# **PARAGON OF SIN**

Chapter 1271 1265: NDAE, End Of First Break



The Everlore Association's area within Defiant Dawn began to experience a hectic and raucous seismic activity stemming from the spatial level. Those residing within were instantly taken aback as they grew horrified.

#### "WHAT'S HAPPENING?!"

"Are we being attacked?!" Panic set in as Evergod and Wei Wuyin's shared history, albeit it was merely an attempt on the latter's life, began to resurface within their minds. It was hard to suppress the fear that arose because of that concern!" An Alchemic Sovereign cried out, especially considering how deliberately targeted they felt in the World of Eden. Moreover, they were unable to enjoy any of the scrumptious benefits due to Evergod's previous orders. Whether it was the Astralis Dawn Mist, the two individuals who won a Neo-Dawn Soul-Sea Elixir, or the packaged resources and meals, Evergod prevented any participation.

Fortunately, their panic and fear settled as a burst of silvery light erupted from the area, instantly stabilizing it. The bodies of those in the Everlore Association exerted a faint glow that helped protect them with a gentle warmth.San Yongli was astonished as she inspected the protective glowing layer of light around her body. However, she knew this was due to her connection with the World of Eden, and she had already tested it, finding that separating from this connection wasn't difficult. She turned to her adoptive

father curiously, "What was that?" Unlike the others, this Temporal Reincarnator was relatively calm despite the unexpected circumstances.

San Luoyang heaved a soft sigh of complex emotions, but he could not explain the situation to her due to forcefully sworn oaths of secrecy regarding the robbing of the Everlore Vault. If he wasn't an Alchemic Saint and handled a lot of matters as the Grand Secretariat, Evergod might not have informed him either. However, he was slightly guilty, knowing that Evergod had lost San Yongli's Heaven Relic.He deeply understood the explosive rage that Evergod was feeling right now. Before, there was no proof of Wei Wuyin's involvement, and not even Heavenly Seers could accurately determine the ones responsible, except that the responsible party was wreathed in a cloak of shadows, but with this paper, it was more than enough to guess who was behind it.

Who else could it possibly be?

Moreover, Evergod came to the Neo-Dawn Starfield with the hidden scheme of using the alchemic expo to not only uncover the one responsible but also reclaim the lost items with sufficient evidence. Unfortunately, given how open Wei Wuyin was about this, wasn't this an open challenge? As if saying:

"I know you're looking for me. Well, I'm right here."i">¿San Yongli couldn't understand her adoptive father's silence as she lacked critical information. If she knew the Everlore Association was indirectly funding the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo, she would certainly be driven to the point of speechlessness.

The inhabitants of the Defiant Dawn couldn't help but curiously look toward the Everlore Association's vessel. They weren't affected by the thunderous rumbling due to Baby Defiant's protections, so they observed only with curiosity. Eventually, the Everlore Association became less important, and they returned to cultivating and eating the provided resources.The unique format of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo was quite astonishing, and many

couldn't help but continuously throw out praise over how well-made andestablished it was. The Neo-Dawn Soul-Sea Elixir had already made the entire expo legendary, especially given how it was one of the few pinnacle-tier products to exist in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. To many, even if Wei Wuyin ended things right now, the trip would've been worth it several times over!

Within the World of Eden's subspace, Wei Wuyin was alone as Cao Cuifen had left to find her nephew, the Soul Saint King. However, he wasn't truly alone.

"Is everything ready?" Wei Wuyin asked.

The excited voice of Bai Xiu resounded throughout the subspace, "They're all at the final step just as you requested, Master.""And our wild card?"

"She's at the cusp of success as well."

Wei Wuyin nodded approvingly.

"But Master, what about you?"

"..." Wei Wuyin went silent for a moment, then softly replied with a determined tone: "I'll be doing the last segment of the Alchemic Expo myself."

"Yes!" Bai Xiu exclaimed happily.

Wei Wuyin faintly smiled, "Why are you so happy?"

"Why wouldn't I be happy? It's finally time for Master to stop riding the shadow of another's achievements. The real beginning of your very own legacy, no one else's!" Bai Xiu explained proudly, unable to hide the joy in her tone.

"..." Wei Wuyin might have remained silent, but he couldn't hide the raw emotion spewing from his silver eyes in gushes.

The next three weeks of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo were relatively peaceful. Despite being only three weeks, with the Astralis Dawn Mist alongside these resources, quite a few cultivators began to experience breakthroughs in their cultivation bases, ascending to higher levels. There were even a few Starlords that attempted to ascend into the Mystic Ascendant Realm.

To prevent any deaths, Wei Wuyin had to pay a heavy cost to ensure that those who 'failed' stayed alive and forcefully pushed them into Mystic Star Phase. Similar to the Mystic Origin Liquid that could be refined to ensure that cultivators survived their Third Ascension into the Demi-Mortal Lord Phase, there were lesser equivalents or various methods that could be used.Thankfully, Baby Defiant's protection served as one of those safeguards. But the energy expenditure was not minor at all, costing quite a bit to ensure they retained their lives, and entered the Mystic Ascendant Realm as publicly recognized 'false' Ascended.

He had to put out a global warning to cultivators not to initiate their first Mystic Ascension until AFTER the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo. Doing so would have one immediately removed from the Neo-Dawn Starfield, banning them from the starfield and all future events. While the price wasn't comparable to resources expended to take care of quintillions in number, the issue was the harm this inflicted on Baby Defiant. The more Wei Wuyin interfered, the more unstable the natural harmony between the Mortal and Mystic Aura within Baby Defiant became."I'm doing it forcefully, that's why." Wei Wuyin concluded that his current method of forcefully maintaining their lives and pushing them into the Mystic Star Phase was the issue, not keeping them alive. Unfortunately for him, he didn't want deaths to bring down his Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo or harm his reputation as a host.

"If not for your World-Bound Star Domain's unique powers and your Stellar-Paragon Physique, you'd have long since been annihilated by the Mystic Dao." The Heavenly War Spirit strongly stated. Wei Wuyin was one of the few individuals in existence who was given so much leeway with the Mortal and Mystic Dao." Just the fact his Astral Souls had interfered with the process of the Mortal Dao's cultivation advancement was enough to warrant his annihilation a thousand times over. Fortunately despite its inherent nature, the Mystic Dao, was equally as forgiving as the Mortal Dao. Albeit, the act of assisting those Starlords wasn't too offensive, as it was more or less granting them protection and lifeforce, and this simply meant he had to pay a price.

In all honesty, he felt as if he was being given special privileges."» ¿"If I had to hazard a guess...I'd say the Mystic Dao wants you to ascend, or it isn't taking things too far because you're protected by the Mortal Dao?" The Heavenly War Spirit was also entering new territory of interaction, so she could only give this type of random guess. Wei Wuyin was by far the mortal cultivator with the most interaction with both Daos, both directly and indirectly.

"..." Regardless of how he thought of it, Wei Wuyin couldn't find a concrete answer. Since he was getting nowhere, he decided to set it aside for later.The three-week break ended; the people excitedly rushed back into the World of Eden. They were welcomed by a differently dressed Tian Xiaocheng, her silver-colored attire more modest and less flashy, yet equally impressive on her astonishing figure. She was a world-shaking beauty regardless of what she wore. If before she had been more sensual and sexy, now she was more graceful and charming.

Nevertheless, she was the focus of everyone's attention.

"I'd like to welcome everyone back to the World of Eden! I hope you all had great fortune during this break period." Tian Xiaocheng's words sparked all sorts of emotions in many eyes. "As for the remaining unused resources, you

are free to keep them all."i»¿"Whew!" Her announcement eased the worries of countless souls who couldn't refine all the materials as quickly as possible. It also bloomed regret in many of their hearts as juniors or seniors had given their resources to more talented members of their groups to ensure the resources were used if Wei Wuyin intended to retrieve them. Now, they either lost their resources or would find it extremely awkward to ask for them back.

"Let's begin the second unveiling of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo! Shall we?" Tian Xiaocheng's words kept changingeveryone's feelings on a dime, and they were all for it! As the current face of the expo, she had only given good news thus far, and hearing it all from a gorgeous face was a pleasure in and of itself.

The crowd wreathed with anticipation!Lin Ming stood next to Lin Xianxei while this all occurred, his grey eyes eyeing her suspiciously. They had cultivated during this break, and she seemed to have undergone a heaven-shaking change.

"She definitely consumed a greater than low-quality Neo-Dawn Soul-Sea Elixir," the voice in his head claimed. Lin Ming frowned slightly before smiling. It seemed that being Wei Wuyin's maid granted certain benefits. While this was what he thought, he had a strange feeling that Wei Wuyin wouldn't give Lin Xianxian a ninth-grade, pinnacle- tier product that was high or peak quality without a reason.

Could it be...Thinking of that woman that bore a remarkable similarity to Lin Xianxei, he felt an unbearable itch in his heart for reasons unknown.

Suddenly, he asked Lin Xianxei: "Senior Sister Lin, where is your father?"

"..." Lin Xianxei was in an extremely happy mood, especially after refining this product that was just as advertised, if not even better! Moreover, as an elixir, it was still being refined passively, expanding her Primary Light Source little by little. However, Lin Ming's abrupt question caused her thoughts to shatter.

"What?" Her expression changed, from her eyes to her smile.

Lin Ming realized that he had asked something sensitive as he began to backtrack, "I was just wondering. You don't have to answer if it's an uncomfortable topic."i»¿"..." Lin Xianxei stared at Lin Ming for a long, tense moment. Then, she turned away and focused on the center stage.

Currently,there was a newfound coldness in her eyes.

"..." Lin Ming realized he had asked a question that he shouldn't have. He also didn't notice that his question had caused the voice in his head to grow abnormally silent.

"I present to you the Neo-Dawn Vortex- Zone Pellet! A pellet that can harness time itself!"

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Chapter 1272 1266: NDAE, Vortex Of Space And Time



"Time?" This statement piqued countless cultivators' interest. A pellet that could harness time? While not original or convention-shattering, it was still a difficult product to concoct for alchemists. Everybody's focus was concentrated on Tian Xiaocheng's flawless hands as she delicately removed the lid.

An eerie sound resembling the harsh churning vortex of water and air resounded in the senses of everyone present. Quite a few cultivators were immediately met with mind-clearing dragon roars as they experienced a form of Temporal and Spatial Dissonance. This feeling was extremely intense to

those who comprehended time to a greater level, sending Earthly Saints that grasped the Temporal-type or Spatial- type Mystic Runes in a dizzy spiral.

"Wah!" Sky Monarch Bai stumbled drunkenly, needing a nearby prince to holdhim upright. He had just grasped greater insights into time thanks to the Astralis Dawn Mist, and he still hadn't completely digested all of it, so he experienced a rare form of destabilizing dissonance.

Yang Chaoyue was holding a hand-seal; her eyes shone with the flow of time in a cycle as she invoked her Temporal Eye; at the center of her pupils was a Temporal-type Mystic Rune. She remained largely unaffected.Tian Muyang, Tian Lingyu, the other Sky Monarchs, and Imperial Monarchs were all taken aback and felt as if they had entered a world of chaotic time. Some held it together better than most. Tian Shangyang was not one of them. He fell to his kneeswith a heavy thud; his eyes dazed to the maximum. By the time the dragon roar arrived in his Sea of Consciousness, he had already fallen on all fours.

"Do be careful when inspecting the pellet; it has a potent aura of time and space." Tian Xiaocheng warned with a smile. The pellet's unique aura was clearly deliberately not suppressed to inspire awe, so those who felt the effects were met with all sorts of embarrassing situations." That witch! The Titanic Hell-Crushing Queen growled as she lay on her stomach, face-planted on the floor of the World of Eden. She had comprehended both Spatial and Temporal Runes, so her reaction was particularly intense as she lost herself entirely. She tried to rise but found her balance inherently shifted, so she stumbled and face-planted again.

When she turned her little head to the Boundless Martial High King, the scholarly figure was still standing upright without any signs of wobbling or dissonance. Instead, he was observing the pellet with a solemn expression splashed with a hint of surprise.Tian Lingyu was assisting Tian Muyang,

her eyes looking at Yang Chaoyue curiously. "You were warned?" She pouted unhappily. Yang Chaoyue released her hand-seal and smiled. She didn't hide it as she shook her head, "I wasn't."

"Liar," Tian Shangyang leaned against an Imperial Prince for support as he spat. If the world knew that the Earthly Saints of the world, these illustrious figures, were being sent into a mess by a pellet, they likely would have no face to go anywhere. Fortunately, all focus was on the pellet. Didn't Yang Chaoyue just want them to suffer this humiliation?

Yang Chaoyue sneered, "You're not worthy enough for me to lie to."

"You!" Tian Shangyang gnashed his teeth.Yang Chaoyue scoffed, not even looking at Yang Shangyang, explaining to Tian Lingyu: "I didn't know what product was going to be displayed, so how could I be warned? Or warn others? I only knew of its strange disorientation effect because I felt the aura before and recognized the pellet's name."

"You knew?" Tian Muyang finally righted himself as he took a few deep breaths.

The Empress paused her explanation as she allowed everyone to adjust, digesting the sheer intensity of the pellet's aura.

Yang Chaoyue nodded smilingly, "A few years ago, he allowed me to test the pellet after some convincing."

"..." The Earthly Saints knew that this was Yang Chaoyue's indirect admission to receiving insane benefits from her association with Wei Wuyin. Her 'association' with Wei Wuyin."What's the effect?" Seeing that the Empress would delay the explanation until everyone regained themselves, Tian Muyang's curiosity could not wait any longer. While the intensity was the highest for Earthly Saints who grasped Temporal and Spatial Runes, he could already see that those in the Mortal Realms were in a daze of various

intensities. Just exposure had sent many of them into profound states of enlightenment.

For example, Tian Guyan, the Second Son of the Divine Emperor, and a Demi-Mortal Lord, was currently in an epiphany as his Temporal Eye and Innate Spatial Energies were being stimulated. This might be indicative of at least comprehending the two Mystic Runes during his Earthly Ascension. This was incredible because of how difficult those two Ways of Mysticism were to comprehend!Even Lin Xianxian was currently standing lifeless as her Temporal Eye was hyperactive. She was grasping insights into the fragmented Mystic Seeds relating to the Temporal and Spatial Runes. Lin Ming was also in a state of enlightenment. With his degree of talent, his insights into time and space were rising rapidly, establishing a firm foundation for his future potential heights of Rune Ascension.

"The fourth good fortune," Yang Chaoyue said emotionally.i»¿"Fourth?" Tian Muyang looked about with the Proximity Link and confirmed that several cultivators were affected by a strange emulated flow of time and spatial energies from the World of Eden. This wasn't directly from the pellet, but the pellet helped stimulate a state where the time and spatial energies could easily flow into them. Those younger had experienced the greatest effects as their affinities to these two powers elevated at varying levels.

This was indeed the fourth good fortune!

Wei Wuyin was truly not stopping!

Tian Lingyu eyed Yang Chaoyue, "But what does it do?" At this point, they isolated themselves in order to communicate so they would not disturb the ones in a state of enlightenment by accident." Yang Chaoyue sighed, "The pellet isn't like normal pellets. He told me that while it might be ninth-grade, it is one of the few multi-graded products."

"Multi-graded? Like the Essence Pill?" Tian Shangyang interrupted as he was slightly shaken. There were a few products that were multi-graded, meaning they ranged from first to ninth grade, and their primary effects were their only effect, regardless of their qualities. It was a divergent product like 'pinnacletier' products, but often very difficult to fail due to how it could simply be 'degraded' during the concoction process. While failure was subjective, in this case, it meant destruction mid- concoction.

Yang Chaoyue ignored him, "The pellet can formulate a zone of isolated space and time. Within this area, the rate of time moves considerably faster."i">¿"That's it?" Sky Monarch Bai regained himself completely as he questioned. That effect wasn't too unique. With sufficient power and effort, any one of them could create something similar. However, there were certain drawbacks to doing so.

Yang Chaoyue shook her head. "It's not 'it'. While the pellet only has one effect, that effect is the production of the zone, not the manipulation of time and space. This zone itself has countless effects! For example," she gestured toward Tian Guyan, "gaining insights and enlightenment into time and space. The quality of spatial and time energies within is also abnormally pure, yet the zone doesn't disrupt the foundation of energies, essence, and mana, unlike our self-created zones, where those inside simply can't cultivate effectively."i" ¿The Earthly Saints all had varying degrees of disbelief in their eyes, even Tian Lingyu.

"The rate of time changes based on grade. From what I know, a first-grade pellet has a 1 to 1.1 ratio-for every ten minutes we experience, those in the zone experience eleven minutes. While the ninth-grade pellet has a 1 to 10 ratio-for every minute we experience, those inside experience ten minutes. More importantly, the zone draws power from the ambient energies of space and time, so effectively..."

When Yang Chaoyue began her last sentence, the expressions of everyone began to change. They instantly grasped the implication!i»¿"...it's everlasting until canceled or destroyed. There are certain limitations, however. I know it needs an anchor of Spiritual Aura to exist. If the one who uses the pellet leaves the zone's area, the zone dissipates instantly. But this adds another layer to the zone and a failsafe."...Yang Chaoyue, however, wasn't done. "The zone interacts negatively to all foreign Spiritual Auras, and essentially restricts them, imposing the reverse effects, and forming a type of Spatial Cage."

"I thought you said it had only one effect!" Tian Shangyang exclaimed. Wasn't this a trapping pellet with temporal effects? He knew that Yang Chaoyue was describing slowing down an opponent while trapping them, so this was more than one effect."

"Are you deaf? Or do you have something wrong with your comprehension? I said the 'Zone' is the only effect of the pellet. Everything the zone can perform is an aspect of the zone itself. Haaa! It'll be impossible to give you the entire rundown of the zone without experiencing it yourself. Just know this: the pellet creates the Vortex-Zone, which has varying qualities. There's nothing else to it." Yang Chaoyue gave up trying to explain.

"Regardless of whether it has multiple effects or not, the product is suitable for changing the landscape and concept of time. After all, those with it and those without it born in the same generation will certainly not be on the same level." Tian Muyang didn't harp on the semantics of the Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone Pellet's effect or effects, simply awed by yet another astonishing product by the youngalchemist." i'lt's not like that's anything new, no?" Tian Shangyang couldn't accept that praise.

The Radiant Wave Alchemic Sovereign glared at Tian Shangyang, "Do you not understand? Really?! While Earthly Saints can create something similar, it costs lifespan and precious Mystic Power, right? A ninth-grade product that

can not only sustain itself and exist perpetually but also has a ratio of 1 to 10! There are only two years left before the Chosen King Competition; this could effectively give each Chosen twenty additional years of preparation!"

"..." Yang Shangyang was taken aback. He hadn't thought about that!

Tian Lingyu said from the side, "It can also be used to trap your enemies, stronger or weaker. That shouldn't be forgotten.""It can do more than that," Yang Chaoyue added.

Eventually, everyone's profound state ended after three hours.

The Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone Pellet was situated in the center of the jade box, exuding a faint dark grey and light grey radiance that melded together perfectly, forming a spherical vortex within. It was soul-snatching, and if it wasn't for the given time to acclimate, few could gaze upon it casually."I hope the fortune of enlightenment was beneficial to everyone that could grasp it," Tian Xiaocheng made sure that everyone knew that this was the fourth fortune, a fortune that everyone had the opportunity to grasp and participate in. She knew that Wei Wuyin had not only infused a strange power of Time and Space into the pellet to erupt upon opening but allowed spatial and time energies to flow into those cultivators fortunate enough to enter a state of enlightenment.

"The Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone is a multi- graded pellet that..." Tian Xiaocheng essentially explained what Yang Chaoyue had, allowing everyone to be awed. The question of multiple effects was explained as well.i">¿"The effect of the pellet is to create a Vortex-Zone of Space-Time, and the zone itself has all the additional effects. Strictly speaking, it doesn't go against alchemy's labeling system at all. As for the zone itself, if you're fortunate enough, you may be able to grasp the Spiritual Art that the pellet contains."

"WHAT?!" Instantly the confusion of the countless experts was alleviated, this pellet emulated a Spiritual Art! No wonder it only has one effect!

"The pellet has an embedded Spiritual Art? The zone can be comprehended and replicated?!" Tian Shangyang was reeling in disbelief. Despite his earlier attempts to lower the zone's greatness, in his heart of hearts, he envied its power.Yang Chaoyue disdainfully sneered with contempt in her eyes. However, in her heart, the pride she felt was skyrocketing to the moon. That brazen decision she made that day was the best decision of her entire life.

Tian Xiaocheng continued with a brilliant smile, "We'll be moving to the next segment of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo toshowcase the product's effect! I present to you..."

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Chapter 1273 1267: NDAE, Birth Of Thirty-Three

"I present to you..." Tian Xiaocheng flourished her sleeves beautifully, gesturing toward the corners of the stage with a charming smile, and timely followed by an eruption of thirty-three vortexes of seven- colored light. A tempestuous aura surged outwards that caused those observing to feel buffeted by a whirlwind of fragrance and power.

"What's that?!" The question resounded endlessly as the thirty-three vortexes surrounded Tian Xiaocheng in a unique array that resembled a whirling spiral with her at the center.

Tian Xiaocheng's voice rose as she announced: "The Defiant Creation Association's Alchemy Division-The Hepta-Dawn Corps!" At the end of

herannouncement, her voice was subconsciously tinged with an emotional quiver that was hard to conceal."The thirty-three Emperor Alchemists personally selected and carefully trained by the Ascendant Emperor of Neo-Dawn, blessed with obtaining the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Lineage's legacy!" Tian Xiaocheng stood upright as she finished, looking outwards as the curiosity, confusion, shock, and disbelieving gazes descended upon her body, numbering the quintillions. She could feel their questions.

Suddenly, the vortexes began to grow clearer by the second. They revealed the insides of each, which were thirty-three individuals, a total of twenty men and thirteen women, who were frozen in time as they were hovering over high-quality cauldrons, holding hand seals, withAlchemic Tables with extracted material husks laid to the side.

"They're frozen?!"i">¿"Are they in the middle of concocting?"

"Those materials...aren't they peak Astral- graded materials? The Waterfall Lily? The Seed of the Grand Oak! That's a peak earth- attributed astral material! I know that's-"

They began to roar with speculation as the Proximity Link and Projection Link began to unify the World of Eden. The relevant speculations were curated and heard by all, while the nonsensical drivel was filtered out, an act of impeccable control and distinction. This only served to liven the atmosphere as those of authority answered questions of the young or ignorant.

Lin Xianxei's mood had darkened earlier, but after seeing the awe-inspiring vortexes with Emperor Alchemist frozen in place mid-concoction, she put her feelings aside as her interest was piqued to its limits. She leaned forward as she operated the intricate links to get a closer look."Isn't that Alchemic Emperor Yi Yun? And Li Che? And Weng Yinyin!" Lin Ming had once learned of all the Emperor Alchemists of the Alchemist Association, having met them at some point in his journey as well, and he was stunned by seeing them here.

"Li Che? Yi Yun! They were both judges of the All-Alchemic Clash between Qingye Ying and Wei Wuyin before!"i»¿Those who bore witness to the first grand utterance of the title 'Ascendant Emperor Wei' began to relieve that astonishing and breathtaking memory. Those who were present could remember how their blood boiled after Wei Wuyin dominated the Princess of Everlore, cementing himself as an era-defining figure. Since the separation that split the inhabitants of the Everlore Starfield, some of these figures had vanished. Considering it had been half a century and they still had yet to forget that glorious day was evidence of how impactful it was on their lives.

Lin Xianxei's eyes grew soft with emotional nostalgia. In less than half a century, Wei Wuyin went from a relatively unknown figure of the Myriad Yore Continent to a prestigious existence, rising from the Myriad Monarch Sect, entering the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, and creating his own starfield.

The events that had unfolded had led her to believe that so much more time had passed, yet it was so short, almost insignificant to cultivators, and Wei Wuyin had achieved so much. It was hard not to feel awed by his journey thus far. She even recalled her shamelessness when she spread the rumor of him being her fiancée, causing her to blush with embarrassment. Especially after remembering their conversation after she was discovered as the perpetrator, suggesting that he would immediately agree if she wanted to be his concubine.

At the time, she had her pride to consider and flatly refused without much thought. But now, even if she wanted to be his concubine, how many peerless beauties would be fighting for that spot? What could she offer that they couldn't? While she pondered this in frustration, unaware of how her thinking was shifting, the rest of the crowd grew restless.This was especially so for the Everlore Association. They were all experienced Alchemists, recognizing the materials withease.

"Isn't that Weng Yinyin? Isn't she the Alchemic Soul alchemist that was kicked out of the Imperial Clan due to herconstant failures and waste of resources? Isn't that Jiang Hu? The Jiang Clan's Emperor Alchemist that was shamefully exiled for concocting ten thousand impure eighth-grade products in a row in two hundred years? What is he doing with these alchemists?" San Yongli asked San Luoyang.Due to her losing her alchemic legacy after sacrificing the Cauldron of Utmost Awakening, she had placed that on the back burner in her training, focusing more on her comprehensive combat strengths and innate talents, so she was not at the Mortal Sovereign Alchemist level of knowledge, but her knowledge of alchemists at varying levels was plentiful. The majority of those Alchemic Emperors were notable failures throughout the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region that were more or less abandoned due to their incompetence, with only a few originating from the fallen Everlore Starfield.

San Luoyang's expression was considerably dark, "They're all in the process of concocting a low-tier, ninth-grade product; the rate of time has been slowed to a near standstill at the last stage of concoction- the fusion stage."i">

"What?!" San Yongli was astonished. Thirty- three Emperor Alchemists at the last stage of a ninth-grade concoction? Isn't this...

Before she or anyone else could react, Tian Xiaocheng brought everyone's attention back to her exceptional existence with an alluring smile, "The first Alchemic Emperor is Li Che, the-" she began to introduce each Emperor Alchemist by their details and titles, answering countless questions, and then she said: "They are all currently being isolated by a Zone-Vortex of Space and Time, with some tweaking, we were able to slow down the rate of time within by one-thousandth of its normal flow. For us, a thousand seconds is a single second for them." As she explained, those with keen eyes began to notice that those inside the vortexes were indeed moving extremely slowly. A concoction was a delicate process to start with, so alchemists often took their time; that's why it seemed slower than a snail's pace.

"There are limitations to the zone generated by the Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone Pellet, however. Firstly, it is not eternal in existence; the pellet, from first to ninth grade, can only last up to a limit of ten days before automatically dispersing, but it sustains itself without external assistance. This can be increased by combining equally graded pellets.i" To properly illustrate: eight ninth-grade products used together can turn eighty days into eight hundred days, a little over two whole years! There is no limit to which you can keep it active. Additionally, the rate of lifespan consumption is consistent with the time experienced within. Your body and soul will age.

"However, be warned that you shouldn't continuously enter and exit a vortex as the dissonance can cause you to lose your sense of time and space, subject to a different rate of perceivable reality. So it's better to keep sessions as one with at least six months between each to regulate your senses.i»¿"It can also be used to slow down time, which could act as a way to enter an artificial stasis or a life-saving tool. The height of slowing down the rate of time is a hundred times, so even a first-grade product can become a hundredth of a second within for every second outside. Of course, this only applies to the Spiritual Anchor within the vortex. Those not anchored will have considerably reduced effects for both speeding up and slowing down the rate of time within." Tian Xiaocheng explained and caused the misunderstanding of it being a one-and- done eternal training chamber. i»¿A few aged elites sighed with relief. If this product existed without a limit, then they would forever be grounded beneath the future generations' feet. Fortunately, everything had a price, and a ninth-grade product wasn't so easily affordable. At most, only the top-tier factions would be able to speed up their training a little.

This was especially so for Tian Guyan. When he heard about the product, he was deathly afraid of Tian Yinwu and his half- sister, Tian Xiaolu, obtaining it. He could simply bow out of the upcoming imperial competition if it was a single pellet for infinite years."For the demonstration of its effects," Tian

Xiaocheng gestured toward the thirty-three vortexes, her eyes shining brightly as she said: "We'll be displaying how it doesn't affect one of the most attention-intensive activities in the great world of cultivation, CONCOCTION!" SNAP!

She brought her thumb and middle finger together, held up her slender arm, and snapped them together! The resounding sound seemed to act as a trigger as the vortexes began to stir with rampant energy, changing the rate of time within, and suddenly the time that was considerably slowed down began to speed up rapidly.

From the Everlore Association's side, San Luoyang sighed openly. "So this is why we can't win in terms of lower-graded products..."i"»¿"What?" A young King Alchemist was taken aback by the Tri-Vision Alchemic Saint's words, but he got no response as the world began to tremble.

The thirty-three Alchemic Emperors were all focusing wholeheartedly on completing the last stage of their ninth-grade concoction!

"What ambition! Does he think they'll all succeed?!" Tian Shangyang instantly grew riled as he knew what Wei Wuyin was trying to do! The earlier announcement of this Defiant Creation Association might have gotten understated and unnoticed by many, but it was the most crucial detail!

The Neo-Dawn Alchemic Lineage's legacy?!Wasn't this demonstration doubling as a way to showcase his ability to nurture talent? Moreover, many of these alchemists were discarded and abandoned by the Everlore Association or various prominent alchemist associations and forces throughout the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region.

Wasn't this outwardly suggesting that, while they were unable to nurture these failures of the Dao of Alchemy, his legacy could turn trash into treasure?!

BOOM!

Abruptly, the first alchemist, Yi Yun, completed the last stage of the alchemical process at an accelerated rate! The vortex erupted and dissipated as the World of Eden began to tremble!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Three more vortexes collapsed!Weng Yinyin was among the three!

The World of Eden's center stage began to produce astonishing, infinitely mysterious images.

"Is that a Moon?!"

"No! IT'S A PLANET!"

"OH, MY HEAVENS!! A STAR!"

Countless exclaimed as they each saw varied images of the ongoing phenomena, with new moons, planets, and stars forming within the center stage. Fortunately, they were mere observers.

Eventually, all thirty-three vortexes collapsed!"THIRTY-THREE STELLAR MANIFESTATIONS OF A MORTAL SOVEREIGN!" The voice in Lin Ming's mind resounded like thunder in shock and disbelief. A sight that no one in the entire Sealed Regions had ever seen before was unfolding before their very eyes.

The birth of thirty-three Mortal Sovereign Alchemists!

## PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1274 1268: NDAE, Brazen & Foreboding



## Breathtaking!

The thirty-three alchemists' Stellar Manifestation was as if an entire universe was being born and projected across the World of Eden. While the images were occurring in the Neo-Dawn Starfield, the World of Eden accurately transmitted the entire event. Quintillions of minds were blown away by this breathtaking experience.

While the Stellar Manifestation of a Mortal Sovereign was broadcasted across a vast distance, often including a planet and a few of its neighbors, there were simply too few that had occurred relative to the enormous population, so most had never seen this phenomenon in their entire lives. This included some Ascended beings who've lived for thousands of years.i»; Throughout the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, if one accounted for the secluded and reclusive alchemists or the criminal ones that practiced Evil Alchemical Methods that did not show for the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit, then the number of Mortal Sovereign Alchemists was less than 300 in number. Each of their respective acknowledgment phenomena was often limited to where they studied and practiced their alchemical skills, such as the Everlore Domain.i»¿"Stellar Manifestation of a Mortal Sovereign!" Tian Lingyu was utterly flabbergasted by the sheer intensity of the event, feeling slightly overwhelmed as planets, lunar satellites, and solar stars swam epically throughout her vision. It all felt so close yet so extremely far that she reached out and tried to grab at them unconsciously. For a brief moment, her inner child escaped as she happily and smilingly exclaimed.

Yang Chaoyue was typically one to harp on Tian Lingyu's young age and immaturity despite her illustrious cultivation base, but for the first time, she didn't find her annoying but a little cute. Considering her own emotions were elevated by an awe- filled experience, she couldn't hold back smiling.

"It's beautiful," Yang Chaoyue softly exclaimed.i»¿"En!" Tian Lingyu nodded with a sound of earnest agreement.

The two shared a rare moment as their eyes followed a gorgeous blue planet that flew across their direct line of sight, causing their heads to follow it as it flew across the World of Eden. The exclamations of awe and happiness were incessantly erupting throughout as an experience that would forever be etched into the souls of everyone present unfolded before their very eyes.

The Stellar Manifestations lasted for quite a while before coming to a natural end. When it began to die down, the crowd was simmering in their feelings about what was just witnessed. They had thought they would simply be shown a demonstration of the Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone Pellet, not a never-beforeseen unified ascension of thirty-three Mortal Sovereign Alchemists!i»¿"This is an Alchemic Expo!" The Titanic Hell-Crushing Queen exclaimed with faint tears in her eyes. She had never witnessed something so beautiful before, as if witnessing the genesis of a universe, an almost indescribable feeling swept through her heart as someone who surpassedMortal Limits.

Her words echoed in the hearts of the Boundless Martial Sect's members and their allies, who were linked through the Proximity and Projection Links. This was indeed an Alchemic Expo!In most cases, those who participate in an Alchemic Expo were there either to meet the host to establish relations, obtain benefits through the host's ego, see the unveiling of a new product they may be interested in buying, or simply experience the grandeur of an Alchemic Expo. However, this only transformed Alchemic Expos into glorified Grand Demonstrations like the ones in the Golden Auction with additional steps.

However, a true Alchemic Expo showcased the Alchemist's lineage and skill, but that had been lost in translation as the egoified stage that the expos had become had been highlighted instead. Since the beginning, countless have cautioned their juniors or readied themselves to secure good fortune within

the expo and not invest themselves in the experience of the purpose of the expo-the greatness of the Alchemist.

"Ascendant Emperor Wei has just overturned the world yet again," the Boundless Martial High King solemnly said as his form of address changed abruptly.

"Indeed," the Soul Saint King was nearby through the dual links and heard that assessment loud and clear. In fact, most of the top-tier Earthly Saints were in this group, including some Mortal Sovereign Alchemists. This was why and how, when Tian Shangyang of the Imperial Clan had spoken out earlier, the Everlore Association's Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, the Radiant Wave Alchemic Sovereign, had replied to him with a fierce rebuke. This was a unique group formed by the true elites of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, allowing them to communicate effortlessly as if this was the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit.i»; "Most of those Alchemic Emperors, sorry, I mean Alchemic Sovereigns, had been exiled or pushed out due to the limitations of their talents and consistent failures. For one reason or another, they were the disgraces of their respective organizations, best left forgotten. But here they are," Tian Muyang pointed out, making sure to verbally acknowledge this point, driving the stake of embarrassment in many hearts, continuing: "By using the lineage legacy of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Sovereign, they have all reached levels that those whomocked, spat, and insulted them may never reach."

Tian Muyang's words and intent were clear, meant to ruthlessly point out the difference in the quality of legacies between other Alchemist Associations and Wei Wuyin's new Hepta-Dawn Alchemic Corps, but no one could refute anything he had said."»¿They were facts!

Moreover, they were the harshest type of facts-an inarguable truth! Why? Because the greatest detail had yet to be pointed out, yet it was splashed

across their faces! These alchemists had reached that level with Wei Wuyin's investment in less than thirty years, and while the Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone Pellet might have contributed greatly, was that not a part of the Neo-Dawn lineage?

The other associations couldn't provide such advantages, so it was simply pointing out their inferiority and ineptitude by saying anything further!

"..." All the Alchemist Associations went silent, and a few were even cursing heavily in their hearts. Their curses were directedtoward the Everlore Association! No, it was toward Evergod!"»¿Long ago, when the King of Everlore rose to prominence and took over the Godpill Association, he started a massive recruitment of talents throughout the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region as a way to cultivate new blood that would be loyal to him. However, due to Evergod's attempt on Wei Wuyin's life, he moved away and established his own Alchemist Association without any massive recruitment!Moreover, he produced thirty-three Mortal Sovereign Alchemists!

They cursed Evergod for not allowing Wei Wuyin to seize control of the association!

"It's not that simple," a gentle voice resounded through the Proximity Link, but there was no avatar of origin within the group of elites. However, those in the Imperial Clan all had their expressions change greatly." "Earth-Saint Tian!" Tian Shangyang instantly clasped his hands and greeted the voice respectfully with a bow. Tian Lingyu, Tian Mingyu, Sky Monarch Bai, the princes and princesses, all of them graciously and earnestly greeted the voice respectfully with low bows. The only exception was Yang Chaoyue, who remained upright and calm.

"The Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint is here!" The other Mortal Sovereign Alchemists present scrambled with mad respect as they gave an equally low bow to greet the Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint, regardless if they were part of the top-tier organizations or the Everlore Association.

San Luoyang and Evergod glanced at each other, and they clasped their hands but didn't bow. They were also Alchemic Saints!"Glad you've finally come, Earth-Saint Tian." San Luoyang said with a smile.

"Thought you wouldn't come," Evergod commented flatly.

"How could I possibly miss this?" The Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint said through her voice, still not making an appearance via an avatar. She continued her previous words, "The act of pushing thirty-three Emperor Alchemists onto the center stage and having them complete the most difficult segment of an alchemical process is a sign of utmost confidence in himself and his legacy's lineage. An extreme risk too."

Only when Sky Zenith, also known as Tian Dingjian, pointed this out did the others realize the sheer audacity and confidence it took to put thirty-three Emperor Alchemists on display and have all of them succeed! This wasn't simple at all! This was absolute confidence and arrogance!Wei Wuyin wasn't just saying his lineage was capable of turning their throwaway trash into immaculate treasure, but that it could turn anyone into an alchemist, and he was certain of it! After all, a genuine Stellar Manifestation of the Mortal Sovereign only occurs once: when an Alchemist attains the acknowledgment of the Dao of Alchemy!

While there were ways to emulate it, such as through the Alchemic Stars' various forms, it wasn't as substantial and genuine as the first time!

"..." The elites were silent at the implications, and they subtly glanced at the Everlore Association's area! If before, Wei Wuyin was launching small shots their way; this was a cannonball. Their only saving grace was their study hulls that remained intact, the two Alchemic Saints. But this didn't bode well for the

premier Alchemist Association."It seems Ascendant Emperor Wei might not just be intending to create a healthy competitor," Tian Muyang launched another blow to the Everlore Association's way, and all of their expressions grew unfathomably dark.

"Haha! All because you aimed for his life. Evergod, do you regret it?"

Merciless was the perfect word to describe Tian Muyang, as his savage comments even caused everyone else to feel for the Everlore Association.

None of them were fools, and they knew this Alchemic Expo wouldn't end well for Evergod. A few keen individuals could even predict Wei Wuyin's next move...i"¿"I hope that demonstration of both of the Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone was adequate to not only entertain but showcase its amazing effects!" Tian Xiaocheng allowed her words to digest as subconscious nods were made throughout the World of Eden.

"Then, we'll begin the next segment unveiling our next product! A pill! Unfortunately," she said with a bit of sadness in her expression, "Unlike the first two products of the Neo-Dawn lineage, this product is a little ordinary. It's not a product that defies cultivation conventions that we've known for so long, or a product that is particularly new in regards to its effects, but it shouldn't disappoint!"i">¿The crowd was riled up with curiosity rather than hyped anticipation. Tian Xiaocheng perfectly regulated their expectations, preparing them to accept what came next without comparing the first two products together. After all, the first was a pinnacle-tier product, and the other was a multi-graded product. They were unique in regard to their effects anduses.

"I present: the Neo-Dawn Star-Seed Pill!" Just like earlier, a jade box was before Tian Xiaocheng, and she delicately opened it as a gush of solar radiance spewed outwards.

"This is a low-tier, ninth-grade product that can be used to nurture your very own Solar Star!"

"What?!"

# **PARAGON OF SIN**

Chapter 1275 1269: NDAE, Mourning & Ignorant

#### "What?!"

The reactions weren't filled with awe and astonishment but bewilderment and confusion, causing widespread uncertainty throughout the audience. Not only was this Neo-Dawn Star-Seed a low-tier, ninth-grade product, its effect was to act as a catalyst for a Solar Star? The first question the minds of those who were experienced in cultivation was:

"Why?"i»¿Tian Xiaocheng could feel the stifled murmurs and curious gazes leaking with disappointment, but her posture and smile remained undaunted as she expected this. She recalled her very own experience after learning of this product's effects, which made her feel that it was simply unworthy of being mentioned in the same breath as the Neo-Dawn Soul-Sea Elixir and Neo-Dawn Vortex-Zone Pellet in terms of effects and properties.

Why exactly was this her first thought? Because the creation of a Solar Star was mostly irrelevant to the current state of society. No, the proper word wasn't irrelevant but unneeded."»¿In the cultivation world, those who've exceeded Mortal Limits, such as those at the Mystic Star Phase, the first stage of the Mystic Ascendant Realm, and higher, can galvanize their accumulated powers of the Mortal Realms to recreate the circumstances of their advancement, generating their own Solar Stars with time, effort, and energy.

These were the overly numerous and abundant 'false' Solar Stars that were spread across starfields or acted as stabilizers for World Realms. Divine King Han Xei's Devil War Realm possessed a low- leveled Solar Star he had created, and most Mystic Star Phase-led organizations hadrealms with these types of Solar Stars, such as the Solitary Saber Sect that Su Mei had joined.All in all, for those who've exceeded Mortal Limits, the creation of a Solar Star was a relatively easy task. The only positive thing others could take from this Neo-Dawn Star-Seed was the fact that a Starlord would gain the chance to nurture their own Solar Star, but given the resource expenditure that one would have to undertake to do so, this was a highly unlikely and unpleasant activity.

It would be the equivalent of giving a Qi Condensation Realm cultivator the power to create Flat Continental Earths, Lunar Satellites, or Planets. It just wouldn't do them any good as they wouldn't be able to maintain or protect it. In fact, just traversing the smallest-sized officially recognized planet might take them years!And World Realms created by Starlords simply did not have the power to withstand the blazing radiance of a Solar Star. They would collapse instantly. While it wasn't much of a discussed topic due to the understated obviousness of it all, only the Mystic Ascendant Realm possessed World Realm-bound Solar Stars. The average Starlord that had just attained the bare minimum qualifications to consider themselves as 'human-sized' Solar Stars did not have the power or means to create a stable enough space to do so.

Additionally, the utter chaos of countless Solar Stars entering a starfield's natural orbit would be unimaginable and destructive because even the smallest Dwarf-sized Solar Star was far, far larger than the smallest planet by a considerable degree and emitted a type of gravity that was extremely overbearing, enough to create its own starfield."..." So Tian Xiaocheng,

despite her poise and excellent presenting abilities, was left with a subdued crowd with a mild reaction. They could only wait for further explanation.

Tian Xiaocheng inwardly sighed, and then she delved into the pill while maintaining her smile. Those watching had to admit, despite her background and haughty bones, the Empress was doing her job with astounding dedication. Some even forgot she was an Empress for a while, salivating over her gorgeous looks with lecherous dreams."The Neo-Dawn Star-Seed is a pill devised and concocted with a singular purpose: Creating a Solar Star that is harmonious with the world." When Tian Xiaocheng spoke out, her words only elicited the smallest of reactions. There were even some dry coughs resounding! Since the coughs had the intent behind them to judge the products, it was heard by all those focused on it.

At this point, her heart sneered with contempt, ignoring the fact that she had much of the same response when it was explained to her. In her mind, however, she still insulted these so-called experts as they were lacking in essential knowledge of cultivation despite their elevated sense of worth. "Pathetic frogs in a well," she ruthlessly called them in her thoughts as she wore the most delicate and beautiful smiles.i»¿She continued: "The product is a pre- concocted Star Seed that contains genuine Elemental Origin Essence and Energy as its foundational structure. Moreover, it can be developed after initial consumption in one's Dantian, much like a fetus in a womb, to grow with additional resources. When it has reached its bare minimum level of requirement, it'll be a Dwarf-sized Solar Star that can then be expelled.i»¿"When expelled, continued growth will be possible by investing the innate energies, Starforce, or Star Power of the cultivator that refined it, allowing the Solar Star to reach, depending on the quality of the pill, potentially the size of a Colossus Star!" Tian Xiaocheng began to list its effects, but the majority of the crowd was unable to properly understand the relevance of this. Those at the Qi Condensation Realm, or even those at the

Starlord level, simply couldn't grasp the complexity and importance of this product. They were either too young or too ignorant.

But those who had exceeded Mortal Limits had fundamentally different reactions. This was even more so for the educated!i»¿"Impossible!" A Mortal Sovereign Alchemist who worshiped the Seven Sages Tower's Echoing Stars of the Vastness Pill and the history of the War of Fallen Stars and the Dark Stars Era and their origins was trembling from head to toe, his eyes bulged and his mouth wide with disbelief. His reaction caused his fellow companions to gasp in shock and confusion.

"Are you okay?" They asked.

But the Alchemic Sovereign had long since lost himself in his chaotic thoughts and couldn't respond.

Tian Xiaocheng didn't stop, "The end product will also have a natural harmony with the world, allowing it to be classified by our standards as a 'natural' Solar Star. It directly enables a path to the process of the Star Ascension but at the cost of resources.""..." Evergod's pupils constricted.

San Luoyang's heart began to race.

San Yongli's eyes bulged almost out of their sockets. She might be among the younger generation, but she had 'obtained' a fortuitous encounter meant for someone else, acquiring knowledge of the World- Bound Star Domain and its cultivation requirements. She was so floored by this product that her mind blared like sirens.

She had spent the last twelve years trying to find a material that could replace a natural Solar Star that had more or less been hunted into extinction, causing the Dark Stars Era and countless deaths in the cold void of space. The only material she had a lead on was an Astralis Star, an amalgamation of greatly condensed and refined Astralis Essence, the core component of a Solar

Star.She had even desired to obtain an Ultimate Astralis Star, which was said to be able to not only act as a World-Bound Star Domain, but when one condenses their Astral Idol using it as the foundation, it generates an Ultimate Ability that relates to the Mortal Dao. From how the inheritance described it, the Ultimate Astral Idol would gain limited dominion over the Mortal Dao, even capable of inducing strange powers such as Mortal Annihilation-permanently.

This was unlike the limited range of a World-Bound Star Domain's Mortal Annihilation, which could be likened to a Worldly Domain's control over the essence, energies, and mana within its territory.

"Isn't that!" Lin Ming outright shouted as he pointed at the jade box. He looked at Lin Xianxei with raging disbelief in his eyes." A World-Bound Star Domain catalyst!" Lin Xianxei said quiveringly, unable to stop her hands from trembling. As a Starlord, shehad obtained the legacy of her Master, the Divine King Han Xei, and had acquired a pseudo-Solar Star with natural properties infused with Elemental Heart Intent, much smaller than a dwarf-sized Solar Star, a bypass to establishing a World-Bound Star Domain!

He had devoted time and effort to creating that substitute for her, and it was how she could exceed everyone's expectations and why she survived Zhang Ziyi's assassination attempt. It was also why she was severely injured, as the World-Bound Star Domain was unstable, and she couldn't fully utilize its power.It was her greatest regret that the War of Fallen Stars had caused almost all thenatural Solar Stars to become extinct and refined away into ninth-grade pills. Otherwise, she could truly partake in the most natural path of cultivation to the peak.

Lin Ming had been trying to find a World- Bound Star Domain as well but had resolved to prepare a substitute if he couldn't find a proper replacement. Given his Elemental Heart Intent, he should be able to remedy any issues from it post- Ascension. This was what the voiceinstructed, but all of his

arduous plans and hectic gathering of materials that oftentimes had him tethered on life and death were...

"You must obtain that pill! At all costs!" The voice in Lin Ming's head strongly reminded him.

Almost every Alchemic Sovereign was blasted by shock and surprise, while those experts who lived for a long time were shaken to their very core.

"As some of you may know," Tian Xiaocheng began to give a history lesson, "The War of Fallen Stars that was triggered by the trailblazing creation of the Echoing Vastness of the Stars Pill, a pinnacle-tier product, and the Dark Stars Era, the result of the former ruling clan of our Stellar Region establishing the Supermassive Solar Star by gathering Solar Stars and then falling due to their oppressive actions, had all been due to the 'natural' Solar Stars that had miraculous effects.

"This product will be able to, with time and effort, refill the Stellar Regions with these stars-YOUR STARS!

For a moment, hype began to swirl as her explanation allowed others to recall the history of both events.

But it only came together when Tian Xiaocheng said: "Alchemic Sovereign Wei created this product with the hope of giving the Stellar Regions, that have long since been forgotten and the existing Stellar Region, including the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, a chance to be reborn into its former glory!"

"Oh!" At this point, many people began to understand that these Solar Stars were 'different'. Then, and only then, did they start to rise with excitement. Discussions erupted, and knowledge began to spread, including the implications."»¿"But like before-THERE'S MORE!" Tian Xiaocheng finally got the reaction she wanted and responded with similar energy. "The Neo-Dawn Star-Seed can not only assist one in forming a Solar Star, but can also

provide traces of Starforce properties to Astral Force! The benefits this will have to your strength shouldn't be underestimated. Additionally, the fully formed version of the Solar Star will also be automatically linked to the main refiner of the pill, allowing them to use it as the foundation of their World-Bound Star Domain! But be wary; doing so will intensify the lethality of the Star Core Astral Tribulation."

"World-Bound Star Domain?"

"What's that?"

"Huh?!"Instantly, confusion began to rise from the crowd.

However, those who exceeded Mortal Limits were not as ignorant. When one ascended, they became aware of the possibility of a World-Bound Star Domain, but given the War of Fallen Stars and the Dark Stars Era that led to a severe depletion of the natural Solar Star resource, including the fact only a few have ever birthed Elemental Heart Intent, there was no need to try creating it.

Of course, countless have tried using false Solar Stars, but the disharmony would get rejected, and the perpetrator who brought it with them would experience a merciless execution via Mortal Annihilation."»¿After tens of thousands of years, it was simply forgotten, kept in the corner of everyone's inner regret, not even listed in things like the Myriad Monarch Canon. So it wasn't out of the ordinary that the crowd was ignorant of what a World-Bound Star Domain was unless they had an ancient inheritance.

"The magnitude of this pill...is greater than the other two..." Tian Muyang said in a daze. The severe lack of reaction did not do it justice, but if the products were ushered by relevance to a new era, then this pill was worthy of the third slot!

The Empress truly didn't do its description justice! But it made sense because it was hard to describe the utter importance of this pill, especially to those who hadn't reached the Star Core Phase yet."I wish I was born in this generation," Tian Lingyu pouted her lips as envy flowed from her pupils as she observed the ignorant and contemplating expressions of the princes and princesses of the younger generation. But when she saw Tian Guyan, the Second Prince, there was only pity.

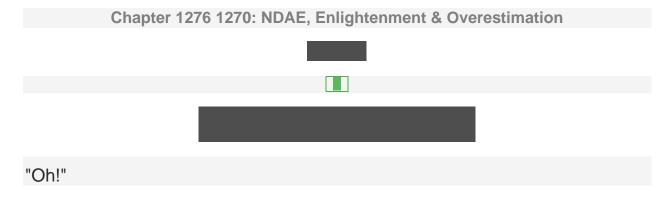
Tian Yinwu hadn't reached the Star Core Phase yet, at least to her knowledge, so he was going to be given the best conditions to ascend. All because he was born in this generation...

The sentiment echoed in the hearts and minds of every Ascended silently as they observed the Neo-Dawn Star-Seed Pill. The quiet that formed was a mixture of the older generation's mourning of their past and the younger generation's ignorance of their future.Tian Xiaocheng received new instructions, and then she shook her head. Eventually, the world will know the importance of this product, and the uproar will be absolutely legendary.

"For this product and the next fortune of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo, there will be a short competition! All those between the World Sea Phase and Temporal Eye Phase, please do prepare yourselves!"

The fifth bout of good fortune was about to begin!

## PARAGON OF SIN



The Astral Core Realm cultivators, excluding Starlords, began to teem with interest and excitement. A few young, hot-blooded geniuses and Chosen yelped with joy while the seniors were already delivering stern and solemn instructions to those eligible.

## "Finally!"

This was what they expected-a competition to obtain great benefits, challenging those of their generation. The cultivation range was perfect for the Chosen of this era, especially those qualified to participate in the upcoming Chosen King Competition. ">

Nost Alchemic Expos had competitions for the younger generation, typical bouts to showcase their talents and receive some investments from the hosting alchemist. Quite a few famous Alchemic Knights were discovered during this period, such as the Ever-Knights, excavating their talents and receiving dedicated nurturing from the alchemist in question.

The Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn was the most publicly known Alchemic Knight of Ascendant Emperor Wei, so the standard of Wei Wuyin's Alchemic Knight was utterly fantastic. Most were under the assumption that the Armored Saint and the other Earthly Saints that had shown themselves defending the Neo-Dawn Starfield that day belonged to a terrifyingly hidden organization that had nurtured Wei Wuyin, exceeding Trueborn in mystery and strength, so they didn't count them as personally nurtured."You must obtain this pill!" Tian Lingyu fiercely reminded the princes and princesses of the younger generation. They all jumped at her deep and forceful tone, their hearts seized by a tinge of pressure and fear.

Tian Muyang noticed this and awkwardly smiled from the side. Tian Lingyu's attitude was appropriate, but her anxiety was corrupting the emotions of the young. The pressure they felt definitely intensified after seeing her.

He eased in, "This third product of Wei Wuyin is considerably more important than the first two, as it will open up an opportunity for you to potentially reach the true peak of the Astral Core Realm. The other two products cannot do so, especially given our world's current circumstance."

True peak?The brows of the youngsters lifted.

"What do you mean?" A young, tall, handsome prince garbed in pristine white asked curiously. He was Tian Baiyan; he had the same mother as Tian Guyan, and he was the Sixth Prince of the Imperial Clan and also at the Realm World Phase of the Astral Core Realm, the Seventh Stage. The aura he gave off was one of hidden arrogance and restrained pride in the depths of his bones, suppressed only by the monstrouspresence of Earthly Saints."»¿Tian Muyang glanced at the Sixth Prince. The Seventh Prince-Tian Yinwu, the Sixth Prince-Tian Baiyan, and the Fifth Prince- Tian Jianghan, were the three official princes eligible for the Chosen King Competition, and they each carried a type of peerless charm to them. The first felt like a fallen immortal, the second reminded him of a tyrannical ruler, and the last felt like a sword immortal with the sword as their lamp through the path of cultivation.

None of them was average relative to their cultivation base, especially Tian Yinwu, whose feats shocked the world.He glanced at the corner of the Imperial Clan's area, finding a middle-aged man with a scruffy dark-colored beard wearing a grey-colored swordsmen robe with an air of comfort. Despite his appearance, which looked older than Tian Muyang, he was considerably younger than most could guess, only having four hundred years of cultivation beneath his belt. By his hip was a sheathed sword of a black color, accompanied by a brown jug of wine that gave off a sweet fragrance.

When Tian Jianghan felt Tian Muyang's gaze, he turned his attention to him and put forth an acknowledging smile and a respectful bow. He didn't seem to have any arrogance in his bones, not respectfully acting due to suppression but through an unrestrained mind.Tian Muyang knew that the Empress was going to begin the next competition soon, so he hurriedly explained. After

exceeding Mortal Limits, most Ascended could explain the properties and limitations of the Mortal Realms to non-Ascended despite the difficulties of cultivation. It was much how Wu Jiao of the Wu Imperial Clan in the Wu Country could lecture about the principles of the Qi Condensation Realm witharticulate poise.i»¿They, however, could only have lingering regret after looking back. Once one Ascended, there was no path back. Not even losing one's physical body and destroying their Mystic Soul was enough because their Existential Framework had Ascended, so they could only exist as cultivators of the Mystic Dao. The only reason the details of the Astral Core Realm weren't widely spread largely had to do with the Sealed Region's inability to reach it.

The War of Fallen Stars was said to have been caused by the Echoing Stars of the Vastness Pill as the Seven Sages Tower began to launch a merciless crusade to obtain natural Solar Stars at all cost, but another contributor was the Ascended beings that were being born during the era with the knowledge of the Astral Core Realm's principles."The foundation of the Mortal Realms is defined by four aspects-Body, Mind, Essence, and Spirit; these four aspects formulate the basis of all three Mortal Realms and focus on training and elevating these qualities to the next level.

"The Star Core Phase is the finalization of those principles. Your body is your Astral Physique; your mind is your World-Bound Star Domain; your essence is your Starforce; your Spirit is your Astral Idol."

"Astral Idol?" Instantly, the younger generation all jumped with interest. Tian Muyang realized that the Empress was quiet and that his voice was being transmitted throughout the entire World of Eden while all other voices were subdued. He had taken center stage, and he could only smile softly in his heart. Was this what she was waiting for?"»¿As a recognized authority, his words would be absorbed much easier and at face value, especially since

these words were instructions given to the princes and princesses of his own lineage.

In the subspace, Wei Wuyin couldn't help but heave a sigh in his heart. Guan Yu, whom he met at the Nexus Battlefield decades ago, had tried to explain the concept of an Astral Idol to him, but quite a few details were utterly inconsistent with what he obtained from his alternative self's memories.Tian Baiyan, the Sixth Prince, instantly caught on to Tian Muyang's implication. "Are you saying we need to reach the peak of Body, Mind, and Essence to form our Spirit, or rather, the Astral Idol?" While he hadn't heard of it before, the term Astral Idol inspired an invisible type of natural reverence within every Astral Core Realm cultivator's heart. It was similar to how mana felt just right when describing the glue of the world.

Tian Muyang nodded solemnly, "The World- Bound Star Domain has more or less been forgotten during our era because to do so required a cultivator to possess a natural Solar Star that they would bring into their Star Core Astral Tribulation. Only by possessing a natural object of the peak of the Mortal Dao can one connect their minds to the will of Mortal Dao and invoke the greatest power as a Starlord." Does anyone know why the title of Starlord was given?" Tian Muyang thought for a moment and asked. The history behind the Starlord title is far too ancient to delve into, but the intent behind its naming sense that was officially recognized by cultivators across the universe was consistently known thanks to Ascended level Heavenly Seers.

"Because we harness the power of the stars!" A young, cute princess dressed in red and gold said excitedly. The Star Core Phase was about condensing all of one's cultivated strength into a Solar Star-like object, allowing them access to this peak display of Mortal Dao's profound power. It completely encapsulated the limits of the Mortal Realms.

And how Ascended beings could snuff them out with some effort showed the vast disparity between them." Not exactly," Tian Muyang sighed in his heart. This line of knowledge about cultivation had been forgotten, so it was sad to see such ignorance. He continued: "It's because of your Astral Idols! To put it plainly, you're only a true Starlord if you cultivate an Astral Idol, and only when you've touched the peak of the Mortal Dao will you grasp the true meaning of being a Starlord!"

Wei Wuyin nodded in the subspace. While the description was somewhat lacking, Tian Muyang didn't delve into it further because he feared a further delving into the topic could induce unnecessary confusion, but he was right. Only when cultivators at the Star Core Phase obtained a World-Bound Star Domain could they understand what cultivating to the peak of the Mortal Realms, harnessing the will of the Mortal Dao, and exerting the power of the stars could truly mean.With it, Wei Wuyin had ruthlessly suppressed an Earthly Saint as a mortal. Moreover, it wasn't even with an Astral Idol. If he merged his Astral Physique, Starforce, and World-Bound Star Domain as one, he would experience an ungodly level of power the touched upon a profound Dao. Countless believed that the Mortal Dao was inferior to the Mystic Dao, but that was far from the truth.

Tian Muyang explained some more, and it caused the younger generation's ignorance to clear up as paths to the peak began to formulate within their young minds. Those knowing of this discarded information were utterly solemn, especially since their potential advantage was collapsing with each word.San Yongli stared heavily at the jade box that contained the Neo-Dawn Star-Seed Pill. She asked internally, "Can this pill create a natural Solar Star?"

A voice spurred from her Sea of Consciousness, contained within a half yinyang symbol formed of emerald-colored jade that exuded a soft yet terrifying radiance. The radiance infused into her Sea of Consciousness and slowly but surely widened it.

"Yes." A voice, feminine in tone yet carrying a type of haughty inflection that was extremely tyrannical, reverberated within her mind.

"Are you sure?" San Yongli's frown deepened as the disparate soul of an ancient expert answered her question.

"Are you doubting me? I said yes!" The voice sounded slightly cold, originating from the jade."»¿San Yongli's eyes dimmed; the disparate soul was in a state no different than Wu Yu, contained in the soul-nourishing and mind- nurturing heavenly treasure and unable to reformulate their body. She had acquired this jade before a future Emperor-level figure could, not expecting there to be a disparate soul within, but now knew that their rise in the Book of Heaven's Path was heavily attributed to this soul.

However, unlike Wu Yu, the Ever-Rebirth Pill wasn't enough to rebirth their body because their cultivation base greatly exceeded the limit. If they used one, their body would be incomplete and low-leveled. The soul needed specific earthly treasures or a mystic-graded equivalent of an Ever- Rebirth Pill to form a proper body.San Yongli could only sigh; the vast effort she put into finding an alternative to establishing a World-Bound Star Domain was rendered pointless. All those years... wasted.

After Tian Muyang finished his explanation, the Astral Core Realm was more or less understood. Countless now knew that the path in the Mortal Realms was far more profound than they realized. However, Tian Muyang had repeated at least three times throughout his explanation that a World- Bound Star Domain amplified the difficulty of the Star Core Astral Tribulation by a considerable degree.It was so intense that 99% of those during the War of Fallen Stars had failed their tribulations, causing countless natural Solar Stars to die out due to their foolish overestimating of their strength. Of course, the

greatest reason for this was due to the Solar Stars having been nurtured to Titan and Colossus sizes by the original owners of those Stellar Regions who had legitimate Earthly and Worldly Saints. With the foundation of those barely having touched the Mystic Ascendant Realm, it was easy to understand how they overestimated themselves.

Soon, the focus moved from the World- Bound Star Domain to the Echoing Stars of the vastness Pill, which solidified the terror that was the War of Fallen Stars."I must thank Imperial Monarch Muyang for his detailed lecture regarding the principles of the World-Bound Star Domain and theStar Core Phase. Now, we'll begin the next segment. Those who don't wish to participate, please mentally shout: I do not wish to participate. The World of Eden will exclude you. A friendly reminder, this segment will not be without its struggles, and you can be severely injured and even lose your life. So be sure to think this through; we will not be responsible for your life." Tian Xiaocheng was happy that she didn't have to say a whole mouthful regarding the Star Core Phase.

"Those who can remain conscious for five minutes will receive a Neo-Dawn Star-Seed Pill." She stated the very simple and non- descriptive words that only left many with a foreboding feeling." after five minutes of receiving the scant few that bowed out, Tian Xiaocheng announced: "We begin! I wish you all the best of luck." This test will send pressure into your Sea of Consciousness, testing the strength of your mind!" Just as she began, before anyone could properly react...

**ROAR! ROAR! ROAR!** 

ROAR! ROAR! ROAR!

ROAR!!!

Seven dragons that governed the world all roared in unison, and a wave of incredible pressure descended across the World of Eden!

PN = Pirate Note.

Yo, Erdiul here. After approximately 10 fucking hours I'm finally done with the chapters up to date. I'm am completely exhausted, but it is what it is. You guys owe me in your second life. I'll be the one updating PoS from during this month, and maybe the next. If I made any mistakes with these chapters, please let me know, and I'll try to improve later on moving forward. Please, if you can, try to support KevinAscending on Webnovel, Patreon, or his paypal. You can find them on his webnovel page for PoS. If you have anything to say to me, I'm probably on the discord. Until next time!

-Erdiul

Discord link for Pandanovel, for quick updates > https://discord.gg/Gmb86aUSFP

## PARAGON OF SIN



Despite the warning, few rescinded their right to participate; whether they were supreme young talents or lowly aged cultivators, they all saw this as the fifth fortune and wished to give it a try.

Within the first second, two-thirds of the participants fainted.

The roar of the Nine Dragons was like meteorites pounding upon the mindscape of everyone's Sea of Consciousness, inducing literal mind-

collapsing explosions. Almost all of them only felt a faint prick between their brow and a loud sound before losing consciousness. They were fortunate, as those whose mind was too fragile or wrecked by mental demons and turbid, tainted waves of mental energy experienced a total collapse.Their minds fragmented into thousands of pieces, some even into hundreds of thousands, and their Sea of Consciousness began leaking out from their real bodies, spewing mental energy into the world. This mental energy was incredibly impure and distorted into wraith-like spectral beings, frightening and twisted, reflecting the mental state of those who possessed them.

"...!" The seniors of those juniors, both those who lost consciousness and those leaking, were deeply shaken by this development. They hastily tried to move, but within their vision, nine gargantuan dragons emerged, eyeing them with a malicious glint of vicious light. They knew that if they moved, the nine dragons would take action!

"What are you doing?!" Those who could still speak despite the rampaging fear roared as avatars of the World of Eden. They questioned Wei Wuyin's intent, yet they received no response. The limp bodies of their juniors caused cascading waves of horror and regret to batter their hearts.

They were warned.

Tian Muyang observed all this in shock. With the Projection Link, he could exert his will to monitor the countless juniors across various areas by shifting his focus. Almost all of the true experts had long since grasped the inner functions of the World of Eden and had become quite adept at utilizing them.

"Is Alchemic Sovereign Wei really going to kill them off?" Tian Lingyu asked softly as she noticed that countless had lost the light in their eyes both in the World of Eden and the real world, using her Spiritual Sense. She could feel the lifeforce of some being exhausted, so she knew they were dying!

"Just watch," Yang Chaoyue gently said with a solemn gaze. Even as an Earthly Saint, the thought of quintillions of lives being snuffed out, especially the young, made her feel extremely uneasy. She held out hope that Tian Xiaocheng's words were purely a tactic to cause cowards to retreat.

Despite their small exchange, less than two seconds had passed. By the second second, the two-third count had increased to three-fourths. Less than a quarter remained after two seconds!

"WHAT IS THIS?!?!" Lin Ming had conjured a Mental Incarnation within his Sea of Consciousness as he observed the endlessly falling asteroids from beyond the walls of his mind crash against it. They were engulfed in a strange flame that caused his entire mind to tremble with incredible fear.

He had decided to take the challenge and experience the fifth fortune, especially after his Senior Sister and the voice had advised him to do so despite the warning. However, facing these attacks on his Sea of Consciousness, Lin Ming felt a tinge of regret. How could Wei Wuyin make this remotely easy?

This was the third product of the Neo- Dawn Alchemic Expo, and its value had caused almost every expert and Ascended to go raving mad with excitement and disbelief. After hearing that it was essentially an opportunity to pursue the peak of the Astral Core Realm, how could anyone dare to refuse? Additionally, this was Wei Wuyin's Alchemic Expo; would he leave them to die like this?!

At the third second, the walls of his Sea of Consciousness began to experience minute cracks that leaked out faint illusory flames that lingered outside. He knew that if he allowed them to breach his Sea of Consciousness, the consequences would be catastrophic. As a Mental Incarnation, he formed a hand-seal and galvanized his mental energies to combat the flames.

His actions had some effect as this new power subdued the invading illusory flames and began to repair the walls. In terms of cultivation, the walls of his mind that protected his wellspring of thoughts and ocean of refined mental energies were known as Mental Fortitude. It was one of the three uniquely categorized talents of the Psyche. It assisted one against an invasion of foreign threats or when one's inner chaos generated chaotic and demonic thoughts that could cause a mental breakdown.

Mental Fortitude was one of the few talents that could be elevated naturally through experiences, often life and death or tragedies overcome by sheer will, focus, and commitment. Lin Ming had risen from the Myriad Yore Continent while fighting against endless opponents and faced several lethal encounters, all of which he defied by his willpower and strength, so his Mental Fortitude was incredibly strong.

Even then, by the fifth second, his walls were already cracking at a rate that his mental energies couldn't repair.

"AHHH!" He roared, causing his sea of mental energies to shake intensely.

"Maintain your calm!" A booming voice rippled in his head.

Lin Ming's Mental Incarnation began to experience a faint glowing shine of spiritual light. Suddenly, as if inspired, Lin Ming realized he had another wellspring of compatible energy to assist him against this outrageous assault. His Elemental Origin Astral Soul began to burst with vibrant spiritual light, sending copious amounts of Spiritual Energy carrying all of its refined Spiritual Strength into his Sea of Consciousness.

His Mental Incarnation started to merge with the incoming Spiritual Light and began to display a newfound strength. With a heavy roar, he pushed out his hands, and the mental energy began to fuse with the spiritual energy, clinging

and soaring across his mind's walls as the illusory flames were viciously snuffed out and the walls were reinforced by a layer of spiritual strength.

After the ninth second passed, Lin Ming finally regained his serenity and revealed a smile laced with relieved confidence. "Thank you," he said.

"...'

Are you there?" Lin Ming asked.

"Yeah..." The voice resounded throughout the Sea of Consciousness like an ambient sound of a godly being. But Lin Ming didn't feel fear or reverence; he was simply thankful for the assistance. But he sensed a bit of uncertainty within the voice's tone, so he asked: "Did something happen?"

"..."

----

By this point, San Yongli was in an equally precarious position. Her Mental Fortitude had experienced death and the regression of most of her life, and she faced loss at an unimaginable level, as she had lost not just time but those she loved in that other timeline. Her mental stability was peerless amongst those of her age.

However, she had also come across a similar fault of relying solely on her mental energies to resist the crashing asteroids and the illusory flames that were trying to invade her mind. At this point, her mindwas on its last legs. There were cracks everywhere in her mind's wall, thick and horrifying, with outbursts of illusory flames that resembled tongues of torrential fire.

Her mind had become a hellscape from all sides. She even exerted complete and impeccable control over her mental energy as she condensed it all, protecting her Well of Thoughts and assaulting the threats at the same time.

Eventually, she started to reach her limits.

"Is this supposed to even be possible?!" She spat. Unlike the Everlore Association's younger generation, who were forced by Evergod into not participating, she was independent and a member of the San Clan, not the Everlore Association, so she could act as she wished as long as her adopted father had no qualms. She would never forgo the opportunity to seize fortune, especially after obtaining a Neo-Dawn Soul-Sea Elixir earlier.

The soul contained in her Sea of Consciousness had also said that the product had no issues, except that it contained Alchemic Spirit Remnants, which there were countless methods to expel with sufficient time, so how could she not strive to obtain this fortune?

"It is." The soul-containing, mind-nurturing jade floated within her condensed mental energy sphere, releasing a faint glow of astonishingly beautiful light.

"You're not defending properly," the woman's voice flatly stated.

What does that even mean?!" San Yongli shouted back at how calm the woman seemed despite her dangerous predicament. But then her voice was caught in her throat halfway, and she instantly realized her folly!

Instantly, she summoned her spiritual energy to reinforce her. When she began using her Astral Soul's strength, the feeling of danger quickly receded, and she obtained breathing room after the thirteenth second.

"See," the woman's voice pointed out with a mocking scoff.

San Yongli felt the urge to gnash her teeth, but she held it in. "...Thanks," was all she could muster after a second. If it wasn't for the woman's reminder, she would've likely failed this test.

Hearing her genuine appreciation, the woman chuckled softly. "It's not your fault; this cultivation society of yours is severely lacking in the practice of the Mind Dao."

"Mind Dao?" San Yongli had read about this before, but besides a few mentions here and there, there wasn't much detail about it.

The voice didn't alleviate her curiosity with a detailed explanation as one might expect of a mentor. Instead, she said: "At least, that's what I thought. Who knew that someone had developed their Incantations to this extent."

"Mental Incantations?" San Yongli felt as if a new world was opening before her, yet she was unable to open the door.

"...Well, neither is the Martial Arts of this society. In truth, besides Spells, this cultivation society severely lacks the fundamentals. I blame those who were too obsessed with reaching the next stage instead of excavating the full potential of each." The voice was simply speaking to herself at this point, and San Yongli patiently listened as she withstood the continuous collisions of projectiles from beyond her Sea of Consciousness.

However, she deduced that Incantations were equivalent to Spiritual Spells and Martial Arts, likely relating to the proper usage of mental energy. If Cultivation Methods were the techniques with the foundation of Essence, then Martial Arts used the Body as its core, Mental Incantations utilized the Mind, and Spiritual Spells revolved around the Spirit- capable of affecting and emulating all three.

Only after she felt that her hypothesis was correct did she finally realize that the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region was severely lacking in the basics of cultivation. It wasn't simply the lack of the World-Bound Star Domain.

She couldn't help but wonder...

...how strong were true cultivators from the World Beyond?Her thoughts came to an abrupt end after the thirty-seventh second. From outside of her mind's walls, the siege intensified, and she felt extremely pressured. She had to redouble her efforts, draw further strength from her spirit, and resist!

# **PARAGON OF SIN**

Chapter 1278 1272: NDAE, Souls Of The Past

Throughout the World of Eden, quite a few realized that relying solely on their Mental Energy was a recipe for disaster. Moreover, when their minds were breached, their Spirits seemed to have been provoked, and they received a type of instinctive defense that assisted them. This reaction would occur as long as their minds hadn't shattered in the first thirty seconds, allowing countless youngsters to resist the threatening power.

The seniors soon inspected the various strands of invasive mental pressure that besieged their juniors and realized that it was varied; those of a higher cultivation base and age experienced far greater mental pressure than those of a lower cultivation base and who were younger.

Moreover, countless breathed sighs of relief after realizing that the life that was draining from some of the earlier failures had stopped and been reversed. They noted that Earthly Saints were taking action behind the scene. While they were prohibited from taking action or assisting, those deployed by the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Sovereign were not.

"Huu...haa..." Tian Lingyu breathed out a breath of relief. She then faintly smiled, feeling a little embarrassed about doubting Wei Wuyin.

The voice of the Sky Zenith Alchemic Saint resounded, "The Neo-Dawn Alchemic Sovereign wouldn't risk his reputation by slaughtering such vast numbers. All of your worries were unfounded from the very beginning."

While she was speaking mostly to the Imperial Clan, who lowered their heads with embarrassment, everyone was reminded that this was Wei Wuyin's Alchemic Expo! No alchemist in their right mind would unleash a slaughter during their greatest event celebrating their brilliance and achievements. That would be insane!

----

During the third minute, Lin Ming's Mental Incarnation was surrounded by illusory flames as he condensed his Sea of Consciousness and enveloped it protectively using his Spiritual Force. He was relying on everything now!

Despite being a Mental Incarnation, he was sweating furiously with strained, bloodshot eyes. His breathing was labored and his body seemed as if it was growing increasingly transparent.

"»¿"He's trying to kill me!" Lin Ming couldn't help but question Wei Wuyin's motives, as this level of difficulty was utterly impossible for the average cultivator! Not even the vast majority of top-tier Chosen could withstand such violent assaults and ferocious flames! He doubted that Tian Yinwu could withstand it!

Of course, whether that was true or not was something he couldn't gauge, but it helped ease his ego.

"He might actually be trying..." Even the voice was doubtful.

By the seventh second into the third minute, the flames were beginning to boil Lin Ming's condensed Sea of Consciousness, trying to affect his Well of Thoughts that was protected at the center.

"ARGH!" The pain was hellish to the extreme! By now, his mind was breached, and he felt as if he was being roasted by solar-burning heat and planet-busting explosions. He was almost in tatters as his actual body was seizing and screaming violently.

Lin Xianxei had genuine, heart-wrenching terror in her eyes as she watched him squirm like a dying worm! "Stop! He can't handle it anymore!" She screamed out into the World of Eden. Normally, she would've toughened it out and allowed Lin Ming to face this challenge, but his body was reflecting the pain of his mind, and his skin was cracked all over, leaking bits of innate energy and lifeforce. He was dying!

She could only think that Lin Ming was refusing to surrender, given his stubborn personality and reluctance to fail the test. She blamed herself for telling him to acquire the pill at all costs! She should've said to retreat if he couldn't withstand it any longer! Unfortunately, no one responded to her cries.

"Mom!" She called out tearfully. By this point, Lin Ming's real body was leaking even bodily fluids. The stench was something else.

In Lin Ming's mind, he was wondering how to end this damn test! However, like many others before him, he realized there were no instructions on how to end it. Panic began to set in, and his heart pounded at a dangerous rate. Was Wei Wuyin genuinely trying to kill him? The thought started to make him spiral into a chasm of despair.

"Haaaa..." A sigh resounded in Lin Ming's mind as a strand of incomparably pure spiritual energy began to flow into Lin Ming's mind, but not before engulfing and destroying all the threats to the walls, snuffing out the flames, and reaching his condensed Sea of Consciousness.

"I'll assist you from the shadows. Focus!" The voice boomed loudly as Lin Ming's thoughts and emotions cleared. He was momentarily taken aback before he regained his sense of awareness. He gnashed his teeth like a cornered beast, looking at the continuous incoming flaming asteroids with killing intent. He was going to survive!

No matter what!

----

San Yongli was in an equally rough situation. By this point, she was already using the soul-containing, mind-nurturing jade's power to withstand the impact. "How can anyone possibly survive this?!" She was just as taken aback as Lin Ming but slightly calmer. After all, she had experienced death once before. That was a moment of true despair as she could only watch as her body was destroyed.

"Aren't you surviving now?" The woman said as if rolling her eyes. What a childish and nonsensical question.

"..." San Yongli was stunned for a moment. The woman wasn't wrong, so she had no grounds to refute.

"But given the rate of its increasing intensity, you won't last a minute more."

The woman remarked as if the situation had little to do with her.

San Yongli frowned slightly. She made a one-handed seal that was extremely strange. "Then, I'll have to ask you to forgive me."

"What?" The woman's shocked voice came out as the jade began to release strands of condensed spiritual power that easily exceeded a typical Earthly Saint. "You little brat! You're using my reserve of Spiritual Power! That reserve is meant for me to protect myself!"

"I'll help you recover it," San Yongli said before directing the power to obliterate the asteroids and invasive flames before enveloping her mind in a protective layer. The outside forces could no longer penetrate.

"Tsk! You better."

----

Wei Wuyin stood calmly in the World of Eden as he observed various strange auras emitting from multiple youngsters. "The Heavenly Daos truly are

unoriginal," he remarked as he noted each individual with a discarnate soul of an ancient expert within their bodies. They were similar to Wu Yu. Some were weaker, some were considerably stronger.

"This All-Ending Stellar Calamity truly is meant to destroy the Sealed Regions, huh? But where did all these souls originate from?" The Sealed Region comprised eighteen Stellar Regions sealed within the Titan Race's territory, but some of these auras didn't feel like Titans.

## His best guess?

"Could they be fallen experts from the Galactic Zone's ruling forces who tried to kill that existence?" This would explain the diverse lineages and inheritances spread across the Sealed Regions. Wei Wuyin didn't think the three Ascended Sovereigns' first instinct was to seal that existence, and he knew the frightening difficulty of killing an Ascended being.

The stronger their cultivation base becomes, the older they get, and the harder it is to kill them as their survival methods accumulate. If not for the Time Vortex's assistance and favorable environment, Wei Wuyin wouldn't have had the confidence to kill a Worldly Saint of Xu You's standard. Moreover, Xu You had underestimated the Legion, and rightfully so, given his prodigious strength. Unfortunately, that led to his downfall.

"Well, I'll be able to find out." Wei Wuyin chuckled as he waved his hand, marking those who received external assistance from internal forces. He'd have to study the origins of these auras and perhaps make some personal visits to get some answers. Since he intended to exploit the situation, it was best to consider all potential variables.

"Oh?" His eyes focused as he noticed that his mark had been discovered despite his intentions to keep it secret. To discover it required an absurdly potent Spiritual Sense.

"A Spiritualist?" He waved his hand and the sight of a wet-pants Lin Ming held by Lin Xianxei emerged surrounded by a cloudy haze. "The aura isn't exactly like how my other self remembers it. Incomplete? Corrupted?" He pondered for a short while before moving his gaze to see the beautiful Cao Cuifen walk toward him.

"Is she ready?" He asked.

"About an eighty-nine percent chance of success," Cao Cuifen answered with a nod. She glanced at the image of a golden- haired peerless beauty with tearful eyes holding the collapsed body of a handsome young man. Her eyes glinted imperceptibly before she looked away.

"A good chance," Wei Wuyin smiled, not taking Cao Cuifen's reaction seriously. As this was his world, no reaction couldescape his gaze. Even the hint of anger that she emitted. This anger wasn't born out of jealousy but out of righteous indignation on his behalf.

She easily recognized Lin Xianxei as the woman who falsely spread rumors of their engagements. It wouldn't have mattered before, but now that Wei Wuyin was a part of her life, she felt a trace of belated dislike toward such a conniving young woman.

Wei Wuyin could feel that Cao Cuifen was new to love, and her thoughts had already formed a bias toward him, and he had no issue with that. Wasn't that the same for him? He had a bias toward all of his women and friends without a shadow of a doubt.

"Did you find everything you wanted?" Cao Cuifen asked. Wei Wuyin didn't keep his intentions of locating certain signs of the upcoming calamity here. While he didn't go in-depth, the overall situation was explained.

"More, actually." Wei Wuyin couldn't hide his smile of satisfaction. "Let's move on to the next stage," Wei Wuyin waved his hand, and Tian Xiaocheng's gorgeous image replaced Lin Xianxei and Lin Ming's.

----

On stage, Tian Xiaocheng announced: "The five minutes are over! We'll now begin bestowing the second half of the fifth fortune!"

#### Second half?

Once again, before anyone could react properly, a gushing outpour of refined mental energy drowned the world. Suddenly, everyone felt as if they were underwater in a Sea of Consciousness!

Pure Mental Energy!" An expert exclaimed.

Those who collapsed throughout the five minutes, especially the first few seconds, were surrounded by whirlpools of mental energy and lifted majestically upwards in the World of Eden.

The bodies of those who generated wraith- like demons of Mental energy began to tremble as the demons shrieked soundlessly, devoured by the pure mental energy whirlpool without the slightest mercy shown. The seniors could only watch in amazement as those who fell unconscious began to receive strands of this energy in an even greater refined state than what they were submerged in!

The signs of their mental collapse began to dissipate as the light in their eyes gradually returned. Their minds were being repaired!

"This is Pure Dream Liquid, a rare mental- attributed material that was refined through special techniques devised by the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Sovereign. It can help repair damage to the Psyche as well as increase the levels of the three unique talents: the Sea of Consciousness, Mental Fortitude, and We'll of

Thoughts. You may absorb and refine as much as you can through your Avatars within the next five minutes."

As if staying true to the theme of generalized fortune, the Pure Dream Liquid was given out!

## PARAGON OF SIN

Chapter 1279 1273: NDAE, Completing A Dream



Hearing the Empress' words, countless seniors, parents, comrades, and allies of the participants heaved a collective sigh of relief. They had watched as these cultivators spasmed or squirmed as if they were seizing and thought the worse, yet their tears, cries, shouts, and everything else out of desperation were left unanswered by the World of Eden. Moreover, during this period, they couldn't speak to anyone else within the World of Eden or the outside world as all voices were isolated.

They simply weren't allowed to act or interfere. Some Ascended beings who watched their blood descendants wreathed in pain tried to act, but they were instantly driven to a state of complete suppression by a raging flood of silver light from Baby Defiant. Fortunately, it only lasted five minutes, so the hearts and minds of those seeking to assist their loved ones were quickly relieved.

"Woah!" With all the happenings of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo, especially with its relatively fast-paced and explosively sudden fortunes, it was hard for anyone to react to everything for an extended period. Now, everyone found their Avatars of the World of Eden submerged in a strange type of fluid.

The Everlore Association's area was completely cordoned off by Evergod. He refused to allow the fluid to touch any of them, yet he waved his sleeves as he brought out a unique container that exuded a sharp mental aura. Unfortunately, the vial tried to siphon the Pure Dream Liquid without any success.

Evergod furrowed his brows. Mental- attributed materials weren't rare in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. There were countless treasures, both of the heavens and man-made, that assisted one in cultivating their mind, expanding one's Sea of Consciousness, fortifying one's Mental Fortitude, and enhancing one's Well of Thoughts which affected memories and rate of thought-improving one's Psyche Talent. Furthermore, numerous products ranging from the first to ninth grade that helped do so.

Wei Wuyin had taken countless of these products to expand his mind to its limits, reaching a maximized cultivation base and increasing the quality and quantity of his mental energy; it didn't stop there either- some products assisted in reliving memories; there were evil products that erased memories, or products that outright controlled the Well of Thought. These products were difficult to refine, but they existed. Even the Echoing Stars of the Vastness Pill used mental-attributed materials as a secondary material to a natural Solar Star's quintessence.

Many of them used mental-attributed materials like the Pure Dream Liquid, and countless used man-made materials formulated by cultivating specific methods, arts, or spells.

"Is this liquid safe?" San Yongli asked the ancient expert in her mind. After withstanding five full minutes, she had achieved the goal of successfully earning a Neo-Dawn Star-Seed Pill. She was among the rare few as less than a thousand had succeeded-999, to be exact. Despite being low-tier amongst ninth grade, it had the greatest impact on one's cultivation in the Mortal

Realms and provided a path that had long since been forgotten in the Sealed Regions.

However, this Pure Dream Liquid was refined by Wei Wuyin, and she was still doubtful if he had any nefarious intentions in distributing this material in the World of Eden.

While she remained indecisive about refining the material, those who were unconscious were siphoning the liquid by the boatload. Those affected with grotesque and debilitating mental demons that manifested as wraith-like spawns had these demons annihilated by the Pure Dream Liquid's purification properties. Those memories weren't removed, but they were severely lessened in terms of substantial existence. They faded away gradually from the forefront of one's mind, like a fleeting dream.

## Pure Dream Liquid!

Considering that quintillions of youngsterswere madly absorbing the liquidunconsciously, the World of Eden'ssubmerged status was showing visible depletion.

Countless seniors noticed this and realized why the time limit was set to five minutes! If those awake didn't decisively make a choice, they might lose the experience! They didn't doubt Wei Wuyin after the Astralis Dawn Mist, a plethora of free resources, and radiance of enlightenment; they only amassed greed in their hearts and the desire to seize this chance!

But San Yongli was still hesitant! Mental- attributed materials were among the leading method of administering mind- altering poisons, especially if since it was hard to detect and directly infused into the mind. If Wei Wuyin decided to leave behind a hidden element in this liquid, it would be too late if she ever confronted him in the future.

"So cowardly!" The woman in her head mockingly scolded. However, this only served to cause San Yongli to frown deeply.

Meanwhile, Lin Ming didn't have as many qualms. The Pure Dream Liquid was like a cold beverage on a blazing summer day, and he unhesitantly absorbed it without much thought. Suddenly, he felt his mind experience several ephemeral dreams. Every dream lasted a few seconds but felt like days, and then he noticed that his Sea of Consciousness, Mental Fortitude, and Well of Thoughts had experienced substantial growth.

A wisp of greed surged in his heart. He began to wholeheartedly refine the liquid, ignoring the depressing state of his physical body.

Eventually, the woman in San Yongli's head could no longer remain silent after nearly two dozen seconds passed. "This is a rare opportunity! There's no hidden danger, so hurry up!" Despite giving five minutes, the Ascended beings were ruthless with absorbing the Pure Dream Liquid, including the top talents at the Qi Condensation Realm and the Starlords that didn't participate, and at this rate, it likely wouldn't last a single minute!

They didn't hesitate to enjoy the fifth fortune!

San Yongli bit her lower lip, and she decided to trust the woman, especially given her understanding of the Mind Dao was certainly greater than hers. She hurriedly formed a hand-seal and executed a Cultivation Method that she had obtained from an ancient relic ahead of a future Queen, an Earthly Saint-level Blessed!

The Cultivation Method was relatively high grade and assisted in cultivating using mental essences and materials. She had been executing it passively to obtain the benefits from the jade that contained the woman's soul, and now she was going all out!

Her rate of absorption exceeded some Demi-Mortal Lords, faintly reaching those Earthly Saints that had permanent Demi- Mystic States. When it entered her mind, she began to experience fleeting dreams, and the impression she had of her soul- crushing calamity, the explosion of a Secret World's Core that took her life, began to grow fainter and less impressive with each dream.

## This Pure Dream Liquid was...MAGICAL!

Fortunately for everyone, Wei Wuyin had no intentions of playing any tricks with the Pure Dream Liquid. It was purely a test of its effectiveness once again, studying its effects. He hadn't delved too much into the Mind Dao that Eden was a part of, but he had experimented here and there during his past life. The Pure Dream Liquid was an artificial theoretical material that his debonair self had spent decades in sporadic bursts trying to invent and perfect. Unfortunately, he didn't have enough information on how to perfect it.

Wei Wuyin was simply applying the same theory of data collection and effectiveness to the Astralis Dawn Mist. It was extremely subtle, but the 108 quadrants of the World of Eden had 108 different types of Pure Dream Liquid. The Pure Dream Liquid was designed to rid one of their heart demons and ease the pain of one's suffering.

The past him couldn't exist for a single moment without being in horrendously agonizing mental pain, afflicted by the horrible memory of losing Kratos. Every second was painful, borderline enough to end himself. Debonair Wei Wuyin tried everything to alleviate this for the sake of revenge, and it was solely because of this that his cultivation base was so low despite his focus on cultivation, and he had no confidence in challenging the Third Calamity.

The scarred Wei Wuyin had wasted away a large portion of his life in drink and women, yet they both were 128 years old, and the debonair Wei Wuyin was only a single stage higher than the scarred Wei Wuyin. It was clear that his heart demon was debilitating to his growth.

This was a passion project of Wei Wuyin's, finishing a remnant wish of his other self, and he also wanted to have it just in case someone close to him ever experienced something traumatic. Wei Wuyin's early surgical operations using the Alchemic Eden Energy were heavily flawed. While he could remove the memories from one's conscious mind or outright replace them, it didn't lessen the impact on one's soul, only on one's conscious mind. The Pure Dream Liquid was meant to be gradual and more natural, slowly lessening the influence of any trauma on one's soul by immersing one in dreams that smoothly smother it.

Moreover, the surgery was dangerous because it could alter one's personality and leave one incomplete. Debonair Wei Wuyin desperately agonized over the decision to take that route but realized that doing so could cause his mind to be incomplete and affect his future cultivation path and personality. For example, it was as if an obese human suddenly had two hundred pounds of fat extracted from them; while they would be lighter, their bodies would seem incomplete.

An emotional light flickered through Wei Wuyin's eyes as he observed the World of Eden. He formed a few hand-seals as he changed the material's composition in several quadrants, causing 108 to be reduced to 30.

After the forty-third second, when 90% of the liquid was gone, Wei Wuyin had already reduced the quadrants to three. These three quadrants had the greatest degree of effect, and they had an abnormal purity.

The effects are increasing!" The woman's voice resounded in San Yongli's head with shock.

"What?" San Yongli diverted a small portion of her attention to the voice.

"Someone's altering the formula of this material in real time! This...this is incredible!" The woman was in utter awe as she inspected the properties and

contents of the Pure Dream Liquid. It had already changed three times, and each time seemed to be a noticeable improvement, especially regarding purity and ease of refinement.

San Yongli felt panicked. Was Wei Wuyin playing a trick? She was about to end her cultivation session when the woman roared: "Don't stop! Absorb more! Don't let any of it go to waste!"

San Yongli could feel the urgency in her voice and decided to push through. While she didn't one-sidedly trust the woman, the woman's future was tethered to her own, so it would be detrimental to bring her harm. But she had to admit, the Pure Dream Liquid was becoming easier to refine, and the dreams were lasting longer, more effective in improving her mental talents with each fleeting dream experienced, and they became increasingly vivid.

By the sixty-third second, the submerged World of Eden was completely dry.

Wei Wuyin's eyes exuded a soft light. "I've completed your dream. I wish I could've taken your pain away using this and not my saber." At the time, Wei Wuyin didn't feel close to his alternative selves. They were possibilities that existed outside of his world, but after continuously going over the life experiences of Debonair Wei Wuyin, the greater he felt mournful that he hadn't found another way to complete the only wish of his life:

To kill Liu Yinlan.

Not the innocent Liu Yinlan of his world who had yet to act against him-no, the murderer of that world! The one responsible!!

#### THE ONE WHO TOOK KRATOS FROM HIM!!!

Suddenly, Wei Wuyin lifted his head upwards as a droning sound erupted from his rage-filled mind. A soft, faint aura of eternity exuded from his body, interfacing gently with his Minor Authority of Time tethered to his soul.

Wei Wuyin looked down at his left arm, and his pupils constricted violently. Around his left wrist was an esoteric formation with a foundation that he'd never seen before; it rotated, and while incredibly slow, it was gradually speeding up! Then, it vanished..

"What just happened?! Your Paragon Stellar-Physique felt strange just now. What was that?" The Heavenly War Spirit had been concentrating on her growth recently, but this disturbed her intensely.

Wei Wuyin shook his head, "I don't know." He gradually calmed himself down as he inspected the manifestation of his Minor Time Law. Nothing was out of the ordinary, and that formation had vanished from his left arm. He had no idea what just happened.

"Something happened though..." Wei Wuyin muttered

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In a place far, far away, in a world of only white, a voice resounded: "Haaa...this child. Didn't I say to be careful? You'll have to solve this karma yourself."

After a long while, another sigh was heaved. "Little river, give the child some time." After speaking, the entirely white world began to transform, becoming entirely blue.

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"...as you all expected!" Tian Xiaocheng had just given her practiced speech regarding the end of the fifth fortune, announcing another three-week break.

"The fourth product will be next; it'll involve a promise that the Alchemic Sovereign Wei had made that day! The product that is derived from the Heaven Relic!"

"!!!" The crowd began to stir upon hearing this. It was truly hard to react to all the news and fortunes here and there! But no one complained, as this was certainly the best Alchemic Expo since written history!

# **PARAGON OF SIN**

Chapter 1280 1274: NDAE, Fortune Of The Expo



"..." Evergod maintained an indifferent expression. It was as if he was entirely unbothered by the Heaven Relic's emergence. Those who glanced his way, trying to gauge his reaction, expected this level of apathy.

Tian Muyang moved his gaze away, "I'm somewhat shocked that Evergod hasn't launched any news of developing a product with the Heaven Relic. Given how competitive he'd seem recently, he would've had nearly three decades and two Alchemic Saints to produce an experimental product at least." His words were also the thoughts of quite a few prominent figures, as they grew disappointed that Evergod, who was known to be in possession of two Heaven Relics, was not being transparent with his plans.

"He could be waiting for Alchemic Sovereign Wei's product to be shown and then showcase something better casually, undermining the expo on some level," Tian Lingyu concluded thoughtfully. At the same time, she was examining each member of the younger generation of the Imperial Clan and ensuring that their refinement of the Pure Dream Liquid was progressing smoothly.

"It's a little unfortunate, though. Regardless of what the product is, the Heaven Relic is a precious treasure of the utmost rarity, so whatever product is developed would be severely limited in available quantity. It's unlikely that we'll be able to obtain it, given our situation," Sky Monarch Bai commented sighingly.

The lively mood of the Imperial Clan dwindled a little. The Heaven Relic was said to possess Heaven's secret of the path beyond the Earthly Saint, and countless beings wanted it for themselves. But the Imperial Clan was currently in discussion to enter a war against the Neo-Dawn Starfield; albeit the situation was extremely complex, the likelihood of them obtaining the purchasing rights to the product rife with competition was almost zero.

## Except for...

The eyes of quite a few moved to Yang Chaoyue. She could feel their gazes, making her push through a smirk on her beautiful face, granting her an extraordinary charm. Envy rose in many hearts.

"How are the two doing?" Tian Muyang changed the subject. The Fifth and Sixth Princes were two of the victors of the fifth fortune. They were two of the most outstanding members of the Imperial Clan's younger generation, so this was entirely expected. After all, the numbered princes were officially recognized by the Divine Emperor, while hundreds of his other children were forgotten in the chasm of their shadow.

Tian Lingyu frowned slightly, "The Pure Dream Liquid has improved their psyche by a level or two. But their mental state is stable."

"Do you think Wei Wuyin did something to the liquid?" Tian Shangyang couldn't help but mention. Products and materials that needed to be refined by the aspects of the mind were the most vulnerable to tricks. He couldn't help

but worry, especially since the Everlore Association was forgoing all these precious fortunes.

"Heh," Yang Chaoyue scoffed.

"What?! Are my concerns unwarranted?!" Tian Shangyang was at his wit's end with Yang Chaoyue's disdainful attitude that leaked with contempt. He was on the verge of attacking this frustrating woman.

Yang Chaoyue didn't give his aggressive tone a single thought. "You truly don't get it, do you?" Her words caused the Imperial Clan's experts to focus on her, wondering what she meant. After all, Wei Wuyin could have done something, and the argument that this was his Alchemic Expo might hold weight if they weren't holding ongoing discussions of war.

"...If you have something to say, then say it!" Tian Shangyang spat.

However, Yang Chaoyue didn't explain. This didn't alleviate the situation, and Tian Shangyang's aura was on the verge of total eruption.

"Enough. If Alchemic Sovereign Wei wanted to make a move, he wouldn't do so at his expo." Tian Muyang could only try to smother the flames with these words repeated far too often. It did little to assuage the worries of the concerned party, but they could only rely on doing extensive examination after the expo to ensure that these two princes weren't compromised.

"If the Divine Emperor believed that Wei Wuyin would act against his descendants, do you think he'd allow them to come along?" Tian Lingyu, however, explained an inkling of what Yang Chaoyue was hinting at. The others felt enlightened. Could it be that the Divine Emperor and Wei Wuyin had agreed beforehand to ensure no untoward actions were made against them?

Thinking about it, this made sense.

Wei Wuyin was observing all this and couldn't help but smile in amusement. He didn't know why the Divine Emperor willingly sent his descendants here, but they were in no agreement whatsoever. It was simply beneath Wei Wuyin to taint his expo and act against the youngergeneration. The Alchemic Expo exceeded the Imperial Clan in importance and purpose.

In fact, their thinking was a little self- centered. The world didn't revolve around them, and neither did his actions. The same went for the Everlore Association and their staunch display of cautious defiance. If they didn't want to obtain any good fortune, that was fine by him. Regardless, it was funded by them anyway. What was returning a little bit?

The three-week break began.

A round of dedicated cultivation was had as quintillions refined the Pure Dream Liquid they had hastily absorbed during the five minutes. The result was that countless cultivators felt lighter, their traumas eased, yet their spirits enlivened. The feeling was like ecstasy to some, as they'd been plagued by the harshest struggles and had never had a single day of peace since.

Only after experiencing the effects of the Pure Dream Liquid did they feel slightly relieved and somewhat at peace. It was as if their fleeting dreams had massaged their hearts and souls, purifying their thoughts.

There was once a man who worked on a farm harvesting Flowing Flames Beets, a type of vegetable that was inherently spicy yet sweet, and when roasted over some flames, it was exceedingly good at purifying one's internal impurities while staving away hunger. It was a mere low-tier astral- graded material.

He was happy, with a family of two-his lovely wife and his son. They worked their area of the farm together alongside a few others. For nine months, the man had pinched pennies to obtain a beautiful necklace for his wife's birthday.

On the eve of that day, he traveled a hundred miles to obtain this necklace with the brightest smile filled with a sense of accomplishment. All that suffering was going to be worth it to see that smile.

But when he returned, he arrived not to smiles and a warm home but to burning flames and dark smoke billowing in the distance. The only things he found were the burnt bodies of his neighbors and fellow farmers. Hope burned in his mind.

Maybe they were okay!

Maybe they hid somewhere!

After searching endlessly amongst the wreckage and nearby, he finally found two corpses huddled together at a nearby riverbank, embroiled in flames, hugging each other, a sight that would forever be etched in his memory. The smell of burnt flesh, the signs of claw marks edging towards the river, and the cruelty of the flames' light flickered in his eyes, carved forever in his soul.

In his heart, he had sworn to obtain his vengeance with tears flowing through his eyes.

But he couldn't get it.

He was too weak; he was too untalented; he was too old; he was too poor. Too many excuses prevented any form of a future. And as he cultivated, his heart and mind were besieged by the images of his family, endlessly telling him again and again and again...that he failed to protect them.

Eventually, he recklessly assaulted the bandits responsible, and despite his weakness, he was ready to detonate himself to take at least one down!

But he was subdued within the first exchange. After hearing his mad ravings of revenge, they didn't kill him. They crippled his cultivation and broke his

arms and legs, telling him to start over and try again next time with jeers and sadistic laughter- cruelty at its finest.

When he was ready to drown at the edge of a river, the news of the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo resounded throughout the world. The words 'good fortune' spread about endlessly. He thought that there was little reason not to go. Not out of hope but out of despair.

He had never expected that the Neo-Dawn Alchemic Expo's fortunes would be so astonishing. The first fortune had entered him gently, repairing his damaged body, igniting his once snuffed-out cultivation, and granting him renewed vigor. Then, he obtained resources that he could never obtain in his lifetime.

The enlightenment of space and time and the Pure Dream Liquid were all heaven- sent, far beyond anything he'd ever thought was possible. Did he deserve this good fortune? Was this right?

With this, he had a chance...a chance to fulfill his greatest wish!i»¿"What's your name?" A voice resounded in the man's mind. His clothes were a mess, and he was in complete disarray; even his hygiene was somewhat lacking, with yellowing teeth and long, uneven nails. The frizzy hair only served to highlight his lack of self-care. Despite his recent improvements in mentality, the bags under his eyes were evident as sleep was a luxury for someone who could never forget that day, the light of those flames.

"Wha?" The man was stunned as he looked around. Unlike the others, he was alone.

"You. Your name." The voice resounded once again, making the man jump in fear. After a while, he realized that it was probably a function of this strange spiritual world that the gorgeous Empress had spoken about. Gathering his courage, he asked:

"Who are you?"

"Haha. Do you not have a name?" The voice was amused by the man's response and didn't answer him.

"...My name's Shui Fengbao."

"Oh! What a shocking name. Interesting. I wouldn't be surprised if you told me you were born during a storm."

"Oh! I was..." Shui Fengbao said, then, for some reason, embarrassingly explained: "My parents didn't want to make naming me complicated. They were simple people."

"..."

"Who says the name makes the person? Haha."

"What do you want?" Shui Fengbao looked about and tried to find the voice's origins in the World of Eden, but he could not do so despite his desires. Whoever was this person might be an expert.

"You've caught my interest."

Hm? The man was astonished. Did he catch someone's interest? He was a small, old Qi Condensation Cultivator. Whose interests could he possibly capture? "Senior...do you have the wrong person?"

"Not at all," the voice said confidently. "Not many are like you. I've only met one other." "What? What do you mean?" The thought that he was special was long since buried in dreams and fantasies for Shui Fengbao.

Perhaps when he was younger did he believe that he could be an unrivaled hero after being special in some way, but not now.

"There was once a young man who was captured, scheduled to have his yang essence extracted by a dark organization. I, fortunately, saved him from his

plight. Despite not having any hidden guidance or blessings, he had attained an exceptional level without noticing." The voice disclosed with an air of nostalgia and emotion. "And now there's you. You haven't noticed it yet, but you are extremely special."

"Special..." Shui Fengbao didn't know how to respond to that.

"Enough of that. Have you heard of the Ascendants?" The voice asked.

Shui Fengbao's eyes brightened. How could he not have heard of the Ascendants?! He nodded without speaking.

"Good then. Do you wish to join the Ascendants?" The voice offered.

JOIN?!

#### THE ASCENDANTS?!

"Ca-can I?!" Shui Fengbao was unable to believe that. Why would such a rising organization seek him out?

"If you want."

"I WANT! I WANT!" Shui Fengbao might be a mere farmer, but he had obtained a lot of information en route to the Neo-Dawn Starfield, including about the Ascendants, and that they were a force fostered by the Alchemic Sovereign Wei Wuyin! The one who was hosting this expo!!

"Haha. Good. Then after the expo, I'll bring you away." The voice said before growing fainter as if leaving.

"...!" Shui Fengbao could not truly process what had just happened or why, but it had happened! Was this also a fleeting dream? He didn't know...

Back in the subspace where Wei Wuyin resided, the image of the haggard Shui Fengbao was shown.

"What's so special about him?" Cao Cuifen asked from the side, witnessing the entire exchange. Shui Fengbao, in her eyes, was less than ordinary. He was nearly a hundred years of age and had a cultivation at the Yang Growth Phase. Given that he hadn't reached the False Reality Phase, it was clear he wasn't very talented.

Wei Wuyin smiled, not hiding his discovery from Cao Cuifen. "He's given birth to a Law Seed of Fire."

"What?!" Cao Cuifen was experienced when it came to Laws, including their various states, given her time in the Endless Voyage Realm. How could a Qi Condensation Realm cultivator give birth to a Seed of Law?! He didn't have any aura of Intent outside of the basic elements.

"While he might not be blessed by the heavens, he's chosen by the Law of Fire. I don't know why, though. But I've just acquired something good." While other abnormal cultivators have birthed strange things in the quintillions present, this was the only one who wasn't Blessed. This intrigued Wei Wuyin greatly as this was the second time he'd encountered something like this.

Both of his discoveries were seemingly on the verge of an early grave, with their talent undiscovered and their lives unfulfilled.

He had the strangest feeling that these abnormalities were crucial somehow. Instinctively, he glanced at his Bloodline of Sin tattoo.

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Three weeks later.

Tian Xiaocheng took center stage and riled the hype once again with a speech reminding the audience of the upcoming product with the Heaven Relic as the material. "I present to you all, a product that could be classified as 'pinnacle' but has been labeled as an entirely different tier by its creator-the Neo-Dawn Heavenly-Origin Paste!"