

## **Paragon Of Sin #Chapter 991: SCR Summit, Du Ling's Talent - Read Paragon Of Sin Chapter 991: SCR Summit, Du Ling's Talent**

### Chapter 991: SCR Summit, Du Ling's Talent

Du Ling sat in a lotus position, his eyes closed, his aura peaceful, and behind him, placing a hand firmly upon his head full of hair, was Luo Ning. Her withered hand exuded a peculiar energy flow that poured gently inside Du Ling, integrating and coursing throughout his bodily systems, Dantian and Sea of Consciousness.

The energy was harmless; it scoured throughout without missing a single inch of his innermost body and secrets. At the side, Wei Wuyin watched silently with his Celestial Eyes in full effect. Luo Ning was performing a series of talent assessments on Du Ling via spells.

Wei Wuyin wasn't exactly unfamiliar with talent assessments. When he was in the Scarlet Solaris Sect, his talent had been gauged in three factors: Absorption Rate of Essence, Energy Conversion of Essence, and Comprehensive Intelligence.

When he was at the Scarlet Solaris Sect, elders and disciples unanimously believed that he possessed a unique cultivation treasure that elevated at least one of these three factors, boosting his cultivation speed and explaining his hard-fought success.

However, in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, especially towards alchemists, these factors were partially classified in the 'Meridian' and 'Psyche' aspects of innate talent. As for innate talent itself, all three aspects were overly complex and fleshed out, each factoring in at least five different categories.

For example, Meridians can be divided into: Absorption Rate of Essence, Energy Conversion of Essence, Speed of Outflow, Speed of Inflow, and Durability of Channels.

These five characteristics defined Meridians specifically, with more generalized categories such as Affinity of Energy, Purity Filters, and Auto-Converters for all three aspects of innate talent.

Affinity of Energy typically refers to a vast reaction difference between various types of energies, such as a male's resilience to Yin Energies Versus their compatibility with Yang Energies. Purity Filters related to how the Meridians, Physique, or Psyche's ability to purify energies before depositing them within the Dantian, Cells, and Sea of Consciousness. Auto-Converters related to 'unique' aspects, such as Qing Qiumu's Innate Meridians of the Nine Meadows, an exceptionally rare set of Meridians that can convert ambient essence to any of the Nine Meadow Wood Intent's essence derivatives at will, such as the Life Meadow Wood Essence.

These essences can then be rapidly refined as energy for her cultivation, greatly amplifying her powers as a Wood Cultivator. These cultivators was genuinely blessed; moreover, these three aspects of talent could all be divided into actual grades and tiers, encompassing the totality of its limits.

Just like Alchemic Talent, the 'Meridians', 'Physique', and 'Psyche' were divided into five different levels: Null, Standard, Excellence, Overlord, and Chosen. This was further divided by Earthly, Worldly, and Heavenly. Null--level talent referred to a cripple or a living being lacking crucial components of said innate talent, such as the inability to process essence or store energies in their cells, Sea of Consciousness, or Meridians. It had no Earthly, Worldly, or Heavenly differentiation.

The highest registered talent possible was Heavenly Chosen. And none of these talents reflected unique aspects. Qing Qiumu had special characteristics in all three categories of Innate Talent but this did not mean that her innate talent was at the Chosen level. In fact, all her aspects were independently graded, and they could all be at the lowest functional level—Earthly Standard.

After five whole hours, Luo Ning completed her assessment of Du Ling's talent, and her eyes were quite peculiar as she gazed at the chubby man sitting before her.

"So?" Wei Wuyin wasn't adept at determining a cultivator's innate talent. It was actually extremely difficult for those of the Mortal Dao to assess the quality of the Mortal Dao. This was why there were many different apparatuses used to test cultivators, such as the Myriad Nascent Dao Palace of the Myriad Monarch Sect and the other Myriad Dao Palaces. Even then, it was hard to grasp the finer details since each category of an aspect of innate talent impacted the other. They formed a complete whole that was often referred to as innate talent.

As for Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, since they were almost always exclusively within the Mystic Ascendant Realm, they had grasped the Mystic Dao powers to glimpse into the truths of the Mortal Dao, including Innate Talents of Mortals. This was why Wei Wuyin sat back and watched. It was all he could do.

Luo Ning sighed with a wry smile, "I hope you didn't have much hope of winning this clash." She held back a self-deprecating laugh in mindful of Wei Wuyin's ounce of held-out hope.

"That bad?" Wei Wuyin was startled.

"Worse," Luo Ning flatly said. "He has no special talents. His Psyche and Meridians Level is Earthly Standard, and the only saving grace he has is his physique."

"Oh?" Wei Wuyin's eyes brightened.

"That's at the Worldly Standard..."

"Oh..." Wei Wuyin couldn't help but bitterly chuckle. Du Ling was still at the Yang Growth Phase, the fifth stage of the Qi Condensation Realm, after cultivating for nearly eighty years, and seven of those years were spent in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region's Aeternal Sky Starfield.

"Besides his slightly higher affinity to Magma Essence and Energies, he isn't...well, you can either spend time reforging his foundation or advancing his cultivation base. But to be honest, I don't think either will be of much use." Luo Ning glanced upwards, imagining the thrones of Mortal Sovereign Alchemists. "Those selected by those old limp fellows will at least have an Excellence level of talent, maybe higher. They'll grasp that and perfectly cultivate it to the greatest possible extent within these three years while instilling a Mystic Star's wealth of knowledge into them."

Wei Wuyin didn't blame Luo Ning for her lack of faith. Du Ling was close to the worst type of Alchemic Knight candidate imaginable. He hadn't comprehended any advanced Intents, mastered a powerful cultivation method, or had rich combat experience.

Truthfully, he was a useless cultivator.

Despite this, Wei Wuyin wasn't discouraged. Instead, he felt thrilled by the challenge and to see how far he could push the limits of the Alchemic Dao in a short timeframe.

"We'll begin with the Meridians," Wei Wuyin decided.

Luo Ning sighed, not believing in their chances in the slightest. Just as she was about to whip out her cauldron, Wei Wuyin walked forward and said, "Let's first start with you." He stretched out his index finger and placed it on Luo Ning's glabella, shocking her instantly.

"Don't resist."

## Chapter 992: SCR Summit, Infusing Knowledge; Soaring Cultivation

The dreaded day finally arrived in the Main Hall, accompanied by tears of unwillingness and conflicted gratitude. The blessings of the Everlore Association ended. With the arrival of the sixth month, the Astral Mist dissipated, the Astralis Mats dissolved, and the platforms returned to a plain environment.

Normally, this would've indicated the ending of the Preliminary Discussions, the ejection of those who remained, confirmation for those who passed, and the solidification of effort, talent, and risk that gave those astonishing, unforgettable Chosen their voice to impact the next era. However, the invitation of everyone won by Wei Wuyin changed the direction of the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit, which later fueled the Saint Cyclic Alchemic Clash.

No longer indulging in the fruitful blessings of the Everlore Association, those present were relegated to genuine spectators awaiting the final decision.

"At least we still get good food," a chubby youth, an inner disciple of the Boundless Martial Sect, jokingly said as he chomped down on a few scrumptious grapes. The Everlore Association might have taken away its fortune, but it provided sufficient food for everyone in a daily manner. Cloaked figures were coming at least three times a day, distributing recently cooked dishes, freshly prepared fruits, and purified water.

While ambient essence can be converted into energies capable of sustaining minimal bodily functions after a certain stage of cultivation, it was easier to substitute food. The accumulated waste can be expelled through internal

refinement and breathing. This type of expulsion resulted in turbid breaths that were swiftly refined by the formations inside the Main Hall.

"I didn't think this was how the summit would go," a handsome young man beside the chubby youth, called Shu Yu, or Senior Brother Shu, commented lightly. It wasn't just him who hadn't expected the summit's Preliminary Discussions to transform into an Alchemic Clash with Mortal Sovereign Alchemists facing each other to determine their abilities to nurture.

To be honest, Shu Yu didn't fully understand the logic behind this decision. He couldn't wrap his head around why the true top-tier elites of the starfield, those Earthly Saints, were willing to step down and agree to these conditions. He fully believed genuine power should decide the era's future. In his eyes, wouldn't this type of challenge only benefit those with deep wallets and access?

His confusion made him feel ignorant as if he was missing the bigger picture, and this converted into anger. He heaved a heavy breath and, from the corner of his eye, found an outlet. "Junior Sister Ai, your 'boyfriend' is right there. Shouldn't you go say hi?" The mocking within his tone was extremely thick.

Junior Sister Ai, or Ai Juling, cut a beautiful figure with her bronze skin, boho ponytail, slender figure, and elven ears. However, her eyes carried no animosity or anger after Shu Yu's mocking but a brilliant smile that was impossible to miss. The joy from her eyes was as evident as the stars in the night sky and equally as enchanting.

This caused Shu Yu's expression to darken. The chubby youth, He Xiang, crunched on some more grapes before saying, "I guess we're not going to be precious guests."

However, Ai Juling's mood was unable to be brought down. She excitedly twisted the spatial ring on her finger as he stared at the highest platform where Wei Wuyin was. While Wei Wuyin hadn't descended to greet her since his appearance, they've been having spiritual transmissions without end. Her heart was deeply satisfied, especially when she found various products appearing within her spatial ring, personally concocted by Wei Wuyin.

She understood that he was busy, and if he ignored her at this moment, while saddened, she would understand. But he kept in touch throughout, never missing a day to send a message or twelve. How could she care about these mocking comments?

Wen Yawen and Yi Yun completed their group of five inner disciples originating from the Boundless Martial Sect. The former gave Ai Juling a slightly pitying look as if saddened by her delusions, while Yi Yun was looking at her spatial ring. Since they arrived in the Main Hall, he felt subtle fluctuations coming from it. Could Wei Wuyin be communicating with her?

Was he really her boyfriend?

Ai Juling wasn't the only one that had been in communication with Wei Wuyin. Scattered throughout the Main Hall, those who had a relationship with Wei Wuyin and still possessed his spatial rings were met with endless surprise as alchemical resources and spiritual transmissions were rampant. None of them was neglected.

From the violet-skinned, golden-eyed giantess hidden beneath a cloak to the scarlet-eyed, long-haired wolf watching its prey—none were forgotten.

This was especially so for those amongst the Valkyrie and Ascendants. Even the three Venerable of the United Source Starfield, Wei Wuyin's first trio of Ascended subordinates in the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region, were met with bountiful gifts of high-end cultivation resources. It was simply unfortunate that those three could only receive carefully stored and sealed raw mystic-graded materials for their cultivation.

In these few months, they were all experiencing steady and rapid growth. Moreover, they had enough alchemical products and resources to easily last them the entire forty-two months of the clash. At the end, it was uncertain the limits they'd reach.

Hong Chunhua was cultivating alongside the other Ascendants. They were all extremely familiar with cultivating in this manner, given alchemical products suited for their level and expertly prepared for their specific cultivation base. Like trained soldiers, they diligently cultivated without a word, the atmosphere there filled with the utmost seriousness.

After refining a few Primary Light enhancing products in these last few months, as specifically detailed by Wei Wuyin's instructions, which included the never-before-seen Neo-Dawn Soul-Sea Elixir that she'd never heard of before or was aware its effect even existed, she brought out a tablet.

At its header, it read: Dawnbreaker Swordlight Method.

"High-Earth?" A tingle of excitement surged through her heart, mind, and soul. She could feel that this cultivation method was going to drastically change her life.

-----

Inside the dome of mystic power, Wei Wuyin was ashen-faced with his eyes closed, his breathing labored, and his aura fluctuating erratically. He was seated on the floor, and directly across from him was a seated Du Ling, whose ruddy complexion and strong breathing sharply contrasted to Wei Wuyin's current appearance.

Luo Ning was standing a few meters away, hunched over the All-Elemental Eclipse Cauldron, with her eyes containing maniacal excitement. "I did it! I did it! I DID IT!" Despite her advanced age and dwindling lifeforce, Luo Ning felt as if she was brimming with life and energy, hollering up and down at her success.

The three of them were immersed inside a world of Utmost World Purity Mist, sealed within the dome by Wu Yu's mystic power and unable to exceed a certain boundary. Without it, the entire world would be thoroughly shaken to its core by the Utmost Purity Mist emanating from the All-Elemental Eclipse Cauldron.

Luo Ning brought out a low-tier, seventh-grade Astral Dipper Foundation Pill, but it was at the peak-quality. In her entire life, the number of times she had successfully concocted a seventh-grade peak-quality alchemical product could be counted with one's fingers. While she was an Emperor Alchemist with an Alchemic Astral Soul and a Mystic Star Phase cultivation base, the concept of reaching peak-quality was a matter of skill rather than abilities.

She rarely failed at concocting products, but the vast, vast majority of these products were low-quality. In fact, Luo Ning had created thousands upon thousands of more Impure-quality products than she had low-quality. If the Alchemic Dao strictly relied on quality of energy and cultivation base, then there would be a lot more Mortal Sovereign Alchemists.

A lot more!

Wei Wuyin slowly opened his eyes, an exhausted light effusing from his silver eyes. He was mentally drained, an extreme rarity given his mental energy reserves, expansive Sea of Consciousness, and Alchemic Eden Core's size.



Looking at Du Ling in a profound meditative state, ignorant of the world, Wei Wuyin couldn't help but joyfully smile at his success. The transference of knowledge was much more complex than he expected, especially given Du Ling's extremely weak Sea of Consciousness and Mental Energies.

This endeavor allowed him to understand that the more profound the knowledge, the greater the exhaustion of mental energy to the one receiving it. If they were unable to use their mental energy to etch it into their Sea of Consciousness, then the knowledge, insight, and profundities would dissipate with time. It was fortunate that he had been recently afflicted by the Unity of the Alchemic Stars, a perfect demonstration of how knowledge assimilation was highly affected by mental energy, quality, and quantity.

During the Unity of the Alchemic Stars, he had exhausted all his mental energies, yet some Mortal Sovereign Alchemists received less than a thousandth of a percentage of what he gained, etched firmly into his memory.

"I don't accept this!" Eden cried. Wei Wuyin felt his Sea of Consciousness rumble. This was the first time Eden was completely against something, and it was clear why—its size had shrunk by half!

These last few months, Wei Wuyin had been segregating portions of his alchemic eden core's quintessential energies and infused them into Luo Ning and Du Ling, greatly expanding their Sea of Consciousness and enriching their mental energies reserves. It was a harrowing experience, and essentially took away large quantities of Eden's hard-earned cultivation.

This type of imparting was reckless and harmful. It was one of the leading causes of concern for the clash. If Mystic Star instructors sacrificed their cultivation for the Chosen Knights, it would be classified as an extremely unfair advantage. As such, the Mystic Star instructors were forced upon them a Mythical Oath not to commit such an act—Wei Wuyin had taken no such oath.

He had done this once before with Wen Mingna. At the time, none of his Astral Souls spoke a single word in disapproval. Wen Mingna had saved their lives several times and given them critical information to increase their chances against the Calamities of Hell at the risk of losing her life. Even if Wei Wuyin gave away 99% of his cultivation to her, they wouldn't bat an eye. None of them were ungrateful.



However, Du Ling and Luo Ning were merely experiments, and Eden was the only one to suffer. It argued, fussed, and shouted, but when it came time for extraction, it wholeheartedly allowed it. If Wei Wuyin wasn't on a clock, he would have used the Alchemic Dao's various products to gradually enhance Du Ling and Luo Ning's Sea of Consciousness and Mental Energies, reforging their innate talent.

Alas, this would take too much time.

Despite fully understanding this, Eden was disgruntled, and rightfully so. With a bitter smile, Wei Wuyin could only accept all its negative feelings. It didn't help that Kratos snickered at Eden's misfortune, calling it the 'little sibling of the bunch. At one point, Wei Wuyin was terrified that Eden would externalize and have a full-on Spirit Brawl with Kratos.

As for Du Ling and Luo Ning, their mental faculties had vastly expanded—especially Du Ling. Despite his cultivation base not experiencing much growth, this Impartation had laid the foundation for his future. He was able to accept Wei Wuyin's infusion of his profound insights into High-level and Apex-level Magma Intents, including the other high-level Elemental Intents, without suffering from mental exhaustion.

With this mental foundation laid out, Wei Wuyin was free to infuse his memories, experiences, and thoughts towards various cultivation aspects, such as insights into yin-yang, mana, and spirituality. With these, his path through the False Reality and Infused Spirituality Phase would be extremely easy.

Moreover, Du Ling's Spirit of Cultivation would freely be able to generate any of the nine elements as qi, reaching the limits of the Elemental Birth Phase and refining his body using their unique qualities. This was the same refinement experience that Wei Wuyin underwent decades ago, laying a solid foundation.

As for Luo Ning, she had received roughly 50% of his Alchemical Knowledge towards successful concoctions and application of alchemical methods and about 15% of everything he had gained from the Unity of the Alchemic Stars. Her skills in the Alchemic Dao underwent a drastic change.

For example, with Wei Wuyin's know-how, her concoction time for fifth-grade and lower products almost matched his own! This was largely attributed to her replacing her Predetermined Process with the Freestyle Process that Wei

Wuyin was adept in, where an alchemist selected a specific method for each of the seven aspects of the Alchemic Dao. Furthermore, she used her physical and instinctual senses rather than Spiritual Sense to concoct, allowing her to avoid spiritual conflicts during the process.

Unfortunately for Luo Ning, this was all Wei Wuyin was willing to offer for this experiment. It was now all on her to see if she could achieve the Mortal Sovereign Alchemist level with her Alchemic Astral Soul and the experience of 245 Mortal Sovereign Alchemists.

### Chapter 993: SCR Summit, In Those Three Years

Within the Main Hall, a peaceful passing of time began with the occasional uproarious development that kept the event lively, thrilling, and fresh. The arrival of the Soul Saint King was the first major event that occurred roughly two months after the cultivation blessings provided by the Everlore Association came to an end.

Since the beginning, the Ninestar Sainthall's Soul Monarchs, every last one of them, had been absent from the event. When their ships arrived, they had been noticeably missing from the typical display of authority and might. This stirred much gossip amongst the crowd, Earthly Saints, and supreme Creationists. After all, it was known amongst those at the highest level that Pope Huoyan was not meant to announce the initiation of the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit, but the Soul Saint King instead!

He was a substitute. Furthermore, he wasn't even the first choice! This created quite a lot of drama as the Boundless Martial Sect's Boundless Martial High King, amongst the top three strongest Earthly Saints in the entire stellar region alongside the Soul Saint King, had rejected the opportunity.

Facing this 'insult', the Boundless Martial High King shattered his throne into dust before everyone and flew directly into Evergod's segregated sub-space, where he resided with a raging heart.

Since then, no one has seen or heard from him. However, those throne-sitting figures knew that the Boundless Martial High King was certainly watching, observing from a lofty position, similar to Evergod, the Godforge Emperor of the Godforge Association, the Imperial Advisor of the Imperial Clan, the unknown Seer of the Golden Gate Pavilion, and the elder of the Void Voyage Sect.

It was clear from how the Golden Life Pavilion and Boundless Martial Sect's respective leaders' thrones, the Boundless Martial High King wasn't considered amongst the apex members of the Earthly Saints, unworthy of entering that sub-space. This would enrage anyone.

The Soul Saint King's grandiose arrival was accompanied by seven Soul Monarchs and two unexpected characters that shook those on the platforms and thrones alike.

The first was Yue Songli, an unforgettable figure amongst the previous generation, renowned as the Long-Lost Saintess that had once reigned supreme on the Immortal Saintess Ranking as number one! When she arrived, her sensual body and color-draining beauty left many speechless and gaping.

Alongside her was an explosive announcement by the Soul Saint King regarding the recently 'traitorous' Soul Rising Saint previous position as a Soul Monarch; she was removed from her position, replaced by an entirely new Soul Monarch formerly known as Highlord Worldbreaker—Yue Lixiang! Her status as Yue Songli's mother and a newly ascended Earthly Saint caused a tremendous commotion amongst those observing from the platforms and thrones.

She was given the title of Soul Breaking Saint, and her Domain will be the Soul Rising King's former Domain, renamed as the Soul-Breaking Domain. A new era of leadership was in place!

It didn't take long for the Soul Monarchs to find their thrones, with the Soul Breaking Saint replacing the Soul Rising Saint's throne. The Soul Saint King didn't stay, however, taking Yue Songli with him as he vanished, presumably into the sub-space.

There was a strange interaction that was noticed by those throne-sitting figures. Before the Soul Saint King left, he gave Wei Wuyin's dome a lingering gaze. Quite a few were intrigued by the reason behind this! Very few had noticed that Yue Songli's eyes were transfixed on the dome.

When the scene finally settled down, questions regarding the reasons for the Soul Monarchs' delay were rampant in the hearts of many, and quite a few Earthly Saints probed in their boredom. Since the event wouldn't remain a secret for long, the Soul Breaking Saint had revealed that the Ninestar Sainthall underwent a thorough cleansing after dealing with some 'pests'.

It was soon revealed that the Soul Monarchs had destroyed three Shadow Eggs concealed in the Ninestar Starfield, freeing millions upon millions of innocent souls used like livestock by Trueborn. The shock in the eyes of most was thunderous! The Ninestar Sainthall had acted against Trueborn, cleaning them out? A righteous deed, but at what cost?

"..."

The next major event was only because it was the first before many—Astral Tribulations! The first was a Qi Condensation Realm cultivator that brazenly made their breakthrough attempt in the Main Hall, succeeding and becoming an Astral Core Realm cultivator.

After witnessing the Earthly Saints and supreme Creationists merely observing, having no issue with Astral Tribulations being attempted, the fireworks began with wild speed! Cultivators throughout had reaped great harvests from the Astral Mist, growing confident in overcoming their Astral Tribulation, and recklessly attempted them!

They weren't all successes, however. But when the first failure was on the cusp of losing their life to the Realm World Astral Tribulation, the first genuinely lethal tribulation, the Earthly Saint of their starfield interfered! Saving their lives and affecting the Mortal Dao! They were granted a magnanimous second chance.

This brought about a new wave of Gravity Emission Phase cultivators attempting their Realm World Astral Tribulation fearlessly, and when they were on the cusp of failure, their respective Earthly Saint would intervene. This event was an absolutely major, unimaginably massive, extremely rare chance!

Every expert, especially those who were at the Realm World or Temporal Eye Phase, unsure if they could overcome their next tribulation, used this chance to gauge their current level and gather experience, saved in the nick of time by their supreme leaders.

While Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivators could intervene with Astral Tribulations, only those with Awakened Mystic Intent, a firm hold on the Mystic Dao, could involve themselves in the Mortal Dao without significant repercussions to their life force or lifespan, merely exhausting some mystic power to do so, bearing remarkable similarities to Temporal Reversion.

While those below were unimaginably excited, those above constantly sent glares at the first Earthly Saint to take action. While it might seem like a small amount of 'mystic power', every iota of their mystic power required tremendous resources and ample time to refine through the typical process. This was now a matter of face. Since one took the lead, the rest would be deemed 'inadequate' should they refrain from acting on behalf of their citizens.

Fortunately, most were successful in their attempts. For example, Xue Yifei, the Dragonborn Saintess, and Na Xinyi, the Extreme Yin Saintess, both prominent characters, had successful breakthroughs to the Realm World Phase, creating a massive commotion as they did, signifying their astonishing cultivation foundation.

The last event was a highly anticipated one! The conclusion of the Development Stage for the Saint Cyclic Alchemic Clash. After forty-two months, the first stage was coming to an end!

The crowd was seething with excitement at seeing what three years of dedicated nurturing by these Mortal Sovereign Alchemists could achieve! How will these Chosen Knights change? Will they be like carps going through the dragon's gate? Will they soar into the sky and begin their legends today? The expectations were unimaginably high, and rightfully so!

245 Chosen Knights, and only one will be the final victor! 245 Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, and only one will gain the singular voice to dictate the preliminary standards of Chosen!

At this moment, when the clock ticked down to zero, the first Mortal Sovereign Alchemist exited out of their manifested palace with their Chosen Knight and Mystic Star instructor by their side!

Chapter 994: SCR Summit, Chosen Knights Unveiling!

Mu Yura!

The first Mortal Sovereign Alchemist to leave her palace, carrying an incomparable demeanor of majesty and beauty, was the Twilight Alchemic Sovereign herself, alongside the Solitary Saber Sect Master, Dao Yuwen, and her Chosen Knight, Li Qingli.

The Chosen Knight selected by Mu Yura was relatively fresh in the minds of everyone present, and they were awestruck by the difference. What was

originally a young girl, thin and slender, black-haired and blue-eyed, likely no older than twelve years old, had grown explosively!

She had grown taller, gaining curves on her originally skinny frame and stood straight like a spear, and her big blue eyes had acquired an impeccably cold sharpness. If before Li Qingli was an innocent cultivator with little experience, she had become a noblewoman carrying the bearing of an elite warrior forged by battle and challenges.

Her new appearance, contrasting greatly with her old, firmly set the tone for this clash, invigorating the spectators and those whose family and friends were luckily selected by these awe-inspiring, heaven-changing figures called Mortal Sovereign Alchemists!

Li Qingli's father, an Everlore Domain merchant in a silver-rank association, was radiated palpable excitement seeing his baby girl's fantastic change. Her future would certainly be limitless! If she were to receive Mu Yura's favor, she would become a future Alchemic Knight, serving a peak figure, and changing her previously lackluster path.

Ma Zheng inspected Mu Yura's Chosen Knight, his eyes glinting with spiritual light. At his sides were Wu Yu, Han Yuhei, and the recently awoken Zhang Ziyi. The Grand Elder of the True Element Sect had finally recovered, and her complexion was healthy and flushed with life. One would never guess that the Soul Saint King's casual action nearly sent her to death's door.

"She was originally at the Yin Form Phase. Now, she's at the Qi Essence Phase. Five stages in three and a half years—fascinating." Ma Zheng commented praisingly. Furthermore, it was all genuine.

The leap of five stages in the Qi Condensation Realm was an astonishingly praiseworthy feat to achieve in three and a half years. A byproduct of perfectly curated teachings and resources in a balance.

"Mu Yura has reformed that little girl's innate talents, especially her Sea of Consciousness; her eyes are practically exuding with a saber light generated by mental energy." Han Yuhei noted with his nine-colored eyes swirling with spiritual and elemental light. There was a hint of respect in his eyes. This was the ability of an alchemist—elevating innate talent!

"Fascinating. She's at a higher cultivation than I was at her age." Zhang Ziyi was equally as intrigued by this competition, finding it to be a breath of fresh

air. When Zhang Ziyi was sixteen, she was barely at the Yang Growth Phase. This was already amazingly impressive, to say the least, given that she was a female cultivator faced with the abnormal difficulties the Yang Growth Phase presented.

"Mu Yura is only an Official-tier Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, yet her Chosen Knight has reached this level. I wonder how far those at the Prime and Grand tier have developed their Chosen Knights, especially those like the Tri-Vision Alchemic Sovereign(San Luoyang) and the Lavender Alchemic Sovereign(Xun Yicao)." Ma Zheng rubbed his chin thoughtfully.

"Could they nurture Astral Core Realm Chosen Knights? Wouldn't they blow out the competition?" Han Yuhei's expression grew severe after saying this. If that were the case, Li Qingli wouldn't be impressive at all.

"There are many ways to conceal Astral Tribulations using various treasures, especially to overcome them—Alchemists are renowned for bypassing these types of challenges. Look at the King of Everlore's Everlore Ascension Pill. It's certainly not impossible for it to happen and for us not to know about it." Ma Zheng added his analysis, allowing this possibility to flutter in the minds of everyone.

"Impossible." Their conversations weren't hidden, done openly through verbal communication, and as such, an outsider got themselves involved. They turned their gaze to find Huoyan Liulan seated with a neutral expression. While she had joined in the operation by Ma Zheng's request to deal Trueborn a devastating blow, she had her own clique that she was a part of.

They included the Hexaflame Starfield's Earthly Saints and their allied starfields leaders, such as the Beyond Light Starfield(9th) and the Daylight Starfield(16th). However, they were rather drearily dull, so she conspicuously floated closer to Ma Zheng's group to talk or listen in from time to time. She had just gotten back from leaving them a month ago.

Zhang Ziyi knitted her brows, "And why is it impossible?"

Huoyan Liulan gave her a glance as if to say: "Do I really need to explain it to you?" But in the end, she floated closer, integrating seamlessly with the group, and began to explain her point of view. "The Qi Condensation Realm is the realm of accumulation; there's very little comprehension that needs to be completed outside of the three stages: Elemental Birth, False Reality, and



Infused Spirituality. As long as a cultivator isn't limited by resources, the rest of the stages are endlessly easy.

"However, accumulation has its limits—a cultivator's innate talent, quality of resources, and time. All three of which are extremely relevant to this clash. The Qi Essence Phase is the final stage of Qi Condensation, but one has to refine specialized Qi Essence Motes formed from their own Spirit's refined Mana. An extremely time-consuming feat." Huoyan Liulan was merely giving a brief lesson of cultivation, but all these Earthly Saints knew all this; still, quite a few turned their attention to her out of boredom or curiosity as to where she'll go with this.

"So? With products like the seventh-grade Astral Dipper Foundation Pill, this can rapidly accumulate Essence Qi Motes." Zhang Ziyi rebutted.

"Time," Huoyan Liulan pointed out, "they're only given three and a half years. Which of these Mortal Sovereign Alchemists is going to settle for less than a Zenith Essence breakthrough? And how many of these pills will it take? If they don't use a pill like the Everlore Ascension Pill, will they be strong enough to complete their Mortal Star Formation Tribulation?"

"..." Those listening felt there was some truth to that, but there's no telling if these alchemists were willing to sacrifice reputation for chances of victory, finding a way. Zhang Ziyi was about to present this point too, but Huoyan Liulan interrupted her.

"It's not just that. All products they use MUST be newly concocted. Which Mortal Sovereign Alchemist here can concoct an Everlore Ascension Pill in that timeframe alone?" Only then was everyone enlightened. Huoyan Liulan had said time not solely because of a Chosen Knight's refinement time but also factored in the concoction time of these alchemists. It simply wasn't possible to concoct everything else and then begin an Everlore Ascension Pill, finishing in what limited time they had left without risking the entire competition, especially when they were without assistants!

It was extremely difficult to concoct ninth-grade products, and Mortal Sovereign Alchemists might have gained the approval of the Alchemic Dao, but even they failed, and sometimes they concocted impure-quality products. Since they were the sole alchemist nurturing these Chosen Knights, they couldn't delegate smaller tasks to achieve grander feats.

Even if a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist threw away their pride, time would still be a heavy factor. They would've had to refine Astral Dipper Foundation Pills, wasting weeks or months not training their arts, spells, or auxiliary methods. As a result, a lesser Astral Soul's Mortal State would then create a weaker Astral Core Realm cultivator; it was bound to be a failure! They may not even be able to defeat Li Qingli, who was clearly cultivated with battle in mind.

As if verifying Huoyan Liulan's words, Mortal Sovereign Alchemists began to waltz out of their palaces with their Chosen Knights. None of which was at the Astral Core Realm, but they all had auras of junior elites.

The weakest was at the Yang Growth Phase, unable to reach the False Reality Phase, accessing the power of Creation, or remotely close to forming their Natal Souls. The look in the Mortal Sovereign Alchemist's eyes was incomparably gloomy, frustrated, and desiring to kill worlds. The Chosen Knight had halted in this stage, unable to advance regardless of instruction.

This wasn't an uncommon sight; there were thirty-two Yang Growth Chosen Knights, and one of them belonged to a Prime Mortal Sovereign Alchemist! They all knew that their chances of victory were at the absolute lowest.

When the Earthly Saints noticed this, when the supreme Forgers and Architects noticed this, when the spectating crowd noticed this, when the other Mortal Sovereign Alchemists noticed this, the very same thought crossed their minds:

Cultivation is difficult!

They didn't blame them; they didn't pity them; that could've easily been them! For the stages that required comprehension, they were ruthless gatekeepers meant solely for the talented and lucky. This was why the Astral Core Realm had a vast disparity in numbers—a realm whose initial and middle-stages were centered around comprehension. This could be perfectly observed at the Everlore Starfield. There were trillions of cultivators, yet only five million Astral Core Realm cultivators throughout! Among these five million, less than fifty were at the Gravity Emission Phase.

That said, there were absolutely no Chosen Knights in the Infused Spirituality or Sublime Qi Phase, the Seventh Stage, and Eighth Stage of the Qi Condensation Realm, respectively. They were either in the Yang Growth Phase, False Reality Phase, or the Qi Essence Phase. This was expected as

once one reached the Infused Spirituality Phase, it was remarkably easy to reach the Essence Qi Phase through resources alone.

"The Tri-Vision Alchemic Sovereign is coming out!" An excited exclamation resounded as San Luoyang brought out his Chosen Knight! It drew the attention of many.

What level has this third-in-command of the Everlore Association reached?

Chapter 995: SCR Summit, Unbelievable Reveals!

What level has this third-in-command of the Everlore Association reached?

The question was at the tip of everyone's tongue as the barrier concealing San Luoyang's manifested palace began to diminish in effectiveness, slowly revealing three figures that emanated an awe-inspiring bearing relative to their cultivation, age, and status.

At San Luoyang's left, proudly walking a step behind, was the Mystic Star instructor that cost a hefty price to employ. It was one of the most expensive Mystic Star instructors listed, costing eight mystic stones. It was audacious of a Mystic Star to value themselves so highly, but the instructor unhesitatingly milked his worth and this rare opportunity—a praiseworthy achievement requiring unfettered courage.

And San Luoyang accepted it. The instructor originated from the Imperial Clan and was a cultivator from the direct royal lineage, bearing the Tian Clan's surname. While his official title had been stripped alongside his failure, he was relatively renowned during his youth as an outstanding cultivator, having been a Chosen in his past life.

Despite his existence being a cautionary reminder that even the Imperial Clan's might, wealth, and talents can fail the greatest trial of a mortal's life—Mystic Ascension—he was highly regarded as ranked within the top seven strongest Mystic Star Phase throughout the Aeternal Sky Starfield.

His name was Tian Zhuxian.

Tian Zhuxian carried himself with a regal temperament befitting a member of royalty, being astonishingly handsome, and possessing the signature hazel-gold eyes of the Imperial Clan's main lineage.

The Chosen Knight had siphoned some of this extraordinary bearing, with the light of nobility and righteous status lingering within their gaze. However, compared to Tian Zhuxian and San Luoyang, his facial features were ordinary, lacking any outstanding characteristics. He couldn't be described as fiercely handsome nor disgustingly ugly. It was a perfect middle ground that would be lost within a common crowd.

Born from two Mystic Star Phase experts, he originated from the greatest birth amongst the Chosen Knights but the most 'failed' bloodline. However, this contributed to his innate talents that greatly differed from the norm, setting him firmly apart from the others. He was called by his parents Duze Beixuan.

The trio cut a powerful image as they waltzed out of their palace. The focus wasn't on the Mystic Star instructor or San Luoyang but on the byproduct of their three-and-a-half year of effort! Will Duze Beixuan be a horrendous dub? A failure like his parents? Or will he rise to the occasion and bring a world-shaking performance?

The crowd from all over looked at him with highly inquisitive gazes. Duze Beixuan didn't shrink back an inch, slowly causing his aura to permeate! A whoosh of air distorted his surroundings, affecting the ambient mana of the Main Hall.

Gasp!

A wad of cold air was sucked in by many on the platforms, shaken to their cores!

In the subspace that held numerous outstanding figures that could call forth the wind and rain with merely a wave of their hands were all observing the scene projected on a large, oval mirror hovering a few feet off the ground.

At the center of these figures, and controlling the mirror, was a slender man adorned in golden robes and a seven-colored sash that tied his entire ensemble together beautifully, granting him an otherworldly demeanor filled with authority, wealth, and wisdom.

Evergod!

Amongst these figures was the Soul Saint King, with Yue Songli a step behind him, and the Grand Seer of the Golden Gate Pavilion. Her middle-aged looks,

white eyes without pupils or irises, and her air of mystery did little to hide the peaceful aura around her or the omniscient feeling that her blank eyes gave.

Beside her was a slender scholarly man with square-lens glasses, light brown eyes, black hair tied into a ponytail, and garbed in a common linen robe that felt strangely inconsistent with his intellectual and humble style. If someone told you who this was, your first instinct would surely be to spit out a single word: Bullshit!

He was none other than the Boundless Martial High King! Lacking any ounce of fierceness or tyranny that his reputation has long since defined him as. A stark contrast to reality, yet besides the Grand Seer, not a single figure here was close to him. While his demeanor was reminiscent of a poor scholar forced to practice martial arts to make ends meet, those light brown eyes of his concealed an unimaginable ferocity that could shake the entire stellar region.

A veiled woman was also present, wearing silver robes, with a glistening crescent moon necklace hanging around her white neck. Her figure was lithe and willowy, her stance innately proud alongside two exceptionally high-lifted twin peaks worthy of such pride. She observed the mirror silently.

Furthest away from the mirror and everyone else, and by a large margin, almost as if entering a certain range of him was absolutely forbidden, was a tall, ramrod straight-standing middle-aged man that seemed to be in his early fifties with an elegant beard and primly styled grey hair. His eyes were tightly shut as if meditating, not glancing at the mirror, yet it felt as if he could see it all.

There was an air of peculiarity about him, especially when one inspected his exquisitely fashioned, carefully arranged white robes that were extremely clean. Pristinely so, unimaginably so, as if dirt and grime weren't permitted to exist within a mile of his presence.

This figure, regarded as one of the most intelligent and powerful beings throughout the entire stellar region, the mouth that had the Aeternal Sky Divine Emperor's ear, was the Imperial Advisor!

The last one present was a human affected by dwarfism with tanned skin and a gorgeous beard. At his back was a large forging hammer roughly twice his size, and he sported a blacksmith's garment. This was none other than the Godforge Emperor, and many were clearly aware that he was not a natural

dwarf but a byproduct of his Cultivation Method that shrunk his body unnaturally. At times, some could see him in his full six-foot glory.

They were all an exceptionally eccentric bunch when seen together, yet they possessed some of the greatest authority throughout the entire stellar region.

"The Astral Core Realm! It seems you've kept quite a trump card, huh? No wonder you suggested this clash, tch." The Boundless Martial High King spoke disgruntledly. His voice was lightly spoken, yet it induced several waves of echoing power with every word. His physical body was simply this terrifying!

Evergod did not entertain the Boundless Martial High King, knowing full well how engaging him in an argument of words would inevitably lead to an argument of fists. With the Mythical Oaths in place, the chances he'll resort to some reckless outburst was incredibly high.

"Tch," embodying his inner King, the Boundless Martial High King clicked his tongue aggressively, carrying all his unsaid thoughts. He returned to observing the mirror.

Duze Beixuan had revealed himself at the Astral Core Realm, and not the First Stage, but the Second Stage! The Sky Ruler Phase! The entire world was rendered speechless, unable to process the vast, unquestionable disparity present.

Even the other Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were flabbergasted into quivering silence at the reveal. Duze Beixuan's original cultivation was the Yang Growth Phase! In three and a half years, he leaped into the Sky Ruler Phase of the Astral Core Realm? This was unimaginable! This was unreasonable!

How?

Their eyes shifted from the product to the producer, bringing a small smile-holding San Luoyang every ounce of attention present. The questions in the air were endless, but they were left unsaid.

But not unanswered!

Hmph!

A cold, imposing snort resounded, bringing everyone's attention to Wu Yu! With his eyes carrying boundless stars, he stared intently at San Luoyang.

And San Luoyang turned his gaze fearlessly towards Wu Yu, satisfied with his dissatisfaction.

"Why hide your true cultivation?" A single sentence was followed by absolute silence and then a minor uproar as their gazes flitted back to San Luoyang. Hide his cultivation! What did that mean?

San Luoyang's expression stiffened; Wu Yu had seen through his concealment tool, giving him a great shock. But he wouldn't be Wu Yu if he wasn't at least this capable. San Luoyang swiftly regained his composure with barely a missed step.

"Hide?" He shook his head as if denying doing such a pointless thing, "but I guess you're right; why not announce my recent breakthrough."

Breakthrough!

The hearts of everyone was on tenterhooks, and those in the subspace glanced, specifically the Boundless Martial High King and the Soul Saint King, gave Evergod a glance carrying varying emotions. His expression was entirely unreadable!

San Luoyang then deactivated his concealment tool that had integrated with his Mystic Soul, causing an torrential outburst of pent-up Mystic Aura flowing rampantly with Mystic Runes! To Ascended, they were forced to feast on the visually stimulating storm of tens of thousands of Mystic Runes swirling grandly before them!

To mortals, they felt a slightly suffocating aura of unfathomableness that sent them reeling with the urge to kneel before San Luoyang!

Mystic Runes! Awakened Mystic Intent! Unfathomable Aura!

An Earthly Saint!

San Luoyang was an Earthly Saint!

Like a light bulb in the enveloping darkness, enlightenment switched on and illuminated them to their unanswered questions. San Luoyang was the sole Mortal Sovereign Alchemist out of 245 present to be an Earthly Saint!

The only exception!



How could this not significantly affect his speed of concoction? Quality of concoctions? Ease of refinement? Rate of success?! His Mystic Power was a chasm-grade of difference between the others, no question. Furthermore, he was at the 4th Runic Ascendant State right off the rip!

As the raging storm subsided, Xun Yicao proudly left his palace with his Chosen Knight, bringing a heavy degree of focus to this Imperial Alchemist of the Imperial Clan! Will he bring about an upset? Reveal his cultivation base at the Earthly Saint as well? The expectations of everyone grew wild!

Xun Yicao's Chosen Knight was a tall, strapping, and handsome young man with a fit physique, perfectly aligning with the image of a Chosen in the minds of everyone. Furthermore, his aura was startling, but if it had come just a person earlier, maybe the reactions would be wildly different...

The first stage of the Astral Core Realm, the World Sea Phase!!!

"..."

The gazes went back to Duze Beixuan...

Xue Yicao was lifting his head proudly, perfectly timing his arrival after San Luoyang, being the 244th Alchemist to reveal his Chosen Knight. A calculated plan. Yet the response of overwhelming awe and admiration that he expected was absent. He curiously looked around, then his eyes contracted!

San Luoyang was an Earthly Saint!

His Chosen Knight was at the second stage!

This...

At this moment, as if similarly perfectly timed, the last Mortal Sovereign Alchemist to reveal themselves had their dome of mystic power melting away!

Wei Wuyin was next?

**Paragon Of Sin #Chapter 996: SCR Summit,Cheering for Daddy - Read Paragon Of Sin Chapter 996: SCR Summit,Cheering for Daddy**

Chapter 996: SCR Summit,Cheering for Daddy

"Oh? Seems like we're the last to present," Wei Wuyin nonchalantly remarked, a slight grin on his face as he swept his gaze across the Main Hall. There were all sorts of eyes fixated on his existence, suffused with searing emotions, high expectations, and crazed thoughts.

The last of the 245 Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, the mysteriously elusive figure with absurd talent, the youngest Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of their era, bringer of era-changing products, and debatably the most outstanding male in the looks department was ready! How could their thoughts not be a little crazed?

This was especially so after San Luoyang's reveal of his Earthly Saint cultivation base and outstanding achievement in nurturing a mind-blowing Chosen Knight to the Second Stage of the Astral Core Realm in three and a half years! In truth, no one expected Wei Wuyin to realistically win this clash. He was up against Ascended alchemists; the means and abilities of his opponents were unimaginably higher than his.

The task of having a mere mortal participate in a competition that could be regarded as a nurturing challenge between gods was laughable. However, despite this seed of thought being nestled and nourished over the three and a half years since the clash's announcement, there was still lingering hope in some of their hearts.

An underdog!

A miraculous upset!

They were waiting for the unexpected with cheer, rooting for the one expected to lose.

Those with brilliant hope in their hearts were unaware of the drastic consequences that Wei Wuyin's victory would bring to the upcoming era. How a mere mortal, yet to reach a hundred years old, defeated Ascended beings of thousands of years old!

"Last? I thought you wanted to be first, Master." A voice sounded out from behind Wei Wuyin belonging to a chubby figure garbed in dark-red and jet-black robes, cutting an intense yet harmless image that brought about a strange sense of distortion to one's mind. It was hard to pinpoint exactly what feeling he gave.

Du Ling walked out, gaining the spotlight.

"To claim first place, not to show-off first. Do we need to clean your ears again?" Luo Ning's voice followed closely after; her tone was filled with energy and amusement.

"Daddy! It's daddy, Big Brother!" Du Ping cried out excitedly. While he had met his father periodically throughout these years, he was still excited to see him each and every time. The young boy of three years had changed, grown into a taller, more intelligent child of six. He didn't need to be carried around, holding his older brother's hand as he pointed vigorously.

Du Ling instantly noticed his son's voice from below, filtering out all the attention and sound. With the brightest grin and gentlest eyes, he found his sons and gave them a wave. He had some guilt at leaving them alone for these three years, but he knew this experience would definitely make them grow as people and cultivators. The expansions of their horizons and the forming of relationships with their neighbors were all essential events that must occur sooner or later, benefitting them in the future.

"You better not embarrass yourself before your children," Luo Ning reminded. Du Ling's spine instantly grew taut, and his eyes flickered before an expression of seriousness overtook his face. With a solemn nod, he swore in his heart not to have a poor showing in front of his family.

However, the two hadn't noticed that the silver-eyed Wei Wuyin had the strangest expression as he glanced upward at the palaces and thrones. The disbelief in his eyes was as clear as the Aeternal Sky Solar Star from Ever-Sky!

He saw San Luoyang's Chosen Knight, Duze Beixuan, emanating an aura of a Sky Ruler. When he initially saw this, he accepted it as San Luoyang was a Prime Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. This type of result was decent, within his expectations. But as he used his Celestial Eyes to gauge the cultivation bases of all the other Chosen Knights, especially Xun Yicao's, he reeled inwardly.

Oh shit.

Oh shit...

OH SHIT!

"Haha." Wei Wuyin dryly chuckled, nearly palming his face, catching himself before completing this action and changing it from a cheek rub to a chin rub. Those silver eyes of his contained barely concealed exasperation. If he had known...

"It's your turn, Du Ling. Show them." Luo Ning directed with gusto, wanting the world to see her proudest work. She had concocted all the products herself, with Wei Wuyin assisting through a mental link, and she was given a world-shaking revelation!

This was how it feels to have a legacy and teacher of the Alchemic Dao! She couldn't help but wonder if she was given the teaching of someone at Xun Yicao's level who had tens of thousands of years of experience and was one of the foremost authorities of the Alchemic Dao in the entire stellar region, only inferior to the Alchemic Saints, how vast would her improvements have been?

With her displayed talent in alchemy and extraordinary successes at Wei Wuyin's hands, especially with an amazing cauldron like the All-Elemental Eclipse Cauldron, she felt confident that the path to the Alchemic Saint level would've been blasted open for her! She was a diamond in the rough, unfairly treated, overlooked by all, yet unimaginably valuable. Luo Ning was so into her own thoughts that she hadn't noticed Wei Wuyin's visible irritation.

Du Ling was just following along. He wasn't aware of the nuances and didn't try to inspect the higher elevated Chosen Knights. So he stepped forward.

Wei Wuyin stiffened. If he had known...

"Wai-" He called out to Du Ling, yet it was too late!

BOOSH!!!

Du Ling's aura erupted as his body began to emanate a terrifying power! A dark-red Astral Core glowed within his Dantian, capable of being viewed by everyone, as the world's ambient mana began to twist, churn, and spiral out of control, being dominated by Du Ling's will!

Above Du Ling, a volcanic mountain standing at ten thousand meters tall manifested while pulsing out billowing clouds of dark smoke and heat! This volcanic mountain had ten rings constructed from Manifested Spirit Energy, enriched and empowered to its limits. A torrential spiritual strength exploded

upwards like a volcanic eruption, causing those above to be blasted back, their robes fluttering wildly, and their eyes widened out of sheer shock.

However, it hadn't stopped there! And oh boy, at this point, the hearts of a few wished it did.

"Auuuuhhh!" Du Ling strained his cultivation base, tightly clenched his teeth, and exerted his aura to its maximum! Suddenly, his body began to emit vigorous spatial energy that seeped into the world and distorted fixed space right then and there. Waves upon waves of spatial energy flowed outwards like a flood, smashing against the platforms and thrones without any hindrance.

As if revving up, Du Ling tapped into his Domain Seed that had perfectly integrated with his Astra Soul, essentially as real as a Domain Seed could get! From his body, a dark-red Worldly Domain unfurled for three hundred meters in diameter, only stopping after Du Ling reached his absolute limits.

The Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill!

"Oh my heavens..." Mu Yura's enchanting lips formed an 'O' shape, and her jaws nearly dropped to the floor. San Luoyang's smile stiffened instantly as his eyes reflected the ten-thousand-meter-sized Soul Idol sporting ten rings. When the spatial waves impacted his robes, he absentmindedly lifted his fingers to inspect them.

Spatial Resonance?

SPATIAL RESONANCE?!

Wei Wuyin inevitably couldn't resist, face-palming himself heavily. If only he had known these Mortal Sovereign Alchemists were this freaking useless! There were still Qi Condensation Realm experts among them. No, the vast, vast, vast majority of them were at the Qi Condensation Realm!

How?

HOW?

HOW?!?!?

THREE. AND. A. HALF.

FUCKING YEARS!!

Wei Wuyin's understanding of this competition was simple. In fact, it made perfect sense. He genuinely believed that when Evergod suggested this challenge as a metric to test the qualifications for Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, they'll have used the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill or Ever-Domain Pill as the final product to reflect the changing era.

As such, he fully believed that the minimum 'expected' cultivation level was the Soul Idol Phase, the bare minimum requirement for these products to be taken. While the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists might not have the concoction method to the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill, he firmly believed the Everlore Association had plans for that, likely allowing them to purchase the Ever-Domain Pill shortly before the next stage, and giving a period of respite to refine it equally amongst Chosen Knights.

While this extended the summit by at least two years, this was his understanding. Otherwise, what the hell was the point of all this?

Moreover, forty-two months was an extremely high amount of time. In this period, he had reached the maximum of his Realm World Phase using the Echoing Stars of the Vastness Pills, recovering Eden's lost cultivation, and was fully primed to challenge the next stage. He only delayed his advancement to teach Luo Ning and Du Ling various spells, arts, and methods via Neo-Fruits of Eden Spell—his name for the transference of insights ability. Since it only related to his own insights, he decided to add his personal touch to it.

Additionally, how could these Mortal Sovereign Alchemists be gated at the False Reality Phase? Didn't they have the ability to conjure Yin-Yang Divinity Spheres? He was completely baffled.

WOOSH! WOOSH! WOOSH!

Du Ling's surging aura began to settle. His Soul Idol and Worldly Domain began to vanish, with the former dissipating and the latter retracting into his Domain Seed. In the end, he wiped the sweat off his brow and proudly smiled. He had to go all out, but he shouldn't be that much inferior to those other Chosen Knights, right?

"..." The entire crowd was absolutely speechless.

It was so silent that if a pin dropped, it'd echo for miles.

Clap! Clap! Clap!

The sounds of a child's small hands clapping resounded. "DADDY! DADDY! SHOW THEM!" Du Ping cheered without any restraint. The little guy was so happy that his smile threatened to split his face. While he wasn't certain how powerful his father was, he was the strongest in his heart—that was enough.

"Cheat-CHEATER!" Unsurprisingly, Xun Yicao was the first to call Wei Wuyin out for something that many people believed might just be the case in their hearts! It can only be through cheating, right?

Wei Wuyin sneered in his heart; this old bag of bones had forgotten himself. But he didn't need to explain before Wu Yu intervened with a snort filled with disdain and contempt: "You all took oaths to remain truthful to the outlined rules. Are you saying that my Young Lord has gone against the Mythical Oath yet suffered no consequences?"

It was standard in Alchemic Clashes to do a perfunctory Mythical Oath to follow all outlined rules in the stellar region. It wasn't even worth mentioning before because no self-respecting alchemist would ever cheat for fear of getting caught and exposed. The only oaths that stood out were towards the Mystic Star instructors, preventing them from sacrificing their cultivation base to nurture their Chosen Knight. This didn't pertain to the alchemists themselves as they could sacrifice whatever they felt necessary as it'll reflect their nurturing capabilities, so it was fair game.

Of course, there were a lot of loopholes. For example, Luo Ning wasn't considered due to her status as an assistant alchemist. As an Alchemist, she could concoct pills that the Chosen Knight could consume without breaking the rules as long as the Chosen Knight refined 'freshly made' products using 'provided' materials. Moreover, Wei Wuyin had already prepared an argument if that became an issue.

After all, if he could instruct a 'failed' Emperor Alchemist to nurture his Chosen Knight to this extent, he'll simply challenge others to do the same. Anything less than an acceptance of this statement meant admitting defeat and inferiority in the Alchemic Dao. Moreover, which of these alchemists didn't use assistants in the outside world at the Emperor Alchemist level? It wasn't his fault that Xun Yicao gave him an assistant, no?



"...ugh!" Xun Yicao's old bones shook, and his eyes went wide. He stared at the faintly smiling Wei Wuyin, seemingly unconcerned by Xun Yicao's hollering. It would only invite more humiliation of his character to continue, so Xun Yicao gritted his teeth and went silent—a smart move.

He would leave it up to Evergod to decide.

In the subspace, Evergod sent the Grand Seer of the Golden Gate Pavilion a look, yet she remained entirely silent. He fearfully sighed in his heart, recalling his move to slay Wei Wuyin before he could mature, and realizing that was indeed the right choice. How unfortunate was it that he survived?

"Proceed." That was all he said, and the hearts of everyone thumped with the intensity of a heavy drum!

## **Paragon Of Sin #Chapter 997: SCR Summit, Two Alchemists - Read Paragon Of Sin Chapter 997: SCR Summit, Two Alchemists**

Chapter 997: SCR Summit, Two Alchemists

What now?

Proceed?

How?

No. The better question was: Why?

Those Mortal Sovereign Alchemists had beguiled expressions intermixed with slightly unsightly smiles of bitterness and uncertainty. If Evergod had no objections to Wei Wuyin's end result, then what was the point of continuing? They all saw it! They saw the unbelievable!

In forty-two months, Wei Wuyin had somehow transformed a Yang Growth cultivator into a Spatial Resonance Cultivator with abnormal spatial energies and a ten-ringed Soul Idol! To top it all off, that Chosen Knight had refined a Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill and manifested a Worldly Domain indistinguishable from the Realm World Phase.

That at least answered the question as to what the peak-quality Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill granted as its pinnacle effect. Unfortunately, it did them little good to see such miraculous results further reinforcing the Neo-Dawn Eclipse Pill's exceptional era-defining qualities.

The strongest competitor against Wei Wuyin's Du Ling was San Luoyang's Duze Beixuan. There was no need to fight or compare their powers—it was a blowout. This was as evident as the difficulties of cultivation. Just the Worldly Domain was enough to single-handedly devastate all these Chosen Knights!

"How did you accomplish this?" Ma Leihan, the Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of the Ma Clan, asked with a tone drowning with disbelief, grasping at straws to maintain his sanity. It wasn't wrong to say that Wei Wuyin's achievement had caused him to question his existence as an Alchemist. He wasn't the only one.

While he knew that Ma Zheng was likely throwing him a disapproving look due to asking the question publicly, he had to know! If he didn't find an explanation soon, he felt as if his heart of cultivation would shatter then and there from his overimagining the vast difference between them.

'It hurts just to breathe.'

His question prompted a universal curiosity that demanded an answer. The Earthly Saints were similarly curious, wondering what type of shortcut he used to find such heaven-defying success.

Wei Wuyin knew that he had carelessly trudged into sludge, unable to escape without others granting him permission to, and all due to his overestimation of the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists' skill and means. For the first time since the different-graded transcendent product revelation that started from first-grade to ninth-grade, he realized how inferior the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region was in terms of speed and success rates.

Wei Wuyin heaved an internal sigh; he felt this was likely the result due to severe lack of Alchemic Souls. Besides a few Mystic Stars, none of those throne-sitting alchemists were true Alchemic Soul cultivators. Curiously, he wondered why that was the case. Was it solely due to the fact that dedicating your cultivation base to the Alchemic Dao was largely disadvantageous to cultivating and advancing? Or was there a larger play that affected society despite the King of Everlore's radiant existence?

"I must thank Xun Yicao for this," Wei Wuyin pointed out, clasped his hands, forgoing respectful titles, and gratefully gestured towards Xun Yicao. Instantly, the old codger's expression contorted as searing gazes turned his way. He retorted, "Don't speak nonsense! Explain yourself properly!"

He feared others might genuinely think he helped Wei Wuyin in some way.

"Nonsense?" Wei Wuyin carried a small grin, "No nonsense. I'm genuinely thankful. How can I, a mere mortal, dare compete in terms of quality of alchemical energies, size of reserves, or understanding of the Alchemic Dao than you all—Ascended beings? It is a rather exaggerated statement. Even if I admitted it myself, I wouldn't believe it."

Those words heavily resonated with the Mortal Sovereign Alchemists, Earthly Saints, supreme Creationists, and spectating crowd. It would be delusional to say a mortal who was reported to be at the Realm World Phase could rival these thousands of years old experienced experts of the Alchemic Dao with a cultivation base an entire realm beyond. It would be poppycock to the most insane of minds, let alone the sane ones.

"You gave me the chance by choosing my instructor." Wei Wuyin gestured towards Luo Ning, who now shared the spotlight. There was a hint of hesitation in her eyes that was swiftly replaced with pride and excitement. Her hunchback straightened a little, and she pushed out her chin. She walked forward and stood beside Wei Wuyin.

"Luo Ning?" Xun Yicao was stunned to near stupidity, unable to connect the dots. But not everyone was as slow-witted as Xun Yicao, with San Luoyang's eyes glowing brightly. He didn't explain, however.

Empress Xiaocheng did: "How fated; the Unity of the Alchemic Stars. Miraculous. Miraculous indeed." Her voice contained a hint of amusement that tugged at the heart, drawing one's eyes to her lovely expression and swooning the mind without effort. Quite a few gulps resounded as the eyes of Empress Xiaocheng showed a liveliness that was almost unheard of.

Her words caused those with keen insights to widen their eyes from their realization. The Mortal Sovereign Alchemists who got it were had hideous expressions, as if someone had stolen their victory away, and they could only blame themselves. This left them with the urge to cry but no tears to shed; fortunately, this also brought them strange relief.

Yet some didn't get it, slower than others, like Xun Yicao, who was still baffled. It was likely due to being directly involved that he had grown forgetful, or his subconscious repressed the truth as it tried to form. Regardless, Empress Xiaocheng explained clearly:

"The Unity of the Alchemic Stars gave you the opportunity for insights of these illustrious figures' Alchemic Dao. As a mortal and youngster of no more than a hundred, how can you possibly rival their knowledge or means? How can you possibly process that vast harvest? However, if given an assistant, one with hundreds of years of arduous experience and an Alchemic Soul, strengthening their connection to the Alchemic Dao. Just by regurgitating what you've gained, you granted an old horse a set of holy wings. Am I right, Alchemic Sovereign Wei?"

She beautifully smiled as if solving this puzzle gave her great joy, causing many to lose themselves in her beauty. She was just too much!

"You're absolutely right, Empress." Wei Wuyin didn't need to actually say anything, as the logic was readily accepted by everyone! Wei Wuyin used a proxy! As if washed with enlightenment, the stress of these alchemists was reduced considerably, and their hearts of cultivation settled.

They lost.

Without a doubt, they lost.

But they lost to themselves! This was completely acceptable, and while there were some curious points, such as how Wei Wuyin retained enough for Luo Ning to capitalize on this, some of them experienced the Unity of the Alchemic Stars quite a few times and were aware of how drastically sporadic the gains were.

Moreover, they finally realized why Du Ling's growth vastly trumped everyone else's! Wei Wuyin was tasked with handling the higher-graded products, wholeheartedly putting his all into their success, while Luo Ning either helped out or assisted with the lower-graded products!

Xun Yicao finally realized the 'truth'. While he was internally relieved, he coldly snorted as he glanced at Luo Ning dismissively. "Unfair competition—rubbish."

His thoughts actually echoed in the hearts of everyone else. It was unfair! After all, Du Ling essentially had two alchemists assisting him while they had one! Even the crowd felt that it was a little unfair.

"Hahaha! You're all going to complain when you could've selected those Alchemic Soul 'rejects' that you looked down upon! You had the opportunity to do the same, disregarding battle experience for cultivation level and foundation advantages, but you chose otherwise. Don't you all dare cry like wronged bitches because you've missed an opportunity. Don't make me, Wu Yu, look down on all of you." Wu Yu explosively laughed, ridiculing these Mortal Sovereign Alchemists directly, yet just like many times before, they couldn't refute!

There were at least twenty Alchemic Soul instructors to choose from; all had low prices and all were capable assistants. Yet what did they choose? Combat instructors! Evergod had placed them on the plate of choices for a reason, but they all neglected this possibility simply because they were too proud. It came off as the whining of pathetic losers.

Xun Yicao's eyes darkened to resemble the lightless night itself. Clearly, Wu Yu targeted him directly as he was the only one to speak out! Who was the wronged bitch? He was?! He refused to be! So he coldly snorted and ignored Wu Yu. The competition wasn't over yet! There was still the Chosen Stage of the Saint Cyclic Alchemic Clash, so these Mortal Sovereign Alchemist soon soothed their bruised egos.

Wei Wuyin felt relieved that this worked. Luo Ning was the perfect cover for his talents. This was merely a spontaneous contingency plan to hide his Alchemic Soul, but it had essentially concealed his exceptionalism. If he had taken it upon himself to cultivate Du Ling without restrictions, he would not have been at the Spatial Resonance Phase of the Astral Core Realm.

Wei Wuyin had many ways to aggressively allow Du Ling to comprehend Soul Light or the essential profundities of gravity, vastly exceeding his current cultivation level. With his Neo-Fruits of Eden Spell, he could directly bestow Du Ling with his cultivation insights. While the Soul Light might be a little difficult as it heavily relied on his experience of freely sensing souls, an ability he gained after obtaining the Bloodline of Sin, he had the transcendent World-Light Refraction Elixir at the ready for as a substitute.

With that settled, Wei Wuyin and the rest were now left with proceeding to the Elimination Stage. For the sake of a good stage, all three Astral Core Realm

cultivators would be granted an automatic spot into the next stage, while the rest will fight for the remaining fifteen spots. Since the Earthly Saints were given the ability to determine who passed and who failed regardless of the winner or loser of these fights, they readily accepted this exception.

#### Chapter 998: SCR Summit, A Sudden Departure

With the Development Stage concluded, the Elimination Stage officially commenced. The Saint Cyclic Alchemic Clash was a fairly new concept that tested the abilities of Alchemist's ability to nurture instead of create, generating a sense of novelty. The clash's ongoing discussions these past few years had already inspired a wave of new age alchemists that believed this type of clash was greater than the typical Alchemic Clash.

While the Alchemic Clashes challenged and contested two alchemists against each other based solely on skill, this type of challenge was less binary, and highly reflected an alchemist's ability to produce Alchemic Knights. That said, it was with envious, desirous, and selfish hearts that many wished for this type of Alchemic Clash to become the new standard.

The reason was quite obvious.

The Elimination Stage was solely designed to remove the riffraff remaining of the Chosen Knights, bringing the 245 Chosen Knights to an easily manageable number of eighteen. What was special about these eighteen Chosen Knights was that they weren't selected by their cultivation stage, age, or combat strength, but all three with Earthly Saints deciding their overall score.

During the Development Stage's forty-two month period, the Earthly Saints had kept busy by fulfilling their duties as judges, diligently formulating a rubric and scoring system for Chosen Knights. Empress Xiaocheng was a leading proponent of devising this system, contributing significantly to its successful creation.

Wu Yu had also invested his opinion, especially since he was one of the strongest official Alchemic Knights in today's day and age. While some Earthly Saints had been Alchemic Knights in their younger days, they've outlived their Alchemist by now.

A depressing reality of devoting your focus to the Alchemic Dao, consuming essential cultivation time in concoction and study, neglecting their own

cultivation bases and leading to significantly lower lifespans. Moreover, their continuous exhaustion and recovery of energies damaged their bodies, reducing their lifespan by another portion.

Those particular Earthly Saints were heavily invested in this scoring system.

The entire system was highly intricate, carrying two parts: Static and Fluid. They both scaled on a points system of one through five, totaling a score of ten. The Static Scoring was out of the Earthly Saint's control, reflecting the standards of Chosen. While there were many nuances such as age versus cultivation, the Static Scoring system was the unquestionable fair without much input from judges. The Fluid Scoring, however, was based solely on the judge's decision on overall performance.

There was application of skills, combat strength, gender, cultivation method grade, mastery of arts and spells, comprehension of Intent, etc. These were decided after each battle by every judge, then averaged out to a final score, rounded down. This made it extremely difficult, if not outright impossible, to receive a perfect score.

Maybe one day, if this competition becomes popular in society, then an unrivaled talent might arise that claims that right.

With the three Chosen Knights of Wei Wuyin, San Luoyang, and Xun Yicao given an outright exception to the Chosen Stage, they had nothing else to do until it was over. And the competition of over two hundred Chosen Knights was going to be rather long, thrilling for sure, but unquestionably a long stage.

According to expectations, it would likely last a total of five months. When the fighting officially began, a rule was immediately created: Bestowing an additional point. Out of the thirty-two Yang Growth Phase cultivators, four of them made breakthroughs during the fights or after their fights, typically a loss.

They were awarded an additional point to the Static Scoring System for in-battle comprehension achievement. Even now, the system was growing to account for the unexpected.

When Du Ling learned that his cultivation base was miles ahead of the rest, he was ecstatic. He spent the months with his children, proudly watching the matches excitedly while giving pointers to Du Ming, Du Ping, and his other family members. He had even given their servants a few pointers.



He had always felt a divide due to his sub-standard cultivation base and talents in comparison to his children. At times, they might try urging him to cultivate but to no success. It was merely a difficult process that he was unfit for. However, that all changed thanks to Wei Wuyin, and he transformed from a simpleton of cultivation to an astonishing guru.

Wei Wuyin allowed Du Ling to spend time with his family, occasionally coming along, causing his sons to refer to him as 'Uncle', a strange title that he'd never thought he would hear. Ever. A strange, heart-warming emotion infected his soul, causing him to dote on these sons of Du Ling.

Luo Ning spent her time diligently studying and fully grasping all that Wei Wuyin left to her, striving to become a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. As a Mystic Ascendant Realm cultivator with an Alchemic Soul, she possessed the essential requirements to do so. It was clear to those throne-sitting figures that she might become a legitimate Mortal Sovereign Alchemist, but they felt that it was a little unfortunate due to her limited remaining lifespan.

Regardless, she would have etched her name in the history books should she succeed.

Wei Wuyin had no doubts that she would succeed, especially since she concocted ninth-grade products. Albeit, that was under his instructions, so she hadn't received the recognition of the Alchemic Dao yet. When she feels confident enough to concoct by herself, that'll be her opportunity to reach newfound heights.

Wei Wuyin didn't rush her. He wanted her to carefully select which ninth-grade product that she wanted to concoct. When she was ready, he would give her some last-minute pointers and wish her the best from the side. Only when she becomes a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist can his next stage of plans start.

With his cultivation foundation at a maximum limit, Wei Wuyin's Astral Souls expressed their well-intended concern of delaying his advancement.

Karmic Luck Value: 44,834.2.

First Calamity: Survived - 7/7.

Second Calamity: Claimed - 1/1.

Third Calamity: Suppressed - 11 Years.

He only had eleven years left before the Third Calamity. Given the rate at which this summit was going, chances were that it might last for longer than the assumed five years, since almost four had been reached, yet the Preliminary Discussions of Chosen Standards hadn't finished, instead being replaced by a different method of choosing who had the right to set these standards.

Given that this was simply the first segment of the planned summit, this left him feeling stressed. Given his rate of growth with the Echoing Stars of the Vastness Pills, he felt certain that he could reach the Star Core Phase prior to challenging the Third Calamity. While he would still be a Mortal, he would be at the pinnacle of the Mortal Dao.

Every advantage was welcomed.

"Young Lord, is there something wrong?" Wu Yu soon noticed Wei Wuyin's knitted brows and turbulent thoughts while the Elimination Stage was ongoing.

They communicated spiritually. "I can't stay any longer," Wei Wuyin admitted. He was fully aware that his next astral tribulation would certainly be pushed to its limits by his Astral Souls, and given how much of an advantage to cultivation he gained from their efforts, he trusted their cultivation process, but this would involve an unimaginable phenomenon.

He couldn't attempt his ascension here.

Wu Yu frowned slightly. While he didn't know Wei Wuyin's exact dilemma, he could sense the urgency of the matter. That said, leaving the Saint Cyclic Renewal Summit would cause waves of reactions with curious hearts and minds. But who gave a fuck?

"Shall we leave?" In the end, this summit was laughable when Du Ling walked out, displaying a vast disparity towards Wei Wuyin and the others. After all, Wu Yu was fully aware of what went down in that dome, and Wei Wuyin's casual instructions to an inferior Alchemist had produced Du Ling to this extent.

Chosen Standards?

None of it can match Wei Wuyin's future.

Outdated at conception—irrelevant.

Wei Wuyin inevitably heaved a heavy sigh. He swept his gaze across the Main Hall. There were so many that he wished to see, only capable of leaving behind spiritual transmissions, but the Main Hall wasn't a good setting for their reunion. He slowly nodded, agreeing that leaving was the best. He couldn't delay his cultivation due to the summit. There were far more pressing matters on the horizon.

Wu Yu stood up from his throne, prompting the other Earthly Saints and supreme Creationist to instantly react. This Grand Knight of Neo-Dawn was a figure they were all cautious towards. They didn't know what he would do.

While the Mythical Oaths regarding being ganged up on were active, there were no other Mythical Oaths restricting Wu Yu's actions. He could freely slaughter, merely having to deal with the joint retaliation of the stellar region.

"My Young Lord will be taking his leave of the summit." The declaration was followed by Wu Yu's immediate action, unleashing a gentle wave of mystic power to envelop Wei Wuyin completely. Without waiting for anyone or giving a proper explanation, he utilized Spatial Shift, piercing through the spatial folds of the Main Hall, departing instantly!

"..."

What?

-----

Within the subspace, when Wu Yu left, the silver-robed woman's body vanished as well. The expressions of those within the subspace, barring the enigmatic Grand Seer, underwent slight changes.

Chapter 999: SCR Summit, WomanIn Silver Robes

"..." It was rare to render an entire hall of over a million speechless, trying to grasp and process what just happened.

Some subconsciously looked at the platform, completely absentminded, as they found that Wei Wuyin's Fire Phoenix had been left behind! She slumbered peacefully beside Su Mei's cultivation zone. The ancient beast hadn't even twitched!

What...just happened?

Wei Wuyin had simply left without any indication. Without any explanation. Just left? It felt surreal given the recent shocks they experienced from his existence. The entire flow of the summit thus far had been heavily determined and reliant on his actions and words, so there was a lost feeling in the hearts of most. Especially when everyone learned that the cultivation opportunity and their admission into the Main Hall were due to Wei Wuyin's efforts.

Ai Juliang's eyes slowly opened. She stared at the location that Wei Wuyin originally occupied, her eyes containing concern and worry. While Wei Wuyin had thoughtfully sent her a transmission of his upcoming departure just before he left, she was still beside herself with stress. She could only pray that everything was fine.

Within the subspace of apex figures, and Yue Songli, Evergod's eyes flickered. The space that was once occupied by a silver-robed woman was still quivering slightly. A sign of a hasty Spatial Shift.

"Hm? I wonder what that's about? Their sect, perhaps?" The Imperial Advisor musingly inquired to no one in particular. His eyes remained shut, but his voice was soft yet extremely clear. His words provoked all sorts of light to emanate from the depths of these apex figures' eyes, except the blank sea of whiteness that was the Grand Seer's.

"Don't jump to conclusions," the Soul Saint King warned. Those words inspired greater thought to the point even the Imperial Advisor frowned slightly. While the Imperial Advisor was attempting to place the title of collaborator, ally, or member of the silver-robed woman's sect firmly on Wei Wuyin's head with his words, the Soul Saint King's words suggested otherwise.

"We've all seen the Crescent Jade Key hanging around his neck," the Boundless Martial High King pointed out an elephant in the room. Since the beginning, they had all noticed the item used by that sect to select possible Chosen Candidates, and the main way they use to recruit members to their sect.

"..." The Soul Saint King didn't refute; the silver-robed woman's actions alongside Wei Wuyin's abrupt departure were quite damning. But when he recalled the armored Earthly Saint and his words, he knew that it was incredibly unlikely.

...right?

-----

Wei Wuyin and Wu Yu exited the Main Hall's secret realm, returning to the Everlore Domain's Dark Void, very close to Ever-Sky. They hadn't immediately left, engulfed by Wei Wuyin's Worldly Domain. Wei Wuyin's brows were furrowed while a solemn light flickered within his silver eyes.

Wu Yu patiently waited. He knew that Wei Wuyin was deciding where to go. With his Void Portals, they could traverse vast distances with minor effort. However, Wu Yu was unaware that Wei Wuyin wasn't trying to decide where to go but if he should even use his Void Portals!

Since his multiple close encounters with that strange being concealed in the folds of space, he was now aware that it was tracking him somehow. He didn't know why or how, but it was likely connected to his Void Portals or usage of his Draconic Void Bloodline. There was also the slight chance that it was Bai Lin, hence why he left her behind, simply accounting for all possibilities.

It was best if she stayed in the most secure place in the entire stellar region.

This strange, spatially tunneling creature gave Kratos and his Draconic Void Bloodline a clear sensation of danger—absolute danger! His draconic instincts were telling him that Wu Yu was not its match. However, he didn't know if it had certain restrictions on where it could travel.

The two times they met were in the Void-Blank Space, the empty, desolate area between starfields. Furthermore, Ma Zheng was unaware of this creature's existence despite being a part of the stellar region for 30,000 years, being a part of countless changes to the orientation of starfields and Void-Blank Space.

'But the Void-Blank Space is the most suitable location for my tribulations; they are too destructive or noticeable otherwise.' He couldn't imagine the terrifying commotion his Gravity Source Astral Tribulation would've caused. It might've rearranged the orbits of celestial objects. As for his United Worldly Force Tribulation, it destroyed a large-sized planet!

He was besieged by a rare indecisive moment.

"..." His Astral Souls were radio silent on this decision. They felt the terror that the creature instilled into Kratos far greater than Wei Wuyin ever could. It wouldn't be an understatement to say they were scared! However, they were

simultaneously fearless! If Wei Wuyin decided to face that creature today with all his trump cards, they wouldn't hesitate to support him.

The warm feeling of unconditional support no matter what he chose made Wei Wuyin more indecisive. Wei Wuyin had made ample preparations. He was genuinely considering taking drastic action. He couldn't live in fear. He refused to live in fear.

Wei Wuyin looked at Wu Yu who was calmly standing there, awaiting orders. It was still strange to have an Earthly Saint who cultivated the Imperial Heaven Qi Method to be so silent and obedient. He didn't know what impression the King of Everlore left behind that made Wu Yu treat alchemists with obscene talent like gods, willing to lower his cultivated pride and suppress his unyielding personality.

The scenes from the summit were more than enough to realize that Wu Yu was not one to relent a single inch. Wu Yu was so, so close to fighting the entire Imperial Clan without a second thought. If it wasn't for him, he was certain that Wu Yu would've killed Xun Yicao and departed in maniacally taunting laughter. He might return at a later date and replace the Imperial Clan with a river of blood, bones, and corpses.

That courage was useful.

"Wu Yu, do you fear death?" Wei Wuyin asked.

"Death?" Wu Yu was taken aback briefly but revealed an expression slathered with a kingly smile befitting a Monarch of the Heavens. He didn't need to say a single word, his expression and radiant eyes said it all! Death? Absolutely not. He feared failure more than death.

"Good." Wei Wuyin nodded approvingly. 'Because we just might die.' In his heart, he solidified his decision, and the Astral Souls were fully behind him. He couldn't allow such an unknown variable to threaten him or Bai Lin.

"Let's find this creature," Wei Wuyin declared—before it found him.

Wu Yu didn't know what Wei Wuyin meant, but he knew it was going to be dangerous and a sense of thrill instilled in his heart. Suddenly, he looked into the far-off distance. A comet of mystic light enveloping a familiar armored figure was fast approaching.

## The Legion Commander!

Wei Wuyin felt as if the Legion Commander's timing was perfect. When Zhan Zheng arrived, he stood behind Wei Wuyin respectfully, like a dutiful commander awaiting orders. Wu Yu eyed Zhan Zheng. This rivaled the top Earthly Saints of the Grand Cyclic Stellar Region. A curiosity infected him, wanting to test his strength against this strange being.

Wei Wuyin abruptly looked to an empty space in the Dark Void, "...". His silver eyes stared at a specific direction, a specific area, and they continued to narrow. Then, his eyes shifted a little to the right. It was clear that Wei Wuyin's eyes were following someone!

"Someone's hiding there," Wei Wuyin transmitted to Wu Yu. The Grand Knight was stunned; his eyes flared with spiritual light as he inspected the space that Wei Wuyin was looking at. Besides the typical ripples of fixed space and Chaos Mana, he couldn't find anything. But, he didn't doubt Wei Wuyin at all. He became vigilant, his Mystic Aura primed to react to the slightest disturbance.

Zhan Zheng remained silent, not bothering to even look in that direction.

"You can sense me?" An indifferent voice resounded throughout the Dark Void from every direction. It felt as if it was far, far away yet incredibly close, giving goosebumps to all that heard it, and disorientating their sense of distance and direction.

Wu Yu's Mystic Aura flared! An assassin?

Pop.

A subdued sound that caused Wei Wuyin's heart to jump echoed. This was a sign of the void being interacted with! While it was much quieter than his, it felt more intense. If one wasn't paying attention to it, or could sense the changes of space acutely, they would never notice it.

A figure shimmered into existence like a hazy, out-of-focus image growing gradually clear. The figure was clad in silver-colored robes, her willowy figure and proud twin peaks revealed her gender as a female, but her face was concealed by a veil that Wei Wuyin's Celestial Eyes couldn't pierce through.



"...!" Wei Wuyin's eyes widened, subconsciously touching the crescent moon necklace beside the crystallized and shrunken Myriad Yore Continent. Why? Because the silver-robed woman had the same necklace!

The silver-robed woman also touched her necklace. It was emitting a silvery light that glistened beautifully, of a far higher quality than Wei Wuyin's.

"Who are you?" Wei Wuyin questioned. He had been extremely curious about the existence and origins of this necklace for over three decades!

"How did you sense me?" The silver-robed woman answered with a question, her indifferent voice was entirely devoid of all emotion causing a little discomfort to the mind. It was clear that she was more interested in how she evaded Wu Yu and the armored Earthly Saint's senses, but not Wei Wuyin's! A mere mortal!

Of course, she wouldn't know that Zhan Zheng had long since noticed her, but she simply wasn't a threat in his eyes.

Wei Wuyin and the silver-robed woman immediately entered a strange silence, neither answering the other's question. Eventually, after a long moment, the silver-robed woman spoke.

"Liu Suyin."

Chapter 1000: SCR Summit, Void Voyage Sect; Crescent Moon

Liu Suyin?

"From the Liu Clan? One of the Eight Noble Clans?" The name 'Liu' carried the prestige and infamy of the Liu Clan. The clan was both a terrifying power and a constant reminder to the citizens of the Aeternal Sky Starfield. According to past records, the Aeternal Sky Divine Emperor was the first Earthly Saint to advance in a time of war and chaos, gaining a degree of absolutely irresistible power that swept the starfield, suppressing all forces with an iron fist and even their turtle shells of the top forces were deemed useless.

To prevent a state of mutual destruction in the face of an invincible powerhouse, the Aeternal Sky Divine Emperor laid conditions and the various mystic-tier forces of that time capitulated in favor of their own survival. Appeased and pacified, they developed the current societal hierarchy.

This was taught to the citizens and justified by the Imperial Clan's modus operandi. They were not the totalitarians the former tyrannical Imperial Clan was known as. This gathered universal support, allowing a peaceful period that further advanced the Tian Clan's rule, stabilizing their existence as a ruling bloodline.

The Liu Clan had infamy dating back to the beginning of the most prosperous era of the Aeternal Sky Starfield. In this agreed-upon peace, the Liu Clan's Matriarch at the time had become the 3rd Earthly Saint of the entire stellar region, and her initial actions shook the world—she challenged for the right to rule! Perhaps she were aware that if the situation continued in this direction, with the Tian Clan continuing to monopolize the majority of the high-end resources of the starfield with a Supermassive Solar Star, her chances to usurp power would decrease.

She had...failed.

The Liu Clan's Matriarch was devastated by the Aeternal Sky Divine Emperor with prejudice. Near crippled, she was sealed away and tortured as an example for anyone with rebellious thoughts. It told a story, a simple story: the Tian Clan was INVINCIBLE!

And that wasn't going to change.

Wei Wuyin knew that the Liu Clan's Matriarch was still sealed as of today in the Aeternal Sky Domain. This was a publicly recognized fact; it was said that she was imprisoned for a set term of 20,000 years. Yet shockingly, the Liu Clan remained as one of the Eight Noble Clans despite trying to overthrow the ruling bloodline.

They struggled for thousands of years in their Skyrend Domain until they made a gradual comeback by developing themselves as beast ranchers and miners, providing the beast materials needed for certain cultivation methods, concoction methods, and providing various ores to the starfield. They found their niche and tethered to its teat for survival, milking it until they grew as strong as some of the lesser Noble Clans.

"Are you a member of the Liu Clan?" Wei Wuyin asked. Could it be that the necklace has a connection to the Liu Clan? However, the indifferent silver-robed woman's expression was unchanging. There was no sign of her willingness to answer this question. Wu Yu's Mystic Aura flared as if he were ready to strike at the slightest order. He didn't know why this silver-robed

woman was stalking about and hiding from their view in this time of forced peace, but her intentions were dubious, and her emotions were unreadable.

Liu Suyin fully focused those vacant eyes on Wei Wuyin, ignoring Wu Yu's posturing. She spoke calmly, devoid of emotion, irritating and teeth-clenching, "How did you sense my presence?"

Wei Wuyin furrowed his brows slightly. After a moment of silence, he thought about it and sighed. "Let's go." He decided not to delay his trip, especially with time ticking down. There was still a few things he had to prepare, just in case.

Seeing Wei Wuyin about to leave, Liu Suyin gently lifted her hand and tapped the empty space before her. A ripple of spatial power manifested. It expanded for tens of miles.

Wu Yu hurriedly protected Wei Wuyin in his Mystic Aura, while Zhan Zheng turned his head slightly towards Liu Suyin. When he did, the ripples stopped spreading.

RUMBLE!

A heavy quake shook Wei Wuyin's body through Wu Yu's protective aura. Wu Yu's expression grew solemn as he stared at Zhan Zheng. Suddenly, the ripples seemed to have been reversed by an ungodly power, retracting back into Liu Suyin's finger. When it did, her emotionless expression grew rosy and tense. From the left side of her lips, a streak of silver-colored blood leaked outwards. She wiped it away without expression.

Zhan Zheng's eyes through the openings of his dragonhead helmet suffused a silvery light. It was enchantingly gorgeous as if it contained the essence of space and time.

"A warning, child." Zhan Zheng's voice was heavy and it thundered throughout the world. Despite her injury, her expression was still devoid of emotions, as if she wasn't injured or insulted for being called a child. Still, her eyes changed focus from Wei Wuyin to Zhan Zheng.

Wei Wuyin couldn't tell what had happened; his Celestial Eyes were unable to perceive the Mystic Dao's forces; he merely felt a rumble and then saw Liu Suyin bleed. However, he did catch Zhan Zheng's comment calling her a 'child'. Was she an Earthly Saint genius of the younger generation? Under five hundred years old?

Wei Wuyin immediately sent a mental message to Zhan Zheng for clarification, and the reply shook him. "She's not at the fourth stage but a second stage Ascended." He was instantly shaken. Liu Suyin was merely at the Soul of Mysticism Phase, yet she could avoid Wu Yu's senses and was fearless, trying to take action before two Earthly Saints?

What brazenness! What spirit! Wei Wuyin actually felt as if this woman was gradually rising as an interesting existence. As for the 'child' remark, Zhan Zheng said her life aura indicated she was barely three hundred years old! She was the most talented cultivator that Wei Wuyin had ever seen.

Moreover, she wasn't a Blessed.

Terrifying.

"..." Liu Suyin silently observed Zhan Zheng. Wei Wuyin was certain that her heart was thoroughly shaken by the latter's power despite no outward change. He expected that with her cultivation base, her confidence came from her understanding of Spatial Forces, tapping into the Void Dao by a tiny bit, thereby bringing it to a profound realm of means. Since Wu Yu, someone with a Spatial-type Mystic Rune, was unable to sense her, then her abilities might grant her the means to face or elude Earthly Saints.

It made sense why her attitude was fearless. If it wasn't for Zhan Zheng's lack of a violent, decisive response to protect him, eliminating all enemies, he might think she tried to kill him just now. But her actions must not have contained any killing or ill-intent. Perhaps she wanted to forcefully relocate him and discuss at an advantage?

When Liu Suyin finally turned away from Zhan Zheng, refocusing on Wei Wuyin, she said: "I'm the Vice-Sect Master of the Void Voyage Sect." She pointed at her necklace, "This is a Crescent Jade Key; it's made from Spatial Jade Crystal. Yours is made out of Ripple Jade Crystal, a lesser form of it." She touched her necklace and silvery light flowed out of her fingertips into it.

Silver-colored gossamer-like strings shot out from its surface and slowly slithered towards Wei Wuyin. Wu Yu was swift to react, repelling these strings, but Wei Wuyin halted him. Zhan Zheng didn't act, completely impassive to these events. Those strings soon touched the Mystic Aura that was slowly dissipated by Wu Yu, reaching Wei Wuyin and entering his own crescent moon necklace.

Beautifully, it began to glow a similar silvery radiance. Wei Wuyin could feel the purity of its materials start to elevate. Then, Liu Suyin retrieved the strings back to her necklace, and the breathtakingly beautiful radiance dimmed until it vanished entirely.

Wei Wuyin was awed, touching his necklace with strange feelings. This necklace had accompanied him for far too many years, carrying with it a mystery that spawned during the beginnings of his journey to fight against the Calamities of Hell. To survive as a mere mortal—a nigh-impossible feat.

"The necklace isn't yours," Liu Suyin indifferently stated.

Wei Wuyin bluntly nodded, not denying that he obtained it from someone else. "I believed I took it from someone who took it from someone else. Or at the very least, I took it from the one it belonged to—I killed him." Answering with the truth, Wei Wuyin recalled his speculations that the Unknown Commander that day was a sinner, not a Blessed, but he took the fortune of a Blessed.

Liu Suyin was quiet for a long moment, clearly processing Wei Wuyin's honest statement. Then she said, "Since it landed in your hands in the end, it must be fated. Your prowess in the Laws of Space is evidence of that."

Laws of Space? Wei Wuyin was instantly perked by the mention of Laws. He had found two genuine Seeds of Law, one from Jing Jiu and another from Long Chen, two Blessed, and they were highly desired by the Azure-Prime Galactic Zone. The Battlefield's Soldier & Commander lists had 'uniquely refined' Seeds of Law called Seed of War. It was worth 1,500 War Souls.

They were described as having the ability to elevate one's comprehension of the Dao of War and World Heart Intent, simultaneously heightening soul sensitivity towards the Mystic Dao. There were a lot of things he didn't understand about it. He was waiting until he ascended to the Star Core Phase before attempting to refine one since only then, at the peak of the Mortal Dao, can he comprehend the Mystic Dao.

Wei Wuyin carelessly nodded; he wasn't going to return it anyways. At the moment, it carried more sentimental value than actual value. He asked, "You're the Vice-Sect Master of the Void Voyage Sect? What's the purpose of this...Crescent Jade Key? What do you want?"

Liu Suyin seemed to be unaccustomed to being questioned in this manner by a mortal, someone vastly inferior to her in strength and age, as she glanced at

Zhan Zheng for a brief moment. "It's how our Void Voyage Sect recruits destined members. We send them out into the Dark Void, and they find those with innately high talent in the Law of Space, giving them the chance to come to the Void Voyage Sect and become a Chosen."

Wei Wuyin's heart shook; he instantly recalled the promising Ascendant candidate with talents in Spatial Arts before reaching the Spatial Resonance Phase that he sought to recruit. Following her last steps before her disappearance, Su Mei found an ancient Void Gate that led to an unknown location. It had a notch that perfectly fit the crescent necklace.

Wei Wuyin had felt that using it was too uncertain to use it, refraining from risking himself by traversing to an unknown location without a return route. If his Astral Souls or Karmic Luck weren't involved, Wei Wuyin was overly cautious concerning his life's safety. The most difficult calamities to overcome are the ones you placed yourself in.

"I've been looking for you the last few years. Come with me; you're a 'destined' cultivator and therefore qualify to become a disciple of the Void Voyage Sect." Finally, Liu Suyin revealed her true goal!