

The Heavens 1011

Chapter 1011: Six Direction True Immortal

There were 2 major points in a breakthrough to the Martial Void Realm. The first was the complete transformation to a Void Origin, and the second was to connect to their world.

There wasn't much to talk about the first point as forming a Void Origin was the basis of being in the Martial Void Realm. However... Forming a connection to their world was the true sign of a True Immortal. It would enable them to utilize the power of their world.

If the transformation process of their Dipper Origin to a Void Origin was time consuming and the longest part of the process, the connection to the World Origin Source was actually the most risky process.

There would be experts who completed the transformation process but failed to connect to the World Origin Source, wasting their efforts on the very last step.

If one failed their transformation to a Void Origin, there would still be a trace of hope for them to survive. The moment they started the process to connect to the World Origin Source, there was no room for failure. If they failed, they would perish.

That was why every expert who attempted to break through to the Martial Void Realm would do so with fear and trepidation.

When the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World felt that Shang Xia overreached himself during the process of his Void Origin transformation and wouldn't be able to easily connect to the World Origin Source, he proved them all wrong and completed it in the blink of an eye!

Actually... Kou Chongxue's heart was also pounding with fear. He didn't seem worried because he suppressed his feelings well.

"How... How did he do it so quickly?!"

"Is there something strange about the Tongyou Institution's rank six advancement inheritance?!"

"Did Patriarch Kou grasp the method of imprinting one's soul into the World Origin Source?"

"Could it have something to do with how he covered all the power of the world contained in the You Continent?"

After getting over their initial shock, the True Immortals above the heavenly screen no longer held themselves back. They didn't even care about their image anymore as they started bickering with each other. The air of a True Immortal was nowhere to be seen!

Actually... No one could blame them. After all, Shang Xia's achievements surpassed anything they knew.

When they were still chatting above the heavenly screen, Shang Xia's eyes snapped open and his emotions stirred.

Even he didn't expect to be able to connect to the World Origin Source and leave his soul imprint onto the world so easily.

The feeling where the world would consume the person trying to leave their soul imprint on the world didn't even kick in when Shang Xia completely shrugged it off. The feeling was what caused endless worry in those trying to break through, but Shang Xia dealt with it effortlessly!

As soon as it happened, Shang Xia understood the true reason behind it. Because of the Heaven and Man Synergy Chapter he had been practicing a long time ago, his divine soul reached a monstrous level. He also managed to come up with his Five Element Movement Art and learned how to assimilate every element into one. It was the same feeling as when he tried to connect to the World Origin Source and he shrugged it off easily.

The next moment, Shang Xia finally felt like the power of the world he failed to control earlier listening to his every intention. As long as he willed it, he would be able to wield massive power. There was also a strong urge telling him to hurry up and draw on the power of the world.

However, as the feeling grew stronger, his soul imprint that had already been branded into the world started to pulse frantically, trying to give him a warning.

Naturally, Shang Xia wouldn't fall into the trap and wield the power of the world. During his advancement, he managed to project his Void Origin over the You Continent, allowing him to gain control of the power of the world contained in it. That didn't mean that he could easily draw on it. Especially since he just broke through and hadn't consolidated his foundations. If he drew on such a huge amount of power of the world, he might immediately be devoured by the world!

He just started on his path in the Six Direction Realm, and there was a long way to go!

Ever since Shang Xia started his breakthrough, his divine soul had covered the You Continent. He knew that as long as he had the intention, he would be able to appear anywhere on the continent.

After feeling the changes in his body, he exhaled softly before muttering to himself, "This is the first tier of the Six Direction Realm, Domain Formation!"

Like the name suggested, it indicated the level of a True Immortal who just created their domain!

After quickly gathering his strength and doing a preliminary consolidation of his transformed dantian, the next day had already arrived.

As the sun started to rise again, Shang Xia could clearly feel himself invigorated by the life force of every living creature in the You Continent.

I guess it's time to go greet those True Immortals who have gathered above the heavenly screen. If I drag it out any longer, it's going to seem disrespectful.

Shang Xia thought to himself as he disappeared from his spot.

Above the heavenly screen, those True Immortals who had been waiting for an entire day for Shang Xia showed looks of impatience when he arrived.

With nothing better to do, those True Immortals decided to clear the doubts of the Martial Dipper Realm experts of their factions who came to watch. In fact they would also exchange pointers from time to time and it became a pretty lively affair.

All of a sudden, every single True Immortal stopped talking as they turned to look in a certain direction above the heavenly screen.

By the time they turned to look, Shang Xia had already arrived. With the exception of the True Immortals, there were also several experts in the Martial Dipper Realm who were looking at him. However, they had no idea how he appeared.

“Many thanks for seniors’ patience and for protecting me during the advancement. I am truly grateful for all of you!” Shang Xia didn’t show the slightest trace of arrogance even though he entered the Six Direction Realm. He was respectful when speaking to the True Immortals present.

They might not have been patient, or they might not have been protecting him, but that didn’t matter at the moment. He just entered the Six Direction Realm and there was no need to piss anyone off or make enemies at the moment.

With the exception of Kou Chongxue who accepted his thanks without reservation, the others quickly exchanged some formalities with him and told him not to worry about it.

Lu Wuzi, and Liu Jingsheng, who had a friendlier relationship with the Tongyou Institution also congratulated Shang Xia on his advancement.

Since they already stepped into the Sixth Order of the Primary Realm, they couldn’t accept Shang Xia’s deference even if there were differences in their seniority. All of them were experts in the same level, and they had to show each other a certain level of respect. Zhang Xuansheng was no different. After all, respecting a fellow True Immortal was the same as respecting themselves.

After a round of pleasantries, silence returned.

Shang Xia glanced at the True Immortals present, and he saw solemn expressions hanging on the faces of Zhang Xuansheng, Yang Taihe, Li Jidao, and Liu Jingsheng. Lu Wuzi seemed a lot more relaxed, but he would occasionally stare at Zhang Xuansheng with complicated emotions.

As for Kou Chongxue... He seemed to attain enlightenment as he stood there, completely unperturbed.

Shang Xia quickly understood why Kou Chongxue was acting that way all of a sudden.

A moment later, Liu Jingsheng broke the silence with a dry cough. “Brother Kou, about the Azure Flame World... What do you plan to do now?”

If they truly cared about age... Even Lu Wuzi, who broke through after Kou Chongxue, was probably older than him...

Kou Chongxue swept his gaze across the 4 of them before muttering casually, “I went to the Azure Flame World in secret twice after breaking through to the Martial Void Realm. The first time, I discovered that Yuancang Ming ascended to the Martial Void Realm by relying on his Elysium. The second time, I discovered that the Azure Flame World has been gathering their strength to build massive flying ships that can travel through space.”

Of the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World, he was the only one who knew how to travel to the Azure Flame World...

Even though Zhang Xuansheng, Yang Taihe, Li Jidao, and Liu Jingsheng had their estimations of where the Azure Flame World was after observing Kou Chongxue's spatial tunnel, they were no Stargazers! They couldn't accurately pinpoint the location of the Azure Flame World in the vast sea of stars!

Lu Wuzi might have been to the Azure Flame World, but he was still a Martial Dipper Realm cultivator back then! He had no way to accurately grasp its location either.

As for Shang Xia... He knew where the Azure Flame World was! However, that had nothing to do with him grasping the location of the world during the Spatial Transfer. It was because he managed to obtain the Star Map and learn of its location.

... Whatever it was, he didn't have the ability to travel through the vast sea of stars back then and he wasn't able to head over alone.

When he thought about it, Shang Xia raised his head to look in a certain direction in the void. The power of the world contained in the You Continent moved with a single intention and passed through the void to lock on to a solitary world lying in the vast sea of stars.

As long as he wanted to, Shang Xia could appear in the vicinity of the Azure Flame World!

The next second, a heavy cough rang in his ears.

The feeling of sensing the Azure Flame World disappeared suddenly as he turned his attention back to where he was. He discovered that the True Immortals who were nearby earlier had already distanced themselves from him. It was especially obvious when Kou Chongxue, who had been beside him, was no longer there.

Shang Xia turned to stare at Kou Chongxue with a raised eyebrow as he recognized the cough earlier.

Kou Chongxue revealed an awkward smile as he chided Shang Xia softly, "You shouldn't draw on the power of the world for fun... It looks like you're provoking experts of the same level..."

"Oh." Shang Xia gasped before cupping his fists towards those present. "Fellow seniors, I apologize for my behavior. I haven't been able to familiarize myself with the power of the world..."

Shang Xia felt that the others were avoiding him because of the misunderstanding that he was challenging them, but he was sorely mistaken. They were actually forced away when Shang Xia drew on the power of the world! Even Kou Chongxue was no exception!

Chapter 1012: Agreement

Above the heavenly screen above the Spirit Luxuriant World, an awkward atmosphere hung around the 7 True Immortals.

Shang Xia was feeling a little weird because he drew on the power of the world unintentionally after entering the Six Direction Realm which looked like a challenge to the rest.

The others were feeling awkward because they had been forced back by the tremendous power of the world drawn by a newly ascended expert.

One had to know that of the 6 other True Immortals present, 3 of them were second tier Martial Void Realm experts. Zhang Xuansheng was half a step away from entering the third tier of the Martial Void Realm, and the others had been in their realm far longer than Shang Xia!

In an attempt to alleviate the awkward air, Kou Chongxue coughed once and tried to explain, “Well... This is the You Continent after all...”

It was true that Shang Xia held an advantage since they were over the You Continent at the moment and he would be able to draw on the power of the world a little more easily than the rest.

Of course... The reason was pretty much bullshit as they were still around the Spirit Luxuriant World and the strength of the other True Immortals weren't affected too much. However, it still gave them a way to save their reputation.

Their expressions became a lot better after hearing what Kou Chongxue said.

Liu Jingsheng eventually broke the silence. “Brother Kou, don't you need to take matters regarding the Azure Flame World a lot more seriously? Junior Brother Huang Jinghan of my Yuanchen Sect, Yifeng from the Eternal Palace, and Jiu Du of the Divine Capital Sect will be attempting their advancements soon. When that happens, we can launch an expedition together and our victory will be assured!”

Liu Jingsheng probably didn't mention Zhang Jianzi who had been nurtured by the Northern Sea Mystic Sect because he didn't know about his existence.

Compared to the time they first spoke of the Azure Flame World, Liu Jingsheng seemed a lot more mellow than before and had lowered himself when speaking to Kou Chongxue.

That wasn't just because Shang Xia completed the advancement and became the second True Immortal of the Tongyou Institution and was another expert who wasn't shackled to an Elysium.

It had almost everything to do with Shang Xia's sudden revelation of strength earlier. The power they felt earlier when he drew on the power of the world changed the way everyone looked at him. Kou Chongxue was no exception!

Whatever it was, all of them knew that now that Shang Xia had completed his advancement, Kou Chongxue was definitely going to act against the Azure Flame World.

That was because ever since Kou Chongxue entered the Martial Void Realm, the Tongyou Institution didn't stop their preparations to attack the Azure Flame World, and neither did they bother keeping their intentions hidden.

Well... Even if they did, they wouldn't be able to.

After all, the Tongyou Institution managed to craft a giant flying ship capable of soaring through the vast sea of stars under Chu Jia's leadership. During its test flight, it passed through the heavenly screen and arrived right above the You Continent.

Kou Chongxue sighed softly with complex emotions as he tried to explain, “Brother Liu, fellow True Immortals... It's not that I wish to swallow the benefits of the Azure Flame World alone... It's just that time isn't on our side.”

Seeing as everyone else had remained silent, Liu Jingsheng felt a trace of annoyance but he forced a smile and continued to ask, “What do you mean?”

“I mentioned how I made 2 trips over to the Azure Flame World ever since my breakthrough... Ignoring the first time, I discovered a lot of problems when I went over for the second time. Yuan Cangming not only constructed defensive measures outside the heavenly screen, but he also pushed for the construction of flying ships capable of traveling through the sea of stars. I won't hide it from you guys. They have been crafting flying ships way before us and they are a lot more experienced. The only thing they hadn't been able to do when we went over in the past was to pass through the heavenly screen and travel through the vast space. However... It's different now. They not only managed to pass through the heavenly screen... They are even more advanced than us when it comes to space exploration!”

“What do you mean by them being more advanced than us when it comes to space exploration?” Yang Taihe finally spoke.

Glancing at him, Kou Chongxue continued, “Yuan CangMing seems to have realized something. He has been gathering the experts of the Azure Flame World to make them explore the vast sea of stars. I have a feeling he's either looking for reinforcements or he's planning a route of retreat...”

“Reinforcements?” Li Jidao couldn't help but snort. “Let's not mention whether or not their flying ships can go so far... Even if they run into another world, they're going to kill themselves off even faster than if we head over!”

Liu Jingsheng forced a bitter chuckle while shaking his head. “I'm afraid their true immortal barely knows anything about the vast sea of stars... His way of thinking seems... Hehe... Really naive!”

“Yeah... That's why time isn't on our side. I believe all of you won't wish for there to be more worlds fighting with us over the Azure Flame World, right?” Kou Chongxue sighed.

Kou Chongxue didn't seem to be hiding anything when he spoke of the matter. Even though the chances of the Azure Flame World bumping into other worlds were infinitely small, there was still a possibility of it happening!

What was more... None of them could think of any way to delay Kou Chongxue's plan now that Shang Xia had completed the advancement.

“So... When do you 3 plan to make your move?” Yang Taihe didn't bother beating about the bush.

All of them not only guessed that Kou Chongxue would act against the Azure Flame World... They also seemed sure Lu Wuzi had already formed an alliance with Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia.

After thinking for some time, Kou Chongxue muttered, “It's the sixth year of our Spirit Luxuriant Calendar. The kid just broke through, and he needs to consolidate his foundations. We also need more time to construct more large-scale flying ships capable of traveling through the void. We need some time, but at the very latest, we'll make our move at the end of the year or the start of next year.”

Li Jidao suddenly added, “Wait a second. It looks like Patriarch Kou also managed to gain a bit from the fall of the Azure Oddity World.”

All the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World who were born before Kou Chongxue might not be able to leave their world, but that didn’t stop them from gathering intelligence about the expedition of the various worlds to the Azure Oddity World. It was especially so after the spatial tunnel was constructed between their world and Star Origin City.

Kou Chongxue muttered indifferently, “Yeah. I personally witnessed how a world was conquered by the alliance of a few True Immortals before being split up into giant continents that were brought away to other worlds to be devoured. Also...” Pausing slightly, everyone’s attention was drawn to what he wanted to say.

Taking a soft breath, Kou Chongxue mumbled, “... The Spirit Abundance World might have located something suspected to be an abandoned Spirit World. In fact... It might be an abandoned Essence World and their chance for ascension might be around the corner...”

Even though Shang Xia was the source of that piece of news, it would make way more impact coming from Kou Chongxue in their current situation.

Indeed. As soon as they heard what he said, the other True Immortals could no longer keep their cool. Even Zhang Xuansheng, who remained relatively silent the entire time, couldn’t help but gasp, “Are you serious?!”

Kou Chongxue glanced at those present and explained in a low voice, “The 9 great powers of the Spirit Abundance World seemed to have already created a massive formation around their world. They were able to absorb the mysterious presence hidden in the void in the North. A frost wave would emerge from time to time, and I managed to discover essence qi that is completely different from what is produced by the Spirit Abundance World coming from that direction.”

Even though they didn’t quite believe that Kou Chongxue was able to infiltrate the Spirit Abundance World under the noses of their True Immortals, they didn’t doubt the authenticity of the news.

The Spirit Luxuriant World had beef with the Spirit Abundance World and their grudge had already festered to a point where one of them would have to be eliminated for the other to be satisfied. The moment the Spirit Abundance World ascends to an Essence World, there was no doubt the Spirit Luxuriant World would be their number one target.

Yang Taihe sighed, “Since that is the case, let’s pause the construction of the defensive plan around the heavenly screen for now. We’ll call everyone back and pour our efforts into constructing flying ships to assist the 3 of you in the operation...”

Kou Chongxue immediately revealed a wide smile. “My Tongyou Institution will naturally share the method of crafting the flying ships with all of you since you are willing to help.”

After integrating the construction methods of the Azure Flame World, Star Origin City, and Spirit Abundance World, along with Chu Jia’s research, the Tongyou Institution had already leaped to the very top of the Spirit Luxuriant World in terms of ability to craft flying ships.

Finally, smiles appeared on the faces of the other True Immortals. What Kou Chongxue promised wasn’t merely what was seen on the surface. Sharing the crafting methods with the other great

powers of the Spirit Luxuriant World also meant that he agreed to allow their mid to high-level experts to join in the expedition.

After all... Conquering a world wasn't something that could be done with a few True Immortals alone! They needed people to carry out the grunt work!

With the True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World reaching an agreement, Kou Chongxue suddenly asked. "How are Brother Huang, Brother Yifeng, and Brother Jiu Du's preparations to enter the Martial Void Realm? If we are able to produce another True Immortal or two before the end of the year, we will be able to lower the risk of the operation to a minimum!"

Kou Chongxue's sudden inquiry caught all of them off guard. They clearly didn't expect Kou Chongxue to be so straightforward...

Liu Jingsheng met Kou Chongxue's gaze and he chuckled, "Brother Kou, why are you only asking us? Have you forgotten to ask if True Immortal Zhang has any other candidate ready to break through?"

Before looking at Zhang Xuansheng, their gazes lingered on Lu Wuzi who had a profound look in his eyes.

In their current state, anything those True Immortals said would be able to determine how much benefits they received from the expedition to the Azure Flame World. That was also why Kou Chongxue would intentionally ask a question like that at that very moment. He wanted to dig out all the secrets those Elysiums might be hiding.

He had no choice. After all, the Tongyou Institution had only been in existence for so long compared to the other powers. Even though they held a clear advantage in terms of high-level experts at the moment, they had no idea how deep the foundations of the other powers were.

Zhang Xuansheng grunted once and growled, "Zhang Jianzi of my Northern Sea Mystic Sect might be able to make the breakthrough... However, he needs to decide when he wants to use his advancement medicine!"

That was a special property of the Northern Sea Mystic Sect's rank six advancement medicine. It seems that they would be able to tell when they would stand the greatest chance of entering the Martial Void Realm and taking the advancement medicine then would raise the chances even more.

What shocked the others was the depth of the Northern Sea Mystic Sect's foundations. They managed to produce another portion of rank six advancement medicine so quickly after Lu Wuzi broke through...

Liu Jingsheng forced a chuckle and added, "Junior Brother Huang will only be able to break through to the Martial Void Realm next year or the year after that. We need a lot of time before attempting the advancement..."

The rank six advancement formula of the Yuanchen Sect not only needed a lot of time, but they would also suppress the phenomenon that would appear during the breakthrough to the minimum. That was why Liu Jingsheng's breakthrough in the past was nearly undetectable by lower-level experts.

Yang Taihe continued, “Yifeng’s state of mind isn’t the best right now. I have been suppressing his desire to break through recently in hopes of him calming down a little more. He definitely won’t be able to make it for the expedition to the Azure Flame World.”

Kou Chongxue wanted to say something, but matters regarding Yifeng’s advancement should be left to the Eternal Palace and it wouldn’t be nice if he said anything.

Finally, Li Jidao snorted, “Jiu Du will definitely attempt to break through before the end of the year.”

Nodding, Kou Chongxue looked at all of them again and muttered in a deep voice, “I hope everything goes smoothly for all of you!”

Chapter 1013: Yuan Cangming and the Sense of Danger

In the Cangming Elysium of the Eastern Nuanyuan Continent of the Azure Flame World...

Ever since Yuan Cangming, the old ancestor entered the Martial Void Realm several years ago, he hadn’t appeared in front of others. He would be in secluded cultivation in the Elysium most of the time and even when he did leave, he would appear above the heavenly screen. Most of the time, he would stare into the sea of stars in a daze.

One fine day, he appeared above the heavenly screen again and stared into the distance and his eyes glossed over.

Experts who received the news that he had appeared hastily ran over to greet him.

“Old Patriarch!” The high-level experts of the Cangming Clan seemed extremely moved when they saw him again. It felt like they were in awe that he had finally emerged from seclusion.

Yuan Cangming snapped back to reality from their greetings, but he seemed to be in a really bad mood. Glancing at all of them, a deep frown formed on his face. “Why are you the only ones left? Whatever. What is the progress of the task I gave you?”

The clansmen looked at each other and Yuan Cangyuan, the current patriarch of the Cangming Clan coughed lightly, “Old Patriarch, after you ascended to the next level, everything has been progressing smoothly. The 4 Continents have been working together and even the Southern Yanlin Continent whose strength had been affected the most have contributed a good portion of resources only found there. We managed to craft a few flying ships that can travel through the vast sea of stars...”

“I don’t need you to tell me all these things that I already know!” Yuan Cangming growled and interrupted Yuan Cangyuan. “Tell me... Why haven’t the people of the Western Wenchen Continent and Northern Chihuang Continent come?!”

Yuan Cangyuan hesitated slightly. Only when he noticed Yuan Cangming’s gaze on him again did he hastily add, “They don’t seem to believe your judgment... They are unwilling to participate in the expedition through the vast sea of stars and they aren’t willing to look for the so-called Land of Star Origin.”

“Preposterous!” Yuan Cangming snorted coldly.

The might of a True Immortal was on full display at the moment and the clansmen of the Cangming Clan were unable to straighten their bodies. Panic quickly set in.

“Old Patriarch, please calm down!”

They yelled in unison.

Those clansmen who were present came from the same generation as Yuan Cangming. After Yuan Cangming sealed himself off in the Elysium back then, they thought that they would have the final say in the Cangming Clan.

They didn't expect Yuan Cangming to actually break through to a new realm. Not only did he regain his authority in the Cangming Clan, but he could even decide on matters regarding the Azure Flame World!

“Get them to see me right now!”

His words caused the expressions of his fellow clansmen to change.

How could they hide their reactions from a True Immortal? Noticing the looks on their faces, Yuan Cangming growled, “Hmm?”

Their bodies trembled uncontrollably and eventually, one of the plump cultivators standing at the back yelled, “We'll carry out your order immediately!”

As soon as he spoke, he sped off at a speed unthinkable for someone his size. Those who reacted in time revealed a look of annoyance and Yuan Cangyuan was the only one who had an expression of utter fear plastered to his face.

Not too long later, more than a dozen streaks of light emerged from different parts of the heavenly screen and raced to Yuan Cangming's location.

When the light around them finally dissipated, more than 10 Martial Dipper Realm experts arrived before Yuan Cangming along with the plump clansman.

“Reporting... Senior Brother, other than the Yanlin Clan, everyone with authority from the other continents has been gathered!” The plump cultivator reported respectfully. Any sort of power in the Azure Flame World that had the ability to call themselves a large faction naturally had an expert in the Martial Dipper Realm.

“We greet True Immortal Cangming!” None of them seemed to bear ulterior motives as they looked extremely obedient.

Originally, Yuan Cangming wanted to teach them all a lesson and scare them, teaching them why he was called a True Immortal! However, their actions caused him to rethink his actions and he glanced at Yuan Cangyuan who looked extremely uncomfortable at the moment.

“I recall telling all of you about the threat that we might face where we would be invaded again by foreign cultivators... I also remember telling all of you about how we should construct flying ships to venture into the depths of the sea of stars to look for the Land of Star Origin. All of you agreed to support the cause with all your might

back then but decided to back out now. Are you choosing to disobey my orders? Do you think that my sword has been too merciful in recent years?"

A dangerous air emerged from Yuan Cangming as the might of a True Immortal was on full display. He didn't restrain himself and flexed his strength.

Those Martial Sages couldn't say anything in the face of such overwhelming strength.

Seeing as he achieved his goal, Yuan Cangming retracted his aura and he stared at one of the stronger experts before him. "Chen Baixing, you are the patriarch of the Chenwu Clan in the Western Wenchen Continent. What do you say?"

Chen Baixing bowed respectfully and lowered his gaze while speaking. "True Immortal, it's not that we were unwilling to follow your orders. We received news that you had given up on the matter and that was why we chose to slow down..."

The words barely left his lips when the other Martial Sages behind him quickly added, "Yeah, that's right! We also heard the same. That is why..."

"If not for someone leading the way, we wouldn't have done it!"

"Why would we send disciples of our clan to explore the vast sea of stars after spending so much to nurture them..."

"..."

"Shut up!" An enraged cry stopped them from speaking further, and Yuan Cangyuan turned to glare at them. His expression had been twisted in fury and he scolded them angrily, "How dare all of you go against the True Immortal's orders?! From what I see, you're just unwilling to part with those resources and are unwilling to get your disciples to find a way out for our world in the vast sea of stars!"

It was fine if Yuan Cangyuan didn't say anything. Now that he had spoken, the light in Yuan Cangming's eyes deepened slightly while staring at him

Chen Baixing maintained his gaze, but another expert of the Chenwu Clan behind him added, "Patriarch Yuan, you can't say that. One of your direct descendants was supposed to join the exploration but when my nephew went to look for him to start the exploration, your direct descendant claimed that the old patriarch no longer cared about the matter! Since it's a matter of our word against yours, why don't we call them over to verify the truth?"

One of the leaders of a faction in the Eastern Nuanyuan Continent added, "Yeah! According to our agreement, my sect was supposed to shoulder a portion of the resources required to craft a batch of flying ships. However, someone dumped me with a whole other bunch of tasks. When I tried getting to the bottom of the matter, they said that my sect needed to shoulder more responsibilities to hasten the creation of flying ships! From what I know, that didn't happen! Not only did we not hasten the production of flying ships, instead, we produced them at a slower pace compared to 2 years ago! The resources we provided can only be produced by my sect and your Cangming Clan! According to the original agreement, we only needed to produce a third of the resources required and you would do the rest!"

Yuan Cangyuan flew into a rage and interrupted him before he could continue. “Didn’t we slow down the production process because your sect was unable to keep up the output of resources?!”

The expert who spoke earlier wasn’t trying to pick a fight and he tried to put it as nicely as he could, but after hearing what Yuan Cangyuan said, he was instantly angered. “Why the hell did your Cangming Clan decrease your output by half then?! Heh, my sect isn’t even worth a fart in our Eastern Nuanyuan Continent, but your Cangming Clan is the largest entity in our continent! How can you guys not keep up with the output?”

“Do you know that we’ve been the ones who carried the heaviest burden of crafting the flying ships?!” Yuan Cangyuan tried to explain himself.

“Yeah, originally, you guys took on the bulk of the pressure.” A faint voice came from the crowd. One of the Martial Sages from the Northern Chihuang Continent spoke up, “Your Cangming Clan is the greatest power in our Azure Flame World to begin with. Of course you would bear the greatest pressure and shoulder the most responsibilities. However.. How much responsibility do your Cangming Clan actually bear now?”

Yuan Cangming, who seemed to just notice the person who spoke, suddenly revealed a smile. “Brother Zhang, you’re here too.”

Zhang Shihu took a step forward and cupped his fists while sighing, “True Immortal Yuan, you truly have amazing insight into the future and I greatly respect you. I had always been willing to lead my disciples to carry out the tasks you have allocated to us, alas...”

Other Martial Sages quickly chipped in. “Yeah! We were suddenly called upon to produce a lot more resources than we agreed upon and there were some that weren’t even produced by us!”

“My sect was forced to send another 2 Martial Ancestors to explore the vast sea of stars and it was said that they went over to take the position of a certain clan...”

“Brother Hong, why don’t you just say that they went over to replace disciples of the Cangming Clan?”

“When I went to ask a certain elder of the Cangming Clan, they said that it was True Immortal Yuan’s idea...”

“Hmph!” Yuan Cangming could no longer bear to listen to what they were saying and he snorted to stop all of them from speaking further. “Yuan Cangyuan, are they telling the truth?!”

Yuan Cangyuan was a powerful Martial Sage, but when Yuan Cangming’s gaze landed on him, he felt cold sweat forming on his forehead and his throat seemed to have locked itself up. “Senior... Senior Brother, this... This... No, what they’re saying...”

“Enough! There’s no need to say anymore.” Yuan Cangming shifted his disgusted gaze away from Yuan Cangyuan and he turned to another expert. “From this day onwards, you are no longer the patriarch of the Cangming Clan!”

“Yuan Canghao!”

The plump Martial Sage felt a chill running down his spine as he quickly took 2 steps forward.
“Senior Brother!”

“Starting now, you’re the patriarch of our Cangming Clan!” Yuan Cangming growled.

“Huh?!” Yuan Canghao’s fat trembled as he looked completely flustered.

“Enough. It’s decided.” Yuan Cangming turned to look at the Martial Sages who gathered. “From now on, Yuan Canghao will take charge of the plan and allocate the tasks and contributions properly. The disciples of the Cangming Clan will also take part in the exploration. What do all of you think about this?”

Chen Baixing and Zhang Shihu glanced at each other before quickly looking away. They replied in unison with the rest of the Martial Sages. “We understand and we will do everything in our power to make it happen!”

...

Everyone eventually left and Yuan Cangming was the only one left above the heavenly screen.

“It’s not enough... We don’t have enough time!” Yuan Cangming muttered to himself.
“I can feel your presence... You came to my Azure Flame World at least twice, and you’ve been observing us through the void...”

“Fuck!” Yuan Cangming’s aura twisted and his calm demeanor was nowhere to be seen. His expression turned vicious and he snarled, “Why can’t I leave the Azure Flame World?! If I could, why would I need to rely on these groups of worthless flies to look for a way to live?!”

Chapter 1014: Here Lies Yifeng, The Best Shit Stirrer In the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Above the heavenly screen of the Spirit Luxuriant World...

The end of the sixth year of the Spirit Luxuriant Calendar had rolled about and the 7 True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World gathered above the heavenly screen once again.

“I didn’t think that Yifeng, who was the most eager to break through, would be able to wait until now... Instead, Jiu Du, who was supposed to attempt his advancement now, tried it in the middle of the year...” Kou Chongxue sighed softly, his voice laden with regret.

Li Jidao’s expression was ugly beyond belief at that point.

When they met at the start of the year, Li Jidao mentioned that Jiu Du would try to break through at the end of the year, and he clearly lied.

Jiu Du completed his preparations a long time ago. In the seventh month of the year, he ingested his advancement medicine and started the process. He completed the transformation of his Void Origin,

but he failed at the very last step when leaving his soul imprint into the world. He was devoured by the World Origin Source instead and turned into nourishment for the Spirit Luxuriant World.

It was truly a shame...

Of course, no one could blame Li Jidao for lying to the rest. After all, he wanted to prevent any possibility of Jiu Du's advancement being disrupted.

Alas... Even with no one messing with Jiu Du, he failed at the very last step.

It was also the first time Shang Xia realized the dangers he faced and the risks he had taken back then!

Yang Taihe also let out a soft sigh. "I planned to suppress his desire to break through a little while more. However, I realized that doing so might be bringing him harm instead!"

Rather than Kou Chongxue following up with a question, Shang Xia asked, "What do you mean?"

Shooting Shang Xia a complicated gaze, Yang Taihe explained, "Yifeng has always been wanting to challenge the bottleneck of the Martial Void Realm. It was something he is absolutely determined to do. If I forcefully suppress it, I might fracture his drive... Especially so for someone like Yifeng who has such a solitary temperament and always keeps his feelings hidden..."

Yang Taihe didn't go into too much detail, but Shang Xia pretty much understood what he meant.

As Shang Xia turned to look at the other True Immortals, he discovered that none of them looked surprised. Not even Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi were shocked. He finally understood that the rest had already understood the problem and none of them had spoken of it back then so as not to embarrass Yang Taihe.

As for why Yang Taihe would only realize it now... He was probably blinded because he had been so concerned for Yifeng the entire time.

With external threats looming in the distance, the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World would band together when the time came. That didn't mean that the conflicts between the various powers were solved.

The next second, Shang Xia felt an intense fluctuation in the World Origin Source. Clearly, Yifeng had completed the transformation of his Void Origin. After gathering the power of the world wherever he was, he started his attempt to leave his soul imprint on the world.

He might have attempted the breakthrough in the Eternal Palace and had the protection of the Elysium. That was why there was no sign of his breakthrough until that point. However, the connection to the World Origin Source couldn't be hidden. As soon as he tried to leave his soul imprint on the world, everyone understood he already reached the final trial.

The moment he left his soul imprint into the world, Yifeng would truly enter the Martial Void Realm and become a True Immortal!

The changes to the World Origin Source couldn't be hidden from any True Immortal above the heavenly screen. All of them fell completely silent as they observed the changes to the World Origin Source.

Carefully examining the source of the fluctuations, Shang Xia accurately determined that Yifeng was using the spirituality of the Liang Continent to break through!

Shang Xia couldn't help but turn to stare in the direction of the Liang Continent. The moment Yifeng stepped into the Martial Void Realm, that would mean that the hope of cultivators in the Liang Continent stepping into the Marital Void Realm would be severed!

Unless Yifeng fell in the future, or if the world experienced another round of transformation, cultivators of the Liang Continent would have to plunder the spirituality of another continent if they wished to grow further.

Of course... the same could be said for the cultivators of the Jiao, You, and Northern Sea Continents where Kou Chongxue, Shang Xia, and Lu Wuzi broke through.

Since they managed to snatch the initiative, cultivators of those continents would have to venture out to look for their own opportunities.

That was also why Lu Wuzi didn't mention anything about his advancement to Zhang Xuansheng, and why Zhang Xuansheng flew into such a huge rage back then.

The Spirit Luxuriant World might only have a single World Origin Source, but it didn't mean every continent received a fair share of world origin and power of the world!

... Even though Shang Xia couldn't mess with Yifeng who was in the Liang Continent at the moment, he could vaguely feel the situation going on there through the World Origin Source.

He could tell that Yifeng wasn't in the best state at the moment...

Raising his head, Shang Xia looked at the other True Immortals. He noticed that even though all of them had solemn expressions, none of them looked worried in the slightest.

Am I seeing things?! Or does Yifeng still have some sort of hidden trump card he has yet to use?

Shang Xia wondered to himself as he expanded his consciousness in the World Origin Source once again.

From what he could feel, the speed at which Yifeng's soul was entering the World Origin Source hadn't slowed down in the slightest. However, with his experience, Shang Xia could tell that Yifeng was barely able to maintain the speed because of how quickly he started earlier. He knew that Yifeng was actually an arrow at the end of its flight!

If Yifeng could act a little more rationally and slow down, he might be able to save a portion of his energy. If that happened, he would be able to go a little deeper... If he actually made it to the core of the world to leave his soul imprint, he might succeed...

However, if he slowed down at that moment, he might as well change his name and not call himself Yifeng!

Everyone had their own martial dao, and experts at Yifeng's level would have already solidified their martial dao. It could be said that the importance of their martial dao had already surpassed the significance of their life. Not to mention someone like Yifeng whose marital dao was so skewed...

Even if he knew going at the same speed would greatly exhaust his newly formed Void Origin and soul, he pushed forth nonetheless.

Shang Xia started to hesitate. He agreed with Yifeng's desire to follow his martial dao to the end, but he was also thinking about the need for more True Immortals in their Spirit Luxuriant World.

Eventually, he raised his head to look at the other True Immortals. In a slightly confused tone, he asked, “Perhaps Junior hasn’t been a True Immortal for long and might be mistaken, but why do I feel like Senior Yifeng has already exhausted himself?”

“Are you serious?!” Yang Taihe’s reaction was the most intense and he cried out in shock. The other True Immortals also raised their heads to stare at Shang Xia in shock.

Shang Xia was slightly taken aback, and he realized he messed up. However, there was no backing down now. He could only continue. “This... I’m not exactly sure, and it might be because it hadn’t been long since I broke through, but I might be mistaken...”

Before he could finish, Yang Taihe interrupted him. “Young Friend Shang, there is no need to belittle yourself. When you covered the entire continent with your Void Origin, all of us no longer doubted your abilities. This matter is of great importance. Young Friend Shang, are you sure Yifeng exhausted himself?”

Grunting once, Shang Xia turned to glance at Kou Chongxue. Seeing the patriarch nod slightly, he no longer had any concerns.

“This is something I don’t understand at all. From what I know, Senior Yifeng is like an arrow at the end of his flight, but he’s pushing ahead with full strength. Of course, he might have hidden something that will allow him to push all the way to the end...”
Shang Xia made up his mind and explained what he noticed.

Yang Taihe couldn’t help but release a long sigh. His Eternal Palace didn’t have a trump card that could help Yifeng push into the depths of the World Origin Source to leave his soul imprint on the world...

If they really had something so special, why would he even think of suppressing Yifeng’s desire to break through back then?

Of everyone present, how could anyone else have a better understanding of Yifeng than himself? After all, he had been carefully nurturing Yifeng since a long time ago.

Making up his mind, Yang Taihe showed his respect by bowing to Shang Xia the next moment. “I don’t know if Young Friend Shang is able to do it, but if you are able to, please assist him!”

After he spoke, he didn’t care about Shang Xia’s shock and neither did he wait for a reply. He flew through the heavenly screen above the Liang Continent.

Shang Xia turned around to stare at Kou Chongxue while gasping, “Patriarch Kou, does the Eternal Palace really not have a treasure that can save Senior Yifeng?”

“If they really had such a treasure, the Eternal Palace would have been exterminated a long time ago!” Kou Chongxue sighed softly. There seemed to be a hint of sorrow in his voice.

Shang Xia didn’t understand what was going on, and he couldn’t help but look at the other True Immortals.

Since the Eternal Palace didn't have a trump card that could save Yifeng, why did Yang Taihe ask Shang Xia to help him?!

Liu Jingsheng forced a smile and explained, "Since he is unable to leave his soul imprint into our world, if he turns back now, he might be able to borrow on the power of the Elysium to make up for the last part of the advancement process."

"So he's going to rely on his Elysium?!" Shang Xia gasped in shock. "From what I know, an Elysium can only support a single True Immortal..."

"That is why Brother Yang has already made up his mind to sacrifice himself to trade for Yifeng's chance to breakthrough and live..." Li Jidao grunted at the side.

With his eyes widening in shock, Shang Xia turned to Kou Chongxue. He saw the patriarch nodding at him to confirm everything Liu Jingsheng and Li Jidao had said.

Complex emotions appeared on Shang Xia's face and a look of admiration flashed in his eyes. "I'll have to head back for a bit."

Kou Chongxue nodded in response. "You should go to where I usually enter secluded cultivation in our Holy Land!"

The conversation between Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue showed everyone that he clearly had the ability to assist or interfere with Yifeng's ascension process.

The True Immortals gathered above the heavenly screen naturally understood what implications it held, but it wasn't the time to get into it.

Not too long after Shang Xia disappeared, a burst of maniacal laughter rang above the Liang Continent and quickly spread across the world. "Ancestor Yang, how can I possibly enter the Martial Void Realm like that?! Even if this disciple has to die, I'll die along my path into the Martial Void Realm! When I die, I'll go out with a bang! HAHAAAAAAAA!"

As his laughter slowly faded, a tyrannical sword qi tore through the heavenly screen above the Liang Continent. Boundless energy burst forth as Yifeng's aura was felt for the last time. It eventually faded into nothingness.

Chapter 1015: No Questions

Somewhere deep in the Tongyou Paradise...

It was where Kou Chongxue cultivated, and it was the closest point of the Tongyou Paradise to the World Origin Source.

It was where Shang Xia could have the greatest impact on the World Origin Source!

Very quickly, he discovered the fluctuations from the Liang Continent.

He clearly felt Yifeng's exhaustion at that point, and he knew that even without his reminder, the other True Immortals would be able to feel what was happening at that point.

Yifeng's progress was definitely impacted by his lack of energy at that point, but he still forced himself to push deeper without a care in the world.

With his soul imprint in the world, Shang Xia tried to reach into the World Origin Source that was connected to the Liang Continent, but he quickly discovered that even though the situation with the World Origin Source was similar to that of the heavenly screen where the distance between them was shortened, he discovered that reaching into the Liang Continent would pose great difficulty for him. The main reason was because it was located quite a distance away from the You Continent and Shang Xia learned that affecting the World Origin Source connected to the continents around the You Continent was much easier...

The next second, he felt another powerful fluctuation coming from the World Origin Source that wasn't too far from the Liang Continent.

Shang Xia understood that another True Immortal extended their influence to the World Origin Source, and he had no doubt it was Yang Taihe.

Even though Shang Xia learned that Yang Taihe was prepared to sacrifice himself for Yifeng, he was extremely curious about what method Yang Taihe would use to pull Yifeng out from the brink of death.

It was a shame that the moment Yang Taihe tried to connect to the World Origin Source, Shang Xia felt even greater fluctuations coming from it.

Even though Yang Taihe was a second tier Martial Void Realm expert and surpassed Shang Xia in every aspect of cultivation, he wasn't a proper True Immortal. He relied on his Elysium to advance, and was shackled to it.

Oh? Elysium...

Shang Xia understood what was happening. However, he became even more shocked at Yang Taihe's determination to save Yifeng. He was actually planning to move the power of the Elysium in an attempt to drag Yifeng's soul out from the World Origin Source!

If that happened, even if he was successful and saved Yifeng while sacrificing himself, the Eternal Palace's Elysium would be greatly damaged.

There was also the matter of sacrificing a second tier Martial Void Realm True Immortal...

No matter how they looked at it, Yang Taihe wasn't thinking rationally!

Even so, he chose to do so without hesitation!

Shang Xia felt emotional the more he thought about it.

Regardless of what he was feeling, Shang Xia understood what he needed to do. Even if he truly failed to help, he had to do his best!

Rousing his soul imprint, he started to move towards the Liang Continent and caused powerful currents to form in the vast sea that was the World Origin Source. They rushed in the direction of the Liang Continent with a single intention from Shang Xia.

At the same time, paying the price of exhausting astronomical amounts of world origin from the Elysium, Yang Taihe managed to race over to where Yifeng's soul was.

"Hurry up and turn back now!" Yang Taihe sent a transmission to Yifeng's soul the moment he was in range.

As long as Yifeng turned back, Yang Taihe would be able to meet up with him and utilize the power of the Elysium to protect Yifeng's weakened soul. He would also be able to use a secret inheritance from the Eternal Palace to bestow his cultivation onto Yifeng.

When that happened, Yang Taihe would sacrifice himself completely and transfer the support of the Elysium over to Yifeng. He would also sacrifice his Void Origin, allowing Yifeng's cultivation to soar rapidly. Even if he couldn't break through to the second tier Martial Void Realm in an instant, he would be able to reach the peak of the first tier and be comparable to Liu Jingsheng at the very least.

Shang Xia, who was watching everything play out in the World Origin Source as he made his way over, understood what was going on. His sacrifice was based on the same principles as when Zhang Xuansheng and Chong Shan devoured their juniors in the past!

The only difference was that Yang Taihe voluntarily gave up his Void origin to Yifeng, allowing an expert with lower cultivation level to absorb his essence.

There was a difference when it came to devouring a higher-level expert as the higher-level expert would have to be willing to give up their life. Zhang Xuansheng and Chong Shan didn't really have to care about the willingness of their juniors as they possessed overwhelming strength either way...

Finally, the currents that formed in the World Origin Source from the You Continent managed to crash its way into the Liang Continent. Even though more than 80 percent of the energy had already dissipated, the remaining bit of power those currents contained was a godsend to help Yifeng turn back. After all, even if Yifeng wanted to turn back, he wouldn't be able to do anything in his current state.

Surprisingly, Yifeng made a decision that Shang Xia would never have expected. It was also an opportunity that allowed Shang Xia to gain a better understanding of the Eternal Palace as a great power of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

"Ancestor Yang, how can I possibly enter the Martial Void Realm like that?! Even if this disciple has to die, I'll die along my path into the Martial Void Realm! When I die, I'll go out with a bang! HAHAAAAAAAA!"

Yifeng didn't choose to accept Yang Taihe's help. He gave up resisting and allowed the World Origin Source to eat up his soul completely. It meant certain death. However, right before he disappeared forever, he tried to send his Void Origin over to Yang Taihe who was planning to sacrifice himself for him.

Since he had chosen his fate, Yifeng didn't allow his Void Origin to return to the World Origin Source. Instead, a powerful sword qi was produced and cleaved apart everything in its way. It even shattered the heavenly screen as it burst forth, preventing his Void Origin from being eaten away by the World Origin Source. The next second, his Void Origin returned to the Eternal Palace's Elysium. To be more exact, it assimilated with Yang Taihe's Void Origin.

The foundations of the Eternal Elysium were eaten away as Yang Taihe tried to save Yifeng. However, with Yifeng's sacrifice, the Eternal Palace not only managed to strengthen itself with the fusion of his Void Origin, but even Yang Taihe's cultivation soared to the peak of the second tier Martial Void Realm. Because of Yifeng's sacrifice and the powerful sword qi he released at the end, he even managed to open up a crack into the third tier Martial Void Realm for his Ancestor.

As long as Yang Taihe had the intention, he would be able to force open the gates to the third tier Martial Void Realm and surpass Zhang Xuansheng to become the strongest True Immortal of the Spirit Luxuriant World!

However... No one understood his intention, but Yang Taihe didn't take the final step.

Chapter 1016: Expedition Begins

In the past, the publicly acknowledged strongest True Immortal of the Spirit Luxuriant World was Zhang Xuansheng. His cultivation had reached the peak of the second tier Martial Void Realm. He was also half a step into the third tier.

Because of Yifeng's failure at the very end and his sacrifice for his Eternal Palace and Yang Taihe, he managed to open the gates of the third tier Martial Void Realm for his ancestor.

What was surprising was that Yang Taihe didn't choose to push further, allowing the rankings of True Immortals in the Spirit Luxuriant World to remain the same.

Above the heavenly screen, the True Immortals left up there stared at the scene with complex emotions.

However, since Yifeng failed his ascension, there was no need for any of them to remain. When they were about to return to their respective factions, they raised their heads in unison and stared at a certain point in the void.

Moments later, several transmission talismans appeared and landed in their hands.

"Someone called 'Huang Yu' in the Star Origin City requests to visit True Immortal Kou Chongxue of the Spirit Luxuriant World. It's said that he has important matters to report!"

Those were the contents of those transmission talismans, and Kou Chongxue's eyebrows started jumping. When he saw their gazes on him, Kou Chongxue knew that they received the same message. The only thing they didn't know was the person indicated in the report.

When he chose to establish himself in Star Origin City, Huang Yu should have already changed his identity. He requested to meet Kou Chongxue with his old identity in order to keep his current identity safe, and he also wanted to draw the attention of the experts of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Is this so urgent that he is afraid either Little Xia or I won't be able to get the news in time? Or is he fucking around and trying to get the attention of the other True Immortals? Well... His identity as Huang Yu should have already attracted the attention of the factions by now. This report seems serious. He might truly have news that will affect our Spirit Luxuriant World...

Making up his mind, Kou Chongxue tossed 2 other transmission talismans at the You Continent and the Eternal Palace before addressing the rest with a chuckle. "Shall we head over together?"

Their gazes met the next moment, and they seemed to have reached an agreement.

With a smile forming on his face, Kou Chongxue rushed to the Three Unity Island and the other True Immortals quickly followed.

The spatial tunnel the Spirit Luxuriant World connected to Star Origin City was located on Three Unity Island. The great powers of the Spirit Luxuriant World had long since constructed the Three

Unity Island into a giant trading hub. After establishing the spatial tunnel, the great powers of the Spirit Luxuriant World surrounded the transmission platform with powerful formations and stationed high-level experts there all year round. The entire area was heavily fortified, but that didn't stop Three Unity Island from developing into a massive trade hub.

Without alerting anyone on the island, the True Immortals arrived directly on the platform that was surrounded by countless formations.

Only then did the Martial Dipper Realm experts stationed there discover those who came. They displayed expressions of reverence along with fear.

Kou Chongxue chuckled softly, "There's no need to pay much attention to us. Feel free to be at ease. Connect the spatial tunnel now and allow that person to head over to our island."

"Yes, True Immortal!"

The 5 True Immortals who arrived quickly retreated, and powerful spatial fluctuations soon filled the platform. A spatial tunnel was created and a figure tumbled out and quickly stabilized himself.

Huang Yu swept his gaze across the platform and shielded his eyes slightly while muttering, "Oh shit! Why are you all here?! Am I really that important right now?"

True Immortals were basically mobile World Origin Sources and even though those lower-level cultivators were merely looking at them while their domains had already been restrained the best they could, they would be unable to resist the power of assimilation.

Things were especially bad for Huang Yu since he was surrounded by 5 of them at once.

There was no way he could hide what he just said from those True Immortals either. However, Kou Chongxue didn't seem to mind and he chuckled in response, "What's the matter?! How important does it have to be for you to be so anxious that you need to meet me even if it means revealing your identity?"

Huang Yu didn't plan to hide anything from the other True Immortals either. As he panted heavily, he muttered, "One of the flying ships from the Azure Flame World has been found by the Star Origin Guards. From those on the flying ship, they learned that the Azure Flame World is about to face a foreign invasion and the higher-ups of the Star Origin Guards have already heard the news..."

"What?!" The expressions of the True Immortals changed in unison. "How is that possible?! How did the flying ships of the Azure Flame World arrive at the Land of Star Origin?"

Huang Yu stared at Kou Chongxue whose expression was solemn at the moment and he explained, "The area of activity of the Star Origin Guards in the vast sea of stars is a lot further than we imagined. The Azure Flame World's flying ship probably flew around randomly after their True Immortal sent them deep into the sea of stars and ran into the Star Ships that belonged to the Star Origin Guards."

The True Immortals thought back to Kou Chongxue's reminder that the Azure Flame World had been sending out flying ships to explore the sea of stars. They seem to be trying to look for foreign powers out there to ask for help.

Kou Chongxue muttered slowly, "From the looks of it, their Elysium should possess some sort of inheritance that Yuan Cangming obtained ever since entering the Martial Void Realm to learn that they aren't the only ones in the vast sea of stars."

Liu Jingsheng continued, "The problem now is... Have they found out the position of the Azure Flame World? Will our conspiracy against the Azure Flame World be revealed to Star Origin City?"

Everyone turned to stare at Huang Yu once again. Even though the Elysiums sent their spies into the city to look for news, they were clearly far from comparable to Huang Yu's skills and they didn't have his connections. None of their spies had the qualifications to come into contact with news like that.

With such an urgent matter at hand, they couldn't be bothered with the institution's methods. They needed to learn of the Star Origin City's intentions before anything else.

2 more figures appeared at that moment as Yang Taihe rushed over with Shang Xia.

The instant they appeared, the True Immortals present turned to stare at Yang Taihe whose projection still seemed a little off. Huang Yu was the only person who was staring at Shang Xia and when he discovered the strange aura around the youngster, he quickly lowered his gaze. It seemed as though the ability Shang Xia's aura had to assimilate those around him was even stronger than Kou Chongxue and Liu Jingsheng!

This brat... Not only did he enter the Martial Void Realm... Could he actually be stronger than Kou Chongxue?!

Huang Yu's thoughts started to spin as strange lights flickered in his eyes. No one knew what he was thinking about.

Whatever it was, everyone present relayed the news to Yang Taihe and Shang Xia and after learning what happened, their expressions sank.

Kou Chongxue noticed that Huang Yu was still feeling uneasy, and he quickly asked, "Is there something else you need to inform me?"

"Oh..." Huang Yu grunted once. "The Martial Dipper Realm leader of the Azure Flame World was assassinated by me when we discovered them."

"WHAT?!" Those True Immortals were no longer able to keep their calm and Li Jidao couldn't help but scold him. "How did you do something like that?! Why didn't you start with this?"

Huang Yu's expression flickered continuously. Even though he was questioned by a True Immortal, he was able to maintain his composure. Eventually, he mumbled, "You... You guys didn't ask!"

"Preposterous! You..." No junior had ever spoken so disrespectfully to Li Jidao. Anger surged in his heart as he got ready to rage, but he seemed to recall something as he turned to stare at Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia before snorting once. He no longer spoke after that.

Huang Yu's composure and Li Jidao's anger were clearly presented to the True Immortals present, and all of them revealed strange expressions.

Eventually, Kou Chongxue growled and snapped at him, “Enough! Mind your manners. What else do you have to report? Spit all of it out right now. If you continue hiding these things and utter nonsense...”

Huang Yu pouted slightly before he shot several quick winks at Shang Xia. Turning to put on a respectful attitude, he continued, “The Martial Dipper Realm expert on their flying ship seemed prepared. After he was saved and brought back to the city by the Star Origin Guards, he immediately requested help. He didn’t mention anything about the position of the Azure Flame World and he said that he wanted to see the True Immortals of at least 3 powers. He had a Void Artifact on him and would be able to communicate with his True Immortal in case anything happened. He would also be able to determine if the coordinates of their world had been revealed.”

Lu Wuzi interrupted suddenly, “So... You assassinated the Martial Dipper Realm leader of the Azure Flame World when the Star Origin Guards were gathering their True Immortals?”

Huang Yu nodded in response. “Exactly. That’s the best method I could think of to delay the Star Origin Guards from locating the Azure Flame World.”

As for how Huang Yu learned of the Star Origin Guards’ discovery of the flying ship, how he assassinated their Martial Dipper Realm leader while retreating unharmed, how he avoided suspicion from the True Immortals in the Star Origin Guards, and how he was able to run all the way over to the Spirit Luxuriant World to make the report... Those weren’t things the other True Immortals could look into.

Of course, Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia were exceptions. They could pretty much guess that it had something to do with Luo Qi and Feng Ziyuan.

The only thing was... It had been less than 2 years since Huang Yu changed his identity to enter the Star Origin City. How was he able to establish a connection with the Star Origin Guards, much less Feng Ziyuan of all people?

From the looks of it, he managed to gain their trust.

The super spy of the Tongyou Institution truly had skills...

Huang Yu would most definitely tell Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia about what happened in detail, but it clearly wasn’t the time when there were so many True Immortals around.

“Right. Young Friend Huang, how long do you think you will be able to buy after killing the Azure Flame World’s Martial Dipper Realm expert?” Yang Taihe asked. His voice seemed slightly hoarse at the moment, but it was understandable after all he had been through.

Huang Yu shrugged his shoulders and replied, “That’s something only True Immortals like yourselves can guess. In my opinion, the True Immortal of the Azure Flame World that is shackled to his Elysium will most likely leave some traces in the flying ship. Not to mention the person I killed wasn’t the only Martial Dipper Realm expert on board... There were a bunch of Martial Extermination Realm juniors and I couldn’t kill them all in time.”

Yang Taihe nodded slightly before turning to Kou Chongxue. “We can’t waste any more time. Even if we aren’t fully prepared, I’m afraid you 3 have to take action now. All of us will provide

assistance to the best of our abilities. We have to send the experts of our world over as soon as possible and we'll be here to receive them when it's over!"

Kou Chongxue's expression was also solemn as he addressed everyone present. "Looks like we have no way out now. We need to take action before Star Origin City and the other worlds discover the Azure Flame World in order to reap the greatest benefits!"

Chapter 1017: Changes in the Star Origin Guards

In the central camp of the Star Origin Guards...

Zhuge Xiang stared at dozens of captains who were sitting upright across him. Comparatively, the several camp commanders who were present seemed a little more casual.

His expression was sunken as he growled, "Can someone tell me what the hell happened?!"

As soon as the words left his lips, even the camp commanders tensed up slightly. They no longer acted as casually as before.

Zhuge Xiang continued, "When did we become an organization so full of holes that not only could an assassin kill someone under our protection, but he even managed to escape unharmed? There's also the matter of the Azure Flame World. I barely heard its name, but almost every single faction outside already heard the news!"

Even though Zhugu Xiang's tone remained the same as he spoke, anyone who was familiar with him would be able to hear the killing intent smoldering under his calm facade.

The Star Origin Guards Commander, Zhuge Xiang, was utterly enraged!

Even if he restrained his aura completely, the anger of a fourth tier Martial Void Realm True Immortal wasn't something to scoff at. It was more than enough to cause everyone present to tremble in their boots.

Seeing as no one was planning to give him an explanation, Zhuge Xiang's gaze landed on the Martial Void Realm and Martial Dipper Realm members of the Star Origin Guards.

"Hu Linghua, Fan Guang. You're the camp commanders of the Third and Fourth camps respectively. What do you have to say about this?"

A cultivator whose skin was as clear as jade and had a body bulging with muscles got to his feet and reported, "The flying ship from the Azure Flame World was discovered by the fourth and sixth squads of the Third Camp. When we returned to the Land of Star Origin, the cultivators on board were entrusted to the guards in the Fourth Camp. 2 captains on our side left after the handover. As of right now, we have recalled the guards under them. They have already been placed under custody and we are finding out how news of it leaked."

Zhuge Xiang snorted coldly and he could already guess that it wasn't just a single person who revealed confidential information to the great powers. Otherwise, there wouldn't be so many factions who heard of it.

Hu Linghua, the Third Camp Commander sighed softly in response, "This subordinate has neglected his role and failed to keep everyone in check. Guard Commander, please strip me of my position!"

Zhuge Xiang stared at Hu Linghua with a profound gaze before turning away. “We’ll deal with that another time.”

Hu Linghua forced a chuckle and sat back down. At the same time, he was pretty sure he would have to properly purge the Third Camp of anyone who was found colluding with outsiders. In fact... there might be a huge batch of them he would have to deal with!”

The Fourth Camp Commander was an old expert whose hair and beard had started to turn white. His name was Fan Guang, and one could see the vicissitudes of time etched onto his wrinkled face as he forced a chuckle in response. “After our Fourth Camp received the flying ship, we sent the third and fifth squads over to provide protection. However, the assassin who came seemed extremely familiar with our formation, and not only did he find a blindspot in our defenses, he seemed to be extremely familiar with the arts of assassination. The moment he made his move, he heavily injured the Martial Dipper Realm expert we were protecting. The expert we were protecting couldn’t even split off a Fate Dipper Clone in time and the second attack came. The second strike completely destroyed his soul and by the time I arrived, the assassin already escaped. The defenses of the third and fifth squad were also completely broken...”

“Heh... Hehe... This is great. This is amazing!” Zhuge Xiang was angered to the point he broke out in laughter. Gnashing his teeth, he continued, “Someone actually dares to challenge the prestige of our Star Origin Guards! How many years has it been since the last incident?!”

Fan Guang sighed, “Guards Commander, I was negligent and underestimated our opponent. I have humiliated our Star Origin Guards and I am willing to take responsibility for my actions. Even if I am relieved of my post, I will accept my punishment.”

Zhuge Xiang sighed softly in response. “Camp Commander Fan, allowing news to leak from our Star Origin Guards can only be attributed to us being too lenient when leading our members. However, to allow someone to destroy our protective formation would mean that we aren’t capable enough. You have served the Star Origin Guards for tens of years now, and you have always done your job well. Let’s leave this matter behind us and we shall thank you for your service. From this day forth, you should enjoy your life of retirement.”

Fan Guang forced a smile in response as he cupped his fists, “Many thanks, Guards Commander...”

Compared to being let go for his incompetence, making Fan Guang resign from his post allowed him to retain his final shred of dignity. It could be said to be Zhuge Xiang’s appreciation for his tens of years of service.

Waving his sleeves once, Zhuge Xiang indicated for Fan Guang to take his leave. The other camp commanders and captains quickly got to their feet to send him off.

Among the 7 camps of the Star Origin Guards, Fan Guang was the oldest camp commander with the exception of the other 2 Martial Void Realm commanders. Slowly taking off his Star Robes, he eventually left the camp.

Behind him, the various camp commanders and captains stared at his desolate figure as he made his way out and felt strange emotions welling up in their hearts.

“Alright. Tell me, who should take the place of the Fourth Camp Commander?” Zhuge Xiang’s voice scattered the somber atmosphere and everyone perked up. There seemed to be rays of lights flashing in many people’s eyes as they looked around.

“According to the rules, the deputy camp commander should take up the position...”

“Hmph! The Deputy Fourth Camp Commander is a joke! Qu Youdao, weren’t you the captain in charge of the third squad who allowed the assassin to succeed? You also accepted a new Star Origin Guard into the squad but the moment he ran into the assassin, he was so scared he backed off, allowing the assassin to get away! Is the Star Robe on him a piece of decoration?!” Zhuge Xiang snorted.

Qu Youdao, the Deputy Fourth Camp Commander, felt his face burning up but he didn’t dare to retort.

With the Fourth Camp Commander made to retire, the captains of the third and fifth squads who failed in their tasks would also face massive scrutiny. Both of them wouldn’t be in line to take up the position.

One of the captains of the Fourth Camp tried to argue. “Even so, the Fourth Camp Commander should be a captain within the Fourth Camp. At the very least, we’ll be familiar with everyone here and we can save a lot of time breaking in...”

“Heh, familiar with everyone there...” A sneer came from the side. “Are all of you familiar enough with each other such that all of you will back off when facing the enemy?”

2 captains from the Fourth Camp turned to glare at the person who spoke, but before they could say anything, a voice boomed through the air.

“Shut up! Sit down!” The person who spoke this time was someone sitting a little closer to Zhuge Xiang. He was the Second Camp Commander, He Yingrui, and he was a True Immortal. He turned to Zhuge Xiang and continued, “Guards Commander, our Star Origin Guards have remained passive for too long. It’s time for us to deal with this matter firmly and decisively. We definitely need to discipline our members properly, but we cannot overlook the matter of the Azure Flame World. We cannot weaken ourselves at this moment...”

Zhuce Xiang seemed extremely compelled to listen to the Second Camp Commander and he quickly asked, “Do you have any suggestions?”

He Yingrui responded immediately. “After some restructuring, there will definitely be people who will leave our Star Origin Guards. In order not to lose too much combat power, with the exception of those who were already in line to join us, we should recall those old fellows who were forced to leave the Star Origin Guards for one reason or another in the past. Even if it’s a temporary measure, it would be better than nothing.”

Zhuge Xiang nodded instinctively after listening to He Yingrui. However, he suddenly asked, "Commander He, why isn't Captain Feng with us?"

Slightly taken aback, He Yingrui gathered his composure before responding, "Captain Feng is extremely close to breaking through to the Martial Void Realm. I have approved her request and she would be in secluded cultivation frequently."

Nodding slightly, Zhuge Xiang chuckled, "During the exchange between those True Immortals above the Star Relay back then, Captain Feng managed to last all the way to the end. With her foundations, she is indeed a good candidate to enter the Martial Void Realm. However, one cannot break into the Martial Void Realm through secluded cultivation. One needs to make a lot of preparations before looking for the right opportunity. Actually, an expedition to the Azure Flame World might be a good chance for her!"

He Yingrui hesitated slightly and wondered out loud, "Guards Commander, do you mean..."

Zhuge Xiang smiled in response. "Since the position of the Fourth Camp Commander is open, she can take on the role for the time being!"

He Yingrui wanted to say something, but Zhuge Xiang's gaze already landed on the last camp commander present. "Camp Commander Xing, are you able to deduce the position of the Azure Flame World in the sea of stars?"

Xing Xingtian, the Seventh Camp Commander, seemed unconcerned with the entire conversation from the very start. Now that Zhuge Xiang directed a question at him, he finally snapped back to attention. "Guards Commander, even though the leader of the Azure Flame World's flying ship was killed, from the item he left behind and the description from the Martial Extermination Realm cultivators who lived, I should be able to trace the path they took. I would most likely be able to calculate the coordinates of the Azure Flame World, but... I would need a little time!"

Without a change in expression, Zhuge Xiang asked, "How long will you need?"

"This..." Xing Xingtian paused slightly before he explained, "I can't say for sure."

A frown formed on Zhuge Xiang's face. "Camp Commander Xing, you're the only Stargazer in our Star Origin Guards. Even you're unsure how long it will take..."

Xing Xingtian revealed an uncertain expression but before he could say anything, a light flashed in his eyes. "Guards Commander, how far can a True Immortal send a flying ship through space?"

"What do you mean?" Zhuge Xiang's pupils constricted slightly and realized Xing Xingtian might have a plan.

"According to the cultivators of the Azure Flame World, their True Immortal barely broke through. It's extremely possible that he's only at the first tier of the Martial Void Realm. From the time the guards of the Third Camp discovered them, we can trace the distance it took. Actually, the furthest place it can be won't be further than the 5 Spirit Worlds and the 7... No, 6 Azure Worlds that are connected to us."

True Immortal Liu Jiuzhen, the captain of the First Camp who had been silent the whole time, finally said, “Do you mean that there’s an Azure World lying within the territory of our Star Origin City the whole time?!”

Xing Xingtian didn’t deny the possibility. Instead, he continued, “What I’m trying to say is that... Could the threat to the Azure Flame World be one of the worlds connected to us?”

Tian Moran, the captain of the second squad of the Second Camp, who had also reached the Martial Void Realm, also spoke. “Do you mean that as long as we keep an eye on the worlds connected to us, we’ll be able to learn of the Azure Flame World’s coordinates?”

“Exactly. I feel that the identity of the assassin has already exposed the fact that one of those worlds is the culprit!” Xing Xingtian nodded in response.

...

As change was sweeping through the Star Origin Guards, Luo Qi finally awakened from a deep meditative state in a quiet courtyard in the city.

As he examined the Fate Dipper Essences in his dantian that were slowly fusing together, he tried to act as calmly as he could. However, tears still formed in his eyes as he cried to himself.

I didn’t think that it really was possible to merge different Fate Dippers together! It won’t be long before I will be able to restore my cultivation and become a true first element Martial Dipper Realm expert! There will be nothing stopping me from returning to the Star Origin Guards!

Chapter 1018: Wrong Judgment

Even though the existence of the Azure Flame World might be exposed, the Spirit Luxuriant World had to take action as soon as possible. Only then would they be able to obtain the greatest benefits.

As the leaders of the Tongyou Institution and the Ice Essence Sect, Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi needed to return to their factions to make the necessary arrangements and announcements that they were going to set off on an expedition against another world.

Rather than choosing to follow Kou Chongxue and Shang Xia back to the institution, Huang Yu decided to return to Star Origin City.

He was confident that his new identity hadn’t been revealed, and he had many plans he was unwilling to give up on.

As the True Immortals left one by one, Huang Yu reached out to grab Shang Xia before he could return.

With a helpless look on his face, Shang Xia grumbled, “Hey, no matter what, I’m a True Immortal now. If you tried this on anyone else... hell, try it on Patriarch Kou and you’ll probably have one of your arms torn off...”

“Hehe.” Huang Yu chuckled once before he continued, “We’ve been through so many life-or-death situations together... Our relationship is extraordinary, right? Why would you treat me like the rest of them?”

Helpless, Shang Xia didn’t know how he could respond to that and he eventually sighed, “Alright... What do you need?”

With the most sinister, villain-like smile, on his face, he walked beside Shang Xia and whispered, “I need to become someone new. Is there anyone in the Spirit Luxuriant World you don’t like but can’t do anything about them yourself?”

Glancing at him from the corner of his eye, Shang Xia sneered, “Yeah. Zhang Xuansheng and Li Jidao.”

The grin on Huang Yu’s face froze instantly and he stuttered, “You little... Come on man, I’m serious!”

A frown formed on Shang Xia’s face and he mumbled, “It’s not that easy to join the Star Origin Guards...”

Giggling in a strange voice, Huang Yu continued, “Hehehe, it doesn’t hurt to try! I might be able to smoke my way in...”

“You...” Shang Xia shook his head helplessly. “You better be careful!”

After he spoke, he tossed a sealed spiritual case over to Huang Yu before disappearing from Three Unity Island.

“Oh... 5 rank five talismans! This kid probably increased his skills again after entering the Martial Void Realm...” Huang Yu muttered to himself as the smile on his face became a lot more sincere. However, he quickly recalled how Shang Xia didn’t tell him who he could ‘replace’ in the Spirit Luxuriant World.

“Shit! This is a big headache... Who am I supposed to kill then?” Huang Yu scratched his head before mumbling to himself again, “Screw this. Let’s just see which unfortunate soul comes knocking. Even if anything happens, Kou Chognxue and that kid will be able to deal with the trouble that ensues.”

...

Above the heavenly screen of the Jiao Continent, the 7 True Immortals gathered once again.

Kou Chongxue, Lu Wuzi, and Shang Xia were the only True Immortals who had the capabilities to head over to the Azure Flame World.

Since they were going to start the expedition, there was no longer a need to conceal the coordinates of the Azure Flame World.

Of course, Shang Xia still chose to bring the Stellar Cauldron with him on their trip. Since the treasure didn’t belong to him, he could only tell Kou Chongxue to bring it with him.

Liu Jingsheng couldn’t help but chuckle when he saw Shang Xia’s actions. “Looks like True Immortal Kou is determined to push the Tongyou Paradise into the Tongyou Elysium after this expedition... I’ll offer my congratulations in advance!”

Kou Chongxue waved his hands modestly in response. “It’s still too early. He brought it in order to gather as much world origin as possible without leaking into the sea of stars...”

Compared to the refined look Kou Chongxue had when holding the cauldron in his hand, Shang Xia felt like he looked like an unruly monkey when wielding the Stone Rod. Fortunately, he was able to shrink and enlarge it according to his will after fully refining the Holy Artifact.

The Stellar Cauldron that was the size of a grown man was barely half a foot long in Kou Chongxue's palm, and Shang Xia shrank the rod so small that it could fit in his ear hole.

Actually... Putting the Holy Artifact in his ear made him feel even more like an unruly monkey...

Whatever it was, the other True Immortals couldn't help but sigh with admiration while looking at Shang Xia. Even Kou Chongxue was no exception. The more they looked at Shang Xia, the more they felt the Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar was more suited to be an offensive weapon.

The Holy Artifacts required to establish an Elysium weren't useless anyway. They would be able to show off their might in the hands of an expert, but most of the time, they would only serve as assistive treasures. Moreover, they would only be able to show off their greatest might when placed within an Elysium.

As for the Heaven Supporting Jade Pillar in Shang Xia's hands... No matter how they looked at it, it seemed like a massive mistake that turned out well for him!

"Everyone, we will head over to the Azure Flame World to suppress Yuan Cangming, and we can only trouble all of you to deal with the lower-level cultivators of their world." Kou Chongxue cupped his hands and spoke to Zhang Xuansheng and the rest in a solemn tone.

Yang Taihe chuckled in response, "This matter concerns the safety of our world. We will definitely give it our all."

Hesitating slightly, Shang Xia muttered, "The moment we deploy our troops over to the Azure Flame World, I'm afraid the various powers will learn about it. We need to be prepared to deal with other worlds who might try to take advantage of the situation..."

With a smile on his face, Yang Taihe continued calmly, "If push comes to shove, I'll break through that very moment and give anyone who tries to take advantage of us a huge surprise!"

"Hehe. This old man is also confident in breaking through. However, if I can wait for the blessing of the world when we devour the Azure Flame World's world origin, the process will be much smoother..." Liu Jingsheng added with a soft chuckle.

A moment later, Liu Jingsheng continued, "Looks like True Immortal Zhang is also waiting for the same opportunity..."

With the sudden question, Zhang Xuansheng was unable to remain silent any longer. He could only mutter softly, "All of us are in the same boat now. We'll share glory and misfortune alike. I'll definitely try my best when the time comes."

Glancing at the Jiao Continent, Kou Chongxue's gaze landed on the mountain where Shang Xia ground Dugu Yuanshan's soul to dust. A giant pyramid was still being constructed, and it was none other than the Star Observatory that was undergoing restoration.

The Tongyou Institution took the initiative to restore the Star Observatory, but the Heavenly Star Palace was the one who was responsible for the work. The other Elysiums also took part in the operation.

There was one other use of the Star Observatory, and that was to fully restore the Stargazer inheritance.

According to their original plan, the Star Observatory would be restored by the time they started the expedition. They would be able to use it to better restore the Stargazer inheritance.

Unfortunately, due to them having to bring forward the plan, the chance to restore the inheritance was greatly limited.

Nodding at Lu Wuzi and Shang Xia, Kou Chongxue prepared to initiate the Spatial Transfer. All 3 of them disappeared from above the heavenly screen of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Every time they traveled through space, Shang Xia would be enthralled by the mix of brilliant colors around him.

However, he understood that the nicer those lights and the more they drew him in, the more he had to avoid them. Even a True Immortal would be swallowed into streams of chaotic space if they got too close.

...

No one knew how long had passed...

Tens of thousands of miles away from the heavenly screen of the Azure Flame World, a spot of light appeared in the void before growing larger and larger to transform into a strand of sword qi that resembled a shooting star. It tore open the void as Kou Chongxue stepped out from the void with the Stellar Cauldron in hand.

As someone who tried spying on the Azure Flame World 3 times at the very least, he quickly determined his location and where the Azure Flame World was.

Very quickly, faint fluctuations appeared beside him. From what he could feel with his divine soul, it was close to 2300 miles to his left.

“Not bad, that isn’t too far. I wonder if it’s Lu Wuzi or Little Shang...” Kou Chongxue muttered to himself before rushing over.

A resplendent spatial gate appeared 5000 miles away from Kou Chongxue as he was making his way over and Shang Xia stepped out from it. Looking all around him, he quickly discovered faint traces of remnant spatial fluctuations in the distance.

He waited for some time where he appeared and after sensing no other fluctuations, he couldn’t help but sigh, “Looks like I’m the last to arrive...”

After he spoke, he turned into a streak of light that flew at the spatial fluctuation he detected.

...

As soon as Kou Chongxue appeared, Yuan Cangming, who was cultivating in his Elysium, forced his eyes open. “That person is here again!”

Rushing to the heavenly screen, he stared into the void where Kou Chongxue appeared. He discovered another source of spatial fluctuations the next second and his expression changed drastically. “2 True Immortals?! Could it be...”

Yuan Cangming drew on the power of his Elysium and the power of the world and his voice quickly rang in the minds of every single high-level expert of the Azure Flame World. “Foreign experts have come to invade us again!”

Every single faction of the Azure Flame World burst into action.

In the past, they suffered from an invasion once. The Southern Yanlin Continent was practically destroyed back then and Yuan Cangming had been guiding their actions in recent years. The mindset that they would soon be invaded and might have their world completely destroyed had been ingrained in their minds.

Every single faction in the Azure Flame World had been preparing for that day.

Above the heavenly screen, Yuan Cangming carefully spread his divine soul into the depths of space. He could feel 2 faint fluctuations and he failed to sense a third even after a long time. He couldn't help but heave a sigh of relief.

“2 True Immortals who can leave their Elysiums... From the scale of their previous attack, they might not be too much stronger than us. Otherwise, we would have been completely destroyed back then. How can they afford to give us so many years to prepare ourselves?” Yuan Cangming muttered to himself. “These 2 True Immortals might have ascended not too long ago, like myself. They might not even be stronger than me. Even if they're experts from a Spirit World and might not be bound to an Elysium, I have the backing of one! I will also gain an advantage with the help of the World's Will while it suppresses them. It should be possible for me to hold them off with so many added factors and our Azure Flame World might not fall!”

After evaluating the advantages they should have and the possibility he was facing newbie True Immortals, he felt a lot more confident than before.

However, he also understood that as someone who is shackled to his Elysium, he would only be able to defend passively.

“I can only pray that a miracle will happen... As long as those flying ships locate the Land of Star Origin, we will be able to gain a powerful backer! When that happens, the Azure Flame World will be able to remain safe!”

Thinking about it for a second, Yuan Cangming couldn't help but worry again. “Whatever it is, I hope those records in the Elysium are correct and the fabled Land of Star Origin that doesn't take any sides truly exists...”

Chapter 1019: Break!

By the time Shang Xia regrouped with Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi, he found them staring at him in shock.

“Did you arrive earlier than me?! Why didn’t I feel any spatial disturbance when you arrived?” Kou Chongxue stared at him in shock.

Looking at them, Shang Xia was equally confused. He shot back in a tone that showed his utter bafflement at the situation. “How would I know?!”

“Alright, how did you find us then?” Lu Wuzi asked.

“When I arrived, I noticed some remnant spatial fluctuations and I came here to look for you guys...” Shang Xia replied honestly.

Exchanging a glance, Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi didn’t know what to feel at the moment. Eventually, Lu Wuzi forced a chuckle, “Actually, this might be good news. If even Patriarch Kou failed to detect your arrival, the expert in the Azure Flame World shouldn’t be able to either. In that case, you’re like a hidden trump card that can pop out at the crucial moment and deal the decisive blow. In fact, you might be able to shatter the defenses of their world completely!”

Kou Chongxue also agreed on the same approach. “Let’s do that then.”

Shang Xia felt that there was something strange in the way they were speaking, but they clearly weren’t going to waste precious time letting him think about it. Tearing open spatial tunnels, the 2 of them rushed towards the Azure Flame World, guns blazing and signaling their arrival.

Looking in the direction they left, Shang Xia couldn’t help but scratch his head in conclusion. However, he didn’t have too much time to think about it as he placed the Anchor Talismans that had been made with the collective efforts of the Spirit Luxuriant World around the asteroids, broken land fragments, and other debris floating in space to allow Zhang Xuansheng and the others to open spatial tunnels to send their experts over.

When he was done, powerful fluctuations appeared in the direction of the Azure Flame World.

There was no doubt about it. Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi had started the battle against Yuan Cangming.

He might be tens of thousands of miles away at the moment and couldn’t view the battle directly, but he was certain that the 2 of them wouldn’t be the ones at a disadvantage. That was precisely why he wasn’t worried for them at all. In fact, he grew even calmer with each passing moment.

Since he was going to sneak attack, he would have to ensure he hid his tracks well. Only then would he be able to ensure his ambush made the greatest impact.

As Shang Xia slowly made his way closer to the heavenly screen, he discovered that Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi looked to be in a pretty bad spot.

A trace of worry appeared in Shang Xia’s mind, but he wasn’t too concerned about it. After all, they outnumbered Yuan Cangming. Instead, he felt a lot more curious about their current predicament.

Slowing down even more to arrive 5000 miles away from the heavenly screen without being detected, he finally uncovered the truth. Even though Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi looked like they were being beaten badly, that was merely what it looked like on the surface. In fact, they weren’t at a disadvantage at all.

Whatever it was, Yuan Cangming used the help of countless formations that had been deployed above the heavenly screen to put up a good fight against Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi. In fact, the Azure Flame World also seemed to have made sufficient preparations which allowed Yuan Cangming to put up a great fight the moment the battle started.

The closer he got to the Azure Flame World, the more attention he placed on restraining his aura. At the same time, he split off a bit of consciousness to observe the way the True Immortals were fighting.

As one's cultivation realm increased, they would gradually do away with the traditional way of doing battle. They would no longer contend with each other purely through the use of essence qi. Instead, one's martial dao and the power of their souls would come into play.

Kou Chongxue's Hidden Frost Sword wasn't aimed at Yuan Cangming directly as it slashed away at the domain around him. It was severing the support he received from his Elysium while trying to split apart the power of the world he could draw upon.

Unlike Kou Chongxue who was facing Yuan Cangming head-on, Lu Wuzi was spinning circles around the battlefield like a giant top. He would launch attacks from time to time to mess with Yuan Cangming who seemed to be fighting on equal grounds with Kou Chongxue.

Even so, Yuan Cangming seemed to be getting more confident the more the battle dragged on.

One couldn't see how Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi were still holding on and would eventually gain the advantage as the battle played out... As long as Yuan Cangming managed to withstand the initial assault, it would be extremely difficult to defeat him. After all, he had the advantage of having the Azure Flame World's support and he would be able to replenish his energy the more the battle dragged on.

Even though he wouldn't be able to win, he would be able to stop them outside the heavenly screen!

If that was the case, he would be able to prevent too much damage from being done to the Azure Flame World and could buy more time for reinforcements to arrive.

Lu Wuzi, who had been drifting around the battlefield from the very start, suddenly rushed at Yuan Cangming to help Kou Chongxue suppress his opponent.

Rather than feeling the slightest trace of shock, excitement filled Yuan Cangming's mind.

Lu Wuzi's earlier way of doing battle was really wearing him down as he had to split off a good portion of his attention to look out for Lu Wuzi's sneak attacks. He also had to ensure Lu Wuzi didn't attempt to tear open the heavenly screen to enter the Azure Flame World.

Now that the other party chose to join the battle to fight him directly, even though he would be placed under a lot more pressure, he no longer had to worry about them playing any tricks behind his back!

As Lu Wuzi joined the battle, Yuan Cangming couldn't help but feel that something was off. It was as though he was overlooking something, but he couldn't quite put his finger on it.

However, they weren't going to give him too much time to think about other matters. The intensity of their attacks increased and it seemed as though they no longer cared about exhausting their Void Origin!

Even though Yuan Cangming was confident he would be able to stop them with the formations they deployed above the heavenly screen, the unease in his heart grew stronger with each passing second. In fact, his heart was pounding so hard that the anxiety he was feeling was slowly starting to turn into fear.

No. There has to be something wrong!

Could they have some sort of special trump card they're still hiding that will allow them to deal with me?!

As his gaze flickered across Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi, Shang Xia, who was barely 1000 miles away from the heavenly screen, had long since stored up enough energy. With all his might, he swung the Stone Rod in his hand down towards the battlefield.

Space itself was compressed under the rod and the distance of 1000 miles was crossed in an instant. Before the spatial fluctuations could even start to spread, Shang Xia's Holy Artifact arrived right above Yuan Cangming's head.

Another domain appeared and forced itself into the battlefield. It quickly gathered together and fused with Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi's domains to shatter Yuan Cangming's domain and suppress the connection he had to his Elysium.

A third True Immortal! They actually have a third True Immortal that isn't shackled to an Elysium!

When did he appear?! Why didn't I feel any traces of his presence before this?!

Many thoughts flashed through Yuan Cangming's mind at that moment, but it was clearly not the time to be finding the answers to those questions.

He had been overdrawing the power of his Elysium from the time the battle started, and the burden on his body as he utilized copious amounts of power of the world was not light at all. He was facing an unimaginable amount of pressure and he felt as though his Void Origin was about to explode.

Facing the rod that was crashing down on him, 2 words flashed through his mind. "Not enough!"

Boom!

That was a real blast that shook the heavens and earth. The heavenly screen above the Azure Flame World seemed to be smashed by a giant rod and a powerful stream of energy cascaded into the world through a hole that had been blown through the heavenly screen. It crashed into the surface of the sea before spreading in all directions.

"Is he dead?!" Above the heavenly screen, Lu Wuzi frowned and muttered in doubt after realizing Yuan Cangming was nowhere to be seen.

"How is that possible?" Kou Chongxue chuckled in a hoarse voice. "He ran back into his Elysium at the very last second..."

Seeing the look of disappointment on Lu Wuzi's face, Kou Chongxue couldn't help but burst out laughing. "We expected as much anyway... A True Immortal who has the support of an Elysium isn't going to die so easily!"

Raising their heads to look in a certain direction in the void, a formless fluctuation that they barely detected after focusing all their attention on it appeared. Shang Xia's figure emerged from the void the next second.

"How do you think Yuan Cangming is doing right now?" Kou Chongxue asked Shang Xia after he arrived. Even though he was the person fighting Yuan Cangming earlier, he wouldn't be clearer about the situation than the person who made the move.

At the same time, Kou Chongxue couldn't help but sigh inwardly. The youngster before him might have already surpassed him in terms of combat capabilities!

Shang Xia naturally had no idea what Kou Chongxue was thinking. However, that didn't stop him from answering honestly. "His Void Origin suffered heavy injuries. However, he managed to transfer a portion of his injuries to his Elysium before he was able to run back into it. No matter what, his Elysium would have suffered heavy damages."

"Serious injuries to his Void Origin and heavy damages to his Elysium... Wouldn't that mean that he wouldn't be able to resist any longer?" Lu Wuzi gasped happily. He didn't think that the expedition would go so smoothly and for them to determine the winner after the first round of battle.

"We cannot be careless!" Kou Chongxue coughed once. He glanced at Shang Xia and continued, "Do not forget the battle back at the Azure Oddity World. Meng Yuanxiu and Yu Ji faced the combined attack of 6 True Immortals but still managed to kill 1 of their them. No matter what, we cannot look down on a True Immortal backed into a corner. Especially so when they made preparations in advance. They would be ready to risk their lives at any moment to fight back..."

Shang Xia and Lu Wuzi nodded in unison.

Shang Xia and Kou Chongxue personally witnessed the battle in the Azure Oddity World, and Lu Wuzi heard Kou Chongxue's description of it. He knew how Meng Yuanxiu, the rank six Formation Grandmaster, went all out before he was slain.

"However..." Kou Chongxue flicked his sleeves and muttered in a low voice, "Since the heavenly screen has already been broken, and the formations that might have existed down there have already been destroyed by the energy waves Little Shang created, all we have to do is to head directly over to the Elysium at the Eastern Nuanyuan Continent."

After he spoke, Kou Chongxue passed through the hole in the heavenly screen that was starting to repair itself.

After so many years, he finally stepped into the Azure Flame World again!

Lu Wuzi and Shang Xia exchange a glance before racing after him.

Chapter 1020: PUT YOUR HANDS UP, YOU'RE SURROUNDED

After Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi entered the Azure Flame World, their bodies felt a lot heavier than before.

Even though it took them a split second to readjust themselves, they could feel the hatred and rejection the World's Will was projecting onto them.

If the influence of the World's Will was weaker when they were fighting above the heavenly screen earlier, entering the world was a completely different story. The World's Will was able to greatly suppress them to prevent whatever they thought they would be able to do.

It was difficult for them to absorb world origin to recover, and their inner qi flow was slightly impeded. Their domains were suppressed and their combat strength was greatly reduced.

Their expressions changed slightly and they realized why the various worlds sent 5 True Immortals to surround Meng Yuanxiu's Elysium back then and after 1 of them was killed, they increased the number of True Immortals to 6...

Kou Chongxue and Lu Wuzi quickly noticed that Shang Xia, who was flying casually behind them, didn't seem to be affected by the sense of rejection at all. At the very least, there weren't any signs of him feeling any sign of discomfort.

"Why don't you seem suppressed by the World's Will?" Lu Wuzi asked in a strange voice. Everything he thought he knew about Shang Xia was flying through the window and he realized that after Shang Xia's advancement, nothing seemed to make sense any more.

With a soft sigh, Shang Xia explained, "Senior Lu, you might not know, but now that I have broken through, I am unable to perfectly avoid the suppression of the World's Will like before. I am definitely feeling a little resistance, but it's just not as much as what you're feeling..."

Unable to think of a response, Lu Wuzi simply turned back and ignored the kid. He made up his mind not to talk to Shang Xia during the expedition any longer in case he burst a blood vessel in his brain.

The blow he had been dealt was just too damn strong!

... Whatever it was, they were no longer in their world. Yuan Cangming was able to retreat to his Elysium instantly, but the 3 of them were unable to teleport into Yuan Cangming's Elysium directly. They could only make their world over to the Eastern Nuanyuan Continent slowly.

As the trio flew about in the Azure Flame World, they didn't dare to open spatial tunnels randomly. Otherwise, they might fall prey to Yuan Cangming and the plans experts of the Azure Flame World prepared.

Of course... Even if they were suppressed, the speed of True Immortals was nothing to scoff at. Flying over to Yuan Cangming's Elysium would take them barely an hour.

As they made their way across the Azure Flame World, the 3 of them didn't seem anxious in the slightest. They even started to observe their surroundings when flying to take note of the preparations the experts of the Azure Flame World made to resist the invasion.

“Looks like they deployed everything in their power to prepare for this. Yuan Cangming managed to rally every single faction to the cause... We’re going to have to pay a hefty price this time...” Lu Wuzi sighed softly. However, he didn’t seem too troubled at all. From what he knew about their forces, even if they had to fight in a foreign land, he was sure they would be able to completely suppress the Azure Flame World.

Shang Xia chuckled in response, “If we can break the Elysium quickly and exterminate Yuan Cangming’s soul, attacking the Azure Flame World would be much easier...”

Kou Chongxue muttered in a low voice, “Do not ever underestimate the resistance of a world that is under the threat of being conquered. Once the Azure Flame World falls, almost every cultivator above the Martial Intent Realm will be greatly affected. Let’s not talk about if they would be able to advance further on the road of cultivation in the future. They would be lucky to maintain their current cultivation realm. There would be a huge batch of experts in the Martial Extermination and Martial Dipper Realms who would experience cultivation deviation and they might just lose their lives. As for cultivators in the Martial Realm and Martial Extremity Realm, they might not seem affected at that moment, but unless they are geniuses, they wouldn’t be able to go too far on the path of cultivation in the future.”

“Of course, this will only happen to cultivators who are already living in the Azure Flame World and those born soon after. After they are assimilated and brought over to our Spirit Luxuriant World, they would take a few generations in order to fully integrate into our world before nothing else will get in the way of their cultivation.” Kou Chongxue concluded.

His words allowed Shang Xia and Lu Wuzi to fully understand the cruelty of a war between worlds. Even though the 3 of them would be able to easily get rid of the defenses built by the various factions, they didn’t do so.

That could be said to be some sort of an unspoken rule among the countless worlds in the vast sea of stars. Even if they hadn’t come into contact with other worlds, it was an instinctual response not to interfere with cultivators of a lower realm than themselves.

As their conversation quickly concluded, they arrived at the Eastern Nuanyuan Continent where the Elysium was located.

The guards and various powers that gathered around the Cangming Elysium had already retreated and it was clear that Yuan Cangming had done a good job in preparing for a battle between True Immortals. If anyone else were to remain, they would only be collateral damage.

“Let me give it a go first!” Lu Wuzi said suddenly as he took a step forward.

Among the 7 True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World, he was in the most awkward position.

Of the 3 True Immortals who took part in the expedition to the Azure Flame World, he was also the weakest among them. As such, he wanted to prove himself by taking as many responsibilities as he could throughout the expedition. Only then would he be able to justify the amount of resources he received when splitting up the Azure Flame World. Also, that would be the only way for him to

receive the support of True Immortals Kou and Shang when it came to fighting for benefits with the other True Immortals of the Spirit Luxuriant World.

Stretching his hand out to make a simple gesture, the heaven and earth qi contained in his domain started to surge. Massive clouds gathered above the Elysium and it quickly turned into a watery mirror. The Cangming Elysium was completely covered by the mirror, and so was its surroundings that were filled with all sorts of formations.

The experts stationed within the Elysium quickly noticed his actions. Mist emerged from within the Elysium and covered more than half the reflection in the giant mirror.

What Lu Wuzi used was something similar to the Halo Mirror he had been using before entering the Martial Void Realm. In the past, his skill was pretty similar, just on a much smaller scale.

After his advancement, he managed to develop the ability of the mirror into a secret art of his own and he no longer needed to use the Halo Mirror!

Shang Xia glanced all around him and noticed that there were places without cover. The experts in the Elysium were trying all they could to interfere with Lu Wuzi's secret art, but they didn't seem thorough enough. There were many spots not covered in the reflection.

"Is this an intentional weakness they are leaving or are their restrictions just not up to par..." Lu Wuzi stared at the spots that weren't covered with a suspicious look. He casually tapped several spots where the ground below was exposed, but he quickly discovered that the space there was twisted.

"Young Friend Shang, you were right... The Elysium suffered heavy damages and those regions of weakness were created because of it..." Lu Wuzi quickly evaluated and seemed a little excited at the discovery.

The strength of a True Immortal who relied on their Elysium to advance was closely tied to the state of their Elysium. Since the Cangming Elysium was damaged, Yuan Cangming's strength would also be affected. His ability to restore his energy during battles would definitely take a huge hit.

After a moment of contemplation, Lu Wuzi waved his sleeves in the air and the mirror that formed above the Cangming Elysium shattered. They transformed into countless ice spikes that fell accurately on those spots that weren't protected.

Lu Wuzi's domain allowed him to be adept at controlling things related to the weather, but as the ice spikes fell, they eventually melted and turned into water that splashed down on the land.

"Hmm? Yuan Cangming didn't make a move earlier. There seems to be a formation expert among them!" Lu Wuzi could tell that Yuan Cangming didn't scatter his attack earlier. Instead, it was dealt with by powerful formations that lay around the Elysium.

"They most likely have a rank five Formation Grandmaster among them who is supported by a bunch of rank four Formation Grandmasters... They barely managed to deal with your attack earlier, but that should be the limit of their abilities." Kou Chongxue explained.

“It’s possible that they’re setting up a trap by making it look like they barely dealt with Senior Lu’s attack...” Shang Xia muttered at the side.

Clasping his hands together, Lu Wuzi growled, “Let’s find out, shall we!” Drawing on the power of the heaven and earth qi around, a massive vortex formed in front of it. In several breaths of time, it extended to form a giant tornado that ripped into the void above the Elysium.

As the tornado ripped into the distance, it destroyed countless formations in its path. Lights flickered as restrictions and formations were activated, but they quickly dimmed as they were torn to shreds.

The formation experts of the Azure Flame World quickly thought of a reaction. More than half the formations around the Cangming Elysium roared into life as heaven and earth qi in a 1000 mile radius started to gather together.

The Formation Grandmaster of the Azure Flame World actually snatched heaven and earth qi from Lu Wuzi’s skill to weaken the tornado that had formed.

Indeed... With almost all the heaven and earth qi in the region being sapped away, the power of the tornado immediately decreased by half. It was no longer able to tear through the formations like before.

“They’re trying to buy time...” Shang Xia spoke suddenly. “From the looks of it, Yuan Cangming’s injuries are really serious. The Formation Grandmaster is trying to buy as much as time as he can for Yuan Cangming to recover and for them to repair the Cangming Elysium!”

Shang Xia felt the least suppression from the world and he could vaguely feel some strange fluctuations in the World Origin Source.

The Cangming Elysium that was protected by many layers of formation was emitting powerful fluctuations as though it was breathing.

“We’ll have to destroy this system for formations then. Let’s see if Yuan Cangming will be able to hold out then!” Kou Chongxue muttered. However, the Hidden Frost Sword had already started moving halfway through his sentence. It drew a mysterious arc through the skies and it seemed to be able to separate the heavens and earth.

Kou Chongxue’s domain contained strong destructive properties. If he wanted to destroy the resistance they were putting up, there was no better way than to go all in. Otherwise, he would need to waste even more energy if he tried other ways.

At the same time, Lu Wuzi, who seemed to already know how to coordinate with Kou Chongxue, scattered the tornado he created as a powerful breeze took its place. It followed behind Kou Chongxue’s sword qi and prepared to pierce deeper into the formations as soon as an opening was created.