

U. Warlord 1161

Chapter 1161: Moon of Thousand Faces

Two more eyes grew out of the Everbearing Lady's crown, one gold and the other a vivid jade green.

After the transfer of strength, Zhou Ying's jade-green hair turned a more faded shade of green, and the golden leaves seemed to have likewise lost their luster. Her strength had been temporarily diminished.

Whereas Zhou Ying had sucked away the Everbearing Lady's strength, the Everbearing Lady instead received an infusion of channeled energy from Zhou Ying. After her strength was sucked away, the Everbearing Lady had almost wilted. On the other hand, Zhou Ying could still walk off stage with ease, and she simply had to take a short rest to regain the vitality she had consumed. She would even grow stronger.

The Everbearing Lady, who had her strength sucked away but then quickly replenished with Zhou Ying's own, would grow stronger than before as well. Zhou Ying's vitality would catalyze a transformation in her body.

Zhang Lie asked curiously, "What did you gain from absorbing the Everbearing Lady's strength?"

Sun Mengmeng echoed the question. "Have you developed any special abilities?"

To those questions, Zhou Ying simply smiled mysteriously. "I hope to demonstrate during our practice battles in the future."

She sat down cross-legged and began to meditate to replenish her lost energy.

"The next fight," the king of chaos announced.

Li Feng strode forward. On the other side of the hall, a gray ocean rolled up onto the arena. It looked featureless at first glance, but on closer inspection, there were small black dots that were like heads, and there were millions of such black dots within the sludge, floating in it. The heads were alive, and their eyes conveyed a tormented pain. Their lips murmured soundless cries, and tears rolled down their sunken cheeks.

The Moon of Thousand Faces would be Li Feng's competition.

The combatants exchanged no pleasantries or trash talk. The gray, sludge-like ocean simply gushed toward Li Feng.

"[Light Dragon's Remnants]!" Li Feng marshaled his genetic energy into the form of a large number of white dragons, which blocked the sludge's initial assault. Either in reaction to Li Feng's attack or the Moon of Thousand Faces' control, gray fog roiled above the sludge and spread across the arena.

The witch of dreams murmured, "To have encountered the Moon of Thousand Faces... your string of victories shall end here."

Zhang Lie glanced at her. "That's the third time you've said it."

The witch of dreams:...

Nightdemon replied, "It's very possible that Li Feng might lose this time, so everyone's watching attentively. After all, it would be a loss of reputation if our invited guests were to win every fight against us."

Sun Mengmeng asked, "How strong is this Moon of Thousand Faces, really?"

The witch of dreams replied, "Strong even among the halls of chaos."

"How about in comparison to Ghroth?"

Ghroth was the only particularly strong member of the halls of chaos that they had faced, and the members of Team Zenith could only use Ghroth as reference. They knew that Ghroth had been third among the halls of chaos when he was still one of its members.

The witch of dreams replied, "Incomparable to the walking disaster, but the Moon of Thousand Faces can weather Ghroth's assault and live."

The hunters glanced at each other uncertainly. It had taken basically all of them to take down Ghroth. It looked as though Li Feng would face an uphill battle indeed.

"[Dance of the Incandescent Wyrms]!" Li Feng summoned dozens of serpents, flaring with blinding light.

Hundreds of shining serpents tore apart the gray fog and landed in the gray sludge. The serpents, composed of light-attuned genetic energy, were slowly dissolved by the gray fog, but even so, as the bulk of them landed on the surface of the sludge, the sludge began to react.

A nine-headed hydra emerged from the sludge, each head thick as could be, its scales formed of heads of various aliens. The heads sprayed out a breath of gray fog, dissolving the ground of the arena and transforming it into a swamp.

"[Arclight Dragon's Imprint]!" With a shout, Li Feng waved his left arm, around which a torrent of light-attuned genetic energy was gathering. It took the form of a gigantic dragon's claw, rending the fog and striking one of the hydra's heads.

The remaining eight heads all struck at once.

"[Light's Bulwark: Draconic Fist]!" Li Feng clenched his fist. His right arm, clad with light, was covered with scales. The scales began to move as an arclight dragon materialized, howled, and rushed toward the solar king...

One arclight dragon bit off a hydra head. The remaining seven surrounded Li Feng, opened their maws wide, and sprayed out toxic air.

Li Feng's body shone with intense white light, illuminating him until he was burning like a midday sun.

The Moon of Thousand Faces' toxic gray fog was indeed very impressive, and it quickly corroded the light-attuned genetic energy. Even the draconic armor that had just condensed over Li Feng's body quickly turned an ashen gray.

"[Light's Bulwark: Dragon's Teeth]!" Li Feng charged up for a stronger attack. Concentrated light-attuned genetic energy surrounded him as he shot out a piercing burst of light, intending to penetrate through the hydra's heads.

He fought his way out of the heads' encirclement.

The remaining six heads chased after him, toxic gray clouds spraying from their heads.

Li Feng ran for it. Light-attuned genetic energy shone through his corroded armor.

"[Light's Bulwark: Meteoric Fist]!" The arclight imprint rapidly gathered, and a white dragon appeared behind him. As Li Feng punched forward, the dragon shot toward the hydra like a bullet from a sniper rifle. It left behind a starry trail, breathtakingly beautiful.

Li Feng sent out a flurry of punches like bullets from a machine gun. Starlight shone down on the hall of chaos, causing Zhang Hanxiang, Sun Mengmeng, and Hong Xi to gape in awe.

Zhang Hanxiang murmured, "It's little wonder that Li Feng's the only one among all of us who has a girlfriend. His techniques are so pretty."

Yang Ze scoffed. "A mammoth for a girlfriend..." He would rather not have one than have a mammoth one.

The remaining six hydra heads were staggered by the blows.

"[Light's Bulwark: Earthbreak]!" Li Feng's fists, glowing with light, were packed with huge quantities of light-attuned genetic energy. They smashed into the ground in a massive explosion, as though a nuclear warhead had detonated. All that energy headed in a certain direction.

The floor cracked as Li Feng targeted the gray sludge.

However, the Moon of Thousand Faces wasn't an easy opponent. The gray sludge roiled forth, exploding as it came into contact with the light-attuned genetic energy and shielding the Moon of Thousand Faces' main body from the blow.

"[Light's Bulwark: Heavenfall]!" A silvery-white glow, blinding in its intensity, exploded from Li Feng's body. The shockwaves that emanated from his body were so intense as to distort space. They roared through the air like thundering dragons, turning the hall white.

Chapter 1162: An Ocean of Gray Sludge

Li Feng's technique had been based on one of Zhang Lie's, but by now, he had converted it into something completely his own.

As Li Feng punched forward, light-attuned genetic energy transformed into a raging flood. Thick, concentrated energy, like roaring dragons and galloping steeds, like sharp blades piercing heaven and earth, fell from the sky. The entire hall was lit up with white.

The six heads simultaneously exploded.

Light brimmed over Li Feng's body. As he howled, an arclight dragon manifested over his fists.

"[Light's Bulwark: Thousand Dragons Soaring]!"

The dragons roared. As Li Feng punched upward into the sky, all his genetic energy condensed in his fists, launching thousands of dragons into the sky.

The dragons' cries sounded like peals of thunder as they swooped through the air, each dragon so large it could swallow a blazing sun whole.

The thousand dragons fell toward the Moon of Thousand Faces like countless meteors. The gray sludge transformed into an ashen hurricane, blocking the dragons' advances and obliterating them.

"[Birth of the Holy Dragon]!" Li Feng leapt high into the air and landed on the dragon's head, his sword gleaming brightly as though it had been dipped in liquid light. As he raised the sword to the skies, it glowed and expanded, morphing into a huge blade of light.

The blade parted the clouds and lit up the entire patch of void. At that very moment, Li Feng looked like a god descending from the heavens.

The dragon swooped down, causing the gray sludge to explode where he made contact. The gray sludge formed a pair of hands to catch the arclight dragon, but Li Feng slashed down with his sword and rent a hole in those hands, freeing countless souls from eternal torment.

"[Birth of the Holy Dragon: Starcrest Dragonblade]!" Li Feng yelled out. He pulled out a blade from which light began to gather. As he struck, dozens of dragons fell from the skies like meteors, illuminating the void.

The slashes sent the gray sludge flying through the air.

"[Birth of the Holy Dragon: Arclight Slash]!"

Li Feng lifted his sword high above his head. A silvery-white dragon emerged from behind him, merged with the sword, and sent a beam of light piercing the skies. Li Feng struck, and the sword slash morphed into a dragon.

The arclight dragon careened into the ashen hurricane. The sword was so sharp it could slice through anything, cutting apart the hurricane in a slash so fast it happened in the blink of an eye. A scar was left on the ocean in its wake.

The gray sludge transformed into a hundred snakes, criss-crossing in the air.

"[Birth of the Holy Dragon: Milky Way Slash]!" Dozens of sword slashes emanated from Li Feng, each with a starry splendor reminiscent of the Milky Way. The stars in the night sky shone brightly as a galaxy seemed to unfold around Li Feng.

The starlight was so splendid that it would make any onlookers dizzy.

The silver dragons, simultaneously real and illusory, swept away the gray serpents as though they had never existed.

The guests in the halls of chaos were stunned. To think even the Moon of Thousand Faces was being beaten by Li Feng!

The guests were certain that the opposite was going to happen. After all, Li Feng's opponent was the Moon of Thousand Faces, one of the strongest attendees at the banquet.

Only Li Feng himself knew that, despite how the battle might appear to the onlookers, he was only able to do limited damage to the Moon of Thousand Faces. After all, his opponent was able to

transform the hall's sturdy, reinforced floor to a swamp just by breathing out vapors. Much of Li Feng's attack had been blocked and absorbed by the gray fog.

"[Birth of the Holy Dragon]!" Li Feng cut forward with another slash. The overflowing sword energy materialized in the form of a light dragon that tore through the gray sludge.

As Li Feng's attacks landed one after the other, the Moon of Thousand Faces, having suffered a number of rather serious blows, shrunk in volume. The gray sludge covered far smaller an area than before, becoming more a lake than an ocean, and the thousand faces became a hundred.

Li Feng's attacks, weakened though they might be, were rather effective. On the other hand, the Moon of Thousand Faces had yet to get in even one good hit.

"[The Boundless Blade: Cloudstep]!" Li Feng soared into the air, clouds appearing by his feet to propel him forward. He sent his light-imbued sword arcing through the air as an arclight dragon rushed into the sky alongside his back. The dragon swooped down toward the Moon of Thousand Faces, causing another explosion of gray sludge. The entire lake of gray sludge was roiling, and a hundred heads were sent flying toward the sky.

Their necks were tied together by gray tendrils as they floated toward and attacked Li Feng.

Waving his giant blade around, Li Feng cut apart the heads in a flurry of silver light. The next moment, he began to glow.

"[Birth of the Holy Dragon: Realm of Heaven]!" Li Feng raised his sword high into the air. Light-attuned genetic energy gathered around it, invoking the stars and even the will of the world itself. A holy chant seemed to fill the air.

The light-attuned genetic energy that gathered around Li Feng manifested as angel's wings on his back. He seemed to be right by the lake of gray sludge, but simultaneously a world apart—in a dimension beyond, where the gray sludge couldn't attack back.

Even the king of chaos seemed stupefied. In the eighteenth layer of space, Li Feng had nevertheless invoked spatial authority.

It was far harder to control space and time in such a deep layer of space, and for Li Feng to be using such a tactic revealed the depth of his strength. It was far more impressive an achievement than when Zhou Ying had torn apart space with her daggers.

A hundred dragons wrapped around Li Feng's sword, and his light-attuned genetic energy was forming complicated patterns around him. Light swirled around him, as though manifesting in the form of illusions, as he swung his blade down.

Radiant white light exploded from the point of impact, the holy light of heaven. Suddenly, all that light disappeared.

The heads that had been hovering around Li Feng transformed into wisps of soulstuff, which rose into the air amidst holy light.

As the Moon of Thousand Faces lost many of the souls that were trapped in its gray sludge, it deflated like a balloon that had a leak. Where once there had been an ocean, there was now a little pool.

"Let this final blow be a mark of honor against a skilled opponent." The next moment, Li Feng struck with his sword. A river of holy light seemed to trail behind him, and arclight dragons could be seen amidst the light. An ornate pair of doors could be seen at the source of the holy river. "[The Boundless Blade: Heaven's Gate]!"

Chapter 1163: Metallic Hurricane

"[The Boundless Blade: Heaven's Gate]!" As the gates of heaven opened up, countless arclight dragons poured out from behind the doors, forming a concentrated river of light and illuminating the hall.

"Let's stop the match here." Before the flood of arclight dragons could land on the Moon of Thousand Faces, the king of chaos jumped in. He blocked the entirety of Li Feng's attack.

"The victor has been decided. We don't need to keep going," the king of chaos concluded. Li Feng stopped short.

A human face appeared within the gray sludge. "I apologize, leader. I've damaged your reputation."

"No, you've done well. You exhibited our strength and participated in a captivating battle." With a wave of his hand, the king of chaos turned back time. The Moon of Thousand Faces' body once again grew as large as an ocean.

If the king of chaos were to turn back time right after Li Feng had launched an ultimate attack, he might very well vomit from exhaustion.

The king of chaos continued, "State your wish."

Li Feng thought for a moment, then demurred. "Let's forget about it."

The guests began to murmur to each other.

Li Feng continued, "We should strive for our goals. Accomplishing them through wishes would be a waste of our lives—we need to be overcoming trials and challenges."

Would an easy life be meaningful? Not to Li Feng, at any rate.

If he wanted to catch up to Zhang Lie, he would do so with his own feet. If he wanted superior world's energy, he would excavate it with his own hands. What kind of man would he be to get everything via the king of chaos' wishes?

The guests glanced at each other with growing dissatisfaction.

Hong Xi had also turned the king of chaos down, but she had at least inquired as to the wish—she was simply dissatisfied with the manner by which it would be granted. On the other hand, Li Feng was rejecting it outright.

How many entities among the three thousand worlds had wishes they would give anything to fulfill? All those guests participating in the Night Banquet had staked their all on this, and many guests present now had lost their freedom because of their participation.

They looked toward Li Feng with dismay and annoyance, feeling as though he were embarrassing the king of chaos and highlighting their futility.

Even so, considering how Li Feng had taken down the Moon of Thousand Faces, none of the guests dared speak up.

Li Feng's strength spoke volumes.

The king of chaos seemed rather surprised. "That's precisely how I feel. How interesting! It's a pity that you've already chosen to accompany Zhang Lie... if you ever change your mind, let me know at any time."

The king of chaos was making a twofold offer: if Li Feng ever wanted a wish fulfilled, the king of chaos would help him do so, and simultaneously, if he ever felt as though he were being treated poorly, the king of chaos would offer him the most gracious terms.

"Thank you, but I'm doing well." Li Feng marched toward Zhang Lie and the other members of Team Zenith.

A complex entity, whose body was hemispherical and composed of gray shining metallic cylindrical particles, slowly moved toward the center of the hall.

Those who looked at it had the strange sense that there might have been multiple glowing, sparkling eyes between the cylinders, but no matter from which direction they looked, all they could see was the space delineated by the cylinders.

The Parter of Veils floated quietly at the center of the hall. Sun Xiaowu strode forward, step by step, as Sun Mengmeng cheered him from behind.

Sun Xiaowu smiled as he turned back, then clenched his fists tightly.

"[Blinding Flash: Thousandfold Echo]!"

Sun Xiaowu's body split into over a thousand clones, so many they seemed to fill the sky. Each was simultaneously real and illusory.

The gray, metallic amalgamation transformed into a hurricane of metal that shot toward Sun Xiaowu.

"[Golden Divide]!" The thousand clones all used [Golden Divide] simultaneously, coloring the sky in gold and raining down golden feathers in such numbers that it seemed as though a thunderstorm had just formed out of thin air.

The metallic cylinders smashed into the storm of golden feathers and continued on unharmed.

Yang Ze smirked as he turned toward the witch of dreams. "Are you going to say we have no chance of victory again?"

The witch of dreams hmphed. "Don't blame me for not warning you all in advance—the Parter of Veils is certainly among the top five guests present."

"[Goldenscale Palm: Split]!"

Golden radiance struck the land. Sun Xiaowu's palms brimmed with golden light as a dense layer of golden scales covered his skin. His aura suddenly shifted, and his right arm glowed with resplendent light.

An aura of intense strength emanated from Sun Xiaowu's body.

Sun Xiaowu took a step forward, then punched with all his might, generating a dominating wave of genetic energy.

The attack landed like a nuclear explosion. Golden light rose into the air, and the overwhelming radiance forced all the onlookers to shut their eyes. The attack struck the hurricane and smashed a hole in it, but it quickly reformed within moments.

Before the gray metallic cylinders could restore themselves, Sun Xiaowu's golden clones dashed forward.

"[Blinding Flash: Self-Destruct]!" They suddenly radiated with golden light so bright the entire hall was illuminated.

However, the Parter of Veils was prepared for this attack. Sun Xiaowu hadn't noticed that the small eyes hidden behind the cylinders had been paying attention to Sun Xiaowu's clones, and metallic shards sprayed out of the cylinders.

The shards tore apart Sun Xiaowu's clones, and even Sun Xiaowu himself was caught by the spray.

"[Adamantine Aegis]!" A layer of golden runes covered Sun Xiaowu's skin, shining brightly like a brand. As the metal shards landed on his body, sending sparks flying.

"[Blinding Flash: Ten Thousandfold Echo]!" The moment the spray of metallic shards stopped, Sun Xiaowu's body split into over ten thousand clones, an entire battalion of soldiers by himself. Each clone was simultaneously real and illusory.

The gray metallic cylinders made a move once more, transforming into a hurricane of metal that devoured Sun Xiaowu's clones.

"[Goldenscale Palm: Qilin]!" Seizing that opportunity, Sun Xiaowu and all his clones leapt up into the air, performing exactly the same action. Golden light flashed from their arms and illuminated the sky. Tens of thousands of clones merged into Sun Xiaowu's main body, and the countless activated copies of the technique merged into one.

Golden scales covered up Sun Xiaowu's arm as it grew thicker and thicker, and the image of a golden qilin appeared behind him.

He rushed forward, golden scales appearing over his arm as he smashed into the hurricane, sending golden light flaring and metallic shards flying as a shockwave of force swept over everyone in the hall.

Chapter 1164: Qilin of Gold

The golden qilin smashed into the metallic hurricane. The metal sparked as it struck the golden qilin's body, sending sparks all over as the qilin cried out.

The metallic hurricane was like a hurricane that had picked up all the scrap metal in a junkyard. All the metal was endowed with high-dimensional spatial authority, which went beyond even that forbidden by the eighteenth layer of space.

The hurricane was composed of a combination of metal and spatial force. As it repeatedly smashed into the golden qilin, the qilin's scales began to crack, and the hurricane grew fiercer and fiercer.

The metal shards began to resonate as their spatial authority tore apart the qilin's scales, causing it to explode.

The entire hall shook with the force of the explosion, as though a nuclear warhead had detonated. Golden light flared so brightly that it felt as though the sun was exploding.

The golden qilin burst apart amidst the metal hurricane, sending the remnant shards of metal flying.

"[Blinding Flash: Thousandfold Echo]!" As the hurricane was momentarily disrupted, Sun Xiaowu divided into another thousand clones.

Before the metal shards could gather once again, Sun Xiaowu made his move. "[Golden Divide]!"

The thousand clones all used [Golden Divide] simultaneously, coloring the sky in gold.

Golden radiance filled the air, so concentrated that much of the shining blades struck the eyes hidden behind the metal cylinders and caused them to tremble. They haphazardly danced through the air, scoring lines into the cylinders' bodies. A few even struck Sun Xiaowu's own clones and pierced through them.

"[Goldenscale Palm]!" The remaining clones all clenched their fists. Their arms glowed with resplendent light, and a layer of dense golden scales emerged over their skin.

The golden radiance lit up the battlefield, as though a golden sun was rising out of its midst.

An aura of intense strength emanated from Sun Xiaowu's body.

Frightening shockwaves of energy radiated through the battlefield as Sun Xiaowu punched forward.

Sun Xiaowu's remaining clones struck in all directions. The power of his golden punch sent gusts of golden radiance blowing across the hall, scattering the metal.

"[Golden Divide: Soar]!" Sun Xiaowu's clones raised their hands as one. Golden radiance lit up the hall.

The clones all struck with [Golden Divide], forming a sea of resplendent gold. The tides surged, swallowing up all the metal, which cracked in the air.

Rather than dividing like cells, the metallic cylinders seemed to unfold like kaleidoscopes, forming a turbulent mass.

The replicating cylinders clashed with Sun Xiaowu's clones' attacks again and again, shattering the golden light and sending sparks flying. Some of the cylinders ended up slashed into pieces by the golden light.

"[Adamantine Aegis: Martial God]!" Golden runes emerged from Sun Xiaowu's body and revolved around him as his aura grew stronger and stronger. As the golden runes merged with his genetic energy, Sun Xiaowu transformed into a mecha over a hundred meters tall. The golden runes surrounded Sun Xiaowu, turning him into a burning sun.

The mecha even looked a bit like Zhang Lie.

As Sun Xiaowu attacked, so too did the golden mecha.

The golden radiance burst apart and struck everything in sight, piercing through the floor of the hall. The golden light stormed through the hall, sending the metallic cylinders flying and thudding into the walls. Nevertheless, the cylinders continued to replicate, quickly repairing the damage that Sun Xiaowu had wrought.

"[Goldenscale Palm: Split]!" Layers of dense golden scales appeared on Sun Xiaowu's arms, and his right arm glowed with resplendent light.

As Sun Xiaowu attacked, so too did the golden giant, bringing the strength of his attack to a new level entirely.

The metallic cylinders formed a latticework shield to block the radiant light, but to no avail. The golden light struck the cylinders and exploded the shield into smithereens.

"[Blinding Flash: Thousandfold Echo]!" Sun Xiaowu split into a thousand clones, each of which summoned a golden mecha.

The metallic cylinders which had spread throughout the hall as a result of the fighting now floated up and joined the mass in the center of the arena. They revolved in mid-air at high speed. Spatial authority flickered from the cylinders, transforming them into a metallic hurricane anew.

"[Golden Divide]!" Thousands of golden mechas simultaneously used Golden Divide, and the entire sky turned glittering gold. Each golden blade was five meters wide and thousands of meters long, and there were so many of them they filled the sky.

Golden fragments filled the air, some forged of Sun Xiaowu's genetic energy, others pieces of the metallic cylinders that had been chipped or sliced off.

However, the self-replicating metallic cylinders were able to absorb such losses readily.

"[Goldenscale Palm: Qilin]!" The golden mechas exploded with golden radiance. Their forms dissipated into motes of golden light, which shot toward Sun Xiaowu's own mecha and augmented it.

It was as large as the falling sun.

It bent its arms as golden energy shone from its body and illuminated the heavens. Tens of thousands of clones merged into Sun Xiaowu's main body, and the countless activated copies of the technique merged into one.

Golden scales covered up Sun Xiaowu's arm as it grew thicker and thicker, and the image of a golden qilin appeared behind him. In his mecha form, augmented by his thousand clones all stacked atop each other, the might of his golden qilin grew by at least fifty times, if not a hundred.

As Sun Xiaowu swung his fists forward, the golden qilin soared into the air.

Chapter 1165: Snatched Away

The qilin's scales were radiant and shining with golden light, each like a miniature sun. It looked like a god descending from the heavens, its long whiskers floating in the void, surrounded by golden clouds, looking like a sculpture of gold.

The golden qilin would originally be around a thousand meters tall, but in Sun Xiaowu's mecha form, it grew to a staggering fifty thousand meters in height.

The golden qilin radiated light, illuminating the hall.

Even the massive halls of chaos seemed small in comparison to the golden qilin. The gathered guests retreated from the arena in surprise.

The golden qilin's body was so large as to render the metallic hurricane ineffective. Spatial force flickered as the metallic cylinders were haphazardly scattered about.

As the metallic cylinders regrouped and attacked the golden qilin, the golden qilin swiped its claws at them.

Sun Xiaowu didn't notice that a few scattered, lifeless cylinders were floating into the air and vibrating rapidly. They shot toward him from behind at an incredible speed.

Fortunately, the golden mecha served as a first layer of protection, blocking the cylinders for the barest of moments before they pierced through the golden mecha's genetic barrier. By that time, however, Sun Xiaowu had realized what was happening. He sent a punch at his back, deflecting the attack.

As the metallic cylinders surrounded the massive golden qilin, they began to duplicate again and again, turning into a dense forest of metallic cylinders that surrounded the qilin's body like a swarm of mosquitoes. If the cylinders were allowed to duplicate again and again, the golden qilin would soon be swallowed up.

Sun Xiaowu glanced at the golden qilin. The next moment, the qilin self-destructed. Golden radiance flooded the halls of chaos, devouring the metallic cylinders within moments. Even the king of chaos frowned.

The most turbulent of chaotic energies, sufficient to swallow up even a sun, formed a barrier around the golden energy so as to prevent the explosion from affecting any of the guests.

The golden genetic energy was so concentrated as to be able to disrupt space and cause the metallic cylinders to sublimate. The energy that spread beyond the confines of the arena was all siphoned off by the energy of chaos. After the energy faded away, all that remained were burning-red, half-melted metallic cylinders barely floating in the air.

"[Blinding Flash: Ten Thousandfold Echo]!" Sun Xiaowu split into ten thousand clones, each of which summoned a golden mecha.

All of Sun Xiaowu's clones simultaneously asked, "Shall we keep fighting, then?"

Sun Xiaowu stared at the metallic cylinders that lay scattered about the hall. "Or do you think you can beat me with this half-formed refuse?"

Sun Xiaowu's clones glowed with light as the floating metallic cylinders fell weakly to the ground, signaling the Parter of Veils' surrender.

The king of chaos reversed time and reconstituted the Parter of Veils anew.

With a voice akin to metal rasping against itself, the Parter of Veils announced, "I apologize for my taunts. I admit your strength."

The king of chaos intoned, "State your wish."

Sun Xiaowu thought for a moment, but in the end, he replied, "I don't need anything right now. May I defer my wish for the moment?"

"Yes," the king of chaos replied, "as long as you're ready by the end of the banquet."

Sun Xiaowu dispelled his clones and walked off stage, making a victory sign as he strode up to his sister.

Subsequently, Yang Ze walked onto stage. "Who's my opponent?"

The Lord of Dimensions phased through space and appeared directly before him.

Yang Ze sucked in a deep breath and asked, "Can I get a different opponent? I'm not a big fan of dogs or bugs."

The Lord of Dimension bared its sharp teeth and pounced toward him.

"[Fists of the Silent Sea]!" Yang Ze invoked his authority over space, which combined with his water-attuned genetic energy and formed circlets around his arms. As he punched forward, the ripples knocked aside the Lord of Dimensions' sharp fangs.

Those fangs, however, were imbued with authority over space. They broke apart the ripples on contact.

In the eighteenth layer of space, spatial authority was hard to invoke and harder to control. Only a shred of spatial force had been imbued into Yang Ze's attacks, and the Lord of Dimensions easily nullified them, just like a pair of scissors snipping at thread.

"[The Boundless Blade: Shark Frenzy]!" Waves suddenly appeared in the sky, shimmering like a mirage. Spatial fluctuations rippled as Yang Ze activated [Mirrored Refraction], but the attacks never reached the Lord of Dimensions.

The Lord of Dimensions clenched its teeth, phasing through the sharks and preparing to bite Yang Ze.

As its teeth tore Yang Ze apart, water-attuned genetic energy burst from the 'body' and sent the Lord of Dimensions flying. The shark turned back and made to chomp down on the Lord of Dimensions, but even so, it was still able to phase through space. It appeared right by the shark's head and bit down, causing the shark to explode in a burst of water-attuned genetic energy and sending the Lord of Dimensions flying once more.

The Lord of Dimensions was propelled high into the air. Meanwhile, Yang Ze stood at the edge of the arena, gathering water-attuned genetic energy around him and manifesting lotus after lotus.

"[The Boundless Blade: Expulsion]!" He slashed forward with his sword, which sent the crystal lotuses whizzing through the air. The Lord of Dimensions phased and appeared right by Yang Ze's back, where he bit down again. This time, its teeth passed right through Yang Ze's body.

The Lord of Dimensions was bewildered—it could sense spatial fluctuations from Yang Ze's body. Yang Ze had actually managed to invoke spatial authority even on the eighteenth layer of space!

The king of chaos praised, "Zhang Lie's companions truly are a group of geniuses. I'd love to make them my companions, but it looks as though mine are still lacking."

Yang Ze was accomplishing what Li Feng had likewise managed—to be familiar enough with the constraints of the third realm to be able to invoke spatial authority even in the eighteenth layer of space.

Beside the king of chaos, the All-Mother asked, "Why not take them by force, leader?"

The king of chaos shook his head. "That would be far too inelegant. I'd not have a group of puppets, but rather a cadre of warriors who would fight alongside me."

Beautiful crystalline lotuses floated around the Lord of Dimensions, but what happened next was far less beautiful.

The lotuses burst apart right in the Lord of Dimensions' face, causing shards of ice and water-attuned genetic energy to blind it.

The shards of ice scored and embedded themselves into its face in waves of shocking pain.

Chapter 1166: The Lord of Dimensions

Yang Ze had laid a trap for the Lord of Dimensions when it next approached his body.

"You bastard!" The Lord of Dimensions was outraged. It was a master of phasing through space, dodging its opponents' attacks readily before counterattacking with its own, which would always land. In the end, fatigued by a thousand bites and never having landed a single attack, its opponents would fall and perish in agony.

This time, however, the Lord of Dimensions was being forced back in its own domain of expertise. Its rage was incredible.

"[The Boundless Blade: Dragonwhale]!" The lapping of waves echoed through the hall. They grew and grew, reaching a crescendo and rising into the sky like a tsunami, manifesting in the form of a huge whale.

In the blink of an eye, Yang Ze was surrounded by a patch of ocean.

The lapping of waves echoed through the hall. They grew and grew, reaching a crescendo and rising into the sky like a tsunami, manifesting in the form of a huge whale.

The Lord of Dimensions, ignoring the whale, phased through space and made to strike at Yang Ze, spatial force gathering over its sharp fangs as it sought to tear Yang Ze's attack apart.

The whale's body was long and streamlined, with long whiskers and scales patterning its body. As it flipped, concentrated water-attuned genetic energy exploded around itself, smashing into the Lord of Dimensions and sending it tumbling back the moment it tried to strike.

The most turbulent of chaotic energies, sufficient to swallow up even a sun, formed a barrier around the energy so as to prevent the explosion from affecting any of the guests.

The king of chaos protected his audience once again.

The Lord of Dimensions flipped through the air several times before smashing down onto the arena, quite a few of its teeth having been knocked loose in the aftermath of the attack. Its body shimmered with cracks as it looked toward Yang Ze with disbelief.

Its teeth had been imbued with concentrated spatial force, which should have torn apart the space around Yang Ze, and hence his body. However, Yang Ze seemed wholly unaffected.

Yang Ze widened his arms. "Don't look at me like that, will you?"

The Lord of Dimensions couldn't help but ask, "Are you truly a human?"

"Indeed I am."

As though it had just thought of something, the Lord of Dimensions continued, "No, even if your body is ethereal, I should be able to attack you. Have you been fighting me all this time with an illusion?!"

Yang Ze couldn't help but smile. "I would hardly reveal all my secrets to you in public."

Yang Ze's karmic power, which he had recently awakened, was an inversion of heaven's might. In combination with his skilled illusions, Yang Ze could come up with all manner of ridiculous techniques.

"Regardless, it's immaterial to you now."

Upon hearing Yang Ze's voice, the Lord of Dimensions belatedly realized that it had been surrounded by thick white fog. All the excess water-attuned genetic energy from Yang Ze's attacks had dispersed into the environment and was now being transformed into white fog, so thick that his hand would be obscured if he extended his arm.

Pale blue sharks swam through the fog, and a horde surrounded him protectively.

Yang Ze was never one for brute force.

Despite being faced with a dense sea of pale blue sharks, the Lord of Dimensions didn't seem worried. It roared dramatically, "Man, avatar, or spirit—I, Mh'ithrha, shall kill you!"

The Lord of Dimensions phased through space and appeared directly before Yang Ze. It bit down, but its teeth passed straight through him.

Yang Ze's illusion was purely that; he hadn't invoked any spatial authority or karmic strength.

However, the enraged Lord of Dimensions could no longer tell illusion from reality. The reason Yang Ze had enraged the Lord of Dimensions with his crystalline lotuses was to cause it to lose its rationality.

At that moment, Yang Ze was standing not far from the illusion. Water-attuned genetic energy surged forth from him like a roaring sea.

"[The Boundless Blade: Sea Serpent]!" With a wave of Yang Ze's sword, water-attuned genetic energy manifested in the form of a giant serpent, pale blue in color, with gills on either side of its body, its scales like crystalline shards of ice. It surged forward, swiping its claws. The Lord of Dimensions phased through space to avoid it, but the dragon was so large, and Yang Ze's attack so opportune, that the Lord of Dimensions couldn't escape unscathed.

The Lord of Dimensions counterattacked by opening its maw wide, shooting out a cannonball of compressed space that tore through the sea serpent. Before it could roar in pride, however, the sea serpent exploded and sent another wave of genetic energy surging through the arena, heavily wounding the Lord of Dimensions.

"The victor is clear," the king of chaos announced.

The king of chaos dispelled the barrier of chaos and healed the Lord of Dimensions before asking Yang Ze what he wanted.

Rather than give it up like Li Feng, or defer it like Sun Xiaowu, Yang Ze calmly stated,

"I'd like to glean further understanding of higher-dimensional space."

The king of chaos commented, "Your mastery over space must be quite refined for you to be able to invoke spatial authority in the eighteenth layer of space so quickly."

"And yet it could always be improved, I'm sure," Yang Ze replied.

The king of chaos stated, "I have two methods of granting your wish. The first is to accept my knowledge and intuition. I have a particular understanding of space, far beyond what you possess, but it won't be something you can emulate completely."

"What side effects are there?" Yang Ze asked.

"None," the king of chaos replied. "If you insist, I suppose one drawback is that the intuition and understanding is wholly mine. Before you digest it completely, the growth of your spatial mastery will slow to a halt. Furthermore, there wouldn't be the accomplishment and struggle that your companion spoke of."

"This seems acceptable to me."

"Even so, I recommend the second approach. I'll send you directly to the twenty-fourth layer of space and allow you to develop your own intuition and mastery. The drawback is that it's rather dangerous, and you might perish. Given your talent, however, I doubt this would be a problem. From what I've learned of all of you, you would surely pick the second option."

Yang Ze narrowed his eyes thoughtfully. "Give me a moment to think it through, please."

The first method was clearly simpler...

Chapter 1167: Three Petals

Yang Ze didn't care much for the sense of accomplishment and the process that only someone like Li Feng, who liked a beast, could value. Yang Ze had no need for these feelings.

As for the "downside" that he would be unable to progress further with regards to spatial manipulation before fully absorbing the king of chaos' insight—well, that was hardly a problem at all. He simply had to absorb all that insight quickly.

It was hardly as if he would lose any interest or happiness in life if he were to become rich.

Yang Ze definitely wanted to become rich—there would only be upsides for him for doing so.

After a moment's thought, Yang Ze lifted his head and announced, "I choose the first option—"

Belatedly, he found that he was being surrounded by chaotic tendrils of energy. "What's going on?"

The king of chaos replied, "It's no choice at all, I suppose. All your companions would pick the second option."

"No, I pick the first option!" Yang Ze cried out.

However, Yang Ze found that he had lost his voice. Surrounded by chaotic energy, he phased through the hall and was transported into the deepest layer of space...

Zhang Lie asked, "King of chaos, are you taking advantage of your position to mess with Yang Ze?"

The king of chaos replied, "I don't know what you're talking about."

The hunters were speechless. The king of chaos was clearly seething!

Neither Sun Xiaowu nor Li Feng had made a wish, and it felt as though the king of chaos' wishes were being devalued. His pride wounded, the king of chaos took it out on Yang Ze. He told Yang Ze that there were two options available, but in truth, there was only one.

To think I was so kind as to pledge to fulfill one of your wishes—only for you to snub me! Hmph.

Sun Mengmeng murmured in concern, "Yang Ze will be alright, won't he?"

Fang Yi wasn't particularly worried. "Don't worry. Yang Ze's survived all sorts of mishaps. Nothing will happen."

Zhang Lie commented, "If the king of chaos were going to strike at him, he would have done so already. Perhaps we might be able to win against the king of chaos' companions individually, but if twenty or thirty of them were to charge at us at once, how many do you think you can take down?"

The members of Team Zenith were silent.

Zhang Lie continued, "What's more, none of us have a measure of the king of chaos' true strength."

Li Feng said, "We don't have to worry about Yang Ze's safety. At the very least, the king of chaos has never tried to take our lives."

The king of chaos asked, "Have you finished your discussions? The next fighter should step forward."

Fang Yi retrieved a spear from his dimensional storage. "Let me take my turn, then."

A small fireball floated forward from the king of chaos' camp.

Fang Yi didn't look down on the fireball just because of its diminutive stature—he had been paying attention to Nightdemon's introductions.

This was the Star Devourer, the frightening existence that treated the three thousand worlds like nothing more than snacks.

The small fireball rapidly expanded into a huge fireball, with three burning petals imprinted into its surface. The entire hall heated up as the gigantic fireball made its way toward Fang Yi.

With a low shout, Fang Yi dashed forward with his spear in hand. He launched his spear, crackling with wind and lightning, with incredible force. It sent wind howling and lightning flashing through the sky.

Fang Yi thrust his spear forward, so quickly it left dozens of afterimages in all directions. As it struck the fireball, the superior-grade spear burned bright red with heat. Just a short moment of contact had suffused the spear with heat, causing Fang Yi to feel as though the spear was scorching his flesh.

"[Floating Clouds]!" Fang Yi morphed into lightning for mere moments, and the wind swelled around him. He pulled back to put some distance between them as the fireball rushed forward and swallowed up the afterimages that Fang Yi left behind.

As the heat poured forth, Fang Yi's forehead beaded with sweat.

The Star Devourer used neither skill nor technique; it simply rushed forward.

Its flames, which could burn even a world, were its most fearsome attack. Realizing that he would be unable to escape, Fang Yi instead dashed forward, thrusting his spear before him.

"[Tiger's Howl, Dragon's Bellow]!" Fang Yi's spear took on the aspect of a dragon of the winds and a storm tiger as he charged forward.

A windstorm raged. Wind and storm circled Fang Yi as he thrust his spear forward. The spear, crackling with wind and storm, caused the flames to swirl, but did no lasting damage to the huge fireball.

Not giving up, Fang Yi boosted his body with the power of space and time.

"[Shadow and Light]!" At that moment, Fang Yi morphed into countless clones, each of which thrust their spears at the Star Devourer. [Floating Clouds] helped Fang Yi keep up his attack, but it landed with no impact whatsoever.

Even Zhang Lie, spectating from the side, murmured, "This fireball's truly against the rules..."

Sun Mengmeng frowned. "Is its body composed of pure energy?"

Sun Xiaowu added, "And it has flames of unparalleled heat, too..."

Zhang Lie shook his head. "No, that's just what it appears like on a superficial level. Its true core is the three burning petals imprinted on the surface of the fireball, but trying to attack it will require going through the flames. It's a ridiculous opponent."

The witch of dreams smiled with glee. "This time, I'm certain that your companion will be unable to hold out. The Star Devourer is an entity that the king of chaos himself had to deal with. Although it hasn't fought much against the other guests present, it has never lost."

Zhang Lie turned to the witch of dreams. "Thank you."

The witch of dreams: ???

She didn't understand Zhang Lie's intent at all.

Zhang Lie explained, "Every time you made such an assertion, my companions won their battles without fail."

Li Feng emulated Zhang Lie's actions. "Thank you for your encouragement."

The witch of dreams cried out, "I mean it this time!"

The members of Team Zenith chorused in response, "We know."

The witch of dreams felt a horrible sense of discomfort.

"[Heaven's Judgment]!" The combination of wind and lightning generated a frightening force that made his spear look like an electric saw, so fearsome it could even penetrate space.

The wind and storm were able to penetrate through the flames to some extent, but reaching the fireball's core was all but impossible.

As the fireball drew near, Fang Yi was scorched by its heat.

"[Heaven's Judgment]! [Tiger's Howl, Dragon's Bellow]!" A dragon's roar resounded through the air like peals of thunder. Wind and storm combined and crackled at the tip of Fang Yi's spear.

Fang Yi leveled his spear. Wind and lightning surged forth. The combination of wind and lightning generated a frightening force, as though the spear had transformed into an electric saw.

Leveling the spear before him, Fang Yi dashed into the flames, the wind forming a protective barrier around him.

"[Floating Clouds]!" The wind and lightning formed a loop around Fang Yi's body.

Fang Yi howled loudly as wind and storm emerged from the loop like a rocket launcher, sending Fang Yi careening forward.

His combat experience allowed him to identify that the Star Devourer wasn't purely a construct of energy, unlike the Moon of Thousand Faces. The three burning petals imprinted on its surface were simply too special, and Fang Yi arrived at the conclusion that those petals had to be part of its core.

Without striking the three petals, the Star Devourer would only continue releasing more and more flames.

Chapter 1168: Through the Flames

Fang Yi's spear thrust into the blazing flames. The Star Devourer had looked massive to begin with, almost half the size of a small world on its own, but it was only when he pushed through the flames did he discover what lay within.

Its internal space was larger than its external, and it was almost as large as a superior world from within.

Advancing through the flames, through the heart of a superior world, was an arduous task. By the time the spear was almost about to touch the petals, they suddenly moved aside, so quickly they were somewhere else in the blink of an eye.

Flames were chasing Fang Yi from behind, and he knew that he wouldn't be able to remain in the Star Devourer's body for long. Otherwise, he would quickly burn to a crisp.

Fang Yi didn't hesitate. He headed straight through the flames on the other side as the flames behind him pounced on him like demons.

"[Born of Lightning, Swallowed by the Wind]!" As Fang Yi shouted, his spear traced a half-moon in the air, surrounded by an aura of time. Light and shadow flashed by its tip, just like the wind and lightning that made up the core of Fang Yi's techniques. The attack consisted of two different types of energy, one to speed up time, and the other to accelerate decay.

The two disparate sources of energy revolved around the spear, spawning a black hole in the area and turning the surroundings gray. Everything was frozen in time for a moment—the blowing wind,

the scintillating lightning, the scorching flame. The only color in the space came from Fang Yi and his crackling spear.

Of course, neither Zhang Lie nor the king of chaos were affected by the stopped time, either.

Zhang Lie was temporarily in a pale gray state. His consciousness was alert and unaffected by the time stop; he watched Fang Yi's actions quietly.

If he wanted to, he would likely be able to break out of the temporal stasis, but Zhang Lie would never do so. Disrupting Fang Yi's skill now would break his concentration and might even lose him the match.

Meanwhile, the king of chaos seemed completely unaffected, as though he were immune to temporal shifts or locks.

The Star Devourer's flames were moments away from invading the gray world of stasis. Fang Yi would only be able to halt time for a few moments longer. He whirled around and thrust his spear out to defend against the flames chasing after him. The next moment, the gray world collapsed.

With Fang Yi at the center, cracks propagated throughout the world of stopped time. The world unfroze with the sound of glass shattering.

Fang Yi thrust forward with his spear as the Star Devourer's flames exploded into a brilliant burst of light throughout the air. Fang Yi defended with his spear.

"[Stormwind Kick]!" His leg, crackling with lightning, sent multiple fireballs flying.

The fire suffused the entirety of the space. Fang Yi was almost overwhelmed and temporarily suppressed.

The flames manifested in the form of two gigantic palms that closed in on Fang Yi from the left and from the right.

"[Wheel of Time]!" Fang Yi's spear took on the aspects of time and age. Temporal winds buffeted the spear, and a mysterious light began to circle the spear like lightning.

A wheel of light appeared behind Fang Yi, taking on the form of a clock.

Fang Yi thrust his spear forward so quickly it left dozens of afterimages in all directions. He kicked at one palm, then used the momentum to somersault in the air to avoid the other.

A second wheel of time manifested by his back, accelerating him. He launched his spear, crackling with wind and lightning, with incredible force. It sent wind howling and lightning flashing through the sky.

It left thousands of artificial images behind as a third wheel of time appeared, countering the disaster of fire that threatened to envelop him.

Wind and lightning surged around his spear in quantities far larger than seemed possible. Fang Yi combined that energy with temporal energy, causing the light around his spear to flash a dazzling array of colors, blue and black and purple, as though he had cracked open a tunnel through time.

Light wrapped around the spear. Temporal energy that sped up time and age swirled around it, like wind and lightning.

"[Born of Lightning, Swallowed by the Wind], [Tiger's Howl, Dragon's Bellow], [Heaven's Judgment]!" Fang Yi broke through the constraints of time and returned to the frozen world of gray, with him the only spot of color within.

The wheels of time that spawned around Fang Yi's back weren't just to strengthen his own abilities, but were a necessary prerequisite for unleashing this skill.

Wind and storm combined and crackled at the tip of Fang Yi's spear, imbuing it with sharpness and penetrating strength beyond measure. The Star Devourer's flames were sucked into the wind that revolved around him, turning them into flaming meteors.

Fang Yi compressed that energy again and again, until even the space around the spear started getting sucked in. The tip of the spear punched through space as though it were nothing more than paper.

Even the eighteenth layer of space was insufficient to suppress Fang Yi's overwhelming strength.

Fang Yi's manipulation of spatial force was no subtle affair—he used strength, brute strength, to compel the space around him into motion.

This might have been difficult for others to achieve, but Fang Yi was perfectly capable of such a feat. In the face of brute strength, all else paled in comparison.

The combination of elemental, temporal, and spatial energy at the tip of the spear multiplied the strength of Fang Yi's attack beyond what should have been possible.

He combined [Born of Lightning, Swallowed by the Wind], [Tiger's Howl, Dragon's Bellow], and [Heaven's Judgment]—elements, time, and space.

All these sources of energy were stacked together, like buff after buff. Even the eighteenth layer of space was meaningless against such strength.

A dragon of purple lightning and tiger of green wind, shielded by a barrier of time and shrouded by black spatial energy, slowly began to manifest. Storm winds were sucked into the mix.

Wind and storm combined with space and time, a whole new combination. A spatial rift began to form where Fang Yi was standing...

Chapter 1169: Two Petals Left

Formless lightning flashed over the surface of Fang Yi's spear, gathering near its tip. The dragon of winds and lightning tiger prowled about the spear.

Part of the energy from the spatial rift seeped into the lightning-attuned genetic energy, turning it into void lightning. The pitch-black lightning began to spike and sizzle.

The Star Devourer's flames burned the gray world caught in temporal stasis to a crisp.

As the flow of time resumed, all the guests turned to Fang Yi's technique with consternation. The technique boasted such strength that no one present could be certain of defending against it unscathed.

The Star Devourer emitted a torrent of flame. Rather than trying to avoid the attack, it accelerated and smashed into it.

In combination with the spatial rift that was forming, the void lightning tore apart the space around Fang Yi, causing the frozen world of gray to crumble bit by bit. The energies combined, somehow managing to stabilize the mix of energies that ran rampant around Fang Yi.

Fang Yi sent a stream of each type of energy swirling and corkscrewing around the tip of his spear. As the forces continued to revolve around each other, the wheels of time behind Fang Yi began rotating more and more quickly as the space around him was strained to its utmost.

Fang Yi had combined six different forms of energy: wind and lightning; their advanced counterparts, spatial rifts and void lightning; and the fundamental forces of space and time.

Dragon-like lightning, tiger-like storm, formless time, timeless space—those four disparate energies combined into a cohesive whole, tied together by a dark gold thread. The energies revolved around each other, summoning a howling gale surrounding a spatial rift.

Part of the energy from the spatial rift seeped into the lightning-attuned genetic energy, turning it into void lightning.

The wheels of time to Fang Yi's back began to break and crack, as did Fang Yi's own peak-grade spear. Even Fang Yi's own body was giving out. He bled out of his orifices, veins popping out on his forehead, the spear in his hand trembling almost uncontrollably.

All around Fang Yi, space and time began to splinter and crack. Unusual pitch-black thorn-like protrusions appeared by the edges of Fang Yi's vision, seeming to skewer space.

The skin on his arms cracked. His capillaries burst, and blood gushed out of his wounds. His technique seemed to be going out of control.

However, having experienced this situation a few times, Fang Yi was familiar with the pain that lanced through his entire body.

Fang Yi howled and sent the unstable mixture shooting forward,

The entire world seemed to come to a standstill at that moment. A howling storm, void lightning, mysterious temporal charge, the wind of ages—the mishmash of elements exploded.

The instantaneous burst of energy surpassed that of a disaster. The corkscrewing energy devastated everything in its path. A void storm smashed into the Star Devourer and caused flames to explode all over.

The Star Devourer's body was pierced clean through, and the flames that formed the core of its body were unleashed. The king of chaos had to step in, sealing away the arena within which Fang Yi and the Star Devourer were located.

The floor of the hall had been burned to nothingness, leaving an abyssal trench behind, so deep it seemed to have no end. Heat radiated from it, and the air around it seemed supercharged with mysterious strength. Spatial rifts, void lightning, temporal storm, and the wind of ages—these were

disparate sources of energy that would never ordinarily have combined, but they were all hovering atop the trench now.

Fang Yi panted for breath as he stared at the fireball.

He hadn't managed to kill the Star Devourer in one punch. Even so, he had dramatically weakened the Star Devourer, and the once-massive fireball had shrunk to a fraction of its original size.

Of the three burning petals, only two remained.

Sun Mengmeng wondered, "This isn't some sort of death-substituting ability, is it? Each petal representing one life?"

Zhang Lie shook his head. "We have barely any understanding of the Star Devourer. It's too hard for us to say."

Li Feng frowned. "If that's so, Fang Yi will have a tough time..."

Sun Xiaowu murmured, "Fang Yi's only good for one cast. If he can't get rid of his opponent during that time, he'll be severely weakened in what follows."

Zhang Lie shook his head. "There's nothing we have to worry about. You all participated in battles against the various superior kings, and you've all been growing stronger. Fang Yi will have more stamina sooner or later."

The Star Devourer sent out another wave of fireballs. Fang Yi had no choice but to grit his teeth and keep fighting.

"[Wheel of Time]!" Fang Yi's spear took on the aspects of time and age. Temporal winds buffeted the spear, and a mysterious light began to circle the spear like lightning. A wheel of light appeared behind Fang Yi, taking on the form of a clock.

Fang Yi thrust his spear forward so quickly it left dozens of afterimages in all directions, spearing through the fireballs.

"[Tiger's Howl, Dragon's Bellow]!" Fang Yi's spear took on the aspect of a dragon of the winds and a storm tiger as he charged forward.

A windstorm raged, and thunder crackled. The boost afforded by the wheels of time caused wind and storm to wrap around Fang Yi's body as though he were a spear. He shot toward the Star Devourer again.

Chapter 1170: Growing Stronger

The Star Devourer summoned a firewall to block Fang Yi's path. Fang Yi's spear, swirling with wind and lightning, struck the wall of fire and caused it to explode. As the flames flared, Fang Yi was sent stumbling back—as a second wheel of time appeared by his back.

"[Shadow and Light]!" At that moment, Fang Yi morphed into countless clones, each of which thrust their spears at the Star devourer. [Floating Clouds] helped Fang Yi dodge the attacks in his way as he attacked from unusual angles.

The Star Devourer retaliated, sending flames spreading out like a hurricane.

"[Heaven's Judgment]!" The combination of wind and lightning generated a frightening force that made his spear look like an electric saw, so fearsome it could even penetrate space.

The wind and storm penetrated through the flames, cutting into the hurricane as a third wheel of time formed to Fang Yi's back.

The flames that were poised to scour the world transformed into huge palms that swatted at Fang Yi. Supported by the three wheels of time, Fang Yi tore the palms apart with wind and storm.

"[Heaven's Judgment]! [Tiger's Howl, Dragon's Bellow]!"

A dragon's roar resounded through the air like peals of thunder. Wind and storm combined and crackled at the tip of Fang Yi's spear.

Fang Yi leveled his spear. Wind and lightning surged forth. Even the Star Devourer's flames were sucked into his attack, causing the spear to turn bright red with heat. As the spear pierced through the flames, a fourth wheel of time spawned.

After having lost its bulk, the Star Devourer grew even faster. It quickly pulled out of range of Fang Yi's attack.

"[Floating Clouds]!" The wind and lightning formed a loop around Fang Yi's body.

Fang Yi howled loudly as wind and storm emerged from the loop, sending Fang Yi careening forward. With four wheels of time to his back, Fang Yi was barely able to control his speed.

He didn't manage to pierce through the two burning petals, but instead only brushed past them. His staggering speed scraped away half the flames.

The Star Devourer condensed its own flames, the tremendous heat gathering around its two burning petals.

The Star Devourer had never seriously cultivated in its life. It had only devoured without end, growing stronger as it consumed more and more worlds. It had never considered the source of its power, or how to control its strength—it fought solely with innate instincts.

For one, it had never encountered a strong opponent that it wanted to defeat. The king of chaos was too strong. He had caught the Star Devourer as easily as though it were a chick, and it couldn't view the king of chaos as an enemy. Furthermore, the king of chaos had ended up feeding the Star Devourer like a pet.

The Star Devourer had never thought of battle or of growing stronger.

Against Zhang Lie, however, with an equally skilled opponent who strove for victory, the Star Devourer developed a new desire—to become strong, to triumph, the first desire it had harbored in its life.

The Star Devourer finally began to harness its strength, recalling the king of chaos' advice: the day it was able to rein in its heat, its offensive abilities would go up another notch. Although doing so would be tedious and tiring for the Star Devourer, even revolting, it was willing to go through that much trouble to defeat Fang Yi.

As it condensed its flames, they turned from scarlet to radiant white. Despite the fact that the Star Devourer had grown even smaller, the temperature of its flames reached an incredible height. The flames gave off so much heat that even the eighteenth layer of space was unable to bear the energy, and space around the flame began to distort.

If the Star Devourer were to remain where it stood, it would eventually burn through the very space itself.

The king of chaos nodded approvingly.

"[Stormwind Kick]!" Fang Yi kicked off the ceiling of the hall, wind and storm swirling around his legs. He kicked himself off the ceiling, and his [Floating Clouds: Loop of Storms] again sent him dashing forward.

The Star Devourer sprayed out a torrent of white flame, which burned the air.

Fang Yi swerved. The moment his spear came in contact with the flame, the heat struck him like a physical force.

"[Born of Lightning, Swallowed by the Wind]!" As Fang Yi shouted, his spear traced a half-moon in the air, surrounded by an aura of time. Light and shadow flashed by its tip, just like the wind and lightning that made up the core of Fang Yi's techniques. The attack consisted of two different types of energy, one to speed up time, and the other to accelerate decay.

The two disparate sources of energy revolved around the spear, spawning a black hole in the area and turning the surroundings gray. Everything was frozen in time for a moment—the blowing wind, the scintillating lightning, the scorching flame. The only color in the space came from Fang Yi and his crackling spear.

Of course, neither Zhang Lie nor the king of chaos were affected by the stopped time, either.

Fang Yi thrust back with his spear once again, but this time, the situation was completely different.

The Star Devourer had grown used to the temporal stasis, and it was able to react quickly. Flames erupted in the world of gray, so suddenly that Fang Yi was unable to dodge. Submerged in the flame, Fang Yi's skin burned in an instant. A fifth wheel of time appeared to his back, and Fang Yi shattered them all.

"[Wheel of Time: Break]!" As Fang Yi roared, the wheels of time to his back splintered, and his body began to glow more and more brightly. Next to Fang Yi, a shadow of himself suddenly appeared, one which suddenly merged with Fang Yi's body and gave him a tremendous boost to his strength. The wind and lightning circling the spear doubled in intensity.

As the next wheel of time broke, even more light flared from Fang Yi's back. A second shadow appeared, merged with Fang Yi, and boosted his strength, followed by a third, a fourth, a fifth...

As more and more wheels of time behind Fang Yi broke, more ephemeral shadows appeared and boosted his strength to an extreme. Wind and storm circled him five times over.

A dragon's roar resounded through the air like peals of thunder, scattering the solar storm. A wind dragon and a storm tiger appeared. Wind and storm combined and crackled at the tip of Fang Yi's spear.