

A while later, Chen Hao's palms were already tightly enveloped by the water. Despite the blurriness, he could still clearly make out the lines of his palms.

*Bam!*

The very next moment, the stone wall behind Chen Hao and Hong Weng suddenly exploded.

The Yuchang Sword embedded in the wall flew out immediately, while the flowing water around them dispersed and disappeared in a flash.

"Chen Hao, go get the Yuchang Sword!" Hong Weng reminded Chen Hao immediately upon seeing this.

Chen Hao glanced at Hong Weng before hastily running over to reach out and firmly grasp the handle of the Yuchang Sword in front of him.

As soon as Chen Hao took hold of the Yuchang Sword, a rush of energy immediately began to surge out from the handle and into Chen Hao's palm, spreading throughout Chen Hao's body.

In an instant, Chen Hao could feel the uneasiness radiating from his Energy Centre.

This sensation was unfathomably familiar to Chen Hao.

What was it?

It was about to break his Energy Centre, which also signified the beginning of a new breakthrough.

This new impending breakthrough shocked and elated Chen Hao. It seemed that the energy within the Yuchang Sword was indeed very powerful, just like when he first obtained the Star Abyss Sword.

Chen Hao sat down hastily and took out a Divine Energy Fruit from his Storage Ring. He consumed the fruit immediately.

Under the effects of the freshly-consumed Divine Energy Fruit, Chen Hao successfully made a breakthrough and entered the Second Tier of Soul Cultivation of the True God stage.

In just half a month, Chen Hao had continuously raised his own level of

cultivation. He was the only person who could do it this quickly.

“Chen Hao, how does it feel?” Hong Weng asked worriedly after waiting for Chen Hao to ease up a bit.

Chen Hao smiled faintly and replied, “Hehe, I’m fine, Mr. Hong Wen. I just had a breakthrough. The energy in this Yuchang Sword is really powerful, improving my cultivation by a whole level!”

As he said this, Chen Hao’s tone was laced with surprise and glee.

To be honest, Chen Hao knew that he had to thank Hong Wen properly.

If Hong Weng had not brought him to this place, he wouldn’t have gotten his hands on the Yuchang Sword and improved his cultivation; all of this was thanks to Hong Wen.

“Hong Wen, thank you so much for bringing me here, and thank you for allowing me to obtain the Yuchang Sword. Still, why is it called the Yuchang Sword?” Chen Hao thanked Hong Weng before asking Hong Weng his question curiously.

Hong Weng smiled and began to explain. "Hehe, the Yuchang Sword's actual name is the Sword of Absolute Bravery, which is one of the ten ancient holy swords. The energy that you just received was the power of Absolute Bravery within the Yuchang Sword. It'll bring you formidable strength in the future. Only those who possess extraordinary courage can be acknowledged by the Yuchang Sword," he said.

After hearing Hong Wen's explanation, Chen Hao suddenly came to an epiphany.

When it came to courage, Chen Hao was certainly a brave person. Otherwise, he wouldn't have dared to shoulder the mission of saving the world alone.

That was the reason why Chen Hao was able to receive the Yuchang Sword's acknowledgement and receive its power of Absolute Bravery.

"But still, Hong Wen, what are the nine other ancient holy swords called? Where are they? What would happen if you were to obtain all ten of them?" Chen Hao quickly followed up with more questions out of curiosity. He was rather curious

about these ten ancient holy swords.

Now that he had obtained one of them, there were nine swords left. Of course, Chen Hao wanted to get all of them.

“The ten ancient holy swords are as follows: the first holy sword is the Sword of Holiness, Xuanyuan—Sanguine Gate; the second is the Sword of Compassion, Zhanlu—Clear Obsidian; third is the Sword of Supremacy, Chixiao—Crimson Sky; the fourth is the Sword of Might, Taia—Great Mountain; the fifth is the Sword of Noble Purity, Qixing Longyuan—Seven Star Dragon Abyss; the sixth and seventh are the Swords of True Emotion, Ganjiang and Moye— named after the swordsmiths who crafted them; the eighth is the Sword of Absolute Bravery, Yuchang—Fish Belly; the ninth is the Sword of Peerlessness, Chunjun—Pure Balance; and the tenth is the Sword of Elegance, Chengying—Honor Reflection.

“Each of these holy swords have their own power. Whoever gathers all ten holy swords will be able to obtain power that surpasses all realms, becoming the most powerful being to exist in the world!” Hong Weng patiently explained everything in

detail to Chen Hao.

Listening to this made Chen Hao's feelings surge and his mind went into overdrive. He felt that he must collect all ten of these ancient holy swords. That way, he would have the chance at obtaining power that surpassed everything, which will enable him to battle with the ancient Demon God.

"Hong Wen, do you know the whereabouts of the other nine holy swords?" Chen Hao continued to ask Hong Wen.

Hong Weng shook his head gently and replied, "I do not know. If you wish to obtain the ten ancient holy swords, you'll have to search for them yourself. However, I do know the location of two swords. The first one is the Yuchang Sword, which is in your hands. I also know where the Sword of Supremacy, Taia, is."

"The Sword of Supremacy, Taia! Where is it? Please, Hong Wen, take me to it!" Chen Hao responded gleefully upon hearing that. He hadn't expected Hong Weng to know the whereabouts of two of the holy swords. That way, he would be able to obtain two holy swords then.

“Relax. You and I have a certain understanding between each other. Besides, the holy sword did acknowledge you. You’re someone with a destiny, and will definitely be able to get the sword!” Hong Weng smiled as he replied to Chen Hao.

“Hong Wen, thank you for bringing me here. It was all because of your help that I was able to obtain this sword. I, Chen Hao, will certainly repay your kindness,” Chen Hao said to Hong Weng with an expression of gratitude.

“Hehe, there is no need to thank me. You’re the one who was destined to obtain this sword anyway. I only provided you with some guidance. I just hope that you can put that sword to good use,” Hong Weng said to Chen Hao, waving his hand with an indifferent expression.

Hong Weng didn’t want Chen Hao to repay him.

To be frank, had Chen Hao not been destined to wield this sword, Hong Weng would have taken the sword for himself earlier; Chen Hao wouldn’t have had the chance to get the sword.

However, there were still some things that were predetermined, and Hong Weng had no way of changing it.

Chen Hao then followed Hong Weng and left the Water Curtain Cave to return outside.

The sky outside had already brightened up. Daybreak would come soon.

Chen Hao was taken aback after seeing this; he hadn't thought that they had been in there for such a long time until dawn would soon be upon them. Time sure flew by.

*Rustle! Rustle! Rustle!*

Right then, the faint sound of movement arose from the woods around them.

Upon hearing this, Chen Hao and Hong Weng immediately glanced around, their senses alert.

Chen Hao gripped the Yuchang Sword in his hand even tighter, ready to strike whenever he needed to.

"Is that you, Chen Hao?"



## Chapter 871 Yet Another Breakthrough

Right then, a familiar woman's voice rang out from the woods.

There was no mistaking it; that voice belonged to Zhen Mei.



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“Miss Zhen?” Chen Hao asked in the direction of the voice, suspicious.

“Chen Hao? It really is you!” Upon confirming that it was Chen Hao’s voice, Zhen Mei’s tone immediately became emotional.

Zhen Mei then stepped out from the woods with her family’s retainers.

“Miss Zhen, why are you here?” Chen Hao looked at her in shock upon seeing Zhen Mei’s arrival.

Zhen Mei stepped forward to stand before Chen Hao. A pleased expression appeared on her face. “I knew that you’re still alive. We’ve been searching for you for two days, and we’ve found you at last. Why are you here?”

When he heard Zhen Mei say that, Chen Hao abruptly shifted his gaze to Hong Weng, who was beside him.

“Uh... We’ll talk about this once we head back. What about Zhen Ji and the rest of them? How are they now?” Chen Hao asked Zhen Mei in concern after a moment of awkwardness, his mind

thinking of Zhen Ji and the others.

“Be at ease. They’re already fine. They’re currently resting at the Zhen Mansion,” Zhen Mei answered Chen Hao while smiling.

Hearing Zhen Mei say that, Chen Hao instantly relaxed.

“And who might this be?” Zhen Mei asked, her curious gaze on Hong Weng, who was standing beside Chen Hao.

Chen Hao glanced at Hong Weng, before he looked back at Zhen Mei. “This is Hong Weng. He’s the one who saved me.”

“Nice to meet you, Hong Weng. I am Zhen Mei, the daughter of the Zhen family. Thank you very much for rescuing Chen Hao,” Zhen Mei said to Hong Weng with much gratitude.

Hong Weng immediately smiled as he spoke to Zhen Mei. “No need to thank me; it’s something that anyone should do. Saving people is more important than anything else. It is also an honor for me to be able to meet a daughter of the Zhen family.”

Hong Weng, of course, knew of the Zhen family. This was also the first time he had met with a member of the said family.

“Chen Hao, let’s return to Zhen Mansion,” Zhen Mei suggested to Chen Hao.

Now that Chan Hao had been found and was unharmed, they would return to Zhen Mansion. After all, it wasn’t a good thing to remain outside for too long.

Having heard that, Chen Hao asked Hong Weng, “Hong Weng, do you want to come with us? I can also properly thank you that way.”

“That’s right, Chen Hao isn’t wrong. If you aren’t opposed to it, then come with us,” Zhen Mei suggested to Hong Weng, whom Chen Hao had addressed.

However, Hong Weng shook his head as he looked at them. “There’s no need for that. I’m not going.”

“Alright. Since you aren’t returning with us, then I’ll give my thanks here. I will properly thank you if I get a chance to in the future.”

Seeing how Hong Weng was reluctant to

return with them, Chen Hao had no choice but to agree. He then thanked Hong Weng sincerely with a solemn expression.

“Hehe, alright. You two should return. Be careful on your way back, and remember what I said: use it wisely.”

Hong Weng didn't forget to remind Chen Hao.

Chen Hao nodded staunchly in understanding as a reply. He understood what Hong Weng meant. Actually, even if Hong Weng hadn't said that, he would have understood it himself too.

With that, Chen Hao followed Zhen Mei's party and left, gradually vanishing into the woods.

Not long after Chen Hao and the others left, another loud, vigorous sound of movement rustled from the woods.

A shadow hopped out from the woods along with over a dozen people dressed in black. One by one, they landed before Hong Weng.

The shadow walked over to stand before

Hong Weng and asked with a mysterious and malevolent expression, "Lord Hong Weng, how did it go?"

Hong Weng took a look at the figure and then spoke. "I have given the Yuchang Sword to Chen Hao. You can proceed."

"Hehe, Lord Hong Weng, you do indeed have good foresight. Everything is just as you predicted." The shadow chuckled coldly as a sly expression appeared on his face as he praised Hong Weng.

"Heh. Lie Hu was the one who wasn't benevolent, so no one can blame me for my ruthlessness. I want to bring the entire Blazing Anser Hall under my rule." Hong Weng gave a cold chuckle, the corners of his mouth slightly lifting up into a pleased smile. His eyes were filled with a dark severeness.

"Then what about Chen Hao and the others? Do you want me to get rid of them?" the shadow asked Hong Weng.

Hong Weng immediately lifted up a hand to stop the shadow. "Not for now. Chen Hao and those people still have their uses for us, and besides, the Yuchang Sword is

still with him. We should at least wait for him to help us finish off Lie Hu and company. It wouldn't be too late to kill him then."

"Understood, I shall follow everything that you say, Lord Hong Weng," the shadow said to Hong Weng with a respectful nod.

At that moment, Chen Hao still had no idea that Hong Weng was in cahoots with the shadow.

Chen Hao soon returned to Zhen Mansion with Zhen Mei.

When they returned, the sky was already bright; the sun hung high in the sky.

"Zhen Ji, Lei Lie!" Chen Hao called out right then to Zhen Ji and the others.

When Zhen Ji, Lei Lie, and the others—who were currently sleeping in a room while sitting up—heard Chen Hao's voice, they instantly woke and rushed out of the room.

Upon seeing Chen Hao, Zhen Ji and Zhou Nuo lit up in excitement and elation, before hurriedly charging toward Chen Hao.

The next moment, Chen Hao was enveloped in a hug by them both.

“Chen Hao, you nearly scared us to death. I thought we’d never see you again!” Zhen Ji exclaimed as she vigorously thumped Chen Hao’s back, her expression excited and delighted.

“Buddy, we were all so worried about you! It’s a relief to see that you’re okay!” Zhou Nuo’s voice trembled, sounding emotional as she addressed Chen Hao.

“Hahaha, I’m fine, aren’t I? Good luck always comes after great hardships!” Chen Hao laughed and patted those two on the shoulder.

Right then, Gao Zicheng and Lei Lie stepped out of the room.

“Buddy!” Lei Lie cried out from the room’s entrance, smiling as he looked at Chen Hao.

Upon hearing his voice, Chen Hao immediately shook himself free from Zhen Ji and Zhou Nuo to walk straight toward Lei Lie.



*Whoosh!*

Before Chen Hao could reach Lei Lie, Zhen Ji immediately darted in front of Chen Hao again. She stood before Chen Hao to stare at him.

Chen Hao was taken aback. He completely had no idea what Zhen Ji was doing.

“W-What?” Chen Hao asked as he curiously watched her.

Immediately after that, Zhen Ji pulled Chen Hao over by the back of his neck and kissed him straight on his lips.

Chen Hao was greatly startled that moment. How could he have thought that Zhen Ji would be this assertive?

Even Lei Lie and the others were shocked beyond words, and then they broke out into sneaky giggles.

Zhen Ji heaved a mental sigh of relief at seeing Chen Hao’s safe return; as long as he returned safe and sound, everything was alright.

“And yet you still came back? I thought you

## Chapter 872 The Lady

died out there!” Zhen Ji huffed as she glared at Chen Hao.

Chen Hao awkwardly rubbed the back of his head and chuckled. “Hehe, how can that happen? I’m a lucky man.”



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