

World Plot 1221

Chapter 1221: First Grey Star - On the Earth Forest Turtle's Shell.

The group was welcomed by countless fruit trees, flowers, herbs, and edible vegetables as soon as they landed on the island. What welcomed them were scenes of countless ingredients that are rare even in the gourmet market.

Before Ye Jieye led the group on a ride on the head of the turtle, which brought them to the island on the Earth Forest Turtle's shell, there were only a few rare, legendary, and demigod-grade ingredients on this shell island.

As for the others, Leica and Lu Shang dragged the brats to training as hunters; after opening up to each other, the four young men were closer than before; though Ji Yoonjun's existence as God was a bit surprising after comparing them to their brothers, it suddenly felt a bit normal. Ye Jieye and his family took in the scenery and set up a mat on the grass while enjoying a picnic.

Lu Ming was stunned, as was Mo Yuhan, by Su Jin's revelation that he was supposed to be Ji Yoonjun's fated pair; he even looked at Ji Yoonjun, who looked at him like a fool, and he stared back with a disgusted look. Su Jin also told Lu Ming about their past lives. Despite the fact that the latter had lost all memory after the world had reset, Su Jin still told him everything.

Lu Ming was told that he was Jo Yoonjun's previous lover, but he did not give it much thought and even filed the information away, out of sight, out of mind, because he could not envision himself as such a man. He loves innocent, naive little ones like Su Jin.

And even though they were unable to think of anything else due to Lu Shang's training, they knew that this intense training was necessary because, after this hunt in the Death Forest, in the other danger zone, they would not be able to care for them. Their objective is to find the ingredient that Ye Anxia needs the most.

In the Aurora Glaciers danger zone, elemental abilities are the most important but also the most useless; only Ice ability users can enter without freezing, and powerful Fire elemental users can enter without freezing. As for the other elements, they would instantly become ice-human popsicles, lacking a strong enough body.

Riding on Roi and Oreo's backs, Ye Jingxia and Anxia hovered over the fruit trees, and the Nightmare Beast assisted in carrying the young princess who desired to soar in order to reach the fruits on the trees. With two systems and three divine beasts tending to the children, Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing were able to spend more time together.

They were staying on the mat, with Ye Jieye laying his head on his wife's lap. His eyes are closed as he enjoys Mo Xuejing's light fanning him with a wooden fan.

Mo Xuejing watches over his children, especially the baby girl. There is worry painted on his face as he does so.

"A'Ye."

"Hm?"

"Can we really find the Hellish Strawberry in the Aurora Glaciers? Even though we suppressed the cold in Xiao Xia's body, her physique would need to awaken in the future. I don't want to hold back her growth," Mo Xuejing said.

Ye Jieye opened his eyes and saw the concerns in his beloved's eyes; their love for him and his children had always been so great that he could not recall anything about him, their past, or his identity.

"Don't worry. I have another way to cure her, even if we can find that strawberry to control the awakening of her physique," Ye Jieye said.

Mo Xuejing said, "Can we just do that instead?"

"Let's try the Hellish Strawberry first. If that won't work, we can do the other option. As for what it is, I can't tell you yet. It's not the right time," said Ye Jieye.

Mo Xuejing sighed. "Okay, I believe you."

"Since you believe me, can I get a kiss?" Ye Jieye asked with a sly smile on his handsome face, even though the depths of his eyes were filled with love and possessiveness.

This man's teasing and displays of affection made Mo Xuejing feel as though he were being seduced. He could not even begin to count the number of times he had blushed from his teasing, but he never had the courage to say no to any of his requests. Look how much he had fallen. He pursed his lips for a moment, then lowered his head.

Ye Jieye's lips were curled up for a while before they met for a simple kiss.

This was the scene that Leica and Lu Shang saw when they came back with the kids. It was embarrassing, but it was also very beautiful. Even they, as passersby, could see how much these two men loved each other; only when they see each other does the coldness in their eyes melt and be replaced with all the warmth in the world.

Su Jin whispered upon seeing this scene. "They are definitely different from how I remember them. In my precious world, they couldn't even bear to stay in the same area or even see each other. But... After Mo Xuejing killed Ye Jieye that time, as if something had broken in him and started destroying everything that annoys him. Even when we defeated him as a group, he still laughed in the end.

That's right, the place he chose to die is where Ye Jieye was buried. So I guess in this life they choose not to fight instead."

Mo Yuhan and the others heard Su Jin talking to himself. With Ji Yoonjun's assistance, they were able to see Su Jin's memories of that previous life. It can be said that they are entirely different from this world. Mo Xuejing killed Ye Jieye. Lu Shang died defending his master. Brother Leica never materialized.

Ultimately, Mo Xuejing was killed by a group led by Lu Ming, Su Jin, and Ji Yoonjun. Mo Yuhan was killed defending his cousin. That life was tragic, and Su Jin also died.

Leica said, "If none of the two lords come to this world, that ending might have not changed except for yours."

Su Jin and the rest were startled, but only Ji Yoonjun and Lu Shang understood Leica's meaning.

"What does Brother Leica mean?" Su Jin asked.

Leica said, "If we didn't come here, you would most likely only change the lives of Lu Ming and yours. You never cared about others after your rebirth, right?"

"Then everything changed because..." Su Jin looked at the loving couple not far from them.

At last, he realized something about his previous life. Perhaps this is why Mo Xuejing decided to die where Ye Jieye is buried: only after Ye Jieye's death did he find out about their children, who perished after losing their lone guardian. Mo Xuejing went insane upon discovering that he had killed not just his partner but also his children.

Su Jin's face turned pale at the realization that missing the chance to find out the truth would result in such a tragedy. Leica, who can somehow read this young man's thoughts, responded appropriately as Su Jin turned to look at him. Is that the reason why Mo Xuejing destroyed his own clan and sought his own death? Su Jin was terrified thinking about these thoughts.

He said, "There is karma for everything. Did you also lose something to gain something?"

These words left Su Jin dumbfounded. It was as though every word of Leica's touched his heart, bringing back memories of his brother's face more vividly than before.

It became apparent to Su Jin that perhaps his brother did not sacrifice himself, but rather that the gods had taken away his only family as a punishment for all the wrongdoings he committed in his previous life, leaving him to live this time alone and without the support of a family.

Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing finally looked their way. They were flirting with each other, ignoring almost everything around them.

"You guys are back. That's quite a lot. Rest for a while before we return to the town. We have to run as fast as we can on our way out as the sun has fully set," Ye Jieye said.

Mo Xuejing asked, "Is it that dangerous in this Death Forest after nightfall?"

"Not much. It's just that everything in this forest would become fierce and attack anything that didn't have the same scent as this forest. The first time the lord came over, he was attacked on the way home. A lot died that night," the Nightmare Beast said. He can still recall when he took a peek at the new master of this danger zone.

Everyone moved their hands to Ye Jieye, who said, "Suppression doesn't work on them. Either you run away fast or kill your way out. Since it's a waste to kill them, let's just run as fast as we can."

"How about the sky?" Mo Yuhan asked.

Mo Xuejing, who noticed lots of flying beasts on his way here, said, "I don't think that's possible. There are lots of flying beasts in this forest. At night, undead beings are more powerful. This place seems to reek with it."

"Should I burn them?" Ye Jieye asked.

Mo Xuejing hit him on the back and said, "No, this is a forest. You want to burn everything!"

"Would the route change at night?" Lu Ming asked.

Ye Jieye responded, "I ran in a line that night and reached the gates without problems. Anyway, we are running. Just do your best to run."

"Papa, can I use ice?" Ye Jingxia asked while riding on Oreo's back.

"Do as you wish."

Ye Jieye gazed at the black round creature known as the Nightmare Beast, causing it to tremble in unconscious dread towards Ye Jieye, and then he noticed Oreo, realizing that they could ride the dog, which runs quicker than people.

"Why is the Lord looking at me? I didn't harm your cubs," the Nightmare Beast said.

Ye Jingxia grabbed it and gave it a squeeze. Seeing that it wasn't able to escape, the Nightmare Beast no longer struggles.

"Turn into a dog and carry some of my people for me."

"You want humans to ride on my back?! Impossible. I don't want to."

The Nightmare Beast was pressed till his form appeared warped, and Ye Jieye gave him a menacing glare. At this point, the Nightmare Beast was so afraid that he was squeaking and was unable to speak due to his extreme fear.

Squeak!

Squeak! Squeak!!!

Lu Shang said, "Milord, I think it agrees with your words."

At this, Ye Jieye released his hold on the nightmare beast and observed it transform into a Tibetan mastiff dog, much like Oreo. The threat in his eyes subsided as he saw the animal follow its commands.

Ye Jieye said, "You let those who can't run fast ride it back. I won't be saving you guys on the way if something happens."

Lu Ming saw his lover silent and approached. "What's wrong?"

"I'm okay," Su Jin answered with a forceful smile on his face.

Lu Shang approached them and said, "Xiao Jin and Ji Yoonjun are on the back of the Nightmare Beast. Ming and Yuhan, you guys protect them. Understand?"

"Yes, big brother (Brother Shang)!"

Everyone gets ready to leave after finishing their preparations. Mo Xuejing rode on Oreo's back with his two kids to keep them safe. Ji Yoonjun and Su Jin rode on the Nightmare Beast. The others will be running on foot.

The sky had long since darkened, with only an eerie red moon hovering over their heads. Their team was alerted by the innumerable growls and howlings that were coming from every direction in the forest as soon as they left the core region, which had completely turned dark in the middle region.

AWOOO~ GRRRR~ ROOOOAAAR~~

Ye Jieye, after making sure his wife and children are ready, said. "The moment we run, the owners of those sounds will all come out. Don't hesitate to kill if you feel you are in danger. I will lead the way. Shang and Leica, protect the rear."

"Yes, sir!" They started sprinting like lightning as soon as everything had been decided.

Chapter 1222: First Grey Star - Anomalies in the Capital.

Somewhere on the land where the Ruins of Time are located.

It looks like a simple ruin site from ancient civilization, but everyone knows that it is close because, when the door is activated, a translucent white aura will cover the interior space of the door. It is like an activated space portal that everyone can cross. The entrance of the said ruin is a broken stone door. It is made of two towering pillars and an arc.

Others can even see through the hole, which is the scenery beyond the horizons.

The broken door is actually surrounded by some spell circles that both block the qi from entering and keep people from getting too close to the stone door arc. Then, the space door flickered, as if someone were forcing it open. This was noticed by one of the guards and reported it to the palace right away.

The event lasted only a few seconds, and before the palace people arrived, there were no more odd movements from the door of the ruins.

Capital City, Imperial Palace...

The King was sitting on his throne in the throne room, flanked by his ministers and a small number of men kneeling in front of him, guarding the ruins' entrance as a result of the anomaly that had occurred there.

"Your Majesty, we swear to the heavens above that what we saw is real. The door to the ruins of time flickered for a few seconds before once again returning to its dormant mode," the leader of the guards said.

"Impossible! The spell circles around that ruin are connected to all the Heavenly Guardians in existence. Only when one of them dies will things possibly change," a minister said.

But he heard that Heavenly Guardian Fei is only gravely injured and not dead; does this mean that being on the verge of death affects the restraints in the ruins as well? That spell circle is connected to the wellbeing of the Heavenly Guardians, after all. King Xingyun thought differently. After all, only a few people knew about what happened to Heavenly Guardian Fei, who guards the Anairam Trench.

The ministers saw that their king had become silent, and only the prime minister knew what the king was thinking about—in addition to surmising that the anomaly in the Ruins of Time might have something to do with the fate of the Heavenly Guardian Fei—but they were unable to apprehend the man who was responsible for it because it would have involved a confrontation between two powerful clans against the monarchy.

Sigh~

"Your Majesty? Is there something wrong?" A minister asked.

King Xingyun responded, "Um, it's not a big problem but might be the cause of the anomaly in the Ruins of Time. Fu Zin explained it to them."

"Yes, your majesty!"

Stepping forward, the prime minister repeated the events that had befallen Heavenly Guardian Fei, leaving the ministers and guards equally shocked—who would have thought that someone so young and someone they knew could have taken out the notorious Heavenly Guardian Fei, who had been imprisoned in the Anairam Trench?

Lord Mo Xuejing is the strongest descendant of the Mo Clan, and now that the prime minister is telling them that he was the one who beat up Heavenly Guardian Fei, almost everyone is shocked. He is the heir to the Mo Clan and Satan's legal partner. He is also one of the few joker-class hunters in existence, supposedly only second to the Heavenly Guardian in terms of strength.

How old is Mo Xuejing in relation to Heavenly Guardian Fei? He is Ye Jieye's partner, after all, and he possesses strength that surpasses his years. The theoretical background is also strong. Despite not being cut off from their respective clans, they are permitted to reside in Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang's domain.

Adding up all of their advantages, they had the support of three Heavenly Guardians, two powerful clans, and their own status as joker-class hunters—hunters who were superior to all other hunters in the world—so one word from them and the Hunter Hall would undoubtedly be their strength, which in and of itself could already be a threat to the palace.

In addition, the Somatic Town still owes Ye Jieye for saving their place, so Heavenly Guardian Xian Wu would undoubtedly be on his side if something went wrong. Even if Mo Xuejing might have caused the anomaly of the Ruins of Time, can they really blame him? What will the palace do if this group rebels?

The other ministers ask for more details from the Prime Minister.

"Did the heir of the Mo truly beat up Heavenly Guardian Fei half dead?"

"It's real. The satellite video showed it," the prime minister answered.

"Why did he beat him up?"

"That's because Heavenly Guardian Fen called the children of Satan and Mo Xuejing as toys. This greatly agreed with the heir of Mo," Prime Minister Fu Zin said. "Do you think we can invite them to the palace and have them punished?"

The fact that Mo Xuejing had already defeated a Heavenly Guardian startled the ministers and officials present, and when they considered the addition of an infamous demon such as Ye Jieye to the list, they could not help but imagine the worst-case scenario in which his enormous dragon set the palace on fire.

"No, no, no. It wasn't their fault after all. There is no need to invite them here."

"That's right. Their children are still too young; leaving them alone in the house doesn't seem like a good idea. Ha."

"The anomaly in the Ruins of Time had also disappeared. Let's just ask some experts to watch over it."

"That's right. Let's just focus on the ruins!"

The ministers' words betrayed their covert fear of Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing. While they were able to suppress them in the past by using their status as a senior or a member of the palace, this fear is now evident in Mo Xuejing's defeat of Fei, a Heavenly Guardian. The couple's status can now be equal to that of a Heavenly Guardian. It is a difficult existence to be enemies with.

The prime minister scoffed inwardly at the other ministers' reactions. Most ministers are like this, bending down to the strongest and badly adjusting to every circumstance.

'Parasites!' Fu Zin held back the curse in his heart.

They felt the ground tremble. It was an earthquake that struck even the capital city, and King Xingyun had long anticipated their response. He was expressionless from the start to the finish, and nobody knows what he was thinking in that quiet moment.

Rumbles~

"Ah~ What's happening!?"

"Earthquake! It's an earthquake!"

King Xingyun spread his qi to check what was happening in his kingdom and saw that the cause of the chaos happened to be the weird tower of god they had chosen to lock down. The whole tower is

shaking, but he can find the cause. The prime minister immediately stood beside the king to protect him. The other ministers, on the other hand, were scrambling around the throne room in fear.

Like ants in a heated pan.

"Send someone to the Tower of God immediately. Tell them to activate the restraining spell on it!" King Xingyun said.

Upon hearing this, the soldiers kneeling on the ground all ran out of the throne hall. They listen to the orders and immediately set off to where the Tower of God is located

King Xingyun commanded, "Send people to appease the people in the capital. Just tell them that this is an ordinary earthquake to prevent chaos from happening within the kingdom."

Now that only King Xingyun and his prime minister, Fu Zin, remained in the room, the other ministers had all left. King Xingyun could not help but compress his throbbing temples, wondering why things kept happening one after the other.

Sigh~

"Fu, I want to abdicate. Let's give this useless seat to the crown prince," King Xingyun said.

Prime Minister Fu Zin said, "Please don't say that, your majesty. The crowned prince is only fifteen and not even an adult yet. If you give him the throne, the second prince would definitely usurp the throne from the young crown prince."

"I know. Even though the Second Prince is the eldest, he is only born from an imperial concubine. The throne can only be given to the children of the empress. Moreover, he is cruel in nature and lascivious. He will only offend people if given a higher position. Even so, I cannot kill him.

He is still my nephew after all," King Xingyun said. He looks even more fatigued, thinking about his own family.

Fu Zin asked, "How about the eldest princess? She is the daughter of the Empress."

"That is also an option, but you know how arrogant that little girl is. If she wanted something, she would do everything to get it. She doesn't suit to lead the kingdom. Sigh~" King Xingyun said.

The Prime Minister can feel the fatigue in the king's voice and pat his shoulder as his friend.

"It should be okay. You're still young and can still lead until the crown prince reaches that age. I'll support you, okay?"

"Thank you, Fu." King Xingyun was grateful for this friend of his who stood by his side at all times. He is his greatest support and his confidant.

Though Xingyun is referred to as the king by the people, he is actually more of a regent. As for the reason he is the king, it is because his elder brother is weak and bedridden and there was no other option. As for the empress or lord consort, they are his brother's partners. As for his real relationship with Fu Zin, they are lovers who support each other.

King Xingyun said, "Can we summon all the Heavenly Guardians? I want to ask them about the Ruins of Time."

"I will arrange it for you," Fu Zin said.

Meanwhile, on the top floor of the Tower of God,. A throne made of black jade can be found. On it, a man wearing a black robe sat motionlessly.

This person suddenly whispered, "Soon I will be able to come out."

The tower stopped trembling, and the earthquake stopped. The tower's entrance was somewhat deserted after the earthquake struck the area. Amidst the chaos, a man dressed entirely in black, including a hood and cloak, slipped into the tower while the guards were out checking the affected area of the earthquake.

After entering the tower, the man removed the hood to reveal the face of the Second Prince, Xingju.

The second prince, Xingju, discovered the tower's secret in the forbidden library within the palace. He discovered that this tower has the power to grant anyone's wish, no matter how great the cost. He also discovered through innumerable bits of information he purchased with money that Heavenly Guardians Mu and Lu had previously visited this tower, though no one else knew why they had gone.

Xingju, the second prince, chooses to gamble.

"Since you aren't going to give me the crown? I can only gamble with this tower. Don't let me down, Tower of God." Second Prince Xingju mumbles as his eyes glint with the greed and malice all bad humans possess.

Chapter 1223: First Grey Star - Summons from the Palace.

The monarchy was forced to call all of the Heavenly Guardians to the palace when the capital experienced an earthquake, which fortunately did not result in any fatalities but was nonetheless an abnormality involving thousands of lives.

Back at Numen Town

Heavenly Guardian Mu went to his grandson's restaurant as usual to play with his great-grandchildren. The family was currently having fun in the backyard. Ye Jingxia and Anxia were playing with Oreo and their new playmate, the nightmare beast, on the street with the other children. Lu Shang and Leica were milking the cows.

Doctor Guang was compelled to check on the health of the cow while claiming he was a human doctor and not a veterinarian, but he can only do so because it is his boss's order.

Mo Yuhan was called back to the Mo Clan, as were Lu Shang and Lu Ming. Although Lu Shang declined, due to Leica's words, Lu Ming brought back to the Lu Clan Su Jin and Ji Yoonjun, suggesting that he already knew the reason for their call.

Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing also received a letter, but it was a polite invitation rather than a summons, and based on previous events, these two were no longer associated with these clans despite their blood ties.

After having breakfast with his family, Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang left for the capital with Lu Ming and the others. However, before leaving the town, Ye Jieye told Mu Zang something, and the old man's expression changed significantly upon hearing what Ye Jieye had to say. At the moment, Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing are taking care of their backyard mini-farm.

Ye Jieye is even holding a knife to tilt the ground for seeding, and Mo Xuejing is helping him water and plant the seeds.

Mo Xuejing asked, "A'Ye, what did you tell Grandpa Mu before he left? He looks stunned just now."

"Oh, I told him that the Ruins of Time are about to open again. But that place is supposed to be covered in restraints and literally connected to the Heavenly Guardians. So I told him that it might have been affected when that trash in the sea was beaten half dead by you. No matter what, the palace would be a fool.

I am with you; with Lu and Mo backing you as well as Grandpa Mu, they wouldn't dare to move you," Ye Jieye explained.

Hmp!

Mo Xuejing pouted and said, "It's not my fault. That bastard called our children toys, so I made him feel what toys should be experienced."

"Since he deserves it, of course, it's not your fault. I don't think the king of that kingdom is a fool. But if someone is indeed foolish enough to think otherwise, I will wipe them off the world for you," Ye Jieye said. His face turned expressionless, and his voice turned icy.

Though his expression would normally make one shudder, Mo Xuejing is so happy that he leaps onto his husband and gives him a hug, showering Ye Jieye with kisses as he smiles and clearly enjoys himself, wrapping his arms and legs around the man's neck and his legs around Ye Jieye's waist.

"A'Ye, mwaa. Mwaa. Hehe~ my husband is the greatest!" Mo Xuejing said while giggling.

Ye Jieye held him in his arms with ease and allowed him to do whatever he pleased. The kisses he received made his heart and soul skip a beat, and a smile appeared on his attractive face as he gazed lovingly through his crimson eyes at his beloved.

While Mo Xuejing is still a little reserved, Lu Shang and Leica were accustomed to performing this scene. Furthermore, with Lord Hei, it is even worse. They would probably flirt even more intensely with him. Doctor Guang is so astonished that he cannot even express his amazement.

Doctor Guang's thoughts: 'Is this still my cold-hearted boss? Why does he look like a man in his teenage years, showing off his love to the world?'

From the perspectives of the ones who left Numen Town for the Capital City.

Lu Ming, Mo Yuhan, Su Jin, and Ji Yoonjun traveled with Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang leading the way. They encountered no bandits, no checkpoints, and the guards at every gate simply had to notice the Heavenly Crest on Mu Zang's cloak in order to grant them gracious passage.

Lu Ming asked politely to Mu Zang. "Heavenly Guardian Mu, sir. Can I ask why you are going to the capital city alone?"

"It's nothing much. The crown had summoned all the guardians to the palace. As for what it was, I don't know it myself," Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang answered.

Mo Yuhan thought out, "I wonder if our summoning had something to do with the Heavenly Guardians being summoned to the palace?"

The four teenagers were taken aback by what they saw when they arrived at the capital city's entrance: a road that was split in half, a few houses that had been destroyed and left in ruins, and an endless number of guards observing the area despite the fact that people were still going about their daily lives on the street. Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang even scowled at the sight.

Lu Ming exclaims, "What happened here?!"

Mo Yuhan also didn't expect to see this scene and ask around. He went to the guards and asked what had happened to the capital.

"Uncle, do you know what happened here? We came from the outside and were summoned back by our elders."

"Young Master Mo? It's you! You're finally back. Actually, the capital was struck by a powerful earthquake. It cracked the streets and destroyed the house's foundations. We were caught off guard.

Thankfully, his majesty sent people to help, and that ended with no casualties with the people, but... as you see, only terrain casualties happened. We are lucky." The guards storied.

Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang also asked them. "Are there any anomalies that happened before or during the earthquake?"

The guards were shocked to see a Heavenly Guardian talking to them and saluting with courtesy.

"HEAVENLY GUARDIAN MU!?"

"Answer my question?" Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang said.

The guards were suddenly terrified by the aura Mu Zang had emitted in anger. The guards thought they would be killed but calmed down when they saw someone pat Heavenly Guardian Mu's shoulder.

"Zang, don't scare the guards. They don't know much about the situation."

"You are as short-tempered as always. When are you going to change?"

Two voices come from Mu Zang's back. It felt so familiar, so he turned around, and his mood became worse upon seeing these two people.

Mu Zang said, "Why the hell do you know I'm here?"

Lu Ming calls politely with a bow. Mo Yuhan also did the same thing to the other person who arrived.

"Lu Ming greets Grandfather!"

"Mo Yuhan greets the Ancestor!"

"Un. You guys are here. Where is your elder brother?" Lu Wangle asked.

Lu Ming hesitated but still answered honestly. "He said that he would go back with my cousin."

"Those two brats!"

Mo Xinyue asked his descendant. "Where is the heir?"

"He also... doesn't want to come back," Mo Yuhan said.

His Ancestor just sighed but didn't get angry, as if he already knew that Mo Xuejing would not return with him without Ye Jieye coming to the capital.

"Well, you can return to clan or stay with your friends. Just don't leave yet, as there is something I need to announce after our business is done."

"Yes, Ancestor."

There is another person observing the scene: Heavenly Guardian Xian Wu chugged a bottle of wine and burped. Doctor Sen also arrived. Heavenly Guardians Lu Wangle and Mo Xinyue arrived on the scene, obviously aiming for Mu Zang, whose demeanor soured upon their arrival.

Burp!

"You three old men. Don't fight here. You'll destroy things. Hic!"

"You should stop drinking! Aren't we going to meet his majesty after this?" Doctor Sen took Awu Xian Wu's wine bottle, making the former whine for a while.

Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang raged, calmed, and instead turned serious when he saw these three. He can also feel the other Heavenly Guardians waiting at the palace.

"All of the Heavenly Guardians are summoned. What the hell is happening here?" Mu Zang asked.

Lu Wangle sighed. "The palace will debrief the details."

"Can't you just tell me the topic?" Mu Zang complained.

Mo Xinyue said, "The Tower God and the Ruins of Time."

"Hey! Watch where we are!" Lu Wangle said but Mo Xinyue ignore him

Mo Xinyue asked, "Are you coming?"

"Hmp! Let's go!" Mu Zang said.

The Heavenly Guardians vanished on the spot, together with Doctor Sen, heading to the palace to meet the monarch. The elders instructed the four to either find a temporary location to stay or return to the clan to wait.

Lu Ming and the other three were left behind.

Mo Yuhan asked, "What do you think we should do next?"

"Let's find an inn to stay at. If you want to go home, then you should," Ji Yoonjun said.

Su Jin reacted quickly to the familiar sight, turning pale as if remembering a painful disaster in his mind and freezing his entire body. He finally felt his consciousness fading and fainted on the spot, but Lu Ming grabbed him quickly before he fell to the ground. All eyes were on the Heavenly Guardians, and they failed to notice Su Jin's reaction when they saw the destruction of the city.

Lu Ming panicked, "Xiao Jin. Xiao Jin!? What's wrong? Damn it!" He carried the unconscious Su Jin in his arms and ran towards the nearest clinic or hospital.

Mo Yuhan asked, "What happened to him? He was okay before."

"Maybe... he once again recalled something from his past (life)," Ji Yoonjun said.

Hearing Ji Yoonjun's words, Mo Yuhan and Lu Ming's expressions darkened. They had previously witnessed a portion of Su Jin's memory during that trial and knew what had happened in his previous life, so when he suddenly passed out at the scene of the capital city's broken street, they realized that this might not be as simple as it seemed.

Meanwhile, at the palace's throne room

Together with Doctor Sen, Lu Wangle, Mo Xinyue, Mu Zang, and Xian Wu made their way to the palace, where the remaining Heavenly Guardians were waiting, with the exception of Heavenly Guardian Fei, who is confined to the Anairam Trench and can only communicate via a communication crystal.

As for the others, the four of them arrived together, and Heavenly Guardians Gu Yan and Yi Kun's expressions twitched when they saw that all four had arrived at the same time. King Xingyun and Prime Minister Fu Zin were waiting for them, as were the Heavenly Guardians of the Gu and Yi Clans, who had also arrived ahead of the rest and were already seated at the table set up in the room.

Not only did King Xingyun and Prime Minister Fu Zin know, but they also smiled amiably and welcomed the four arrivals. Only Heavenly Guardian Fei, who had no reason to be afraid because he was not present, spoke the truth without hesitation.

Heavenly Guardian Fei said, {What is this? Since when did the Guardians come together? Are you planning to rebel? Keke~}

Mu Zang snorted, "If I have that kind of thought, why do you think you're still alive? Should I let my grandson beat you up next?"

{Fuck you! Mu Zang, you and your family are all jerks! #\$@#\$\$\$#****}

Mu Zang ignored all his curses and took his seat. The other three also take their seats. They greet the king as always, but they are as servile as before.

"We greet the King of the Kingdom!"

Although King Xingyun was not bothered by their group greeting, he could not help but feel a little disappointed that his friends were now only referring to him by his position rather than by his name, indicating a significant change in their relationship from before. Nevertheless, he chose to ignore the pain in his heart and maintain his professional smile.

"Please take a seat. We are going to start the meeting," he said.

Everyone in the capital knew that the Heavenly Guardians were meeting, especially after witnessing the appearance of four of them at the gates moments ago. While most citizens were relieved that the catastrophe would eventually be averted by the Heavenly Guardians, some individuals or factions responded to their arrival in a way that was entirely different from the general public's happiness.

Chapter 1224: First Grey Star - The Being that resides in the Tower of God.

The meeting of the Heavenly Guardians and King Xingyun continues.

The king of the Xing Kingdom and his prime minister were present in the room, as were the six Heavenly Guardians (the final Guardian interacting with the others via a communication crystal). The way the two factions took their seats at the round table was indicative of their division.

The Heavenly Guardians of Gu and Yi sit on one side of the monarch, while the Heavenly Guardians of Mu Zang, Lu Wangle, Mo Xinyue, and Xian Wu, along with Doctor Sen, sit on the other. The prime minister is seated on the side opposite the king.

As King Xingyun watches this scene, the more he regrets what he did in the past. Whereas these old men used to be sworn brothers who would always support him, he now only has the Prime Minister on his side—the other two being Heavenly Guardians Gu and Yi, whom he appointed as Guardians from the noble factions.

If he had been them, he would have reacted even worse. King Xingyun could only sigh with sadness in it. After all, who in their right mind would stay friends with someone who caused your whole clan to die and caused your only son and their partners, as well as your grandson, to be lost in ruin because of one decree from him?

Sigh~

In an attempt to lead the conversation, King Xingyun glanced at his Prime Minister, Fu Zin. Xingyun becomes less enthusiastic about the meeting after realizing his sworn brothers are detached.

Fu Zin secretly pats Xingyun's back in comfort before starting to talk. The topic of the meeting is about the changes in the Ruin of Time and the Tower of God.

"Today's meeting, let's begin. Those who live in the Capital City already know about the powerful earthquake that hit the city. We found the reason for that." The Prime Minister begins his speech.

A few videos of the Tower of God's entrance were projected, and as they did, they observed that the entire structure trembled violently, causing massive damage in its wake.

Additionally, a recording of an earthquake monitoring device showed that the Tower of God's video trembled strangely at the same time as the recorded earthquake, with the movements of the tower perfectly timed to coincide with the shaking of the device.

Heavenly Guardians Mu and Lu's faces darkened at the mention of the Tower of God, witnessing the reaction of the structure. The entity that lives there is a bad one, feeding on human sins and negative emotions; it is possible to say that there is a devil inside every god.

Lu Wangle said to Mu Zang: "It seems that blocking the entrance of people in that place made it angry."

"If he considered those contracts as food, then that means he had been starving for quite a long time. Is that earthquake a warning or something?" Mo Xinyue said.

Mu Zang clicked his tongue and said, "That's why I told you to seal up that stupid tower! The thing that lives in that place is evil!"

Cough. cough. Cough!

Doctor Sen examined Mu Zang and found that he had simply spoken too quickly with the exertion of his throat, which caused it to clog for a brief period of time. The abrupt rise in his voice restrained his throat, causing him to cough violently. Mu Zang's ability to speak can only be supported by a machine. It would not be as good as before.

Doctor Sen said, "You are not allowed to shout. Do you want to go home with a hoarse voice and let your family worry?"

"Okay, I will not shout any more. Cough," Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang said.

Heavenly Guardians Gu and Yi, on the other hand, were unable to understand what was being said. They were not aware of the mystery surrounding this Tower of God, which is a mysterious and malevolent object that may cause the world to suffer if it were to fall into the hands of a person with a dark heart.

Gu Yan asked while frowning. "Hey! You should at least explain properly. What do you mean that the Tower of God is evil? Is that place locked up because there's a deadly miasma inside?"

"Think carefully. If there is really a deadly poison in that tower, would it be good to use living humans to guard and patrol that place? It's to prevent others from entering it. Your Majesty, I think we also have the right to know about the tower," Heavenly Guardian Yi said.

Heavenly Guardian Mu Zang snorted and said, "Isn't it because you two came from the noble faction and had a direct connection to the palace, so you guys weren't informed? I mean, if there are people who would want to replace the king, it would only come from your side of the faction. Unlike us, who had no desire for the crown, you two are a different story."

As usual, Mu Zang speaks too bluntly. His notorious poisonous tongue never falters. He has no regard for other people's faces, but he is overly protective of his own. The king has let him down so many times, but he is still a friend. Naturally, Mu Zang would support King Xingyun in contrast to strangers like Gu Yan and Yi Kun.

Angered to the point of his face turning red, Gu Yang bellowed. "Surnamed Mu, what the hell are you talking about?"

"The one you serve isn't the current king but the real king that is supposed to be sitting on that useless seat. In reality, he doesn't trust his own brother with his throne. After all, if he is not sick, he would be the one enjoying all the privileges and praises as the king of this kingdom. The Lu and Mo live in the capital city. This is their main territory. The Mu and Xian had no backing.

Only I, a Heavenly Guardian, exist as the sole member of the Mu Clan. You were never afraid of my fame but afraid of my strength. Isn't that why you gave me the most dangerous danger zone and the farthest in the kingdom? You didn't want me to get involved further with the palace," Mu Zang said.

Gu Yan and Yi Kun shut up when they heard Mu Zang's words. Even though they were trying hard to control their expressions, Gu Yan never did. He glared at Mu Zang so openly.

Lu Wangle said, "Why didn't you tell me?"

"Your elder brother does not say anything. Brother Ye said to not get involved. You have a big family to protect. There is no need to add us too," Mu Zang said.

Ye Jingya, Lu Wangle's distant cousin and Mu Zang's lover, volunteered to survey the interior of the Ruins of Time, which is supposed to be Lu Wangle's duty, and he did so because it was dangerous. He also supported Lu Wangle until he became the head of the Lu Clan because of their great rapport, which led to their children growing up as childhood sweethearts and becoming in-laws.

This is the second reason Mu Zang detested Lu Wangle. It was because of him that his son and his husband had to go there. He was also the one who prevented him from going there; worse, they were unaware that his son was carrying a child and had gone there with Lu Wangle's son, so when the Ruins of Time became uncontrollable, Mu Zang lost his son, his husband, and his grandson.

One of Ye Jingya's special abilities is telepathy, which he uses to communicate only with his other half. It may seem like a pointless skill, but it is very powerful. Ye Jieye's soul is too weak to come out of the ruin where he was born, so Ye Jingya gave up his lifespan to bring it out.

Only souls or unique existences can move in such a small crevice of space, and Ye Jieye's soul was the only one to emerge, with the others still trapped inside the remnants of time and space.

The dragon, on the other hand, is the medium that Ye Jingxia discovered among the ruins; it shielded his grandson's soul during the transmigration process. The dragon egg is a special kind of existence. Ye Jingya utilized it as a medium to extract his grandson's soul after observing that it could move unhurt through time and space.

To create a body for him, Lu Wangle and Mu Zang went to the Tower of God. The exchange between Mu Zang and the existence of that tower was never equal in the beginning.

What happened to the Tower of God a few years ago?

Upon entering the tower, Mu Zang and Lu Wangle found that each floor was teeming with monsters, the majority of which were either undead or dark creatures. Despite their best efforts, they were unable to vanquish the creatures because they could regenerate indefinitely. However, for some reason, the tower welcomed them with an opening at the top.

The highest floor has a massive black throne, upon which sits a humanoid creature whose face is concealed by a cloak, leaving only a pair of red eyes staring down at the occupants with a sense of contempt that they cannot quite put their hands on.

{Mortals, you are the first to reach this throne's floor. You may now speak your heart desires~}

Every word this thing speaks seems to be loaded with strength and qi, and as Lu Wangle and Mu Zang looked up, they saw a massive pair of monstrous eyes staring down at the seductive and magnetic voice of a man resonating throughout the space. Complicated ruins light at the walls and the throne.

Mu Zang asked, "Any wish? Without consequences?"

{Hm~} The pair of crimson eyes narrowed as it stared at Mu Zang. All of a sudden it started laughing.

Hahahaha~

Even though he didn't know why this being was laughing, Mu Zang felt that something had been seen through by this being. Unfortunately, he had no way of knowing what it was.

{Well~ instead of a wish. It's more like an exchange. Hmm, but for you, a small exchange is enough for that wish. You wanted a growing vessel for that young soul with you, right? I will give it to you. In exchange, give me what is the most useful for you~}

Lu Wangle panicked, "Zang, don't believe him. He must be lying. It's not possible!"

{Snorts!}

The entire floor darkened and became eerie; in front of Mu Zang, a massive black flower slowly opened, revealing the body of a human baby, curled up as though it were sleeping, but with no heartbeat. When Mu Zang reached out, he felt his body warm, a revelation that left both Mu Zang and Lu Wangle dumbfounded.

{Do you believe me now? Put the soul in it and I will take away the most useful thing in you. Once you put in the soul, the exchange will begin.}

Mu Zang wanted to do it as fast as he could but was stopped by Lu Wangle.

Lu Wangle spoke, "I also have a wish. I wonder if you can fulfill it as well!"

{Hmm~ nothing is interesting to you. But I follow the words of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, that one beside you is an exception though ~ haha! What he wanted is connected to my future, after all. So the price for it, I am willing to pay. So his exchange will only take away the minimum price.}

{As for you... what you wanted is resurrection. It can be done but to revive something that can only be exchanged with a life.}

Lu Wangle trembled at such words and declared. "I am willing to give up my life!"

{Pfft! Have you learned too much nonsense? The sacrifice of one for one life? Only the God of Life and Death can do such an exchange, I am not. To resurrect someone you must help me increase my strength, of course, one life isn't enough. You need to give me thousands of innocent souls to resurrect someone.}

Lu Wangle and Mu Zang turned pale at these words. When they heard his words, he realized that the being in front of them might not be a God but something extremely evil instead.

{Frightened? That's why you shouldn't wish for something so easily. Everything in this world must be in balance. An exchange for another exchange. Your friend's situation is different. The one who will pay for it is me so his exchange is small.

For example, his voice is enough to trigger the contract. As for your wish, thousands of innocent lives must be given and I can give you what you wanted~}

Mu Zang understands that this situation is fated. To save his grandson, this is the only way to do so. Since he can keep his life in exchange for his wish, he agrees to it.

"I agreed with the exchange!"

{Good~ then your voice shall be mine!}

Lu Wangle shouted with a pale face. "NO!!!"

Mu Zang saw a dark shadow of a blade flash before his eyes, severing its throat; the neck remained intact, but blood gushed painfully from his throat, indicating that something inside of him had been forced out without causing damage to the outside world.

Pukes blood~

The baby on that flower began to cry as soon as Mu Zang finished vomiting blood, and the soul of his grandson in his care vanished. When the baby opens its eyes and reveals deep black eyes that resemble Ye Jingya's features in their recollections, Lu Wangle and Mu Zang conclude that this is, in fact, their grandson.

Mu Zang glanced up at the staring figure above him, its now crescent crimson eyes looking down on them, and understood that he was unable to cry out in happiness.

Chapter 1225: First Grey Star - Possibilities and Plans.

As he listened to Mu Zang's words, King Xingyun's face whitened. He had given Ye Jingya and Mu Zang permission to guard the Death Forest because they wanted to avoid the political intrigues of the capital city, and he had been assured of Mu Zang's strength as the protector of that danger zone.

However, it now appeared that he was blind to many things, as he never could have predicted the noble faction's aggressive move against his sworn brother's family, and he had no idea about it.

"That I wonder if my husband had gone senile to accept such a stupid thing. But it seems he didn't want to make things harder for you and Lu Wangle. We can only leave the capital. When Brother Ye and the rest of my family were locked in the Ruins of Time, I've always waited for the time for you to reach out to me and say you will do your best to help me save them. In the end... there is nothing.

I have hated you so much since then."

King Xingyun felt something stab his heart. He wanted to say something but was unable to speak a word.

"..."

Mu Zang sighed. "But then I thought of your position as the king and chose not to bore you again. The last time I came was because I was worried about my grandson. If not for that, I would never appear before you anymore."

"...I..."

Heavenly Guardian Mu shook his head, indicating for King Xingyun not to continue his words, and said, "I already know that this meeting involves the Ruins of Time, though I didn't expect the Tower of God to be included as well."

Everyone in the room showed a stunned expression when they heard Mu Zang say that this meeting involves the ruins of time.

Mu Zang asked, "What's wrong with your faces?"

Prime Minister Fu Zin asked, "Heavenly Guardian Mu, what do you mean about this meeting, including something about the Ruins of Time? Who told you about it?"

"Hah? Of course, it's my grandson, Ye Jieye. Have you forgotten his real body is still locked in those ruins? All changes at the door were first noticed by him," Mu Zang said.

King Xingyun asked, "Did he tell you when the restrictions would break?"

Mu Zang was about to answer when Gu Yang spoke out rudely in the conversation between the two. He even looked sarcastic when doing so.

Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan said, "Your grandson can feel the change in the ruins of time? That's good! Let him stay in the capital to keep an eye on it!"

Even though Gu Yan is all brawn, he is sensitive to gaze and looks confused, seeing everyone's reactions. Mu Zang rolled his eyes at him, Mo Xinyue looked at him with a cold and disdainful glance, Yi Kun and Prime Minister Fu Zin looked at him with sympathetic eyes, King Xingyun stared at him with a helpless gaze, and Lu Wangle snorted and smirked at him.

This time, not only did everyone look at Gu Yan like a fool with no brains, but even the king and the prime minister looked at him like a fool with no brains.

Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan asked, "Did I say something wrong?"

Heavenly Guardian Fei was already laughing uncontrollably at this point. Although he was unable to see the entire room with a single communication crystal, at least the crystal's reflection made everyone's faces visible. Gu Yan's smug expression from earlier was fully visible to Heavenly Guardian Fei.

{Hahaha~ you aren't even as strong as me, and you wanted to bring that demon's husband away? If you are able to bring him over or make him come back with you, then I will give you all my treasures.}

Because, in contrast to Mu Zang and his group, the other Guardians were appointed by authority or pressure from their faction on the king; therefore, Heavenly Guardian Fei's words were insulting and greatly enraged Heavenly Guardian Gu. Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan became enraged and glared at Heavenly Guardian Fei and the rest, who were gloating at him.

Gu Yan became so enraged that he burst into a fit of rage and began pointing at everyone who looked down on him and stared at him like a fool.

"You. You! Hmp! Let this lord see if that brat truly is as you said. I will grab him over personally myself. You won't blame me if I injured your grandson, Mu Zang, Lu Wangle," Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan said.

Mu Zang no longer wanted to waste time with a dead man and ignore him. As for Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle, he smirked at him and with a taunting tone, he said,

"I will buy you a coffin in advance, Lao Gu. Keke~"

BAM!

Gu Yang struck the jade table with his fist, causing fractures in it. He was so impolite and haughty toward the crown that he was oblivious to his Majesty's presence.

The Prime Minister bellowed with a dark face. "Heavenly Guardian Gu! Have you forgotten where you are!?"

Tsk!

Gu Yang clicked his tongue and lowered his head towards King Xingyun, but one could see his dissatisfaction on his face. Though the king chooses to ignore it.

"Your Majesty, forgive this old man's temper. But they are too much!" Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan said.

King Xingyun said, "Alright. But are you sure you are going to grab Satan and bring him over here?"

"Yes. Such an opportunity we must never waste. Let it be me!" Gu Yan said as he hit his chest in reassurance.

When Mo Xinyue saw him like this, he gave him a chilly smile. Mu Zang gave him a lifeless stare. Lu Wangle was smiling at him. Yi Kun appeared worn out and was about to give up talking. King Xingyun and Fu Zin were already laughing heartily at Heavenly Fei.

King Xingyun sighed. "Since you made your choice, go now. I will send someone to send you on the way. Mu Zang, it's okay, right?"

"Sure. He can enter the town," Mu Zang said.

The others could not help but chuckle at the idiocy of the Gu Clan's commander, Yi Kun, but the musclehead vanished instantly and had long already made his way to Numen Town.

{Hahaha~ I guess he won't come back anymore.} Heavenly Guardian Fei said through the communication crystal.

King Xingyun looked at Yi Kun and said, "Send someone to the Gu Clan and tell them to prepare for the funeral and designate a new clan leader. I will give you a decree, and you will explain it to the Gu Clan."

"Yes, as you ordered, Your Majesty," Yi Kun said.

King Xingyun said, "Let's continue the meeting."

"The changes in the Tower of God are evident. We would like to know what kind of person you meet in that place," Prime Minister Fu Zin said.

With everyone staring at him, Mu Zang removes his scarf to reveal his throat, which is now connected to a device that allows him to make sounds; this device requires energy to be used, so it can only be placed outside while making a slit to the throat and replacing his voice box. Lu Wangle was particularly concerned because he knew what this brother-in-law of his suffered in that place.

He wanted to stop him, but a single glance from Mu Zang shut him up.

Even King Xingyun was shocked to learn of this, as he rose up in disbelief. He was aware that Lu Wangle and Mu Zang had suffered injuries on their previous visit to the Tower of God, but he had no idea that the injuries would be more severe than he had anticipated.

King Xingyun exclaims, "What truly happened back then?"

Lu Wangle spoke out, "I will tell you the details."

Doctor Sen helped in rewrapping the scarf around Mu Zang's neck; in progress, his nimble hands were shaking.

Mu Zang saw his reaction and said, "It doesn't hurt anymore. You did well with this. It allowed me to speak again."

"If only the light elements can help you with this curse, then you won't need to use such a harmful device," Doctor Sen said.

Lu Wangle told everyone in the room everything that had happened in the Tower of God, and they were shocked to learn that such a dangerous existence lives at the top of that tower. That day, when Mu Zang came to him covered in blood while hugging his grandson, he operated on him and discovered that his voice box had been taken away.

There were no injuries outside, and the only way to take it out is by cutting the throat, but this impossible thing happened.

Heavenly Guardian Yi Kun mumbles, "An evil being that grants wishes in exchange for something. Found him."

"But it seems to not like righteous souls, or it would have accepted Heavenly Guardian Lu's soul in exchange for his wish. It wanted innocent or evil souls. It's a devil without a doubt," Prime Minister Fu Zin said.

King Xingyun frowned. "But if it's evil, then... humans with the greatest greed are his most powerful believers. That tower must be locked down. Hm! Send someone to check if there is anyone who entered the tower right after the earthquake struck!"

"Okay, I will send people immediately." Fu Zin realized what his king feared.

The Prime Minister sent their royal guards to check the area around the Tower of Gods, but they were not allowed to enter the place, so it did not take long for the two to be checked.

The guards surrounding the tower had left to assist with the rescue and repair after the disaster, so that place was left unattended, and it will not be surprising if someone with curiosity or an evil idea enters that place.

Mu Zang said, "If someone entered, it would be alright if it was an ordinary person; his wish wouldn't be too big, but if it was someone from the noble faction or someone in the palace, then. I suggest you get ready for rebellion."

"I know. Thank you." King Xingyun took Mu Zang's warning to heart, but he didn't ask further. He no longer has enough face to ask for help, as he himself failed to help him when he was supposed to.

Prime Minister Fu Zin said, "We can assume rebellion from the Tower of God. How about the Ruins of Time? Did your grandson say anything else?"

"He said that the spell won't hold on for quite long—a year at most and three months at least," Mu Zang said. "As long as the Ruins of Time open, I will go inside. This is final."

Lu Wangle said, "I will also go in. It is enough that Lu Ming is in the clan to hold the reins. Even if he isn't enough, his elder brother is here. I want to find my son and Brother Ye. I will not listen to disagreement this time."

"I would also like to go in. That's what I wanted to say, but... it will depend on my grandson's thoughts," Mo Xinyue said.

His meaning is that if Mo Xuejing wanted to go inside, he would stay, or he would go in and Mo Xuejing would stay outside to lead their clan.

Xian Wu said, "Very well. I will protect the entrance from the outside. Set a time limit. I will make a tool that won't break inside and tie you guys up. After the time limit is up, I will pull you all together regardless of your circumstances."

"If that's so, I also wanted to go inside," King Xingyun said.

But when he said these things, everyone seemed shocked, especially Yi Kun, the prime minister and Heavenly Guardian, who had been observing everything in silence. They heard something unbelievable—how could the king leave his country and travel to a place where no one knows if they will survive or not?

As expected, the first one to reject King Xingyun's words is his prime minister and lover, Fu Zin. "No! Are you even hearing what you are saying!?"

Chapter 1226: First Grey Star - Second Prince Xingju and the man at the tower.

Even though the conference at the palace is still going on, something is going on in the Tower of God. The Second Prince was on the verge of reaching the top floor when he was forced to abandon his ascent because it was evident that someone was climbing the tower from within.

A knight pointed somewhere at the tower and said, "Sir, I saw a few floors flickering just now!"

The second prince was unaware that each floor a person finished would cause lights to flicker, but he reasoned that he would escape detection if he stopped. The Royal Knights reported this outcome to the palace right after.

Meanwhile, in the throne room...

When the dungeon opened, everyone was trying to stop King Xingyun from trying to enter the Ruins of Time. After all, as the monarch of the kingdom, King Xingyun could hardly leave his place of rule, much less travel to a place like the Ruins of Time, where the prime minister and his officials would never permit their king to go.

King Xingyun said, "This throne is rightfully not mine. It would be given to someone who is destined for it when the time comes. Moreover, it's not like the ruins of time would open at this moment; there is still a year. I wouldn't abdicate out of nowhere, so don't worry."

Sigh~

Prime Minister Fu Zin said, "Please don't scare me like that, your majesty!"

"He doesn't look like he is joking, though," Heavenly Guardian Xian Wu said.

King Xingyun nodded and ignored the very commotion he caused and said, "Okay. Let's finish up the meeting."

BANG!

The door of the throne room was opened forcefully and urgently as a royal knight came running and kneeled before the throne in a knightly salute.

"Reporting to Your Majesty! Someone had entered the Tower of the Gods and was about to reach the top tower. We didn't dare to go instead and come to report as fast as we could!"

Everyone's eyes turned dark, especially King Xingyun's. They knew that what they feared was finally happening.

King Xingyun asked, "Did you investigate who it was that entered the tower?"

"We have investigated everyone in the capital and checked who was missing and... sent a group to check personally. Unfortunately, only one came out alive. He also died after seeing who it was."

"Speak! Who was it?" Prime Minister Fu Zin asked with a dark face.

"It is His Highness the Second Prince, Xingju!"

"Xingju? I see it's him. No wonder he suddenly asked to stay in the library for days. He was looking for information about the Tower of Gods," King Xingyun said. "Did he want to rebel because I didn't choose him as the crown prince? Unfortunately, that choice wasn't made because of me."

"Either way, he will be there to find you as soon as he reaches the tower's peak. If he wishes to gain the throne, you will have to fight against him," Prime Minister Fu Zin said.

He then looked at the others in the room, observing their reactions to this news. The first one to speak is Heavenly Guardian Yi Kun.

Yi Kun declared, "My Yi Clan shall lend a hand for this matter."

The clan leaders of Lu and Mo glanced at Mu Zang, but only when they saw him nod did they speak out.

Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle said, "We will lend a hand during the rebellion."

"My Mo Clan shall lend a hand as well," Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue said.

Heavenly Guardian Xian Wu said, "If so, then... we shall lend a hand as well."

Everyone looked at Mu Zang, waiting for him to speak. They only saw him sigh and stand up. "As per the oath I took, we shall not get involved in the political issues of the Royal Family in the Capital City. I apologize, but... I will not make a move."

"Brother Mu, I'm sorry," King Xingyun said.

Mu Zang refused to turn back and accept that apology since, in the end, he was the one who lost everything—much more than all the others combined—and he did not even know if his spouse was still alive in that cell. Ye Jieye and his children were the last of his family.

Mu Zang said before taking his leave, "Take care. I will make sure that Gu Yan will return alive at least."

Mu Zang's departure left the throne room in silence; even after Heavenly Mu Zang's departure, the others still had to get ready for the impending rebellion headed by the Second Prince Xingju. Heavenly Guardian Fei ended the call when the business involving him was concluded. He had nothing to do with what transpired in the capital the next day.

At the peak floor of the Tower of Gods

At last, Second Prince Xingju arrived on the top floor. Like Mu Zang and Lu Wangle, he was greeted by a massive throne, as documented in the record found in the forbidden library. However, the man who is supposed to be seated on the throne while shrouded in a black cloak is not in sight.

His people refuse to follow his orders to enter the tower, and although he is a hidden joker-class hunter, similar to Mo Xuejing, he has hidden this strength so well that no one else knows about it. This is only because he is the destined villain of this world, taking on Su Jin's original role. The power he wielded is something this world has granted him in accordance with his role.

"There is no one here! Is that record a fake!?" Second Prince Xingju said, but the anger in his face cannot be ignored.

He killed every knight who entered the tower to bring him out, ensuring that the man would only perish en route, and covered himself in blood. However, what he did not anticipate was that the man possessed a strong will and continued to survive until he reported his horrible deeds.

The blood on the sword he is wielding is from the people he has killed; the knights are among the people he detested the most in the palace; they greeted him with a salute before he did, but they also discussed behind his back how he was born into a family of concubines; he detested the current king and knew that he was not his father but rather his uncle; his father had told him everything before he passed away from illness; his father is a crippled man that his dad was compelled to serve in order to perpetuate the royal bloodline.

For this reason, he put in more work than anyone else in the palace in order to be crowned the eldest prince. Who would have imagined that he would forfeit that privilege simply because his father is not a member of a noble family? It was the noble faction that brought him down and prevented him from holding the office of crown prince, which he is entitled to as the oldest prince.

Although his uncle showed him kindness, in the end he was powerless to select his own heir; his crippled father controlled every aspect of that throne. The same useless father failed to succeed to the throne and failed to save his dying father. The only thing for which he is thankful is that his uncle gave him enough money to purchase a clean coffin for his dying father.

His appreciation is outweighed by his contempt of the royal family, which is why he wants to take the throne that his father was unable to hold and convince him that his useless son is worthy of wearing the crown that he will never be able to wear in his lifetime.

"Dammit! Is all my hard work still useless at this point!?"

Upon striking his sword with everything on the floor, Second Prince Xingju left behind a trail of gory scratches and ruin, leaving him perplexed as only the throne in front of him remained undamaged.

"What the hell is with this throne?" Second Prince Xingju mumbled as he couldn't help but approach the huge throne that looked extremely attractive in his eyes for some reason.

The second prince kept walking until he stood before the black throne as if hypnotized, and before he even realized what he had done, he had been sitting on the black throne. He had not even noticed that he had let go of his sword or that the throne before him had shrunk to the size a human can sit on.

Second Prince Xingju was shocked and tried to stand up but was unable to. "What the hell is happening?" He finally started panicking when he realized that he couldn't stand up from the black throne.

{Hahaha~ finally, there is someone who can take my place!}

A man's sinister laughter echoes through the whole floor. This voice frightened Second Prince Xingju, as he never noticed this presence when he entered the floor.

{My heir! I've been watching you ever since you entered the tower. I heard all your rumblings and your desire for power. This wish I can give you is not impossible, but in exchange... Hehehe~}

Second Prince Xingju's face turned dark, and he said, "You wanted me to take your place in this tower. You couldn't leave this place without passing this tower to someone."

{Talking to someone smart truly made things easier.}

"It is not impossible to take your place, but... how can I complete my revenge if I can't leave this place at all?" Second Prince Xingju exclaimed in anger.

{I do not understand why you are angry. Can't you see that I am standing in front of you? Leaving the throne isn't a problem; you only need to make sacrifices. It takes a lot of death and blood to be freed from that. Your situation is different from mine after all~}

The second prince screamed, "Tell me what I need to do! I don't want to stay on this throne seated forever!"

{I can let you leave for a while and take your place. But of course, since this throne is already yours the moment I leave, you will be summoned back here regardless of your circumstances. Hehe~}

Second Prince Xingju understood what this man was trying to do. He wanted him to do something for him.

"What do you want me to do?" Xingju asked.

The figure suddenly materialized in front of Second Prince Xingju, frightening him despite the fact that he did not even cast a shadow and that his aura was oppressive. There is an evil sneer on the bottom half of his face.

Second Prince Xingju asked, "What is it that you want?"

{What I want is...} The rest of the man's words only entered the ears of the Second Prince, who looked at the man in front of him in disbelief.

"Are you... telling the truth?"

{Of course, I never lie.}

"Then at that time, I will do as you want. Until then, you must protect me and hide me. You also must take my place on this throne," Second Prince Xingju said.

The man in the black cloak pulled Xingju off the black throne and sat in his instead. He looks lazy and indifferent, yet one can't deny his power with this sinister black aura around him.

{It's a deal, then. You can't go back to the promise you made to someone like me.}

Second Prince Xingju frowned and said, "As long as I can get your help for my revenge, I will keep my promise with you."

{That's good. Hahaha~ I can wait for a bit longer~}

At Numen Town this afternoon.

The fool that was standing in front of the Ye family's restaurant, yelling for Ye Jieye, was none other than Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan, who had fled the palace after Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle had teased him during the meeting.

He is so cocky that his nose is about to point skyward, looking down on everyone in the town and thinking, What can these weaklings do to him if he wants to take away the bastard brat of Mu Zang? He

does not realize that a few men, Uncle Butcher and Uncle Cao among them, are hidden hunters who are keeping an eye on everything he does in the town and would drag him away if he did something wrong.

Gu Yan sneered and shouted in front of the restaurant. He didn't even care if he caused chaos for the restaurant and selfishly did as he wanted.

"Ye Jieye, the grandson of Mu Zang! Come out right now while this old man is still asking peacefully!"

Chapter 1227: First Grey Star - Frightening Ye Family.

While the kids are outside having fun, Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing are operating the restaurant. The patrons were yelling at one other and joking around with the couple when they heard someone shouting for the restaurant owner from outside the establishment.

"Ye Jieye, the grandson of Mu Zang! Come out right now while this old man is still asking peacefully!"

The voice owner appears haughty and speaks in an impolite manner, but nobody in this town is unaware of the strength the restaurant owner possesses—he is a person who the Heavenly Guardian can designate as the danger zone's protector—and everyone in this town treats him as another boss in addition to Mayor Mu Zang.

But Ye Jieye is different; as the other boss of this town, even if he wanted to kill this human, no one would complain. After all, this was the first time an outsider had entered the town like this without anyone blocking him, meaning this is a person their Heavenly Guardian had allowed in. Now, the hidden hunters cannot make sudden moves because of this and can only watch on the sidelines.

The restaurant owner's children returned home at this precise moment, which may have been the coincidence of all coincidences. Ye Jingxia and Anxia rode home on Oreos' back, carrying a couple White

Vermillion Pheasants they hunted from the Death Forest, while their parents ran the restaurant. They are coming home for lunch.

Ye Jingxia's childish voice resounds just outside the restaurant, and she says, "Grandpa, what are you shouting outside my house for? Are you a bad guy?"

He greatly inherited both of his parents' powers, especially his dad's, and many who were watching from the sidelines called up to their cute young lord. They looked entertained seeing such a cute and bold little guy, but they knew that the ability this little one possessed was beyond some of them.

Looking at the adorable pout of Ye Jingxia, Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan was annoyed. He had never been a fan of children in the first place, and the ones in his clan were all ugly piglets. So why did the two babies in front of him have the appearance of porcelain dolls, with their milky skin and plump, small bodies?

He looks so cute, almost like a little angel, and those round, innocent eyes are staring at him fearlessly. It is clear how much love his parents gave him, and he also appears spoiled, but in a positive way.

"Little piglet. Are you Mu Zang's great-grandchildren? You are so fat! Hahaha~" Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan said as he laughed.

This is Ye Jingxia's first time being called fat on his face. His dad loves his chubby appearance and loves to hug him because of it. But he hates being called fat or a piglet.

Hmp!

"Grandpa, you're indeed a bad guy! Ice Ice Lotus... Bloom bloom for me... and explode!" Ye Jingxia's nonsense spell chant had always been weird but for some reason the effects is topnotched

A few snow lotus appeared floating around him under the strange spell chant of the fat boy, and they slowly bloomed, emitting a powerful elemental qi of ice that left Gu Yan speechless and stunned, beyond belief that such a small baby could handle this much elemental qi.

Heavenly Guardian Gu Yang grumbles while dodging those weird and dangerous snow lotuses flying towards him.

"How can he grow up like this? Moreover, he is even born similar to the special physique of the Mo Clan."

Seeing the bad old man dodge all his attacks made Ye Jingxia even angrier, with hints of tears in the corner of his eyes. He glared at Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan and pouted.

"Bad person! Don't dodge! Snort! Summon. Summon. Summon.

Oreo's little pups!!"

Ye Jingxia began to draw a circle in the air; some of the summon circles that the enraged infant had established were related to the little world that his parents owned; he even opened a tiny summoning

circle that was related to the void, and the energy that emanated from it caused the whole area to shudder.

Dark qi that lingers in that place is also emitted when a summoning portal connected to the void is opened, and huge eyes peeled through that small hole. The void is the personal domain of an evil god like Ye Jingxia, but he allowed his four children to be able to summon something from it, and under his decree, all his slaves in the void will listen to his family's summoning commands.

{Young Lord, do you need this slave's help to kill the one in front of you?}

That summoning circle emitted darkness and a hoarse, sibilant voice; a crimson eye peered through, freezing stiff those who saw it, Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan foremost among them, staring at him directly until he stopped and some ice lotuses hit his arm and leg, slowly beginning to freeze with ice.

'What the hell is that?!

Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan stared into the crimson eyes without blinking; it was not that he did not want to, but his body's natural fear prevented him from blinking at all.

The danger emanating from that red iris is like nothing he has ever experienced in his life; it made him doubt his own existence and gave him the unshakeable feeling that if he moved, even if it was just a slight flinch, he would die.

The youngster was so horrified that his face went white with fear, and his entire body shook as the gateway slowly turned into ice. Then, out of nowhere, someone appeared and forcibly closed it, staring at Ye Jingxia with a severe expression that further frightened the boy.

Ye Jieye asked, "Ye Jingxia, did you know what you did wrong?"

"Father?" Ye Jingxia calls as he looks above him and sees a looming heavenly tribulation punishment over his head. It only dispersed when his father closed the summoning portal connected to the void.

Grumbles~ whooshed!

Ye Jingxia looked down and said it with an apologetic tone. "Father, I'm sorry. I won't do it anymore. Dad also said not to use too much divinity in this world. Xiao Jing forgot. I promise not to do it again.

Wuwuwu~"

Ye Jieye was a little taken aback when his son brought up the subject of fatherhood. Xiao Jing refers to his wife's earthly incarnation as "daddy," and he addresses his own wife, Hei Anjing, as "dad." His children understand that Mo Xuejing is their father, but he is not their biological father. Even if he wanted to know he can't ask him right now.

Sigh~

Mo Xuejing coaxed, "Don't cry, my babies~."

"A'Mo, bring them inside and clean them up," Ye Jieye said to his wife.

Seeing his elder brother crying at the little princess, Anxia also started crying. Ye Jieye lost all desire to correct them after witnessing their behavior. Mo Xuejing, who approached them while sobbing, helped wipe the children's tears with a towel before asking Mo Xuejing to take them inside the restaurant.

However, as soon as he turned to face Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan, the loving expression on his face vanished and became icily cold.

He walked slowly toward Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan; his rhythmic steps sounded like warning noises to Gu Yan, who had seen how he had just momentarily and fearlessly torn the space and closed it forcefully, demonstrating the full extent of his power.

Gu Yan was horrified by what was beyond that portal, an evil being that defied the laws of this world, but in Ye Jieye's hands, this young man in front of him, it was like dirt, something he could trample on or stop whenever he pleased. Who would not be afraid of a person like this?

Ye Jieye's right index finger was outstretched and about to touch Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan's forehead; for Gu Yan, these few seconds were like hell; he was immobile, unable to move, and his soul was frozen with fear, preventing him from controlling his body. However, Gu Yan knew that the instant that finger touched his forehead, his life would end.

"I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I will never do it again. I will never approach you anymore. I will not even appear before you in this life. Please spare me!!!" Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan pleads.

Gu Yan, this terrifying Heavenly Guardian, didn't know if the man in front of him was right or not, but the incoming finger stopped. He heard him speak, but he wasn't talking to him at all.

Ye Jieye calls, "Gramps, you're back. Have you eaten yet?"

"Not yet. Let's eat lunch now." It was Mu Zang who returned straight after leaving the palace.

"Okay, after I clean up this one," Ye Jieye said as he was talking about Gu Yan in front of him.

Mu Zang said, "Spare him. The palace still needs him. I will ask his clan to give you compensation instead."

"Well, if that's what you want, gramps, I'm going back to the kitchen." Ye Jieye lightly flicked his finger on Gu Yan's forehead, and suddenly he was covered in red-gold flames. This is a flame that only burns what its host wants.

Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan's entire body, including his soul, is burning. The ice covering progressively dissolved, but for some reason, just the anguish of burning remains. It is as though his soul is being burned instead of his body.

AAH~ ARGH!! Aghhh!!!!

Everyone went silent at the sight of Gu Yan's agonized struggle on the ground, and they all shivered immediately. Ye Jieye watched Gu Yan struggle in misery; his eyes were uninterested, as if he were watching a bug move beneath his gaze.

But a friendly gaze appeared on this handsome yet dangerous man when he looked at Mu Zang.
"Gramps, I'll go reheat lunch. Come after your business is done."

"Okay. It won't take long," Mu Zang said as he watched his grandson enter the restaurant and approached his family with an affectionate gaze.

Mu Zang crouch beside Gu Yan, suffering from the unimaginable pain of burning of his soul and whisper,

"We told you not to do it. Xiao Ye isn't the same as my kindhearted Jingya. He will kill as long as you make a move against his family. This is regardless of who you are. You don't know how to listen at all!"

He took hold of his leg and dragged him out of Numen Town, where the prime minister's escort, the people from the capital, was waiting for them; as Mu Zang had promised, he had saved Gu Yan's life, but they were scared by the man's excruciating cries.

Mu Zang looked at them coldly and said, "My grandson is pissed and left a fire of life in his body. His physical form isn't the one being burned but his soul. To save him as the old man from the Mo Clan, he will live if the fire in him is removed within a month."

Having said his piece, Mu Zang left the town and went back to the restaurant to eat lunch with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The rest will be left to these guys. The prime minister's

entourage watched Heavenly Guardian Mu's back enter the town, and they were afraid because they had seen everything that had happened just now.

They now genuinely believe the statements about how cruel Satan is to his enemies. From the attack on the little boy, who is also Satan's son, to the appearance of Satan himself, what is strange is that Satan only touched Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan once to end up like this, and this is already merciful of him to do so.

"Leader, let's leave. This town makes me terrified."

"They aren't human at all. How can they be so indifferent to life?"

"Shut up! Watch your mouth. Carry Heavenly Guardian Gu. We are leaving as soon as possible!" The leader of the small group said.

They could either take him with them while he screamed in agony the entire way, or they could attract unforeseen circumstances like a pack of wolves en route. His minion could only obey orders and carry the struggling Gu Yan Wo, who kept on screaming in pain. It was so loud that the leader cast a muting spell on the Heavenly Guardian.

The leader glanced at the Numen Town entrance for the last time and said, "Move out!"

"Yes, sir!" They all took their leave, bringing Heavenly Guardian Gu with them, who is also the target of their retrieval mission.

Chapter 1228: First Grey Star - Gu Clan left the Noble Faction.

At lunch, in the Ye family's restaurant...

Ye Jieye and his family throw the unruly guest out of Numen Town, and then they get together for lunch. Today's meal is a seafood hotpot, which is made with some ingredients from the Reverse Fall River.

The family sits around a large pot that is simmering over a small fire, and it is filled with two different types of soup—one is spicy, the other is savory—so each person can dip their preferred ingredient into the soup base they prefer.

A few men were dumping ingredients in the pot and scooping them nonstop as they ate. Mu Zang and Doctor Guang were this type; as for Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing, they were feeding their brats first before eating. Their parts were saved on their side from the beginning, and the other two served their own as they ate.

As for Lu Shang and Leica, they left the town to find information about the Hellish Strawberry or anything that is a fire-based ingredient in the information center. They were especially coming for the latest information about the danger zone, the Aurora Glaciers.

Since only the highest-ranking staff members of the building knew that Lu Shang was Satan's subordinate, when he and Leica showed up at the information center, nobody was surprised.

"Young Master Lu Shang and Sir Leica, welcome to our information center! How may I help you?"

"We wanted to buy the latest information about the Aurora Glaciers," Lu Shang answered.

The majority of people in the center were taken aback by his response, which stated that very few people actually purchase information about the danger zones.

This is because each zone is under the ownership of a Heavenly Guardian, hunting in the danger zone is difficult due to the extreme danger, and purchasing information about these areas is expensive and reserved for large clans or wealthy individuals.

Satan happened to the latter. He is extremely wealthy, yet he only chose to run a small restaurant when he had enough money to buy the whole Numen Town.

"Information about the Aurora Glaciers. Would you like to have everything, including the locations and information about the ingredients in that zone?" The staff asked.

Leica replied, "If possible, prioritize the information about fire-based ingredients above rare, including all legendary and god-grade ingredients. Money isn't a problem."

"Is there any information about the legendary-grade Hellish Strawberry? Add that to it," Lu Shang said.

Their backers are two joker-class hunters, Satan and the Ice Demon, after all, and the information center had centered the majority of their personnel prior to these two individuals and ensured that all of their requests were fulfilled as quickly as possible.

"According to the current system, there are indeed some discoveries about the Hellish Strawberries, but the grade is unknown as it hasn't ripened yet. It might be legendary as usual or even above if it mutated."

"Make that the top priority. Sort out everything. We will buy all information about Aurora Glaciers, including the snowstorm timeline, in the past few years," Leica said.

Upon Leica's mention, the staff at the center became aware that they intended to venture into the center region of the glaciers. Since Satan was the only person to have descended into the Aurora Glaciers a few years prior—nobody knows how he did it, but he did return with a Lotus of Life from the depths of this dangerous zone—they had to wait a long time for him to recover.

Lu Shang asked, "How much is it?"

"Hm. It is totaled for 30 million or 1 million hunter points. Which mode of payment do you choose to pay?" The staff asked.

Leica took a few suitcases from his space ring and set them in front of the workers, who felt a glow that would not go away as they opened it all and saw bundles of thick cash in front of them.

"We will pay full in cash. Please hurry the sorting so we can return to report as soon as possible," Leica said.

The information staff were all staring at the cash before their eyes were dumbfounded. They haven't had such a rich patron this year. Lord Satan was the first one.

Lu Shang said, "Don't freeze all of a sudden and do your work."

"Y-Yes Sir!"

"Someone! Gather people to move the money to the Treasury. The rest do the sorting of information for Aurora Glaciers as soon as possible!"

The other customers were gracious enough to allow them to fulfill the request from Satan. Seeing such a large amount of money in cash, it is the first time they have seen such a thing. In the eyes of Satan and his group, this amount of money is not different from a piece of tissue paper. The staff was running around in panic, seeing such a huge client.

They needed to complete the order for this bigshot before the others.

"Our dear patrons, please follow us in the lounge first. In half an hour, everything shall be sorted. Please drink some tea or coffee in the meantime."

"Okay, half an hour it is." Lu Shang agreed, and he brought Leica to the lounge to rest for a while.

They immediately returned to Numen Town after receiving the information. They had a hotpot date in the backyard after they returned to the restaurant.

Back to the capital...

The royal knights had closed all entrances and exits to the Tower of God, but no matter how long they waited, the Second Prince did not emerge. This bizarre occurrence was promptly reported to the palace. After receiving the news, King Xingyun and the Heavenly Guardians sensed something was wrong. A person cannot abruptly disappear.

Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle, who had reached the top floor, scowled more deeply than the rest. He knew what type of nasty entity lived at the top of the tower.

"No one comes out of the tower?" King Xingyun asked.

Heavenly Guardian Lu said, "There is no way for a person to disappear just like that. Either the Second Prince is still at the tower or that being sends him off somewhere. Spatial ability, I think that being is capable of doing such a thing."

"Will it be dangerous to send people into the tower to check?" King Xingyun asked.

Heavenly Guardian Xian Wu spoke up. "Not applicable. We already know that the being who owns that tower feeds on negativity. In short, the more sin someone has, the more it would be powerful. It's better to send fewer with a purer soul and a righteous heart."

Everyone looked at Lu Wangle and knew that, among the Heavenly Guardians, only he and Mu Zang knew what was in that tower.

Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle said, "I don't mind going, but what should be done with the second prince? He won't go with me even if I find him, and that being wouldn't let go of his believers that easily."

"I will go in with you," King Xingyun said. "Unlike the Ruins of Time, the Tower of God is only a building and not found in another timeline or world like the Ruins of Time. Moreover, I need to talk to Xingju."

Prime Minister Fu Zin rejected this idea. "No! An unknown being is still dangerous! You can't go there, your Majesty!"

"No. I think his majesty is the right choice to climb up the tower. Like Wangle, he also has a righteous heart, but... Your regrets are a bit dangerous," Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue said.

King Xingyun said, "I'll keep that in mind."

"I will..."

"You can't go. If you go, who will handle the Noble Faction?" King Xingyun said.

The Prime Minister's face doesn't look good when he hears his lover's words, but he knows that these words are correct.

Fu Zin said, "If you can't come back in half a day, I will also go up!"

"Okay, I will be back as soon as possible," King Xingyun said.

After all, King Xingyun and Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle chose to go up the tower while the others waited below, and they bid farewell to Lu Wangle and the King until they vanished into the Tower of Gods.

Doctor Sen asked, "Will they be alright?"

"They will be okay. They aren't going there to make a wish after all," Heavenly Guardian Xian Wu said.

Heavenly Mo Xinyue cast a sidelong glance at Yi Kun, who was grinning at the two that had vanished from view inside the tower. Yi Kun seems like the kind of person who would not pass up such an opportunity, particularly when Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan returns to that state's capital. The noble faction would not be pleased with these developments.

Prime Minister Fu Zin said, "Fu Zin, watch your back. They are about to do something."

"I know. They wouldn't be able to achieve what they wanted," Prime Minister Fu Zin whispered back as he looked at the flickering lights on each floor, which indicated the journey of the two people.

"I will go back to the place first," Prime Minister Fu Zin said.

Heavenly Guardian Xian Wu asked, "Do you want us to come with you?"

"There is no need. Unlike Xing'er, I am never kind in the first place," Prime Minister Fu Zin said as his face turned cold and distant. He is completely different from his friendly version when the king is around.

At the Noble Faction's Territory...

They had heard about Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan's predicament and had even seen him firsthand; the red-gold flame was eerily similar to the fire the Lu Clan used, albeit purer than any member of that clan; in fact, the fire itself was sufficient evidence of Ye Jieye's Lu Clan ancestry because their fire is inherited.

The children are terrified, and the adults frown at Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan's hoarse cries of pain, which reverberate throughout the entire mansion. They have already consulted with every doctor in the capital, who confirms that there are no wounds or scars on his body, but that the red-gold fire that is burning him is real.

They also learned from the Prime Minister's house staff that Heavenly Guardian Gu Yan only has a half-day left to live and that in order to heal him, they must summon the Mo Clean Heavenly Guardian. However, they were not in a rush because they knew that the Mo Clan would not assist them without something in return.

The one in charge of this faction is Yi Kun's son, Yi Jun. Beside him is Gu Yan's son, Gu Hen, who is glaring at everyone as they keep wasting their time and leaving his father in pain.

Gu Hen said, "What the hell are you fuckers planning to do? I need to get my father cured as soon as possible!"

"A'Hen, don't be in a hurry. Wait for my father to come back before we decide on doing something next," said Yi Jun.

Gu Yan exclaimed, "Nonsense. Why didn't your father stop my father to confront Satan? Obviously, he doesn't see us, Gus, as someone from the same side! I'm taking my father and leaving. Stop me, and we can only fight!"

Now that the young lord has decided to take away their Heavenly Guardian, they no longer waste time. Before Heavenly Guardian Yi returns, they must leave this place. The elders of the Gu Clan were afraid that their clan would be absorbed by the other clans next, so they had to be on guard and closely guard their heir.

Yi Jun warned, "The moment you leave the gates, your Gu Clan will no longer be included in the Noble Faction. Make your choice then."

After a brief moment of hesitation due to his father's condition, Gu Hen got up and got ready to go, thinking that things might be under control again once he got his father recovered.

"Take my father. We are going home." With a command, Gu Hen ordered his clansmen to advance in the way he specified, and the Gu Clan as a whole emerged from the mansion beneath Yi Jun's icy stare.

Yi Jun added, "I hope you won't regret this choice."

"Even if I regret this choice, as long as my father is alive, that is okay," Gu Hen said as he gestured for his people to leave.

When Gu Hen arrived, the nobles no longer had the same warm look in their eyes, and when they saw his father's condition, Yi Jun and the others turned away and gazed viciously at the Gu Clan, leaving their factions.

"Tsk! Did he really think his father could be healed!?" Yi Jun mumbles.

Chapter 1229: First Grey Star - One truth among the lies.

Noble Faction's side...

Just as he was about to kneel in front of the Mo Clan's gates, the guards invited him as if they were expecting him. After Gu Hen took away his father, he immediately came to the Mo Clan and begged the people of Mo to save his father. He heard that only Mo Caln could control the fire in his father's body.

"Young Master Gu Hen, the ancestor had invited you inside. Please come in and bring your father with you."

Gu Hen went to the Mo Clan with his father and a few trustworthy individuals who had served his family for years, knowing that the problem was their Heavenly Guardian, or else the noble faction would swallow them alive. It now appears that the Mo Clan had anticipated their arrival and welcomed them.

In the main mansion, Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue was waiting for them. Gu Hen and the people with him all lowered their heads to beg him as soon as they saw him.

"Heavenly Guardian Mo, please save my father! Our Gu Clan is willing to pay with anything!" Gu Hen said.

Mo Xinyue sighed when he saw the man, who is already a father himself, lowering his head for his father's sake, which made him recall the past.

In the past, the heir also begged him to save his baby, even after he was thrown in the dungeon, and in his decision at the time, he hated himself because he should have just separated the problems of the adults from the problems of the children, and the current state where their heirs are not coming home would not have to happen.

Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue said, "Place him down and let me see it. But I'm telling you this ahead of time; I will do my best to help him, but I won't guarantee anything."

"Yes. Yes. Please, try your best to save my father."

Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue approached Gu Yan, who had longed turned his voice hoarse until no sound came out of his mouth. He had been shouting for such a long time that it hurt his throat. His body was still covered in a red-gold flame, but this flame only affected Gu Yan for some reason.

Mo Xinyue tried his hardest to extinguish the flame by freezing it. Despite the fact that the flame was shrinking, Mo Xinyue's cold qi output was at full capacity. Sweating appeared on his back and face, indicating how much qi he had been exerting to do so. However, the flame was too powerful, and he could only reduce its effect by half.

A voice suddenly came out from behind them, saying, "To suppress the flame of judgment is a stupid thing to do."

Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue was startled because he recognized the person who had spoken. When all of them turned around, they saw a man dressed in pure white ancient clothing, his silver hair flowing behind his back. His face was half covered, making it difficult for anyone to identify him.

It was not until they noticed the pair of irises that looked familiar that they realized the man was a member of the Mo Clan.

"Why did you come out here, sir?"

Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue was so taken aback by his appearance that he failed to detect the red-gold flame flaring toward him, and its output was quite large; he also yelled as the red-gold flame covered him. Suddenly, he felt a scorching feeling emanating from his soul.

AAAHHHHH!!!

The man wearing white robes is none other than Chaos, who is utilizing Mo Xinyue's own body. He gazed at the screaming Mo Xinyue, his lips twisted slightly in disdain, his expression apathetic, as he has a way of looking down on virtually everyone.

Chaos nonchalantly said as he watched the two men burn. "I told you. Don't suppress it. That's a flame that judges the sins."

"Save... Please save me, my lord!" Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue crawled and grabbed the corner of Chaos' robe.

But the man remains unfazed, staring at them icily while wearing a menacing smile. This scene made everyone shudder. Why does someone so attractive feel so frightening and dangerous?

"Well, since this lord is quite entertained, I shall save you. But when they come to visit for permission to enter the Aurora Glaciers, I want to see them with you. Do you agree?" Chaos asked.

The "them" he refers to are Ye Jieye, Mo Xuejing, and their offspring. Chaos is aware that they require permission from Mo Xinyue, the zone's owner, in order to enter the core region of the danger zone, and that the old man had no intention of letting him meet with those men. As a result, he can only watch them fret over a fire that no mortal could put out.

Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue bore the pain for a bit, as he truly didn't want his grandson to meet this person who stole his body. He is afraid of hurting him further.

Chaos, as if reading his mind, said, "How about I promise not to hurt any of them? I just want to see the children. I don't have any intention of hurting Mo Xuejing and the children."

"You... can't hurt... Jieye... Ye Jieye... as well!" Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue said.

Chaos narrowed his eyes in contemplation and said, "Hmp! Fine. I won't harm any of them. Do you agree now?"

Heavenly Guardian Mo Xinyue nodded reluctantly, and when Chaos saw this, he smirked and waved his hand, sucking the red-gold flame into his palm and creating a tiny wisp of fire that he sealed in a glass container. Heavenly Guardians Mo and Gu Yan, meanwhile, felt relief as the pain in their bodies subsided, and the sensation of being burned without suffering any injuries horrified them.

Chaos flicked the glass with a red-gold flame at Mo Xinyue and said, "You can return the flame to its owner, though he wouldn't care much about it. You can sell it to his family instead." He then once again left the room and disappeared somewhere. As for the Gi Clan and Gu Yan, Mo Xinyue let them stay for the night.

Inside the tower of gods...

King Xingyun and Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle battled their way up to the tower, where they encountered a variety of dangerous monsters, including stone golems, poisonous snakes, wandering

ghosts, and even a lich, initially just a few human-shaped skeletons, but as they advanced to higher floors, the number of monsters multiplied.

The number of enemies increased by the number of people who climbed the tower; however, this was only halfway through; at the beginning, the knight who came to check in the tower greatly increased the number of enemies when they caught up with Xingju, which is why the Second Prince used them as cannon fodder to escape with his life. Fortunately, his strength was sufficient to reach the top alone.

Working together, Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle and King Xingyun were able to reach the peak sooner than the second prince, but to Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle's surprise, they were unable to locate the person they were searching for. Additionally, Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle was taken aback to discover that the former enormous throne had the ability to reduce a person's size.

This size gave him a more eerie feeling upon sight, especially when he saw the black cloak man seated on the black throne as if blending with it. His posture looks lethargic, but the aura he keeps emitting screams danger all the way.

Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle stopped the king from approaching the seated figure.

"Don't come near him. Even though he shrunk, this is definitely the man Zang and I met years ago," Lu Wangle said as he stood in front of the king.

With a serious gaze, King Xingyun studied the man on the black throne, but he could not sense any weakness emanating from this being; rather, the dangerous aura he is naturally giving off makes him want to flee, his intuition screaming for him to do so.

He also looked around to see if anyone else was on the floor, but both of them and the man on the black throne were the only ones there, confirming their suspicion that the Second Prince Xingju was no longer in the tower.

Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle asked, "Your Majesty, what should we do next?"

King Xingyun patted Lu Wangle's shoulder and made him stand at his side rather than in front of him. The latter stepped aside as he was asked to.

"Where is Xingju? I know you can hear me," King Xingyun said.

The man atop the black throne smirked, and he lifted his head slightly from his still position, but his face was hidden below the cloak, leaving just his nose and lips visible.

{Human King, why should this lord answer your question? I only listen to the wishes of a chosen few. Unfortunately, you don't seem to fit the criteria for it. Heh~}

Fearlessly glancing at the man in the black cloak, King Xingyun studied him intently, and in the brief space of time that separated them, Xingyun finally realized what had been bothering him all along. No one knows what he is thinking about as he abruptly approaches the man and his black throne.

He said it out of nowhere. "You can't leave this tower. Is Xingju chosen to take your place? That's why you are protecting him so well."

The words of King Xingyun not only stunned Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle but also startled the man on the black throne for a moment, and then they heard him chuckle as if completely entertained.

{Hahaha~ indeed. You are quite different. You observe things so closely, down to the very last details, before making a move. All your actions had a meaning. You approached me just now to watch my reaction. When I move slightly just now, you know that I can move my lower body from this throne.

That was enough for you to reach the truth. You are a good king, but your kingdom isn't worthy of you. After all, being too talented attracts jealousy and envy.}

{The one who stood beside you must be completely cold-hearted, whose heart only beats for you. Under his protection, you remained as pure as a refined jade. But being too pure had its disadvantages as well. It's been awhile since I had such a laugh. As a reward, I will answer one of your questions truthfully. You gauge which is the truth yourself.

Hehe~}

King Xingyun started throwing his questions at the man.

"Where is Xingju?"

{Hm~ He went back home? I think.}

"Did you help him escape the tower without anyone noticing?"

{Help? Heh! Well he indeed asked to be brought outside.}

"What is your name?"

{My name? Hahaha~ you guys already know my name.}

Among the three responses, this one seems to be the most likely truth among the lies, but Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle and King Xingyun could not believe it. How can they know the name of this devil? This answer left these two men dumbfounded. How can they not understand his words?

{You guys aren't compatible to talk with this lord. You can scram.}

Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle and King Xingyun felt their surroundings warp and become weightless with a wave of that man's hand; fortunately, they did not fall from high ground, and the royal knights were able to catch them before they fell all the way to the ground.

"It's your majesty! Catch them! Catch them!"

"How the hell did they fall from there!?"

"I saw it! They suddenly fell from a black portal. I am not seeing things!"

When the medics and healers on call examined Heavenly Guardian Lu Wangle and King Xingyun, they found no life-threatening wounds or scratches on their bodies.

The doctors and healers said, "There are no problems with your wounds. They can be healed, your majesty."

"I see. Send someone to escort Heavenly Guardian Lu to the Lu Clan. I need to return to the palace to meet the prime minister," King Xingyun said.

After their brief trip within the tower, Lu Wangle was exhausted. Time in a tower is not the same as it is outside; a day inside a tower is equivalent to a year; a few hours there is equivalent to a few months; in other words, the two of them had been fighting nonstop for a few months.

"Thank you, your majesty. This one shall excuse myself for now," Lu Wangle said as he bid farewell to them.

King Xingyun said, "Good work today. Thank you for showing me the way, Wangle."

Chapter 1230: First Grey Star - Dark Secret of the Royal Family

Capital City, Imperial Palace...

After monarch Xingyun safely returned to the palace, surrounded by royal knights, medics, and healers, the Prime Minister's expressionless face softened and he hugged his monarch in front of everyone, seemingly unaffected by the stares of onlookers.

Fu Zin said, "Thank God, you are fine."

"A'Zin, I'm back," King Xingyun said.

Only King Xingyun and the Prime Minister remained in the chamber as the others were sent out after collecting their awards, and everyone politely looked away from witnessing their superiors flirt. The king was pulled to sit and rest by the prime minister when the couple had had enough.

Prime Minister Fu Zin asked, "Since the second prince didn't return with you, that means you didn't find him there. What kind of being did you meet?"

"It's a strange being filled with evilness and darkness. He called us mortal. He might be an evil god sealed in the tower of gods. He might have existed longer than us," King Xingyun said.

Fu Zin said, "That tower had existed even before the kingdom had been made. But for some reason, the kingdom chose to build the city near that tower."

"Are you saying that maybe the royal family came for that tower instead of the Ruins of Time?" King Xingyun said.

The prime minister nodded his head and explained. "Compared to the ruins of time, the advantages of the Tower of God are more apparent. It can be said that except for you, the late kings cannot be called good kings. Why do you think your father still chooses your elder brother even though he is ill?"

Maybe because only those with evil hearts can continue reigning in this kingdom and that being in the Tower of God is connected to it."

"I..." King Xingyun hesitated with his words, and Fu Zin thought he overdid it with his words just now.

The Prime Minister, Fu Zin, said. "Don't take my words into my heart. I am only giving you some examples."

"No, I think you are right. I do not know if I remember it right. When we were young, do you remember when my father, brother, and I left for somewhere before? The one where he didn't allow you to come with us," King Xingyun said.

After a moment of reflection, Fu Zin remembered that there had been a time when he had wanted to accompany Xingyun somewhere, but the king had told them that he could not come for this particular event. His father had carried him home because he was so eager to follow them, and he had been placed under house arrest for a day.

That day, when they returned, Xingyun was sick with a fever, and the eldest prince had fallen off his horse on the way home, completely losing both of his legs.

The Prime Minister recalled the exchange contract with that being and looked at King Xingyun with a stunned expression.

Fu Zin said, "Do you think the former king had asked you two to make an exchange with that being, and your brother was the one chosen instead of you?"

"I think so too. Maybe I should go see my elder brother tomorrow. Sigh~, I can't believe our kingdom was created thanks to the blessing of an evil god." King Xingyun looked stressed and depressed at this realization. He couldn't believe things ended up this way.

The shadow guards materialized before the Prime Minister, who felt sorry for his king and could only accompany him to his palace to keep an eye on him till he eventually nodded off.

Whooshed!

Fu Zin looked cold as he watched over the evening sky and the distant tower that could be seen even in the palace.

"Protect him with your lives. Kill anyone that approaches him."

"Yes!"

The Prime Minister moved his gaze from the evening sky to the direction where the eldest brother of King Xingyun lives. His face turned even colder at this moment.

"Send me a message to the eldest, his highness. 'I want to ask for an appointment tonight.'"

As he walked slowly toward the royal member who is the oldest, the shadow guards all vanished. Meanwhile, Xingyun's eldest brother was alone in his chamber when he received a message from the shadow guards.

After getting the news from the shadow guard, Xingmo sent the concubines away and waited for the prime minister to arrive at the main palace of the castle, where he was lying down with his eyes closed in a room filled with machines that kept him alive.

Fu Zin's shadow appears in the room where Xingmo lives, and the curtains flutter. Xingmo smiles, anticipating Fu Zin's arrival.

"A'Zin, I'm surprised that Xiao Yun is even allowing you to leave by his side," Xingmo said. Like expected, he isn't able to move his legs, and Fu Zin helped him sit up on the bed.

Fu Zin is unexpectedly respectful towards this person and falls on one knee to meet his gaze.

"Dage, I wanted to ask you about the Tower of God," Fu Zin said while observing Xingmo's face.

As expected, Xingmo turned expressionless as he mentioned that tower. "Did Xiao Yun climb back into that stupid tower?"

"You know about it, Dage?" asked Fu Zin.

Xingmo said, "There's an evil god in that tower. It gave blessings to this kingdom for years. Father is a fanatic of that being. When we were young, he brought Xiao Yun and me into that tower and asked us to kill each other."

"What!?" exclaimed Fu Zin, as he didn't expect to hear this side of the story.

Xingmo sighed. "Children are pure when they are young. The heaviest sin they can accumulate is stealing something at most, but the being in that tower is completely evil. It loves people who kill. Not a simple killing, a murder that could entertain him. Father was an extreme fanatic and wanted to use us to entertain that bastard."

Xingmo's hands, quivering with a mixture of dread and wrath, clasp his blanket as he remembers what happened that day, replaying a nightmare he had always wanted to forget.

Xingmo continues his story. "Gods are whimsical. Even if father is his believer, he would only lean on the side that entertained him the most. I pretended to follow father's plans and held the sword father gave us both. In the end, I killed him, the former king. Haha~"

"But what can I do? Xiao Yun is too young. I promised the male queen to protect him. Maybe because he already knew that father was insane. So I made a wish to that being... to play the role of villain and make Xiao Yun kill me in the end.

This is the exchange contract I made with that devil. That's why father returned to us to the kingdom alive that day, but he is no longer our original father but a puppet created by that being to do the end of his contract. My wish is for him to let go of his influence on our kingdom. In exchange for it, I will fight with Xian Yun and act as a villain to entertain that being."

Xingmo looked at Fu Zin and saw that he had a disbelieving expression on his face. He only smiled when he saw such a thing. "A'Zin, I don't care if you believe me or not. As long as I don't die, this kingdom and the royal family won't be freed from those evil clutches. Fu Zin, you must help Xiao Yun kill me. The rebellion Xingju had started is something I instigated him to do."

"In this life, I chose no one to trust no one. My queen, my concubines, and my ministers are all pawns for this play. I'm only capable of saying this now because I feel that the contract I had with that Evil God had weakened. Before, when I tried to mention it, it would constrict my breathing as if someone were strangling me.

Since it weakened, it means he had chosen Xingju, that foolish son of mine, as his new heir. All I wanted was for Xiao Yun to live the rest of his life happy with you, because I would no longer be there to accompany him until the end. If possible, if Xingju repents, please spare his life. This is the last wish and regret I have in this life," Xingmo said.

The reason Fu Zin felt depressed after learning the truth was that he did not think Xingmo would actually damage him and Xingyun, which is why he came to meet them tonight. Who would have thought that the truth would be much more terrible and horrible than he had anticipated?

"Dage, is there no other way?" Fu Zin asked.

With a smile on his face and a gentle pat on Fu Zin's head, Xingmo expressed his admiration for their relationship, having watched this young man grow up, always following Xingyun like a little guardian angel.

However, after what had happened in the tower, Xingmo no longer chose to have anyone by his side, believing that he could only fulfill his duties as the elder brother and king of this kingdom by himself.

"Mortals had no way to fight the gods, especially an evil one like the one in the tower. Well, unless another god interferes, I can only complete the contract I made," His Highness Xingmo said. "A'Zin promises to tell everything to Xiao Yun only after my death. I don't want him to do anything foolish before the contract is completed."

"I... promise, dage," Fu Zin said as he prepared to leave. He helped him lie down on the bed and covered him with a blanket.

Xingmo said before closing his eyes to sleep, "A'Zin, protect Xiao Yun, and look out for the head of the Noble Faction. Like my father, that clan is also a fanatic of that evil god."

Before leaving, Fu Zin bows to Xingmo; however, what he does not know is that Xingmo remained awake after his departure, and another shadow—his own shadow guard—appears in front of him, loyal to him alone, not to the crown.

"Nameless, observe the movements the Yi Clan will make. Don't get too close. Watch from a distance. If that stupid son of mine appears, report to me immediately," Xingmo commanded.

The shadow didn't respond and instantly left after receiving his master's orders. Even though the master doesn't trust him completely, this shadow guard is extremely loyal to Xingmo. After all, Xingmo is his savior. He is someone who saved this slave and gave him a new life.

Xingmo mumbles, "Soon everything will be over." Then he closes his eyes, planning to sleep.

As for Fu Zin, he started to send people to investigate everyone from the Noble Faction. This includes the Yi and Gu clans.

Meanwhile, in Numen Town...

While the children sleep in another room, Ye Jieye and Mo Xuejing share a bed; they have not fallen asleep yet after putting the cubs to sleep. Ye Jieye is using his fire elemental ability to help his wife dry his hair while they lay side by side on the bed. Ye Jieye and the family were now preparing for their next hunt, which would take place in another danger zone—the Aurora Glaciers.

Mo Xuejing said, "A'Ye, next month, are you going to accompany me home to the clan?"

"Yes, I'm afraid they won't let you out once you go back alone," Ye Jieye said.

Mo Xuejing asked, "Can we bring the children? I wanted to introduce my grandfather to them."

Ye Jieye took a while to reply because, from what he had heard about the Mo Clan, the Ancestor of the Clan was the one who had killed the two of them and forced them to live apart for years. When Mo Xuejing saw his husband become silent, he knew that he was afraid the old man would hurt their cubs and make his husband lose his temper.

In the worst-case scenario, the whole Mo Clan will be destroyed by his man.

Mo Xuejing said, "Grandfather had changed. He must have already known about our relationship, but he sent no one else from the clan except Yuhan. It was as if he knew that Yuhan would inform us about our past relationships, which we had forgotten. Can you give him a chance to repent?"

"It is not him I am worried about," Mr. Jieye said.

Mo Xuejing thought for a moment and realized who his husband was talking about. It's about the man who took over his body.

"Is it about that soul in my original body?" he asked.

Ye Jieye nodded his head and pulled his beloved closer to him in an embrace. He said, "That person hates me a lot. I'm afraid you might get frightened by him when you see his reaction when seeing me."

"You know who that man Chaos is?" Mo Xuejing asked in bewilderment and confusion

Ye Jieye answered, "You should know him better. After all, he is you and not you at the same time."