

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1251 1245: A New Society; Beast Haven



"Father, isn't this a little too much?" Ma Sujiang frowned as she asked. Recently, the Golden Life Pavilion and various Mystic Forces were using Ascended beings as glorified transporters and security guards. Moreover, the Golden Life Pavilion was certainly hemorrhaging wealth with each passing day, fueling each Voidship, paying for the usage of other forces Voidships, such as this one, and giving each passenger good cultivation conditions that they might not enjoy in their lifetime.

Many costs could be reduced, and this seemed a little too extravagant. Ma Sujiang was concerned that the Golden Life Pavilion would find itself in a situation they couldn't come back from, financially.

"..." Ma Zheng didn't answer, his eyes glinting with Spiritual Light as he piloted Boundless.

Ma Sujiang's frown deepened, "The price to rent Boundless was already incredibly high! Moreover, we had to swear an oath to only use it for transport and even bring the Boundless Martial Sect's Domain and the Jiang Clan's Onesword Domain inhabitants along while protecting them for free!" She paused for a moment, giving her father a look, and then continued: "I think-".

"Stop." Ma Zheng spoke a single word and Ma Sujiang went completely silent. After a long, long moment, Ma Zheng finally looked at his silent Ma Sujiang with a firm look. "I've taught you the principles of business, correct?"

"..." Ma Sujiang was stunned for a moment before nodding, "Yes." Her father had taught her everything he knew and had used his life as a lesson for things he couldn't speak of clearly.

Ma Zheng calmly said, "Any profits that could be gained here or costs that could be cut are irrelevant to our relationship with Ascendant Emperor Wei. Even if I had to give up my clothes and home, I'd do so. We must put out our best for every request, no matter if it's the Divine Emperor or a pauper asking for the best clothes he could afford. Because the best profit isn't money, but good relationships formed from reliable action. Right?"

Ma Sujiang's expression changed slightly, but she nodded.

Ma Zheng eyed this daughter of his, as beautiful and headstrong as her mother, and as cunning and hardworking as him. But she was a woman. It wasn't that being a woman was an issue directly. In fact, he preferred having a female heir to a male heir, but she was no longer thinking objectively. This was a thing he feared would happen and hoped she would place the principles of business before her biased views.

"I don't mind your relationship with Tian Yinwu," Ma Zheng commented as he turned away, continuing to pilot Boundless. Ma Sujiang's expression instantly changed drastically, and her eyes flickered with a cautious light.

Ma Zheng seemed unconcerned, continuing: "Your love for him will cloud your sense of objective duty, I understand that. Do you think I've never been in love? I'm well aware that you believe the war between the Imperial Clan and Ascendant Emperor Wei is inevitable at this point, and Tian Yinwu will likely not be pleased with us assisting his enemy. I'll once again remind you of one of those principles: Don't involve your personal feelings in the pavilion's business decisions."

"..." Ma Sujiang went abnormally silent as she lowered her head. With a soft voice, she asked: "If they go to war, will we side with the Neo-Dawn Starfield?"

"No—the Golden Life Pavilion has been a neutral entity since the dawn of its creation and not even gods will change that as long as I exist. If we weren't, wouldn't I have long since submitted the Golden Life Pavilion to the Ascendant Emperor or even the Divine Emperor?" Ma Zheng faintly smiled as he looked back at his daughter.

Ma Sujiang lifted her eyes and noticed his warm smile, and a wave of relief washed over her heart. At the very least, she won't have to fight against Tian Yinwu.

Ma Zheng turned back around, but his eyes gradually lost their warmth. While the Golden Life Pavilion may remain neutral, that didn't mean he intended to be. As a businessman, staying neutral was the best course of action, but as a cultivator, siding with Wei Wuyin was the only logical choice.

How could he, a 9th Runic Ascendant, not wish for a greater cultivation base? A longer life? A chance to bring the Golden Life Pavilion to the rumored World Beyond that the King of Everlore had ventured to! To do that, he needed strength. His ambition was no less inferior to Wei Wuyin!

He wished to one day establish his organization in the World Beyond!

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While the Golden Life Pavilion took the route of the selfless sacrifice of profits to shuttle the majority of those who could not afford to travel to the Neo-Dawn Starfield, others had different thoughts and agendas. Due to the great distance, the price for using a Void Gate was monstrous, so most settled for traveling via a fast Voidship.

As there was profit to be realized here, various merchants and organizations seized this opportunity to offer luxury over convenience, offering an experience that only status and wealth could afford to have, segregating them from the common folk. These organizations outfitted their Voidships with premium environments and sold tickets for comfort, luxury, special benefits, and other privileges.

Some of these luxury Voidships had Secret Realms infused within that possessed extremely valuable cultivation grounds, and most could be bought out by an organization or Clan to prevent the indiscriminate gatherings of strangers, further appeasing a desire to be undisturbed throughout their long travels, a luxury that the Golden Life Pavilion couldn't effectively provide due to the sheer volume of transported individuals.

Among those who took advantage of this opportunity despite the gazes was none other than the Everlore Association. They not only provide a top-notch environment, an exclusive location cut out for their privacy, but various exclusively offered products that could be used by their Chosen, prospective Chosen, or talented juniors. This service was taken by many who believed themselves superior, but also capable of affording the absurd cost to obtain.

Shamelessly, these organizations utilized the travel routes that the Golden Life Pavilion had etched out safely, following along to avoid the various dangers of the Dark Void. This action was ridiculed by some, while others saw this as an opportunity to be smartly seized, and a few were simply happy that they could experience a higher level of luxury at the expense of some astral stones.

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The Neo-Dawn Defiant Star, otherwise known as Baby Defiant, began to experience an elevation of radiance for the last hour, and the cultivation frenzy that was instigated within was unimaginable. Countless cultivators sat where

they were, be it in rough streets, the abundant forests, a hot desert, or tall sky-piercing mountains, and began to absorb the essence, be it astral or mystic.

Oddly enough, a peacefulness swept across the entirety of the Neo-Dawn Starfield. Due to it being in its early stages, there weren't any intense conflicts amongst forces, and while fights and argument were an inevitable occurrence among cultivation societies, as resources were a limited resource at any given time even if it was potentially infinite, those fights and arguments came to a halt.

Among the 49 planets and 81 lunar satellites scattered profoundly throughout the Neo-Dawn Starfield, circulating a profound orbit with Baby Defiant at its center, was a planet that had been renamed the New Prosperity, a planet where the Golden Life Pavilion's Neo-Dawn Starfield's headquarters were located.

New Prosperity wasn't a new planet but had been terraformed by the Golden Life Pavilion long ago after obtaining the planet from the wagers that had once shaken the entirety of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. Wei Wuyun had properly purchased it through the proper channels and brought it over from a Secret Realm that it was stored within.

The majority of the population was beasts, amongst them were dragons, crows, tigers, and serpents. They didn't constitute the majority, but they were by far the strongest existences throughout the planet.

There were cities established on Endless Prosperity despite the majority of its populations being beasts. In fact, the beasts often entered these cities as they properly and intelligently brought resources to the human, beastmen, and elves that lived there. They traded for certain products specialized for beasts which grew the population.

The vast majority of beasts knew not to rampage at these cities that helped grow, giving products that could help their growth, sexual drive, rate of pregnancies, etc. It was often said that beasts were mindless creatures that acted on instincts, but instincts could be ingrained into them with the proper method.

The protection of their resource points was one of those instincts. Moreover, visiting, trading, and interacting peacefully with those who lived and thrived within. They acted no differently than any other humanoid, and while there were outliers here and there, those bloodthirsty, violent, selfish, or arrogant, just like humanoids, they were dealt with.

The most unique aspect of New Prosperous was certainly the blood trade. In the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, organizations bred and farmed essence blood from animals so that cultivators could use them for specialized methods of cultivation, gaining extraordinary abilities or refining exceptional bodies. The Tang Clan was an example of a top-tier clan that relied on blood energies to cultivate, the Vermilion Graveyard possessing a limited amount of unique energies and blood left behind from corpses.

The blood trade here was willingly given for other resources, providing a service that was borderline imaginary to the common cultivator.

Within one of these cities, Wei Wuyin traveled amongst the slithering serpents, observed the flying avians, and rode a green and brown striped tiger-drawn carriage. The tiger was roughly ten meters in size, and the roads were extremely spacious as humans, beastmen, and elves lived in various buildings conducting business.

"..." Wei Wuyin caught sight of a python that was fully fifty feet in length and the thickness of a tree carrying a straw-woven large-sized basket on its back. Within this basket were various plants that gave off a bloody scent, particularly

a serpent's blood scent, and had a beautiful shine to them. These were planets watered with the essence blood of this python, likely its family as well.

It slithered into a large opening suited for snakes of all types.

"You're finally back! Took you long enough," a brown-skinned elf shopkeeper exclaimed as they met the python. The python slithered out its tongue as it seemingly complained of its struggles, and the elf listened with a unique spiritual spell that seemed to be commonly used, and then he looked surprised.

"You got lucky then. Those bastards are too hateful and violent for my taste," after saying that, he glanced at the basket and the inner trader in him went wild. "You brought so many! Such high-quality too! Seems like you really want that eighth-grade Noxious Growth Pill."

Wei Wuyin saw the shopkeeper inspect the basket excitedly.

When he turned his attention elsewhere, he found several tigers gathered together through the window of a building, eating large grilled fish together on a wide platform. They seemed to be a family of five, excluding the father, and four were cubs. The fish exuded a pristinely rich aroma that indicated a high level of cooking techniques derived from alchemy.

The cubs nibbled joyfully as the mother ensured they each got appropriate portions.

Interactions like this were commonplace in cities like these. The outside world, particularly the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, had already taken note of them and referred to them as Beast Havens or Cities of Monsters by the ignorant and simple.

Some didn't even believe it existed.

Wei Wuyin smiled.

This was how the world should be. All races, species, or existence should be together. This will be the new norm of the Neo-Dawn Starfield.

One day, that python will grow into a Genesis Beast, traveling the stars and becoming an expert among his race. A proud existence respected by many.

One day, the tiger that brought him forth will elevate its services by transporting cultivators and beasts across the stars, bringing along world-sized carriages that will enable truly affordable transportation for people and large quantities of mystic-graded materials. In regards to transporting materials, Voidships will soon become obsolete.

Wei Wuyin was unbeknownst of these things, but he wished for them. And sometimes, that was enough to bring forth certain realities.

After an enjoyable journey, Wei Wuyin arrived at a two-story building that had several compounds within it. These compounds were self-contained realms that were suitable for cultivation.

When he got off, he paid in the typical currency for services here—blood stones. They were condensed and refined forms of essence blood that could be refined by any beast to elevate their strength, very useful to humanoid cultivators too. The other currency was the Beast Burst Pill, a pill on the same level as the Qi Essence Pill with all grades from first to ninth. Unfortunately, they were often only useful for beasts, beastmen, or those who cultivated Bloodline Methods of Beasts.

Wei Wuyin entered the building and found himself at the foot of one of the compound entrances. At this entrance was a Spiritual Jade meant to transmit messages from here to inside.

Wei Wuyin interfaced with this jade and transmitted, "I have a mission for you."

"..."

There was a brief period of silence before the door that was the entrance opened, and Wei Wuyin saw a handsome figure that contained a type of evil within a walk out of the spatial film that segregated the inside of the room from the outside.

The handsome young man looked at Wei Wuyin with a wisp of grievance, calmly saying: "Finally."

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1252 1246: Infiltration



Yun Che!

Wei Wuyin calmly faced Yun Che, the Evil Blessed, with a faint expression that was hard to decipher. It had been a long time since Wei Wuyin met Yun Che in person, usually having an intermediary handling their interactions.

The Evil Blessed no longer had an unconsolidated cultivation base at the Demi-Mortal Lord Phase. Instead, his aura was firm, vigorous, and oppressive without any attempt to exert any of it. This passive feeling was indicative of his startling growth during these past few decades.

Wei Wuyin didn't respond to his aggrieved comment, merely taking out a spatial ring and Spiritual Jade with a self-erasing formation inscribed within. "Get ready to leave within the hour," Wei Wuyin ordered flatly.

"..." Yun Che looked at the ring and jade, his eyes glinting lightly with a complex light. He couldn't help but ruefully recall his experiences since that fateful day of being lured into a trap, losing his mask and sword, including the Heavenly World Core in his possession. That day, he had devastated an

entire planet, killed one of the women that had robbed him, and fought against an Earthly Saint.

However, he had gone after Xiao Bing's life out of greed and lost his Heretical Berserk Godsword, the Thousand Faces of Man, and the Heavenly World Core he had just obtained as a result when that scaled-humanoid interfered. It could be considered the worst day of his life.

Or the best day.

Throughout his life, he had to fight and scheme for resources and treasures. He lingered on the border of life and death at all times, playing multiple angles, and any slip-ups could've led to the end of his life. But the moment Wei Wuyin entered his life, he finally understood why having the backing of an alchemist was so important.

Wei Wuyin was absurdly wealthy; there was no resource he couldn't obtain, and even Mystic-Earth-grade products were things he could acquire. Throughout his entire life, he had only seen three Mystic-Earth-grade products, which were impure to low-quality. Moreover, these products originated from extremely ancient ruins that predated the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region's written history or were sold at shady auctions with dubious origins.

This was merely 'seen', not 'obtained'. Out of those three products, he had only refined a single one, which essentially elevated his attainments before his Mystic Ascension. It was that fortune that allowed him to formulate a 9th Rune Ascension.

Since obtaining Wei Wuyin's favor, he had taken eight Mystic-Earth products, all at least at the low-quality, and extraordinary eighth and ninth-grade products that caused him to be shaken in his boots. The paste that elevated his Mortal State into an Origin State had heavily changed his understanding of alchemy and its limitations.

After finding out this type of product existed, he stared at the blank wall for seven days and seven nights, contemplating how insane the difference was, reflecting on how the saying—frog in a well—perfectly described his situation. It nearly drove him insane.

All those decades spent planning to steal the Heavenly World Cores to cultivate the mysterious and heaven-defying Mana Dominance and Origin State from the ancient legacy of a long-deceased figure from an ancient civilization, only to find out that a better, quicker, and simpler alternative existed that was merely at the ninth-grade was quite hard to digest.

Ninth.

Freaking.

Grade!

Unfortunately, he was limited in his gains. He had to do 'assignments' for Wei Wuyin to obtain anything beyond the mortal grade. Each completed mission earned him a Mystic-Earth grade product or two, and a lavish treatment of high-quality mortal products followed to recoup his losses, but he hadn't received an assignment in over four years, causing him to receive only the lowly passive benefits. He was innately greedy, a personality trait that he didn't try to cover up or suppress, and he always wanted more, hence the grievance.

"What's the pay?" Typically, he spoke to Wei Wuyin's intermediary, not the man himself, and while his emotions were rolling fiercely from seeing him, he kept his outward calm with impeccable control.

Wei Wuyin simply looked at him, a silence forming that caused the atmosphere to tense almost instantly, and Yun Che's brows furrowed. "Within your ring is a replica of your Thousand Faces of Man. You'll need it. As for pay, it'll depend on how well you do."

Yun Che couldn't help but lift his eyebrows in surprise. A replica? How? But before he could say anything, Wei Wuyin added: "I've tweaked this replica, and it has additional functions within. All the information is in the spiritual jade. Make any and all preparations you need. If you have specific talismans, armaments, or products needed for the mission, send a request through the standard channels. I've already authorized all available resources to be put at your disposal, including any information you'd need."

Yun Che was taken aback as he had never thought that Wei Wuyin would speak so much to him. Only after seeing his eyes that felt stifling and oppressive did he realize that this mission was more important than any other mission prior! Solemnly, he no longer asked questions and examined the insides of the spatial ring, finding the replica of the Thousand Faces of Man.

His heart shook as he felt Spatial and Time Power greatly exceeding his comprehension. It seemed this mission was bound to be extremely dangerous, and as if reading his mind, Wei Wuyin added: "There's a Mythical Oath within that you'll have to swear before proceeding. It's non-negotiable."

"..." Yun Che was familiar with these pre-sworn oaths, as he had sworn a fair bit for each mission given, but when he caught sight of the contents, he couldn't help but feel his soul shiver. By the time he gained himself, Wei Wuyin was already walking away with his back to him.

If this was decades prior, Yun Che might have used this opportunity to seize Wei Wuyin and try to regain his sword and mask while extorting benefits. He couldn't help but self-mockingly laugh when he dismissed the chances of that happening, not because of his weakness but because he could not see a better path ahead than by Wei Wuyin's side.

Moreover, he was still useful despite Wei Wuyin's title as Saintmaker and eighty-plus Earthly Saints in his sphere of control, an unprecedentedly fearful number of elites. It was clear that he was a wild card with precious skills that

Wei Wuyin couldn't easily obtain from others, and this value meant his future path was brighter than ever before.

After inspecting the contents of the mission once more, he lightly breathed out with an air of acceptance and resolve. He turned back and entered his residence. After doing so, he couldn't help but slightly mutter. "The Rainbow World Starfield, huh? This should be interesting."

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Two days later.

Wei Wuyin had personally visited several locations throughout the Neo-Dawn Starfield, including various connected Secret and World Realms within the Realm Region beneath the surface of the starfield. It was quite an interesting journey, as he met several Blessed cultivators that had been acquired through his recruitment efforts thus far.

Despite their varied cultivation, each of these figures was elite amongst elites with outstanding natural talents or gifts. It was quite interesting how most had at least two innate talents that reached the Overlord level, such as their Physique or Meridians. Moreover, they had acquired certain opportunities that painted an interesting picture and a startling realization.

Wei Wuyin sat in a forest on the hump of a dirt mound, his silver eyes observing the beautiful flora and active fauna around him. 'The Heavenly Daos is taking hasty actions to bring forth the remnants of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region's ancient titan civilization.'

Wei Wuyin took particular note of this phenomenon. The Grand Cyclic Stellar Region was once ruled by the Grand Cyclic Titanic Emperor, a Worldly Saint of outstanding talent and reputation, and the neighboring Stellar Regions were somewhat inferior, barely of any true value. The Desolate Dagnet Stellar Region, for example, was, as its name suggested—desolate. Before the

Sealed Regions was created by the three Ascended Sovereigns, it was more or less a beast wildcard with the vast majority of its occupants being dragons.

The other Stellar Regions near the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region had similar environmental conditions, only slightly better or slightly worse than the Desolate Dagnet Stellar Region. It seemed that eighty-thousand years ago, the past civilization hadn't grasped complete control over the Stellar Regions. To be fair, it was difficult to cultivate Stellar Regions, and elevating them to a high level required absurd amounts of effort, resources, and terrifyingly strong and accomplished cultivators.

'Recruiting those Blessed was as helpful as I thought. As long as I monitor their growth and individual gains, I can gather a clearer understanding of the Heavenly Daos' intent and find out certain mysteries.' Wei Wuyin contemplated as he closed his eyes; his mind absorbed quite a few spatial recordings of each Blessed experience over the last month or so through their Ascendant-granted Spatial Rings. They were all directed to the Palace of Eden's extensive library, and the Second Mind was tasked with sorting through them and finding relevant critical points.

Moreover, the Heavenly Daos was clearly giving certain Blessed faint connections to the World Beyond, seemingly preparing them to integrate with the greater society. This allowed Wei Wuyin to discover a few things. Firstly, the Heavenly Daos had some escape routes planned for the future. Secondly, the Calamity was fast approaching, and the Heavenly Daos' subtlety was lessening. Lastly...

'The All-Ending Stellar Calamity seems to be linked to the Sealing Array's compromise and history.' Wei Wuyin opened his eyes, a mysterious light flickering in his eyes, and he gathered a lot of intel. The bits of information that each of his Blessed Ascendants acquired through obscure legacies and fragmented wills were forming a picture, albeit extremely slowly.

He had effectively ruled out that the Endless Voyage Realm's descent was the main trigger to the All-Ending Stellar Calamity. No, he still had the firm belief that his existence and awareness of the calamity was the greatest reason for its beginning due to the Eye of Truth's timing and abilities.

Fortunately, this suited his goals as he didn't like others being the key initiator of the event. This made it unpredictable and hard to control, and he had already set himself to exploit the situation. By being at the center of it all, he could obtain a lot more benefits.

Suddenly, a figure blurred before him. The handsome and regal Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn bowed slightly, "Young Lord, the intruder has begun making their way deeper into the Neo-Dawn Starfield's territory."

Wei Wuyin inhaled slightly before expelling a breath of stifled air; his aura underwent a change as a heaven-shaking imperialistic dominance took over, making Wu Yu bow a few inches deeper. Wei Wuyin looked at Wu Yu, slightly apologetic for using him as a grindstone to better refine his usage of the Minor Authority of Imperial Law. It was similar to how an Emperor couldn't hold back their majesty toward a King or Duke of theirs.

"Purpose?" Wei Wuyin asked.

"She's been quietly attempting to hide her identity and aura while establishing various Solar Absorption Formations. While it's only because we allowed her through, she's growing increasingly brazen." Wu Yu said with a little disdain and discontent.

Wei Wuyin furrowed his brow as he thought of that silver-haired beauty, the Moonfall Lunar Queen that had previously tried to stealthily enter the Neo-Dawn Starfield. She had redoubled her efforts over the last month. The Spirits of War and Wu Yu had spotted her instantly, especially the Legion

Commander, but Wei Wuyin had given the order to observe and wait, allowing her to breach the Neo-Dawn Starfield while under strict surveillance.

He was curious as to what her purpose was. The Moonfall Lunar Queen was one of the few figures that he had no knowledge of or experience with, and there was little to no evidence of her involvement in any of the events that happened in the Sealed Regions, like a ghost. Even information about her from other forces including from within the Imperial Clan, was sparse and not very detailed.

She was an unknown variable which made Wei Wuyin take her a bit more seriously. Fortunately, she greatly desired entry into his sphere of control, so he didn't have to put much effort into discovering her purpose.

But Solar Absorption Formations? They were formations that absorbed and stored the Solar Essence of a Solar Star. He couldn't quite understand why she was going to such lengths to infiltrate the Neo-Dawn Starfield to simply place these formations. This type of formation wasn't too high-level or particular; almost every force had them in some capacity.

"In the last twenty-two days, she's established over two thousand formations across three different lunar satellites." Wu Yu pointed out.

Wei Wuyin's eyes widened slightly. Over two thousand in twenty-two days?

"Interesting." It was hard for anything to truly pique Wei Wuyin's interest, but a mysterious beauty with an unknown history performing strange actions certainly was on that list.

"Shall I apprehend her?" Wu Yu asked. In his mind, this woman was asking for death. Despite knowing that the Neo-Dawn Starfield had at least over eighty Earthly Saints, she still invaded it fearlessly.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled, "No need." He rose from his seated position and gazed at the sky above, his silver eyes flickering with majestic light. "I'll do it myself."

Wu Yu was taken aback, but then he nodded respectfully and vanished in a blip of silver light. Wei Wuyin took a step forward and disappeared as well, seemingly melding with the void!

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1253 1247: Curious Task



The Neo-Dawn Starfield's territory consisted of two layers—the Defiant Dawn and the World Dawn, as coined by its recently thriving natives of the starfield. The Defiant Dawn referred to the Neo-Dawn Defiant Star's primary territory, the forty-nine planets, and eighty-one lunar satellites. The World Dawn was the ever-expanding Realm Region that consisted of all sorts of interconnected Secret Realms and World Realms.

These two territorial layers formed the basis of the Neo-Dawn Starfield's area. The most interesting fact was that the demarcated region of the Defiant Dawn was much smaller than the World Dawn; the Defiant Dawn's border was limited by the furthest lunar satellite in its territory, but the World Dawn expanded across the entire former area of the Heptasage Pillar Stellar Region!

There was a lot of debate amongst a few radicals, however. Some argued that the Defiant Dawn was the furthest that the radiance of the Neo-Dawn Defiant Star could reach, suggesting that its territory was far, far greater than the

World Dawn. Fortunately, this was merely a small, inconsequential distinction of territory for now.

Wei Wuyin had no plans to expand the borders of the Neo-Dawn Starfield's Defiant Dawn, and this showed by the various formations established at the edges of its outlined boundaries. Placed at the border were strange objects that absorbed and reflected solar essence emitted from Baby Defiant, further blasting the celestial bodies with enriched solar essence, promoting their foundations at a quicker pace.

While the reflected solar essence was limited, with almost eighty percent returned into the Defiant Dawn's territory, the other twenty were still shining radiantly upon the rest of the world. This made the territory slightly beyond the Neo-Dawn Starfields a type of holy land that few starfields could hope to attain.

Baby Defiant's solar essence was a perfect amalgamation of Mortal and Mystic properties that exuded a type of indescribable harmony that was far greater than the forcefully refined and processed Mystic Radiance Belt solar essence of the Aeternal Sky Star. Furthermore, it was roughly ten times larger, so the quantity and quality of its solar essence were on a far greater scale, especially its quantity.

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At the outer edge of the Neo-Dawn Starfield's Defiant Dawn territory, several lunar satellites beautifully orbited certain planets, bringing about an unforgettable night with an undeniably gorgeous and mystical view. They housed various races, from elves to humans, and like any thriving starfield, these celestial bodies were primarily used for mining and cultivating unique materials.

Lunar satellites' cores all had an inherent property to absorb solar essence at a greater rate than any other celestial body. So they were the primary celestial bodies that gave birth to Qi Essence Stones, Astral Essence Stones, and Mystic Essence Stones. In contrast, planets often gave birth to ores of various types and attributes, such as Mystic-Terra Ore, which contained properties of earth and metal.

The Moonfall Starfield was renowned for its single super-lunar satellite—the Moon—and its ability to absorb copious amounts of solar essence from the entire Grand Cyclic Stellar Region at varied rates, with the highest being the Aeternal Sky Star. The Moonfall Starfield, despite being widely considered the weakest due to its absurdly low population and severe lack of experts, was among the top five providers of Essence Stones of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region.

This was the primary reason why the various forces left the Moonfall Starfield alone and at peace, fearful that this uniquely created super-celestial body of the Moonfall Lunar Queen would somehow be destroyed by her anger, offending various forces as a result, especially those who received the most stone out of trades. Adding on the reclusive nature of the Moonfall Lunar Queen, the starfield was more or less left peacefully alone.

The term 'Moon' was born because of the Moonfall Starfield, and several lunar satellites were given the name 'Moon' as a form of respect, such as the Elven Sanctuary's four Moons. However, the name didn't originate from the Moonfall Starfield; the librarians of the Sacred Library were titled Azure Moon Librarian, Crimson Moon Librarian, and Silver Moon Librarian, so the word had an even greater meaning that transcended the Moonfall Starfield.

This sparked great debate at one point, but it quieted down as other events occurred, placing the curiosity about its origins aside. The general consensus was that any lunar satellite that was used as a replenishing mine for

cultivating essence stones or other similar objects should be titled 'Moon', such as the forty-five Prosperous Moons of the Endless Prosperity Domain.

In the Neo-Dawn Starfield, all eighty-one lunar satellites were given the name of 'Moon', not because of the consensus but simply because Wei Wuyin was well aware of the origins of the name and what it meant. The origins were quite simple, and the only reason it hadn't fully taken form was solely due to the lacking of the Language Culture of the Sealed Regions.

In a loose translation from Mysticism, 'Moon' meant 'Solar Shadow', and it was one of the few words of Mysticism that Mortals could actually speak throughout the Mortal Realms without struggling. This strange phenomenon was a unique language exception that thoroughly exposed an inexplicable connection between the Mortal and Mystic Daos, and it existed among other things.

For example, 'Black Hole' meant 'Collapsed Star' in Mysticism, and 'Star-Devourer' meant 'Eater of Mortal Life'. It could be said that regardless of the cultivation realm, they could be heard and understood. Even if spoken in languages beyond the Mystic Dao, if it meant 'Moon', 'Black Hole', or 'Star-Devourer', every being could potentially understand it.

Wei Wuyin had been deeply fascinated by this profound truth, as if he'd seen a bridge between Daos in the most unexpected way when he learned of it. Therefore, when he named the eighty-one lunar satellites, he ensured they officially had 'Moon' in each of their names.

Ancient Crystal Moon was one of the oldest lunar satellites of the Sealed Regions, pre-dating the first recorded era, existing in records long before the development of the current cultivation civilization began, and it was something that Wei Wuyin had bought because it held traces of ancient legacies that a Blessed had once discovered, including a strange pocket-sized Secret Realm containing an ancient will.

Wei Wuyin had to spend quite a bit to purchase it, especially since it was the only celestial body that gave birth to the unique material—Ancient Crystal Water. This liquid contained Past and Future Time Energy alongside a Unique Intent. Its primary usage was to concoct time distortion products, such as pellets, that could assist in easing the recreation of events through Temporal Manipulation or in creating locations where time moved faster, thereby aiding cultivators to train longer under a deadline. Given that the Chosen King Competition was nearing, these types of products were insurmountable in value.

It was extremely valuable but only yielded a very small quantity in any given year. It was mostly used to help cultivators resist their Temporal Eye Astral Tribulation with great effect, a material that only a select few could enjoy. Since being brought to the Neo-Dawn Starfield, the Ancient Crystal Moon had produced a typical year's worth in a single month, a startling result!

In a large crevice of the Ancient Crystal Moon, a barefooted silver-robed figure was weaving hand-seals as faint wisps of Lunar Power etched themselves in the walls, glinting with a trace of gorgeous silvery lunar light. The figure was a young, unimaginably beautiful woman, seemingly in her early twenties, with a body that could provoke the lust of immortals and gods alike.

While she wore her robes modestly, her facial features or outstanding curves couldn't be well-concealed, nor was she trying to do so.

The Moonfall Lunar Queen!

Her aura was extremely subtle, almost non-existent, as she had erected a sealing formation that blocked off all fluctuations of Mystic Power to the outside world. She kept forming hand-seals as her Lunar Power poured out beautifully, etching across the crevice's jagged and uneven walls, creating a large formation!

The formation seemed to be connecting with the Ancient Crystal Moon, slightly amplifying its intrinsic property to absorb solar essence. It was discreet and subtle; its primary function wasn't to amplify but to redirect. The Solar Essence that would've normally entered the lunar satellite before going through the natural process of essence stone creation would instead be slowly extracted and stored inside the formation's core.

At a convenient time, she could return to extract the contained solar essence in vast quantities!

After roughly seven minutes, the formation was completed, and a faint smile formed on the Moonfall Lunar Queen's exquisite face! A face that was not one wick inferior to Empress Xiaocheng herself!

This was number 2,077! When she inspected the rate of Absorption, her smile deepened, bringing forth an intoxicating, heart-seizing scene.

"Quite an interesting Solar Essence Absorption Formation. It even contains traces of harmonized refinement powers and could produce Astralis Essence with enough time!" A surprised voice resounded from behind the Moonfall Lunar Queen, and her smile swiftly faded as her eyes turned to face the newcomer.

A silver-eyed man in a mixture of martial and alchemist robes sat on a nearby protrusion on the wall. He was inspecting the formation etched there with keen interest, with a hand held under his chin as he rubbed it softly. He wasn't looking at the Moonfall Lunar Queen at all!

"..." Her pupils constricted slightly.

Wei Wuyin felt a concealed spiritual sensory spell sweep across him and the entirety of the lunar satellite but he ignored it. "Such a curious task. But trying to siphon the fortune from my starfield without my permission? Don't you think that's a little rude?"

"..." While she didn't speak, her eyes contained unsaid questions, and her posture, while seemingly relaxed, had tensed greatly to the trained eye. She didn't doubt that the Ancient Crystal Moon was thoroughly surrounded, especially given the mortal youth that proclaimed himself as its Emperor was present.

Shockingly, however, she couldn't sense any other auras besides the inhabitants on the Ancient Crystal Moon and nearby Voidships traveling across the Dark Void.

"So, how about you tell me why you're doing this, and I'll consider sparing your life." Wei Wuyin finally looked at the Moonfall Lunar Queen, and her eyes pulsed with sharp intent.

"Let's at least tal-" Before Wei Wuyin could continue, the Moonfall Lunar Queen made the most sensible decision given the circumstances! She rushed toward Wei Wuyin! Her eyes flashed with lunar light as she moved like a shadow.

As long as she took Wei Wuyin hostage, she could plot her escape! As an Earthly Saint, she was extremely fast. Moreover, she didn't rely on any Mystic Power, so there was no indication of her taking action beforehand! She simply acted with her abnormally powerful body!

In a normal situation, and given their distance, this would be a perfect sneak attack! And if Wei Wuyin was an ordinary mortal, he would've been easily subdued! Unfortunately, he was far from the word 'ordinary'.

Wei Wuyin's brows furrowed slightly.

PA!

A crisp, soul-shaking, and world-shaking sound resounded!

**PARAGON OF SIN**



PA!

The soul-stirring sound was the result of a crisp, precise, and heavy-handed slap! A single motion, almost as perfect as a rainbow's dazzling arch, struck directly on flawless skin and an exquisite face.

The Moonfall Lunar Queen reeled as her pupils constricted to their absolute limits. She found her body moving backward at a pace faster than her approach, twisting in mid-air, catching the sight of her violet-silver blood accompanied by her once-perfect teeth flying across the air left her utterly stunned.

Was this real?

This question flashed across her mind as the heat of a palm etched itself on her cheek, and she spun in mid-air, not once, not twice, but three times! Then, she rocketed helter-skelter backward and heavily crashed haphazardly into the crevice's walls! The formation she had etched crumbled instantly alongside various bits of rock and dirt as she was buried under the rubble.

The entire Ancient Crystal Moon shook!

Wei Wuyin stared at his hand, a little stunned himself, but then an incomparably amused smile surfaced on his face. The Stellar-Paragon Physique and his refined physical energies supplemented by his Mystic-Rank True Void Dragon Body were unbelievably world-shaking, to say the least, capable of exerting a physical power that could outright send an Earthly Saint flying!

Wei Wuyin lightly patted his pants as he stood from his position. He saw the teeth and blood strewn across the dirty floor. That single slap hadn't just initiated a triple-twist maneuver but quite literally left the Moonfall Lunar Queen's teeth laying on the ground.

"Obediently answer my questions, and as I said: I'll consider letting you live." Wei Wuyin revealed a smile that wasn't a smile. The crime of invading his starfield and then trying to steal its fortune without permission was something that couldn't be easily forgiven. If it weren't for his curiosity about her purpose here, he would've long since had Wu Yu, the other Earthly Saints in his command, or the Spirits of War capture her.

RUMBLE!

There was movement in the massive hole created by the Moonfall Lunar Queen, and Wei Wuyin began to approach with stable steps.

"..." Eventually, the silver-robed beauty clawed her way out slowly and deliberately, her eyes shining with a faint lunar light as her Mystic Power began seething slightly. She was accumulating strength! She had used Temporal Reversion to reverse the damage on her face and recover her teeth, regaining her beauty! The defiant and strong-willed light in her eyes gave her an additional charm that was hard to dismiss. She was a woman that could genuinely stir the hearts of far too many men with a simple gaze.

Wei Wuyin continued to approach, each step taking him several meters forward. He was unbothered by her threatening actions and merely advised: "You're in MY starfield, so think it through. We could either have a civil conversation or—"

Before Wei Wuyin could finish, an outburst of Spiritual Strength erupted that swept across the Ancient Crystal Moon, making Wei Wuyin's eyes softly shake. A Spiritual Spell! Moreover, it wasn't targeted toward him.

A wave that could affect any Mystic Ascendant in the vicinity erupted, which the Moonfall Lunar Queen took as an opportunity to unleash her cultivation in full! She revealed herself as a 6th Runic Ascendant! This was a downright terrifying cultivation foundation by the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region standards, only one short of Jiang Jingshi!

The Moonfall Lunar Queen's plan was extremely simple: stall any incoming Earthly Saints and seize control of Wei Wuyin! She hadn't thrown that plan away! Given her strength, Wei Wuyin understood she was deathly afraid that the Legion Commander, and the Earthly Saints under his command would pursue her!

Her thinking wasn't wrong; she was deeply concealed, yet Wei Wuyin had found her; this meant her stealth and concealment Spiritual Art were more or less ineffective, so she needed to acquire assurance of her safety as the Moonfall Starfield was simply too far away from the Neo-Dawn Starfield!

Since Wei Wuyin was a mere mortal and the so-called Ascendant Emperor of the Neo-Dawn Starfield, this was the best target to seize! While his attack had stunned her, she didn't allow her hatred for the humiliating strike to cloud her judgment at such a critical moment! Moreover, she had yet to use her Mystic Power!

Wei Wuyin could only applaud her courageous actions in his heart as he didn't retreat in the slightest. However, he formed a hand-seal, and Baby Defiant began to shine with a type of gorgeous brilliance that left the residents of the Neo-Dawn Starfield shaken!

A condensed beam of impossibly fast radiant power shot into the Ancient Crystal Moon with incomparable precision. A silver light coated the entirety of the Ancient Crystal Moon in the time it took for the Moonfall Lunar Queen to begin her mad dash for survival! But it didn't stop it!

BOOSH!

A burst of her Lunar Power erupted as she shot toward Wei Wuyin with intense ferocity and intent.

"...?!" For a moment, the Moonfall Lunar Queen was deeply startled as she saw the world change before her despite her startling momentum. Just as she was a mere few meters away from Wei Wuyin, an insignificant amount of distance, she found that the entire Ancient Crystal Moon had been infused with a radiant power that left her heart quivering intensely!

Still, she didn't delay her actions as she unleashed a palm toward Wei Wuyin's dantian, intending to inflict severe injuries and seal his cultivation base in a single move! The aura from her attack would've caused the Ancient Crystal Moon to shatter despite being indirectly impacted!

PA!!

A world-ending, conscious-dimming, heart-crushing sound erupted!

The Moonfall Lunar Queen felt as if time itself had stopped as she watched the silver-eyed mortal calmly wave his hand, open-palmed, and have it land perfectly on her face! It was the exact same location as the previous slap! Her senses experienced a type of dissonance as her consciousness was reeling from the sheer disbelief. Before she could react, she found herself blown through the earth and into the Dark Void!

During which she spun not three times or six times but nine full times! The left side of her face was disfigured by the deep imprint of a powerful palm, with her cheekbones sunken in, her teeth were more or less all gone, and her tongue had been obliterated!

The Ancient Crystal Moon was protected by Baby Defiant's Starlight, boosting its defensive power to a level where an Earthly Saint simply couldn't shake it. The inhabitants living and thriving on its surface were equally as protected.

They were stunned by the layer of silvery light, but it was incomparably gentle, and they found that it was slowly integrating into their bodies, infusing into their Spirits of Cultivations and physiques, granting them an indescribable opportunity and boost to their cultivation bases.

A series of hollering cheers and shouts resounded as cultivators and beasts began to sit down wherever they were and refine the silvery solar light. Before long, countless cultivators praised the Ascendant Emperor for his grace, unaware that the Moonfall Lunar Queen was on the verge of destroying them all.

Wei Wuyin swept his Spiritual Sense across the Ancient Crystal Moon's surface, elated by the protection his World-Bound Star Domain could provide, and he casually stepped forward and pierced through the Void.

In the Neo-Dawn Starfield, the startling radiance from Baby Defiant enveloped the eighty-one lunar satellites and forty-nine planets, immediately instigating yet another cultivation frenzy. The blessings of the Neo-Dawn Ascendant Emperor were endless! These were the thoughts of cultivators present. Additionally, even Voidships transporting cultivators or materials were protected, enshrouded by a silvery radiance.

Only those who were at the Ascended level felt the disturbance in the Dark Void as the Moonfall Lunar Queen's Lunar Power spewed out chaotically to diffuse her momentum. Yet they didn't make a move to investigate. Since the Ascendant Emperor was taking action, their interference was more or less unnecessary.

"Gah!" The Moonfall Lunar Queen made a strange sound from her throat as she painfully clutched at her face, using her Lunar Power and Mana Control to halt her hurtling body. When she finally stopped herself, her beautiful eyes were faintly bloodshot and filled with indescribable disbelief.

She looked at the silvery radiance that was being unleashed from Baby Defiant, and her heart shook deeply. She didn't sense any fluctuation of formations or arrays, and this overturned her knowledge of what a Solar Star could do. Was the Solar Star providing power to the various celestial bodies of the starfield without any assistance? How?!

Before she could grasp what was happening, a silver-eyed mortal with an unearthly visage arrived a few dozen meters away from her with a flat, distant smile. "That's your second warning. You won't get a third," Wei Wuyin calmly said.

"..." The Moonfall Lunar Queen used Temporal Reversion to repair the damage to her face; clearly, she cared deeply about her looks despite her reclusive nature that the world knew. But then she found that her lifespan had been decreased by two centuries, and her eyes widened in horrified disbelief!

Wei Wuyin's attacks contained the Minor Time Law, so reversing the damage that he inflicted while harnessing that power was as difficult as bringing Ascended beings back to life, even for a simple physical injury!

"Who are you?!" For the first time, the Moonfall Lunar Queen spoke. Her voice was enchanting to listen to, containing a type of seductive charm that matched perfectly with her demonically vixen-like body. There was a little bit of drag to it, and it seemingly snared the soul and mind. The thought of how she would sound while moaning couldn't help but flash across the mind and hearts of every man, woman, and ghost who'd heard it!

"Red Dove City's Wei Clan's—Wei Wuyin, the Ascendant Emperor of the Neo-Dawn Starfield, and a Mortal Saint Alchemist of the Sealed Regions. Now, what about you? Who are you, exactly?" Wei Wuyin always found that question to be quite amusing when asked, and he always wanted to introduce himself as a Mortal Saint Alchemist.

The Moonfall Lunar Queen was momentarily stunned, and her eyes flashed with uncertainty and confusion as she heard his last title. Mortal Saint Alchemist?

"You're still so calm," Wei Wuyin pointed out curiously. One of the reasons why he stayed his hand was due to the Moonfall Lunar Queen's calm. Despite her situation and failure to capture him, she still exuded a type of confidence that hadn't been shaken yet, enough to be confused, stunned even, and calmly waste time asking such meaningless questions.

Where did her confidence come from? A mere 6th Runic Ascendant? Sure, she was powerful by the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region standards, but that wasn't much in his eyes, and she should be fully aware of Jiang Jingshi's fate.

"..." She didn't reply, merely sweeping her Spiritual Sense across the Dark Void for hundreds of thousands of miles. Eventually, she discovered a faint aura in the far-off distance.

She turned and exclaimed softly, "Assist me!"

Wei Wuyin was startled as he turned to find the source of her confidence, and then his eyes were immediately besieged by confusion.

The target of her words was similarly taken aback.


The handsome and regal Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn, Wu Yu, was the one she had spoken to! The man in question pointed at himself disbelievingly.

"Me?" Wu Yu asked.

## PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1255 1249: Strange Power





Assist?

"..." There was a strange, distinctly awkward silence as the drop-dead gorgeous Moonfall Lunar Queen turned to Wu Yu, her hands slightly outstretched and her gaze focused and expecting.

Wu Yu had been a casual observer since the beginning, watching the clash amusingly from a distance while simultaneously being in sheer awe at the capabilities of Baby Defiant. He knew of a World-Bound Star Domain and its intricate potential, but he never thought that it could unleash sufficient enough solar light that it could envelop and protect the starfield from the disastrous and cataclysmic powers of an Earthly Saint. So when the Moonfall Lunar Queen sent him an open spiritual transmission seeking assistance, he was deeply taken aback and unable to react.

Did this woman not know that he was Wei Wuyin's Alchemic Knight? The Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn? Did she want him to assist her into an early grave? He was genuinely curious!

Wei Wuyin was initially stunned, too, unable to figure out the connection. Did Wu Yu have a relationship with this woman? But when he thought of Wu Yu's relationships, something he was extremely open about, there was nothing tying them together. Considering Wu Yu's personality, he would disdain to hide it.

For a second, just the briefest of seconds, Wei Wuyin thought that the Moonfall Lunar Queen was Feng Qingchu's, also known as Lady Clearwind, true form! But that possibility was thrown away instantly! If she was, there was utterly no need to hide and establish formations! She had already submitted to Wei Wuyin, and he had no issues sharing his fortune with those under his charge.

Moreover, she was still in the starfield!

She was watching!

While an Incarnation or an Avatar Art was potentially possible, he didn't think his Celestial Eyes and Spiritual Sense wouldn't find any faults with it, especially given the Moonfall Lunar Queen's 6th Runic Ascendant State!

However, when he looked back at the Moonfall Lunar Queen, her expression was serene and seemingly expectant. She seemed to be waiting for her request to be followed!

Wei Wuyin thought with the quickness of a lightning bolt; his first instinct was to coordinate with Wu Yu to pretend to be a traitor and ally with the Moonfall Lunar Queen, then use this type of subterfuge to extract from her the purpose and knowledge she was unwilling to share. He could exploit her expectations and gain an understanding by having Wu Yu act in this way, wiggling himself into her trust.

"Nah."

Wei Wuyin spat.

Why?

Because it was too troublesome!

He took one step forward as his figure melded with the void, and time seemed to distort around him.

PA!!

Before the Moonfall Lunar Queen could react, her eyes still focused on Wu Yu, a third slap sent her barreling across the Dark Void. Her explosively blown back body avoided every celestial body of the Neo-Dawn Starfield. Her body spun almost eighty times as a gravitational force seemed to impose itself on

her body, controlling her trajectory as she was flung around until she returned to her original spot!

The slap was miraculous! Beautiful! And her body being sent across the Dark Void was quite a sight!

Wu Yu had the urge to applaud as he observed it all. Not just for Wei Wuyin's exquisite slap but for the exceptional control over the celestial bodies' gravitational forces, including Baby Defiant's, that allowed him to boomerang her body!

By the time she returned to her original position, there was a dazed light in her eyes as her face was disgustingly sunken, and her mouth was entirely ruined! She was no longer a beauty!

"That wasn't the third warning. Just a slight reminder of your circumstances. Don't worry; the offer to talk hasn't left the table just yet." Wei Wuyin smilingly said as he placed his hands behind his back. The more Wei Wuyin exerted the power of his physical body, the greater his control and understanding of his strength!

It was incredible!

At the Realm World Phase of the Astral Core Realm, he had tested his strength against his three subordinates—Highlord Bluecloud, Venerable Kun Yiming, and Venerable Slayingsword—to gauge his limits and abilities in a life-and-death scenario. He fought against a newly Ascended Demi-Mortal Lord skilled in Spiritual Spells, a well-armed Soul of Mysticism cultivator, and a World Heart Intent possessing Soul of Mysticism expert. These three allowed him to realize the gap between Mortal and Ascended beings.

He had won by relying on his saber's edge.

When he was at the Temporal Eye Phase, his Draconic Transformation allowed him to fight and dominate an Earthly Saint's raw strength and speed.

He Bojing wasn't weak, and an Earthly Saint had a constant Demi-Mystic State, so their bodies were terrifying to the limit! While he was incognito and thus only relied on his Draconic Void Astral Soul's powers, it was enough to give him a range of his potential strength.

Now, he had reached the Star Core Phase, bound a Defiant-sized World-Bound Star Domain, forged his Stellar-Paragon Physique to the initial levels, reached the Mystic-tier of his True Void Dragon Bloodline, and grasped several Minor Laws. He couldn't even begin to fathom his newfound strength, but facing the Moonfall Lunar Queen, he finally knew that he had deeply subverted the invincibility of the Mystic Dao!

As a mortal, he had grasped sufficient strength to contend with them! Moreover, Baby Defiant's abilities thus far weren't even the limits of its capabilities!

The itch to fight with the intent to kill swelled within his heart, but he suppressed it for now.

"You have three seconds until the offer is off the table," Wei Wuyin might be able to suppress it, but it wasn't for long! His patience for the stubborn woman was at its limits! This woman had invaded his starfield, unleashed power that could threaten his people, and seemed to be trying to cause a subordinate of his to defect. If it wasn't for his curiosity, she would've already been publicly executed!

Just like Jiang Jingshi!

Wei Wuyin wasn't a saint, nor was he someone who would throw away his self-respect and the safety of those who decided to willingly exist under his protection for a beautiful woman! He had lost everything once before, and anyone who threatened that deserved only the most gruesome of deaths!!

"..." The Moonfall Lunar Queen held her crushed cheeks, her eyes watery, and her gaze a little absentminded. Suddenly, she exhausted another few hundred years of her life to regain her gorgeous looks and exquisite charm once again, yet her eyes this time no longer exuded a distinct calm but a type of bubbling anger that was deeply violent and manic!

Her expression twisted!

She then looked at Wu Yu, her eyes solidifying with rage, and the irises of her eyes became violet in color. A demonic aura flared within them with the radiant intensity of a thousand stars!

"KILL HIM!" She explosively ordered Wu Yu, and her glabella formed a strange violet-colored image. It was hard to decipher, seemingly distorted to the senses, yet it was clearly a beast with either multiple tails or multiple heads, either of which was slender and long like a serpent with a large mass that could be its head or body. It was genuinely difficult to tell!

Then, seemingly thinking that this was enough, she formed three hand seals, and her body began to exude a spatial light that flickered intensely. She was trying to unleash a type of advanced Spatial Shift! Her skills in Spatial Arts were why she could invade the various starfields without being noticed alongside her exquisite Concealment Spells! She was going to take her leave!

Flee!

Wu Yu glanced at the mark curiously. For some reason, he felt that this stupid woman was trying to use something to control him! Before he could react, his entire body was enveloped by a violet glow! His heart shook violently as he used his Imperial Heaven Power in an attempt to expel it, but its energy was impossible to interact with! Why? It was corroding his Imperial Heaven Power!

**IT WAS CORRODING HIS IMPERIAL HEAVEN POWER!**

His heart and mind went into a state of panic, a rarity for a Monarch, but he didn't simply resign himself to some type of mind-controlling spell! He didn't hesitate to initiate the Third Grand Transformation, his eyes transformed to encompass the cosmic grandeur of stars and the endless void, and his hair grew extremely long and sharp to reflect the vast, inscrutable Dark Void! He resembled a ruler of the cosmos, of heaven and earth, and of the Void and all its stars.

His Imperial Heaven Aura intensified as his Imperial Heaven Power reached a pinnacle! His cultivation base roared, and he unleashed all NINE Mystic Runes within his Mystic Soul! They orbited the sanguine-colored bloody World Rune, further increasing his power as faint blood-red runes formed on his face.

"ROAR!" He bellowed a thunderously as he resisted the violet glow, but despite his 9th Runic Ascendant strength, it was to no avail! The energy was far, far beyond his cultivation base and understanding!

"Calm down." A serene voice emerged beside him, and his heart became clear as the panic subsided almost instantly. When Wei Wuyin arrived, Wu Yu's state of mind became extremely clear. This was the kind of unrivaled confidence an Alchemic Knight had in their Alchemist! This was the kind of unshakeable belief a subordinate had in their King! When he arrived, there was no need to panic!

Wei Wuyin lightly touched Wu Yu's shoulder, his Celestial Eyes inspecting the violet glow. For some reason, this glow felt familiar. But he couldn't recall from where! This was very strange given his mental strength, but he didn't delve into the obscure connection that his instincts and memories were trying to piece together and focused on Wu Yu.

After two seconds, Wei Wuyin frowned. "Don't resist the energy," he softly said.

Then, he looked at the Moonfall Lunar Queen, who was unleashing a greater Spatial Shifting Art!

"Snap!"

Wei Wuyin snapped his fingers toward her, and Baby Defiant's radiance intensified by another level. An uproar of excitement flared amongst the civilizations, but while they cheered, the Minor Law of Space was channeled through Baby Defiant's solar light and distorted all three dimensions of space!

It sealed the entire Neo-Dawn Starfield!

The powers of a World-Bound Star Domain!

Her spatial light fizzled depressingly as her beautiful figure was revealed once again to the world. Her expression this time was extremely ugly despite her exceptionally blessed looks and charm. She wanted to sow discord and confusion by using Wu Yu as a sacrificial puppet to ensure her escape! If before she had been asking politely, now she took a forceful stance to seize Wu Yu's assistance! But none of that mattered if she couldn't leave!

For the first time, panic began to set in her heart.

"..." Wu Yu looked to Wei Wuyin, the violet glow still encompassing his body. But there was not the slightest trace of fear in his heart, eyes, or soul. The power might exceed his comprehension, but he had the belief that Wei Wuyin could handle it!

"The aura seemed to be trying to find something in your essence blood; it's adhering to your Imperial Heaven Ignition Essence and the quintessence of your Imperial Heaven Aura," Wei Wuyin explained before his eyes gradually grew sharp and cold while his curiosity increased!

"The Imperial Heaven Ignition Essence?" Wu Yu's expression slightly changed. This was the fundamental quality that allowed those of his lineage to cultivate the Imperial Heaven Qi Method!

"It's not harming your foundation, only homing into it like it's receiving a signal. There's no need to worry; the energy has no conscious will behind it and is a result of an external power with severe limitations." As Wei Wuyin delved into it to alleviate Wu Yu's concerns, three seconds finally passed!

"What's the purpose? To control my mind?" Wu Yu asked as his eyes flashed with soul-shaking killing intent. As a cultivator of an Imperial Mystic Soul and the Imperial Heaven Qi Method, he was fiercely against enslavement, and his entire soul might suffer a backlash if it happened!

"I can't be certain, but it seems so. But its trigger, the will that should control that power, isn't present." Wei Wuyin discovered a little more, and then he tapped Wu Yu's shoulder. The Grand Knight felt his flowing blood tremble.

"Trigger? In my blood?" Wu Yu was stunned.

"Hold on," Wei Wuyin said as his glacial gaze fixated on the Moonfall Lunar Queen. He took a step toward the Moonfall Lunar Queen! It was time to bring this to an end!

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1256 1250: Mortal Rejection



Wei Wuyin's patience had run out!

His single step forward elicited a heavy, irresistible shift in the void that could be felt within one's bones, blood, and soul. It was casual yet unprecedented, like the first step of a true Monarch on a grand stage, as natural and unfathomable as their very existence. As his body moved, as if linked to his thoughts, will, and innermost desires, Baby Defiant's solar light intensified yet again.

This was Wei Wuyin's first time testing the World-Bound Star Domain's true power in a combat situation, and he was deeply engrossed in the profoundness of its power! While in the Neo-Dawn Starfield, within the range of Baby Defiant's radiance, he felt as if his Worldly Domain was fully evoked!

There was a taste of indescribable control and monstrous power at the tip of his tongue, thoroughly intoxicating and unbelievably addictive. The urge to act had been suppressed by sheer curiosity and caution, but since the Moonfall Lunar Queen decided to remain silent and uncooperative, there was no need to hold back.

"...!" The beautiful invader was thunderstruck by the sealing of the three dimensional layers of space—Fixed Space, Stable Space, and Chaotic Space—unable to fathom why her greater Spatial Art had been canceled. Not even the typical Starfield-wide Array could halt her escape. She kept trying, causing continuous bursts of silvery and multicolored lights from her body.

When the multicolored lights appeared, this was no longer simply the execution of greater Spatial Arts but deeply profound Spatial Arts that replicated Stellar Transit Light! To produce this form of power, she was exhausting her lifeforce!

"!!!" The Moonfall Lunar Queen was immersed in her numerous mental setbacks as the futility of her efforts dawned on her. After failure upon failure, her violet-colored eyes violently darted to Baby Defiant, the existence

responsible for her sealing, and she realized that this Solar Star was far, far more terrifying than she initially assumed.

Unfortunately, it was too late!

A cold chill abruptly coursed through her spine, reaching into the depths of her bones, slithering into her Sea of Consciousness, and her instincts flared violently as a sensation of deadly crisis crashed against her soul! Reflexively, she conjured a Mystic Ward! This ward was the combination of her Mystic Power and Lunar Spatial Energy, the resulting power of her Lunar Spatial Mystic Soul!

The beautiful silvery light of Lunar Power constructed a durable defense with the bulk of her strength. Despite its sudden creation, it was exceptionally sturdy and sufficient to defend against any ordinary Earthly Saint's attack! It was clearly a well-executed Spiritual Art that focused on defense.

"Oh?" Wei Wuyin emerged directly behind the Moonfall Lunar Queen without any prior warning or indication within the void. It was clear that even the Moonfall Lunar Queen hadn't noticed his arrival! And while she was unaware of his presence, she had formed a protective defense against him.

The survival instincts of an Earthly Saint could not be underestimated! Despite his Environmental Integration Art—Void-Origin Unity Art, he had been unable to effectively launch a killing blow! Yet when he had executed this art three times before, delivering three precise and crisp slaps, she had been completely unable to react!

Within a single blink of a mortal's eye, he had already considered three different angles to avoid those instinctive senses. Eventually, the Moonfall Lunar Queen located Wei Wuyin as she spun swiftly, her eyes honed onto his figure with startled surprise painted on her expression.

She retreated!

While doing so, she launched into a series of hand-seals as she prepared an attack. Since she couldn't escape through Spatial Arts, she would have to resort to brute force!

"No need; Let's see you face this," Wei Wuyin dismissed her retaliatory efforts, merely pointing a single finger toward her. Suddenly, the entire world began to react.

"...!" The Moonfall Lunar Queen's eyes constricted severely, and her heart was gripped by an unprecedented sensation of cataclysmic danger. For the first time since she had been discovered, genuine fear flashed across her gorgeous eyes! She hastily halted her hand-seals that had already reached the hundreds in number and forcefully canceled her art before bolting away in a burst of beautiful silvery light! She was full-on fleeing!

Unfortunately for her, she was within Wei Wuyin's STARFIELD! She was warned; Now, she had to suffer the consequences.

Mortal Intent!

Baby Defiant's power began to escalate into a territory that touched upon the limits of the Mortal Dao! One of the benefits of a World-Bound Star Domain, seizing a product of natural Star Ascension as theirs, was the ability to actively grasp Mortal Intent! This was an emulated will of the Mortal Dao!

Wei Wuyin's silver eyes, from his pupils to his irises, lost their color, becoming jet-black. Even his sclera, which was originally a white sea, had been painted with pure shadowy darkness. His current visage, which was as already unearthly handsome as physically possible, had gained a unique demonic flair, almost granting him the visage of a Demonic Emperor!

Yet the demonic feeling that was typically accompanied by violet light or a corrosive aura wasn't present.

The Moonfall Lunar Queen looked back with an irresistible urge in her heart, and seeing Wei Wuyin's appearance caused her mind to throb fiercely as she felt a sense of helplessness swell within her chest. "Wai-Wait!" She stuttered; her sensual voice lost all its charm in that single moment of desperation.

Since the very beginning, this thieving Earthly Saint was fearless as if her life was not in any danger. This caused Wei Wuyin's curiosity and caution to rise, as his displayed force was terrifying to behold, so to possess such confidence meant she had a trump card in her hand.

Wei Wuyin had only given her warnings, trying to handle the matter with civility while showcasing that she was dominated and at his mercy. He wanted her to yield. But it was as if his words and warnings were nothing but wasted air. Not only had she acted against Wei Wuyin by attempting to capture him immediately upon being caught, but she continued to disrespect him by neglecting his merciful offer and refusing to talk except when she asked that extremely pointless question.

He no longer had any patience or mercy to spare!

"Mortal..." Wei Wuyin's pointed finger was locked onto the Moonfall Lunar Queen's fleeing figure. From her reaction, Wei Wuyin knew that she had experienced this type of power before!

"...Annihilation!" When he finally spoke, it was like the whisper of a death god proclaiming one's exile. Baby Defiant's solar activity reached an all-time high, and the entire world began to tremble vigorously! Even those cultivating were stunned, terror and horror emerging in their hearts as well as a subconscious feeling of reverence!

"No!" The Moonfall Lunar Queen hurriedly tried to expel any Alchemic Spirit Remnants within her body and Mystic Soul! It was a renowned ability of Alchemic Sovereigns to invoke Mortal Annihilation—the active and endless

rejection of the Mortal Dao—and she knew how to dispel it! She didn't run but hurriedly sat down in the Dark Void, cross-legged, her eyes closed, as she began to rapidly formulate hand-seals to dispel all traces of alchemic remnants from her body. Bursts of seven-colored light and liquid poured out of her pores. Her hectically urgent and extremely violent method caused her Mystic Aura to weaken considerably!

Her method was ingenious and decisive, clearly experienced with Mortal Annihilation; alas, that was only toward the Mortal Annihilation unleashed by an Alchemic Sovereign, not a World-Bound Star Domain. As long as one was within range of the Star Domain, the Mortal Dao's rejection was unstoppable!

This was one of the greatest, most horrifying powers of a World-Bound Star Domain, and why it perfectly represented the peak of the Mortal Realms! By cultivating their World-Bound Star Domain, the phrase 'invincible within the Mortal Realms' was accurate! At least while within the range of their Star Domain's influence!

Suddenly, a serene silence descended across the Neo-Dawn Starfield like an all-encompassing gust. As if by some unnatural force, countless gazes from all over focused on the Moonfall Lunar Queen's distant figure or general direction. While they couldn't 'see' her, they 'felt' something. It was something that provoked indescribable horror within them.

Wu Yu's eyes trembled as he felt the Mortal Dao for the second time in his life! The first time was when he transcended the Mortal Dao! Even then, it was like some kind of mother that was seeing her child off to greater pastures, gentle and warm, forgiving and encouraging, but this was entirely different. There was a current of rage, hatred, and downright ferocity that caused him to shiver.

He shivered!

Every iota of ambient energy, mana, and essence within the Neo-Dawn Starfield reacted! From every Secret Realm, every World Realm, every Flat Continental Earth, every Lunar Satellite, every Planet, every Solar Star throughout the Realm Region, and lastly, from Baby Defiant!

Like a gargantuan flood of hellish material, the energies, essence, and mana of myriad types and attributes began to thunderously barrel toward the Moonfall Lunar Queen from every conceivable direction and every dimension of space! Their speed was carried by mortal-graded light energies, reaching the speed of light!

Undodgeable!

Irresistible!

The Moonfall Lunar Queen was stunned as her pupils shrunk to their limits! She tried to move, but her previous actions had caused her Mystic Aura to teeter on the verge of complete collapse, and the flood of powers was simply too fast. While she had expelled all her internally present Alchemic Spirit Remnants, it didn't matter in the slightest! In fact, it only hastened her fate!

The flood of mortal power was seemingly endless, besieging her from all sides, and she was instantly drowned in a mass of colorful lights and gaeous clouds. She vanished...just like that.

"The Mortal Energies are bringing along Mystic Energies as well. Is it the harmony of Baby Defiant?" Wei Wuyin observed the situation curiously as his jet-black eyes congealed with frightening killing intent as if emulating the will of the Mortal Dao's rejection. He was channeling the state of the Mortal Dao's Will at the moment of rejection!

This was not the typical Mortal Annihilation that Alchemists could unleash, but Mortal Annihilation that was empowered by a Supermassive Solar Star with the harmony of Mortal and Mystic. Wei Wuyin could sense traces of Mystic

Energies, Mystic Essence, and Mystic-graded Mana that had been brought along. While it wasn't actively rejecting anyone, the Mystic Dao was assisting the Mortal Dao!

Harmony!

Wu Yu and every other Earthly Saint present, including Lady Clearwind, were watching with unimaginable horror in their quivering hearts. Was this the might of the Neo-Dawn Starfield?!

Wei Wuyin's jet-black eyes narrowed slightly as he watched the continuous flood of crushing power besiege the Moonfall Lunar Queen. This Earthly Saint...was resisting!

Just as Wei Wuyin was about to unleash another ability of the World-Bound Star Domain to bring this to a perfect conclusion, a burst of violet-colored light that was as luminous as a Solar Star explosively erupted!

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1257 1251: Origin Of The Calamity



1257 Chapter 1251: Origin of the Calamity

"Young Lord!" Wu Yu Shouted.

The crushing maelstrom of energies, essence, and mana called forth by Mortal Annihilation was soul-shaking to bear witness to. It was a sight of immeasurable power, endless pursuit, and hectic destruction, an emulation of the Mortal Dao's fury and will!

Whether they were experienced veterans of the cultivation world or ignorant bystanders of humble origins, they were all awed by the colorfully dazzling clash of rampant brilliance that dominated the Dark Void!

The frenzied cultivation session instigated by the protective layer of silvery solar light was universally paused as the ongoing happenings in the world beyond their homes were stunning in comparison. Due to the presence of spatial energies and essence, the visually soul-stirring sight of churning vortexes of brilliant color and disastrous power could be seen from every area of the World Dawn-the Realm Region of the Neo-Dawn Starfield!

It was beautiful beyond words.

Amongst the countless observers in the heartfelt awe, there were a scant few relative to the population experiencing a drastically blood-shaking sensation. Quite literally!

Wu Yu's shout was meant to be followed by an attempt to assist Wei Wuyin in this unexpected development, yet he found himself vibrating as something within his blood began to tremble! The violet glow that had enveloped his body was swimming across his blood as if to search for something in particular. His mind went blank as he subconsciously recalled Wei Wuyin's previous words!

"The aura seemed to be trying to find something in your essence blood..."

"...no need to worry; the energy has no conscious will behind it and is a result of an external power with severe limitations."

Fortunately, those previous words held true as the violet glow began to dissipate after finding absolutely nothing! Within the blink of an Ascended's eye, the violet glow of unfathomable power that vastly surpassed Wu Yu's current comprehension and cultivation base promptly left. To his surprise, he had forgotten about his desire to assist. After a jolt of realization, he hurriedly tried to find Wei Wuyin!

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Ba-Dum! Ba-Dum! Ba-Dum!

Wei Wuyin's jet-black eyes rippled intensely; the violet rays of light began to resist Mortal Annihilation, protecting the Moonfall Lunar Queen's faint figure and exerting a type of aura that was causing his heart to fiercely race with the intensity of a billion stampeding rhinos. He couldn't feel his hands, arms, body, or head. Only the pounding of his heart resounded in his ears, verifying his continued existence as a living thing.

"EDEN!" Kratos explosively roared.

"I know! I know!" Eden replied urgently.

Instantly, Wei Wuyin's mental calm was returned as his jet-black eyes receded, regaining their radiantly silver color. He shook lightly; his body instantly executed the Void-Origin Unity Art as he retreated into the void seamlessly. The Void-Origin Unity Art wasn't simply an Environmental integration Art but a Movement Art as well.

Within a blink of an Ascended's eyes, Wei Wuyin was hundreds of thousands of miles away, reappearing as the violet glow intensified.

"What was that?" Wei Wuyin asked without a tinge of fear in his heart or his Celestial Eyes. His wasn't about the temporary disturbance that occurred to his mental state. It seemed to originate from Eden, but it affected his entire cultivation base and caused him to lose himself for a moment.

"A powerful Demon's Soul Aura!" Eden's answer brought a spark of instant enlightenment to Wei Wuyin. At this point, he was long since familiar with eden's demonic properties, capable of cultivating demonic energies and essences without any discomfort. While it was one of the earliest mysteries of his cultivation path, a question that even his alternative self was unable to find out the answer to, it was something he was aware of.

The hierarchy of demons was similar to all living things, and meeting the aura of a greater lifeform would induce various changes to one's state. For humanoids, a sense of inferiority and suppression; for beasts, a sense of oppression and submission; for demons, a sense of corruption and dissonance. If Eden had expected this, he wouldn't have been affected due to its dual usage of the Mind Dao and Alchemic Dao. Unless that existence could surpass both!

Wei Wuyin's current attention was on the Moonfall Lunar Queen and the storm of Mortal Annihilation, leaving the analysis of what happened to his Second Mind to dissect.

"So this is your trump card? The origins of your confidence?" Wei Wuyin softly muttered to himself. He had to admit, this was a terrifying surprise!

Suddenly, Wei Wuyin pulled with his right hand. A soft draconic roar accompanied a burst of Void Starforce as he yanked a figure out of the void!

Wu Yu!

"Stay." Wei Wuyin calmly ordered as his Minor Imperial Law exerted itself. Wu Yu was deeply stunned by the sudden change in location, his heart rampaging for a brief moment before he settled down upon sensing a comforting power, promptly nodding as he quietly moved behind Wei Wuyin. He had just rushed into the Mortal Annihilation maelstrom before he was brought away, his actions a sign of his unhesitating loyalty.

They both watched as the situation developed. The outbursts of scintillating violet light began to fight against Mortal Annihilation! The energies, essence, and mana of the Neo-Dawn Starfield, both Origin Dawn and World Dawn, were seemingly endless as a heavy, disastrous clash unfolded.

"Young Lord..." Wu Yu couldn't resist the urge to speak at this moment.

Wei Wuyin formed a hand-seal; the exuded radiance of Baby Defiant increased as Little Defiant began to reinforce it through their unfathomable link, increasing the protection of the Neo-Dawn Starfield and its citizens. However, this wasn't what Wu Yu wanted to speak about.

Wei Wuyin softly responded, "I'm tracking it; as for the light's strength, it's far beyond my current means to handle, but it seems to only be able to exert a fragment of its true strength. In the face of Mortal Annihilation, however, it's all pointless." Since Eden had experienced its soul aura, Wei Wuyin had more or less gauged some of its strength, and it was beyond a Wordly Saint, so he could easily deduce that it was under certain limitations-whatever "it" was.

Wu Yu's eyes glinted brightly but remained silent and observing.

Mortal Annihilation! It wasn't considered a frightening power by Wang Yutian for no reason! Even a Wordly Saint feared this power, and this was a form of it that was amplified and assisted by the Mystic Dao! If Wei Wuyin was only as strong as the debonair version of himself at the Star Core Phase, he would only be able to run away embarrassingly, likely even forced to leave behind his entire starfield, but he wasn't that form of himself.

He was far, far, far stronger!

The violet light was struggling intensely against the rampant arrival of endless mortal and mystic energies, essence, and mana. The battle was fierce and deeply understated by how subtly it unfolded. To the outside world, only a sublime light show could be seen; only a very few saw the devastation of all three dimensional layers of space, and the area of these spaces was subjected to what could be equivalent to several full-force attacks of a Wordly Saint. The deceased and talented Xu You would likely be severely injured by this violet light!

Unfortunately, it faced Mortal Annihilation, which originated from the Mortal Intent of Little Defiant, not Baby Defiant, a mere extension of its greater form! Without exerting any energy itself, the power ravaged the violet light, grinding it down as its intensity that could rival Solar Stars gradually dwindled.

Idle with little to do, Wei Wuyin spoke to Wu Yu: "Congratulations on forming your ninth Mystic Rune. It was only a matter of time, given your outstanding talent."

"Hm?!" Wu Yu was taken aback but then grinned confidently. The earlier unease he felt had completely dissipated. The degree of confidence that Wei Wuyin exuded was infectious. "Thank you, Young Lord. I couldn't have done it without your assistance."

Wei Wuyin nodded but went on to say: "Given your talents, you'd have achieved at least this much if you had been born in a location like the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, even if I wasn't present." This was genuine praise, and Wu Yu could feel it. The Grand Knight also understood that while Wei Wuyin might be right, could he have formed his final Mystic Rune in such a short period without him?

Unlikely!

While they talked, the violet light began to retreat! It was foolish to fight against the near-limitless amount of power to start with. There's a reason why Mortal Annihilation was so terrifying to Ascended beings! It simply didn't end! While simulated Mortal Annihilations had limitations, such as the Alchemic Dao's requirement for Alchemic Spirit Remnants and the World-Bound Star Domain's range limit, as long as these things weren't broken, the power was impossible to resist.

Wei Wuyin noticed this and furrowed his brows. This was a good test of his World-Bound Star Domain's powers, so he was slightly elated at the

results. Considering that the Endless Voyage Realm's descent was inevitable, it was good to know that he could protect his starfield, including the Third Node, from their greedy clutches. This gave him the initiative!

All his hard work and life-and-death risk-taking were paying off major dividends, and he was happy to see it.

"Young Lord!" Wu Yu called out.

Wei Wuyin's Celestial Eyes shone as he noticed a silhouette within the mass of colorful energies. The violet color was outlined and difficult to suppress. It resembled the mark on the Moonfall Lunar Queen's forehead from earlier, but now it was clear that there were multiple heads and serpent-like necks attached to a greater body. Unfortunately, this silhouette was human-sized, so Wei Wuyin was unable to get a clear image or count of its heads.

"Are you the origins of the All-Ending Stellar Calamity?" Wei Wuyin wasn't an idiot who could not see the clues gathered together. The All-Ending Stellar Calamity likely had something to do with him, a deduction he determined from the prompt timing of the Eye of Truth's reveal of its existence. The Moonfall Lunar Queen, the Stellar Rain, the gathering of Solar Essence, and Baby Defiant's existence, he would be a fool not to connect all these pieces.

Did the Heavenly Daos predict that he would forge a World-Bound Star Domain?

He thoughtfully considered this. The Bloodline of Sin helped blind the Heavenly Daos, but considering that it still could give him fortuitous encounters of Karmic Luck, it had to be able to predict some of his actions and paths. This was true for the World's Trends as well.

Wei Wuyin felt like he was missing something important.

Something very important.

After a long while, he could only place it aside. The violet light and silhouette vanished.

"End." Wei Wuyin's eyes resumed their jet-black darkness and recalled the power of Mortal Annihilation via Mortal Intent! With a heavy breath, the Mortal Annihilation began to disperse, and the gathered energies acted under some profound power to return from whence they came. Then, Baby Defiant began to resupply the expended energies and essence through the Minor Law of Origin.

Typically, the Mortal Dao would replenish the expended energies and essence, but this was a World-Bound Star Domain's Mortal Annihilation, so he had to pay the cost to repair the damage inflicted and the loss of energies and essence. If he could not do so, the Mortal Dao would inflict a harsh backlash, perhaps even claiming the Solar Star to recoup losses, World-Bound or not.

This was the cost and disadvantage of using Mortal Annihilation. Wei Wuyin could only mitigate it due to Little Defiant's vast energies and the Minor Law of Origin, capable of fulfilling this cost swiftly.

"Fortunately, others won't carelessly use this power against me because of this," Wei Wuyin considered as he spotted a body floating in the Dark Void, ravaged and clothes in stripes of clothing. It was once a beautiful woman. Now, it was a half-deceased fleshy body.

Wu Yu's eyes narrowed. Wei Wuyin didn't hesitate to fly toward the body, arriving after a few seconds.

"She's alive," Wu Yu immediately noticed as he followed.

"..." Wei Wuyin was internally taken aback that the Moonfall Lunar Queen was still alive! But he didn't care.

Forming his palm into a saber, Wei Wuyin swiped across her slender neck! A once beautiful head was sent flying; a wisp of Originfire enveloped it, bringing about genuine hell-raising pain before her death!

"Claim," Wei Wuyin began to evoke the Spoils of War aspect of the Law of War! A lot of mysteries would be solved if he took the time to explore them after she became a Soldier of War. But that wasn't his goal; he had other ways to discover the truth.

"NO." The corpse of the Moonfall Lunar Queen unleashed a soul-quaking roar that seemed to originate from the depths of the endless abyss, dripping with eerily calm malice and seething rage.

Wu Yu's eyes widened; something unexpected happened--the Moonfall Lunar Queen's soul vanished, claimed by a burst of violet power, and it shuttled through chaotic space at lightspeed.

"Haha!" Wei Wuyin chuckled amusingly. "If I want to kill someone, not even gods can stop me!"

SHIING!

From within Wei Wuyin's body, the Minor Laws of Saber, Annihilation, Imperial, Space, Time, and Origin began thrumming! He was about to take action! Within his Profound Saber Meridian, Element howled! Wei Wuyin's aura reached an ungodly level for a mere mortal!

Wu Yu's heart shook! What type of power was this?! How could a Starlord be this powerful?!

But then, a wisp of violet light emerged before him with a sharp flicker. It came from seemingly nowhere!

Wei Wuyin immediately stopped; his eyes brightened, and he reached out, grabbing the wisp of violet light. After seeing what it was, his aura instantly

receded, and he smiled brightly. The Law of War within the Nexus War Flag was retracted as well, no longer laying claim to the Moonfall Lunar Queen's soul.

"While gods can't stop me, bribes are very effective." Wei Wuyin shamelessly said, nearly causing Wu Yu, who was almost shaking to his core, to tumble to the side.

"..." Three violet lights flashed before Wei Wuyin immediately afterwards, and he laughed heartily. "We can let bygones be bygones. It was a small matter anyways." He didn't hesitate to snatch all three lights, and Baby Defiant's blockage of Chaotic Space ended, allowing the soul of the Moonfall Lunar Queen to escape.

The only thing that remained was a decapitated corpse. Wei Wuyin waited a while before reaching out to the Originfire-engulfed head, bringing it into his Saint Ring, and sending the headless corpse to Wu Yu. "Let Tuo Bihan use that blade of his to absorb the remnants of her cultivation base; I've sealed it, but it won't last long."

Wu Yu grabbed the headless body unhesitatingly, still stumped by what just happened. He realized that the decapitated corpse's Mystic Core and Innate Energies were perfectly preserved, while her Mystic Soul was destroyed. This was deliberately done before her head was removed!

She was effectively a dead person! The Moonfall Lunar Queen, even if her soul was taken away, would be no different than a remnant soul without a consciousness. Even if she began anew, it would be no different than experiencing the elusive concept of reincarnation without your memories. The only benefit would be that her new consciousness' foundation was an Ascended being would be set and unchanged.

Wei Wuyin still didn't let her go!

Was this all planned?

"..." Wu Yu watched Wei Wuyin's tall back as he looked elsewhere into the distance. This young mortal who once was extremely weak had fully matured! The limits of his power and means were something Wu Yu couldn't imagine. The more he stayed by Wei Wuyin's side, the more unfathomable he became.

panda,novø1,coM Wei Wuyin turned to Wu Yu, and the smiling grin on his face even caused Wu Yu to grow extremely dazed. "I found it."

Wu Yu was unaware, but Wei Wuyin had just obtained the most critical piece of information that would allow him to exploit the All-Ending Stellar Calamity!

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Fort-odd days later...

The eve of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo was here!

## PARAGON OF SIN

### Chapter 1258 1252: An Abrupt Bloop



After three long yet exceptionally active months for the Seal Region, the eve of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo had finally arrived!

Since Wei Wuyin's unexpected declaration of the Neo-Dawn Starfield's founding, few had been able to take a breath and digest the news because it was immediately followed by one of the grandest events since the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit, Wei Wuyin's solo Alchemic Expo! The announcement had instigated a grand journey for countless souls in the Sealed Region, especially

as it was an all-inclusive, all-invitation event! And true to his name, Wei Wuyin had ensured that his words were as legitimate as possible!

Tens of thousands-no, hundreds of thousands of Voidships took to the Dark Void, carrying anywhere from hundreds of thousands to hundreds of millions of passengers, ranging from experts at the Mystic Ascendant Realm to those at the Qi Condensation Realm. Even the poor farmers with little cultivation talent that might never leave their continent or city were given the opportunity to participate; it was an unprecedented event!

With the assistance and deployment of top-tier experts such as the Sanguine Ghosts and Golden Life Pavilion, those under Wei Wuyin protected and escorted almost everyone at little to no cost, depending on their family size, cultivation base, origins, and wealth. The act itself went far beyond the concept of philanthropy!

The sheer cost was avidly discussed among the scholars and financial managers of various regions, and they quickly discovered that the cost-to-profit ratio was indescribably lopsided; taking the first month of operation, the slowest month as many were hesitant, the cost reached nearly seven thousand Mystic Essence Stones!

To put this into a proper perspective, two small-sized, astral-graded planets were roughly priced at seven mystic essence stones! Seven! The cost was worth two thousand small-sized, astral-graded planets, and all of it was purely expended on transportation and protection. This wasn't even accounting for the environmental factors, as each starfield ensured that cultivation was possible for each traveler!

But this grew even more insane as the second month arrived, as more than ten times the number of initial participants hopped on the Voidships, so much so that the Golden Life Pavilion and other organizations had to rent Voidships from various organizations with irresistible deals. The number of people was

so great that Boundless, the signature Voidship of the Boundless Martial Sect, which possessed ninety-nine internalized Secret Realms, had to be rented out!

By this point, the act of calculating cost of such an endeavor was too difficult and jumbled that scholars could only issue rough estimates. When released out into the world, it shook so many hearts that it only fueled the desire to take this chance to explore the vast cosmos beyond their reach. The third month was for those who were hesitant, and it made use of the fastest known Voidships, alongside several Void gates due to the sheer distance and limited time.

While the Void Gates didn't directly transport the Voidships to the Neo-Dawn Starfield, they did ensure that the third month's ships caught up to the second month's ships.

Since profit was to be made, there were bound to be those that turned this philanthropic display into a potential earner for themselves, providing experiences that Wei Wuyin and his cohorts were simply unable to deliver effectively. Regardless of how wealthy Wei Wuyin was, there was no way he could provide the best environments for cultivation and luxurious experiences to everyone.

The Everlore Association, however, had! During the first month, they launched their own brand of luxury ships. At this time, Void Gates weren't being used and were simply too expensive to deploy, and many hadn't even thought that Wei Wuyin would use them given their heavy costs. They instead resorted to using the fastest Voidships, installing the greatest environments for the limited month of cultivation, targeted toward forces with Chosen or potential Chosen.

It served to hook quite a few cultivators. This was even before they announced they would exclusively be offering certain alchemical products on

these ships. While the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo was the main event, those forces couldn't ignore the Chosen King Competition at the periphery.

The business model was swiftly copied by other organizations and associations, from merchant to alchemy, and dozens of forces began to seek profit by offering various luxurious experiences, deals, and uniquely concocted signature products that wouldn't necessarily be sold without a heavy cost. This lure helped them bring in much profit from those who were hooked and haughty, draining them dry with a bright smile.

Some refused to travel under Wei Wuyin's arrangements because it meant being shuttled with cultivators of lesser socioeconomic and cultivation status.

Others refused to do so because they believed the environment would hinder their geniuses during those three months of cultivation. Similarly, they were unwilling to miss out on the Alchemic Expo of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, because these were opportunities for Alchemists to show off their wealth, and typically, everyone present would experience some untold levels of good fortune. Considering the rumored Neo-Dawn Defiant Star's unique solar essence that was praised by various intelligence organizations, no one wanted to miss experiencing it!

A few simply believed they deserved the best and refused to go along with Wei Wuyin after receiving no special privileges. It could be said that the Everlore Association was quite keen when it came to this type of action, and they certainly tried to push a narrative that Wei Wuyin might be 'for everyone', but they were 'for elites'. After all, they had two Alchemic Saints in their ranks!

When the Golden Life Pavilion learned of this, many were unable to hold in their laughter. This attempt to rebrand itself was quite amusing, considering it had been losing the lower-tiered and graded product battles at almost all levels, in terms of quantity and quality.

During the last few years, there was a price battle where both sides competitively lowered their prices to compete in the market of certain products. It was a thrilling event that the various forces loved to see; it was on the lips and minds of everyone at the time, but after a fierce round of markdowns, the Everlore Association was unable to keep up with the pace of production!

Moreover, the Golden Life Pavilion was ruthless; they put the products at cost, not taking into account labor, processing, or transportation. They could do this because, unlike the Everlore Association, the Golden Life Pavilion didn't need to sell through third-party vendors. After a certain point, even the third-party vendors started suffering a loss.

In the end, the Everlore Association could not take the loss of profits or keep up with the quantity and folded like a broken lawn chair. They then began to move away from the 'low-graded market, beginning to focus on seventh, eighth, and ninth-grade products. These products were suited for Astral Core Realm experts, so they targeted the experts of the world.

Meanwhile, despite being occupied with transporting trillions of souls, the Golden Life Pavilion began to absorb the various vendors or make deals with those that once peddled the Everlore Association's products with locking deals. This was especially so for Astral Core Realm's ran organizations, which were the vast majority. The oaths that had previously been sworn seemed entirely ineffective as vendors broke their contracts without consequence.

The rumor of Wei Wuyin's Mortal Realms Oath-Breaking Products, a lesser form of the King of Everlore's Oath-Breaking Product at the Mystic-Rank, was beginning to spread. His words at the edge of the Born True Starfield hadn't been taken seriously until then. Unfortunately, this product was not for sale!

If it was, the sheer pandemonium that would arise might be unprecedented and unstoppable given the oath-sword nature of the world's cultivation society.

The Everlore Association's traveling business was recouping losses effectively. They even shamelessly used the cleared travel routes of the Golden Life Pavilion's fastest ships, allowing them to obtain better safety. Their shameless actions led many of the other businesses to ride on their coattails and mimic them, following along the Golden Life Pavilion!

Shockingly, however, not a single word was said in response by the Golden Life Pavilion. They allowed it! This sparked another change as cultivators realized they could take their extremely small-sized or tiny-sized private Voidships to follow behind the Golden Life Pavilion's travel routes or shadow their ships to obtain a solitary experience without a high cost.

After all, be it the Everlore Association's pricey model or Wei Wuyin's low-priced, all-inclusive model, they both had their flaws that most would rather avoid. The only reason they couldn't was either they were unable to do so, or they were terrified of traversing the dangers of the Dark Void!

Unfortunately, cleared routes did not mean safe routes.

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Forty-odd days before the eve of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo...

In the vast Void-Blank Space, a luxurious large-sized Voidship was carrying thousands of cultivators despite having the capacity for millions. Some among them were Chosen, others were Patriarchs and Matriarchs of the newly defined Gold-tier forces, and at the helm was an Ever-Knight. If Wu Yu was here, he would recognize this Ever-Knight as the one who had lost their physical body to his ruthless hands after this Earthly Ascension.

They were trailing about a few hours behind one of the Golden Life Pavilion's largest ships.

The Ever-Knight's eyes stared at the far distance where the Neo-Dawn Starfield was situated. His eyes narrowed sharply, a glint of hatred emerging, and his palms twisted the control talisman of the Voidship. He wanted nothing more than to exert his strongest might to destroy the Neo-Dawn Starfield alongside that damned Grand Knight.

"One day..." He whispered. One day, he swore to himself, he'll have his revenge.

Suddenly, the Neo-Dawn Starfield began to burst into radiant light. The Ever-Knight was stunned, but the event only lasted a few minutes. By the time he tried to use his Ocular-type Spiritual Spell to gather more information, he was unaware of the rippling in the void nearby.

When a cold, chilling sensation of deadly crisis emerged in his mind, stinging his Spiritual senses, it was too late.

He barely got to see the void ripples before him, alongside various top-tier elites, and Chosen was...

Bloop.

## PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1259 1253: The Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo!



Gone.

panda`novè1--coM An illustrious and fearsome character of the Earthly Saint Phase vanished without a trace; the only evidence of his disappearance was the wild, ravaging news of several life talismans breaking simultaneously.

While slightly delayed, word spread as many sought explanations from the Everlore Association, causing a ruckus of sorts.

This wasn't an isolated event; the Golden Life Pavilion had experienced a similar incident of abrupt disappearance very early on, but they had solved this issue somehow, and it had never occurred again. Unfortunately, while the Golden Life Pavilion had guarded against this deathly crisis of the Dark Void which very few could pinpoint the cause, the other organizations and associations hadn't.

In small droves, luxurious Voidships carrying various personages of reputable status, outstanding talent, and bright and meaningful futures vanished with the announcement of their, and everyone else on board's death, crew included.

Devastating!

Few knew that this creature that even Wei Wuyin was guarded against, which tracked him across the Dark void decades ago, was being stimulated by the unintentional rampant usage of Voidships. The only historical record of similar events was during the Dark Stars Era, and even that was obscure and remained a mystery to this very day. The only detail others knew was that the Dark Void had all sorts of dangers that involved exotic, strange creatures and phenomena, including Stellar Rain and Vanishing Points.

Besides the Ever-Knight that lusted silently for revenge against Grand Knight Wu Yu, a few Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were on these luxurious Voidships, dwindling the publicly known number of 244--including Wei Wuyin and excluding San Luoyang--to 240.

An Earthly Saint and four mortal Sovereign Alchemists vanished during these three months, setting off a rampage of fear throughout the Dark Void. Only the Golden Life Pavilion's ships were safe, as such, many wealthy cultivators in

transit resorted to using Void Gates or hitching a ride to the Golden Life Pavilion's ships they were shadowing.

Shockingly, excluding the members of the Everlore Association, the Golden Life Pavilion did not reject a single one of them. Moreover, they merely had to pay the small fee that others had, relative to their cultivation base, family size, etc. It was another act of philanthropic generosity that shook the Sealed Region once again. While others felt schadenfreude from their situation, many thought that the Golden Life Pavilion and Wei Wuyin stayed true to their word. Of course, the refusal of the Everlore Association's members was simply common sense due to the well-known fact that Evergod had once made an attempt on Wei Wuyin's life.

Despite their stance on such an incident, which they vehemently denied, even the mortal farmer tending his corps with a low cultivation base could realize the truth of that matter, so it did them little good. If not for the presence of two Alchemic Saints, their downfall in terms of reputation might have been almost unstoppable. This was increasingly apparent as they were losing on almost every field of competition except the level of their tried and proven legacy that helped create two Alchemic Saints!

They clung desperately to their title as the number one Alchemist Association, albeit just barely, as the business side was being crushed ruthlessly by the Golden Life Pavilion, with their signed contracts with various merchants maintaining their wealth, and Wei Wuyin had yet to establish an Alchemist Association of any kind yet. If not for these established contracts, the various scandals, such as the up-charged and diluted products like the Ever-Domain Pill, that were unnecessarily placed at a higher price and grade for sale, and the devastating loss of confidence in their warged competition would've lost all signs of goodwill and respect from the public.

Even today, the eighth-grade Sharded God Domain Pill, which had slightly better effect than the ninth-grade Ever-Domain Pill, kept pressing this pus-leaking sore of a topic for the Everlore Association. The claim that it wasn't a perfected version but a 'derived' version meant the Everlore Association had deliberately elevated the grade of their product! Of course, while this might not necessarily be true, the facts sometimes spoke louder than the truth.

The Ever-Domain Pill had more or less been discontinued, but the Everlore Association refused to give refunds or compensate the difference to those who were essentially 'scammed'. This was especially so to those who lost their sons, daughters, and disciples from tribulations due to the faulty weakness of the Ever-Domain Pill! If they hadn't paid absurd amounts to acquire the pill, they could've gotten a better product to strengthen their young talents.

Unfortunately, their loud cries did little to hinder the Everlore Association's rising prestige, thanks to their two Alchemic Saints.

But who knew what the future held?

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Returning to the eve of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo...

The Neo-Dawn Starfield was utterly massive, but keeping the incoming population of trillions upon trillions of cultivators with families of all ages in the forty-nine planets and eighty-one lunar satellites was an unrealistic expectation. Due to this, the Voidships were properly and diligently shuttled to housing areas of the World Dawn, the grand Realm region that spanned the entire former Heptasage Pillar Stellar Region's boundary.

Countless astonishing and cultivation-friendly Secret Realms and World Realms were opened up, allowing early arrivals to enjoy incredible conditions. The most notable difference was the sheer quality of astral and mystic

essence prevalent in some of these realms' environments, especially the ones that got solar light directly from the Neo-Dawn Defiant Star!

Most of those present didn't come from the Aeternal Sky Starfield, so they were profoundly unaware that astral and mystic essence refined from solar essence could ever reach such terrifyingly incredible heights in terms of quality. It wouldn't be an understatement to say that a single day's worth of cultivation in the Realm Region equated to ten or a hundred days in their starfield! The cultivation frenzy of its citizens soon infected the new arrivals, and a peaceful period of cultivation unfolded.

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World Dawn, the Elemental Tree Realm.

The True Element Sect resided within one of the many World Realms of the Neo-Dawn Starfield's Realm Region. The Elemental Tree Realm was named such due to the lack of a conventional Solar Star, but a uniquely grown tree that reached heights of over thirty-thousand meters, that absorbed solar essence and released astral-graded and mystic-graded elemental essences into the flat continent's environment, including birthin wonderful fruits that contained various Elemental Intents and pure energies for cultivation.

The World Realm originally belonged to the True Element Sect but later lost it to the parasite clan's greedy machinations, who then sold it to the Chen Clan, one of the Eight Noble Clans, which passed a few hands until Wei Wuyin bought it back with the Golden Life Pavilion's assistance.

It was brought over as one of the many realms, planets, and lunar satellites that Wei Wuyin used to form the Neo-Dawn Starfield.

Roughly two hundred miles from the base of the Elemental Tree, the True Element Sect was housed in various building structures that had been

renovated after the purchase, far better than what the True Element Sect remembered.

Standing about fifty miles from the tree, a lonesome yet lovely golden-haired figure in white robes started at the resplendent tree that was exuding multicolored lights representing the nine elements and the exuded solar radiance. Her eyes were watery, filled with nostalgia and near-spewing emotions.

"Senior Sister Lin!" Another figure walked over, a tall, strikingly handsome grey-eyed youth. This was none other than Lin Ming, the Archaic Chosen of the True Element Sect!

The golden-haired woman of incredible allure, beauty, and graceful aura was Lin Xianxei, the Saintess of the True Element Sect! She didn't turn around; her eyes slowly closed as she suppressed her feelings inside, losing the faint traces of tears hanging at the edge of her golden-colored eyes.

"You've finished your cultivation session?" When she opened her eyes, a calm look replaced her emotional visage of lonesome beauty.

Lin Ming faintly smiled, "Yeah." When he arrived by Lin Xianxei's shoulder, standing next to her, he felt a sense of peace and confidence in his heart. Over the last few decades, his cultivation and adventures were not little, and he had gained unimaginable experiences and an even greater cultivation base. He feared no one in the same cultivation stage--no one!

In his mind, he felt that if he fought Tian Yinwu in a fair competition, the one with the greatest chances of becoming this era's Chosen King, it would be difficult to determine the winner and loser!

"..." Lin Xianxei didn't follow up with a question.

Ling Ming's peace began to shatter as he felt that, while they stood shoulder to shoulder, there was an indescribable distance between them. It wasn't very

noticeable before, but after he told her about his messy encounter with Tang Xingyun, it was hard not to notice at times.

So Lin Ming decided to follow up himself in an attempt to ignite the conversation, "My Origin State has reached the Second Level. That piece of the Heaven Relic was as heaven-shaking as you said." The Origin State was one of the main reasons why he felt he had reached an unmatched status! The power of Mana Dominance could not be understated; neither could the breathtaking benefits of possessing a greater affinity to Mana--the glue of the world.

"Second Level?" Lin Xianxei's eyebrows lifted slightly.

The delightful burst of shock and pleasantly excited reaction Lin Ming expected was not what he received. Lin Xianxei merely nodded, "As expected of the Heaven Relic, even a fragmented piece of it could create heaven-defying changes with the right method."

Lin Ming didn't get the reaction he wanted, but this indirect praise of his talents and current outstanding cultivation soothed his heart and elevated his pride.

"Unfortunately, the Heaven Relic was exhausted. There were only thirty-three strands inside."

"That's enough," Lin Xianxei said. "The Origin State is said to be the key to reaching the stage beyond the Wordly Saint Phase and has untold benefits to comprehending the Mystic Intent through Mana. Moreover, you'll have more opportunities to elevate your state. I fear that there are no less than four youths that have the Origin State, including you and Tang Xingyun, throughout the world. After all, finding the requisite art compatible with the Heaven Relic isn't easy."

"Only four?" Lin Ming was stunned. "Who are the other two?"

"Tian Yinwu should have it."

"Tian Yinwu? That makes sense." Lin Ming nodded acceptingly. He was widely considered the Number ONE talent throughout the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region."And the other?"

"Wei Wuyin." Those two words were accompanied by the flowing wind brushing past, lifting Lin Xianxei's hair and robes. Ling Ming was dazed by her looks for a second but immediately regained himself as that name was uttered. He went solemnly silent.

Eventually, he asked: "What do you think this Alchemic Expo will bring?"

Lin Xianxei was caught off-guard by the question, her expression changing swiftly. "...I don't know, but I can certainly say this: Wei wuyin hasn't made a single move that didn't shake the foundation of the world; this event will only be greater than before."

"..." Lin Ming's eyelids lowered thoughtfully.

Lin Ming hadn't noticed, but Lin Xianxei was no longer referring to Wei Wuyin as Alchemic Sovereign Wei. It was a minor detail, given the private nature of their discussion, but it was a sign of a change that couldn't be ignored!

If Lin Ming paid closer attention, the spatial ring on Lin Xianxei's slender finger was none other than the same brand that Wei Wuyin equipped his Ascendants and Valkyrie with!

Within Lin Ming's mind, the voice that had guided him thus far spoke up at this moment: "Brace your heart; the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo's scale is unprecedentedly massive, and given his temperament and past actions, this is bound to change the very nature of our world."

The voice reminded Lin Ming that since Wei Wuyin's entry into the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, even before then, there's never been a single event of his that hadn't stirred the world or changed its entire climate.

"Do you think the Expo will bring products that could break conventions again? Is that even possible? What could that possibly even be?" Lin Ming was doubtful that Wei Wuyin could bring forth another great change on par with the Neo-Dawn Eclipse cultivation stages.

"Just...be vigilant. Whatever it is, you must seize the good fortune that the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo will surely have, as all Expos have." The voice couldn't answer or predict, so it moved to reinforce that this was an opportunity Lin Ming had to seize.

"Good fortune. Are the Elemental Tree Realm and its fruits not the 'good fortune' you speak of?" The Elemental Tree had various fruits that contained Intents, and Lin Ming had grasped three additional high-level Elemental Intents from cultivating here in the last month alone!

"That's only a sign that the good fortune here is bound to be unordinary! Every Alchemic Expo is like a display of an Alchemist's wealth, foundation, and brilliance. It's a way to brag to the world about their accomplishments and set the tone for their future. Since a mere housing unit can grant such good benefits, the oncoming benefits are bound to be unimaginable. Do not underestimate it!" The voice firmly said.

Lin Ming's expression grew increasingly solemn before becoming decisive! He'll seize this good fortune for all its worth!

## PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1260 1254: NDAE, Gathering Of Worlds



"These two," atop a thick, sturdy branch of the Elemental Tree, a man garbed in nine-colored inner clothes and a white outer robe observed the Lin duo with a thoughtful gaze. Directly to his right was a woman of mature looks, a subtle, stately beauty that couldn't be considered outstanding; she lightly bit into a peach-like fruit with verdant green skin and golden flesh and then proceeded to swallow it with a look of appreciation and fascination.

The two were none other than the True Element Sect's Earthly Saints--Han Yuhei and Zhang Ziyi!

Zhang Ziyi was too immersed in the delicious taste and flavor of the fruit, not giving Lin Ming and Lin Xianxian any thought. If this was fifty years ago, she might have sought ways to plot Lin Xianxian's demise or obstacles to obstruct her path, but she was no longer bitter or invested in the fate of the Lin Clan.

While she still felt that they were all fools, causing the True Element Sect and her family much suffering with their lack of foresight and idiotic decisions, since Lin Xianxian entered Wei Wuyin's inner circle as a maid, she no longer felt any need to set herself against the Lin Clan. She reasoned that while the Lin Clan had instigated the disastrous past of the True Element Sect, their current lineage was making great strides to making things right.

Lin Xianxian, for example, had gained a direct line to Wei Wuyin and brought the True Element Sect unimaginable benefits. More importantly, she had reached the 3rd Runic Ascendant State in an extremely short period, entering the ranks of above-average Earthly Saints.

Han Yuhei, however, couldn't help but stare at Lin Ming; this so-called Archaic Chosen of their sect had gained the favor of his beloved granddaughter, Bai Yuxi--his Little Tulip, and she was head over heels for him. Despite his efforts, she had already lost her virginity and given him her everything. The burning rage in his heart was hard to suppress, and he had the desire to turn Ling Ming into dust a few times.

panda`novæ1--coM If he has extremely careful, he could kill and revive him a few times to ease his belly full of frustration and disappointment. Fortunately for Lin Ming, he didn't want to ruin his cousin's plans.

In the end, he was left sighing for Bai Yuxi's future.

Zhang Ziyi took another bite; this fruit possessed a high-level wood intent, essence, and energy that was perfectly melded in a unique, fantastical way. This was the benefit of the Elemental Tree. Usually, however, it would only give birth to low-level fruits. But after passing by many hands and finding its final owner in this wondrous starfield basking in the richest solar radiance in the known world, it was undergoing astonishing improvements.

She couldn't help but be emotional because this tree had been grounds for a trial by fire of the Elemental Jade Sect in the old days. Zhang Ziyi could remember when she was young during her Astral Core Realm days, fighting in the middle of the pack, relatively unseen, with barely any reputation to her name. Yet in the end, how many of those outstanding talents, those Immortal Heroes that snubbed her, those Immortal Saintesses that she envied, reached her level? How many even reached the Mystic Ascendant Realm?

She was now an Earthly Saint!

It went to show that the race was not won by talent but by dilligence and fortune.

She glanced at Han Yuhei, her eyes shining slightly. Taking another soft bite, Zhang Ziyi said while chewing softly: "I've always wondered something."

"Hm?" Han Yuhei's attention was grabbed away from the Lin duo.

Zhang Ziyi had a greater air of confidence since her sucessful cultivation feats recently, and it added a type of charm that caused Han Yuhei to see her in a different light. He still wasn't physically attracted to her, but she felt more respectable than before. Her inferiority complex and need to exert her

strength on the lower, more talents youths at times had been considerably reduced. Before, she was kind of annoying and a little disgusting to him due to those things.

Zhang Ziyi asked, ignorant of Han Yuhei's changed opinion of her, "Why didn't you kneel and submit to Ascendant Emperor Wei back then?"

Ascendant Emperor? Han Yuhei's left eyebrow lifted as he smiled slightly.

Zhang Ziyi continued, "Considering the events that day, if you led the True Element Sect into the Neo-Dawn Starfield, I wouldn't have objected." This was a question she had on her mind for a while now. That day, four major forces submitted--the Inferno Solaris Church, United Source Clear Palace, Sanguine Ghosts, and the Great Blue Royal Clan-- in addition to numerous lesser forces.

She was certain that many thought that the True Element Sect would follow.

Han Yuhei's smile began to fade as she continued to speak. At the end of her words, he shook his head. "I'm not the leader of the True Element Sect or its decision maker; I'm the 'Guardian of the Elements', and that's the extent of my authority--to guard. I never interfered with your or anyone else's matters since joining. Similarly to how you didn't dare submit on behalf of the True Element Sect, neither did I."

"..." Zhang Ziyi furrowed her brows.

While he didn't explicitly say it, it was clear that someone else decided not to submit, and Han Yuhei accepted that decision. The decision of the true leader of the True Element Sect!

"Moreover, if I submitted there, I would likely lose all chances of becoming his Alchemic Knight in the future." Han Yuhei added seriously, and his grand ambitions were leaking from his tone. A subordinate might be treated well, but

an Alchemic Knight was an Alchemist's sword and shield and of vital importance to an Alchemist's future safety.

No one would receive close to what Wu Yu would in the coming days, especially if Wei Wuyin became an Alchemic Saint one day. Why? Because Wu Yu was his Alchemic Knight, his most loyal and valued subordinate! The thought of falling behind Wu Yu so far that the difference become insurmountable caused Han Yuhei's heart to clench in agony and unwillingness.

"..." Zhang Ziyi remained silent. She was still dwelling on Han Yuhei's earlier words of a decision-maker. She realized that the millennium-gone Nine-Divine Elementus King was alive and present! She couldn't help but wonder...where?

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"Incredible!"

Since the announcement of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo arrived, the transportation efforts thus far had more or less proceeded with astonishing precision and organization. As soon as those ships docked at the edge of Defiant Dawn's borders, various Ascended beings and Starlords under Wei Wuyin's command took the lead in trillions to their designated residences across the two territories of Dawn--the World Dawn and Defiant Dawn.

"Is this for real?"

Those who arrived earlier or now, whether they were Qi Condensation Realm cultivators or Mystic Ascendant Realm Cultivators, all found themselves in total awe at the various locations they were placed in. The accommodations were exceptional, but the environment was mind-blowing.

"The air is so fresh! The ground is extremely fertile! And the pure astral essence here is something I've never seen in my nine hundred years of life!" An older farmer at the Astral Core Realm lauded lavishly and honestly.

"These buildings were recently and hectically built; while their materials are exceptional, they could be structured better for proper housing needs, overall stability, and maximum leveraging of the materials properties. What a waste." An old head architect and constructor observed the residences they were placed in with criticism. He was a prominent builder, renowned in his local region. His words sparked fear in his companions' hearts as they hurriedly tried to give this man, who often spoke his mind in his field of specialty without consideration, the advice to remain silent.

The old man's expression changed as he realized the consequences only afterward, as he gazed toward the escort who was a genuine Ascended being at the lead in the far distance. Suddenly, that figure blurred, arriving before him in a crowd of millions; their ghastly move caused him to nearly enter the next life. Moreover, this Ascended being was a Sanguine Ghost member, fearsome and covered in facial tattoos that looked increasingly menacing as one's eyes trailed over them.

The constructor gulped.

His nearby companions all felt the man was about to meet his ancestors, who would certainly chide him for his thoughtlessness. But the unexpected happened!

"Sir, if you have any recommendations or thoughts, please allow me to take note of them." The figure smiled a horrifying big smile but with sincerity and friendliness! He continued, "These buildings were all done in haste, not meant to be long-term initially. However, if you..."

The crowd watched as the constructor went from terrified to instructing. Soon, others in various professions began discussing their field of study. They were all blown away by multiple aspects of the World Dawn's realms, but they could still be improved upon. This interested countless folks of varied professions.

Some even took to designing cities suitable to these unique realms' environments, capitalizing on various miraculous features.

The ingenuity of those experienced and dedicated to their crafts was awe-inspiring and appreciated, and those of the Neo-Dawn Starfield's native residents, from former Grand Cyclic Stellar Region members to the various lesser forces that had submitted, all began to jointly work together on minor projects throughout, even offering compensation.

Countless saw as buildings of outstanding structure and quality were built overnight, and cities that were crude and ordinary became refined and breathtaking. To see these changes was an entirely new experience, as if they were evolving with this this location.

A lot of individuals quickly realized that the Defiant Dawn and World Dawn of the Neo-Dawn Starfield were nascent, growing, and had so much room to develop with an outstanding, heaven-defying Solar Star like Baby Defiant. Some herbalists began to set up various fields and formations to cultivate better materials in the future. They did so simply because they were there a month or two earlier than the expo's beginning. It didn't hurt that the reception from these experts was polite and respectful regardless of their cultivation, and the compensation was extremely plentiful.

Those who arrived later found themselves in beautifully structured cities, outstanding residences of exquisite designs, and cultivated fields that were already showing impressive yields in only a month or two. The soul's richness from the environment and the radiance of Baby Defiant were genuinely heaven-defying! The absolute best!

Day by day, the Neo-Dawn Starfield made steady improvements.

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As the last day before the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo officially came, those who were prominent members of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region began to arrive in unison as if planned beforehand.

The most shocking, however, were two particularly eye-catching forces that essentially no one expected to arrive!

The Everlore Association!

And...

The Unchained Heart Sect!

The former arrived in a seven-colored Voidship, while the latter came in an ominous Shadow Egg, housing countless of their members!

Even the Jiang Clan of the Eight Noble Clans had arrived, including their last remaining Earthly Saint--Jiang Yushan.

With these forces present, would the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo be remotely peaceful? The feeling of tension rose as word spread of their arrival.

Within a private, spaceious quarter of the Everlore Association's Voidship, San Yongli was pacing back and forth while San Luoyang was cross-legged, performing various breathing exercises.

Sang Yongli's beautiful brows were furrowed, and her treasured ruby-like eyes that glinted with a mysterious light were fixated on the floor. "What do you think he's planning?"

"..." Sand Luoyang's eyes were closed, seemingly in a meditative state, yet San Yongli's pacing and words caused his eyebrows to twitch at times. In the end, he could only helplessly sigh, "We'll find out soon."

San Yongli's pacing came to an abrupt halt; then, she turned to San Luoyang with a curious expression. "You're not concerned that this is a ploy to target

the Everlore Association? That he'll restrain us all in his starfield? Perhaps even enslave us?"

San Luoyang's eyes finally opened with a trace of solemnness within his pupils. "Concerned? No, I'm certain it is a calculated scheme of some sort. We all know it is. That's why I'm here."

After a while, he added: "That's why he's here."

"..." San Yongli went silent.

"Whatever Wei Wuyin intends to throw at us, we have our ways to handle it. The Everlore Association isn't so simple as you think," San Luoyang gazed deeply at San Yongli. If not for that certain belief, why would they ever dare enter the Neo-Dawn Starfield? Moreover, this was Wei Wuyin's Alchemic Expo, an all-inclusive invitation, which came with certain unspoken assurances that affected Wei Wuyin's reputation and face.

Respect and trust went a long, long way in the cultivation world! Would he dare bare his fangs and forever lose the world's trust?

Within a uniquely-constructed Secret Realm inside the Voidship, Evergod Silently watched Baby Defiant's image reflected in his floating mirror.

He had come!