

Chapter 141 - 140: Gathering - Challenged

When Wei Wuyin accepted becoming a Sky Noble and member of the sect, Fairy Blessed Spirit's—otherwise known as Xiang Ling—thoughts felt as if it ascended into a state of pure bliss and excitement. Her eyes contained a fervent glint that could not be concealed as she, boldly and without any scruples, placed on a lovely and alluring smile and walked to his side. Her arms wrapped carefully around his, and her gorgeous lips sweetly arced upwards.

Mei Yang pouted to the side, her eyes containing some grievance as she watched Xiang Ling, this expert that seemingly exceeded the continent's limits, nuzzle against Wei Wuyin so affectionately. If it wasn't for fear of being sent to the afterlife by this terrifying expert, she would've directly competed for his attention.

In the end, she could only make further plans to ensure that Wei Wuyin didn't abandon her randomly for greater pastures.

As for the crowd, their hearts were experiencing thunderous storms of shock and wild disbelief. What just happened? It was so fast that many of them were left dizzy. All these events made a few of them feel depressed; they were top-tier figures in their countries, but the moment they arrived here, they were reduced to inconsequential side-characters in Long Chen and Wei Wuyin's story. It truly left many proud and lofty geniuses with aggrieved feelings. Yet they didn't dare confess these feelings of inferiority and unwillingness to Wei Wuyin or Fairy Blessed Spirit.

They were characters that seemed to be unable to be offended, so in truth, a few honed in on Long Chen. He was a target of envy with his five beauties, so these young male and even female elites, felt he was unworthy. Already they were becoming antagonistic against him in their hearts, planning to suppress and surpass him. A few with more vile hearts were contemplating becoming elites in this new sect and claiming these top-tier beauties from themselves.

These thoughts were formed inexplicably, but a heavenly hand was definitely guiding them.

Unlike these others with all sorts of vile thoughts, Xiang Ling felt blessed. But, she had to take advantage of this opportunity! While others on this continent were largely ignorant of the vital and life-altering importance that an Alchemic King can have, she was not!

Alchemical products that could help develop or grow Astral Core Realm experts at the lower-phases were by no means common, and this was taking the entire starfield into consideration. In fact, they were disgustingly rare when one considered the immense population and size of the world that she lived in.

Each phase of the Astral Core Realm was a heaven-shaking increase in strength, status, and authority. To put it into perspective, she, a lofty, grand, and supreme expert at the Third Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Soul Idol Phase, had only taken three seventh-grade alchemical products in her entire lifetime. She was over five hundred years of age, a long-term member of the sect, and yet she had only consumed a total of three!

THREE!

This was only accomplished because her status and talent was not lacking, allowing her to receive the support of her sect at crucial moments to assail a higher phase. She would not have her current cultivation base without those three products!

The scarcity of supply yet endless demand was horrifically greater than one could imagine. While every cultivator desired and needed products for their cultivations, the greater their grade, the more unreasonably difficult they were to procure without exceptional connections and wealth.

This mostly had to do with the intricacies of the Dao of Alchemy. There was no 'true' way to be considered innately talented in alchemy, and even an Alchemic Natal Soul merely helps to a certain point.

She had already verified that the Astral Dipper Fountain Pill given to Na Xinyi earlier contained Wei Wuyin's spiritual aura, so he was definitely the one who refined it! Furthermore, it had signs of being made fairly recently. So when she regarded Wei Wuyin, someone who could be considered to be greatly accomplished in the Dao of Alchemy at such a young age, she would not let him go!

Definitely not!

Wei Wuyin could feel her thoughts through her blazingly bright smiling eyes. He felt slightly uncomfortable in being seen as a treasure, and from her alluring posture, she could see arousal and desire in her eyes. Mei Yang similarly wanted him for his essence, and that was a little unnerving.

But if he truly knew the scarcity and insane value of alchemists at his level, perhaps his thoughts would change swiftly to acclimate for the ensuing storm of rampant emotions like this.

Long Chen furrowed his brows, a hint of jealousy carried between his brows. But it was hurriedly removed as his thoughts settled. While Fairy Blessed Spirit was an exceptional expert now, in the future, he knew his status and strength will definitely exceed her. Furthermore, he'll earn the disciple rank of Sky Noble and likely even greater by himself!

In his life, he had to work hard for everything he gained, not take shortcuts. While he thought this, his will had become firmer and more resilient. His future was in his own hands, and he believed that nothing gained easily was worth it in the end.

If Wei Wuyin heard his thoughts, he would definitely deliver a ruthless verbal slap to Long Chen. What shortcut? He was skilled in the Dao of Alchemy and rewarded. Is rising due to your hardwork and ability a shortcut? Since when?

Such thinking was immensely flawed and only served to limit your breadth of mind. Moreover, if you felt that you needed to struggle, fight, and overcome for everything in life, then you're doing life wrong.

"Master!" While everyone was immersed in their thoughts, a delicate voice echoed out. It belonged to a little girl.

When she appeared, the crowd barely turned their gazes to her. Many of them truly felt like minor characters, and they felt unwilling to continue being drawn here and there like a cat to a shining red dot.

"Master!" Seeing her call was ignored, the little girl called out again. She approached her master and had a pouting expression. Only now did the crowd, Wei Wuyin, and Long Chen noticed the girl.

It was the little Godking that had fought alongside Long Chen!

Xiang Ling turned her gaze to this newly accepted disciple of hers. While there was a hint of impatience within her mind, she was still warm and gentle with her gaze. It could be seen that doting emotions had already appeared within her heart towards this frighteningly talented little girl.

"What is it, Yu'er?" Even her form of address was gentle and affectionate. Long Chen and the crowd were truly startled at this development.

Master?

In three months, this little girl wormed her way into an expert's heart!

Xiang Ling ignored those gazes. This little girl, named Long Tingyu, was exceptionally talented with a unique physique that didn't lose out to the talented Qing Qiumu. In fact, she wasn't human, strictly speaking. With her exceptional talents, she could easily ascend to the Astral Core Realm in the future, and likely become a pillar in the sect. How could she not grasp this chance to take in and guide such an exceptional girl?

Long Chen looked towards Long Tingyu, whose cultivation seemed to have been completely abolished. She was no different than a mortal, but her mind, body, and essence was unaffected. Did Fairy Blessed Spirit forcefully restart her cultivation?

A tinge of concern, relief, and excitement surged in his heart. Long Tingyu had ascended to the Ninth Stage of the Qi Condensation Realm for him, limiting her future. Now that she was given a second chance, how could he not be relieved and happy for her?

This little girl was merely a wild thing when they first met, living in the jungle while being a terror to intruding strangers. Her life was the jungle, and only when they met did that change. After a series of events, he had taken her to be like his little sister, even giving her the name 'Long'.

Long Tingyu cutely pouted as her clear eyes stared at her master, "Can you start the examination now?" Her pleading tone was exceptionally gentle and made one subconsciously feel a desire to dote and yield to her desires.

Xiang Ling sighed softly. She had arrived long ago, and the due date she originally had on her mind had passed, but she was slightly reluctant to begin. This wasn't because of Wei Wuyin, but Long Chen. Her limpid yet inspecting gaze glanced at Long Chen with a wisp of unwillingness.

"Qing Qiumu," she removed herself from Wei Wuyin's arm and called out. From the concealment, Qing Qiumu stepped forward like a ghost. Her natural aura and exceptional figure brought countless gazes to descend on this young woman.

Qing Qiumu, from behind her veil, had her eyes on Wei Wuyin. Her emotions with him were rather complex, especially after discovering what had happened between him and Na Xinyi as well as Long Chen's subsequent oath. Because of her relationship with them two, she had to settle on their side out of obligation. But in her most innermost heart, she was unable to muster the image of a vile, evil character.

Then, he defeated Long Chen, only sparing him after she pleaded with Xiang Ling to intervene. Furthermore, she had to make concessions for her to make a move. Yet she still couldn't gather the will to hate him. It was a mysterious feeling, and perhaps it had to do with his willingness to accept responsibility and devote himself to Na Xinyi, she felt that this was the person she talked to that day.

This was the person who saved her life that day.

Long Chen's eyes brightened when he saw Qing Qiumu appear. He was about to go over when Xiang Ling's words sounded in the air.

"Are you still unwilling?"

Long Chen stilled. Qing Qiumu's delicate body trembled slightly. Behind her veil, she bit her lips.

Xiang Ling calmly continued, "How unfortunate. Haaaa...why don't you choose Wei Wuyin instead? I can tell you have feelings for him, and he's a much better match for you than 'him'. Not only is he stronger, he has an exceptional talent, and they both started from the same origin with merely five years apart. They could be considered similar in every case, even cultivating the same method to produce two spirits, with only five years being the difference of their ages. I can promise you, you won't regret this decision."

The 'him' Xiang Ling was referring to was obvious to those in the know. Long Chen's eyes narrowed as he quietly clenched his teeth. To be underestimated and regarded as inferior to others was his most hated thing, and he'd killed many for this very thought. He rubbed his black ring on his finger lightly, while his heart brimmed with killing intent.

Not only was it directed towards Xiang Ling, but Wei Wuyin. Since he met Wei Wuyin, he has been interfering with his relationships and events of his life. He was like a frustrating fly that kept buzzing around.

Wei Wuyin shook his head, not caring about Long Chen's insignificant inferiority complex. He truly didn't wish to enter Long Chen's life. In fact, he wanted nothing more than to kill him off right at this very moment, but he could tell that the timing wasn't right.

"Qing Qiumu's choice is her own. Don't force her," Wei Wuyin interjected.

Shockingly, when he spoke, Xiang Ling was instantly cowed and merely nodded. This shook the crowd. Was his potential so impressive that even Fairy Blessed Spirit, this existence that exceeded the continent's limit, was instantly silenced with a few words?

"That's right! Qing Qiumu's choices are her own to make. You have utterly no need to interfere!" Long Chen added with a wisp of coldness in his tone.

"Shut the hell up, you insignificant piece of trash! Who the hell are you to speak to me in that manner?" Xiang Ling exploded! Her roar caused Long Chen to take several steps back and his expression turned ashen. That roar had impacted his spirit and mind.

The shock caused many to stumble, a few lost their footing and fell on their ass. If you inspected every person here, you'll find a few with signs of recent urination and defecation.

"Big Brother!" Long Tingyu cried as she ran towards Long Chen and supported him. She looked warily at Long Chen. However, she couldn't help but glare at Wei Wuyin. This was all his fault.

Not knowing whether to laugh or cry at Long Tingyu's obvious thoughts, Wei Wuyin instead sighed. He was getting tired of integrating with Long Chen's bubble of life. Na Xinyi, Wu Baozhai, and even Qing Qiumu. He felt that several events had led him to directly interacting and interfering with Long Chen, either by their own initiative or their past.

He even felt that the Heavenly Daos were using its puppeteer fingers to give the most notable members of Long Chen's life and deliver them to him for a choice at a critical moment of their life.

Him or Long Chen.

Now that he thought about it, Na Xinyi was his first, no? He let her go, and then she coincidentally meets another Blessed? Were all these top-tier beauties specifically designed to be tools or support for Blessed?

Just as this almost certain possibility entered his mind, Xiang Ling coldly spat, "His future is limited, yet he's surrounded by beauties. He sure is blessed. At first, I held praise, but now, I feel pity. I pity all these girls who you've fooled into becoming yours. You will be their limiter, and they have yet to realize it.

In comparison, Wei Wuyin's future is far greater and his potential is boundless. As an Alchemic King, as a cultivator, and as a man. In a year, you'll be beneath him. In ten years, you won't even be worthy enough to carry his shoes. Even today, you're already unworthy!" Her words were harsh, filled with anger.

She seemed to have personally experienced a situation like she mentioned, a man limiting her own future. As she had accepted Long Tingyu as her disciple, she didn't wish for her future to be limited by Long Chen's inadequacy. This included Qing Qiumu. Her innate potential exceeded everyone on this flat piece of land and will inevitably rise to new heights in the sect.

Long Chen bared his teeth and roared in retaliation, "Who are you to say what my limit is?! I'll reach heights far greater than you, far greater than him!" His words contained a tenacious willpower and mental fortitude. The belief contained within seemed to resonate with the Heavenly Daos.

However, as this resonance began, when Wei Wuyin felt the impact, it faltered and collapsed. The words were as empty as air when it referred to himself.

Qing Qi emerged from the clouds. He floated down, his eyes solemn, but his aura was settled and restrained.

"I stand by my daughter's choice. I believe that Long Chen has the potential to rise beyond anyone else." When he spoke, everyone focused on him. Qing Qi had stayed with Long Chen for these months and learned various things about him. His potential truly had yet to be excavated. In fact, this was just the start of his journey.

Xiang Ling frowned, but she didn't say anything to retort. There was no need. They'll learn to regret their decision.

Long Chen, however, couldn't let it go. As someone who rose up from nothing, he always felt like he had something to prove. That roar was a slap to the face, and he wanted to deliver a slap to her face as well, prove to her that she was wrong!

It wasn't just this event. The incidents with Wu Baozhai and Na Xinyi had also gotten to his state of mind. He could see it in their eyes, the uncertainty! He was faintly concerned that Wei Wuyin could and would take what was his. When Xiang Ling offered Wei Wuyin as his replacement for Qing Qiumu, he nearly went berserk.

"In three years, I challenge you to single combat, Wei Wuyin! We'll see who is truly greater then. Do you dare accept?"

Wei Wuyin indifferently glanced at all this like a bystander. He lightly uttered just one single word:

"No."

Chapter 142 - 141: Gathering - The Future

"No."

"...What?" Long Chen's was startled, so was everyone else. Long Chen had just lost to Wei Wuyin earlier, yet he didn't dare to accept this challenge? Even Xiang Ling was startled, gazing at Wei Wuyin as if he would accept without hesitation. After all, if it wasn't for her, Long Chen might've already been killed.

Wei Wuyin's eyes were truly calm, indifferent, and uncaring. "I'm bored of all this; I'm bored of you. I have nothing to prove to you. Nor do I feel like enabling your childish need to prove yourself to others. I've never once felt that desire to seek other's recognition, and merely took every step for myself and myself alone."

"..." The crowd was truly unable to predict this.

While others can't understand his thought process, he felt that Long Chen was a cockroach that was infesting his life's events. At first, he was merely suspicious that this was Inheritor of Sin versus Blessed, but now he felt a touch of heavenly design.

This three year challenge?

He was unwilling to be someone whetstone or puppet. To the heavens, to the first sinner, or to anyone.

If the heaven's wanted to choose between him or Long Chen, have them fight it out until a winner was decided, then he was unwilling. He wanted to jump off this chessboard, and as an Inheritor of Sin, did he not have that choice? Even if, in three years, he could freely kill Long Chen, then it would be a match orchestrated by the Heavenly Daos.

His distaste and contempt for this went beyond imagination in his heart.

He turned to Na Xinyi, "the offer will remain in effect for as long as I live; as long as you avoid intimate relations with others." While he wasn't discriminatory towards accepting someone who had had past relations with others, he felt that since he had informed her of this now, then it would be best that she didn't turn to him after regretting choosing others.

In the strictest sense, he'd accepted Na Xinyi as a half-fiance at this moment and she merely needed to accept.

He wasn't someone that enjoyed wearing a green hat, so the moment she chose someone else, then she could consider their ties of fate severed entirely.

He turned to Qing Qiumu, "I hope we can remain friends. Regardless of what happens in the future." These words were the only ones spoken with a hint of emotion. He didn't have feelings of desire, love, or attraction towards Qing Qiumu at the moment. While she was an attractive beauty, he felt a kindred spirit from her that suited more of a friend than a lover.

Of course, if she wanted to push that type of relationship, then he wouldn't immediately reject and consider it seriously.

"I don't have many friends..." he thought to himself. Since his clan's eradication, he hadn't felt as comfortable with someone like he had with her in those few hours. It was an inexplicable feeling that couldn't be explained no matter how hard he sought the answer.

Qing Qiumu bit her lips behind her veil, her conflicted expression started to slowly dissipate. It seemed she had come to a lifting decision.

After that, he faced Long Chen. "You live your life, I'll live mine. I hope you won't stoop so low as to continue to try and prove yourself to someone who cares not for your life or death. I'll never give you my recognition, regardless if you reach heights higher or greater than me, so no need to try."

At the moment, Wei Wuyin had no desire to snatch the women of others. His priorities were wholeheartedly towards the Realm of Sages, Calamity of Hell, and his indistinguishable and uncertain future. As for everything else? They were as irrelevant as a single drop of water, fleeting and dissipating with every passing second.

Long Chen was quiet, unable to respond. He, just like everyone else, did not expect rejection or those subsequent words. Especially those last words.

Never receive your recognition? Did I ever need your recognition!? Do I look like a dog looking for personal validation and your acceptance?! He was seething with burning rage. He felt an abrupt desire to attack at this very moment.

Clap!

A resounding clap brought everyone's attention back to focus. Xiang Ling realized this was displeasing Wei Wuyin, so she decided to move forward. Her entire demeanor and bearing changed, becoming more authorial and forceful, "All those who are qualified to take the entry examination, step forward. All those who aren't: leave this venue now!"

Her voice was spoken softly, but it was like thunder to everyone's mind and souls, shaking every last one of them.

"I will issue the last remainder, only those below a hundred years of age and at the Sixth Stage of the Qi Condensation Realm or higher are eligible. If you attempt to hide and hope to qualify, you will experience a rather gruesome and abrupt death. Don't be a lesson for others." Her warning was stern and direct.

These words quaked a few hearts. There were definitely a few that just barely exceeded a hundred and hoped to seek a chance to experience a greater horizon. Unfortunately, fate and timing did not fall in their favor.

As if forgetting something, Xiang Ling added: "Unless you're a beast tamer, your mount is not allowed to follow you." She turned to Wei Wuyin, "You're an exception." Considering his status as a Sky Noble and Alchemic King right off the bat, he was willing to certain exemptions. This likely meant that he wouldn't have been able to bring Su Mei with him if he hadn't obtained his newfound status unless she attempted the examination.

Wei Wuyin nodded. Before long, people started to rapidly shift about and leave, leaving a few words here and there. A few shameless Astral Core Realm seniors attempted to shamelessly bribe Xiang Ling, but were met with a non-committal response.

Long Chen's entire group was eligible, even Lin Ziyang as she barely reached the age requirement with a few years off. She was definitely one of the lucky ones. Even though he had a belly full of flaming anger, he still listened to Xiang Ling and gathered.

Wei Wuyin brought Bai Lin and Su Mei over. When he did, his eyes caught sight of a familiar figure. "Oh? It seems he's also a Blessed." When he thought this, his gaze was directed towards a young man who stood in an inconspicuous position. He had black hair, grey eyes, and between his brows was a wisp of natural and elemental air. He wasn't particularly handsome, but his exceptional physique and innate natural quality possessed a unique charm.

This was the young man he had met in Golden Milk City. At the time, he was a teenager being pursued. Now, he had truly grown into his own, stable and striking. It was due to his 0.1 Karmic Luck Value reduction that brought his existence to his attention, and later entered the Myriad War Dao Palace.

"He's reached the Sixth Stage of Qi Condensation. At his age, it's quite impressive, and his natural endowments are definitely not lacking. Furthermore..." his eyes were exceptionally keen as he discovered an elemental aura. He likely cultivated a Heart of Elemental Qi.

Just as he discovered this, he saw a young woman beside him. She had scarlet hair and wore a veil in much the same way as Qing Qiumu. But...something felt off. He couldn't quite pinpoint the issue, but after she said a few words to the young man, she looked as if she was about to leave.

Wei Wuyin's curiosity got the best of him as he executed an ocular spiritual spell to gleam deeper into her existence.

Shiiiiing!

A sharp, keening sound exploded in his mind. He felt his sea of consciousness come under assault, impacted by an unknown force. It induced an immense migraine. The scarlet-haired woman turned to face Wei Wuyin, and her eyes were unusually bright. An eerie power arrived in his mind.

Before he could react, the Alchemic Spirit of Eden Qi shook within his sea of consciousness and started to send constant waves of Eden Qi into it to stabilize it. Only then did the migraine cease.

The young woman frowned. Her eyes flashed with a wisp of shock. She turned to the young man, but he had already entered the crowd of eligible participants.

Wei Wuyin didn't dare to inspect her any further, but the shock in his heart caused endless ripples. He discovered that she was using some type of mental power to disguise her appearance, and when he tried to inspect her, it had tried to alter his perception by integrating with his sea of consciousness. If it was effective, his spiritual spell would've observed a completely different image and aura.

But because of his spirit nestled inside his sea of consciousness, it was abolished and revealed her true appearance. Even a trace of her aura was revealed!

She was in her early twenties, and had golden hair, not red. As for her facial appearance, she eclipsed everyone that he had ever seen in his entire life. She was beyond the word 'beautiful' and neared 'perfect'.

"She's much, much stronger than Fairy Blessed Spirit!" His heart was truly given a hellish shock. It seems that that young man from before was definitely a Blessed to have an expert of that caliber beside him.

When he tried to find her again, she had already vanished.

"..."

Before long, everyone here was eligible participants. They were young elites with bright potential and far-reaching dreams! They had vibrant hopes and endless desire.

Xiang Ling swept her gaze on these young, bright, and confident faces, a faint sigh in her heart. However, she didn't reveal her emotions as she said after getting everyone's attention with a clap, "If you think the examination will be difficult, then you're correct. But, also, horribly wrong. It will be difficult, but not even close to what any of you currently imagine.

"I want you to think about the difficulty in your minds and hearts. Truly think about how difficult it might be, then...multiply that difficulty by a hundred. If you can pass that level of challenge, then you can keep your life. If you want to become a disciple of the sect, then multiply it by ten thousand times on top of the hundred times! Even then, you'll merely be eligible to be the lowest disciple." She coldly and cruelly explained, instantly demoralizing all these valiant youths. Many of their smiles and hopes seemed to be suppressed by a formless pressure.

"Your life will be on the line, and many of you will die. More of you will receive nothing in the end, and even if you succeed, you'll still have to work harder than anyone to gain a hint of recognition. This is because you will not be joining some insignificant sect! You're joining a hegemon sect that rules a portion of this starry sky!

"If you are too intimidated by this, then you should leave. If you aren't scared of death, then you should leave! The ignorant and foolish will always be the first to die. I'll give everyone one last chance: You can stay here and likely rule a direction in this continent or leave and risk everything for your future!" Xiang Ling's tone was low and sharp.

The hearts of everyone quivered without end, but regardless of who, not a single person decided to leave this group of young elites.

Xiang Ling softly sighed and shook her head.

"So be it."

Chapter 143 - 142: Wu Astral Tower

Xiang Ling no longer tried to explain matters to these hopeful youths. If she was in their situation, she too would choose to traverse the unknown and dangerous for a chance at standing beneath a grander sky.

'Regardless how many will perish, a few will inevitably succeed. These seeds will grow into sprouts that may benefit the sect.' Her thoughts were settled and clear.

She inhaled softly, a low rumbling started to occur that shook quite a few, and her eyes started to release gorgeously radiant light. When she swept this gaze onto these youths, they all felt as if they were staring a manifested deity of the world.

Wei Wuyin slightly frowned. *'She's using mana?'* As he thought this, he felt an unknown force shroud over his entire body. It was light yet similarly heavy. It was a conflicting feeling, but the only consistency he felt from it was its calmness that resembled the ebb and flow of the sea.

"I'll be taking you all to the Myriad Void Gate. Do not resist; if you do, you can simply stay here." Her words were spoken softly but they were like thunderclaps as their minds and spirits shook.

There were one hundred and three participants.

Wei Wuyin spotted Mei Yang in the distance. She was older than a hundred years, and while she pouted, she was unable to leave with them. According to Mei Yang, it was against the policy of the owners of this continent. They forbid those that haven't entered the Astral Core Realm from departing without explicit permission.

It seemed that she'll have to cultivate diligently for them to meet once again. *'If I become capable of influencing these rules, perhaps I'll take her away. After all, I could use a maid.'* When he thought up to here, a satisfied smile tugged at his lips.

Mei Yang in the distance noticed that and waved, giving off an astonishingly bright smile in reply. She mouthed: "Remember me!" Those words and her gesture was truly capable of instigating one to bring her along. Unfortunately, while Xiang Ling had given a guarantee that he would be a Sky Noble rank disciple, he wasn't an official one.

Besides little exemptions, such as bringing Su Mei and Bai Lin along, she couldn't overthrow the rules and treat them like air. This made him catch a glimpse at the strict adherence to rules that this sect has.

Woooo!

Suddenly, everyone felt their bodies become lighter and start to float upwards. The force being moved by Xiang Ling had firmly adhered to each of their bodies and was slowly lifting them upwards.

Xiang Ling slowly lifted her two arms from her sides like a conductor, and everyone started to increase at the rate of their ascent. This gave them a wondrous feeling as if they were flying without wings. It was truly a novel feeling.

While cultivators at their level can levitate, it was only to a minor extent and stabilizing or maintaining it was quite difficult, let alone legitimately flying through the skies. So when their speed started to accelerate until it seemed as if they were truly flying, many gave off unintentional but heartfelt woah's.

Wei Wuyin, like the others, lifted their head and predicted their trajectory. Not a single one of them didn't have their hearts shake at the realization of their designation: Wu Astral Tower!

A location as grand as can be. There only existed one in the entire continent and it was above the Wu Country. It lingered effortlessly amongst the clouds and brightened at night, acting as a guiding star to cultivators and citizens alike. It proclaimed a legacy that said: "Wu Lineage Lives!" To some, it stabilized the entire clan's destiny!

The grandness of its meaning was appreciated by many and became a symbol of national pride. Even when Wei Wuyin was younger, his entire clan idolized this tower.

Was this truly their designation?

Was he going to see this tower that proudly hung amongst the clouds up close?!

His heart raced. The excitement was palpable within the minds, hearts, and souls of all these elites. While many hadn't been born and raised in this country, their respect and understanding of the Wu Astral Tower was as grandiose as its mortal citizens.

Their speed continued to increase until their vision started to blur. It was mind-blowing as they started to soar swiftly through the sky! At their speed, they arrived before the tower in a blink. Those with lower cultivations and weaker physique went blank after the speed reached a certain point. Those stronger mostly saw a blur.

Wei Wuyin, on the other hand, kept his eyes focused on the Wu Astral Tower the moment he realized their designation. Seeing it up close, he felt as if his inner-child was experiencing one of its most desired dreams.

It was a jet-black, tall, and imposing. Faint starry light flickered on its jet-black surface that gave it a mystical and mysterious feeling. It was like looking at the night sky, seeing the stars flit across it with the utmost freedom. Wasn't this the pursuit of cultivators? To soar across the starry skies alongside the stars?

Wei Wuyin's eyes were drawn to a multicolored faint smoke that lingered around the tower and cascaded into the clouds below. It was so thin, nearly unnoticeable, that unless you were directly before it one would never notice. Before anyone could fully enjoy the scenery of this tower that stood at a height of over nine hundred meters high, he and everyone else felt a flash of starry light and their bodies grew heavier.

Wei Wuyin swiftly regained his composure and sense of balance as he inspected his new surroundings. At the moment, everyone was on some type of tiled floor that crisscrossed in a dizzying pattern. They were located in a spacious room that was mostly empty. The only item besides them, the four walls, and the odd tiles were a half-circular silver arc that emanated faint light.

It was this light that allowed utter darkness to not take over. Atop this frame of this arc was various protrusions of gold and black, and every inch of it was inscribed with esoteric markings that resembled those from arrays etched on Qi Armaments but far, far more complex.

Xiang Ling waltzed out and stood before the silver gate. She turned to these curious elites and calmly announced, "You guys might refer to this tower as the Wu Astral Tower, it is not a tower that stabilizes the destiny of a clan. It is indeed called an Astral Tower, but it's more of a holding location for important objects."

"This is not the Wu Astral Tower?" A Wu Clan talented genius said with a hint of despondency.

"Hahaha! I always knew the Wu Clan was a bunch of liars. How could their destiny be stabilized?" A burly man laughed with excitement. His country and Wu Country has always been at odds, and learning that this tower wasn't a trump card that stabilized their destiny helped alleviate his heart.

If one day he returned to the Myriad Yore Continent, he'll be sure to spread this news.

"What does it store?" A bright-eyed young woman dressed in luxurious wear curiously asked. Her gaze ceaselessly fixated on the half-circle arc that brightened the room. This question was on everyone's mind so they paid extra attention.

"It stores one of the sixty-seven Void Gates of our sect. Void Gates that belong to our sect are called Myriad Void Gates. These structures are created by the sect's exceptional creationist working in unison. It is constructed with various essence materials, the crucial being spatial essence stones." Xiang Ling explained.

Spatial essence stones!

For those who were in the know, storage rings were fashioned with a thousandth of a single drop of condensed spatial essence. A spatial essence stone contained about a hundred thousand drops and were exceptionally rare. According to records, spatial essence stones were only found on meteors that fall from the sky.

Xiang Ling continued after they've digested this piece of information. "With the support of astral arrays inscribed upon it, It is like storage rings at its core functionality. It connects two points of stable space together, even from an exceptionally vast distance, but allows living existences to cross over. With it, traveling tens of millions of miles in a blink of an eye is entirely feasible, as long as one has the resources and this," She pulled out a small, silver oval disk the size of a baby's palm from her brassiere.

Quite a few young, hot-blooded eyes honed onto that and even gulped. Xiang Ling was exceptionally beautiful with an alluring figure and ample set of breasts. This coupled with her high cultivation and innate high-born bearing, she was truly an extraordinary woman for the eyes.

Xiang Ling entirely ignored these hot gazes and added, "This is a Void Disk. On it are coordinates. These coordinates are pre-set and the Void Gate can only send you to the designated coordinates. If you don't have a Void Disk, if you don't have a location in mind, you're entirely unable to use a Void Gate."

The eyes of everyone focused. With that, its possible to travel tens of millions of miles in a blank?

Wait.

For those smarter than others, they soon realized that without a Void Disk, wouldn't they be unable to return back home unless their cultivation base allowed them to travel amongst the stars? Also, how far was this sect if it required a Void Gate? Was it actually millions of miles away?! What type of concept was that? How much resources would that take and would this mysterious sect spend that on them if they fail the examination?!

Wei Wuyin quietly pondered this. His heart, however, was steady and undisturbed. *'Either I live or die, and if I live, then I'll be able to return with ease. If I die, then what's the use worrying about this?'*

To him, this was the start of a new life. A new horizon. A new, grander sky.

Xiang Ling nodded after a faint light of realization and shock emerged on each of their faces. "For those who haven't understood, the sect is millions of miles away. Unless you obtain a Void Disk, you'll never be able to return. While that shouldn't be the most of your worries, it does mean that if you fail the examination and keep your lives, you will be left stranded and left to your own devices.

"Furthermore, your cultivations are all piss-poor in the grand scheme of things. There might be idle cultivators far stronger than you working at a farm simply because of the environmental factors." Her words were exceptionally sharp. An idle cultivator was a term used for those who cultivate randomly. They were generally considered mortals, as everyone could cultivate, but few could reach the Qi Condensation Realm in the Myriad Yore Continent.

Yet in this new location with this mysterious sect, these types of cultivators were capable of rivaling Mortal Gods?!

"Luckily, you'll be testing your talent, not your cultivation." She smiled slightly after the various appalled expressions flashed in her gaze.

"I'll explain more about our sect later. For now, let's go."

A few of these elites now realized the magnitude of their situation and felt uncertain. Should they leave? Ambitions were like frost in the sun, dissipating endlessly. But Xiang Ling never gave them a choice to leave again, and they were left with no choice but to continue.

Using the Void Disk, Xiang Ling tossed it through the empty space of the half-circle arc. It halted an inch before entering and started to rotate with odd droning sounds.

Roommmvvvv!

Weeeeengg!

Various sounds emerged as if the initiation of a various internal gears were spinning, buttons were being pressed, and formations were revolving.

The silver arc's empty space started to rapidly flash with colorful, dazzlingly attractive lights. A thin, multicolored curtain started to descend from the top of the arc to the floor. If anyone was sensitive to bright and colorful lights and were prone to seizures, these flashing lights would induce them with a hundred percent certainty.

Wei Wuyin quietly inspected the arc and felt the wondrous changes happening within and around the arc. He sensed various spiritual energies and a unique spatial force emanated endlessly from the arc's

esoteric markings. After several minutes of this, it finally stopped. No longer was there a multitude of various colors flashing within the thin frame but it was single color: Void Black.

The thinly void black curtain looked ominous as one peered into it, as if it led to a vast and empty void and nowhere else. The hearts of many valiant geniuses quivered heavily witnessing the endless void. Even Wei Wuyin felt a hint of fear creep within his mind, it was simply that frightening to stare at it. It was as if staring at the darkest abyss.

Clap!

Xiang Ling clapped once more, causing all those enthralled by the black void within to refocus. A few started with a yelp of fear. Embarrassed, they hid themselves within the crowd.

"Go in!"

She gestured for everyone to enter, her eyes indifferent to their fear and uncertainty. Wei Wuyin didn't hesitate. In fact, he was the first one to walk forward.

When he did, he was shocked to realize that Bai Lin was following unhesitatingly and Su Mei was a step behind him. Her eyes were firm, fearless, and calm. As she walked beside Wei Wuyin, her steps were steady without a single pause.

When she noticed Wei Wuyin's gaze, she looked towards him with the firmest expression imaginable. His gaze lifted to see Bai Lin similarly fearless as she looked at the void black curtain of uncertainty. Her golden eyes peered down slightly, and Wei Wuyin could see the endless conviction within. They were in this together.

A warm feeling entered his heart in an inexplicable manner and he quietly said, "We."

When those words were spoken, as if it was a firing signal, the three rushed into the void black curtain and swiftly vanished.

Xiang Ling sweetly smiled. *'He's truly exceptional. It's just too unfortunate that my disciple is biased against him and Qing Qiumu seemed too stubborn.'*

Her gaze swept the cautious Long Chen who seemed to be waiting and observing. But his eyes, like the rest, were similarly filled with shock as Wei Wuyin vanished into nothingness as he stepped into the curtain.

In his group, Na Xinyi bit her lower lip with those pearly white teeth of hers. Her eyes radiated uncertainty. Wei Wuyin's fearless dash truly shook her heart, because she felt an unfathomable pressure and uncertainty after Xiang Ling's many different explanations. Countless questions entered her thoughts, such as...was she worthy? Could she do it? Will she survive?

These questions stumbled into her heart as a deep-seated sense of inferiority birthed from being nothing arose. But for some reason, as she saw Wei Wuyin depart without pause, her heart had admiration and a little calm. If he could do it, so could she.

In this way, she wasn't the only one who likely had these fears, but she wanted to be the few who overcame them! She stepped forward and dashed towards the void black curtain with eyes flashing fierce resolve.

Chapter 144 - Volume 2: Afterword

Over a hundred chapters in, and the end of the second volume(82 Chapters!). For those who read my first Afterword, you'll know my goal coming into this was to introduce more characters, Blessed, and how they interact, interfere, and affect the MC's choices.

You'll know that I started this novel for it to be a tad bit darker, gritty, while intent on developing side characters in a unique and interesting way. This has still been my modus operandi, but volume two didn't turn out as I hoped. The feedback has been a mix of positivity(thanks to you all) and negativity(which in hindsight, I could understand).

I feel like my intentions and desires for this volume became twisted by my unintentional want to connect two characters and highlight a struggle. While I don't regret creating this type of uniquely and rarely seen relationship and interactions between two characters, I will definitely seek to improve upon it and my clarity of writing going forward. I fully apologize if it was an uncomfortable or distasteful read for some.

To be clear: Coming into this, I had a concrete plan. Explore the world, introduce the concept of other Blessed into this world, meet new side-characters that will impact the MC, have the events or people in volume one affect or drive volume two, and develop unique and strange relationships with others that are both divisive and thought-provoking. And while that was completed, even if not all of it was positive, it was done. The only issue was perhaps it wasn't executed in the best way possible, and I admit that.

There were times I questioned myself. I wondered if I should write it like this, should I continue with this path, or should I scrap the entire thing and rewrite volume two completely. Then someone sent me a very enlightening message: "Novels have good and bad moments, you just have to ensure that your novel is great in the end. You'll find your flow."

Only then did I have an epiphany; I'm writing this novel with an end goal in my heart, and every word and chapter is a learning experience. As I move forward towards that end goal, I can only hope to bring forth better developments and changes for you and me. In the end, what matters is that the novel is a great, unforgettable experience that I want it to be and know it can be. A volume that isn't liked by some doesn't mean it's over. It just means I'm still finding my flow, and so is the overall novel.

So I want to start volume three with a fresh mindset while keeping in mind what made volume one great and volume two a little unenjoyable. I'll drive this forward and hope that I can make volume two seem like a blip and bump in the overall heart-shaking journey that's to come. By eclipsing it with the future! The awesome, exciting, and hilarious scenes, clashes, revealments, character developments and world exploration, while simultaneously improving my writing and ability to convey what I want to all you phenomenal readers.

Alright, I've said all I needed to say on that. Now I'll explain my goal for this next volume!

Alchemy! Status! Growth! World-Building! Bloody Adventures!

Let's just jump right into it.

P.S: I'll be using italics to represent thoughts now. I want you, my readers, to better understand the recognize characters point of views. I want them to say it, and not me to tell it. <3 One of my goals is to improve dialogue and clarity of characters, and for the latter, this is just one step to achieving that.

P.S.S: Italics don't seem to work on mobile so the extra format of 'Thoughts' will be added just in case, and hopefully this problem gets resolved.

Here's some famous literary book quotes because of Word Count...You can skip this if you want.

"Just remember that the things you put into your head are there forever, he said. You might want to think about that.

You forget some things, dont you?

Yes. You forget what you want to remember and you remember what you want to forget." – Cormac McCarthy, *The Road*

"I must not fear. Fear is the mind-killer. Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration. I will face my fear. I will permit it to pass over me and through me. And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path. Where the fear has gone there will be nothing. Only I will remain." – Frank Herbert, *Dune*

"Hello babies. Welcome to Earth. It's hot in the summer and cold in the winter. It's round and wet and crowded. On the outside, babies, you've got a hundred years here. There's only one rule that I know of, babies-"God damn it, you've got to be kind." – Kurt Vonnegut, *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*

"...I think we are well-advised to keep on nodding terms with the people we used to be, whether we find them attractive company or not. Otherwise they turn up unannounced and surprise us, come hammering on the mind's door at 4 a.m. of a bad night and demand to know who deserted them, who betrayed them, who is going to make amends. We forget all too soon the things we thought we could never forget. We forget the loves and the betrayals alike, forget what we whispered and what we screamed, forget who we were." — Joan Didion, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*

"The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched, they are felt with the heart." – Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *The Little Prince*

"We believe that we can change the things around us in accordance with our desires—we believe it because otherwise we can see no favourable outcome. We do not think of the outcome which generally comes to pass and is also favourable: we do not succeed in changing things in accordance with our desires, but gradually our desires change. The situation that we hoped to change because it was intolerable becomes unimportant to us. We have failed to surmount the obstacle, as we were absolutely determined to do, but life has taken us round it, led us beyond it, and then if we turn round to gaze into the distance of the past, we can barely see it, so imperceptible has it become." – Marcel Proust, *In Search of Lost Time*

Chapter 145 - 143: Myriad MonarChapter Sect, A New World

Entering the Void Gate was like an abrupt flash of light in one's face. Besides an odd tingly feeling within one's extremities, there was nothing else to be felt.

Wei Wuyin blinked. A brighter than normal sunlight entered his silver eyes and nearly blinded him. It took sometime for him to adjust. While doing so, he felt the ground beneath his feet was solid and leveled.

'I expected a traveling or shifting sensation, but it was more like passing through a door into the outside. How strange...is this how it feels for items in storage rings?'

As this thought flashed through his mind, his heart started to race abruptly. A wisp of excitement emerged and forced it to throb endlessly. Today marked the day of irrevocable change to many, including him, and he felt it. An undoubted sensation of adventure.

Since young, what did he want the most? To journey across the vast and unknown lands, meeting all sorts of creations, things, and wonders!

As his eyes adjusted, the visual spectacle before him started to slowly be consumed by his mind, imprinted forever. He saw the sun. No, he saw three!

He was wonderstruck by this new sight, by this new and foreign yet astonishing sky! Three suns emitting boundless, bright, and warm sunlight! They were of varying sizes, but visibly apparent and didn't block each other off. Furthermore, they were all of different colors!

The smallest was like a bright moon releasing blazingly scintillating rays of light. It was dark-red and released faint dark-pinkish light. From even this distance, one could even see incredibly spectacular movements on this sun's surface. Were these solar flares erupting endlessly? He had never seen something like this in broad-daylight. There was once in a moment of an eclipse, and he noticed it, but besides that...never! Despite being the smallest, it was the most animated.

The largest was three times larger than the middle-sized sun. It was bright yellow and contributed to the majority of the sunlight on this land. Its light rays seemed to be like shimmering gold. It was quite peculiar!

The last sun was white, and wasn't as special. It seemed very still and the light emitted wasn't exceptionally potent or noticeable. This sun felt incredibly familiar. *'It reminds me of the sun I see on the Myriad Yore Continent.'*

Wei Wuyin was caught in a state of utter disbelief. How fucking far did they go? In the Myriad Yore Continent, there was only one sun visible in the sky! He couldn't fathom the distance.

"The essence of heaven and earth here is so dense and pure!" Su Mei praised as she deeply and repeatedly inhaled and exhaled several breaths of air.

Only now did Wei Wuyin remember to inspect the environment, and she was right! The essence here was exceptionally dense and unfathomably pure. In the Myriad Yore Continent, essence stones had to be refined and purified before sent into circulation as a cultivation resource or currency, but the very air here was like the essence within those purified and refined essence stones!

As he circulated his cultivation, he easily deduced that a single breath was the equivalent of a thousandth of an essence stone. In that case, a thousand breaths of cultivation meant an essence stone worth absorbed! That was insane!

Bam!

Bai Lin stomped her feet. Wei Wuyin realized that with her immense weight and strength, she was utterly incapable of making even the smallest depression or imprint in the ground. It was like reinforced steel! If he wanted to rend the ground, how much force would that take?

'How durable is the environment?!' He felt as if he was ushered into the realm of immortals mentioned in fairytales and myths.

He hurriedly inspected the surroundings as more people started to arrive from thin air. He realized that there wasn't a Void Gate here or any indication of their arrival. It was as if they appeared from literally thin air. His heart shivered at the eerie and miraculous.

'Fairy Blessed Spirit did say that it's like a storage ring. In storage rings you set coordinates and send an object through the ring into another area and vice versa. Connecting two spaces...how profound!'

He immediately realized why Void Disks were crucial. If you entered an active Void Gate randomly, who knew where you'd end up without a pre-set designation?

"Myriad Nascent Dao Pagoda?" Su Mei's adventurous spirit wasn't as strong as his as she immediately honed onto the only notable structure in the surrounding area. This entire area was a flat grassy plains that stretched all the way to the mountains tens of kilometers in the distance. It was a completely leveled field, so not much could be noted to begin with.

But there was just one thing: a pagoda.

And this pagoda was quite familiar in design to him. It matched the Myriad War Dao Palace and Myriad Creation Dao Palace they visited. It had nine-floors, was multicolored, and its roofs had rather sharp, piercing edges. It wasn't very big. It seemed the floors may only be thirty or so meters large.

At the top of the pagoda was a dazzling sign with rainbow colored characters written directly into the sky. It floated effortlessly as it revealed itself. It read: "Myriad Nascent Dao Pagoda."

He felt an immensely powerful aura and presence from those words and they seemed to contain a profound intent. It was as if it was telling all those who looked upon it this: "Your journey will begin here. Your Dao will begin here."

Before long, everyone arrived with Xiang Ling bringing Long Tingyu along. She was being carried within her embrace like a baby. Long Tingyu was blushing and embarrassed. Unfortunately, it couldn't be helped as he cultivation was abolished and her mortal self couldn't withstand the weak force the Void Gate emitted.

Carrying Long Tingyu, Xiang Ling arrived ahead of the newly arrived crowd and swept her gaze. Long Tingyu felt even more embarrassed and buried her head into Xiang Ling's ample breasts.

A wisp of envy entered the hearts of every male present.

"Alright! We're here. I'm only going to explain this once, so pay attention!" Xiang Ling's tone was nearly militant at this point as she barked out her words. Her delicate and alluring bearing seemed to have been replaced by one that was imposing and carried authority.

"We are still in the Astral Territory of the sect, the Myriad Monarch Sect! Your Myriad Yore Continent is millions of miles away, at the far-reaches and fringes of our Astral Territory. The entire world we live in is called a Starfield, and its name is the Tri-Vision Starfield. Within it are hundreds of continental flat earths and dozens of spherical planets, as well as the three suns that you see beyond the sky.

"As for the territory of the sect, it's called the Myriad Monarch Astral Territory, and we are one of the five hegemony within the entire starfield! You'll learn more about these leading powers if your cultivation can even touch upon that level.

"You were all given an exceptional chance, once-in-a-lifetime. There are countless forces at the level of your countries spread about like flies, but they are all unfathomably weak and the lowest level force in our starfield. Yet, you have the opportunity to directly join a hegemonic power of this world, the Myriad Monarch Sect; where monarchs are born!"

Her gaze was stern and heavy, releasing a formless and unfathomable pressure on the hearts of every elite and acclaimed genius here. But despite that pressure, endless waves couldn't help be ripple in each of their hearts.

Hundreds of continental flat earths? What are spherical planets? A hegemonic power of this starfield!?

They were truly ushered into a new, grander world! They could barely adapt in time. In fact, a few felt dizzy and even homesick. Some felt indignant, as if they had just realized how tiny and insignificant they were yet were unwilling to accept it. Their ignorance and the revelation of such shattered their beliefs in themselves.

Xiang Ling was ruthless and didn't give them time to breathe, "This Astral Territory encompasses six continental flat earths and three spherical planets. We're on the capital planet and where the headquarters of the Myriad Monarch Sect is located: the Myriad Monarch Planet!"

Wei Wuyin's left eyelid twitched a little. Such a simple naming sense.

She unhesitatingly added, "I'll explain a little about disciple rank, as this relates to the Myriad Nascent Dao Pagoda you see behind me." Behind her was the only structure, and it was unable to be missed in this field of nearly nothing.

"In the Myriad Monarch Sect, there are five ranks for disciples assigned! Nascent Dust, Mortal Common, Earthly Elite, Sky Noble, and Heavenly King! There is no division of outer, inner, or core, and we follow a strict hierarchy of status equals authority! However, don't fret your little heads, ability is the defining factor of status, so if you feel indignant, fight for your freedom to act as you please.

"Your potential is worth shit before the sect. Even if you had the potential to become a god, if you're not in the Astral Core Realm, you're not even worthy of being a Mortal Common rank disciple!" Her gaze was truly terrifying as she explained these rules and structure of the Myriad Monarch Sect's disciples.

"The first rank disciple: Nascent Dust. All those below the Astral Core Realm are at this rank."

"The second rank disciple: Mortal Common. All those at the First and Second Stages of the Astral Core Realm are considered this rank automatically, barring abnormal combat strength."

"The third rank disciple: Earthly Elite. All those at the Third Stage of the Astral Core Realm are this rank."

"The fourth rank disciple: Sky Noble! This is determined by exceptional combat strength and ability. If you can become an Earthly Elite and separate yourselves from the ordinary experts, passing the Elite Trial of Warriors, you'll have a chance to attain this rank."

"The fifth and last rank disciple: Heavenly King! It is something beyond your levels, likely now and in the future. I won't bother. Furthermore, you're considered a disciple until you're five hundred years old, where you'll automatically be assigned the rank of Elder, that is...as long as you're at the Second Stage of the Astral Core Realm."

Her eyes turned to Wei Wuyin, a slight sweet smile on her face as she said, "There are exceptions, however! These exceptions apply to Creationists, which are Forgers, Designers, and Alchemists! They contribute to the sect in different ways, far beyond what their cultivation allows, so they're given the according rankings based on their respective abilities."

Wei Wuyin was an Alchemic King, so he could be considered exceptionally skilled, and at the higher levels, he could help develop and nurture First to Third Stage Astral Core Realm experts! Due to him having the possibility of birthing multiple experts at this level, he would be given the Sky Noble disciple rank from the get-go.

Now, if he was a Lord Alchemist, he could only start out as a Mortal Common rank with this exception, and that was if his skills allowed the birth of Astral Core Realm experts. Only now did Wei Wuyin understand this difference, and why Xiang Ling was so amicable and gentle with him.

"Behind me is the Myriad Nascent Dao Pagoda. It is the testing ground of your ability and whether you're worthy to enter the sect as a disciple.

"You all can enter when you're ready, there is no time-limit to do so, and you can even wait fifty years if you desire. As long as you're below the age of two hundred, you can attempt its trials. Despite its size, it will be able to accommodate all of you at the same time. As long as you ascend all nine floors, you'll be accepted as a Nascent Dust rank disciple of the Myriad Monarch Sect. Then, an elder will eventually come and bring all those who succeed to the sect. If you fail and retain your life, you can figure out a way back. If you can't then..." She coldly smiled.

"Welcome to your new world."

Chapter 146 - 144: The Uncertain Future

A sharp, electrifying, and uncontrollably intense shiver ran down the backs of most of the crowd. Those words of Xiang Ling caused their eyes to constrict and their hearts to nearly cease beating.

These were all elites renowned for their intelligence and talent back in the Myriad Yore Continent, so how could they not fully and immediately understand these words and their implications? If they failed

and survived somehow, they would likely never return home; they would never see their families; they would die here.

They all had varying expressions as their eyes subconsciously lifted to the Myriad Nascent Dao Palace. This was their first step on their road to a greater life, but if they tripped here, then their lives might be incomparably wretched! They would have no status, no power, and no backing here.

They would be all alone.

This feeling took awhile to truly sink in, so several minutes of silence inevitably followed. Shockingly, Xiang Ling allowed them to gasp for breath and formulate their own thoughts towards this new reality. She added nothing else.

Long Chen's hands tightly clenched into a fist. Unlike these others, his battle intent and blazing will roared to life at this challenge. He was unafraid. In the future, he will not be ordinary and if he desired, returning to the Myriad Yore Continent will be a mere thought away.

This was the start of his true journey, and with the spirit in the ring guiding him on this path, and his unyielding will, this journey will usher him into a grander world!

Surrounding him were Qing Qiumu, Na Xinyi, Wu Baozhai, Lian Yu, Lin Ziyan, and Ming Shufeng. Except Ming Shufeng, they all had worried looks on their faces and the possibility of failure weighed heavily on their hearts. But they merely had to look at Long Chen's trace of a confident smile and excitement overflowing from his eyes to calm down. Anticipation replaced that worry, and a wisp of like-minded excitement was born in their hearts.

If he believed in himself, so must they!

Ming Shufeng was the only one who stared at Wei Wuyin's back and had a deep frown on her beautiful face. She was a Seer, a person that could perceive the trend of the Heavenly Daos. But unlike Long Chen, who she couldn't entirely perceive the fate of, Wei Wuyin's fate was entirely unpredictable. She saw his death, yet he hadn't died. It was him who killed Hu Jiwei and saved Prince Zhen altering her plans, and she didn't even see her own capture.

His actions at the previous gathering shocked her with every passing second and she was still unable to perceive anything relating to him with an ounce of accuracy. Furthermore, in this world where Astral Core Realm experts were gathered en masse, her abilities were deeply lacking. Her ability to perceive the trend was based on her own strength, her own cultivation, and those stronger were more resilient to resisting or affecting the trend of the heavens.

If she didn't similarly get to that realm, she would be essentially blind in this new world. This was why she hadn't left Long Chen's group and needed to follow a Blessed individual upwards. Most Seers weren't ambitious and acted as calm and gentle guides for others, but she was different; she had goals.

In the future, she felt Wei Wuyin would be her greatest obstacle to any and all of her future plans. This caused her eyes to flash a glint of a mysterious light.

Xiang Ling had waited enough. "Qing Qiumu, let's go." Her words brought everyone's attention away and they focused on Xiang Ling, then shifted to Qing Qiumu in an almost concerted motion. How could

they not know who she was at this point? The gathering had her as the main focus for a short period before and she arrived with Xiang Ling earlier.

Qing Qiumu, from beneath her veil, trembled slightly. That's right...

Long Chen frowned. "Go? Go where?" He turned to seek an answer from Qing Qiumu, only to see her shoulders faintly tremble as she averted her eyes from Long Chen's gaze. He could sense her reluctance.

Xiang Ling was impatient. *'I interfered to save this dastardly and useless Long Chen for you, so you better not try to follow his footsteps. I'll receive great merit for bringing you to the Extreme Creation Mountain for her.'* Her thoughts were filled with irritation and expectation.

Qing Qiumu bit her lips beneath her veil. Earlier, when Long Chen was being besieged by Wei Wuyin and seemed to be on the verge of being killed, she sought Xiang Ling's help to defuse the situation. She agreed on one condition: She had to follow her to the Myriad Monarch Sect directly.

This was obviously a benefit to her, but this meant leaving Long Chen behind. With her talent, it's very likely her elven ancestor who stayed in the sect will want to train her personally, and she might be taken away from Long Chen for who knows how long.

In the end, she could only tell Long Chen the truth. His expression changed slightly, but in the end, his eyes effused happiness. "Go. I'll catch up soon." Was all he said. To him, her leaving and meeting up with her ancestor to cultivate at the sect was beneficial. In fact, everyone here had to thank Qing Qiumu. If it wasn't for her and Long Chen, would Xiang Ling bring them along to have this opportunity?

After a heartfelt goodbye, Qing Qiumu left the group and arrived by Xiang Ling's side.

Xiang Ling nodded. "As I said before, you can challenge the pagoda as long as you're below two hundred in age and anytime you wish. Good luck."

She inhaled slightly and Wei Wuyin, Bai Lin, Su Mei, and Qing Qiumu felt the mana from earlier engulf them tightly. In the matter of seconds, they were swiftly lifted upwards and soared away at speeds that left the little elites shocked with gaped mouths. In another few seconds, Xiang Ling's and Bai Lin's humongous figure was no longer capable of being seen.

Long Chen clenched his fists even harder. *'We'll definitely meet again, so wait for me.'*

Na Xinyi's eyes were quietly flashing with an indeterminate light as her gaze imperceptibly shifted from the horizon to Long Chen. Her hesitation earlier and her lack of making a choice still weighed on her mind. Perhaps in the future, she'll be forced to make a choice.

She can only hope that she doesn't regret it.

Flying without wings was a novel feeling, and flying without any form of exertion on your part felt absolutely mystical. Xiang Ling could control the world's mana, allowing her to rule the sky, flying swiftly within without need for any type of personal energy. This meant she could theoretically fly without limit as long as she had the mental capacity to control the world's mana.

They were remarkably fast, blazing through the sky. Her speed easily exceeded Bai Lin's as they traveled several kilometers in the span of a few seconds.

Wei Wuyin took this opportunity to inspect the rapidly passing scenery. He noticed that as one looked higher, the density of the essence of heaven and earth seemed to become thicker and purer, faintly even turning into mist. This discovery fascinated him. *'Does the essence of heaven and earth not originate from the continent...or planet? Does it originate from the starry skies or even sunlight?'*

He was unsure, but he felt that this phenomenon was evidence of its possibility. Did that mean traveling beyond the sky could allow one to absorb the purest of essence? He was truly curious to give it a try, see what laid beyond those clouds above.

There were grassy knolls, plains, plateaus, mountains, and forests littering the vast area just like the Myriad Yore Continent. There were signs of people living nearby in thatched, brick, and stone houses. They look rather primitive in materials, but their designs were exquisite and seemed to exude spiritual auras.

There was even a tall wall surrounding a city that seemed like a cascading reverse waterfall of liquid essence. It overturned his thoughts on what was imaginable. There were far, far too many things to observe and describe that he simply took all of it in and would ponder them later.

He was excited to explore this new world!

His eyes also noticed Qing Qiumu who seemed oddly silent, her aura felt distracted and chaotic. Thinking for a second, he tried to wiggle around and realized it was possible to move even while flying. He shifted his body and arrived beside Qing Qiumu, startling her.

"You know, this reminds me of my hometown. The people in primitive huts, the mortals working hard. It makes me realize that this place isn't so much different." He started to speak, causing Qing Qiumu to be speechless.

In truth, towards this young man before her, she was truly unable to discern her feelings, but she knew that she didn't want to take him to be an enemy in her heart. She didn't know why, despite being friend's with Long Chen, and should be biased towards his enemies, but that's how it was. In the end, she merely listened.

But that didn't last for long.

At first, Qing Qiumu felt unsettled and uneasy after leaving Long Chen and entering a new world, but as Wei Wuyin was casually speaking his thoughts, she slowly started to relax her heart and mind. Before she knew it, whether it was because his words were engaging or something else entirely, she started to mindlessly reply.

Her words were a little stiff in the beginning, but gradually reached an unprecedented comfort zone as even smiles and her own thoughts seeped through.

Covering her mouth, she giggled softly as she smiled with her eyes. "No way, no way. You really think it'll be like that?"

"Yep, yep. Absolutely!" Wei Wuyin nodded fervently like a chicken pecking grains, his eyes filled with certainty. "Those villagers will definitely be like my own! Chicken lovers, I swear!"

Qing Qiumu couldn't hold in her laughter and let loose a long and loud one with trembling shoulders. Realizing her loss of composure, she blushed slightly but didn't feel the least bit uncomfortable or odd. Her earlier thoughts and worries seemed to have been swept away.

Xiang Ling was watching all this and couldn't help but think, *'These two have such good chemistry. It's so unfortunate that a rotten weed is obstructing the way.'* She truly felt Long Chen was impeding Qing Qiumu's potential and future, but as she quietly observed their lighthearted engagements, she couldn't help but form a warm smile. *'But this is fine too.'*

Long Tingyu pouted from within Xiang Ling's embrace, and asked, unwilling to see her big brother's woman just laughing it up with another man. That's improper! Her juvenile thoughts immediately tried to throw a wrench into this and change the subject, "Can you tell us more about the Myriad Monarch Sect and this world?"

Xiang Ling's eyes brightened, and the conversation between Qing Qiumu and Wei Wuyin actually ceased. They turned towards her, similarly curious. Despite hearing about it from her father, and learning that the elven race existed there, including her ancestor, Qing Qiumu was largely ignorant.

Wei Wuyin's curiosity was also incredibly explosive! He truly wanted to learn more.

Xiang Ling nodded, "Okay."

Chapter 147 - 145: Structure Of The Myriad MonarChapter Sect

Xiang Ling gathered her thoughts for a moment and started to explain. "As I've said before, the Myriad Monarch Sect is one of the five hegemony of the Tri-Vision Starfield. Its main headquarters and the location we're currently at is on a spherical mass called a planet. Unlike the Myriad Yore Continent, which is a continent flat earth floating amongst the starry skies with a half-dome atmosphere, a planet contains a complete atmosphere.

"This atmosphere is divided into different layers, and it's these layers that create the greater environment and overall stability than flat earthen structures like the Myriad Yore Continent. You see, each planet or flat earthen continent has a natural refinement system that absorbs the chaotic essence within the starry skies and filters it out for living beings to use and thrive in, and we cultivators absorb this essence to cultivate.

"It is this very reason that planets have a richer environment, because its refinement system is greater than an incomplete version such as the flat earthen structures."

Long Tingyu interrupted mindlessly, "Where does this chaotic essence come from?"

Xiang Ling smiled at her disciple's thirst for knowledge. "Chaotic essence of the starry skies comes from the suns you see above you." She pointed towards the three suns. "The size of the suns and its inherent properties can also affect what type of essence is refined on the planet and how strong it is. The more exposure, the greater the essence."

Wei Wuyin's heart trembled with wonder. The Myriad Monarch Planet had the complete exposure to the three suns, while the Myriad Yore Continent had one. Furthermore, it had a complete natural refinement system within its atmosphere. How incredible!

He had never known that the sun above provided the means to cultivate. Then, was it true...that the suns above were cultivators of legends who've ascended and gained immortality? Is that the final goal? To become a brilliant and burning sun that watched over the starry skies? This thought caused his heart to throb intensely.

Would he become a sun one day?

Each one of them seemed to have thought of this and their expressions changed.

Seeing their obvious thoughts, raised by the outrageous mythological legends of their continent, Xiang Ling lightly chuckled and explained, "I've heard that cultivators can give birth to their own star, but I don't think they become one. That is legends of countless years, but it's probably more true than what you're all thinking of."

Qing Qiumu felt embarrassed at having her thoughts seen through, even though she wore a veil. Wei Wuyin thought, *'So is the Astral Core Realm related to Astronomy studied and explored by scholars? While I originally never believed in such a silly thing, perhaps it's all true. After all, they talked about spherical land masses in their journals...'*

This thought felt ludicrous at first, but the more he pondered, the more it seemed the case. The First Phase of the Astral Core Realm was called the World Sea, and the second allowed one to manipulate mana, a force produced by the world. Even the Qi Condensation Realm required absorbing mana and refining it into one's Natal Soul. Could the Astral Core Realm be gearing others into making their own world or even a star?

Xiang Ling allowed them to digest this information before continuing, "The Myriad Monarch Planet total size is about twenty thousand times larger than the Myriad Yore Continent, and it houses tens of billions of lives. Even still, as you can clearly see, it still has an immense amount of empty space uninhabited. As for the entire starfield, likely tens of trillions of lives throughout. Countless."

This population sent their hearts into shock. So many?!

"And, it's not limited to just humans. As you should know, this includes the Elven and Demon races. But, there's another race that occupies this world: Beastmen."

"Beastmen?!" They jointly exclaimed. Even Qing Qiumu was unaware of this.

Xiang Ling nodded. "Beastmen...their origins are somewhat unclear, but likely demons, humans, and elvens have at one point engaged in sexual reproductive relations with beasts that you see, such as this crane before you. They're likely the byproduct of such relations. They're the minority race in the starfield, but each one of them have an innate physique, strong physical energies beyond the average human, demon, or elf, and with longer lifespans.

"Each one of them can not be underestimated. Just their long lifespans give them a greater chance to reach higher heights of cultivation." Xiang Ling's expression contained a hint of jealousy and solemnness. Unlike humans, beastmen had exceptionally long lifespans just naturally and their talent

can rival or even exceed humans. If it wasn't for their poor ability to reproduce and a strange phenomenon where their beast bloodline dilutes if they copulate with non-beastmen until it vanishes completely, perhaps they would've been the undeniable rulers of the starfield with utter ease by now.

Xiang Ling turned to Long Tingyu, "but demons are probably the scarier race amongst the four. They can cultivate with demonic energies that can suppress other forms of energies and strengthen their physiques. And, they seem to be superbly naturally talented or entirely useless. There is no real exception, and this is related to their own bloodline origins. They have the least amount of cultivators due to this very reason, but each is far, far more impressive than the average of any other race."

Long Tingyu felt a tad bit uncomfortable as Xiang Ling stared at her. She grew up in the Myriad Yore Continent, and demons were a hated existence because their aura felt malicious and vicious. It was this eerie feeling that caused them to be ruthlessly hunted, exterminated with prejudice, and forced to hide within the far corners of the continent in fear.

°So this is why demons have such an aura...I...° Wei Wuyin felt exceptionally emotional as his past memories resurged. His clan was eliminated because of demons, because of his choice...because of their hate.

Xiang Ling's senses felt the turbulent emotions and shifted her gaze. She was aware of the discriminatory and prejudiced matters of the Myriad Yore Continent."I'll say this now, demons are not hated existences here. They are treated fairly, equally as all races, and even have a power that is just below the five hegemony of this starfield, and were deeply integrated in the Myriad Monarch Sect. If you're going to be prejudiced, you need to change that mindset now as its absolutely intolerable. Regardless of your status, only death will be met with such an attitude."

Her voice was stern and unrelenting. It seemed she was absolutely against racism, even harbored immense hate towards such limited thinking.

Wei Wuyin was shocked, but these words only continued to cause his heart and mind to surge with emotions. But they weren't negative. In fact, they were blooming with excitement and relief. *'You'd absolutely love it here, big brother.'*

Xiang Ling could only hope Wei Wuyin didn't have an inclination to discriminate. As an Alchemic King at such a young age, if he did harbor immense hatred for a race, the possibility of them being suppressed to the point of genocide was entirely possible on the planet. This scared her, but she could only hope.

'It's truly unfortunate that we're not allowed to intervene with the Myriad Yore Continent outside of uniting it...otherwise...' As she recalled this inviolable order, her heart was filled with helplessness. In the vast starfield, only the Myriad Yore Continent was strictly human-dominated and prejudiced towards other races.

Demons are hated existences, elves are forced to hide in their forests to be left alone, forced to hide their identities in public, and beastmen are considered abominations. It was an unfortunate continent filled with unnecessary hate.

Softly sighing in her heart, she began to explain various other details, and they paid full attention to each syllable.

The Myriad Monarch Sect was on a vast, sky-reaching and boundless sierra—an interconnected mountain chain. These mountains were exceptionally tall, but they were reshaped to accommodate cultivators and even had farms, cascading and winding rivers that descended like waterfalls, and buildings. Within this sierra, five particular mountains stood out the most, and they were all man-made.

They pierced into the clouds and broke the first layer of the sky, entering an entirely new domain. According to Xiang Ling, the essence there was so rich and ever-present that it was like air. If she could cultivate there, a single day could amount to a single year of cultivation. Unfortunately, only Sky Noble rank disciples and Earthly General rank elders and above were capable of venturing and living there.

When she mentioned this, the jealousy in her eyes were clear as she glanced at Wei Wuyin.

As for the system for Elders, she explained earlier that all cultivators at the Astral Core Realm were eligible, but she left out a small detail: Only those who've reached the 5th Mortal State qualified. While you only needed a 4th Mortal State to assail the Astral Core Realm, the sect had strict standards.

Furthermore, those who are at the 4th Mortal State, and beyond five hundred years old, are still considered disciples but are sent to handle matters on continental flat earths. For example, Wu Jiao.

Elders rankings were divided into three:

Mortal Captain, for those at the First to Third Stage of the Astral Core Realm.

Earthly General, for those at the Fourth Stage of the Astral Core Realm.

Heavenly Commander, for those at the Fourth Stage of the Astral Core Realm but had combat ability beyond ordinary experts.

The level of authority possessed by Elders are determined by their cultivation and combat ability, and their duties were assigned as such. Xiang Ling was a Third Stage Astral Core Realm expert, so she could be considered amongst the peak of Mortal Captains. Before those Mortal Captain rank elders beneath her in cultivation and ability, they had to follow her directions if they weren't underneath someone equal or above her.

But there was a ranking beyond Elders: Imperial Sages. They were the true pillars of the sect, divided into three ranks—Imperial Sage, Prime Imperial Sage, and Grand Imperial Sage. Even she wasn't clear on their strength and cultivations, but she did know that each possessed exceptional authority far beyond her own that was accompanied by exceptional combat strength in their respective stages.

'These Sages likely had nothing to do with the Realm of Sages...just titles.' As Wei Wuyin heard this, a surge of disappointment entered his heart. It seemed it wasn't going to be that easy.

Each of the five main mountains that pierced into the sky were ruled by a Grand Imperial Sage, and shockingly, the Myriad Monarch Sect did not have an official sect leader. It was divided and managed by each Grand Imperial Sage and the relations and networks were incredibly complex and difficult to accurately navigate.

According to Xiang Ling, only a Realmlord, a figure of the utmost legends that have reached the Upper-Phase of the Astral Core Realm had the right to become the head of the Grand Imperial Sages. This meant no cultivator had reached the Seventh Stage of the Astral Core Realm...yet.

While they continued to talk about the various details of the sect, in the horizon, a chain of uniquely connected mountains dominated by five imposing and heaven-reaching mountains appeared.

"Wow!" They all exclaimed simultaneously without exception, even Xiang Ling. She could never not marvel at the sight of those mountains piercing into the sky, and the endless chain of majestic mountains that seemed like the surging and endless waves of the ocean in static form. Even though they were unable to even see a tenth of the entire sierra now, it was simply that boundless and majestic.

'It's like five Immortal Mountains described in the legends and stories!' Wei Wuyin's heart raced with uncontrollable excitement. Was this going to be his new home?

Chapter 148 - 146: Legacy, Flaws, & Scarcity!

The sight of the heaven-piercing mountains left them in complete awe, unable to extricate themselves from the remarkable visual feast that it was.

"Big Brother will love seeing this!" Long Tingyu exclaimed innocently, but her eyes shifted minutely to Qing Qiumu. This girl's thoughts were obviously mischievous.

Xiang Ling easily saw through her thoughts and lightly snorted. Ruthlessly, she commented without mercy, "If he can even pass the entry examination."

"Of course he'll pass! At his cultivation, he can defeat Godkings!" Long Tingyu bravely and proudly proclaimed. To her, Long Chen was the most talented man in existence. Even if he was weaker than others now, he'll eclipse them soon—especially this Wei Wuyin, humph!

Xiang Ling's brows furrowed deeply as she quickly and firmly said, "Don't say anything about Mortal Gods, Godlords, or Godkings while in this sect or the outside world! That is considered an absolute joke within the starfield and it's a saying to mock the ignorant, not to be used as a point of pride or praise! You understand?"

Her stern and strict tone sounded faintly like a mother instructing her child. This coupled with Long Tingyu being carried like a doll in her embrace was quite the confusing scene. If others were to see this, they might assume she was the mother of this young girl.

'It seems my feelings back then were really the truth, and so were Wu Jiao's words. Mortal Gods of the False Dao...in this grand world, they must be ants. Or maybe slightly bigger ants.' Wei Wuyin tried to hurriedly erase his mental habits of referring to others as Mortal Gods. Now, they were just cultivators at the Sixth Stage of the Qi Condensation, not even considered experts.

Long Tingyu pouted slightly. She didn't answer, but she knew in her heart that Xiang Ling was trying to teach her, so she didn't feel indignant.

"..." Qing Qiumu remained silent. Only after a long while did she ask, "Is the entry examination difficult for those at the Qi Condensation Realm?"

This question caused Xiang Ling to groan in her heart. *'That boy is going to be your limiter! Ugh!'* Regardless of what she felt, she explained: "Yes and no. It doesn't test cultivation, just talent and comprehension. Your talent in controlling energies, qi, adapting to abrupt situations, and comprehension in understanding situations and the speed at which you do."

Those words didn't ease Qing Qiumu's worries. While she felt Long Chen was talented, the Myriad Monarch Sect was one of the five hegemony of a starfield with tens of trillions of cultivators. Yet how many were capable of actually joining the sect?

"Big Brother will not only pass the examination, he'll become a Sky Noble on his 'own' strength, even a Heavenly King!" Long Tingyu touted proudly with the utmost confidence in his eyes. To her, there was nothing her Big Brother couldn't do. While she didn't forget to give Wei Wuyin a taunting side-eye.

Rolling her eyes, Xiang Ling felt a headache listening to the nauseating words of her disciple. Could she not be so obviously biased? "Yu'er, Wei Wuyin is an unofficial Alchemic King! How is him obtaining his ranking not earned by his own merits and talent? Do you think people are born with the ability to concoct seventh-grade alchemical products?"

"..." Long Tingyu might look like a little girl, but she was far from ignorant regarding the difficulties of alchemy. The Dao of Alchemy was one of the hardest cultivation paths to embark, and this was even more true for those without an Alchemic Natal Soul.

Qing Qiumu asked, glancing at Wei Wuyin, "From what I know, the Astral Dipper Fountain Pill is a low-tier pill amongst the seventh-grade. The Myriad Monarch Sect is so immensely vast and developed, so how rare could it be?"

Xiang Ling groaned again.

"How far is the Alchemical legacy of the Myriad Monarch Sect? Does it have Mystic-Rank Alchemists?" Wei Wuyin added to the question. In alchemy, there were three known alchemic ranks denoting quality, efficiency, and limitations. These were: Mortal, Mystic, & Immortal.

The Dao of Alchemy seemed to be the faucet for which his future would pour. It would be good to have a better understanding of it.

Xiang Ling stilled. From her shifting expression, one could see a wisp of helplessness and embarrassment. She sighed, "Amongst the five main mountains of the Myriad Monarch Sect, also called the Quintuple Extreme Imperial Mountains, there is one mountain specifically designed for the three types of Creationists—alchemists, architects, and forgers. A majority of them stay there, but among the Alchemists in the entire Myriad Monarch Astral Territory, there are several millions at the Lord Alchemist level."

'Woah! In the Myriad Yore Continent, there were less than a hundred!' This thought immediately entered the three of their minds. Those at that level could concoct products suitable for Seventh through Ninth Stage Qi Condensation Realm cultivators. They were exceptionally rare and highly regarded existences.

To think that in the Myriad Monarch Sect, there were several hundred thousand Lord Alchemists! If one thought about the entire starfield, perhaps there would be tens of millions amongst the population of tens of trillions! This might seem small, but it was by no means that.

However, Xiang Ling didn't share their thoughts. Instead, when she looked towards Wei Wuyin, her eyes noticeably brightened. "As for King Alchemists...there are less than three hundred."

"..."

Three hundred?

Did she just say three hundred? No, LESS than three hundred?!

Their eyes carried dense disbelief and uncertainty. This was far too low, no? She must've forgotten to add a few zeros in her words. Wait, this wasn't a written exchange...

"And...for Emperor Alchemists...only three existed in the entire Myriad Monarch Astral Territory, and one of them is the Grand Imperial Sage of the mountain that houses Creationist."

Long Tingyu's little eyes bulged as she stared at Xiang Ling. This news was like a wrecking ball to her little heart. She couldn't help but give Wei Wuyin a second look, and this look was unfathomably focused and filled with disbelief.

Qing Qiumu's heart was similarly deeply shaken. Only three hundred? Didn't this mean that there were likely less than two thousand Alchemic Kings in the entire territory of tens of trillions of cultivators?! Less than twenty Alchemic Emperors?!

'No wonder she didn't care about me being at the Lord Alchemist level, but immediately became amicable and affectionate upon learning I can concoct seventh-grade products...' Wei Wuyin finally understood a crucial fact: There was a heavenly chasm between Lord Alchemist and King Alchemist.

What's more, it seemed even wider than the gap between the Qi Condensation and Astral Core Realm!

Xiang Ling helplessly sighed. The truth about the difficulties of alchemy was about to be revealed, and she truly couldn't help but feel helpless. "Those at the King Alchemist level can concoct seventh-grade alchemical products suitable for Lower-Phase Astral Core Realm cultivators, and Emperor Alchemists can concoct eighth-grade products for Middle-Phase cultivators.

"There are those who can concoct seventh-grade products exceeding the three hundred count, but their success rates and refinement times are so ludicrously low and slow that it's just not worth it. Some might take several years to concoct a single pill at that level, or spend months trying and fail in the end. Only those who have a success rate of at least five percent and decent refinement times are considered true Alchemic Kings."

'Five PERCENT?!' Wei Wuyin nearly threw up. How pathetically low, and that was the standard for a successful Alchemic King? He never considered the possibility that the development of alchemists were so fundamentally atrocious in the entire starfield.

This grander world just felt a little less grand for alchemists. Could it be an issue with legacies?

As if she could read Wei Wuyin's thoughts, Xiang Ling explained: "We don't lack legacies and inheritances for alchemists. In fact, we have a substantially thorough legacy. You may have heard of the King of Everlore. He originated from your Myriad Yore Continent, and even was one of the core reasons the Myriad Monarch Sect, including the four other hegemonic powers, exists today."

King of Everlore?

Wei Wuyin had heard of this name. How could he not? He united the Myriad Yore Continent and was its first and only Mortal Sovereign Alchemist! To think he helped create the five hegemonic powers!

"He was a renowned alchemist, and the only Mortal Sovereign Alchemist born in the entire Tri-Vision Starfield....ever. But, he left a set of legacy arts and tens of thousands of alchemical recipes for the entire world. Everyone, from the lowest force that focuses on alchemy to the hegemonic powers of our starfield, they all have his legacy.

"Unfortunately, he never found a successor while alive and mysteriously disappeared, many believing him to be dead due to old age by now. Despite his legacy, despite its widespread nature, no one has ever come close to his ability." Xiang Ling spoke with a wisp of desolation in her tone.

It was this very reason that possible Alchemic Kings were highly valued and given a Sky Noble status right off the bat, regardless of their cultivation base. The world's need for alchemists wasn't really great, but the world's need for high-level Alchemists was unbelievably high!

"I see..." Wei Wuyin could feel the helplessness in her voice at this undeniable fact. If he knew Xiang Ling had only consumed a total of three seventh-grade products throughout her entire life, he would be able to truly feel her frustration.

After all, he has long since casually consumed thousands of seventh-grade products like grapes.

After a short, despairing silence, Wei Wuyin asked: "What about those with an Alchemic Natal Soul? Shouldn't their success rate and refinement times be exceptional, or at least higher than normal alchemists? Why don't Alchemists choose this cultivation path?"

"Bah!" Xiang Ling spat in frustration. "Who would ever choose that willingly? Alchemical energies interact with the world in a harmless manner, and cultivating it into your Natal Soul meant you'll never be able to gain strength, only able to rely on others. While that may not be bad considering the existence of pellets, the Alchemic Heart technique contains numerous flaws within its design and severely limits one's potential and lifespan. After all, the Alchemic Natal Soul isn't a normal state for Natal Souls nor suitable for cultivation."

As she mentioned this, Wei Wuyin was immediately taken aback, a hint of panic suffused his eyes.

"What do you mean?"

"In the Astral Core Realm, you have to overcome Astral Tribulations with your Natal Soul as the core of your strength. However, how can you do that when you have no offensive abilities to challenge the tribulation with? You'll be stuck at the Qi Condensation Realm for life, this'll severely reduce your potential lifespan." She explained.

"What if you cultivate the Haven Heart Qi Method?" Qing Qiumu asked.

"You're adding flaws on flaws at that point. Although its been tried many, many times before, no one has ever succeeded. The Haven Heart Qi Method is a radical concept that is ridiculous to begin with. Let's not mention the obvious disadvantages you suffer from severing your spirit, but the fact both Natal Souls must share the same characteristic to merge or coexist means you'll just have two Alchemic Natal Souls. That solves absolutely nothing." She shook her head.

Wei Wuyin was startled, but then he thought about Long Chen. Right. They were interconnected, too much of a difference would only further the incompatibility of the two. Because his Elemental and Saber Spirits were 'Divine', no one questioned him either. His Alchemic Natal Soul and Draconic Natal Soul were hidden away in his sea of consciousness and heart respectively, so they were unable to peer into their existence.

He calmly breathed a sigh of relief. All his Natal Souls were independent because he used his soul directly, and not split their spirit into two or four. He'll simply have to see if he'll be unable to surpass the tribulation. But he felt that with the other Natal Souls to reinforce it, it was highly likely.

Xiang Ling hurriedly added upon realizing her careless words, "As for you, you'll definitely be able to make up for any deficit if you gave up a Natal Soul. After all, with time, you can use products to restore it to full strength despite the splitting." She seemed anxious that she was causing Wei Wuyin to worry with her words, trying to comfort him.

Wei Wuyin comforted her instead, saying he wasn't that worried. Only after some time did she feel satisfied.

"Did you know that the King of Everlore was someone with an Alchemic Natal Soul?" She abruptly added.

"Oh?" He wasn't really shocked by the reveal. After all, he was the only Mortal Sovereign Alchemist in the last several or tens of thousands of years. There had to be something special about him, and this made sense.

"I'm assuming the reason why no one can obtain his legacy is because of their lack of Alchemic Natal Soul?" He asked.

"No. The sect has had many cultivators who cultivated the path of an Alchemic Natal Soul, and most of his legacy is simply using Alchemical Qi for concoction and refinement. Creating that is simply a matter of cultivating the right method, not creating a specific Natal Soul. The issue is that, while he was at the King Alchemist level, he refined a ninth-grade pill with absolute luck! There was no recipe known at the time, so he had to have created it himself! This pill then allowed him to overcome the Astral Tribulation and reach the Astral Core Realm despite the Alchemic Natal Soul's inherent weaknesses!

"With an Alchemic Astral Core, he became the first Mortal Sovereign Alchemist of our starfield at heaven-defying speed!" Her words contained dense levels of admiration and a hint of reverence. A ninth-grade pill was suitable for upper-phase Astral Core Realm cultivators and he used it to overcome the first tribulation!

Wei Wuyin now understood why he became an absolute legend, even in the Myriad Monarch Planet.

Since no one else could replicate his feat, there was no need to say why no one could reach his level.

Long Tingyu exclaimed, "Incredible!"

She was patiently and quietly listening to everything her master said and felt a surge of reverence in her heart. Despite her young age, during the three months before, her master had constantly embedded knowledge in her head.

"Ah! We're at the border," Xiang Ling had only now realized that they finally reached the border of the sect's headquarters. She halted their flight, coming to an abrupt stop.

Her eyes looked towards the horizon, as if waiting for something.

Wei Wuyin and the others similarly followed her gaze and after a while, their eyes slightly widened!

Chapter 149 - 147: Sky Noble!

In the distance, a large, imposing, and swift shadow was approaching! It was a winged beast, and had the silhouette of a mortal horse!

Xiang Ling revealed an absolutely brilliant smile after sensing the aura of this incoming flying beast and its rider. "Good! The sect is taking your arrival with the utmost seriousness. With his arrival, your transition to Sky Noble is essentially set." As she relayed this piece of news to the stunned Wei Wuyin, her eyes flashed with an intense desire. This desire was distinct, and it contained a fierce want.

That look accompanied by her exceptional looks and alluring appearance could induce all sorts of thoughts into the hearts of men.

Wei Wuyin was jolted awake by her words as uncertainty lingered between his brows. "Will there be no tests to verify if I'm an actual Alchemic King?" Wei Wuyin was deeply confused about this as Xiang Ling seemed certain of his status from the get-go.

He hadn't done much except taken out a seventh-grade pill. Could that be enough?

"I've already checked the aura and characteristics of your pill the moment you handed it over. It has your innate spiritual aura, and it was freshly concocted. Furthermore, for disciples, you simply need to have the ability to concoct a product at that level once. While you won't be an 'official' Alchemic King, you'll have the 'potential' to become one. And that's enough for the sect."

Only then did Wei Wuyin understand. They were judging him off his potential, not his official status. *'Considering the scarcity of King Alchemists...it makes sense that they'll truly give me an exemption.'*

Earlier, Xiang Ling had told everyone that even if one had the potential to be a god, they'll be treated off their ability. At the moment, his ability was the certainty that he could concoct seventh-grade products, not his potential to be an Alchemic King under the unique requirements set by the starfield.

"Furthermore, I've thoroughly investigated you during those three months. I was curious how you were so talented, and I learned of your origins, including your time as a disciple in the Xin Country's Eden Earth Sect. I've long since compiled that report and sent it to the sect with ample evidence and accounts. I even know that your disappearance for nearly a decade was you infiltrating the Eden Earth Sect to learn alchemy." Xiang Ling said with a sweet, knowing smile.

Wei Wuyin's heart jumped. *'Does she know about my Alchemic Natal Soul?'* However, considering her words and actions from earlier, this was unlikely. Furthermore, it was concealed within his sea of consciousness, and unless his mind was pried open forcefully, it should be impossible for her to sense it.

Unless of course...she could read his mind.

The more likely scenario was she assumed it was a false rumor he used to infiltrate the sect and learn its secrets. Fortunately, with all its members likely scattered or dead, unaware of his existence, she couldn't have obtained detailed information on his time there.

And that was indeed the case.

Qing Qiumu and Long Tingyu realized the situation that Wei Wuyin was in, considering he wasn't an official Alchemic King, but simply one with the potential to be one. Long Tingyu pouted. Earlier, she was sent into constant heart-trembling because she believed Wei Wuyin was a legitimate Alchemic King.

According to Xiang Ling, there were far more experts that could concoct seventh-grade products yet were unable to be considered Alchemic Kings. *'He's not that heaven-defying! Big Brother isn't any worse.'* While her bias remained true, she forgot that Wei Wuyin wasn't even forty.

The shadow that approached was undeniably swift, soaring through the skies. It seemed like it was originally hundreds of kilometers away, but in a few seconds, it had already covered half that distance.

Wei Wuyin's heart shivered. This speed could be said to rival Xiang Ling's! For a mount to possess such speed, how incredible!

"That's a Sky Pegasus. It is a Star-grade beast cultivated as the signature mount for those of high status and authority in the sect. Typically, an ordinary mature Sky Pegasus can rival experts at the First Stage of the Astral Core Realm in terms of combat strength, but its true ability lies in its speed and freedom.

"Not only can it reach speeds faintly exceeding my own, but it can enter the Sky Layer and survive in the dark void beyond and traverse starry skies! It's this reason its called a Star-grade beast. To obtain one, you need a status at or above the Sky Noble rank disciple or Earthly General rank elder." Xiang Ling informed with yearning, desire, and envy in her voice.

Wei Wuyin's eyes noticeably brightened as he inspected the incoming shadow.

After a while, they could finally see its clearest form as it arrived. It was truly a white-colored quarter horse that was nearly a hundred meters in height, but its wingspan was absolutely massive! It was over four hundred meters from tip to tip, and seemed to cover the suns above.

It had feathered hooves, sturdy and unfathomably powerful-looking legs, and intelligent eyes that seemed to regard the skies as its absolute domain. Its wings were feathered and bright, with faint jade light effusing from each individual feather giving it a pure and majestic aura. With every breath, the wind currents shifted by its will.

Wei Wuyin had only ever seen one other beast that exceeded this beast's size! The scaled-lizard in the Beast-Taming Sect, Anu! Of course, Anu's single eye was far larger than this pegasus, so his size was unfathomably massive beyond description.

Kree!

Bai Lin observed this beast that was nearly double her size with a cry of challenge. From Xiang Ling's words, she felt an uncertainty in her heart as she might be replaced as Wei Wuyin's partner in the skies. She needed to exert her superiority!

While she was absolutely not the match of this pegasus, she was fearless.

The pegasus felt her intent and neighed sharply, causing the world to tremble and the clouds to roil about! This was a beast that could rival an Astral Core Realm expert! How fierce and tyrannical was it?!

Bai Lin didn't lose out as she once more fearlessly let loose a sharp, valiant cry. Her golden beak, tail, and eyes started to emanate vast fiery golden light as if she was ready to lay down her very life.

Wei Wuyin noticed this and hastily sent her a spiritual message. "You're my only partner in the sky." He had to shoot over and quickly rubbed her feathers, constantly comforting her before she calmed down. But her eyes still contained a sharp and lofty battle intent.

Nevertheless, she was pacified.

As for the pegasus, how could it lower itself to Bai Lin's level? It merely snorted and ignored her.

Sighing helplessly, Wei Wuyin couldn't help but give a wry smile. *'Huh, I just realized I met Bai Lin and Su Mei on the same day.'* This random thought popped in his mind as he regarded Su Mei who stood silently while observing everything. She hadn't spoken once since they took flight, just calmly absorbing all the new information and details of this world.

Not only did he meet Su Mei and Bai Lin on the same day, they were also the only two people that followed him without hesitation. He truly felt a surge of warmth enter his heart. *'Regardless of what, I'll never abandon them.'*

When Xiang Ling witnessed Wei Wuyin's comforting actions, her heart warmed slightly, but a hint of expectation and planning suffused her eyes. At her cultivation, all the beasts she could obtain or cultivate would never become Star-grade beasts. And without one at that level, she could fly tens or even hundreds of times faster on her own. If she had a Sky Pegasus, she could freely travel faster, while cultivating, without a care in the world.

"Elder Xiang Ling!" A powerful, thunderous voice resounded from the back of the sky pegasus. Just the sound caused the air currents of the world to shift heavily.

Xiang Ling revealed a stern, respectful, and solemn expression as she replied and paid her respects, "High Elder Bo!"

High Elder Bo blinked into visual sight, arriving in the sky while seemingly stepping on thin air. After he left the covers of the sky pegasus's enormous body, his gender and appearance was fully revealed.

He was obviously a male, and wore a set of multicolored robes with the characters 'Earthly General' embroidered on his left chest. His aura felt imposing yet reserved.

Shockingly, he wasn't human! Instead, he had tribal runic-like markings that glowed with faint light tattooed onto his cheeks and forehead, and he had dark green-ish skin that glistened somewhat. His

eyes were the most odd. He had no pupils or irises, just a light green sea of sclera. He had no eyelashes, simply eyelids that made it a little difficult to tell when he blinked.

His hair was silky and white, stretching the length of his back. It was one of the most beautiful hairs he had ever seen on a person. His aura was fundamentally different than a human, and seemed more connected to elves. It was more focused and seemed to originate from nature itself. His ears were similarly pointy and sharp at the ends, similar to the elven race.

If Wei Wuyin had seen this randomly, he might assume this was a deformed member of the elven race. But he could feel the familiar demonic aura emanating from his body, so he knew he was a member of the demon race!

The High Elder walked calmly towards them, each step shifting him tens of meters until he arrived directly before them. High Elder Bo seemed to lack any ill-intent and radiated a boundlessly amicable and friendly disposition as he smiled, clasping his fists towards Wei Wuyin.

"You must be Wei Wuyin. This humble creature is called Bo Kay. You can call me High Elder Bo or Brother Bo. Any is good with me," he let loose a hearty laugh.

Wei Wuyin was taken aback. So friendly? This High Elder was immensely respectful and swiftly and naturally tried to establish a foundation of friendship almost immediately. How interesting.

But he had this feeling that Bo Kay was far, far stronger than Xiang Ling. He likely needed a mere finger to turn him into dust that would vanish with the wind.

Wei Wuyin didn't hold back. Considering his clear intent, he decided to discard any reservations. "I shall, Brother Bo."

Bo Kay observed Wei Wuyin's mannerisms and lack of prejudice and happily laughed in his heart. He had heard that Wei Wuyin had come from the Myriad Yore Continent, the former home of the King of Everlore, and they had an issue with racism. Furthermore, he seemed intelligent and quick to adapt, immediately accepting his friendly offer.

This caused him to nod delightfully in his heart.

Wei Wuyin gestured towards Su Mei and Bai Lin. "This is my most trusted subordinate, Su Mei, and my partner in the sky, Bai Lin." He introduced, clearly making Su Mei's presence known. In the future, she'll likely handle most of his matters, so it was best that he set her up as a liaison immediately, and have her similarly receive such amicable treatment.

Bai Lin let loose a proud cry as she arrogantly matched gazes with the Sky Pegasus. It was as if she was saying: "This is my partner, not yours! Jealous? Even your master has to be friendly to him!"

Bo Kay laughed witnessing such a scene. "Quite an intelligent creature! And a talented and impressive subordinate. I can see that Brother Wei's standards are quite high. It is nice to meet both of you." He greeted them with respect that didn't lose out to the tone he used on Wei Wuyin.

Wei Wuyin nodded inwardly. This elder is quite tactful. His impression of him was already good, and he might be his first steps on setting a foothold. He knew that the Myriad Monarch Sect might have its differences, but at its core, it was the same: A Sect.

In the Scarlet Solaris Sect, having a greater backing beyond your status or ability was beneficial, and from the clues Xiang Ling had given him, connections and allies mattered greatly.

Bo Kay withdrew a token and sent it floating over to Wei Wuyin. "I'll be taking you to the Extreme Creation Mountain. I'll give you your orientation, we'll claim your mount, although it seems like you won't need it for long, and I'll give you a brief tour."

Wei Wuyin caught the token. It was made from exceptional materials and extraordinary craftsmanship. It was divided into three sections. The first section said: "Myriad Monarch Sect." The second section below it said: "Sky Noble." The third section said "Extreme Creation Mountain."

Wei Wuyin was in awe of the decorative fonts and color scheme, as it was multicolored as well. On the back was the symbol of three crowns interlaced together. The first crown looked like a normal one humans made, but the other two were irregular, as if made by another race.

The one on the left felt as if it was constructed from nature and raw elements while the one on the right seems chaotically created and brazen in shape, almost demonic.

"You'll be able to refine that on the way, it's your identity token. With it, you'll have the full authority of a Sky Noble," Bo Kay explained.

Wei Wuyin nodded in understanding. *'This is my true first step into the sect!'* Waves of excitement roiled endlessly within his heart.

Chapter 150 - 148: Quintuple Extreme Imperial Mountains

Xiang Ling patiently waited as she explained Bo Kay's status and race to Long Tingyu and Qing Qiumu.

He originated from a demon born from a special type known as the Gale End Leaf Demon and was of its lineage. In this grand world, there were two types of demons: those born naturally and those born from reproduction. The first type was where all true demons were born from.

Unlike humans, elves, or beastmen, demons, true demons, were not humanoid in origin. In fact, they were an entirely different species and quite varied at that. They could be born from a drop of water, a leaf, a block of ice, or even a drop of blood. They were a byproduct of an unnatural heavenly event called Soul Impartation.

In this world, souls are born at the creation of living things, but most objects and materials don't have souls. These types of things are given souls by the Heavenly Daos. Why? No one knew, but with souls, one can embark on cultivation, gain awareness, and inevitably gain humanoid form and procreate amongst the other living existences.

Their species were varied and consisted of many lineages. Some were noble and powerful, originating from materials or objects that had exceptional origin and thus exceptional power. Or, they had mundane origins and thus were ordinary. This was why Xiang Ling had once said that demons were either exceptionally talented or useless, there was no middle-ground.

The second type of demon was the vast, vast majority in existence. They originated from the lineage of those natural-born true demons, but were products of reproductive actions from other humanoid races, such as humans, elves, or beastmen.

Bo Kay was of the second type, originating from the Gale End Leaf Demon lineage, a rather exceptional lineage, and the elven race.

Just as Long Tingyu and Qing Qiumu were in utter awe at this newfound knowledge, Wei Wuyin turned towards Xiang Ling knowing that Bo Kay wanted to take him away. "You're coming?"

Xiang Ling heart raced for a moment as she saw Wei Wuyin offer to bring her along. She softly bit her lips and shook her head with a hint of reluctance. "I need to take Long Tingyu to orientation and Qing Qiumu to the Imperial Sage."

"Oh?" Bo Kay looked over and spotted the veiled Qing Qiumu. "That's 'her' descendant? Oh, what immense natural endowments. She has an elemental physique, unique mind's eye, and meridian structure! How exceptional, how exceptional." Bo Kay held nothing back as he praised endlessly.

Qing Qiumu had a trifecta of natural endowment. Her Wood Yin Essence Physique, Innate Meridians of the Nine Meadows, and Violet Forestry Palace of the Psyche were all exceptional if it was simply one person who had one of them, but all of this gathered onto a single person was an immense heavenly blessing.

"She'll be an exceptional Wood Cultivator. Perhaps the best in the entire sect if raised properly, perhaps in all of the starfield's history." Bo Kay was truly not stingy with his praise, causing Qing Qiumu to feel somewhat shy at his gaze.

Xiang Ling similarly agreed. When she learned that Qing Qi, that idiot of a father, hadn't sent her over immediately, she held a wisp of rage in her heart. She was now decades behind others in terms of what she could be. Luckily, she had a high-ranking ancestor in the sect, so she might be able to make up for this in the long run.

Unfortunately...she was attached to a possible waste.

Dual Cultivation was fine and all, but when the difference is too massive, it only serves as an anchor. Wei Wuyin understood this fact clearly as his essence was mostly one-sidedly given to Mei Yang. He was losing out in the exchange even.

Wei Wuyin understood, agreed, and nodded. Qing Qiumu was a once-in-a-million-year talent. Unfortunately, Qing Qiumu and him had to separate. He felt relaxed and at peace with her, simply a little conversation made him forget his worries.

He also had an urge to get closer to Xiang Ling. She was a striking beauty and he desired her. Unfortunately, she had other matters to attend to, and he couldn't pull her along.

"Then, I hope we can meet again." After giving a smile, and similarly saying his goodbyes and good wishes to Qing Qiumu, Bo Kay exerted his strength and they flashed atop the Sky Pegasus.

Its back was so broad that even Bai Lin was capable of sitting on it with folded wings. Bai Lin felt an immediate feeling of superiority as she cried out orders as if the pegasus was her mount, beneath her authority and forced to be ridden.

Bo Kay and Wei Wuyin saw this and laughed aloud. It was so synchronized and abrupt that they stopped at the same time and looked at each other. A glint flashing through their eyes and a moment of

understanding later, and they laughed again even louder than before. It wasn't long before Bo Kay and Wei Wuyin became kindred spirits and struck an instant friendship.

As Qing Qiumu saw their vanishing figures, her heart felt a sensation of disappointment and reluctance. *'Regardless of others' grudges, I don't think I can accept him as an enemy in my heart. I hope we do meet again.'* With the ongoing hate and conflict between Wei Wuyin and Long Chen, she originally felt uncertain, but now she felt her heart come to a decision.

This belief and decision going forward will bring about exceptional change in her life, change that she was unaware of.

Flying towards the Quintuple Extreme Imperial Mountains where the sect was located, Wei Wuyin and Bo Kay both had relaxed expressions. Bo Kay started to inform Wei Wuyin more about the sect in casual conversation, but this was considered orientation.

According to him, the Quintuple Extreme Imperial Mountains was the designated name of the five sky-piercing mountains, but the overall chain of mountains were called the Penta Dao Mountain Range. As for each of the sky-piercing mountains, they were strictly divided into purpose and focused on a specific type of Daos in cultivation.

The Extreme Creation Mountain contained those who cultivated the Dao of Alchemy, Dao of Forging, and the Dao of Design. Those who took these paths were referred to as Alchemists, Forgers, and Architects, collectively known as Creationists.

While Alchemists were easy to grasp in terms of overall path, Forgers and Architects were more broader and varied. Those who cultivated the Dao of Forging are commonly seen as blacksmiths of armaments and tools, talisman crafters, and tailors. Those who cultivated the Dao of Design were more like scholars, and they focused on designing spiritual spells, formations, arrays, cultivation methods, qi arts, and astral arts.

They studied and explored these categories endlessly.

However, there was a lot of cross-connection, such as formations and arrays were incorporated in the Dao of Forging and talismans were used as formations flags for arrays and arts.

The second mountain, the Extreme War Mountain, focused on the Dao of War. This included the Weapon Dao, such as saber, sword, spear, battle, slaughter, etc. Those in this mountain cultivated Ethereal Intent and had exceptional battle prowess.

'If Long Chen overcomes the examination, he'll likely be sent here.'

The third mountain, the Extreme Origin Mountain, was focused on the Material Dao, such as the nine elements, or other forms of energies like scarlet, jade, etc.

The fourth mountain, the Extreme Demon Mountain, was a mountain engulfed in demonic energies all year-round and facilitated the housing of demons. This was their optimal environment for cultivation, so over ninety-percent of demons lived here. It didn't have a true focus in terms of cultivation, and was just a housing mountain for the species.

Bo Kay lived in the Extreme Demon Mountain, but he was a member of the Extreme Creation Mountain. While there were some invested demons that simply stayed and represented the Extreme Demon Mountain, it had the lowest population of all mountains. Because of its year-round exposure to demonic energies which was very inhospitable to other races, only demons stayed there.

The last mountain, the Extreme Monarch Mountain, was the core and central mountain of the five. It was similarly a housing unit, but this was for some Elders and Imperial Sages. It was an absolute cultivation haven for high-ranking experts, but most of them were a part of the Extreme Creation, War, or Origin Mountains. The most notable of its purposes was a platform for challenges, wagers, and discussions. Furthermore, all the Cultivation Methods, Spiritual Spells, and other cultivation manuscripts were located here.

After flying for a period of time, they finally were close enough to see all the intricate features of the five mountains.

Throb!

His sea of consciousness trembled as his eyes focused on a single mountain amongst the five. This mountain was shrouded by a thick layer of violet-colored mist. It roiled and coiled around the mountain in a miraculous and mesmerising fashion. It was highly unusual, like the violet mist was alive.

From his sea of consciousness, originating from his Alchemic Eden Natal Soul, he felt an intense desire. This startled him as he was unable to understand its desire or why, simply that it wanted to enter the violet mist.

Could his Alchemic Eden Natal Soul have a desire for demonic energies? His expression changed as he recalled the origin of demons. He had long known of the differences amongst demons since he was young, and knew they were typically born from objects being imparted a soul.

Could it be that the Tree of Eden he refined still lived and had changed due to merging with his Alchemic Natal Soul?

His brows furrowed deeply as he pondered, looking at the Extreme Demon Mountain. *'I'll have to investigate when I have a chance.'*