

Chapter 241 - 238: Infinite Void Wings

There were times in life where the solution to one's most pressing conundrum was literally directly within one's grasp and it could be missed entirely. It wasn't because the person was unintelligent or forgetful, simply a link between the problem and the answer had never revealed itself within one's mind.

Wei Wuyin had access to Void Astral Force, Void Energies, and not once did he ever link it with Void Gates. This was because the concept of the Dao of Void was so broad and confusing that he simply never considered it.

What was the Dao of Void?

According to Kratos at the moment of his transformation: The Dao of the Void related to space, time, astrological forces, and void energy. Space was divided into fixed, stable, chaotic disturbances within the Dark Void and its various forms, including atmospheric space. Time was divided into the past, present, future, isolated, and paradoxical temporal periods of existence.

Supposedly, this was its description in the most simplest set of words that Kratos could relay. Even still, it was too broad and confusing. Wei Wuyin didn't even understand what Daos were, so being that the Dao of Void governs all these things easily induced endless uncertainty. It was so profound that he still hadn't understood a trace of its true powers or potential.

Without any guidance from a true expert, he was a blank slate with merely his imagination and comprehension there to carry him. He barely understood the intricacies of space, so to ponder on the Dao of Void could be likened to skipping algebra and jumping straight to calculus.

When he was asking Wu Yu a series of cultivations, particularly about the world in exchange for his return to Long Chen, the Dao and Void was briefly discussed. However, even Wu Yu, an expert that transcended the Astral Core Realm, wasn't certain of what it meant to be a Dao or the Void. He merely explained the Dark Void that was the endless, lethally hazardous, cold, and dark space that existed outside continents, planets, stars, and housed all things in the world.

"How would I go about it?" He pondered for a moment before asking this question to Kratos.

"..." Kratos. Once again, it lacked any response. The vagueness to conceal its own ignorance was staggering. Wei Wuyin felt his body tip in disappointment.

"Is everything fine?" Xue Yifei was still beside Wei Wuyin so she noticed all his minute changes in the light of his eyes, body language, and facial expressions. She didn't know what he was thinking about, but it was definitely wild from her perspective. That transmission he received must've been important.

Wei Wuyin bitterly smiled, not at his reactions but at Kratos's uselessness. There were times they could eclipse all his common sense to do extraordinary feats, then there were times where they deliberately acted mystifying with no concrete reason besides pride and belief. It was truly an applause worthy level of inconsistency.

Regardless of his thoughts, he didn't allow it to flow into an ill-mood. He had always been one who loved to attempt new things, and blazing a path of discovery and insight was still things he enjoyed. The time he developed his Avatar Art was still fresh within his mind.

"Yes. Well, no. The sect said that creating a new Void Gate would take several decades. There's also no means of transportation to return. If all remains the same, we would be stuck within the Bloodforge Continent until then." Wei Wuyin explained.

Xue Yifei's eyes lit up, "No other way?"

Wei Wuyin shook his head. He knew that Void Gates were difficult to move when established. They were transfixed into set spaces and designed specifically for that location. If not for this, he would love to move an already established Void Gate from another location to here.

As for using the Ancient Void Gate? It used a different key and not Void Disks. If all else fails, he could enter the Ancient Void Gate and explore it. The only issue was the uncertainty on the other side. If it was filled with prejudiced and exceptional cultivators, wouldn't his life be forfeit?

A wisp of unwillingness to take this line emerged in his heart. For a moment, he glanced at his Inheritor of Sin tattoo. He had over a thousand Karmic Luck Value, can't the heavens help him out? After several seconds and no response, he shook his head once more and realized he had to rely on himself.

Xue Yifei felt conflicted, but in the depths of her heart, she had elation throughout. In her heart, this was a crucial period to settle her importance and herself into Wei Wuyin's heart. Perhaps changing her current standing of concubine to something else. How could being stuck on a continent be a detriment to her? The hand which gripped Wei Wuyin's hand grew tighter, various thoughts circulating.

Unfortunately for her, Wei Wuyin had other plans. "I'll be testing something, and if it works, we might be able to leave before then. Until I finish, you should decide how you want to handle your cultivation. The Yin and Yang Dragon Souls are residing in your sea of consciousness and heart respectively, so if you change your cultivation base a little, you could take the path of a Draconic Soul."

Wei Wuyin had already offered her tools and means to restart her cultivation. Considering she was still in the Qi Condensation Realm, it was relatively easier than Zuhei's situation. A complete revamping of her identity of a cultivator was likely.

Xue Yifei stilled. That's right. She had nearly forgotten about her future, and while Wei Wuyin's plan might pan out, her purpose was to not be incidental in her own life, playing an auxiliary role to another. Her desire was to become a leader. But when she thought about Wei Wuyin's talent and current strength, she couldn't help but feel uncertain.

Would she continue to fall down the same pattern of being the 'reliable and intelligent' woman behind the man. If so, she felt a deep sense of unwillingness.

Fortunately, Wei Wuyin had patiently reminded her. He hadn't even allowed his lust for her to overtake her own wants. It was unexpectedly considerate considering how she saw within the depths of his resplendent pupils the ardent and blazing desire to take her. If Yuan Longshi was in the same situation, she felt that he would lack the self-restraint. Especially after she essentially accepted her position as a concubine. Women of this title were often used for simply one thing: sensual comfort.

"I'll restart my cultivation," She declared with pulsating determination in every syllable. This was a major decision, but it was the only one with the path of an expert.

Wei Wuyin nodded.

After settling Xue Yifei's cultivation, Wei Wuyin took Xiao Bai to the Sky Layer. Standing on his broad back, Wei Wuyin was fully draconified. His draconified state was gorgeous beyond words, with his thin layer of hexagonal-shaped silver scales that glimmered in the sun. His hands, feet, neck, torso, thighs, shoulders, and chin were covered in a perfectly symmetrical network of scales. On his face, thin, nearly indiscernible lines were beneath the skin.

As he moved, the scales revealed exceptional flexibility no less than legitimate skin, and it seemed as if he had taken the form of a humanoid-shaped scaled-creature. However, from his sharp and vertical dragon pupils that effused boundless might and authority, one could tell of his particular lineage.

At the moment, his every breath shook the void. Even Xiao Bai beneath his feet was trembling from the bloodline strength emanated from his presence. Xiao Bai seemed to want nothing more than to stay a certain distance away and shirk away from his obligations. Despite awakening his bloodline potential, he was innately fearful of Wei Wuyin, especially when he evoked his draconified state.

Observing this intense reaction, Wei Wuyin bitterly smiled as he said, "You can land." As if an order from heaven itself, Xiao Bai neighed in honest thanks. It descended without hesitation, afraid Wei Wuyin might change his mind.

Wei Wuyin chuckled as he lingered within the Sky Layer alone, wrapped by elemental wind force. While he couldn't fly through the world naturally by manipulating its ambient mana, he could achieve levitation and sustained gliding through this method. It was enough to ensure he didn't descend.

"This is the only state where I can access my Bloodline Powers," Wei Wuyin remarked at this limitation. Only when he draconify, when his entire body is infused with draconic void energies in the most perfect manner, could he access his innate abilities originating from his bloodline.

「Bloodline: Infinite Void Wings」

His draconic void bloodline was evoked, channeling directly into his bloodforce, eliciting an unfathomable change. In an eruption, two fleshy wings exploded out of his back and freely brandished itself within the vast, endless void of space. They were true dragon wings, and they had a magnificent wingspan of over thirty meters!

Roar!

He let loose a pent-up dragon roar within his throat, causing the void to tremble. Those two wings flapped lightly as traces of nascent blood from their first deployment was splashed away, revealing their silvery form and faint emission of light. As he stood above the clouds within the Sky Layer, gazing downwards, he felt like a ruler of the void.

Immediately, his elemental wind astral force dispersed and his wings used its own power to allow flight. With each flap, the void would endlessly ripple in response.

Chapter 242 - 239: Grand Imperial Sages

While an unprecedented feat was being accomplished, in the Myriad Monarch Sect, at the eighth level of the Extreme Monarch Mountain was a singular sky palace. In this sky palace, five figures of exceptional status and cultivation had gathered. They were the five Grand Imperial Sages.

They stood in a perfect circle, their auras concealed and controlled. Tuo Bihan wore his dull grey robes, seeming like an ordinary old man with a lazy glint within his eyes. However, those familiar with him would understand from his expression that his mind was occupied with exceptional thoughts. As the Grand Imperial Sage of the Extreme Creation Mountain, a revered cultivator at the Sixth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, and Alchemic Emperor, he was definitely the most prominent member here.

In terms of status, ability, and seniority, he reigned supreme over the others without exception. Despite that, his relative low-key involvement in the sect's affairs was well-known. Unfortunately, his lazy days of lounging about had to be placed on pause.

"Is it true?" A voice filled with power and dark violence rumbled. It originated from a three-meter tall giant. He had curved black spikes protruding from his elbows and knees, his eyes were simply filled with violet flames, and his bald head was particularly smooth. His violet-skinned figure had an endless presence with his dominating musculature, covered by impressive jet-black armor.

This was Yao Zhen, the newest Grand Imperial Sage, and the reason for the Extreme Demon Mountain's existence. He was undoubtedly the youngest amongst the five, an indicator of his outstanding talent and potential. On his expression was an imposing frown that seemed terrifying without a hint of anger.

"It is," a feminine voice responded. It was harmonious like music, and it could cause the bones of men and women alike to turn soft. Despite its quality, it caused those of a strong will to immediately become vigilant as if facing a great enemy. A tall, slender female elf that stood at over six feet tall, dressed in pure white robes with nine-colored mist shrouding her face. Despite her concealment, not a single one of these elite figures called her on her actions.

However, one could tell she was an exceptional beauty of the ages. Those experienced would notice the faint pure yin aura emitting from her body, an unintentional and uncontrollable side-effect of Primal Yin nourished for hundreds of years untouched. This aura was capable of causing weak-willed men to fall prey to their basest desires.

Fortunately, none of these figures today lacked a hint of will. Their paths were littered with corpses, schemes, and conquered trials. If they lacked will, reaching their heights would've been impossible.

She was Qin Rui, the Grand Imperial Sage of the Extreme Origin Mountain.

Yao Zhen coldly growled. The entire sky palace rumbled. Even the Sky Layer beneath them quivered.

Another interjected at this moment, "According to Heavenly King Wei's report, the attempt failed and Qi Lang, the continental Guardian, has apprehended Jiang Lanlan. The attack wasn't a deliberate act of war." This statement diffused some of the tension, but Yao Zhen's violet flames started burning even fiercer than before. One could tell that he cultivated a fierce Ocular Cultivation Method, and his emotions were leaking through.

"They attacked a continent under our control, causing the deaths of hundreds of thousands. This obviously violates the Tri-Peace Accords!" Yao Zhen spoke, and while it was low, it was intense that wind seemed to be birthed within the room. The robes of everyone fluttered.

"Haaa..." The one who sighed was a valiant-looking middle-aged man with sword-like eyebrows and canine-type piercing eyes. He had a tail sporting from his back that seemed like an independent lifeform and his ears were ears of a canine, an indicator of his beastman lineage. His aura effused a sharp aura, but this intent was two-fold, as if one was boundlessly tyrannical and the other endlessly majestic. He was the one who tried to diffuse the tension. "It's not that simple, Grand Sage Yao."

The Tri-Peace Accords was established two hundred years ago by the San Clan, the current ruler of the Tri-Vision Starfield. It was settled after a devastating conflict had erupted, and the Sacred Light Palace, Demonic Abyss Mountain, and Elemental Heaven Pavilion clashed with the Myriad Monarch Sect. This conflict was intense, and at the time, the Myriad Monarch Sect was the strongest force.

This war lasted for thirty years, and the Myriad Monarch Sect had to reveal some devastating trump cards from the previous eras and unleashed hell. However, the losses sustained by the Myriad Monarch Sect might've been lesser than the three other forces, but they sustained the most damage individually.

The San Clan intervened when the Myriad Monarch Sect was about to release their strongest trump card and take down the other three forces with them in a final effort. If they hadn't, the entire starfield might've been left in shambles. Not one of these Hegemons were to be underestimated, especially the Myriad Monarch Sect who ruled over the entire starfield once before, a feat the other three forces hadn't accomplished.

In an attempt to establish peace, the Tri-Peace Accords were deliberated, agreed upon, and signed. The San Clan would act as mediators and deal punishments against those who broke the agreement. It was only this intervention that allowed a peaceful era to begin. Unfortunately, the Myriad Monarch Sect's all-inclusive and authority-based system with clear rewards and punishments couldn't eclipse the nepotism and favored systems of the other forces.

They produced numerous elites while they struggled to regain their footing after the war. This was the only reason the Myriad Monarch Sect lacked. In fact, their system wasn't horrible in the cultivation world, and with sufficient time, they would certainly regain their previous strength and their peak status. It was because their strict system gave everyone with talent the ability to ascend new heights.

In terms of the number of experts, those in the Astral Core Realm in general, the Myriad Monarch Sect was unmatched, exceeding all three sects combined. They merely lacked top-tier experts because they didn't devote all their resources to individuals who hadn't earned it or displayed their worth.

"The Tri-Peace Accords specifically forbids attacks on continental flat earths by Third Stage Astral Core and above cultivators. Jiang Lanlan is at the Second Stage. Technically, she didn't violate the Accord." Ji Changkong, the Grand Imperial Sage of the Extreme War Mountain stated. His sharp aura fluctuated and revealed his discontent with this loophole. Just like their own restrictions on the Bloodforge Continent, the accord stated the same.

This had to do with the difference in sheer power between Second and Third Stage experts. Those at the latter could easily cause a collapse of a continent with a full-force attack, killing the lives of all those on

the continent and shattering its stability. Furthermore, if they wanted, their Soul Idol and Spiritual Spells could cover an entire continent, silently shattering the mind, body, and spirits of everyone on the continent in a flash.

It was horrifically easy to do. Qi Lang, the Continental Guardian of the Bloodforge Continent, and Xiang Ling, who acted as the Continental Guardian of the Myriad Yore Continent, were both at this level and could cover the entire continent with their spiritual sense. In moments, they could inspect all activity without much issue.

"Jiang Feilan sent their Ambassador with a statement." The one who spoke had a calm, drawn-out voice. She seemed old and his scaly face and reptilian eyes revealed her beastman lineage. With the dark-green turtle shell and hunched back, her eyes were calm and wise. She was the Beastwoman of an ancient tortoise lineage. Despite that, her age paled when compared to Tuo Bihan. Her name was Zen.

Her words caused all those present to turn their gazes over. Jiang Feilin was the Palace Master of the Sacred Light Palace. It was an elven-dominated force, and the force established by the Sacred Elven Queen after the King of Everlore Era had reached a near end.

Jiang Feilan was a figure with reputable strength and a splendid cultivation base. She was in the top three most likely to successfully ascend the Seventh Astral Tribulation and become a Realm Lord. Of course, Yao Zhen, their newest and youngest Grand Imperial Sage, was similarly within that list.

Zen waited for a brief moment and then continued, "Jiang Feilan's official response is that her daughter's actions were those of an inexperienced youngster. It shouldn't be taken seriously. She will send an Envoy to retrieve her and personally punish her for her actions."

"What?!" Yao Zhen flared. Ji Changkong wasn't too far behind. His aura was like a saber and sword as he expressed his discontent and shock. This was absolutely insulting! They expected at least an apology and words alluding to compensation, not this garbage.

"She's lucky Heavenly King Wei didn't execute her on the spot!" Qin Rui said coldly. To think Jiang Feilan wanted to simply brush this event aside and claim her daughter with zero losses? What did she take them as?

"If they think we'll simply smile and move aside while they treat our citizens and continents like disposables that could be damaged and discarded at will, they underestimate us! War!" Yao Zhen's fist clenched as he shouted. The violet flames in his eyes erupted wildly.

"War!" Qin Rui echoed. While her voice was like music, the crescendo and tone at this moment were lethal. The Myriad Monarch Sect wasn't a sect that allowed such actions without retaliation.

Ji Changkong didn't respond, but his eyes and aura said it all. None of these figures were those nurtured with resources that they hadn't obtained themselves and fought for. They climbed mountains of corpses and made rivers of blood on their way to the top. They had innate pride and self-respect that couldn't be impugned on.

"We can't," Tuo Bihan plainly said. The raging auras of three Grand Imperial Sages were daunting, but to Tuo Bihan, he didn't lose out despite not leaking a single trace of his aura.

"Why?!" Yao Zhen exclaimed, but his emotions had clearly resided a little. Before Tuo Bihan, he held the utmost respect for. Without this man's guidance and kindness while he was rising, allowing him to earn and receive eighth-grade alchemical products, reaching his current heights at his age was highly unlikely.

The tension lowered slightly.

"He's right. The Tri-Peace Accords weren't broken. Jiang Feilan knows we can't take action unless we want to be attacked from every direction, including the San Clan. While we might be able to ensure they suffer tremendous losses, the Myriad Monarch Sect would definitely vanish from this world." Zen's words were spoken with a wisp of insight and wisdom. If it was three hundred years ago when they stood at the peak, they could fight to the last and take everyone and everything with them, but now...

While it was sad to admit, it was the truth.

The room became quiet.

"We demand compensation," Ji Changkong stated. This was his bottom-line. If they didn't agree, he steeled his heart to personally kill Jiang Lanlan at this very moment, traveling to the Bloodforge Continent to do so. Unbeknownst to him, Yao Zhen and Qin Rui had similarly made this oath in their hearts.

"Of course," Tuo Bihan nodded.

"..." Zen swept her gaze around and shook her head slightly. They were all prideful and unyielding individuals. In the end, this was the least they would accept.

Tuo Bihan didn't continue on this subject, "That little lass is stuck on the Bloodforge Continent." These words caused everyone to frown. Wei Wuyin's four years in the Myriad Monarch Continent was an absolute godsend. Others might not know this but Wei Wuyin was providing a steady supply of Astral Dipper Fountain Pills.

It wasn't just in the hundreds but the tens of thousands. While it was merely a low-tier seventh-grade pill, it was immensely beneficial to Qi Condensation Realm experts at the Infused Spirituality Phase. It allowed them to build up their Mortal States, allowing the creation of more experts.

With his current situation, that supply was severed. And due to constraints, this would likely last decades.

Yao Zhen frowned. While the others might not know, he had specifically accepted...an exchange...No to be frank, it was a bribe. For ten Astral Sea Pills and Demon Sea Pills, he turned the other cheek and allowed Wei Wuyin to leave the Myriad Monarch Sect. This was supposed to be a private matter and his identity was meant to be concealed.

No one was supposed to know he had left.

Ji Changkong frowned. While the others might not know, he had specifically accepted...an exchange...No to be frank, it was a bribe. For ten Astral Sea Pills and Blood Star Refinement Pills, he looked the other way and allowed Wei Wuyin to leave the Myriad Monarch Sect. This was supposed to be a private matter and his identity was meant to be concealed.

No one was supposed to know he had left.

Qin Rui frowned. While the others might not know, she had specifically accepted...an exchange...No to be frank, it was a bribe. For ten Astral Sea Pills and Nine Element Infusion Pills, she closed her eyes and allowed Wei Wuyin to leave the Myriad Monarch Sect. This was supposed to be a private matter and his identity was meant to be concealed.

No one was supposed to know he had left.

Zen frowned. While the others might not know, she had specifically accepted...an exchange...No to be frank, it was a bribe. For ten Astral Sea Pills and Aquatic Blessing Pills, she let him use the Void Gate and allowed Wei Wuyin to leave the Myriad Monarch Sect. This was supposed to be a private matter and his identity was meant to be concealed.

No one was supposed to know he had left.

Tuo Bihan saw the simultaneous changes in everyone's expressions. They were all given agreements to not permit Wei Wuyin to leave without an escort, yet...somehow, he escaped beneath their noses. He felt somewhat displeased at their negligence.

"...Our number one priority is developing a replacement Void Gate to bring Heavenly King Wei back." Zen added.

"Agreed." Ji Changkong, Qin Rui, and Yao Zhen echoed without hesitation.

"..." Tuo Bihan felt something wasn't right.

Chapter 243 - 240: Identity Known

In the end, Tuo Bihan hid his suspicions and didn't press. That little lass had the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity and had clearly bought half the sect somehow. Even under their watchful eyes, he still left without anyone noticing. Even Qi Lang had admitted that he was under orders to not report Wei Wuyin's arrival by Wei Wuyin.

It was quite stupefyingly impressive how embedded Wei Wuyin was in the sect in just four years. While his status of Heavenly King was bestowed to him, he truly gripped immense power and influence in the sect in such a short period of time.

If Tuo Bihan knew that even the Grand Imperial Sages had been corrupted, who knew whether he would laugh or cry to an early grave.

They proceeded to return to the subject of Jiang Lanlan. They carefully decided on the compensation they would demand. If the demand was refused or not met then Jiang Lanlan will stay within the sect until it is. If the Sacred Light Palace took action, she would be the first to be publicly executed as they declared war. Their bottom-line was this, it couldn't be crossed.

Wei Wuyin hadn't left any instructions on how to handle this. This was a matter he didn't have the power, influence, or status to decide. As for wealth, he didn't particularly need this. While rare, high-level astral-grade resources were desired, the Myriad Monarch Sect had most, if not all, that he needed.

It was best that he the task of negotiating for these wily old experts. Likely the Sacred Light Palace might lose more than resources, but territory as well. This was why he didn't give any advice or input. In his

heart, he had already decided to seek his own vengeance on his own terms when he was strong enough personally.

They handled it perfectly. After everything was settled, they moved on.

"It's rare for all of us to be gathered. Shall we talk about other matters?" Qin Rui said. The eyebrows of everyone rose. It was indeed rare for all five to be gathered in the same mountain. Most of their communications were done via avatars, transmissions, or envoys. While this wasn't an issue in deciding things, it was best to handle and discuss important matters in person. There wouldn't be any miscommunication, lack of conveyed tone, or lag in their conversations.

"What do you have in mind?" Ji Changkong's canine eyes swept Qin Rui's figure, arriving at her concealed face. Her yin aura was so tantalizing that, while he could control himself, his thoughts couldn't help but wonder. In the entire starfield, there were less than thirty figures at their level. Of those thirty, Ji Changkong was the only female that still possessed her intact primal yin.

It had been nourished for hundreds of years in rich energies and an exceptional bloodline. If he or Yao Zhen were capable of refining it via dual cultivation methods, assailing the Seventh Stage of the Astral Core Realm in the next decade was possible.

Unlike the other tribulations, the seventh, eighth, and ninth Astral Tribulations were purely destructive. They couldn't fail and survived. If you assailed the seventh phase, you must succeed or die. There was no other option. This was because it wouldn't cease until it was dealt with. That being said, the benefits received after conquering the tribulation were immense.

The combat difference between the sixth and seventh phases was fundamentally unsurpassable without extreme methods, armaments, or a godly foundation. About 99.9% of all sixth phase experts couldn't last a single exchange against those at the seventh phase.

It was a hellish gap, greater than between heaven and earth.

Qin Rui felt Ji Changkong's gaze but was unbothered. While her Primal Yin was useful to men, wasn't it useful to herself? As long as her Primal Yin remained intact, she could draw unimaginable power from it. It was her best chance in overcoming the Seventh Astral Tribulation.

"There was an incident with Long Chen and Prime Imperial Sage Huangfu Wenghu." Her words caused silence to overtake the room. The eyes of everyone shifted to Tuo Bihan. Tuo Bihan's expression was indifferent as he shook his head.

Huangfu Wenghu was a Prime Imperial Sage and Alchemic King of his Extreme Creation Mountain. A short while ago, an incident happened with the Huangfu Clan's younger generation and Long Chen. To most, Long Chen was a feeble figure that was struggling, but they had already understood some clues of his identity as he kept trudging his way up the rankings.

Just recently, he gloriously ascended the Astral Core Realm, and overcame it with a merged Astral Soul, just like the Sacred Elven Queen once did. It had caused endless ripples and news to resound, and speculation of his potential after breaking a relatively unbroken limitation of cultivation since the Sacred Elven Queen. After all, his Imperial Slaughter Sword Astral Soul was terrifyingly strong!

He revealed unprecedented battle prowess equating to the peak of the Second Stage and dominated the Huangfu Clan's disciples in consecutive battle. He easily started to be recognized, and for his efforts and combat prowess, he was given special exemption and became an Earthly Elite rank disciple. The resulting uproar was tremendous as his talents were slowly unearthed and revealed to the world.

As for the clues, how could they be ignorant of the Imperial Heaven Qi Method? It was a lost art that was said to have been discontinued yet it revealed itself in Long Chen. This meant he was likely the next Grand Monarch. This was based on the foundational rules of the sect.

However, their sect had always been fair and impartial. Even your backing outside of sect rules mattered little. Only those who earned or deserved their power were given it, and resources could only be earned, never given without reason. They kept true to their *modus operandi*.

Despite that, they felt slightly uncomfortable in their hearts. This child had a knack for offending everyone and their mothers. In fact, Ji Changkong, the Grand Imperial Sage of the Extreme War Mountain, the mountain that Long Chen was a part of, received a bold declaration by Long Chen.

Qin Rui was a little frustrated. Originally, she didn't like Long Chen because of Qing Qiumu. While Qing Qiumu wasn't her direct descendant, she was an exceptional elf with boundless potential who was a part of her mountain. When she first learned of his actions and how he nearly got her killed, including their close relationship, her first instinct was to shut it down. This was before his ascent to the Astral Core Realm and revealment of his status.

She had silently interfered, but this led to nothing. Qing Qiumu remained by Long Chen's side, and she felt unwilling to involve herself too much.

Tuo Bihan's eyes narrowed. From his understanding, Wei Wuyin and Long Chen were at direct odds. When he was investigating him, he learned that Long Chen's personality was unyielding and willing to kill for the slightest grudge. He was quite petty. And according to his way of actions, including the incident with that girl named Na Xinyi, it was unlikely he'll calmly accept Wei Wuyin.

He was conflicted, even vague thoughts of killing Long Chen emerged in his heart. He even made a slight comment that led to Huangfu Wenghu's conflict with Long Chen. In truth, he was responsible for it all.

Fortunately, that went against his own heart and he was certain that Wei Wuyin wouldn't want that. Unbeknownst to him, this was a silent struggle of the Heavenly Daos and two Blessed. If he had taken action, he would merely be stopped by Wu Yu and worsen his karmic ties with Long Chen.

Regardless, Huangfu Wenghu was his responsibility.

But any attempt he made to lessen the conflict was disrupted and only exacerbated the issue. With Long Chen's identity revealed, he simply allowed Huangfu Wenghu to do as he pleased, only explaining the vague consequences. After all, he couldn't reveal Long Chen's identity to others.

"I've done what I can. He'll have to handle everything on his own. If he's truly the fated successor, if he can't handle this much, then he'll be useless to the sect." Tuo Bihan indifferently said. Ji Changkong nodded, agreeing with Tuo Bihan. Qin Rui remained silent alongside Zen.

As for Yao Zhen, he frowned. His thoughts towards Long Chen were slightly antagonistic. His son had a fascination with Long Tingyu and was pursuing her. While Long Chen and Long Tingyu were supposedly

adopted siblings, he still felt uncertain in his heart. He couldn't shake this ominous feeling. But with Long Chen cultivating the Imperial Heaven Qi Method, he was the legacy inheritor of the Grand Monarch.

"We should speak about the gateway discovery found near the borders. The Elemental Heaven Pavilion seemed to want to contest..." Zen said, causing the expressions of Ji Changkong and Qin Rui to brighten. They seemed particularly interested in this matter.

"I..." Just as Yao Zhen was about to speak his concerns in his heart regarding Long Chen, an odd sound echoed throughout the entire world. It was soft, so soft that it was nearly a whisper, but every last living existence on the planet simultaneously heard this sound.

Pop.

The five Grand Imperial Sages expressions drastically changed as they vanished from where they stood!

Chapter 244 - 241: Ungodly Thing

Pop.

It was an unprecedentedly bizarre and unexpected sound, yet when it resounded, there wasn't a single existence on the Myriad Monarch Planet that hadn't heard it. It was as if there was a bubble filled with gushing air that had been poked and exploded, but it was so soft, so low, so all-present that it was difficult to make sense of it.

However, to most, this sound was merely strange and had zero effect on their response. At most, they turned their heads in synchronized confusion. To those who could feel the sound, they reacted intensely and acted with the utmost solemnness.

The five Grand Imperial Sages, Heavenly Commanders, Prime Imperial Sages, Imperial Sages, and Heavenly Kings on the planet were the only ones that felt it. Their Astral Souls rumbled as their innate spatial energies afforded to them by their cultivation base resonated.

Numerous figures throughout the world turned their heads, opened their eyes, looked in a certain direction, and vanished. They left their secluded cultivation, concoction sessions, intimate moments, and idle meditation to flashed through the void. They were like fleeting shadows as various movements arts enhanced by spatial energies were executed. These were all characters at or beyond the Fourth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Spatial Resonance Phase.

In a total of two seconds, a single location within the Myriad Monarch Sect was the gathering place of all these elite experts.

This location was within the Extreme Monarch Mountain! The Myriad Void Gate stationed in the first level. This Myriad Void Gate was Li Ling, a peak Mortal Captain rank Elder, and while she heard the sound, what started her was the numerous auras arriving above the Void Gate. Her heart raced as she left her office in a hurry, and she was accompanied by a sight that would normally be seen in crisis or war—the gathering of the sect's most elite experts.

Tuo Bihan levitated above the Void Gate alongside the other four. They surrounded the Void Gate in a perfect pentagonal formation, their spiritual sense bearing down on the Myriad Gates. They all had dark

expressions, with intense gazes. Away from them in a secondary layer were those at the Fifth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Light Reflection Stage. They acted as a secondary barrier almost instinctively.

Since the true experts of the sect had arrived, they would only be able to serve as support.

Those at the Fourth Stage acted as the third layer. A man-made three-layered circle filled with experts was formed, their auras primed and ready.

Bo Kay was also there. His body wreathed in demonic wind force that manifested as a violet and verdant green cyclone. 'What's happening?' He was startled to notice the formation they took based on who arrived first, and they all came here. From his perspective, he felt a boundless mystifying surge of spatial power in this area. He simply traced it and arrived here out of curiosity.

After all, it was very rare. But the moment he arrived, the Grand Imperial Sages, Prime Imperial Sages, and Heavenly Commanders were already here. He could only distance himself as he realized this incident was beyond his scope. What possible matter could simultaneously attract every expert on the planet? His eyes honed onto the Myriad Void Gate.

Its arc structured and runes remained untouched and unchanged. It was as if nothing was happening outwardly, but he kept feeling as if there was a single point, infinitesimally small to the point of impossible to see, was currently located there. It was at the very center of the arc; this was what his body refined by spatial energies told him.

"You see it?" Ji Changkong was the first to speak, breaking the silence. His words weren't towards anyone besides the other Grand Imperial Sages, so they all remained silent as they listened. Many of their hearts were wildly racing. What did they see?

"..." The other four remained silent. However, in each of their eyes, rays of light, either scintillating, dim, soft, or blazing were being emitted without end. This was their spiritual arts being executed. Ji Changkong was similarly staring with eyes that unleashed sharp light.

Zen said while hefting the turtle shell on her back with a shrug, "There's a spatial anomaly." Her voice was still drawn-out and slow, but each syllable shook the hearts of everyone present. How could there be a spatial anomaly?

One must know that the entire planet was wrapped around by a unique Spatial Array that prevented any unauthorized access to the Myriad Void Gate. This wasn't an array designed and built from their generation but during Grand Monarch Wu Yu's reign. It contained mysteries and profundities that exceeded the Astral Core Realm.

How could they not be startled?

The level of graveness in everyone's eyes increased by several notches. A hint of fear, uncertainty, and vigilance entered their thoughts.

Tuo Bihan narrowed his eyes dangerously, his old hands clenched slowly and vigorous astral force started to accumulate. The sheer power within these hands could cause the collapse of dozens of continental flat earths. The entire space started to ripple and tremble.

"Wait!" Zen called out. She realized Tuo Bihan's thoughts and hastily urged him to pause. Amongst the five Grand Imperial Sages here, Tuo Bihan was the one with the oldest age, sturdiest foundation, and robust energies. Not only was he the only human Grand Imperial Sage, but he was also the strongest human expert at his cultivation level in the entire starfield. Unlike most, he had the luxury of concocting alchemical products for himself. This disparity should not be underestimated.

However, Tuo Bihan didn't. His eyes narrowed furthered and vast, boundless, insane levels of astral force started to bellow as space contorted from the deviating power of gravity, sunlight twisted and turned, absorbed by his body, and space itself rippled.

Yao Zhen, Ji Chengkong, and Qin Rui paled instantly. What was he planning on doing?! The other experts were immediately overwhelmed by the cascading display of power and the entire planet started to tremble. It took their all to stay in position, but many were forced back.

They all gawked in horror. Was this the strength of a sixth phase expert?!

Zen shouted again, "Bihan! Stop!!!" Her old heart was also shaken, but not because of Tuo Bihan, but because she knew why he was readying for a cataclysmic battle.

Tuo Bihan's dull grey robes fluttered, and his entire body emitted boundless light like an immortal from myth. He seemed to have turned deaf, his eyes and aura were stable and determined. The only thing reflected in his senses and pupils was the Myriad Void Gate.

Zen realized Tuo Bihan won't listen, so her heart shivered. She was about to act, but abruptly and without warning, a voice echoed throughout the world. It carried the same qualities as that distinctive pop, but this was a voice.

"Why does this always happen to me?!"

This voice snapped everyone's thoughts towards the Myriad Void Gate. Tuo Bihan, the one seemingly ready to destroy the planet itself, eyes widened in disbelief and shock. This was because that voice was distinctive and clear...

His power deflated as he shot towards the Myriad Void Gate. The other Grand Imperial Sages were shaken as well. They too recognized this voice. It was the voice that bribed them without a hint of shame—Wei Wuyin!

Just as they were about to follow Tuo Bihan, within the center of the Void Gate, a black dot formed. This dot was mysterious, was the size of a marble, and it released no aura. It caused everyone, Tuo Bihan included, to halt their actions. They felt that this black dot was beyond strange. Before they could assess it, a groan of pain echoed as a grey object protruded out of the black dot.

This grey object was smooth and within it was countless ripples in every direction. It looked like...

It looked like...

"It's a fingertip?" Yao Zhen immediately realized the shape of the object. In terms of the anatomy of humanoid creatures, this was the fingertip of an index finger. It lacked flesh, veins, arteries, or a hint of blood, and it was merely the bone portion.

A fingertip?!

Then, the dot expanded. It became capable of fitting two fingers, and the fingertip plunged further outwards as it revealed itself up to the second joint. It moved, wiggling about as if trying to expand the black dot.

What...

Two, three, four, and a thumb. Soon, the black dot expanded enough for an entire grey-colored hand to reveal itself. This caused everyone's eyes to widen into full moons. A grey bone hand was piercing through the black dot and causing it to grow. Furthermore, this hand had a storage ring on its middle finger.

"Hurry the fuck up!"

The voice echoed once more before the black dot expanded in a flash and encompassed the entire Myriad Void Gate. It became a perfectly spherical object that lingered slightly above the ground and seemed to contain black nothingness within. It reminded everyone of a Void Portal and its black void it creates. However, never had they seen a spherical portal. Usually, they were like mirror surfaces with the Void Gate's arc as the frame.

"Is it him?" Tuo Bihan's expression turned completely odd and uncertain. But he couldn't reconcile with what he was seeing.

"Finally!" The voice echoed out for the last time, but the omnipresent-like quality had ceased, with its soft tone becoming clear and near. The hand left the black sphere, accompanied by a bony elbow, shoulder, chin, and head. It soon created a complete picture.

'A skeleton!' This thundered in everyone's minds. Their eyes popped out of their eyes and they saw a sight, seeing the absolutely disturbingly and nearly impossible sight before them. A naked skeleton, but it wasn't completely a skeleton.

Its silver eyes were brilliantly resplendent, connected to a brain that seemed to be permeated by seven-color lights, and a central core that radiated an indistinct color. There were no eyelids or flesh around these eyes, looking ghastly and horrific.

At its chest was a beating grey heart several times larger than a normal human, seemingly covered in scales. Each beat of this heart was like a mythological roar of a legendary creature. While no sound was emitted, this was what their senses and minds perceived.

At his dantian area, directly above his navel, was the only mass of flesh. Besides that, its legs, arms, neck, and head were entirely bone. No, actually, there was one other feature they forgot. There was another piece of flesh that hung from between the skeleton's legs, and it was pointed downwards, swaying with each movement, and its features...

They were impressive, to say the least.

However, there were strings that attached it with the heart and brain, with grey and seven-colored light surging through these strings. There was also distinct golden-colored energy just above it, clearly emitting a glow that permeated into the two dangling spherical objects below.

When the skeleton moved, they all took a step back subconsciously!

They were elite experts, but they weren't used to seeing such an odd corpse. Wait, was it a corpse?

The skeleton paused, its silver eyes swept the crowd unblinkingly. Since it had no eyelids, the sweep was exceptionally terrifying and piercing. It turned its bony head around to look left and right as if to see everyone present, then it turned to see its hand, body, and current situation.

'How the hell am I alive?' Wei Wuyin asked with uncertainty. His entire body was stripped of flesh, blood, leaving his brain, heart, and genitalia. By all means, he should be dead. However, just as he said this, he felt a jolt at his spine. His body neck twisted to his backside.

'Where're my wings? I feel them, but I...' He was confused. From his memories, he had unleashed his Infinite Void Wings. Then, he attempted to travel through the void by using Void Force to generate a Void Portal. But that's not what happened.

No.

That's exactly what happened.

However, he was merely experimenting with the possibility and didn't expect a Void Portal to actually be created. Not only was it created, but he was also sucked into the Void Portal. At that moment, he felt as if he was split into a billion different pieces and experienced a billion different things. His mind was absolutely overloaded with information. He lost himself for a moment until Eden and Kratos acted.

His Infinite Void Wings unleashed his boundless power as they stabilized himself and his mind became increasingly clear as the information was accepted and refined by Eden. When he regained himself, Kratos called him foolish and demanded he hurriedly determine a location.

Realizing the danger, he tried to mentally fixate on his home in the Myriad Monarch Sect. His first and only home within the Wei Clan's grounds where his mother, father, older brother, and himself lived. However, Kratos angrily shouted that he couldn't and his Infinite Void Wings started to unleash more power.

Before he knew it, he was before a white dot and he tried to open it. During this time, it felt both like a century and a millisecond. It was beyond strange. In the end, he tried to pierce through it but was accompanied by a startling amount of feedback. This feedback caused him to feel pain that nearly rivaled being burned alive but paled in comparison to hearing the details about Hell.

It was so painful that he tried his hardest to exit from the white sphere. When he exited, he found himself here—surrounded by the Myriad Monarch Sect experts. And he was a skeleton.

"So bothersome! This was the only location I could connect with." Kratos spoke with annoyance. Wei Wuyin felt its discontent. Quickly, he understood. Since Wei Wuyin's choice was invalid, it likely opened a spatial portal to the most recent fluctuation of the void. That was the Myriad Monarch Sect's Myriad Void Gate on the first level, the location he set off too.

Tuo Bihan's eyes stared for a second, noticing that monstrous thing dangling between its legs, his mind rumbled. "All of you: Disperse!" He gave a direct order. Instinctively, trained by the constant exposure to

the Power of Authority, all those beneath the Grand Imperial Sage departed without hesitation. They traveled a distance away but remained vigilant.

Tuo Bihan lifted his hand and erected a spiritual barrier to prevent senses from encroached. This even isolated the other Grand Imperial Sages. The others didn't question it. They merely stayed at the boundary of the barrier. The inside of it was misty and uncertain.

Tuo Bihan approached, his eyes sweeping Wei Wuyin's skeletal form up and down. "Are you that little lass?"

If Wei Wuyin had eyelids, they would be twitching. He realized Tuo Bihan had a habit of changing his reference often. He could distinctly recall being called little boy, boy, and little fellow in the same exchange. Now it was 'little lass'.

Wei Wuyin tried to speak, but his jaw opened and no sound was emitted. He was uncertain. Didn't he speak before? He could've sworn that he had spoken several sentences a few seconds before.

In truth, if it wasn't for Wei Wuyin's silver eyes and manhood, Tuo Bihan wouldn't have been able to determine his identity with certainty. The first was rare, but the second was indistinguishable. He had seen it fully via his spiritual sense when he broke open the Sky Layer for his crane.

"You're him, but how did yo-" Tuo Bihan was speaking when the black sphere started to visibly tremble.

Ziip!

In a blink of an eye, it was like space was zipped up and the sphere vanished. When it did, Tuo Bihan's eyes widened in disbelief and shock.

"I'm back?!" Wei Wuyin realized his flesh, blood, skin, and various energies had returned into his body. Well, he didn't have any clothes still, but he had returned to normal. He lacked his Infinite Void Wings, but he could feel his bloodline source had thoroughly been exhausted, forcing a regression. As for why? He wasn't certain, but it could be...lag?

"..." Tuo Bihan gave Wei Wuyin an odd gaze. It caused Wei Wuyin to feel uncomfortable.

"What?" Wei Wuyin asked, elation suffused his heart. He truly thought he was dead, and likely became a ghost.

"Brat, are you into exhibitionism?" Tuo Bihan asked honestly.

Wei Wuyin's expression darkened.

Chapter 245 - 242: Gateways & Realms

The incident stirred all the experts which cascaded into alerting everyone else. Before long, everyone in the sect had realized that an event had occurred. Unfortunately, all details of this event were kept under complete suppression. But they knew that the sect had a rule of transparency, so the details would be revealed soon.

Wei Wuyin was in the eighth level of the sky layer, in the same location that the five Grand Imperial Sages had held their meeting. Now, they were gathered once more but with a new addition: Wei Wuyin.

He was fully clothed, adorning his Heavenly King attire fitted to the Extreme Creation Mountain's color—black.

Every last one of these experts stared at Wei Wuyin with an intentful gaze. Their minds were filled with questions. This was especially so for Ji Changkong, Yao Zhen, and Qin Rui. Their main question wasn't about Wei Wuyin, but to Tuo Bihan. He seemed ready to fight to the death, so what was he expecting?

The usually old, auraless man that seemed lazy had revealed his superior cultivation strength. They were all curious about his actions.

Wei Wuyin spoke first, "I found an ancient Void Gate on the Bloodforge Continent. I used my own methods to breach the void and connect with the Myriad Void Gate. The skeleton was indeed me, but it was likely an illusion created by an odd interaction with my method and the void gate. I'm completely fine."

"..." The four Grand Imperial Sages remained silent. But their spiritual senses and instincts were fiercely honed onto every syllable of Wei Wuyin. They could easily deduce if an individual was lying, and even Wei Wuyin couldn't avoid such abilities. Due to this, he didn't lie.

Instead, he said only the truth.

The Grand Imperial Sages were smart and knew that while what he said was true, he omitted too many details. As such, they were filled with suspicion. Fortunately, they didn't have to pry. After all, Wei Wuyin was a member of their sect and was deeply invested within. Furthermore, he was a talent that rivaled the King of Everlore and had exceptional potential.

They heard about his battle on the Bloodforge Continent. He ascended the Astral Core Realm and had strength that could rival the third stage at the jump. This meant he likely had made countless preparations to reinforce his cultivation base the moment he ascended.

They didn't doubt it. After all, Wei Wuyin had given them ten Astral Sea Pills and ten other cultivation reinforcement pills. If he could give them peak-tier seventh-grade pills like that, then he must have a stock of his own. While it was somewhat unbelievable to possess such a fantastic cultivation base at the beginning, which one of them couldn't overcome a cultivation level without such top-tier resources?

Zuhei, for example, could fight those at the Third Stage while at the Second Stage. He comprehended two Intents, Battle and Slaughter, but which one of them hadn't comprehended multiple intents? For example, Ji Changkong was renowned for his Dual Blade Arts, using Sword and Saber. Yao Zhen's unique bloodline contains a rare Fire Intent, and he's comprehended Fist Intent.

The most notable was Zen, she comprehended Water, Ice, and Aquatic Intent with an exceptional bloodline lineage. Despite that, Tuo Bihan, the one who comprehended no Intents, was the undisputed strongest because he had the Dao of Alchemy supporting him. With enough foundational cultivation products bolstering your potential, your Soul Idol and Spatial Resonance would be higher than everyone else.

That was the difference!

Therefore, they didn't question it.

As long as Wei Wuyin was safe, they didn't need to nor did they dare to. Which one of them wasn't aware of how shocking Wei Wuyin's development has been for the last four years? He pretty much had half the sect within his pocket and the other worshipping his name. It was shocking to the extreme. The fact that even they were bribed, one could imagine how much they valued Wei Wuyin and his products.

It was these products that would one day allow them to have the confidence to tackle the Seventh Astral Tribulation. Even Tuo Bihan, the strongest human expert in the starfield, wasn't certain of surpassing the Seventh Astral Tribulation. One could clearly see the immense difficulty within it. It was like crossing a heavenly chasm.

Tuo Bihan sighed inwardly. These grand figures accepted his explanation and didn't grill this little lass to the bone. Was his potential that scary? He shook his head. If the others knew what he was thinking, they would rage.

In their entire lives that spanned for hundreds of years, they might've consumed a hundred or so seventh-grade products. As for eighth-grade, only Yao Zhen and Qin Rui received such benefits and they were concocted and given to them by Tuo Bihan! Even still, they merely consumed one. Tuo Bihan was exceptionally stingy too.

But Wei Wuyin was like a factory. He concocted thousands of seventh-grade products and distributed them to the sect in just four years. From how he's making 'connections' and 'alliances' left and right, he likely was giving out numerous more on the down-low.

Seventh-grade products might be designed for lower-tier Astral Core Realm experts, but an Astral Sea Pill can still expand their Astral Cores and enhance their meridian structure. There were numerous other products that can benefit them, strengthening them by a notch.

They treated his thoughts and impressions even greater than Tuo Bihan. In fact, they felt he was more important than Long Chen and the Grand Monarch Lineage. After all, Wu Yu wouldn't have existed if it wasn't for the King of Everlore. Actually, none of these legendary names would.

Whether it's the Divine King Han Xei, Sacred Elven Queen, or the Abyss Master of Demons, none of them would have reached their phenomenal heights without his influence. After all, cultivation was difficult. The fact that thousands of years after his departure, the decline of the starfield was steady.

Before, those at the Mystic Ascendant Realm ruled. Reamlords, Timelords, and Starlords were abundant and renowned. The number of Astral Core Realm experts were in the hundreds of millions. Now, five million.

And only two Reamlords exist.

In fact, they only existed because of the shadow of the King of Everlore.

It was quite telling.

If Wei Wuyin lived up to his namesake, the Prince of Everlore, then wouldn't they soon become the new Grand Monarch Wu Yu? Sacred Elven Queen? Divine King? Abyss Master of Demons?! How would they grill him and worsen their impression of themselves in his mind.

After sweeping his gaze around, Tuo Bihan realized the conversation was said and done off a few sentences. He could only sigh. Just like before, trouble didn't exist for Wei Wuyin.

"You should refine that method, Heavenly King Wei. You breached the Planetary Spatial Array. If you can master it, there would be no place you couldn't enter." Zen's words caused the thoughts of everyone to thunder. That was right, Wei Wuyin had breached the array and arrived. However he did it, it was a priceless and fearful method.

"We'll keep the details to ourselves and say that you found an ancient and half-functioning Void Gate in the Bloodforge Continent. You attempted to use it and it worked. By luck, you arrived safely back to the planet." Zen established a story for the public. It was filled with truth. While there were uncertainties, facts spoke louder than rumors. Wei Wuyin arrived via the Void Gate in a unique and odd fashion, and he was here. That was enough.

In the end, there wasn't much to discuss. They didn't pry into what method Wei Wuyin used.

Tuo Bihan coughed, "Let's resume our discussions. Specifically, the Gateway." Since they were all still here, this would be best. As for Wei Wuyin's presence, this wasn't a bad thing for them.

Qin Rui and Ji Changkong's eyes simultaneously glowed. They seemed to be very energetic for some reason. Wei Wuyin's silver eyes roamed, noticing Qin Rui's misty veil. His Celestial Eyes were exceptionally powerful and he saw her gorgeous, alluring, and attractive features.

She looked like Qing Qiumu, in terms of countenance, bodily curves, and proud twin mounds. But she was an older version by a few years and with long black hair that had four colorful streaks of highlights. Each color seemed to embody a basic element. It was exquisite. She looked like a painting as her eyes emitted an attractive yin quality that exceeded Na Xinyi.

While Na Xinyi definitely overwhelmed Qin Rui in quantity, as her Three-Point Yin Physique bestowed her three Primal Yins, but Qin Rui outrageously blew her away in quality. He had never seen such powerful, dense, and potent yin energies before. His own yang essence was quivering, his True Dragon Bloodline was burning slightly.

It was as if it was trying to inform him that if he dual cultivated with Qin Rui, used such yin energies to reinforce his bloodline, he would jump a level or two instantly. Desire flashed in his eyes, and this desire was unintentional and instinctive, but the beginning discussions ceased.

Who were these five people? They were Grand Imperial Sages who've cultivated for hundreds of years and their senses were incredibly acute. They noticed Wei Wuyin's yang aura flare, a sign of arousal for men. Qin Rui stilled. Ji Changkong and Yao Zhen turned to Wei Wuyin, with the former holding a frown and the latter with an intrigued gaze.

Tuo Bihan remained impassive while Zen revealed an expression of realization. There's no way Qin Rui would've met Wei Wuyin personally before. She was the most mysterious of the five, keeping mostly to herself and avoided men. If it wasn't for Tuo Bihan viewing her as a niece, she might've not revealed herself before him.

After all, he was terrifyingly strong with exceptional skill as an Emperor Alchemist. Despite his old age, he had all the features one would want in a husband or Dao Companion. Unfortunately and fortunately,

Tuo Bihan had one love who long since passed due to old age. Since then, he's remained unavailable to all.

However, Wei Wuyin was vigorous and filled with potential. He would definitely be attracted to Qin Rui's innate aura that even she couldn't conceal. If he desired her, what would she do?

A frown emerged on Zen's face now, realizing the situation might not end so well. If it was anyone else, it might not matter, even if it was Long Chen, but if it's Wei Wuyin...

Several seconds passed in awkward silence.

Wei Wuyin's eyes moved, turning away from Qin Rui and to Zen. "Grand Imperial Sage Zen, please continue. I'm curious about this gateway." His abrupt change in subject was shocking, and the yang flaring had subsided. Somehow, Wei Wuyin had completely suppressed his natural male instincts. How frightening must his willpower be for this?

Zen, Yao Zhen, and Ji Changkong simultaneously revealed expressions of surprise. Especially Ji Changkong. When he first met Qin Rui, he had lost his will and was beaten by Tuo Bihan due to it. This was before he became an official Grand Imperial Sage, and far before Qin Rui did. Now that they reached this level, weren't her attractive powers far, far greater?

Zen didn't look a gift horse in the mouth and continued, "At the border of our territory, at the Auric Sea, one of our subordinate sects discovered a Gateway Door."

Wei Wuyin's heart raced. Gateway Doors were names meant for spatial entrances. They led to secret realms. Those at the Realm Lord Phase were said to be able to slice into space and fit a tiny world within its layers. These tiny worlds were called realms, and could be classified as secret realms and world realms. Secret realms were usually locations that Realm Lords and those above stored their treasures and the location of their Storage Rings.

As for world realms, they were oftentimes like continental flat earths and needed an immense amount of resources, strength, and time to create. Most of these Gateway Doors were concealed by various formations and arrays.

This was because a storage ring can be destroyed, and the Gateway Door allowed the user to gain access to it. According to old records, these realms were often for descendants and lineages to survive and thrive in. The Myriad Monarch Sect had a training-type world realm, but it suffered damage due to the earlier war between the other three sects.

The Myriad Monarch Sect also had several Gateway Doors established by Wu Yu and the other Grand Monarchs, and the secret realm stored all their most valuable treasures, legacies, and even descendants. If the sect was besieged and destroyed one day, they could retreat within and survive in secret.

Finding Gateway Doors was exceptionally difficult. It required a little bit of luck and a sufficient cultivation base that rivaled its creator. Even then, it might take a century of search to accurately pinpoint. Only those who have the means to find it or knew its location could find it with ease.

Therefore, for a Gateway Door to be discovered was incredible. Regardless if it was a secret realm or world realm, the benefits within can't be little. After all, at minimum, a Realm Lord had to have created it.

The resources they planted, tools they left, legacies, and the environment left behind might be beneficial for cultivation.

And if it was a secret realm created by a Timelord or Starlord...

Oh boy.

Ji Changkong and Qin Rui's excitement was well justified.

With something like this before him, Wei Wuyin knew he had to participate.

Chapter 246 - 243: Her Indecision

The Myriad Monarch Sect was renowned for its transparency, so those speculating over the strange events earlier were swiftly enlightened. Firstly was the sound that every living thing heard and then the voice. They explained it away as a unique spatial art causing ripples in space after interacting with a Void Gate, and the originator of this voice was Wei Wuyin.

Not only was this revealed, but also his breakthrough into the Astral Core Realm. Even the news regarding events on the Bloodforge Continent was explained and handled properly, leaving no imaginations left to wonder or develop conspiracy theories.

This caused an uproar to ignite amongst the citizens of the planet and members of the sect. Conversations filled with wonder and reverence kept echoing throughout the world. The renowned Prince of Everlore kept performing feats that amazed the world. It was less than half a decade yet his reputation and abilities were accelerating at lightspeed.

Word swiftly spread without end throughout the Myriad Monarch Astral Territory. Soon, three days passed.

In the Myriad Monarch Sect, the Extreme War Mountain's fourth level, there was a residence established with the earth as its foundation. It was a tall, dark, and exceptional palace that was used by Earthly Elite rank disciples. It had various formations and arrays to support and reinforce cultivation bases.

This particular palace belonged to a recently promoted disciple of the Earthly Elite rank. Within this palace was a gathering of young talents, both men and women, with a single leading character—Long Chen. His black hair and eyes contained an innately majestic aura that seemed to highlight his presence. On his back was a black sword sheath with a translucent sword hilt embedded within.

Beside him, amongst the group, were female creatures of exceptional quality. They lacked nothing in beauty or innate potential when compared to others. They were notable figures to anyone familiar with Long Chen.

Wu Baozhai. Her aura stable and stately, eyes flashing with intelligence, and an innate pride that had been refined from exposure with the grand starfield. Her cultivation base had changed greatly since the Myriad Yore Continent, touching upon the Eighth Stage of the Qi Condensation Realm. From the depths of her cultivation base, her Qi Essence numbers exceeded thirty.

Lian Yu. Her serene aura was unsurpassable as she seemed like a quiet lake within a beautiful picture. Those sapphire eyes of hers rippled slightly with the delicate softness of water. Her cultivation base

reflected herself, and she too was at the Eighth Stage. Her Qi Essence numbers didn't lack when compared to Wu Baozhai.

Hong Ru and Xiao Bing. They stood opposite to each other, their auras a stark contrast amongst each other as one had a chilly and frigid, the other was blazing and fiery. As Earthly Elite disciples, they had long since entered the Second Stage of the Astral Core Realm. While they were of similar ages to Lian Yu and Wu Baozhai, their treatment and access to resources were heavens apart.

That being said, their foundations were certainly lacking as they both forged their Astral Souls at the 5th Mortal State. From this point, while their cultivation bases and strength was beyond Lian Yu and Wu Baozhai, their innate potential and future were gated unless they obtained grand opportunities.

Besides Long Chen, there was another male among this group. This young man had a stout appearance, his belly somewhat protruding from his robes, and his face was chubby as if there were remnants of baby fat within them. He had a baby face, soft and nascent, and seemed to be astonishingly young. However, his aura couldn't be ignored. Despite his youth, looking no more than a teenager, his cultivation base was at the Astral Core Realm.

They were all gathered in a particular room, their eyes focused on a young woman with an ashen complexion that laid atop a jade bed. Her eyelids fluttered about as a weak light suffused those grey pupils. Her skin was somewhat cracked, dry, and lacked its normal brilliance. Each strand of her light-brown hair lacked its glow, seemingly losing its luster.

It was Na Xinyi. Her aura was frail and fizzling.

"...What happened to her?" Lu Feng, the chubby young man, asked with a shocked expression. His words caused Long Chen's expression to darken as guilt flitted through his eyes. The other girls merely kept silent, but they were also curious as to what plight Na Xinyi suffered.

Only Wu Baozhai's eyes were saddened.

Na Xinyi lifted her eyelids weakly to observe the room. That grey gaze of hers found its way to Long Chen whose face was laden with guilt. A soft, gentle smile suffused her lips.

"Don't look down; I decided to of my own free will." Her voice was somewhat raspy as she spoke, causing the guilt on Long Chen's face.

"Is there anything we can do to help, Big Sis Xinyi?" Lu Feng felt pained seeing Na Xinyi in a weak state. Since becoming friends with Long Chen, he tagged a form of emotional importance to each of those in his circle. He treated Na Xinyi and Lian Yu at the most important of the circle due to their kind temperaments. Unlike the other girls, they never made fun of him because of his chubby cheeks or youthful looks and mentality.

"..." Na Xinyi and Long Chen didn't answer him immediately. Instead, Long Chen gritted his teeth and clenched his fists. Na Xinyi reached out and touched Long Chen's face with her feeble and soft hands. The sensation of her touch instigated a change in Long Chen's expression as his eyes widened and shook.

"Little Lu, your Big Brother Long needed something. I gave it to him. That's why I'm like this, but...but it's only temporary. I'll get better soon." She beautifully smiled away any inkling of concern, completely

relaxed and blissful. Lu Feng was taken aback, but he realized the situation was a little more complex than expected.

Long Chen forced a smile, grabbing her hand into his own. Their eyes remained on each other's faces. Only after a long moment was it interrupted by a soft voice, "She needs rest." It was Lian Yu who spoke. Hong Ru, Xiao Bing, Wu Baozhai, and Lu Feng soon understood the meaning and left. Long Chen stayed a little longer, his eyes never leaving Na Xinyi's face as if to brand it into his mind.

"You too," Lian Yu said. Long Chen inhaled deeply and exhaled softly. He nodded, reluctantly rising and leaning forward. He left a kiss on Na Xinyi's forehead and whispered to her, "I'll find a way to restore them. I promise." He soon left after those words, his steps steady and his back strong.

Lian Yu waited until they were all left before walking to Na Xinyi's bedside. Na Xinyi's eyes grew misty as her body shivered. She was experiencing an immense amount of pain within every cell of her body. This was a side-effect of the method she deployed earlier.

Lian Yu waved her hand, bringing forth a chair to sit on. She softly said, "My water healing arts won't help you." Lian Yu admitted, but Na Xinyi's face suffered no change. It was as if she already knew.

Biting her lips, Lian Yu couldn't help but feel for her. "You didn't have to do that." Those six words carried so much pity and sadness that it was heartbreaking. But Na Xinyi still didn't blink or show any change in her expression.

Na Xinyi thought about the events that had transpired. After the events on the Platform of Criminal Execution, Long Chen's desire for strength grew. He started to become a mad dog of cultivation, wishing to ascend the Astral Core Realm and become a true disciple of a sect. Only then would he have the authority to protect himself and those he loved.

Because of his lack of strength, Lin Ziyang suffered immensely and was crippled in every manner imaginable. As for Qing Qiumu and Long Tingyu, they were on the borders of being executed. While this wasn't directly his fault, it started because of him; the sensation of watching them be taken away and their lives being decided by others fueled him to no end.

This maniac desire for strength led to a change in his own personality. He became fiercer and strict, attempting to fight for every opportunity for strength. In doing so, he engaged and got into conflict with the Huangfu Clan's younger generation. This Huangfu Clan was supported by an Alchemic King, so each member was above average in strength and potential.

In the end, just a short while ago, he challenged an expert at the Second Stage of the Astral Core Realm. This was something an Eighth Stage Qi Condensation Realm expert could never match and defeat. He would undoubtedly lose.

Perhaps if he wasn't madly pursuing the Zenith Mortal State, he could ascend the Astral Core Realm and fight above his cultivation level, but he was. Without reaching the Zenith Mortal State, he would never assail the next stage or realm—she knew this. They all knew this.

Thus, Na Xinyi risked herself. She was the possessor of a unique physique, the Three-Point Yin Physique, and she had primal yin energies that exceeded normal women that were immensely beneficial for the

cultivation of a variety of different types of energies. If one amassed a vast amount of pure yin energies, they could convert that into Qi Essence with the appropriate cultivation method with relative ease.

When she was at the Foundation Establishment Realm, normal dual cultivation allowed him to ascend into the Fourth Stage of Qi Condensation. This showed how impressively beneficial her primal yin was to opposing cultivators. Her thoughts were shifting towards giving herself to Long Chen, and her remaining two Primal Yin. As she had nourished them until she was at the Eighth Stage of the Qi Condensation Realm, their effect would be immensely beneficial to the opposite sex.

However, she didn't lay with him. Instead, she employed a direct method that caused her to suffer immense loss to her lifespan and innate energies. With this method, she extracted her purest yin source from her two untouched primal yins and wholeheartedly gave it to Long Chen for cultivation.

It was the only way for him to receive a hundred percent of the benefits in the shortest period of time and ascend into the Astral Core Realm with a Zenith Mortal State Natal Souls. One yin source for each Natal Soul.

The consequences of such were apparent. Her body and meridians were damaged and her body suffered an acute and massive loss of yin energies. While her physique's innate ability to contain three yin sources remained, she no longer had a Three-Point Yin Physique due to her actions. She had sacrificed her gift for Long Chen.

With it, he achieved his goal in an incredibly short period of time. With Wu Yu and the Myriad Monarch Canon's support, he fused his two Natal Souls into one, achieving the rare cultivation path that the Sacred Elven Queen was renowned for. Subsequently, he defeated all the Huangfu Clan's juniors and elite geniuses with unprecedented superiority, revealing his shine for the world to see.

She didn't regret it.

Her ultimate sacrifice will definitely be repaid ten-fold by Long Chen in the future. Her belief in him was firm.

"Why didn't you use the normal method?" Lian Yu asked curiously. If Na Xinyi had dual cultivation with Long Chen, while the benefit might not be as impressive, her body wouldn't have suffered this degree of damage. Furthermore, she would've simultaneously benefited and saw a spike in her own cultivation base. Why one-sidedly extract and give up her yin sources?

Na Xinyi's glazed eyes shook slightly. She turned her head away and didn't answer. She didn't even want to think about why.

But Lian Yu saw her emotions ripple outwards at the moment her question was revealed. "It's because of him?" Her words were soft, but Na Xinyi's entire body shivered slightly.

The 'him' was clearly Wei Wuyin and his offer. As long as she remained untainted, he promised to marry her as long as she decided to in thirty-odd years. Lian Yu stared at Na Xinyi. After a moment, she shook her head. "I'm thankful for what you did, but if you choose to love him, then you should do it wholeheartedly. Keeping your options open, how could he not notice and see it within your eyes? What do you think he'll do?"

"..." Na Xinyi.

"You know already in your heart that Long Chen isn't one to drop a grudge. He'll see your hesitance and feelings, and he'll solve your choice for you. He'll feel the need to." Lian Yu knew Long Chen's personality well enough to know that he was an emotional troublemaker with a desire to prove himself to those he loved and himself. Furthermore, he had a murderous streak and tended to solve his issues with the edge of his sword.

While he was charismatic, talented, and honest to those he loved, traits that caused those of the opposite sex to flutter towards him like doves to bread, it was those very traits that made one feel insecure. Even Lian Yu had doubtful thoughts about Long Chen, but she had decided to accept him fully regardless of his choices in the future. She simply wanted to see the man she had given her heart to succeed and reach his fullest potential.

Na Xinyi's shivering body stilled. Lian Yu's words held deep meaning: if she didn't choose, Long Chen would definitely kill Wei Wuyin in the future. While she had somewhat written off her grudge against him due to his fulfillment back in the Myriad Yore Continent and his help later, Long Chen might not have done the same. In his heart, a grudge might be festering due to her.

She bit her lower lip, but her heart remained undetermined.

Why?

Why?

Why couldn't she choose?!

She gave up her yin sources without hesitation, a fiercely damaging action, but she couldn't give her entire self wholeheartedly to him. She couldn't do what Wu Baozhai, Lian Yu, and Lin Ziyang had already done. This made her uncertain.

Lian Yu couldn't understand her, and she barely understood herself. But the desire to be a figure defined by her own achievements versus the achievements of others were imprinted into her heart since she was freed by Wei Wuyin all those years ago. Every day, she heard word and rumor spread about the new Prince of Everlore. She could hear the vast reverberation of history and its current influence due to the King of Everlore.

Regardless of who it was, if they've reached amazing heights and established thousands of years of reputation and reverence, the King of Everlore's name was silently behind it. While these figures were talented, exceptional in their own right, they all became renowned rulers.

In her heart of hearts, she wanted that.

Who didn't?

But would Long Chen be able to help her? Will she merely be the foil for him to rise, given comfort and slowly fading from history as she was reserved to birth his children and warm his bed. A life like that...

"...I'm tired..."

Lian Yu's eyelids drooped as she felt a tinge of discontent at Na Xinyi's indecision. This feeling became a heat of anger in her heart. She couldn't just leave as she abruptly walked forward and glared at Na Xinyi,

forgetting her fragile state as she exclaimed, "Do you think Long Chen's not capable of fulfilling your wants? Do you not love him?!"

Her normally serene eyes were now suffused with blazing rage.

"..." Na Xinyi remained silent, which only fueled Lian Yu's emotions. Stoked by Na Xinyi's verbal silence, Lian Yu clenched her delicate fists.

"I don't believe Wei Wuyin will ever surpass Long Chen. He's an alchemist, nothing more. Even the King of Everlore was merely a pill dispenser. He wasn't strong, merely capable of allowing others to become strong. Others simply used him until they exceeded his capabilities, giving him proper respect after. When he vanished from this world, he was the ultimate foil for others. He has no force or status in this world. Only someone like Long Chen will have the ability to reign supreme throughout the eras!"

Her words were her most innermost thoughts. While she remained silent throughout their interactions, she watched Wei Wuyin and Long Chen interactions. She had her own thoughts and opinions, and she honestly believed that Wei Wuyin wasn't Long Chen's equal. Long Chen was someone with infinite potential and an honest heart.

He would...he would never stoop so low as to force himself on a woman or abandon his sect who helped him reach his current achievements. He would never abandon his loved ones and friends. Long Chen was the only light in this dark, dirty world of cultivation. For Na Xinyi to not understand this thoroughly enraged her.

But Na Xinyi clenched her teeth, her fists weakly shaking. "You..."

Lian Yu heard this and bite at it, "You what?!"

"You...you don't understand. Please leave." Na Xinyi turned over, gripping the covers of the bed and wrapping it around her body.

Lian Yu's ample chest rose and fell repeatedly. It was only after a while did she calm down and directly left. The door slammed behind her.

Na Xinyi's heart was stinging with boundless pain that exacerbated her already horrible condition.

Was she selfish? Was she wrong?

"You really don't understand. I do feel like you do...but I want to reign supreme throughout the eras." Her words were little more than a whisper, but in the end, no one could hear them.

As Lian Yu left the room, she walked outside to see the five gathered about discussing something. Leng Fu was the first to notice her arrival and his eyes were flashing with brilliant light filled with intrigue, "Big Sis Yu!" He called out, his short stature and legs walked towards her.

Lian Yu smiled gently. "What is it?" When she asked this, her eyes briefly glanced at Long Chen whose expression was indeterminate. He seemed to contain a little frustration, thinking, and determination, but also something new.

Lu Feng excitedly bounced about and said, "News just in! Heavenly King Wei was responsible for that voice, and he seemed to have secretly left for the Bloodforge Continent earlier. He just returned which caused that sound and voice to resound. And he reached the Astral Core Realm!"

Lian Yu's eyebrow lifted. Before she could speak, Lu Feng energetically continued. "It's said his strength when he ascended could rival those at the Third Stage of the Astral Core Realm! He defeated an impressive genius on the Bloodforge Continent!"

"..." Lian Yu stilled.

What?

Third Stage?

At the First Stage?

Recalling Long Chen's struggling victory against those at the Second Stage of the Astral Core Realm, her heart quivered slightly. She glanced at Long Chen, recalling what she said before. Her face wasn't hot yet, but Lu Feng's next words felt as if it was a slap to her face.

"Because of his shocking combat prowess that even rivals Heavenly Kings in terms of battle, not only have those started calling him the Prince of Everlore but the Prince of the Myriad World! They're calling him the next Grand Monarch! It makes sense! After all, he doesn't have an Alchemic Astral Soul like the King of Everlore so he should be able to cultivate normally!

"With both talents in the Dao of Alchemy and the Martial Dao, he's truly the improved version of the King of Everlore!" Lu Feng was quite excited at the news. He admired Wei Wuyin deeply, untainted yet by the bad blood between Long Chen and Wei Wuyin.

"..." Lu Feng's eyes became dazed.

Chapter 247 - 244: Do It! Do It! Do It!

"How bothersome." Wei Wuyin complained in his heart as he rested on his bed. Shortly after returning to the Myriad Monarch Sect, he happily arrived at his home between the sky. Since returning, a full week had passed, and that week was riddled with various issues that plagued his thoughts recently.

Not externally. All things on the outside were developing decently. The Gateway to the recently discovered realm had been planned around, but there was a little conflict with the Elemental Heaven Pavilion, a dispute over who owned and could enter. Within were likely boundless benefits and both hegemonic forces didn't wish to relinquish their right to it.

Its location was the Auric Sea, a location within the Myriad Monarch Astral Territory, but it bordered the Elemental Heaven Astral Territory, so they discovered it when the subordinates of the Myriad Monarch Sect had. By right, it belonged to them.

But the Elemental Heaven Pavilion was relentless, unwilling to surrender. That being said, it was soon agreed that they wouldn't inform others and seal information regarding the Gateway so no others infringe on their rights. A conflict still arose, and this was on the limit of individuals that could enter.

After investigating the Gateway, they determined it was likely a World Realm. Within was a location similar to a continental flat earth developed and raised by the Timelord or Starlord responsible. As for why Realmlord was eliminated from being suspected to have created this Gateway: it had a complicated Temporal Spiritual Formation embedded within. This restricted those above the age of three hundred years old from entering.

It was either a training ground for the ancient elites or a legitimate world used to protect descendants.

Since none of them wished to risk shattering the Temporal Spiritual Formation, they decided to enter with those of that qualification. Despite that, there were likely ancient tools, resources, and cultivation grounds that remained that could be used to develop their youths or bolster their forces overall strength.

But there was another issue. The Gateway had a limit on how many could enter. This furthered their belief that the Gateway led to a trial to train young elites or a desperate hideaway for descendants. This issue meant they could only send a limited amount each, having to divide their spots between each other. It was similarly this reason why they locked down news from transmitting outwards about the Gateway.

As a Heavenly King, below the age of three hundred, he was clearly an individual that will enter. He reserved his spot and would be waiting for them to hash out all the details and prepare their youths. According to the Grand Imperial Sages, this could take a few years to prepare. With this newfound free time, he decided to explore his Infinite Void Wings ability to travel into that unknown space.

Unfortunately, his bloodline source was thoroughly exhausted and recovered very slowly. Even after a week, he couldn't draconify. While his Draconic Force and Void Force restored swiftly, his bloodline powers were unavailable. Therefore, he was severely lacking the key to do so.

However, Kratos and Eden had informed him of a few things regarding his trip. Firstly, Eden had said his sea of consciousness was overwhelmed with information, memories, and details. These pieces of information seemed to originate from everywhere and everything at the same time.

In the simplest explanation: his brain took a flash photo of everything throughout that point of time and all of space. If it wasn't for Eden using his Alchemic Eden Energies to deconstruct and obliterate this information, he would've become a full-blown mentally disabled at best, and his sea of consciousness would've exploded at worst. The strain of eliminating so much energy had caused it to draw energies from Ori. They both were exhausted completely by the time he exited.

Furthermore, Eden couldn't rid his sea of consciousness of all of it, having to seal and slowly eliminate it within itself. Even now, information was still there. When Wei Wuyin tried to gleam into it, he fell unconscious. A single strand of information was beyond intense.

What he saw, felt, heard, tasted, and smelled overtook his senses and thoughts until his entire self nearly exploded. Furthermore, this was merely information about an air molecule. Yes, an air molecule. He had never thought so much information could be contained in such a small existence.

He allowed Eden to slowly destroy this information. Perhaps his cultivation base would reach a level where he could glimpse into this photo and gain an understanding of the entire universe, but his ability was obviously severely lacking.

Kratos had also told him unfortunate news. This regarded the lag he experienced. But while it was explaining, he didn't get it. It was too vague and pretty much gibberish. The only thing he understood was that he had nearly died, but Kratos used the King's energies to support the transition. When he exited the portal, besides his innate energies stored within his flesh and bones, he lacked all the astral force and energies within his four Astral Souls.

If they lacked even a little bit, his death might've been certain. Essentially, he escaped death from two different directions. While relieved, he couldn't help but be happy about Xiao Bai's discomfort at his bloodline pressure. He was planning on taking him, but that would've been a horrible decision.

If he came, Xiao Bai's death would've been certain.

With all said and done, he exhausted his bloodline source and nearly died.

'Xue Yifei is stuck on the Bloodforge Continent.' Thinking of that gorgeous woman, his heart burned with a little feverish heat. While he exerted impeccable self-control, she was his concubine. The thought of such a gorgeously enchanting woman wreathing beneath and above him stimulated his natural male instincts.

"Haaa..." he sighed. While he could travel to the Bloodforge Continent via a Void Gate, returning was impossible for now. He didn't know how long it would take for his bloodline source to recover, and there was no pill or elixir at the eighth-grade that influenced bloodline source—only ninth-grade.

This meant becoming a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. If he could concoct the ninth-grade, low-tier Everblood Source Pill, then recovering would be a relatively easy feat. This particular recipe was renowned for recovering, promoting, and birthing bloodline sources. This was typically used for Star Beasts like Xiao Bai or Beastmen who cultivated their unique Bloodline alongside their Natal Souls.

For example, Zen cultivated an Aquatic Astral Soul with her bloodline powers bestowed from her beast-side. She can, like him, tap into the powers of her bloodline and intermix it with her Aquatic Astral Soul. This was all due to her bloodline being an Aquatic Bloodline. With these two portions of strength combined, her power could not be underestimated. This was especially so when surrounded by water.

"Bloodline Source... it's essentially what generates my Essence Blood. I draw power from my Essence Blood to activate my Innate Bloodline Abilities. Essence Blood contains my purest bloodline strength and defines my power. My Mark of Myth's level determines the quality of my Essence Blood. When it is used up, I use my Bloodline Source to replenish my Essence Blood. However, if my Bloodline Source is exhausted, my ability to generate Essence Blood stalls." Wei Wuyin quietly recalled this information.

It was Anu's three Essence Blood drops that allowed him to refine legitimate True Dragon Essence Blood and travel the path of a Draconic Heart of Blood(line).

He felt depressed slightly. His two partners had left the planet after his departure, and Xiang Ling was in secluded cultivation with Long Tingyu. With Xue Yifei, he couldn't idle the time away with comfort.

"Why not try?" Ori's voice resounded in his mind.

"Hm?" Wei Wuyin's inner thoughts shifted as he focused on Ori. This Divine Elemental Soul was energetic and kinda childish, but it was definitely not unintelligent. In fact, it was likely smarter than Kratos and King. They both had difficulties conveying their thoughts, especially the former who spoke in vagueness that was borderline hairpulling. However, Ori was outspoken and clear.

"Try! Try! Try! You know, try to concoct the ninth-grade!" Although Ori tended to come off a little...

Regardless, Wei Wuyin understood its thoughts. "You want me to try concocting a ninth-grade product?" The thought had occurred to him, but for some reason, he was slightly nervous in imagining himself doing so. This was the first time since he started concocting that he felt like this.

Perhaps it was because only the King of Everlore, a living legend of grand proportions, was the only existence in the entire starfield's written history to achieve this feat. In the entire Myriad Yore Continent, there were only three Emperor Alchemists. As for the entire starfield?

Less than twenty.

He hadn't even officially entered the ranks of Alchemic Emperors, and while he could concoct eighth-grade products, he never revealed this fact. While he did so mostly to ensure his shine wasn't too much of a threat to others before he gained enough strength to defend him, the truth was that...

The moment he concocted more than a hundred eighth-grade combat pellets, few in the entire starfield could threaten him. At that point, he could've revealed his ability without fear. If enemies besieged the sect, he could just spend his time concocting pellets before allowing the Grand Imperial Sages to throw them at his enemies.

Who could defend such an assault?

The nervous itch didn't vanish. The mental reverence towards the King of Everlore was somehow entrenched in his thoughts. He wanted to reach his limits, but he also was terrified of failing. Considering he now had Alchemic Astral Force, ninth-grade products shouldn't be an issue.

He closed his eyes.

"You should do it! Do it! Do it! Who cares if you fail or not?! Do it! Do it! Do it!" Ori was very energetic as she urged him to push forward.

"There's nothing we can not do, and no one we need to look up to," Kratos added. Its innate arrogance was clear. To it, it was a supreme existence.

"Ninth-Grade? Too low." King merely stated this with a sharp, biting tone filled with disdain and contempt. This was likely the most words it spoke at a single time, shocking Kratos and Ori. Four words?!

Eden remained silent for a moment, but the three Astral Souls were clearly 'looking' in its direction. In truth, Eden was the driving force behind the concoction. While Wei Wuyin essentially was the conductor and literal driver, and whether they succeeded or not was definitely a large part based on him, Eden still was what provided that strength.

His opinion on the matter was the utmost of importance. Furthermore, it was the one who decided who received what. They had long since treated Eden as a jolly grand existence, delivering presents for them to improve themselves.

"...Let's." Eden added only a single word, but it contained boundless confidence and desire. It was defined by the Alchemic Dao, how could it not wish to improve and touch the limits of Mortal Products? It wished to enter the realm of Mystic Products, touching upon the profound mysteries the world had to offer.

One day, it wanted to meet the sun and the moon.

Wei Wuyin grinned. He lifted himself off the bed and stretched lightly, "Let's." The determination to concoct a ninth-grade product and enter the Mortal Sovereign Alchemist level blazed within his heart. This step will define his future; he felt it in his bones.

Chapter 248 - 245: The Stellar Manifestation Of The Mortal Sovereign

Beneath the final atmospheric layer of the vast sky of the Myriad Monarch Planet, bellowing winds raged endlessly causing clouds to be sundered and twisted. These turbulent and chaotic gales had an epicenter, clear as the sun in the sky: a proud, dignified, and luxurious palace that sat upon the sky.

Blasting from within to the outside world was loud rumbling sounds and scintillating seven-colored light that pierced through the windows, entrances, and cracks within the palace. Those seven colors were striking, tinting the world in their vibrant hues, and this caused the clouds and air to change alongside it. At times, there would be a single color amongst the seven more dominant than others, alternating in a set pattern.

The commotion was endless, and those below the Sky Layers were looking up in wonder as the light show cascaded downwards. From their perspective, it was as if the sky was being painted and near collapse. It was both a terrifying and invigorating sight that attracted the attention of everyone.

At this moment, the sky palace that seemed to give birth to this event was surrounded by numerous figures as they watched with shocked eyes. Among these figures were five unmistakable individuals that were recognized and respected by the entire starfield—the five Grand Imperial Sages.

It had just been two weeks ago that a phenomenon had been caused by Wei Wuyin's insane return. Now, they were startled and shocked to discover another event that drew an infinite amount of attention. Regardless of what this youngster does, he was a star that could not be ignored.

From the time he stepped in the sect, it had been following his lead.

"What is happening? Is it bad?" Qin Rui lamented in her heart as her subordinates of her Extreme Mountain were behind her, watching the events with astonished gazes. These were the Sky Nobles, Heavenly Kings, Earthly Elites, Heavenly Commanders, Imperial Sages, and Prime Imperial Sages of her mountain. Her words that were uttered without much thought caused those behind her to tremble.

Even their revered Grand Imperial Sage was confused? They couldn't help but watch more intently but simultaneously preparing themselves for any unexpected event. It wasn't just them who reacted as such or was watching nearby, essentially all of those of sufficient ranking, be it disciple or elder, were here.

This meant all Extreme Mountains experts and geniuses were currently watching the sky palace above.

Yao Zhen was wreathed in a demonic aura as he imposingly stood next to Tuo Bihan. He was the only Grand Imperial Sage that stayed near another. The others were spread out as their subordinates were behind them. As for the demons of the Extreme Demon Mountain, they were watching from an even safer distance.

"Grand Imperial Sage Tuo, what's happening?" His violet eyes burned brightly as it inspected the sky palace erupt in a variety of colorful lights and caused the air to vibrate into a chaotic rumble. Unlike the others, he felt the seven-colored light was quite familiar. But he couldn't pinpoint it.

Tuo Bihan's dull grey robes fluttered endlessly as he levitated with furrowed brows. In the end, a confused light suffused his eyes. "It shouldn't be possible." He shook his head, trying to consider the various things he knew about Wei Wuyin. But it shouldn't be possible.

It shouldn't.

Yao Zhen frowned and inquired, "Alchemic Force?" He had seen alchemists before. He knew of the Alchemic Aura, energies, and forces that could unleash in concocting products. It typically produced a glow, but the glow wasn't clearly seven-colors. Despite the Alchemic Dao being divided into seven traits, alchemic qi and force was clear. The only evidence of it was its aura that often permeated the atmosphere, giving off a unique smell and feel.

"Wait...could it be?" Yao Zhen stilled immediately and his expression became dignified.

Tuo Bihan's eyes stared at the phenomena and still couldn't reconcile with what was happening. He was an Emperor Alchemist, but he cultivated a unique method to convert essence into energy with alchemical properties. However, there was one indicator that caused the normally clear form of energy into seven-colors.

An Alchemic Natal Soul!

The purest form of alchemical energies was defined by their seven colors.

But it's utterly impossible.

After all, Wei Wuyin had an Astral Soul. He hadn't realized it was two, believing it to be a merged Astral Soul like Long Chen. When Wei Wuyin returned, his internal body was visible by all, but he threw away the oddities. Primarily, there were tens of thousands of cultivation methods alone that could turn one's skeleton grey, one's brain to release light, and heart to become scaled.

For example, Yao Zhen, his eyes weren't originally violet flames. He refined his eyes with Demonic Flames of the Violet Sun. By doing this, he simultaneously opened up a unique path for Spiritual Spells & Violet Sun Arts. He strengthened himself and changed his physiology for cultivation.

This standard belief and the commonly accepted reason was similarly why the other Grand Imperial Monarch hadn't questioned his irregularities. In their eyes, it wasn't. If you extracted their blood, sinew, their brain, bones, or heart, one could find numerous abnormal changes to them.

As for why Wei Wuyin possessing an Alchemic Astral Soul was impossible, it was because he had combat prowess! From what he gathered from the Bloodforge Continent, Wei Wuyin's astral force was powerful

and vast. He used his astral force to overwhelm his opponent, a genius of that continent with relative ease. This meant the alchemical energies within his body were refined via a method and used specifically for the concoction process.

To be clear, Tuo Bihan, a renowned Emperor Alchemist and non-wielder of an Alchemic Soul, his body currently contained no alchemical energies of any kind. If his alchemical energies were to infuse with his other energies before being converted into astral force or enter and permeate his Astral Core, the entire batch of force would become an innocuous force.

This was the general method all alchemists who lacked an Alchemic Soul employed.

But those with an Alchemic Astral Soul entire body was permeated with Alchemical Energies. This wasn't possible to stop. When their bodies, mind, and meridians were continuously refined by this energy, its qualities would inevitably merge into every facet of one's cultivation. It was impossible to change.

Or so it was believed.

"It's not possible. That rascal should be executing a conversion method, attempting to create pure alchemical energies for the concoction." Tuo Bihan wasn't a narrow-minded individual with a lack of thought, but his thousand and longer years of cultivation reinforced his belief that Wei Wuyin couldn't have an Alchemic Soul.

Yao Zhen found this explanation plausible and relaxed. His eyes lost its fear as he seemed to find the reasoning behind the commotion. If Wei Wuyin was using a conversion method to refine out purer alchemical energies, then he should be safe due to the energies' lack of offensive and threatening potential. Furthermore, he should be preparing a big move.

Qin Rui's eyes roamed and saw Tuo Bihan and Yao Zhen. Seeing Yao Zhen's relaxed and expectant expression, she frowned and flashed over. Her subordinates reeled, losing their sense of safety they retreated the same distance as Yao Zhen's demons.

Qin Rui questioned Yao Zhen and Tuo Bihan. Yao Zhen explained their thoughts, and Qin Rui's expression similarly relaxed with expectations. Why would someone need pure Alchemical Energies that rival an Alchemic Astral Soul? It was obvious that it was to concoct a product! Even she felt a hint of expectation within her heart, her fear dwindling to absolutely nothing.

Ji Changkong and Zen witnessed this and similarly flashed, soon learning what Tuo Bihan had reasoned out. Their expression brightened as expectation suffused their cheeks.

"Is it an eighth-grade product?" Ji Changkong asked Tuo Bihan with bright eyes. He was the only Alchemic Emperor of the Myriad Monarch Sect. The other two in the Myriad Monarch Astral Territory belonged to other forces, but their skills, age, and experience paled greatly beside Tuo Bihan.

An eighth-grade product had a maximum effect on those at the middle-phases of the Astral Core Realm. Even the low-tier eighth-grade product would be exceptional. Regardless if it was a pellet or paste, it would be useful.

"..." Tuo Bihan didn't answer. His eyes were fixated on the sky palace. If the intensity of this light was any indication of the alchemical energies brewing within, then it would rival an Alchemic Astral Soul. This was unprecedented. According to logic, An Alchemic Natal Soul can produce alchemical energies rivaling an Astral Core Realm alchemist's conversion method, and an Alchemic Astral Soul can do the same; producing energies that rivaled the Mystic Ascendant Realm!

If that's the case, an eighth-grade product seemed to be too little, no?

RUMBLE!!!

Just as he was pondering what product it could be, the entire planet rumbled! It wasn't just the clouds, the sky layers, the mountains, but the entire planet! It was ceaseless and everyone's expressions turned into ash, abject fear flashing within their hearts.

Even Tuo Bihan and the others had widened eyes as they felt the boundless power that was affecting everything on the planet and even the planet itself. Their cultivation bases circulated without end as boundless astral force instinctually left their bodies. This startled the others, their bodies immediately felt the boundless astral force and they were washed with it. Immediately, everyone was paralyzed.

The Grand Imperial Sages were simultaneously rendered aghast as they felt their Astral Souls act on instinct. This should be nearly impossible because Astral Souls typically don't have true sentience. However, they did act on instinct. They barely cultivated and recovered by themselves, without the urging or will of their masters, but this was the same as lungs breathing or heart beating while unconscious.

While the lungs might react against a person's will, it needed to be stimulated by a frightening external force. To leave their bodies and protect themselves?! What in the hell was happening?!

Zzoom!

While the world's rumbling remained constant, the eyes of everyone on that same hemisphere of the Myriad Monarch Planet as Wei Wuyin's sky palace was met with a brilliant silhouette above the skies. It was bright, vibrant, yet imposing and hung overhead while emitting endless color. It felt as if it was a celestial body, a star, and a moon yet had the shadow of a planet in the distance.

"What the hell is that?!"

"Oh my god, is that a sun? How the hell is that possible?! Is it crashing into us?"

"NO! IT'S A MOON! NO...A PLANET?!?!"

The commotion below was filled endlessly with similar comments. The vision of those who were looking above was met with a blazing spherical object that seemed like a shadow that emitted light rays. Its confusing appearance made determining its identity nearly impossible to determine. Whether it was a sun, a moon, or a planet, they all felt in their hearts that it was some sort of celestial body.

To those below, they saw this. To those beside Wei Wuyin's sky palace, they were met by a different sight. The entire world was covered in an aurora borealis of dazzling and gorgeous colors that were ever-shifting. It mixed with the astral force released by the Grand Imperial Sages and the others, constantly

changing into colors. When it touched a certain astral force, as if synchronizing with it, its colors would change.

For Qin Rui, the aurora borealis contained four colors, each denoting the four basic elements: fire(red), water(blue), earth(dark brown), and wind(light green).

For Tuo Bihan, the colors were light grey. It reflected his path of a purist, cultivating only Astral Force without a particular element or focus. His path was the same as Duke Zhao of the Bloodforge Continent. Those of this cultivation path focused on mastery of arts, spells, and the foundation of their cultivation bases, not diverging their time in comprehending all sorts of elemental methods.

Yao Zhen's had multi-colored shades of violet. It was one of the most beautiful ones.

Below the Sky Layer, Long Chen and his group were staring at the skies above. Their eyes were filled with wonder and shock. While they had no idea what was happening, they were all cultivators who fought numerous battles, and they didn't feel danger from this manifested phenomenon. Instead, they were beside themselves with speculation and a desire to approach.

Long Chen's eyes reflected the celestial shadow that emitted various lights. It was beautiful to the point of exceeding a heavenly painting. He felt a desire to reach the manifestation and reach out, claim what caused it, and soar through the heavens. His unassuming black ring that contained Wu Yu's consciousness briefly flickered.

The others were too distracted to notice a spiritual form exiting from the ring and manifesting before them. It was Wu Yu. His imposing aura and regal demeanor were overshadowed by the awe, shock, and disbelief in his eyes. The lips of his spiritual form quivered, "Impossible!"

Others couldn't hear his words, but Long Chen could. He turned to see Wu Yu and his heart shook. He had thought Wu Yu still needed more time and materials to recover before regaining his ability to manifest outside the ring, or at least that's what he said.

"...Is everything okay?" For Wu Yu to forcibly exit his slumber and manifest, the situation had to be pressing. A wisp of fear entered his heart. He knew of Wu Yu's past and his previous height. If he was concerned enough to act like this, then how shocking must this event be?

Wu Yu seemed dazed, his eyes flashing with memories of the past. A sense of nostalgia surged throughout his spiritual form and he said, "The Stellar Manifestation of the Mortal Sovereign!" Those words were accompanied by a heart-shaking reverberation. Others might not be able to recognize this phenomenon, as it's likely been thousands of years since it was last seen, but he, who lived in the King of Everlore Era, was incomparably familiar with it.

Once it manifested, it usually meant the unstoppable birth of an expert! An expert of the old era!

"The Stellar Manifestation of the Mortal Sovereign?" Long Chen was confused in his heart. What was that?

Wu Yu turned his eyes towards Long Chen. When he did, he recalled the journey they've traveled thus far. Together, they went from nothing to here, becoming prominent and an upcoming expert that could rival the geniuses of the King of Everlore's era. He had a hint of pride within his heart originally, but now...

His thoughts recalled that silver-eyed figure. The figure that Long Chen was swearing day and night to kill if he dared to cross him. As a Spiritual Form that was connected to Long Chen since he was a child, and knowing his personality, he felt in his heart that they would inevitably fight. This was especially so considering Na Xinyi and Qing Qiumu. This wasn't something he could change.

For a moment, a thought flashed in his thoughts: "Should I give the Imperial Heaven Qi Method to...but what about..." His gaze towards Long Chen soon became filled with conflict, blurred by the possibility of his revival. Furthermore, the possibility of recovering his previous heights and pushing beyond that.

If he stayed with Long Chen, the chances of reviving were still incomparably slim and far away, but...

Long Chen felt the odd gaze sent his way by Wu Yu. He felt somewhat uncomfortable. "What's this manifestation mean?"

Wu Yu closed his eyes and sighed in his heart. He lifted his head towards the shadow of an indeterminate celestial body and said with a sharp and impactful voice, "It means the birth of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist!"

Chapter 249 - 246: The Ninth-Grade Pill!

"...WHAT?!" Long Chen's mind, heart, and body shook from shock. A flash of disbelief crossed his thoughts as he couldn't possibly conceive this as a real event. The birth of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist?! What did that mean?

It meant another King of Everlore that propped up an entire era was born. It meant a Mortal Sovereign that could promote and support those to become Realmlords, Timelords, and Starlords! In the current Tri-Vision Era, there were merely two Realmlords! They belonged to the San Clan whose history was deeply intertwined with the King of Everlore. Despite this, the San Clan wasn't renowned for their talent.

Because of their bloodline limitations, as in they only cultivated and supported those of their bloodline, their talent pool was massively low and their geniuses paled in comparison to others. If it wasn't for their Realmlords, they would barely count as a hegemonic force.

To better illustrate, there were less than thirty Sixth Stage Astral Core Realm experts throughout the territory. The San Clan had the same amount of those as Realmlords: two. The Myriad Monarch Sect, known for being the weakest of the hegemonies, had five! While this didn't count guardian beasts that could exert such power or external tools, this was their strength.

The other three factions had six or more each. Even the Alchemist Association had three experts at that level. While two of these experts were mostly independent and ran first-rate sects and forces, they were in a deep, unbreakable alliance with the Alchemist Association. While the other expert was reclusive and truly independent with no force holding her down. She freely roamed the world.

This was a total of twenty-nine known experts at this level! While there were likely more in secluded cultivation, trying to accumulate enough fortitude and strength to ascend to the Seventh Stage, this was those publicly recognized and widely considered as rulers.

Yet the birth of a Mortal Sovereign would change the landscape once more! He became animated. If he had an expert of that level supporting his cultivation efforts, he believed that with his talents, he could reach the Mystic Ascendant Realm in less than a hundred years. His foundation would similarly be more

robust and vast than others, promoting his combat abilities to a level that rivals those ancient characters!

"Who is it?!" Long Chen asked Wu Yu, but he was met with a non-response. Wu Yu kept his eyes closed and kept his head pointed towards the sky.

"..." Long Chen's curiosity was left unsated. Forcefully, he had to make his own guesses. The Extreme Creation Mountain's Grand Imperial Sage Tuo Bihan was an expert with a thousand years beneath his belt of experience and cultivation. According to Hong Ru and Xiao Bing, he was regarded as the number one human cultivator in the entire starfield. This was mainly due to his purist path and his efforts in the Dao of Alchemy. He could support his own cultivation with products of seventh and eighth-grade, so how could his cultivation base be fragile?

If it was Tuo Bihan, their Myriad Monarch Sect would experience a grand breakthrough. If he tried his best, perhaps he could earn some products from him. His eyes gleamed with excitement. Unfortunately, he was the only one who was informed of the Stellar Manifestation of the Mortal Sovereign, so no one else could even begin to guess. In truth, he didn't truly understand it either.

The Stellar Manifestation of a Mortal Sovereign was termed as such because it was the phenomenon that was created whenever a ninth-grade product was successfully created, regardless of what it was. This was a form of recognition by the Alchemic Dao. The ninth-grade of a product was the peak of Mortal limits. If Wu Yu was clear on this, then Long Chen's thoughts would be different.

This meant the legitimate birth of a ninth-grade product!

"...What's...that?" A weak voice resounded him behind the group, causing all to turn their heads. Wu Yu vanished, retreating into the ring within a blink of an eye without being seen by anyone. While he rested in the ring, he sighed deeply. If it was Tuo Bihan, that would be good, but only Alchemic Astral Force could concoct ninth-grade products; this was a rule established in the Alchemic Dao.

While an alchemist at the Mystic Ascendant Realm, using conversion methods would be able to produce equivalent alchemical strength, they needed to reach that level first.

Otherwise...it was impossible.

Long Chen turned and saw Na Xinyi walking while panting. Her fragile body was covered in faint sweat. This sweat wasn't fragrant. In fact, due to her lack of yin energies, it was quite putrid and disgusting to smell. A single whiff might turn one into vomiting their lunch and breakfast.

Her current state truly lacked any form of feminine appeal and charm commonly renowned amongst cultivators of her gender. From her smell to her dim eyes, she seemed in desperate straits. Long Chen unhesitantly arrived beside her, grabbing her frail body by the waist and said with concern, "You should be resting."

Na Xinyi gently smiled and turned to look up at the sky. "A new moon?" It was said that those of certain constitutions saw certain things clearer than others. From her lack of confusion regarding the shape of the manifestation, merely its appearance, one could see she was one of those people.

Long Chen said, "It's a Stellar Manifestation of the Mortal Sovereign." Announcing the information he was just told, his eyes lifted to look at the light intensely. Na Xinyi exclaimed in wonder, followed by everyone else.

"What's that?" Hong Ru said, her fiery body and disposition were truly tantalizing to the eyes, especially when bathed in the multicolored light of the manifestation.

Everyone else's ears opened wide as they turned to Long Chen for answers. Long Chen said with awe and amazement, "It means a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist has been born!"

"...!" Everyone went silent from shock. The normal reaction for most would be disbelief, especially with their constant upbringing on the undisputed legend of the King of Everlore, but they reacted differently; they all fully believed Long Chen who was usually more knowledgeable about matters and their eyes widened into full moons!

While they were sent into silence because of shock, Lu Feng, who remained innocent and ignorant of various matters, said with astonishment: "Heavenly King Wei is already a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist?! He truly is the Prince of Everlore! Awesome!!" Unlike the others, he was born recently, not even being twenty years of age; his exposure to the external world was mostly superficial. Therefore, he spoke what he first believed to be true.

"..." Na Xinyi, Lian Yu, Wu Baozhai, and Long Chen's pupils shook simultaneously. Especially Na Xinyi.

Up in the sky palace, within it, there was a single figure who was drenched by the light. Before him was a cauldron that was the source of this light, his silver eyes were steady as he regarded the single existence within it.

In his heart, he hadn't expected the phenomenon. According to King, Ori, and Kratos, the entire world was rumbling because of the influence the pill had on the world's ambient mana. It was like every piece of dirt and air particle was being suppressed by a Sky Ruler's Sky Pressure. It led to a tremendous reaction.

Furthermore, he couldn't conceal the Stellar Manifestation of the Mortal Sovereign from arising. In fact, he couldn't divert the slightest bit of attention away from the concoction process. While the other products were absolutely easy, and even eighth-grade products were rather simple for him to concoct, but this ninth-grade pill was a thousand times more difficult.

He felt that a single mistake, a single slip-up, and the reaction from failure would definitely injure him severely. It was like walking on a thin needle-like rope. It was likely due to his first time concocting it, but the process was infinitely more complex and confusing. Fortunately, he had Alchemic Eden Force and the Celestial Eyes of Spiritual Divinity.

With it, he could clearly see and observe every reaction and change during the concoction process and hurriedly use various methods to compensate or deviate to correct an error. It was thanks to their dual efforts that he succeeded in his very first try.

If anyone were to hear that he succeeded concocting a ninth-grade product at his first try, perhaps many alchemists would revere him as a god. However, he still found this a little disappointing. This was because his first pill of the ninth-grade was low-tier and of the low-quality, barely capable of passing the limits of a successful pill.

The light within the cauldron started to fade at this moment, and so did the manifestation. It vanished as if it was returning to the world. The light that painted the clouds, sky, and the world slowly faded as well. He felt as if the pill had achieved its goal of proclaiming its creation into the world. Now that it was finished, it could do its purpose.

He reached out and wrapped his hand around the pill that levitated by its own power. The pill looked like a miniature black sun with endless ocean waves within its body. It was barely the size of a children's marble, but the energies and alchemical efficacy within could rival a continental flat earth.

He felt the innate power vibrate against the skin of his palm. He hadn't even touched it yet, but he knew that this pill by itself could kill all Qi Condensation Realm experts with its aura alone. If he threw it somewhere, its aura would change the environment after several years and create a holy cultivation ground that might be able to birth Astral Core Realm experts.

He overturned his palm, bringing it closer to himself, and he observed its dark color and solar prominence it was emitting. It truly looked like a small, black sun.

"So...this is the Everlore Ascension Pill?" He marveled. This was THE Everlore Ascension Pill. The very same pill that started the King of Everlore's reign and the Princess of Everlore's current rise, birthing an Alchemic Astral Soul by overcoming the Mortal Star Formation Tribulation.

In the original description, it states the pill can help regulate the offensive power within the Mortal Star Formation Tribulation and allow for ease of ascension. But having overcome the Astral Tribulation himself, concocted the pill himself, he knew that its effect was far more profound. This pill was absolutely heaven-defying and could allow others to experience what his Astral Souls felt: the full nourishment of the Mortal Star Formation Tribulation.

With the tempering being fully accepted without a hint of danger, one could comprehend Intent far easier than before, and gain immense insight into the foundational constitution of their Astral Soul. All this without danger! How fantastical! The Alchemic Dao was truly wondrous!

Furthermore, that was merely its first effect. Products typically had a primary and secondary effect, with a few having a tertiary effect. A complete low-quality pill will have a hundred percent of its primary effect. A high-quality will bolster a secondary effect, and a peak-quality will strengthen the secondary effect and could sometimes unlock third effects.

The secondary effect of the Everlore Ascension Pill, the one that defined the King of Everlore's name, was its most prominent effect. With it, one can give birth to a wisp of Everlore Essence. This essence can increase the Mortal States of experts of any and every realm, all the way to the 9th Mortal State. This meant changing a person's foundation to the utmost, post-Mortal Star Formation Tribulation. This was absolutely and truly heaven-defying!

It was this reason that Wu Jiao in the Myriad Yore Continent said a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist was required! This was purely based on his minor understanding of the King of Everlore's legacy pill.

A peak-quality Everlore Ascension Pill created Everlore Zenith Essence, and it can allow an Astral Soul at the 9th Mortal State to reach the Zenith Mortal State!!

Wei Wuyin frowned as he looked at the Everlore Ascension Pill; it was merely a low-quality pill. It would be beneficial to Su Mei, Ying, and Wen Mingna. From what he knew, it was this pill that caused countless Astral Core Realm experts to be birthed. According to records, the King of Everlore diluted the pill into a pool, lowering its efficacy, but all those at the 6th and lower Mortal States could still use it to effectively bypass their Mortal Star Formation Tribulation with relative ease.

"I can make this a liquid solution and birth a hundred Astral Core Realm. If I dilute it further, those at the 5th Mortal State and lower, but it expands to two thousand. If even further diluted to its effective limit, 4th Mortal State and lower with a number of a fifty thousand. That's impressive. No wonder the King of Everlore's era was renowned for its hundreds of millions of Astral Core Realm experts. A single pill can make a legitimate army." Wei Wuyin was in awe, but he didn't idle further in his own thoughts as he realized the commotion had brought forth an audience.

"For now, I should have enough strength to proclaim myself as an Emperor Alchemist. I need an excuse for this anyways, lest others investigate too deeply. It would be best if I used an eighth-grade pill as a smokescreen for now." He sighed somewhat as he carefully sealed and kept the Everlore Ascension Pill. Then, he once more brought out materials and concocted an eighth-grade pill, the Spatial Spirit Pill.

It was a low-tier, eighth-grade pill that prematurely adapted the Astral Soul with pure spatial energies. When one assailed the Fourth Stage, it would benefit in forming a greater degree of Spatial Resonance, strengthening the innate quality of one's refined spatial energies, and the rate at which it was absorbed.

It was the best preparation pill for those who wished to ascend the Spatial Resonance Phase, especially for those like Zuhei who lacked compatibility with spatial energies. According to the recipe, this pill can guarantee a minimum of achieving a Five-Ripple Resonance. This was far above average, and thus was absolutely insane!

Even Tuo Bihan, a purist who cultivated their foundation to the maximum they could, was only capable of forming a Sixth-Ripple Resonance, overcoming the sixth level of that Astral Tribulation.

After completing the pill, its aura freshly baked, he calmly inhaled and left his alchemy room. It was about time to create another uproar!

Chapter 250 - 247: Alchemic Stars Of Mortal Spirituality

As the world regained its natural state of tranquility, the five Grand Imperial Sages alongside the other high-ranking members of the Myriad Monarch Sect were gathered, standing at the entrance to Wei Wuyin's sky palace. Despite their revered status, strength, and reputation, none of them stepped into the sky palace. They merely waited.

"What was that manifestation?" Ji Changkong asked, specifically towards Tuo Bihan. When the manifestation erupted, the world's ambient mana became violent and vigorous. It was this unexpected event that caused their Astral Souls to instinctively react, protecting them from its influence. To them, it felt as if the entire planet was quivering with excitement.

"We were directly in it, but I still don't know what it was," Zen said in a drawn-out manner, but her voice carried a wisp of detectable solemnness. Unlike the others below, they were directly within the heart of the manifestation and hadn't been able to observe the sights of an indeterminate celestial body. Furthermore, the ambient mana was so chaotic that their spiritual senses were overwhelmed.

That being said, Tuo Bihan's eyes were incomparably calm as he fixated on the entrance. He didn't speak, merely watched. As an Emperor Alchemist, and likely the only one amongst all those present who studied the King of Everlore's history with an avid passion, he acutely noticed things.

The only issue was that he wasn't certain.

If his thoughts were correct, then what they witnessed had been a phenomenon produced by the creation of a ninth-grade product—the Stellar Manifestation of a Mortal Sovereign. It was referred to as such by those in the King of Everlore's era, and it was usually accompanied by an Everlore Ascension Pill.

There was even a specific day in the year that was celebrated back then by all, referred to as the Day of Everlore. While the day was no longer celebrated with such zeal, there were a few who would use it to revisit the King of Everlore's legacy and influence during his era and the other eras after while paying respects. On the planet Everlore, the central planet of the San Clan, it was remarked as a day to pay respects. There, the King of Everlore was worshipped like an ancient mythological deity.

Considering the San Clan's history, this made sense.

'It shouldn't be possible, right?' From what he knew, while Wei Wuyin was extraordinarily talented, he had merely started his path in the Alchemic Dao a little over a decade ago. Even the King of Everlore required decades before he stumbled into creating the Everlore Ascension Pill, and even more years before he established himself as a publicly recognized Mortal Sovereign Alchemist.

But...a little over a decade...

Seeing that Tuo Bihan remained silent, clearly unwilling to make speculations, their hearts shook. This might be more impactful than they originally thought. In the end, they could wait for that figure to step outside and deliver an explanation. This was the reason why all these elites and experts were waiting with bated breaths.

The sound of footsteps resounded as a figure approached the door from the other side. These footsteps caused the heartbeats of these experts to resonate with it, causing their hearts to tense in anticipation.

The sound of the door opening was accompanied by a figure, garbed in black robes. His stature was impressive, with impeccable symmetric perfection, and the outlines of his muscles that those robes hugged revealed power and exquisite design. Tall, imposing, yet with eyes that seemed to contain the silver moons and glittering stars.

These stars, which numbered seven in each eye, were faint, emitting various colors that accentuated his silver colors. Wei Wuyin hadn't noticed these stars when he was cultivating, but they were faint marks of a Mortal Sovereign Alchemist. They were the recognition given to those who reached that stage by the Alchemic Dao. It was an incomparably precious gift. Its manifestation was quiet and unnoticeable, so even Wei Wuyin hadn't realized it.

They were called the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality.

The embodied two Daos, the Mortal Dao and the Alchemic Dao, providing benefits to Alchemists.

When Wei Wuyin's eyes met the crowd, he saw a unique aura within the bodies of those present. It was a strange wispy aura that fluttered and twisted oddly. Each wisp was of the same color but varying shades, from dark or light, and varying sizes. He frowned for a moment before Eden's voice echoed in his heart.

"Your eyes!" Eden exclaimed uncharacteristically. Immediately, Wei Wuyin realized his sight was different. He could see these wisps within the bodies of others, something even his Celestial Eyes hadn't perceived before.

Eden was swift. In a flash, it directly informed him of what he was seeing. "These are Alchemic Spirit Remnants! They store the unused efficacy of various products within." When explained, Wei Wuyin immediately understood.

Alchemic Spirit Remnants were the leftover efficacy unrefined by others, because it was simply impossible to refine a hundred percent of it. It stayed and stored in a certain area of a person's spirit. This was a profound aspect of the Dao of Alchemy; it wasted nothing. When these people died, these remnants would re-enter the mortal world eventually and produce various materials or treasured grounds at their burial sites. If an alchemist were to extract these remnants, they could create all sorts of unique products.

He was startled for a moment, but when his eyes saw Tuo Bihan and witnessed those widened and disturbed eyes of his as if he had just saw a ghost, Wei Wuyin realized this was evidence of his Mortal Sovereign abilities. He blinked. In that blinking moment, Eden went to work and hurriedly concealed the manifestation.

When he opened his eyes, his clear silver irises and black pupils were all that remained.

Tuo Bihan's eyes widened in even greater horror. It seemed it wasn't something that could be concealed to an Emperor Alchemist with sufficient knowledge of the Dao of Alchemy. In that case, the smokescreen would only work as a brief and temporary relief as the Alchemist Association will definitely know of the manifestation's purpose.

He sighed inwardly. *'This is troublesome.'*

In the end, he could only accept it.

He continued to walk until he was directly before the others and gently smiled, but everyone could tell that his eyes were filled with jubilation. "I've concocted my first solo Eighth-Grade Pill!" He announced.

The crowd was silent. Before they could fully process his outrageous statement, he waved his hand and a box appeared. With care, he lifted its lid to reveal a freshly concocted eighth-grade pill with his unique spiritual aura.

"The Spatial Spirit Pill!" He once more announced, this time causing quite a few powerful hearts to thunder outwards in shock. These were from the beastmen that cultivated their fleshy bodies and contained their Astral Souls within their hearts. It was vigorous and loud, like chaotic drums. As for the other cultivators, their expressions widened in shock.

This was especially so for those Sky Nobles and Heavenly Kings from the other mountains; they were wide-eyed and slack-jawed. Wei Wuyin had succeeded in concocting an eighth-grade pill? But...but he wasn't even fifty! In fact, he was barely forty-two!

Besides the Princess of Everlore and Wei Wuyin, there wasn't even an Alchemic King below the age of five hundred, yet there was now an Emperor Alchemist at forty-two?!?! Okay, perhaps that was jumping the gun a little. To be classified as an official alchemist, he needed a certain degree of success rate with eighth-grade pills, but considering his age, perhaps that was a mere formality?

These Sky Nobles and Heavenly Kings were all at the Third Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Soul Idol Phase, so this Spatial Spirit Pill was endlessly beneficial to them. Their hearts were overwhelmed with desire for it, their Alchemic Souls screaming to consume it. If it wasn't for Wei Wuyin's presence, no, it should be Grand Imperial Sages and the rest, right? Well, if it wasn't for all these important people, they might have tried to snatch it.

Wei Wuyin didn't mind this as he allowed his excited eyes to flash with exhaustion. Despite the appearance of this pill, these experts acutely noticed this and they immediately voiced their concern.

"Are you okay, Heavenly King Wei?" A young female Sky Noble of the Extreme War Mountain, one renowned for her brutality in handling matters, was among the first to speak. It was echoed by numerous young elites, especially these women. They seemed ready to leap forward and lift Wei Wuyin away if he tottered even a little.

They might even 'nurse' him back to full health.

"Ahem!" Qin Rui cleared out her throat, silencing these youngsters. Her actions were timely as these old froggies were nearly done deliberating their willingness to lower themselves to the young women's level.

Wei Wuyin slightly smiled at this. He knew the attractiveness of an Emperor Alchemist. It was highly likely that obtaining the favor of one would soon allow them to experience a rise, becoming a peak expert at the Fifth or even Sixth Phase in their lifetime. These experts were rare and ruled entire planets or were a part of the hegemon's upper echelons.

Their names were renowned and remembered, and even the San Clan had to give them exceptional respect and face.

"I'm fine. I've just exhausted my mental energies a little during the process, so I'm quite tired. I think I need to undergo a period of secluded recovery." Wei Wuyin flashed a reluctant expression as he turned to Tuo Bihan. He no longer had a deeply shocked expression. Instead, he was serene like a windless ocean.

He knew he couldn't conceal things. At most, he could fool those who weren't in the know.

With a bitter smile, he turned towards Qin Rui. When he did, it was noticed by everyone. Ji Changkong frowned. He imagined a scenario where Wei Wuyin uses his current momentum to propose marriage. In his thoughts, he felt that Qin Rui would be hard-pressed to decline.

Even if she wanted to, the chances of a rising expert like Wei Wuyin returning to take her by force when he fully matured if she did was quite high. After all, these youths cared heavily about pride.

But his thoughts were nothing but wasted energy. In fact, these thoughts were within Zen, Yao Zhen, and Qin Rui's thoughts as well. Beneath her veil, her expression was somewhat awkward and twisted. She recalled Wei Wuyin's formidable display of self-restraint. Then, he causes this commotion? Was it all to prove his worth to be with her? If he asked, should she accept?

Their thoughts were quite colorful but pointless. Wei Wuyin gently smiled as he said, "This Spatial Spirit Pill is merely of the low-quality, but I hope Grand Imperial Sage Qin can find a worthy recipient." His words caught everyone off-guard. But before they could speak, the box closed and quietly floated towards Qin Rui.

She absentmindedly accepted the box. The responsibility of finding someone worthy of this pill was left to her. And this was a grand gesture and one that likely contained quite a few hidden implications. After that, Wei Wuyin clasped his hands respectfully.

"I need to rest. I apologize for not being able to accompany you all further. Thanks for your concern." After he said those words, he returned to his sky palace. Tuo Bihan swept his gaze around to see all these figures with varying expressions, trying to digest all this information.

"Grand Imperial Sage Qin, you should handle this matter properly. He trusts your choice. Consider this carefully. As for the rest of you, return to your mountains." After he said these orders, a wisp of reluctance entered the eyes of many. To leave after being told that the youngest Emperor Alchemist in history had been born?

Furthermore, it wasn't someone like the Princess of Everlore, someone with an Alchemic Astral Soul, but an alchemist that had combat ability and a thousand years of life in the Astral Core Realm. If an Emperor Alchemist was a figure everyone and their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents wanted to befriend at any cost, then an Emperor Alchemist with combat prowess was enough to sell your daughters and sons.

Tuo Bihan, the strongest human expert at the Sixth Stage in the entire starfield, was an Emperor Alchemist. His importance was enough to lead the Myriad Monarch Sect in the absence of a Grand Monarch. How exceptional was this? While there were no other human experts of this caliber at the Myriad Monarch Sect, he was still considered the strongest of the six.

"Disperse!" Tuo Bihan barked. The others could only accept this as they started to leave. A few Sky Nobles and Heavenly Kings looked at Qin Rui with desire. They were all thinking of various ways to obtain the Spatial Spirit Pill to pave a smoother path to the Fourth Stage of the Astral Core Realm, the Spatial Resonance Phase. Unfortunately, they had to leave too after Tuo Bihan's glance.

In seconds, only the Grand Imperial Sages remained.

Qin Rui gazed at the box for a brief moment. In her entire life, she consumed a single eighth-grade pill. It was given to her by Tuo Bihan and it was this very pill! It was with this pill's support that she could reach the Fifth-Ripple Resonance. With that came bountiful benefits as she crushed the Light Reflection and Gravity Emission Astral Tribulations thanks to her solid comprehension of space.

In the Astral Core Realm, the First, Fourth, and Seventh Phases were fundamentally important to advance. In fact, it was said that unless one was at the Fourth-Ripple Resonance, trying to assail the Realm World Phase to become an illustrious Realmlord was impossible!

It was the truth, of course. But the higher your resonance, the greater your chances to advance. Similarly to how the greater your foundation, the stronger your Soul Idol and Spatial Resonance would be.

This pill created her. If someone were to obtain this pill with talents similar to hers, wouldn't the sect create another Sixth Stage expert in a few hundred years? Her heart started to race uncontrollably as her face became flushed. She was just given the right to choose the next Grand Imperial Sage!

Her soft lips were soon dry as she licked them a little.

The others weren't ignorant. They too understood the importance of this pill and their eyes towards Qin Rui was blazing. They wanted to grasp this pill for their descendants or disciples, but they halted their desires. If they dared to snatch this pill, wouldn't they irrevocably offend Wei Wuyin? In the end, it just wasn't worth it.

Tuo Bihan sighed in his heart. They hadn't even realized the truth, and even if they didn't, they similarly didn't realize the facts of what just happened. Even if Wei Wuyin had concocted this pill, it took him two weeks maximum.

Two. Weeks.

To put it into proper perspective, it took him five years to succeed. And that was after being an officially recognized Emperor Alchemist for a hundred years! He lost five years for a single pill that later gave birth to Qin Rui, a fellow Grand Imperial Sage a few hundred years later.

Two. Weeks.

While they were fascinated, he said: "I'll ensure that this sly lad hadn't suffered too much of a backlash." After saying this, he walked into the entrance and closed the door. The others were brought out of their thoughts, but they couldn't say anything. Since he was the only Alchemist at that level, and a fellow human too, it was best he handled any negative aftereffects that Wei Wuyin suffered.

They merely glanced before their eyes returned to the box. Qin Rui noticed this and felt somewhat threatened. She knew they wouldn't simply allow her to choose her disciple or family member for this pill one-sidedly. But she felt aggrieved, so she flashed away. The other three didn't hesitate to follow.

While they can't snatch it, they absolutely couldn't let her freely decide!

While this outrageous chase happened, Tuo Bihan arrived to see Wei Wuyin eating green seedless grapes and lounging on the couch. Clearly, he was relaxed and suffered not a hint of exhaustion.

"You want some?" Wei Wuyin offered with a smile.

Tuo Bihan quietly observed Wei Wuyin, particularly glancing in his eyes. He definitely saw the same lights oftentimes referred to when describing the King of Everlore. They were seven-colored stars within each eye, accentuating the ring of silver that was his irises.

"That was the Stellar Manifestation of the Mortal Sovereign and...your eyes contained the Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality, didn't they?" Tuo Bihan asked, but his voice resonated with certainty.

Wei Wuyin started for a moment. He hadn't known what to term the manifestation or his newfound abilities, but he knew from Eden's explanation that they emerged after he completed the concoction of the ninth-grade pill. They were profound signs of his acceptance by the Dao of Alchemy.

The Alchemic Stars of Mortal Spirituality could be classified the same as Sword Intent or Elemental Origin Intent. It was the proven result of understanding the profoundness of the Sword Dao or Elemental Dao.

"Yes." He didn't deny and straightforwardly admitted.

Tuo Bihan stilled for a moment, then took several long and deep inhales and exhales. Only after a long period did he regain himself. "What ninth-grade product did you concoct?"

"The Everlore Ascension Pill." Wei Wuyin didn't rise as he waved his hand, producing a box that could contain various energies and alchemical auras. But the pill within the box was already corroding it. When it opened, the black sun-like pill levitated out the box and its aura permeated throughout the room.

Tuo Bihan's eyes flashed with pure shock. The eyes, the talent, and the pills! He couldn't help but ask, "Are you his reincarnation?!"

"..." Wei Wuyin's expression froze.

...could he be?

Wait.

"Is he even dead?" Wei Wuyin asked in response. There was no record of his death, and many refer to him as having 'vanished' rather than having died. There were a few rumors, unsubstantiated, that stated he had died from old age. But that was absolutely impossible. As an Alchemist, there were a thousand and one pills that can increase one's longevity.

Tuo Bihan was about to answer when his voice was caught in his throat. His expression rapidly shifted and then he revealed uncertain confusion.

"...I don't know."