

Facing Wang Baole's wrath, Li Yi narrowed her eyes and caught the jade slip that Wang Baole had tossed to her. Holding it in her hands, she took a look and turned solemn. She knew that what she had done would eventually be discovered, but didn't think that it would happen so quickly. In reality, to delay its discovery, she had already taken precautions.

Her plan to carry out her goals while appearing to abide by what she was assigned needed more time to be completely carried out. Once everything was settled, the time would be ripe for her to show her cards and battle it out with Wang Baole.

However, her acts had been discovered earlier than she had planned. That made her frustrated and angry, and as she grew even more solemn, Li Yi put the jade slip down and spoke calmly.

"This should be the act of those lower-ranked workers who made the decision themselves. I will handle this matter and turn the situation around."

Lin Tianhao narrowed his eyes but remained silent. Kong Dao furrowed his brows, while Jin Duoming looked at Li Yi intently. They all knew that she was trying to shift the blame to someone else.

Wang Baole looked coldly at Li Yi with unfriendliness in his eyes. He was about to erupt in anger, thinking about whether he should use this opportunity to beat Li Yi up when suddenly, he sensed three figures outside his office who were locking his Qi in.

The three figures who were locking his Qi didn't bother to hide their Core Formation cultivation. They had come from the four Dao Colleges and were the Dao guardians of Li Yi. To put it more accurately, they were the ones who would guarantee the interests of the four Dao Colleges in the new city zone.

The three of them had each come from the White Deer Dao College, White Deer Branch College, and Holy River Dao College. Ethereal Dao College didn't arrange for their elites to come over, apparently, as that was part of their plans to stop Wang Baole.

After all, the new city zone wasn't to be belittled. It was in a critical location, so regardless of whether it was Li Yi or Jin Duoming, they had people guarding them by their sides. Only Lin Tianhao and Kong Dao didn't have such guardians, as even though Lin Tianhao had a strong backing, he represented himself and not the Senate.

Kong Dao, on the other hand, was from the Mars military, which could be considered a local faction. With the convenience of being sent through teleportation, it naturally eliminated the need for guardians.

With his Qi locked in by the three Core Formation cultivators, a chilly look flashed across Wang Baole's eyes. Even though he had the means to forcefully teach Li Yi a lesson despite being locked in, he thought about it and buried the vicious thoughts deep in his mind. He didn't choose to act immediately, instead, speaking with a cold voice that reverberated.

"The issue of moving the people is most crucial now. There is also a need to draw divisions for the new city zone. Since everyone is here today, we shall divide the new city zone into four smaller zones, with each of you overseeing its construction. The eastern and southern zones shall be under Mayor Lin Tianhao and Mayor Jin Duoming's charge, the northern zone under Mayor Kong Dao, while Mayor Li Yi will be in charge of the remaining western zone. On top of that, Li Yi, you owe me an explanation for this matter!"

As Wang Baole spoke, Li Yi furrowed her brows slightly. Originally, having sensed that Wang Baole's Qi had been locked in, she felt superior as she had the support of the four Dao Colleges, which gave her a firm standing. However, she felt uncomfortable listening to what Wang Baole said.

Wang Baole didn't talk about relinquishing the power he had given her, but instead divided that power into four, such that she was only in charge of a portion of it.

However, Wang Baole had caught her wrongdoings. As such, even though she was unhappy, and despite having the support of the four Dao Colleges, she didn't have an excuse to reject the arrangement. In her silence, she sighed.

"I will definitely give you an explanation with regards to this matter. If there is nothing else, I will return to carry out my investigations, and will take my leave now!" As she spoke, Li Yi turned around like a proud peacock displaying her beautiful back and left the office.

Instantly, silence filled the office. Seeing what had happened, Jin Duoming seemed to be in deep thought. He felt that Wang Baole wasn't someone who could hide things in his heart. However, now that he was able to handle matters like these with dignity and lightness, he instinctively felt that there was something amiss, and had a premonition that a big scheme was forming in Wang Baole's mind!

This is part of the plan to completely annihilate Li Yi. Jin Duoming sighed. He had no intention to caution Li Yi about it, as if he were to do such things, it would equate to him burning the bridge with Wang Baole. Therefore, after thinking about it, he looked at Kong Dao and realized that Kong Dao had lowered his head, apparently disinterested in this matter. He then laughed, standing up with cupped fists as he left.

After he left, Kong Dao lifted his head, seemingly wanting to speak, but he stopped himself. He then left, and very soon, there was only Wang Baole and Lin Tianhao remaining in the office.

Lin Tianhao felt indignant, as to him, the way Wang Baole handled the matter this time around was too lenient. He then spoke with dissatisfaction in his voice.

"Mayor, you're letting her off just like that?"

Wang Baole flashed a profound look and hit the table several times, before speaking suddenly.

"Tianhao, transcribe all the conversations today, as well as the details of the entire matter into a jade slip, and send it to the Governor. Since Mayor Li Yi announced that she would correct it, we shouldn't dwell too much on it."

Without a choice, Lin Tianhao nodded his head and was about to stand up and leave when suddenly, Wang Baole spoke again.

“In addition, use this as an excuse to delay the time to move the people. At the same time, there is no need to keep an eye on Li Yi’s western zone any longer. Instead, it is more important to return the areas in the other zones which Li Yi secretly messed up to normal!”

The meaning behind Wang Baole’s words was clear. As Lin Tianhao listened, his breathing quickened. He sensed something sinister in Wang Baole’s words and immediately abided to the commands before taking his leave.

When everyone had left, Wang Baole, who was sitting on the chair, shut his eyes, appearing to be deep in thought. As the skies darkened and began to shroud the office in darkness, Wang Baole blended within. Only his mumbles could be heard vaguely.

“Li Yi, it would be no big matter if you had stayed honest. However, if you still continue to court death, I will give you what you want!”

Just as Wang Baole had predicted, even though Li Yi sent instructions to carry out investigations after she had left, it was all surface work. She appeared to be making repairs and adjustment, but she didn’t do anything to the core position, instead, increasing the speed of construction.

However, as her authority had been reduced, such that she was only in control of the western zone instead of the entire city zone, the most she could do was to transform the western zone into her own Global Dharma City.

She held onto the belief that she would eventually be able to prove that she, Li Yi, was the candidate most suitable to become mayor. Wang Baole, the pig, was merely trying to get into the good books of the public in order to trick them.

However, she also knew that whatever she was doing shouldn’t be discovered again, at least before the Global Dharma City was completed. Therefore, she was even more vigilant and even replaced everyone she was in charge of to people from her own White Deer Dao College.

At the same time, she put in place protective measures that made it extremely challenging for outsiders to investigate the situation. That was a different case for the other three zones. With Lin Tianhao in charge, Jin Duoming and Kong Dao cooperated with each other, rectifying everything that Li Yi had secretly changed and rebuilding the area according to Wang Baole’s blueprint.

Time flew by just like that, and half a month passed. The Martian Colony Governor seemed to have received the jade slip, but for some unknown reason, she didn’t ask about it. Instead, the Martian Colony Governor delayed the moving of the people due to some procedural issues.

In addition, a new round of tests for the new city zone’s ability to resist the Beast Tide took place several times within this half month. With each Beast Tide, the new city zone’s array formation was activated in all zones, suppressing the Beast Tide each time. As for the western zone that Li Yi was in charge of, no issues surfaced.

That made Li Yi even more confident. That was especially so when there was one instance where the force of the Beast Tide rose significantly, and an illusory circular glow appeared in the western zone that Li Yi was in charge of. As the glow was reflected, it strengthened the array formation in the Divine Armament Catacombs, resulting in severe casualties to the Beast Tide.

That test significantly boosted Li Yi's confidence. She already had some evidence that her Global Dharma City was more suitable and more powerful than Wang Baole's Eternal Fortress!

It's time to take over! Observing the situation, Li Yi grew impatient. She summarized the advantages of her Global Dharma City, as well as its performance in resisting the Beast Tide, and planned to contact White Deer Dao College to issue a challenge to Wang Baole so that the Martian City would reassess the suitability of each of their cities. A sudden change occurred suddenly that very night, one that she wasn't prepared for!

A new catacombs entrance, one that appeared to be branching off the Divine Armament Catacombs, appeared in Li Yi's western zone!

Chapter 382: Arrest Her!

Li Yi couldn't have foreseen the appearance of the catacombs. When the new entrance exploded into existence, she was deep in meditation. The thunderous sound of explosion rose to the skies, and the earth quaked. There had been a public square in the center of the western zone, but it had since collapsed and sunken in, forming a gigantic crater!

A chilly, eerie air surged from the crater, spreading an icy chill in the surrounding area. The waves of chilly air were accompanied by countless hordes of beasts!

This wasn't the first time a new catacombs connected to the Divine Armament Catacombs appeared. The Blood Cave where Lin Tianhao had met with danger had been a similar situation. Based on the Governor's analysis and assessment, she had guessed that such incidents would occur and had carried out the necessary preventive measures. The new city zone was one such measure to prevent and manage such incidents when they happened.

Wang Baole wasn't fully aware of the details surrounding the occurrence of the new catacombs. However, he could sense something had gone wrong through the new city zone's array formation. If the array formation had been constructed based on his plans and didn't have any loopholes or gaps, and if the entire city had been running correctly with all the cogs turning smoothly, it would have been difficult for a new catacombs to appear. Even if it did appear, it wouldn't be inside the city but somewhere else.

However, it was clear that the Global Dharma City that Li Yi believed to be perfect didn't fuse and mesh fully with the Qi Fostering Spirit Array Formation, resulting in problems. It might have been difficult to discover such incongruencies normally, as they were very well hidden; however, in such key moments, they would be exposed fully.

The new catacombs would never have been able to appear in the other three zones. The loopholes present in the western zone presented an opportunity for it to appear. Its explosion seemed to shake the heavens and earth. At that moment, the cheap tricks that Li Yi had been playing in secret were all exposed and laid out in the open for all to see.

The deafening explosions alarmed everyone in the new city zone. Li Yi's face was pale. The first thing that came to her mind wasn't how to fight off and push back the beast hordes, but the disadvantage she would suffer once this incident got out and people heard about it!

Defense and resistance came as an afterthought. She raced out hastily and immediately gathered the people from the four Dao Colleges to fight off the beast hordes. They were mainly from the White Deer Dao College and its branch college. There were some from the Holy River Dao College, while those from the Ethereal Dao College were few. The Ethereal Dao College cultivators had wanted to be here since Wang Baole was stationed in the new city zone; however, the White Deer Dao College, in its attempts to prevent Wang Baole's influence from growing too vast, had put a stop to that.

Li Yi tried frantically to hold back the Beast Tide. The sudden event had sent the entire city zone quaking. The other zones were faring well compared to the western zone though, which was seeing great casualties.

Fortunately, the Beast Tide had only just erupted. It would be fine if they could seal the catacombs. If efforts to do so were delayed though, the beasts could spread into other zones and result in calamity.

As soon as Wang Baole found out about this, his face turned dark, and a murderous aura erupted from his person. He dashed out and barked out an order instantly.

"Lock down the entire western zone. Unleash the full power of the array formation. Cultivators at Foundation Establishment realm and above, follow me into the western zone. We're going to seal the new catacombs!"

The city zone's array formation was instantly activated upon Wang Baole's order, and numerous cultivators lined up in their formations and awaited their orders. The western zone was locked down. It seemed that Wang Baole was prepared to abandon the western zone.

A similarly somber-faced Kong Dao and Jin Duoming followed Wang Baole and charged into the western zone. Lin Tianhao had been instructed to stand guard outside, and Wang Baole's concern for the rest meant they weren't brought along either.

At least ten thousand cultivators soon followed Wang Baole's lead and charged into the western zone. Amongst them were six to seven Core Formation realm cultivators. They dashed forward swiftly and approached the new catacombs in the western zone. Li Yi and her people were engaged in a fierce battle with the beasts. Her people were all injured and forced to fall back.

There were still more beasts surging outwards endlessly.

Wang Baole was about to spew fire at the sight of such chaos and danger. He had expected something like this to happen. However, Li Yi had simply grown too bold. She continued to do what she wished secretly, despite him clamping down on her. Her reckless actions had been the cause of the current predicament.

He didn't hesitate. As soon as he and his people arrived at the scene of battle, Wang Baole immediately headed for Li Yi, who was being protected by a circle of her people. A tinge of resentment and hate colored Li Yi's pale face when she saw his arrival.

Li Yi couldn't tell where her resentment came from. However, it was obvious that the emotion had only reared its ugly head when she saw Wang Baole. Wang Baole ignored her poisonous stare and said immediately, "The four Dao Colleges, listen to my orders. Fall back a hundred thousand feet. Lock down

the perimeters and slow the Beast Tide. Seniors who are at the Core Formation realm, follow me to the heart of the new catacombs and stand guard while I seal it!”

“Li Yi, you are to transfer the control of the new city zone that you have been secretly modifying to me immediately!” Wang Baole said immediately, his tone leaving no room for negotiation.

The shocked and alarmed cultivators from the White Deer Dao College hesitated and looked at Li Yi. Li Yi, on the other hand, only saw how Wang Baole had seized authority over her people upon his arrival and was now trying to seize her authority from her. If he were allowed to have his way, he would take control of all power and authority she had. She instinctively resisted the idea. She still couldn’t accept the reality of things and still believed that her city infrastructure hadn’t yet been perfected. Once it was completed, something like this would never happen!

“Wang Baole, what are you trying to do? This is the western zone that I’m in charge of. I, Li Yi, will be responsible for it. Leave us!” Li Yi’s voice was shrill. She resisted vehemently. She knew clearly that things would turn out all right if she managed to control and handle the current situation. However, if Wang Baole were the one to resolve the situation, her future in the New Mars Region would be precarious.

“You will handle it? You big-bosomed, no-brain piece of trash. How are you going to handle it? By trading the lives from the four Dao Colleges?” The anger that Wang Baole had been keeping under control erupted. He didn’t hesitate as he stepped forward and appeared next to Li Yi. He raised his right hand and sent it sweeping, his late-stage Foundation Establishment realm cultivation erupting. Li Yi wasn’t his match, especially with her mind wrought with emotions and unstable. She was immediately sent flying with a single slap from Wang Baole.

She fell back with a loud thunderous boom and blood spilled from her lips. The Core Formation realm cultivators from the White Deer Dao College around her could have stopped that from happening, but they had witnessed what Li Yi had done, as well as Wang Baole’s attempts to save the current situation. They had to consider the consequences if they tried to stop Wang Baole. They had to think about how their responses would affect the grand scheme of things.

After all... their concern was the White Deer Dao College’s interests. What Li Yi had done and the consequences of her actions were clearly going to adversely implicate the White Deer Dao College.

That was why they hesitated. The result was Li Yi being driven back by Wang Baole. Li Yi didn’t have a chance to scream her rage before Wang Baole’s voice, cold and dispassionate, rang out.

“Arrest Li Yi!” Wang Baole’s eyes fell on the cultivators from the four Dao Colleges around Li Yi when he said that. He specifically stared at the people from the White Deer Dao College.

Li Yi had no time to wipe the blood from her lips. Her hair had fallen loose, and madness and savagery colored her eyes. She shrieked.

“Wang Baole, you dare lay your hand on me!? Elder Zhou, Elder Wu, help me take Wang Baole down. I, Li Yi, will take full responsibility for everything that happens today!”

“Bullshit! I, Wang Baole, am of the four Dao Colleges as well. The White Deer Dao College also has my respect. Li Yi, you’ve made a huge mess of things here. Do you expect us four Dao Colleges to go down together with you!”

The White Deer Dao College cultivators fell silent. The comparison between Wang Baole and Li Yi was simply too stark. One was composed and the other raving mad. Furthermore, Wang Baole was right. Li Yi had clearly made a mistake. This incident would definitely create an uproar in the Federation. Li Yi was destined... to be held responsible.

If the White Deer Dao College insisted on siding with Li Yi, they wouldn’t be able to escape scrutiny and criticism. They only had one choice before them. They understood very well... that Li Yi was finished. Wang Baole had become the only representative of the four Dao Colleges who held authority in the new city zone.

Even if the White Deer Dao College was unwilling to do so, they had no choice... but to support Wang Baole if they still wanted to have a presence in the new city zone.

Wang Baole was aware of all this. As soon as he finished speaking and stared coldly at the group, one of the two Core Formation realm cultivators from the White Deer Dao College said immediately.

“Arrest Li Yi!”

Alarm rose on Li Yi’s face. Cultivators from the White Deer Dao College immediately stepped forward and brought the limp and pale Li Yi away. Everyone from the four Dao Colleges immediately bowed at Wang Baole.

It was a clear indication of the change in their attitude. Wang Baole had no time for relief though. He instantly issued an order and brought everyone with him to fight the Beast Tide. He swiftly manipulated the array formation in the new city zone and enveloped the entire area in array formations. He was going to seal the new catacombs!

Chapter 383: Forever on the No-Hire List!

It was no simple feat to seal the new catacombs. Fortunately, the scale of the current Beast Tide was small. It had simply taken them by complete surprise. However, with the battle capabilities the new city zone possessed, it wasn’t impossible to fight the beasts off.

Wang Baole chose the simplest, most straightforward, and most brutal solution. He arrested Li Yi, took control of Li Yi’s Global Dharma City, and locked down the entire city zone with the authority he had seized from her. Then, he ordered everyone to evacuate the area.

Wang Baole locked down the area around the new catacombs and had the beasts trapped within the area. Then, an icy glint flashed in his eyes. Without any hesitation, he ordered the cannons to fire!

Excluding this area, the rest of the new city zone had been built according to the design of Wang Baole’s Eternal Fortress and was augmented by the Qi Fostering Spirit Array Formation. The power of the array formation roared to the skies. Numerous Baole Cannons and Fire God Cannons appeared instantly. They aimed at the western zone, targeted the new catacombs, and fired simultaneously.

The combined artillery forces from the other three zones threatened to wipe everything out. Cannon fire rained down on the Beast Tide. Shots thundered in the air. The array formation transformed into endless strands that criss-crossed and sliced through beasts, mutilating flesh and spilling blood. Howls of agony pierced the heavens.

A good half of the entire western zone was destroyed in the attack, buildings collapsing and disintegrating into dust. But Wang Baole didn't care.

He knew the key thing was to get the situation under control quickly. There were no workers in the area; only buildings remained. It was true that significant resources had gone into constructing the area, but since Li Yi had committed a wrongdoing, she and the White Deer Dao College would have to pay for the resultant destruction!

Explosions boomed as multiple cannon shots were fired repeatedly. The earth shuddered. Jin Duoming and Kong Dao stood beside Wang Baole, shocked. Their eyes fell on Wang Baole at the same time. Gone was the constant smile on Wang Baole's face; it had been replaced by a cold, emotionless look, and his eyes glittered with a cold light.

This guy is vicious! Kong Dao and Jin Duoming came to the same, deep understanding of Wang Baole's true character. They might have had similar assessments in the past, but Wang Baole's typical behavior was the complete opposite of vicious. It made it easy for others to forget what they knew about his true character.

At that moment, however, he had instantly chosen to abandon half of the western zone. It was true that the workers in the western zone had long since evacuated, but such a decision wasn't something everyone could have made so decisively.

After another round of cannon shots, when the Beast Tide was finally being pushed back by cannon fire, Wang Baole took a deep breath and immediately led a large army of cultivators charging into the western zone, where the beasts had been trapped and sealed in. They left death and destruction in their wake, exterminating whatever beast remnants they came across before they finally reached the location of the new catacombs.

Wang Baole stared at the eerie catacombs. A chilly air exuded from inside. He immediately formed a series of hand seals and used his authority to access the new array formation and seal the new catacombs.

Strands from the array formation appeared, dashing in from all directions and weaving themselves rapidly over the catacombs. It was then that a roar, brimming with resentment and anger, rumbled from inside. Seven to eight beasts exuding a Core Formation realm cultivation surged forward and tried to stop the seal from settling.

"Everyone!" Wang Baole's eyes narrowed, and he roared immediately. As his voice resounded in the air, the Core Formation realm cultivators from the various political forces dashed out from behind him and clashed with the beasts inside the catacombs.

The sounds of battle rose to the heavens. The glow and dazzle from spells lit the skies, visible from afar. As they fought against the beasts, Wang Baole continued to set up the array formation and seal the catacombs without interruption.

Kong Dao and Jin Duoming clearly understood the importance of what was happening. This concerned the security of the new city zone. If they failed to repair this loophole in their security, Li Yi wouldn't be the only one held responsible, both of them would be implicated as well.

Besides, they had chosen unanimously to keep the matter under wraps. They hadn't reported it to the Governor. Lin Tianhao had also carried out preventive measures to stop any news from leaking out.

Of course, with so many people as eye-witnesses, it was inevitable that the Governor would find out about this matter. However, if they could resolve it before the administration started questioning them about accountability, the only person who would be held responsible would be Li Yi.

Everyone shared the same understanding. They also knew that time was key. That was why everyone from every political force was unleashing their full power at the moment and fighting against hordes of beasts with everything they had. They were all fighting to give Wang Baole the time to seal the catacombs.

Just as everyone joined forces and was able to push the Beast Tide back, establishing a stalemate in the battle, a fearsome, thunderous roar louder than the previous suddenly erupted from inside the catacombs.

The thunderous boom was accompanied by the sounds of crackling, like the sounds of ice rapidly spreading through the catacombs. It was as if a giant hand was reaching outwards from the depths of the new catacombs. Where it passed, the surrounding walls turned to ice.

The beasts fighting to get out were all affected by the chill and immediately turned to ice. The giant hand surged forward, exuding a terrifying and overpowering aura. The surrounding cultivators, including those at the Core Formation realm, were all alarmed.

They were caught in a tight spot. Wang Baole's seal wasn't yet completed. Wang Baole's breathing quickened. He knew that if they couldn't hold back the beasts, they would have no choice but to notify the Governor.

He was unwilling to do that unless he had absolutely no other choice. An icy glint flashed in his eyes. He uttered the first few words of the scripture in his heart!

"Enlightened..."

Those words echoed inside Wang Baole's heart. A familiar presence suddenly erupted in the distant heavens. This was different from what had happened in the past. Wang Baole could sense clearly... eyes from the distant regions of the universe opening and gazing over suddenly.

My god... did I wake it? Wang Baole shuddered. He had no time to think though, as the awesome presence traveled through the universe and descended. The giant hand that had been stretching out madly and without fear suddenly shuddered violently. It seemed to be terrified and dared not move forward. Instead, it shrank back hastily, like a mouse that had just seen a cat!

Everyone was shocked at the sight. They released a breath of relief, and an indescribable feeling arose in their hearts. They had felt the unbelievable presence as well. They looked at Wang Baole with a strange and curious look in their eyes.

However, they were at a critical stage in their attempt to seal the new catacombs. No one had time to think further. They made use of the sudden oppressive presence and intensified their resistance against the Beast Tide. Wang Baole seized the opening as well and completed the sealing!

The strands of the array formation finally transformed into a complete web over the new catacombs. The beasts were trapped inside, and while they kept attacking the seal, they couldn't nudge it.

Wang Baole let loose a breath of relief. He quickly organized the cultivators to exterminate the beasts that had escaped. He also issued an order to Lin Tianhao to get the cultivators from the other three zones to comb through the western zone, starting from the perimeter and moving inwards in their search. They were to ensure that not a single beast remained.

From the start of the incident, beginning with the zone-wide hunt to the final verification that no beasts remained in the western zone, the entire incident spanned four hours. It was after the four hours had passed that the furious reprimand from the Governor finally arrived.

The Governor had clearly been informed that the danger had been resolved. She was therefore focused on finding out the cause of this incident. Wang Baole didn't speak a single word. Instead, he looked at Kong Dao and Jin Duoming.

Kong Dao had witnessed Wang Baole driving back the Beast Tide and resolving the situation. He was silent for a while before the scene of his earlier rescue by Wang Baole surfaced in his mind. His feelings and views towards Wang Baole were complicated, but he had to admit that he did have a certain degree of admiration towards Wang Baole.

He inhaled a deep breath and reported everything from his own perspective and stance: how Li Yi had unilaterally modified the city plans, how that had sparked off the Beast Tide, and how everything had been resolved. He shared everything he knew in detail.

Jin Duoming shook his head and smiled wryly. He didn't make any statements regarding the matter, but that in itself spoke volumes about what truly happened. Lin Tianhao, who had been standing at one side, handed over the evidence he had gathered to the Governor. He also handed over a jade slip that contained the contents of their initial meeting, which Wang Baole had instructed that he recorded. The facts were laid out clearly before the Governor.

The Governor remained silent for a moment. Then, she issued an immediate order to strip Li Yi of her vice mayorship. She was to be transferred out of Mars, and would never again resume office on Mars!

Chapter 384: Everything Prepared!

Being stripped of one's office was already a serious punishment. To be blacklisted by the Martian administration from future positions on the planet was a more serious punishment. It showed the Governor's firm stance and attitude towards the matter.

It was clear that she was displaying her displeasure. This was also a stern warning to the four Dao Colleges as well as the other political forces. If they wanted to stay on Mars, they would have to play by her rules!

They were to quit playing dirty tricks and carrying out underhanded activities. In fact, in her opinion, Li Yi had it coming!

She was of the view that Wang Baole needed more monitoring. However, he was still the mayor she had appointed and recognized. To have vice mayors representing the other political forces entering the picture and creating all sorts of trouble was something that displeased her tremendously.

Especially... when Wang Baole, the kid, was so brave and responsible. He had gone ahead and led a rescue fearlessly when Kong Dao had gotten into danger. Li Yi, on the other hand, had been a coward afraid of death, who had continued fixating on wrestling power from Wang Baole during such critical times. That had made the Governor see her in a worse light.

The four Dao Colleges had remained silent in the face of Li Yi's punishment. The White Deer Dao College had been resigned. They were frustrated, but everything had been decided. Despite them wishing to resolve the matter more amicably, the Federation had approved the Governor's orders instantly. The swiftness of their response spoke volumes about the Federation's attitude towards this matter.

The White Deer Dao College had only one option before them. It was... to support Wang Baole. Else, the White Deer Dao College would be kicked out of the contest for power, and the Ethereal Dao College would naturally rise in power, becoming the primary authority speaking for the four Dao Colleges in the New Mars Region.

After sighing in resignation, those of the White Deer Dao College discussed amongst themselves and eventually contacted the Ethereal Dao College. They carried out a series of communications and negotiations, finally reaching a consensus to support Wang Baole fully!

Their support was immediately seen in the attitudes of those in the new city zone who belonged to the four Dao Colleges. They complied to Wang Baole's every order. At the same time, the Ethereal Dao College, which had been prevented from sending more of their people to the new city zone, was finally able to send a great number of their disciples over to support Wang Baole.

Wang Baole didn't hesitate to designate the Ethereal Dao College disciples as the heads of various departments in the new city zone's administration. A round of eliminations and replacements was carried out rapidly.

This applied to both Jin Duoming and Kong Dao as well. They split the various positions which had been vacated after Li Yi's departure. Lin Tianhao was tempted to do the same. However, after some discussion with his father, Lin You, he decided not to arrange for more of his people to come over to the new city zone. He was to isolate himself and instead fully bind his fate with Wang Baole, as his follower.

No one cared about Li Yi at this point. Even though Wang Baole sometimes still missed her alluring figure, he spent more time lamenting over how brainless Li Yi had been.

The other person who often thought of Li Yi was Jin Duoming. He knew that this was his best chance to get Li Yi to yield to him. He was confident that he would be saving her in her dire moment. He only needed to provide some help to get her to surrender to him. However, he only smiled lightly at the thought.

It's time to switch targets. Li Yi no longer has anything that appeals to me. I think... Li Xiu's sister, Li Wan'er, should prove to be quite a challenge. Even though she almost castrated me in the past, but the more extreme her attitude is, the more motivated I become!

After most of the positions in the new city zone were filled, the White Deer Dao College contributed resources independently to repair the western zone. This was to smoothen the tensions between Wang Baole and the Martian administration. A gigantic glowing shield appeared over the newly constructed western zone, sealing the new catacombs. It would be activated from time to time to wear down the power of the catacombs.

Time passed steadily. A month later, a hundred million people moved to the city zone. Numerous large cruisers arrived, and the new arrivals settled down in the new city zone. They joined the various departments and started both their work and lives in the New Mars Region.

The Trilunaris Corporation expended tremendous effort in the entire endeavor. They set up branches for most of their major businesses in the new city zone, resolving the issue of reemployment for most of the new residents. The other political forces also started doing their part, and the new city zone started to slowly take off.

The increase in the population led to the growing strengthening of the new city zone's array formation. It became more powerful. The control it had over the catacombs, and the rate of erosion of the wall, started to stabilize, resulting in a stable cycle.

The New Mars Region had finally been established. It had both the structure and scale befitting a city zone. Wang Baole could finally feel the authority and power he was to have as a mayor.

In the new city zone, his one decision could decide the fate of countless people. Countless discerning people would read and study every one of his gazes carefully.

This made Wang Baole overjoyed, and he basked in happiness. Most of his subordinates knew his love for snacks, and soon, the retail industry for snacks expanded and prospered in the new city zone... The reception towards the donkey also changed because of Wang Baole's status.

Regardless of where it went and what it ate, no one tried to stop it. In fact, they were worried that it might not eat its fill...

No one knew who had started the trend, but increasingly, more people started rearing donkeys. Almost all of those pet donkeys were female donkeys... the donkey was increasingly seen as a valuable asset. It enjoyed an elevated status, and many in the Federation were interested in the donkey.

It was clear that they wouldn't be able to get their hands on the donkey, though. As a result, they began to come up with other ideas. That resulted in the prevalence of female donkeys. The donkey was overjoyed. However, it was still very devoted and loyal. Kong Dao protected his own White Phoenix religiously, though, and seldom allowed it to leave the house. The donkey found this unfortunate.

Heaven rewarded the donkey that waited, though. It could always find opportunities... as a result, as long as one saw a raging Kong Dao in pursuit of the donkey with his men, they immediately knew that the donkey had once again done the unspeakable to Kong Dao's White Phoenix.

Wang Baole could only express his exasperation. Despite giving the donkey a good thrashing numerous times, and regardless of how badly he had beaten the donkey up, it would recover the next day and continue its brazen ways. Wang Baole finally decided to ignore it altogether and focus on his cultivation. His communications with the Sect Lord of the Ethereal Dao College and Zhao Yameng regarding the array formation grew more frequent.

Three months passed. The new city zone began to grow prosperous. It was then that, due to Zhao Yameng's hard work and the support of the Ethereal Dao College's Array Runes Pavilion, finally... she was able to successfully convert the simplified Qi Devouring Art into an array formation!

The name had been thought of by Zhao Yameng. It was called Trees Hath Branches.

Wang Baole didn't think it sounded nice at all. He thought that even if Zhao Yameng started chasing after him on a flying sword, they would still be leagues apart when it came to naming things. He decided to change the name to the Great Baole Array Formation.

"How's that? The name that I came up with is quite good, right? Yameng, it's not that I want to brag, but you're really not that good at coming up with names," Wang Baole said, pleased with himself.

Zhao Yameng was silent on the other end of the voice transmission ring. Then, she hung up.

Is she embarrassed? Angry? Wang Baole blinked. He realized he shouldn't have spoken that way when she had helped him. He thought about how to go about bragging about himself in a tactful manner the next time they spoke.

Wang Baole made up his mind. Then, he tried to control his excitement. As soon as he got ahold of the array formation, he immediately set up a mini-version of the Great Baole Array Formation in secret to verify its effectiveness.

He found people to set up the array formation in his residence. After sending them away, when he was finally alone, Wang Baole immediately sat down and crossed his legs. He activated the array formation. As his cultivation started churning and the array formation started its activation, an undeniable suction force started spreading towards the earth. It had a clear effect on the Dark Qi inside the Divine Armament Catacombs. Wang Baole was instantly overjoyed.

With this array formation, my Primary Rank Three Noble is within grasp! Wang Baole laughed out loud. He got to his feet hastily. He started pacing in his residence, the gears in his head spinning furiously.

This is a good thing for everyone in the new city zone... that's why I should rope them all in. With everyone working together, we can turn the new city zone into a city! At that thought, Wang Baole made up his mind. He immediately called for Lin Tianhao, Kong Dao, as well as Jin Duoming.

The three appeared in Wang Baole's office after receiving his notice. Before they could speak, they saw Wang Baole's stern look and the excitement that he couldn't conceal in his eyes. He spoke hurriedly.

"Brothers, I have an extremely rare and fortuitous opportunity that I'm going to give you all. It can bring you a promotion to the next level of Noble. Do you want to take it?"

Chapter 385: Unity is Strength

Wang Baole's spirits were high. He was extremely excited. He spoke with great excitement, holding back his impulse to share everything with them. He waited for his three vice mayors to question him.

However... Kong Dao glanced at Wang Baole, sat down on a chair beside him, and grunted. Even though the tensions between himself and Wang Baole had lessened during this period, and even though he had a refreshed perception of Wang Baole, every time he remembered how his White Phoenix was constantly bullied by Wang Baole's donkey, he couldn't control his desire to fly into a rage.

The donkey was extremely fast, though. He had been able to catch up with it in the past, but now that it had grown even faster, he could only simmer in frustration. That wasn't all. What drove him mad was how his White Phoenix had gradually grown from its original resistant self to its current subservient attitude...

As a result, Kong Dao experienced mixed feelings every time he saw Wang Baole.

Jin Duoming, on the other, always seemed like he didn't care for anything in other people's eyes. He yawned and sat down as well and started massaging his own waist. He nodded at Wang Baole as a form of greeting, then grabbed Lin Tianhao into a hug, his face expressive while whispering.

"Tianhao, the picture book you gave me a while ago. Where did you get it from? Is it accurate?"

Lin Tianhao originally had a serious expression on his face. He had been thinking about how to react when he had heard what Wang Baole said. Now, he was being hugged by Jin Duoming, and he grew embarrassed instantly when he heard what Jin Duoming said.

Wang Baole's head immediately started throbbing. A donkey must have kicked him in the head. There was no other reason for why he had chosen these few as his vice mayors. It must not have been for their resources. He was, after all, a righteous man of principles.

He decided to give the three guys another chance.

"Brothers, I just said that I have an extremely amazing opportunity that is out of this world, that will benefit all of us. Don't you want to know what it is?" Wang Baole's expression remained serious, and his eyes shone threateningly as he spoke.

The hint of threat immediately got Lin Tianhao to struggle out of Jin Duoming's arms. He spoke hurriedly, with a mad joy in his expression.

"Mayor, what sort of opportunity? Is it really that amazing?"

Jin Duoming resigned to his fate, following up with a question with superficial interest. Kong Dao seemed like he couldn't be bothered to say anything. He glanced over to indicate how uninterested he was, as if saying that this was all he was going to give Wang Baole if the latter forced him to ask...

Wang Baole saw that the three were still kind of playing along and decided to forgive them. He coughed and took out a bottle of Ice Spirit Water. As he drank, he whispered.

"I have a way to turn our new city zone into a new city..." Wang Baole said. He continued to explain his plans, sharing what he had discovered earlier, how he had gotten someone to invent an array formation and how he had tested the array formation to be a success, with Kong Dao and the rest.

As there were aspects of the story that concerned his secrets, he did some necessary concealment and covered up certain truths. Regardless, as he continued to speak, the eyes of the other three young men widened.

Jin Duoming's head had been filled with the picture book that Lin Tianhao had given him a while ago, but now, the picture had vanished from his mind. His breathing quickened slightly. Even though he generally displayed a carefree and lackadaisical attitude before other people, what Wang Baole had just said was a rare opportunity for anyone.

Even he was moved. Countless thoughts flooded his head instantly.

Jin Duoming wasn't the only one. Beside him, Kong Dao's initially stern face had transformed as he listened. He gasped, his eyes widened and brightened. Wang Baole's words were like a bolt of lightning that had struck him speechless. In his mind, he saw a ladder leading upwards. If he could simply take a step, he would be able to ascend and almost reach the heavens!

Lin Tianhao's eyes almost popped out. He stared at Wang Baole like the latter was the devil. His head buzzed. He couldn't imagine how Wang Baole had managed to create such an astonishing opportunity for all of them!

Pleased with their reactions, Wang Baole finished speaking, waited for a while to give them enough time to digest all that he had said, then continued.

"That's why, as long as we succeed, all of us will at least raise a level in rank. In fact, all our comrades in the entire city zone will enjoy the same promotion!

"Even if we fail, there's nothing to it. We'll simply be back where we started. There's no loss in that. That's why... don't you think we should fight for this chance?"

As soon as Wang Baole finished speaking, Jin Duoming straightened his back and had a serious look on his face. It was a rare look for him. There was a bright light in his eyes. He immediately said.

"Baole, could you let us take a look at this array formation that you speak of?"

Wang Baole had expected that they would say that, so he didn't hesitate. He brought them to where he had set up the array formation and allowed them to inspect it. He personally activated the array formation to show that it was effective.

Kong Dao even proposed to make a visit to the Divine Armament Catacombs and get someone to set up a small scale of the array formation so that they could perform another round of tests. When the results came back, both Jin Duoming and Kong Dao grew excited. Lin Tianhao's breath quickened as it never had before.

Their eyes shone brightly. They hadn't yet recovered from their shock; however, they immediately understood very clearly that should they succeed in this endeavor, Wang Baole would immediately advance from a Primary Rank Four Noble to a Primary Rank Three Noble!

Similarly, they would advance in status and rank alongside Wang Baole, and rise from their Secondary Rank Four Noble to a Secondary Rank Three Noble!

In the entire Federation, they wouldn't be the only ones who would go crazy for such an opportunity; countless others would feel the same. That wasn't what made this an extremely rare opportunity. After all, this matter required both the Federation's and the Martian administration's approval.

Even if other people wanted to elevate their city zones to become cities, they would be met with the Federation's lack of approval. However... in this New Mars Region, the possibility of something like that happening was extremely high!

Wang Baole's proposal would save a great deal of time. Even though it would exhaust a great deal more resources, the greatest challenge the Federation and the Martian administration faced now wasn't a shortage of resources but a shortage of time!

The earlier they could excavate the Divine Armament, the earlier they would possess this immense power. This would benefit the Martian administration greatly as well. After all, as long as the Divine Armament remained unstable, more unforeseen disasters would occur. The faster the excavation progressed, the greater the resources and human labor they would save in tackling said disasters.

The three young men stared at one another. They were overcome with excitement, as they knew very well... the chances of success were very high!

They couldn't help but extend their respect towards Wang Baole. Amidst their excitement, they also realized something. Wang Baole's strength and the array formation as proof alone wouldn't suffice.

"I'll contact the military immediately and ask for their full support!" Kong Dao took a deep breath and declared instantly. His enthusiasm towards this endeavor surpassed everything else. In fact, after saying that, he clenched his teeth.

"I'll contact my godfather shortly!"

"That's what a good brother should do. Let's all work together and use everything we've got to fight for our future!" Wang Baole was overjoyed. He patted Kong Dao on the shoulder, his eyes bright with encouragement.

After a moment of silence, Jin Duoming spoke in a low voice as well.

"We have to use all our connections for this matter... I'll discuss with the master of my family in a while. Tianhao, you too. You should speak to your father. We'll need support from the senators!

"As for the other political forces... I'll think of something!"

"Baole's right about this. We should make a bid for this!" Jin Duoming's eyes shone with a strange light. A Secondary Rank Three Noble was an extremely high rank for anyone his age.

After all, Wang Baole had fought with his life in the trial and had only gotten himself a Primary Rank Four Noble.

Amidst their excitement, they continued to talk for a while longer. They decided to inform the respective political forces supporting them and make their arguments. Wang Baole would tidy up the information and submit a formal request to the Martian administration!

Wang Baole accepted the responsibility readily. He knew that he had to be the one to make the first move.

The four went about their own preparations. The various political forces supporting them were all stunned by Wang Baole's bold idea. Seven days later, a request for city status came from the new city zone and was delivered to the Martian administration. Heated discussions that even the Federation deemed to be of epic proportions erupted instantly!

The New Mars Region formally requested to expand and become a new city. It would be... the second city on Mars!

Chapter 386: Primary Rank Three!

To the entire Federation, this was an extremely serious matter. Back in the day, the Martian Colony Governor reached Secondary Rank One through her achievements in the Martian City, which also placed her in the candidacy for the next Federation President.

Right now, the newly appointed Wang Baole, who was Primary Rank Four, was also building a stronghold. As a result, he garnered a lot of attention and drew so much discussion that it was indescribable.

In an instant, all the media outlets were covering the matter. The fact that they knew about the matter proved that it was an outcome that had resulted from a push by the Federation, Mars, and the various factions!

In reality, once the matter surfaced, it was hyped up by others and was discussed by everyone on Earth. The people on Mars were also very interested in the matter.

With the attention of the entire Federation, Wang Baole's reasons for suggesting that a stronghold be built soon spread. There were two main points, the first being that a new catacomb had appeared in the New Mars Region, which proved that the Martian Colony Governor's previous judgment that the Divine Armament wouldn't give the Federation more time was correct.

If they didn't act to stop it immediately, the appearance of more catacombs would result in disaster, putting Mars in immense danger. At the same time, it was merely a new city zone, and even though it was possible to dissolve the barrier in ten years, it would obviously still be too late!

Therefore, it was necessary to build a bigger stronghold to suppress the catacombs, and to gain complete control over the rate at which the Divine Armament Catacombs erupted.

The second reason was the Great Baole Array Formation that Wang Baole had suggested. This array formation was created by Zhao Yameng and the Ethereal Dao College according to Wang Baole's ideas and cultivation techniques, which were eventually tried and tested. Once it was laid out in the scale of the stronghold, it would only take a maximum of three years to completely dissolve the barrier!

This way, the speed of dissolving would be so fast that it would slow the appearance of new catacombs even more significantly. Mars would be able to gain control of the situation within two to three years!

Each of these reasons for building a bigger stronghold could be tested, as they were backed by credible information, and could, therefore, be pushed forward. Naturally, this resulted in Mars and the Federation regarding it highly.

Without a doubt, the outcome that Wang Baole had promoted was extremely tempting to the Federation and Mars. Completely dissolving the barrier in three years meant that it was three times faster than what was possible before.

It may seem like it was only three times, but to the Federation and Mars, the time saved could be used to do other things. At the same time, a large amount of resources could be saved.

Despite that, if no one were to support the idea, or if there were many detractors, then the Federation would still evaluate the pros and cons—perhaps even using other methods to replace the proposal. After all, the new stronghold wasn't a new city zone, and once built, it meant that a large number of Nobles would need to be assigned, and that was something that the Federation didn't want to do.

However, Wang Baole was logical and had ample information that made his reason for building the city strong. He even gained the spotlight through this. Most importantly, perhaps due to concerns about safety, or because the views put forth by Wang Baole were aligned with the basis of her judgment, or for some other reason... the Martian Colony Governor, who seldom interfered with the internal affairs of the Federation, firmly chose to support the proposal!

She supported Wang Baole in building the array formation and transforming the city zone into a city!

The Martian Colony Governor's attitude influenced the Federation significantly. More importantly, the four Dao Colleges also made their stance clear at this time to support the transformation of the new city zone into a new city. At the same time, they pledged their willingness to provide resources to construct the second Mars City for the Federation and all mankind!

The Senate followed after the four Dao Colleges. This time, the Seventeen Senator Coalition of the Senate announced their support for the building of the second city on Mars in unison. That way, the two factions that could equally influence the Federation had stepped forward, which made it even more likely that the new city could be approved for construction.

However, not all factions expressed their support. Soon, the Galactic Dusk Sect and Plume Manifestation Connate Sect, followed by the Five Generation Sky Clan, activated their resources to prevent the matter from going through. Their factions were powerful, and with the lack of their support, there were delays to the building of the city.

Despite that, they were all sly old foxes. The motives of the three factions were known between each other. Therefore, at that moment, the three factions immediately activated their resources, and even the military made a statement as well. Eventually, it appeared as if the three opponents found out about the background of the matter. They appeared to be acting for the greater good of society and switched their stance to support the proposal. In reality, however, countless exchanges were taking place beneath the surface...

Regardless, the Federation President eventually sent the order to deploy an assessment team to carry on-site assessments of the New Mars Region to make the final decision!

This time around, the assessment was merely a formality. After all, the various factions were incredibly intelligent, and they had long had a clear understanding of Wang Baole's suggestion and the actual situation. Therefore, after the assessment, which, together with everything else, lasted a month's time, the Federation finally announced the news to everyone.

They allowed the New Mars Region to be transformed into the second Martian City!

The scale would be ten times its original scale!

That made it the second Martian City, without a doubt!

As the news spread, everyone in the Federation was delighted. After all, the matter was groundbreaking, and at the same time, Wang Baole had made an even deeper impression on people's minds.

The approval for the new city also meant that the status of everyone within the new city zone would be raised. This outcome made Kong Dao and the rest of the trio, who were sitting in Wang Baole's office with him, whom was waiting to hear the result anxiously, when the Federation announced the news hear deafening screams of happiness from outside immediately.

"Success!" Wang Baole slapped his thigh hard and laughed agitatedly. Jin Duoming, Kong Dao, and Lin Tianhao, who were beside him, were also extremely exhilarated. A glow flashed across their eyes, and their breathing quickened as they all began to laugh happily.

What's more, most of the unhappiness and grudges between them were resolved as a result of the hard work they have put in to reach their common goal. In their exhilaration, Jin Duoming clapped his hands, and immediately, female cultivators began entering from outside. They brought along wine and food in celebration.

Instantly, the area where the Mayor's Office used to be was filled with activity, as well as people!

At the same time, the news about Wang Baole and company's Noble titles was quickly conveyed. Just as he had judged, Wang Baole was immediately promoted to Primary Rank Three, from Primary Rank Four.

The advancement in his Noble title saved him at least ten years, and that was on top of the fact that he had to become a Core Formation realm cultivator first if he were to go the conventional path. A person who became a Primary Rank Three without reaching the Core Formation realm hadn't been seen in the Federation for the past twenty years.

It could be said that Wang Baole was the only person in the entire Foundation Establishment realm who managed to become Primary Rank Three while still being at the Foundation Establishment realm! A Noble like that allowed Wang Baole to be on the same level as Lin You, to a certain extent!

After all, it was impossible to take another step forward right now. That was because the procedure to become Secondary Rank Two was governed by strict standards. One must be a Core Formation realm cultivator, and at the same time, not all Core Formation realm cultivators were Secondary Rank Two Nobles. The Federation wasn't an absolute world of cultivation, and after thousands of years of regulations and laws, there were obvious classes. Therefore, it wasn't surprising to be a Core Formation realm cultivator holding another Noble rank.

Furthermore, even if one was a Secondary Rank Two Noble, their duties also differed in terms of rank. Regardless of that, they still held power, authority, and dignity!

It could even be said that in the eyes of many, Wang Baole was already a high official. Though, in reality, his Noble title was still a leap away from that of the high officials within the Federation. Despite that, the journey of his advancement could be considered a miracle!

Even Lin You got a shock when he first heard from Lin Tianhao about Wang Baole's plan to build the city. He could imagine how big a leap Wang Baole would advance this time.

However, that came with a cost as well. Lin You thought about it deeply, and also sent a voice transmission to Wang Baole to remind him that such a fast advancement would result in the jealousy of others. Now, in the Federation, there were already many who were suggesting to rein Wang Baole in. This meant creating challenges in the future advancement process of his Noble, and it was even possible that he wouldn't be advanced in ten years.

In reality, there were many factions who had the same intention. However, Wang Baole didn't care about all that, as he felt that they were all nonsense. It didn't matter to him as long as nobody provoked him.

This time, the Federation was extremely generous, apparently as a result of the efforts of the various factions. At the same time, the returns that Wang Baole promised prompted the Federation to be generous for once, not only advancing Wang Baole to become Primary Rank Three, which held a lot of power, but also giving similar rewards to Lin Tianhao, Kong Dao, and Jin Duoming!

That was also the case for their subordinates, and everyone in the entire new city zone advanced!

There were also plans made by the Federation and Mars for the new city. The new city would be divided into six zones, with Lin Tianhao, Jin Duoming, and Kong Dao being the Mayors. This way, three other candidates for the Mayor position were needed.

At the same time, and perhaps most importantly, a Deputy City Lord was still lacking in the second Martian City!!

It was also at this time that a piece of news that shocked many was spreading among the powerful nobles...

Chapter 387: Remaining Vigilant Even in Safe Times

The information was unclear and seemed to be about the union between the Five Generation Sky Clan and the Senate. However, once the news spread, the Five Generation Sky Clan and the Senate immediately stepped forward to deny it. They did so in identical manners, by saying that they respected each other and anticipated their future collaboration, but that now wasn't the right time for them to form a union.

Words like these could fool outsiders, but to the cultivators within the Five Generation Sky Clan system, such news wouldn't spread without reason. It was very likely that the Five Generation Sky Clan and the

Senate were really discussing with each other regarding their collaboration. It was also very possible that they purposely leaked the news to test the waters and to see how others would react.

As the new Martian City Lord of Primary Rank Three, Wang Baole was considered a high official within the Federation. He heard the news too, and in his bewilderment, had sought Lin Tianhao for clarification about it. However, Lin Tianhao didn't know more about the matter than Wang Baole, and it seemed that Lin You hadn't mentioned it to him either.

After thinking about it, Wang Baole no longer bothered himself with the matter. After all, the business between the Five Generation Sky Clan and the Senate didn't have much to do with him. Therefore, he placed all his attention on the development of the new city.

Equipped with the previous experience of building the new city zone, Wang Baole felt confident about constructing the new city. After discussing it with Lin Tianhao, Kong Dao, and Jin Duoming, the four of them split up the work and began the planning process for the new city. Their focus was still on the array formations, but this time, it involved not just the Qi Fostering Spirit Array Formation, but also the Great Baole Array Formation.

However, the most they could do was plan. After all, they were no longer constructing a city zone but an entire city. Therefore, the amount of manpower and resources that they needed was so hefty that it was unimaginable. Even though both Mars and the Federation had approved the application to build the city, it was near impossible to expect them to pay for the resources.

Therefore, a big problem that was presented to Wang Baole was about the resources. However, he was used to tackling the problems as they came, especially those regarding resources. He felt that to solve such problems, not much skill was involved.

"Each mayor will be responsible for their own zone!" That was the slogan that Wang Baole announced, which was also the first command that he had given as a Primary Rank Three City Lord. He had learned from the method he had adopted when he built the new city zone previously, and at the same time, he was mimicking the pressure that the Governor had put on him. Therefore, Wang Baole felt that he should put what he learned into practice, especially after gaining the authority to do so.

"There are three rules. Number one, there are no resources. Number two, after half a year, an inspection of the construction process will be made, and it should be able to house a population of at least a billion. Number three, whoever fails will have to leave!" Wang Baole enthusiastically laid out the three rules, which immediately resulted in some resistance.

However, at this juncture, Kong Dao, Jin Duoming, and Lin Tianhao all stepped forward at the same time and expressed their support for Wang Baole, agreeing to the rules and taking the initiative to be role models.

This made the other factions who were unhappy feel extremely helpless. They knew very well that the trio had gained a huge advantage, and the factions backing them would naturally be thankful and willing to put in the effort to firm up their positions. Therefore, they would also willingly supply resources to them.

While the other factions felt helpless, they gave up on their intentions to pull a cheap shot. They gritted their teeth and began to work.

The second Martian city, which was also known as the Divine Armament New City, was already extremely important when it was a city zone. Now that it had become a city, not only did it provide crucial assistance to the Divine Armament, it also meant that if one could control the area—regardless of which part it was—would stand to obtain great gains in the future.

On the other hand, if they were to give up and allow other factions to take over, they would be under the beck and call of others. At the same time, everyone had seen that Wang Baole's array formation could really speed up the rate at which the barrier dissolved. In reality, three years could be considered an overestimation. It was possible that the barrier could be eliminated within one or two years, and that the elites of the Federation could enter the cave and obtain the Divine Armament!

Therefore, every faction wanted a place as mayor of the new city, and they each began planning and preparing for it.

All the major figures of the Federation had placed their attention on Divine Armament New City. At the same time, Wang Baole was also thinking about the future of this city of his. What was most important to him right now was to construct the Great Baole Array Formation.

Other than that, he also needed to ensure that his position in the city would not be shaken. This way, it would be impossible for him to be replaced. There would be an added effect on the construction of the array formation as a result. At the same time, Wang Baole was also thinking about candidates for the position of the three other mayors.

He thought that it would be best if the candidates didn't see him as an enemy, and were equipped with resources as well. However, when he pondered about it and sent the Martian Colony Governor a voice transmission to convey his thoughts humbly, the Martian Colony Governor replied him calmly.

"There is no need for you to think about these matters. The remaining three mayors of Divine Armament New City will be appointed by the Federation. You don't have the power to decide, and that will be the case for the candidate for the Deputy City Lord as well."

When he heard those words, Wang Baole was angry and disappointed. However, he also understood that he had already gained a huge advantage by having successfully pushed for the transformation of the city zone into a city. Therefore, it was impossible for the Federation to consider his opinions regarding the selection of the mayors.

He sighed.

Who would the three mayors be...? The Deputy City Lord as well... Wang Baole's head throbbed. He didn't fear that the people appointed would be too powerful but simply felt that there were too few people of his alliance around him.

Lin Tianhao could be considered as one, but combining Kong Dao and Jin Duoming... they can't be considered as one of my people... Wang Baole narrowed his eyes. He knew that after the new city was constructed, it would be on such a large scale that it would require an immense amount of people in the system. Each faction would inevitably arrange for their own manpower, and that was exactly the scenario that Wang Baole was most afraid of.

I should never become a figurehead! Wang Baole took a deep breath, remaining extremely vigilant even though he was now safe. Thoughts circulated in his head, and he decided to send Zhuo Yifan a voice transmission to seek his assistance.

However, Zhuo Yifan, who remained in Ethereal Dao College, had a duty to fulfill, and wouldn't be able to come at short notice. After expressing his disappointment, he reminded him about the issues of safety, before putting away the voice transmission ring and sending a voice transmission to Zhao Yameng.

"I can't go to Mars... Furthermore, I will be transferred from my current department and be deployed for duty in the President's Office. Baole, I can't help you this time. However, if you meet any problems on Mars, you can still tell me, and I will help you if I can." Zhao Yameng first said that it wasn't convenient for her to help, and then extended her assistance somewhat half-heartedly. However, Wang Baole, who was extremely disappointed, didn't think much about it. He sighed, and discussed some details of the array formation with her casually, before putting down the voice transmission ring. He took a deep breath and raised his head.

It seems like the only thing I can do is use my trump card! A glow flashed across Wang Baole's eyes. He opened the voice transmission ring and flipped to Liu Daobin's number, before sending a voice transmission to him.

"Liu Daobin, come help me at Divine Armament New City!"

Liu Daobin, who received the voice transmission, was leading his Armament Soldiers to inspect the administrative work in the Dharmic Armament Pavilion. The moment he saw Wang Baole's voice transmission, he immediately picked it up agitatedly.

"City Lord, I..."

"Are you coming or not?" Wang Baole asked again.

"I'm coming!" Liu Daobin took a deep breath and answered loudly. He stopped leading his Armament Soldiers for the inspections, and instead sped to the peak of the Dharmic Armament Pavilion to report his work progress. He was extremely excited, as he felt that the chance he had been waiting painfully for had finally arrived!

At the same time, Wang Baole also sent a voice transmission to the Ethereal Dao College Sect Lord. They communicated, and after hearing about the difficulties Wang Baole faced, the Sect Lord laughed. He had long predicted that such a problem would surface. In reality, if Wang Baole didn't send him a voice transmission, he had planned to discuss the matter with Wang Baole one of these days. Now, without hesitation, he agreed.

"Baole, you are the most outstanding student of Ethereal Dao College. I have always had great expectations of you. Don't you worry about this matter. Ethereal Dao College is your home, and we will support you fully. It's just manpower, right? I'll make arrangements to send a large number of students to you immediately so that they can become your eyes in each of the departments of Divine Armament New City!"

The Sect Lord gave his complete support, and that calmed Wang Baole down, lifting his mood. Therefore, while he was waiting for the arrival of the cultivators from the Ethereal Dao College, he also wondered about who the Deputy City Lord could be.

He knew very well that the Deputy City Lord wasn't a mayor. With his Noble title, he could order the mayors around, but he needed to tone down when handling the Deputy City Lord.

It's best if it's someone I know. That way, it would be easier to work. As Wang Baole thought about the candidate for the Deputy City Lord, days went by. The plans for the entire city were completed, and people from the Ethereal Dao College arrived in tens of large cruisers in the skies above the Divine Armament Zone!

Liu Daobin, who had rushed from Earth, was extremely agitated in the cruiser. As he neared the Divine Armament New City, he felt that the road to success was paved right beneath his feet!

Follow the City Lord and serve him well. That way, I will never lose out! Liu Daobin patted his storage bag with gusto. It was filled to the brim with snacks...

In terms of currying favor, if I, Liu Daobin, claim to be second, no one in the Ethereal Dao College would dare claim first place! Liu Daobin raised his head with extreme pride.

Chapter 388: Li Wan'er Gets Engaged!

Soon, the ten cruisers landed in the simple aerial port of Divine Armament New City. Wang Baole was the host, and his guests were his Junior Sisters and Brothers, as well as Senior Brothers and Sisters. Therefore, it was only natural that he welcomed them personally.

Looks of passion and adoration immediately appeared in the eyes of the disciples when they noticed Wang Baole as they stepped off the Ethereal Dao College's cruiser. They all went forward to greet him.

"Greetings, Senior Brother!"

"Greetings, Senior!"

"Greetings, City Lord!" Wang Baole was identified differently by different people. The group greeted him, and even though their voices were of varying loudness, they were collectively deafening and spread in all directions.

Wang Baole was also agitated. He felt that he had made such great interpersonal relationships with others in the Dao College that so many people adored him. That was especially so as most of them were his Junior Sisters. That made Wang Baole even more confident in his appearance and figure.

Just as he was about to move forward and hug his junior sisters, Liu Daobin jumped towards him, his eyes full of tears. Even before he reached Wang Baole, his agitated cries drowned out the voices of the other people as it overwhelmed the entire area.

"I've missed you, Senior Brother Baole, I've missed you so much!" Liu Daobin was shaking as he went forward and hugged Wang Baole's thighs tightly. He was so agitated that he was trembling, which touched Wang Baole. Even the other people around Wang Baole were moved.

Jin Duoming threw a few glances at Liu Daobin, and Kong Dao nodded his head silently. Lin Tianhao was the only one who looked bewildered. On one hand, he was familiar with Liu Daobin, and on the other, he somehow had a feeling that Liu Daobin's appearance would threaten his position.

"Daobin!" Looking at Liu Daobin hugging him agitatedly, Wang Baole was moved. He also felt guilty for only having eyes for his junior sisters, but not this junior brother of his.

As he reprimanded himself, Wang Baole helped Liu Daobin up and patted his shoulders in a pleased manner. He then swept his gaze towards the surroundings, as if looking for someone. Liu Daobin wiped his tears off and noticing Wang Baole's reaction; he immediately spoke softly.

"Senior Brother, Zhou Xiaoya is... still in seclusion. As for Du Min, she has gone to the Moon, as the Foundation Establishment realm has opened yet again."

Still in seclusion! Wang Baole took a deep breath. He suddenly had the thought that helping Zhou Xiaoya gain admission into the Alchemy Pavilion then was a mistake. The Alchemy pavilion was inhumane, accepting students and putting them in seclusion every single day. That was just savage, and the mere thought of it made one shudder!

Wang Baole was immediately angered. He thought that if he had the chance to return to Earth, he would personally go down to the Alchemy Pavilion to find out what was going on. After making that decision, Wang Baole chatted briefly with the disciples from the Ethereal Dao College. He ended the conversation by encouraging the disciples before arranging for their residences. What awaited them would be the allocation of their numerous positions in the city.

With that, Wang Baole brought Liu Daobin to his office. The moment they entered, Liu Daobin immediately began to boil water like a pro, personally brewing a cup of tea for Wang Baole. After that, he sat beside Wang Baole, lowering his head while taking out a small notebook, ready to listen.

This scene aroused a sense of familiarity in Wang Baole. He suddenly thought about his life when he was in the Dao College. As a wave of emotions rushed through him, he asked about Du Min's journey to the Moon, before taking a sip of tea. As he set the tea down, he assigned Liu Daobin the role of the supervisor of his office.

Liu Daobin, who had been bestowed with the responsibility, patted his chest forcefully.

"Rest assured, City Lord. My father used to hold a similar position, and I have seen him work from a young age. I am very familiar with the workings of this place, and I dare to guarantee that there will be no problems arising at all!"

Wang Baole grew even more satisfied upon hearing his words. He further relayed some instructions, and Liu Daobin jotted everything down as he listened, seeming afraid that he would miss out on even a word. His attitude made one feel comfortable, and that was especially so when he left a storage bag in front of Wang Baole before he left.

Wang Baole frowned and was about to reject him when Liu Daobin hurriedly opened the storage bag, pouring out some of the snacks. Wang Baole took a look and picked up the bag, rummaging through it. He realized that it was filled to the brim with snacks, as well as dozens of boxes of Ice Spirit Water from

the Ethereal Dao College that were of a different flavor than what was commonly available. That made him feel even more delighted.

Seeing that Wang Baole was pleased, Liu Daobin was satisfied. He then left after cleaning up the office.

Liu Daobin's not bad, as usual. Wang Baole sat where he was, munching on the snacks and drinking the Ice Spirit Water. He was filled with emotions and felt that right now, everything had been prepared for the new city. The only thing lacking was the commencement of the construction process, which could only happen after the three new mayors arrived.

As Wang Baole waited, time flew by, and soon seven days passed. In those seven days, the Federation didn't manage to come to a conclusion in regards to the candidates for the three mayors, and from that, it could be seen how intense the competition was.

However, in the process of each faction fighting for the mayor candidacy, yet another piece of news regarding the Five Generation Sky Clan and the Senate began to spread throughout the Federation, causing a huge commotion.

This second piece of news was even more detailed than the last. The previous news merely mentioned the collaboration of the two parties, but now, there was no mention of the collaboration. The only thing that was brought up was... the marriage alliance between the Head Senator and the Chen Family of the Five Generation Sky Clan!

The moment the news spread, it immediately sent shock waves amongst people who were following it. Wang Baole also got a huge shock, and couldn't help but make some guesses. He then sought out Lin Tianhao, inquiring with him about it.

Lin Tianhao seemed to know more this time around. After all, when Wang Baole asked him about the matter previously, he was unable to answer, and that made him feel that he wasn't playing an important role like he did previously. That was especially so when a sense of crisis arose in him when he saw Liu Daobin. Therefore, after hearing about the news regarding the marriage alliance, he immediately sent a voice transmission to his father, making it clear that he wanted to know the details.

Lin You didn't have much of a choice and told Lin Tianhao part of the whole story. Therefore, when Wang Baole summoned him to ask about the matter, Lin Tianhao took a deep breath and began speaking.

"City Lord, I have just come to know about the matter as well. What's known now is that... Li Wan'er and the eldest son of the Chen Family, Chen Mu, will be tied by marriage. The two of them will get engaged soon, and will complete their marriage a year later!"

"Since we're at it... I have met this Chen Mu as well. He is a little older than we are and has long been on the job. In the Federation, he is a Secondary Rank Four in the Authority Department. When I was a young boy, my father would compare me with him, and want me to learn from him..." Lin Tianhao was somewhat emotional. He was mid-sentence when Wang Baole suddenly slammed the table.

"All this is ridiculous. What era are we in that there are still arranged marriages and marriage alliances?" Wang Baole had some bad intuition previously, and now that he heard Lin Tianhao's words, the scene of

himself and Li Wan'er in the cave surfaced in his mind. All sorts of emotions emerged, and vaguely, he felt as if his woman had been snatched away by someone.

Lin Tianhao got a fright and felt confused. He silently wondered if the City Lord was acquainted with Chen Mu, and hurriedly spoke.

"Yes, you're right, City Lord. It's now the Spirit Inception Era, and yet there are still marriage alliances! Chen Mu is a decent chap, but it's a pity that of all people, he married that abused old witch, Li Wan'er!" Lin Tianhao sighed and was about to continue when Wang Baole lifted his head and stared at him.

That stare made Lin Tianhao shocked. He had a bad feeling that he had misinterpreted the situation. The person that Wang Baole felt indignant for wasn't Chen Mu, but Li Wan'er...

This guess made him widen his eyes.

"That Chen Mu... what on earth was he thinking about? Isn't he afraid that Li Wan'er will castrate him?" After Wang Baole stared at Lin Tianhao, Wang Baole grumbled, extremely unsatisfied towards the marriage.

Wang Baole's words confirmed Lin Tianhao's guess. He felt bewildered and thought silently in his head that the City Lord indeed had a different and unique taste in women. However, he didn't dare to ask further and instead told Wang Baole everything his father had revealed.

"This time, it would be a deep-rooted alliance that would be formed between the Senate and the Five Generation Sky Clan through the marriage alliance. Even though there was some unhappiness between the two parties, politics is all about compromise... At the same time, I have heard that the Chen Family, in asking for Li Wan'er's hand in marriage, has given a dowry that the senator found irresistible to reject!"

When he finished what he had to say, Lin Tianhao didn't stay and left hurriedly. As he left, he thought about how different he was from Wang Baole. Right now, Wang Baole had lost all mood for eating the snacks. He was depressed and was filled with indescribable emotions. He felt that Chen Mu had made him a cuckold.

*D*rn it. How dare you snatch my woman. I'll torture you to death!* A look of viciousness flashed across Wang Baole's eyes.

Chapter 389: The Deputy City Lord is Appointed!

The baneful vibe was so strong that Wang Baole couldn't control himself and wanted to release it. After circling the office, he took out his voice transmission ring and sent a voice transmission to Li Wan'er. The moment the voice transmission went through, even before Wang Baole could speak, Li Wan'er's cold voice reverberated by his ears.

"What's the matter?"

That cold voice stopped Wang Baole in his tracks, but he still couldn't help but ask.

"I heard that you're getting engaged with that b*stard from the Chen Family?"

Li Wan'er was silent. After a brief moment, she spoke calmly.

"What has that got to do with you? Additionally, my fiancée is not a b*stard. Please be more respectful in your words, City Lord Wang!"

Her words completely froze Wang Baole in his steps; the anger in his heart slowly calming down. He was silent for a long while, before laughing.

"Congratulations." After that, Wang Baole hung up the voice transmission. He took a deep breath and pushed open the window, looking at the sky outside for a long while before turning around to meditate with his legs crossed. He calmed himself down while cultivating.

However, what he didn't know was that right now, in the Colony Disciplinary Order Office, Li Wan'er was standing beside the windows and looking in the direction of Wang Baole's Divine Armament New City. She carried a complex look, and after a very long period of time, an extremely soft sigh that only she could hear reverberated in her heart.

As for Wang Baole, he managed to slowly calm his thoughts after using a lot of will. He no longer thought about Li Wan'er's matter, as he felt that he didn't have the right to interfere in the matter, and didn't want to bother himself with it any longer. Even though he had exposed his body and was disadvantaged, he felt that the b*stard from Chen Family would lose out even more.

Even though he consoled himself with such thoughts, jealousy still crept in his heart. Wang Baole sighed and took a deep breath, and as he calmed down his thoughts, he slowly immersed himself in the process of cultivation.

His cultivation was already at the late-stage Foundation Establishment realm. Even though the construction of the new city during this period of time had kept him busy, he still managed to delegate the tasks such that he had a lot of time to cultivate. Most importantly, the cultivation of the Dark Art took place at an extremely fast speed under the aura of the Divine Armament Catacombs. At the same time, it also significantly raised his Lightning Dao: First Volume.

This way, Wang Baole's cultivation improved by the day. For others in late-stage Foundation Establishment realm, increasing their cultivation depended not just on fate, but also the availability of time for cultivation. As for cultivation, it would take a few years at least. After all, the process of perfecting Foundation Establishment realm from late-stage Foundation Establishment realm was one of accumulation. They were all aimed towards stepping into the Core Formation realm after breakthrough, and the more they accumulated, the higher the likelihood of succeeding.

Therefore, the entire process was taken with all seriousness. At the same time, there was no shortcut. However, for Wang Baole, who had the boost from the Dark Art, his speed of cultivation could be increased significantly. Even though he hadn't reached perfection, he was clearly already halfway through.

Despite that, Wang Baole also knew very well that cultivation couldn't be completed within a day. It required a process of accumulation over days and months. Therefore, after cultivating in seclusion for several days, and completely calming down, he ended the cultivation process. When he opened his eyes, the sky had already darkened, and through the window, he could see the lights outside. After spreading

the array formation, he could even hear the bustling activity of the New Mars Region coming from afar in the night.

Even though the city hadn't been constructed, that piece of land was already housing a trillion people. The nightlife made the city a bustling place.

Looking at all the lights and feeling the activity of Divine Armament New City, Wang Baole breathed calmly. Even though he didn't continue cultivating, he had already begun thinking about how to go about refining the artifacts.

I am already sufficiently familiar with the refinement of fifth-grade Numinous Treasures... Wang Baole mumbled to himself. The construction of the Eternal Fortress could be said to have utilized fifth-grade Numinous Treasures as its foundation. Therefore, Wang Baole had already reached a certain standard in his skills of refining the fifth-grade Numinous Treasures, such that most of them were perfect.

What's next is the sixth-grade Numinous Treasure... From this, I can soon attempt to construct my very own seventh-grade Dharmic Armament! With that thought, Wang Baole's breathing quickened. That was the lifelong dream of any Dharmic Armament cultivator.

Wang Baole had already experienced the power of the Dharmic Armament. At the same time, he knew very clearly that his Dharmic Armament saber wasn't entirely suitable for him. If he wanted something that was perfectly compatible with him, he had to make it himself.

However, in the Federation, not all cultivators had such an opportunity. For most of the cultivators, receiving a Dharmic Armament was already like winning the lottery. If they really wanted to personalize one for themselves, they could only do it in their dreams.

However, for Wang Baole, it wasn't a dream. He could accomplish the goal in real life. This managed to push out the unpleasant thoughts that had previously occupied his mind. A look of anticipation and agitation flashed across his eyes, and at the same time, he understood that he should carry out everything step by step. He could be excited about it, but he shouldn't rush into it, as being anxious wouldn't help at all.

Next, I'll try to refine the sixth-grade Numinous Treasure. In addition, I need to upgrade all my Dharmic Artifacts to the level of a fifth-grade Numinous Treasure! Most important of them is my Intrinsic Dharmic Artifact, the scabbard! Wang Baole had calmed down. Determined, he immediately went to work. Previously, he had to be prudent in his use of resources as the expenditure was hefty every time he cultivated. That was especially so for the refinement materials required for the fifth-grade Numinous Treasure. They were extremely rare, and therefore extremely expensive.

However, now that he was a City Lord of Primary Rank Three, he had a large amount of resources in his hands. As the City Lord, he had many means to obtain sufficient refinement materials without affecting the process of the city's construction. Furthermore, there was no need to be secretive about it and break the law. In the eyes of the Federation in the Spirit Inception Era, this was a reasonable matter, as long as he didn't go overboard.

Therefore, with sufficient resources at his disposal, Wang Baole began to refine and upgrade his Numinous Treasures furiously. The upgrading of the other Numinous Treasures was relatively simple,

but it was challenging for his Intrinsic Dharmic Artifact, which not only required sufficient Armament Sand but also numerous tries.

However, Wang Baole was in no rush. As he waited for the confirmation of candidates for the Deputy City Lord and the mayors, he continued refining his Dharmic Artifacts while cultivating the Dark Art simultaneously. Everything progressed in a stable manner, but what made Wang Baole most regretful was that, from start to end, he had no chance to display the godly mystic art of the Dark Art—the Dark Corpse Face Art!

There were simply too many people around. In addition, the Dark Corpse Face Art was a part of the Dark Art, and if other people sensed it, it would be difficult for Wang Baole to explain himself. Therefore, he could only imagine and play it out in his mind while regret filled his heart.

I wonder when I can find someone to display my Dark Corpse Face Art to! Wang Baole was emotional while cultivating, and just like that, half a month passed.

At this time, after a month of competition between the various factions, there were some changes made once again to the candidates chosen to become Divine Armament New City's three mayors. There was still no confirmation of the mayor candidacy, and instead, the candidate for Deputy City Lord was set.

When Wang Baole received the notice from the Martian Colony Governor about the confirmation of the Deputy City Lord—and that the person would arrive within the next few days—his thoughts that had taken a lot of effort to stabilize suddenly grew chaotic again. He looked at the voice transmission ring and listen to the Governor read out the name.

Why is it her? Wang Baole frowned. However, after thinking about it deeply, he set aside his personal feelings. It seemed reasonable that this person was appointed as Deputy City Lord.

After all, this person had worked on Mars for many years and was Secondary Rank Three for a long time running. Regardless of whether it was her cultivation or background, she was considered an elite. It was appropriate for her to become Deputy City Lord.

The candidate for Deputy City Lord was... Li Wan'er!!

At the same time, she didn't come as Secondary Rank Three, but was instead promoted to Primary Rank Three, the same rank as Wang Baole, as she became Deputy City Lord.

Many things could be interpreted from the promotion of her Noble rank. Wang Baole had some understanding of it but still felt that it was a complex matter. He was powerless in changing the fact that Li Wan'er was engaged to the eldest son of the Chen family, and had thought that he would no longer have the chance to meet her. He had never imagined that both of them would work together in the future.

That made Wang Baole sigh. He had a headache for several days, and soon, Li Wan'er arrived...

As the cruiser landed and Li Wan'er's tall and slender figure appeared before others, Wang Baole was completely filled with regret and jealousy.

However, compared to him, even if the others were attracted to Li Wan'er's impressive looks, they also felt a chill as they knew that she was a thorny rose and was known for being ruthless. Therefore, they all

lowered their heads and greeted her. Even Kong Dao and Lin Tianhao followed suit. Jin Duoming had originally planned to challenge himself and woo her, but after hearing about the engagement, and the trauma of being almost castrated, he put on a rare look of seriousness.

As the people greeted her, Li Wan'er stepped forward amongst the crowd with a cold expression towards Wang Baole. When she saw him, she expressionlessly greeted him.

"Greetings, City Lord. I am under the order of the Governor. Other than overseeing the construction of the city, I am also responsible for inspecting the Colony Disciplinary Order of Divine Armament New City. I seek the City Lord's cooperation in working together in the future!"

Chapter 390: Loggerheads Would Always Meet

Li Wan'er's cold and distant attitude and formal tone immediately made everyone who came to welcome her confused, as they looked at Wang Baole and Li Wan'er.

That was especially so as many people had known that Li Wan'er didn't come as someone who was Secondary Rank Three, but was promoted to Primary Rank Three before taking on the role of Deputy City Lord. That made her the same rank as Wang Baole. Therefore, in reality, even though they had different statuses, Li Wan'er was the only one who could argue and defy Wang Baole in the entire city.

A person like her had just arrived but was already distant and impersonal in tone. At the same time, she was in charge of a scary department like the Colony Disciplinary Order, which was a signal to everyone!

Instantly, silence filled the surroundings. Kong Dao frowned slightly. He hadn't cared much previously about Li Wan'er's arrival, but now that he saw how imposing she was, he seemed to have seen through something and was now narrowing his eyes. He wasn't foolish, after all.

Kong Dao didn't care about anyone else. However, since Wang Baole had helped him and gave him an advancement, he was on the side of Wang Baole. Instinctively, he was filled with dislike and resistance towards Li Wan'er, who had just arrived.

That was even more so for Lin Tianhao. Even though his father and Li Wan'er's father were both from the Senate, he felt that it revolved around people of the previous generation, which had nothing to do with himself. Therefore, he also raised his eyebrows, but when he thought about the guess he had made regarding the relationship between Wang Baole and Li Wan'er, he blinked and felt that this matter was complex and impossible to understand fully.

Jin Duoming was also bewildered right now. In his mind, even though Li Wan'er was hot-tempered, she wasn't a rash person. Logically, it was impossible for her to say such things the moment she arrived.

Is she putting up a show? Jin Duoming was suspicious. This intuition was very obvious, and Wang Baole felt that way even more. The complex emotions in his heart were now mostly gone, and with a chilly and stern look, he glanced at Li Wan'er and nodded slightly. Without saying a word, he turned and left.

It would have been clearer if Wang Baole had said something, but he left without saying anything. That, coupled with the fact that he had a great influence over Divine Armament New City, made that seem

like an expression of his attitude. Lin Tianhao and Kong Dao also turned to leave with him. Jin Duoming hesitated, only turning to leave after looking at Li Wan'er and nodding slightly.

The people of other ranks who noticed the silent fight going on between the elites didn't dare to go near either. After greeting her, they all began to dissipate. Soon, there were just a handful of people remaining of those who had come to welcome Li Wan'er.

Li Wan'er stood there, furrowing her brows slightly. Before she came, she had done some research on Divine Armament New City and had known about Wang Baole's status. However, after arriving, she was still frightened by the authority that Wang Baole held, and the words that her father said to her before she came kept surfacing in her mind.

"Wang Baole is an extraordinary person. After transforming the city zone into a city, his position in Divine Armament New City is one that cannot be easily shaken. The matter between the both of you must be made clear, and ties must be cut!"

With that thought, Li Wan'er sighed in her heart. In reality, she had been unwilling to come. On one hand, she was of superior rank to Wang Baole previously, but now that Wang Baole became her superior in name, she had a hard time getting used to it.

On the other hand, there was an incident between them that she couldn't tell anyone. In addition, she was engaged. Even though she was vehemently against the engagement, she could only give in eventually. She could only bear with the unhappiness in her heart, and that made her feel even more complex emotions as she faced Wang Baole.

Before long, Li Wan'er buried the complex emotions deep in her heart and took a deep breath. She led the servants into Divine Armament New City. As there was only one zone now, her office was in the same building as Wang Baole, which wasn't far away.

Having just been appointed, she managed to push aside all her thoughts as she began to oversee matters regarding the city. At the same time, she deployed manpower in the various departments. She didn't act lightly and didn't appear to be challenging Wang Baole's authority, instead, taking the initiative to cooperate. Through this, the planning of the new city advanced further towards completion.

Even Wang Baole had to admit that Li Wan'er was extremely capable in handling various matters, and was even better at the job than himself. As she began work, she managed to increase the speed and order of the city's construction.

This made Kong Dao and company more impressed with Li Wan'er. They no longer felt a strong resistance towards her. In addition, as work began, the contact between Li Wan'er and Wang Baole inevitably increased. After all, the planning for the city depended on the Great Baole Array Formation as a foundation, and this made Wang Baole's suggestions extremely crucial in the planning process.

Right now, the two of them were in Wang Baole's office, discussing the plans for the construction of the sixth zone in the city.

"City Lord, according to your array formation, there needs to be alterations made to the plan for the sixth zone. With that change, not only could we increase the power of the array formation, we could also reduce the costs of construction." Li Wan'er looked serious as she passed a jade slip to Wang Baole.

Wang Baole received the jade slip in a similar, formal manner. After reading it, he was impressed. The plan laid out in the jade slip, after being edited by Li Wan'er, was indeed much better than before. At the same time, Wang Baole was encouraged by how orderly the city had become after Li Wan'er arrived, even if it was just for a few days.

"We shall use this plan then." Wang Baole didn't reveal his thoughts. He simply nodded after putting the jade slip down.

Li Wan'er didn't say anything and turned to leave. Seeing her push open the door, about to step out, Wang Baole sat there, raising his head to look at Li Wan'er's beautiful back, before speaking suddenly.

"Li Wan'er, no matter how hard you try to display the distance and chill between us, I am your superior!

"At the same time, since you're here as Deputy City Lord, you must remember that if the city performs well, it would benefit you, and it would benefit me... I respect you, and I also hope that you would respect me. Regarding matters of the city, we can always discuss and solve problems, as whatever I say isn't the be-all and end-all!"

"I'm not sure if you have any motives being in Divine Armament New City. However, this place has all the attention of the Federation on it. If something were to happen, I'm not a magnanimous person, and would report the matter honestly!" Wang Baole spoke with a low voice. This was the first time he said something like that to Li Wan'er.

As he spoke, Li Wan'er stopped in her tracks. With her back facing Wang Baole, she seemed to be deep in thought. At that moment, silence filled the office.

"Got it!" After a brief period, Li Wan'er spoke. Her tone was still unyielding, but the chill in her voice was somewhat reduced. She didn't turn around as she left.

Li Wan'er, who had now stepped out of Wang Baole's office, was on her way back to her residence. A complex look of regret filled her eyes. She knew that what Wang Baole said was correct. The stability of the city trumped everything else.

She also admitted that she felt differently towards Wang Baole. However, she knew very clearly that her role in the city wasn't to destroy anything, but to go according to the marriage alliance between the Senate and the Five Generation Sky Clan to pave the way to success for her fiancée!

Others didn't know who the three future mayors would be, but she knew that the eldest son of the Chen Family, Chen Mu, would be one of them. She even knew that this way of paving the road to success for her future husband would lead to disagreements with Wang Baole that she didn't desire, but she had no choice.

Therefore, all she could think of was to cut away all ties with Wang Baole, treating him merely as a co-worker!

Wang Baole didn't know the details of Li Wan'er's thoughts, but could more or less guess it. In reality, when Li Wan'er arrived, he had already analyzed the situation and felt that the possibility of her fiancée Chen Mu eventually coming to the city was high.

This was indeed the case, just as Wang Baole had guessed. After several days, the candidacy of the three remaining mayors of Divine Armament New City was finally set, after the month-long delay the competition between the various factions.

When the notice was passed from the Martian Colony Governor to Wang Baole, he looked at the profiles of the three new mayors under his lead!

The first one was indeed... Chen Mu, the eldest son of the Chen Family!

The second person was someone from Galactic Dusk Sect that had failed in his attempt to rob Wang Baole on the moon and was instead stripped by Wang Baole. The elite bound by black bandages!

The third person was a woman that Wang Baole wasn't familiar with. However, from her portfolio, it seemed that she had come from the Plume Manifestation Connate Sect!

The various factions within the Federation were all assembled in Divine Armament New City. It could be said that, to a certain extent, the city was a mini-version of the entire Federation!