What are you planning, Time Eater?"

Time Eater squinted: "In the cultivation world, noisy people rarely lived long."

"We are all noisy people. After all, at our level, one piece of information is enough to determine our fate. The only difference is knowing whose business you cannot afford to get involved with," Wang Wei responded calmly. "In my eyes, you haven't reached that level."

"As the sages said, ignorance is bliss," Time Eater sneered. "You..." He sensed something and looked at Jimin. He immediately attacked by releasing a temporal storm capable of eradicating anything in its path. However, Wang Wei blocked him.

'His understanding and application of Time Dao are leagues above me,' Wang Wei analyzed. He could not have dealt with this attack so casually if not for the Lawless Zone's suppression. However, given the vast difference in their cultivation, it made sense.

"Arghh!" A terrifying scream echoed throughout the Lawless Zone. It was first humans but soon turned into the cry of a Phoenix. Wang Wei smirked as he looked at the dark tattoos on Five Feather's face. This curse is truly nasty, and Wang Wei did not even create it. Instead, the Curse Demon created something by studying the innate curse in his blood. After seeing it, Wang Wei even suspects the Curse Demon's bloodline curse might have some relationship with Transcendence, so he raises the latter's value.

Wang Wei calmly watched Paragon Jimin's disappearance, so he sent a message to someone:

'Old Man Dai, hurry up and hide. These people will take their frustrations on you once they've calmed down.'

Old Man Dai woke up from the shock and acted swiftly. He did not immediately run away, as that could have drawn attention to him. Instead, he left a projection while his main body secretly left.

"Well, my work here is done, so it's time to leave," Wang Wei boldly declared.

"You bastard!" Five Feathers roared. "This must be your work." She summoned a phoenix with so much heat that the surrounding space-time trembled. However, Wang Wei had already dispersed, but his voice still echoed in the sky:

"No need to get excited," he sneered. "I have plenty of time to play with all of you. I promise that once I'm done, none of you will have a good ending." He cackled maniacally before saying his last words: "I wonder who will suffer next. I can't wait."

Chapter 1338 Surrounded

All the moons felt a chill down their backs. Anyone else could have said these words, and they would have scoffed or looked at the person with disdain. However, the person who threatened them was a Dao Overlord. Their factions had already gotten their hands on most of the things Wang Wei did in the lower dimension from the people who ascended, so they knew how capable he was. Adding the fact they suffered a loss with their first interaction with them, that threat was no joke.

So, they paused and looked at each other, thinking whether improving their relationship to deal with such a threat was best. Sadly, this thought wasn't fully formed when someone took action. Five Feathers opened a space tear and left the Lawless Zone. She directly teleported back to her territory; she was so fast that you would think she was running away. Then, as soon as she arrived at her palace, she activated the formations in her cultivation room and left a projection to meet her people.

Everyone looked at this calmly and left one by one, leaving only Time Eater. He looked at these people and shook his head. He knew they were not reliable, so he viewed them as pawns that could be discarded at any time. His vision penetrated the distance, and he glanced at the desolate area where Wang Wei had his ceremony.

'He used the Merit System to give Heavenly Dao a fighting chance — what a brilliant move,' Time Eater analyzed. His eyes squinted: 'By now, he should have realized his real threat was Supreme Unity, so his focus will be on that, which should give me more time.' Countless thoughts flashed in his mind.

'No, that would have been the case had he not realized my power. Now, he must see me as a threat. So, he'll deal with me in two ways: he'll hide and wait until he's dealt with the others, or I'll be one of the first to be attacked.

'Although he tried to hide it, I detected the aura of Taboo from him, so his strength should be on par with Paragons. However, he couldn't have become strong enough to deal with me. So, his best approach should be to facilitate help.'

Time Eater looked in the distance. He teleported home, and immediately, his army marched out. One group headed to the Origin Seal Continent, and the other to the Dao Opening Sect.

As far as Time Eater is concerned, there are a few people who can cause him harm in this world, and Wang Wei should have access to two — Wu Hong and Yan Hai. So, he sent his army to threaten the lineages of these people and force them to hesitate to move. It's also a way for Time Eater to monitor their actions and detect in advance whether they will ignore the safety of their people and kill him.

Origin Seal Continent:

Wang Wei opened his eyes and exhaled. Things proceeded way smoother than he anticipated. He weakened Five Feathers and Jimin. Five Feathers is expected, but as for Paragon Jimin, well, Wang Wei had no choice. The latter was an extremely ambitious person and held a noble status/destiny as this era's First Paragon. Wang Wei feared he would take some of his destiny as the [Era Son] and used his status to gather more people on his side.

Although Wang Wei did not care much about this destiny and after his actions, Heavenly Dao should have understood he was the best chance at surviving; he did not want to take any risks. After all, there is still the possibility that Heavenly Dao will spread a large net, trying to cultivate more people to help it. Wang Wei wanted all the luck, destiny, and blessing for himself, so Jimin had to

go. The time it takes the latter to return to his peak and even deal with the repercussions of using that curse is enough for Wang Wei to spread his fame, gather more people, and guarantee his status as an [Era Son].

'Although things looked bleak now, many of my previous plans can still work. I only need to put more focus on dealing with Supreme Unity,' Wang Wei analyzed. After what happened, he realized his mistake — he should never have relied too much on Maitreya. At least, he should have expected her failure. Unfortunately, he placed all his focus on the parasites while believing she was more than capable of balancing him.

"You're back. Good."

Wang Wei looked at Yan Hai and asked: "What was the result?"

"Everything is fine on the sect's side," Yan Hai replied. "As for the other? Well, it has become a thousand times more challenging to contact them in Limbo, and from what they said, they can't revive now."

"Challenging to contact? Meaning it's still possible?" Wang Wei asked.

"Yes, but with a price."

"It's good to hear," Wang Wei nodded. One of his plans was to bring about the return of the people in Limbo in advance, but now, he had to abandon this plan. Such a major shift to the plan should have dealt a significant blow to his plans, but he was adaptable.

"What about the Source Qi Space?"

"You can enter, but you can't return."

Wang Wei frowned. The Source Qi Space is an omnipresent dimension that can be accessed from all Chaos Worlds in the universe. However, this thing is so vast that navigation is a nightmare. When most people enter, they must leave an anchor in a world to return to. However, Supreme Unity's Lock seemed to have erased all anchors, preventing anyone from returning after entering the space.

"This is not entirely bad news," Wang Wei commented. "How is that any good news?"

"Now I have another way to deal with these parasites," Wang Wei calmly replied. As long as he exiled them into the Source Qi Space, they'd be lost and might even die there. Wang Wei doesn't believe the lock would not take into account things like longevity resources, so even if they revive themselves, it should be inside the Source Qi Space instead of returning home.

"You are really Brother Qiyuan's descendants," Yan Hai suddenly commented. Throughout their long lives, they had been in many despairing situations, but Qiyuan always remained calm and found a positive aspect.

"By the way, I've checked the others," Yan Hai added. "Contact with the Underworld is blocked; however, there seems to be no problem with the River of Time or the River of Fate."

Wang Wei frowned. He wanted to try something but stopped himself as he noticed something. He looked outside Origin Seal City and saw the place was surrounded by soldiers in expensive armor.

"Time Eater's Time Bandit Army?"

"Check the sect," Yan Hai said, and Wang Wei also saw the Dao Opening Sect being surrounded. He analyzed the situation and realized what was happening. He sneered before muttering: "You have the right idea but looking in the wrong direction."

"That insolent brat," Yan Hai cursed.

"I'm about to leave this place. Ancestor, what are you going to do?"

"I've returned to the peak of the Empyrean, so I should return to the sect," Yan Hai commented. "However, I'm worried about the Origin Seal Continent. So, I'll stay here until Wu Hong returns." The Dao Opening Sect has a much deeper foundation, so she's not worried about them, but she cannot say the same for this place.

"Good. If you need anything, contact me," Wang Wei said before handing her control over the continent. However, he realized he was doing too much, as Yan Hai already had access. Wang Wei activated the newly updated Heaven-Deception Array and used every other hiding technique he knew before returning to the Dao Burial Ground.

Wang Wei sent the message for the team to meet him in half an hour since he wanted to check a few things beforehand. He closed his eyes and used his position as the [Earth Emperor] to check on Samsara/Underworld. The result was negative.

Wang Wei then tried another approach. He summoned the souls of the devil cultivators he previously used as an experiment, trying to revive them. The result was the same.

'So, from now on, the relationship between the world of the living and the world of the dead is a one-way ticket.' Such a situation is ideal for the underworld, which is fed up with all these cultivators capable of playing with life and death as they please. However, this situation is terrible news for Wang Wei since there are many methods he can no longer use, and he cannot rely on his powerful grandmother.

Wang Wei was deep in thought. 'What about fate and time? Did he really do nothing to them?' He did not think the latter would leave such a loophole.

'I don't expect him to be able to interfere directly with the operations of these things, but there should be some hindrance, right?'

Chapter 1339 Oversight

'What would I do if I were him?' Wang Wei asked himself. 'Paragons can escape to other timelines, so I would have blocked this path. However, the world doesn't have other Paragons who want to escape. Furthermore, I don't think Maitreya is so incapable that she would allow him to interfere completely with the River of Time. 'Additionally, the River of Time is required to eliminate resistance from the Everlasting Emphyreans. That would explain why nothing is wrong with it, but what about the River of Fate?'

Wang Wei was not arrogant enough to think Supreme Unity was not strong enough to interfere in the affairs of fate. Recent events have shown him how powerful Half-Step Transcendents are, and Supreme Unity is of the lowest tier. So, he analyzed the situation, trying to deduce any logical or illogical explanation.

'Information Interference,' Wang Wei deduced. 'I used Fate Dao for all my divinations, so maybe Supreme Unity can intercept all the information I divined. Better yet, maybe he can modify them and give me false prophecies.'

Wang Wei frowned. If that were true, he'd have to abandon using all his means of divination. He cannot even use his Yin-Yang Calculation since that method calculates the secrets of Heaven and

Earth, but Supreme Unity controls Heaven and Earth. The only method left for Wang Wei was to either get the information the old fashion way or use Heaven Dao to access Heavenly Dao's records.

'However, my expertise is not Heaven Dao; more importantly, there is a possibility that Supreme Unity can also feed my false records.' Wang Wei grunted. He did not want to give up on the River of Fate since that would mean reducing one of his most extraordinary means of getting information.

'In that case, I need an outside and uncorrupted source of power,' Wang Wei thought. 'The Origin Seal Continent's River of Fate.' Wang Wei frowned as this method may not be as reliable as he thought. After all, Wu Hong was a Paragon when she made that thing, so there is no guarantee that it can escape manipulation from Supreme Unity.

'In that case, the best I can do is to take any divination I made and filter them through the Origin Seal Continent. Although such information is probably only 30% reliable, it's better than nothing.'

Wang Wei sighed. He really did not like the situation. As someone who pursues freedom, he hates nothing more than cages. Sadly, this world has turned into precisely that.

'Hmm?' Wang Wei noticed his people who had entered the room. His gaze focused on Mongke. The latter's aura was chaotic, and Wang Wei sensed his weakened blood energy. However, this was not his main concern.

"Taboo Realm? You've succeeded?"

"Thanks to you," Mongke nodded. "Sadly, I was injured as soon as I succeeded." The former Barbarian King can be said to be both extremely lucky and unlucky. As soon as he finished adding the [Giant] characteristics to his [Existence] and enlarged his vessel, the world outside changed, and he was attacked by lightning, almost dying.

"That's excellent news," Wang Wei said. He was surprised that Mongke succeeded, not because of the success but because of how swiftly he did it. Forget about the requirements for [Existence] understanding for this plan to succeed; there is still the need for a Paragon Tier Giant Heart. There is no way that Mongke could cultivate such a thing in just 10,000 yuan epochs, and even if he had ten times the time, he could not succeed. That means he succeeded because the Barbarian Race provided him with the needed resources.

'The fact that the Barbarian Race has a Paragon Tier Giant Heart is proof of their foundation,' Wang Wei analyzed. The Giant Race has been extinct for so long, so it's rare to have any left. 'It's also further proof of how much they value him.'

"Attack me with all your strength," Wang Wei suddenly said. Monkey was surprised, but he followed orders.

Boom!

The attack was indeed powerful, but Wang Wei not only easily blocked it, but he prevented any power from affecting the surroundings. Wang Wei frowned: "90% indeed, but it's the bottom. Your strength should reach the peak after you recuperate your injury, but it's not enough to stop even one of those parasites."

"My wife has made some improvements. With her blessing, my strength should be increased by 1 or 2%," Mongke added.

"Excellent," Wang Wei nodded. "I'll lend you my puppet. If you two work together with the right formation, you can fight with me against these people."

"There is no need. The clan has given me similar protection," Mongke added.

"That's even better," Wang Wei nodded. "In that case, you should also be aware of how different battles are on that level?"

"I do," Mongke nodded. "The clan sent me an artifact to help me train."

"It seems I don't have to worry about you." Wang Wei felt relieved. He looked around and asked: "Where is the Grandmist Gang Lord?"

"Sir, he's dead," Wang Qi replied. "I reported it to you."

Wang Wei remembered he had a few talismans he needed to use after leaving his retreat, one of which included the memories of his clones and the report from the past 10,000 yuan epochs.

"Did he die in the Creation Tribulation?" he asked as he summoned the talismans he needed to absorb.

"That's right."

"I guess he wasn't as valuable as he said he was," Wang Wei shook his head as he received the information from the talismans. "Huh? He became a ghost because he was obsessed with killing the Bloodline Gang Lord. Maybe he still has some use." Wang Wei was interested in the power of obsession, which was capable of creating miracles. Maybe he can learn something by studying the Grandmist Gang Lord's state.

"Well, let's get started," Wang Wei said before telling them of the current situation, including his predictions of what might happen. Everyone looked at him in shock. They already thought things were bad since they could no longer cultivate, but they learned the situation was even worse.

"Killing all non-cultivator mortals?" Dulgun said. "Doesn't that mean also eliminating all Everlasting Emphyreans [True Avatar] — except for the people from the lower dimension?"

Wang Wei's body suddenly paused: "I didn't even think of that." He's been so busy reacting to the situation, so he oversaw that little detail—no, not just small detail since he also did not think about the lower dimensions.

'Is the current state of the lower dimension the same? No, it shouldn't be. The Heaven Emperor Era brought unparalleled prosperity to the lower dimension, which should have granted Heavenly Dao absolute control over it. In fact, it might even be the cause of why it still has a fighting chance against Supreme Unity.'

A glint flashed in Wang Wei's eyes.

'If that is true, I'm on Supreme Unity's must-kill list.' Wang Wei was the source of the Heavenly Emperor Era, so his death could scatter the destiny of that era, which would make it easier for Supreme Unity to regain control over the lower dimension.

Wang Wei suddenly changed his mindset. He previously thought Supreme Unity saw him as an ant, a minor nuisance that it could get rid of anytime, but now, he understood his role was way more important than he previously realized.

He raised his hand to open a portal before teleporting all his True Avatars. Although most were in the lower dimensions, he had quite a few here. 'I should have done this sooner,' Wang Wei suddenly thought. How dare he leave his avatar so openly when people like Maitreya and Supreme Unity can probably detect them?

Wang Wei looked at his avatars and did not hesitate to kill all of them. He did not want to take the risk that someone had secretly manipulated them, so he erased them and started over. He felt terrible for his few Avatars with cultivation since he could not replace them, but their danger outweighed the benefit.

Wang Wei focused on the group, and as expected, the others also recalled their Avatars. He nodded before continuing: "We are about to deploy and eliminate some threats. How is our army?"

"We're ready," Wang Qi said. "In the past few years, the Puppet Demon has manufactured countless puppets, and our legions are ready."

"You did a good job," Wang Wei praised the Puppet Demon, and the latter became flattered. The latter was already scared of Wang Wei's strength, but now, seeing how easily he dealt with Mongke, he was even more in awe. The Puppet Demon also realized his current situation was an opportunity to change his life for the better.

"Mongke, you can stay to recuperate. Everyone else can prepare."

"I can still fight."

"Don't be stubborn. If you don't heal your injuries, it might aggravate the situation," Wang Wei said. He was in a similar situation but could not wait since he needed to move as fast as possible.

"Listen to him," Dulgun gently persuaded him, and Mongke relented.

Chapter 1340 Sage Lin Qi

The group dispersed to prepare for the upcoming battle. Meanwhile, Wang Wei contacted two people, one of which was Emperor Kong. After receiving the feedback, he secretly teleported near the Academy before receiving a message for a meeting elsewhere. After ensuring there were no problems, Wang Wei broke the void to enter the meeting place using the coordinate he received.

He found himself in this small dimension with four arrays floating in the void and three individuals waiting for him. He recognized Emperor Kong but had no idea about the other two.

"Let me introduce you," Emperor Kong said. "This is Sage Pure Flame." Wang Wei looked at the man, no, the person before him. He had a humanoid shape, but his entire body was composed of flame. 'A rare flame spirit?'

It's common for flames to gain sentience and turn into the [Dao Shape], which is also what humans looked like, but this person was different. He did not turn into the Dao Shape and retained his flame body. That, in itself, is not impressive, but the fact he could cultivate the Empyrean Realm is.

The Dao Shape is the optimal body shape for understanding the Dao. It's one of the reasons why humans are one of the species with the highest comprehension between Heaven and Earth. However, this Sage PureFlame cultivates to such a level even without this boost.

"A level 1 Golden Body of Merit, right?" Wang Wei asked.

"That's right," Sage Pure Flame nodded. "I was looking enough to find a sealed continent with this strange black power that was extremely corrosive to the mind, body, and soul. Furthermore, it spreads easily, even with the slightest contact. After purifying it, I received enough merit to condense a Golden Body of Merit."

"Heavenly Dao is cruel when it comes to the death of trillions of cultivators and mortals. The fact it gave you enough credit to condense the golden body is proof that that black power would have caused a serious catastrophe if it were released," Wang Wei nodded. "I figured as much," Sage Pure Flame nodded.

Wang Wei looked at him and said: "I know this is out of line, but I must say it. Such a power is hazardous, especially if it has the power to evolve. If you were curious and kept some to study, I recommend you destroy it as soon as possible."

"Oh, I'm aware, so I did not take any chances and removed all traces of it."

"That's good," Wang Wei nodded with a smile. "Once again, sorry for stepping out of line."

"I understand."

'I need to put one of my guards to watch him closely,' Wang Wei thought. Usually, he would not care that much about what Pure Flame did with that thing. He might even be interested in studying it himself. However, the current situation means that Wang Wei cannot afford any more unknown and uncontrollable variables.

"And this is?" Wang Wei asked, looking at this elderly dressed in a simple white robe. His eyes were clear, his white hair and long white beard were luscious, and his demeanor was that of a wise man. Anyone who laid eyes on this man, including Wang Wei, had an instinctive respect for him.

'The man naturally radiated goodness and positive energy — this is such a rare sight in the cultivation world,' Wang Wei thought.

"This is Sage Lin Qi," Emperor Kong said, his voice containing genuine respect.

"Lin Qi — where have I heard this name before," Wang Wei muttered before a sudden realization dawned on him. "You're the man said to be born with the Heart of Buddha — the founder of the Mortal Protection Association?"

"I never liked these names, so just call me Lin Qi."

Wang Wei sighed. This man was the embodiment of virtue and kindness. Born in a small fishing village, a battle between cultivators destroyed his hometown, and he was the only survivor. After that, he embarked on a journey to protect his kind — mortals.

He built the Mortal Protection Association to protect mortals from cultivators, not in the sense of using his strength or preventing cultivators from killing mortals. No, he assisted mortals. Whenever there is a battle near large areas of mortals, he'll deploy his people to protect them before dealing with the aftermath, which involves saving the injured, rebuilding houses, rebuilding farms, and giving some compensation to the survivors.

His association will repair places permanently destroyed by cultivators to ensure that life—mortals, to be precise—can once again live there and prosper. He provided education to mortals so they could be fulfilling members of society. Once he finds someone with talent, he'll provide them with starting resources as long as they promise they will not turn into these cold-hearted cultivators once they succeed.

Lin Qi never forced these mortals to join his cause, but most did so or returned to repay him after gaining fame and success. As a result, he built a group of like-minded individuals who supported the Mortal Protection Association, turning it into one of the most potent Empyrean forces in the current era.

"It's an honor to meet you," Wang Wei said sincerely as he cupped his hands and bowed. He truly respected people like these, devoting themselves to others.

"The honor is mine," Sage Lin Qi responded. "I know what a great burden destiny has placed on you, and so far, it seems you're handling it quite well." Lin Qi did not know much about Wang Wei until 10,000 yuan epochs ago when Emperor Kong contacted him. However, he heard Wang Wei's voice when he prayed to Heaven and Earth and shared the cultivation technique. Lin Qi analyzed the situation, and although he did not know as much as Wang Wei, he realized that something terrible was about to happen. His instinct told him that Wang Wei's actions had brought some kind of hope to the world.

"Thank you," Wang Wei nodded. "Once this ends, I want to discuss something with you." Wang Wei realized this was an opportunity. Lin Qi has deep connections to mortals worldwide, meaning he was the perfect person to discuss the spread of the Mortal Civilization.

Wang Wei felt it was not worth all the struggles of spreading the Mortal Civilization, given how large this world was and how complicated it would become to try to intervene in the territories of other factions. So, he originally planned only to spread it in the Dao Opening Sect's territory and receive some residual merit from people who copied him.

However, mortals' livelihoods were at stake, so they needed some form of protection against cultivators.

'In the lower dimension, the limit Mortal Civilization was Tier 4, but in the upper dimensions, it should be Tier 6, even Tier 7 if Heavenly Dao can take this opportunity and be more lenient with them,' Wang Wei analyzed. 'With such power and the Mortal Art Dao, they should be able to protect themselves once these cultivators go crazy and start massacring them to increase their lifespans. The problem is whether I can build the [Sage Temples] under Supreme Unity's eyes.'

Wang Wei was not optimistic about such a plan. Supreme Unity saw what he did in the lower dimension, or at the very least, knew about it, meaning he should have prepared beforehand.

'Alas,' Wang Wei sighed. He was still complaining about the whole thing. His focus should have been on the parasites, but now, he was forced to distract himself and start playing a game of chess with a Half-Step Transcendent.

"Now that everyone has introduced each other, it's my turn," Wang Wei said. Although he knew these people already knew of him, it would be arrogant of him to treat it as such. So, he simply introduced himself. "Are we all ready?" They nodded.

"You should understand the risks involved, right?" Wang Wei continued. "According to the agreement, if something goes wrong, I'll stay to confront the enemy and buy you guys time to run away first. However, you should also understand that even with my best efforts, there is still a high chance of you guys being killed."

"Don't worry about us," Sage Lin Qi said. He was born near the end of the Golden Era and started his work since then. So, he understood how terrible the lives of mortals have been compared to back then and now, so despite the danger, Sage Lin Qi would participate in this event. His people need hope.

Emperor Kong nodded. He had the most to lose in terms of risks, but he was also one of the few people who could not back down. The Academy's future depends on this operation. Although Wang Wei forced him to act before he was prepared, he saw it as the boost he needed to take action early. Honestly, Emperor Kong was glad he was forced to act after seeing that Heaven's Lock.

"We know the risks, and we accept them," Sage Pure Flame said, and Wang Wei glanced at him. He understood why the others wanted to partake in this action, but Sage Pure Flame's motives eluded him. At first, he accepted the latter's inclusion because merit was involved, but after the lock, it's not guaranteed whether their actions will have any benefit.

"In that case, let's move," Wang Wei declared.