

Chaotic 1071

Chapter 1071: Going to Mercenary City

The sun was blood-red as it neared the horizon. Jian Chen stood straight, like a sword, at the peak of a range of mountains in white robes. He stared at the red clouds, as if he was in a trance, without moving at all. A sea of white clouds floated beneath him.

Where he currently stood was the tallest mountain peak in the mountain range where the Huang family resided. The mountains were so steep and dangerous that they were unscalable.

The wild wind violently buffeted him high up in the air, whistling past his ears. Coupled with it were the roars of beasts from the forests in the distance, sounding like the dreadful cries of ghosts as they fused together with the wind.

A white figure quickly shot over from the distance, arriving on the mountain peak where Jian Chen stood in an instant. Afterward, she walked up to his side and gently grabbed Jian Chen's arm, resting her head on his shoulder. Her face was filled with happiness and satisfaction.

She was Huang Luan. Huang Luan was dressed especially prettily today, wearing makeup to accentuate her alluring beauty. Her eyes were bright and seemed to possess a wondrous charm, possessing some grace in her purity. It was enchanting. Her glossy, black hair fell down her shoulders like a waterfall. She had worn a white, luxurious dress on purpose today, so she looked like a goddess. Standing next to Jian Chen who was also in white robes, the two of them possessed the aura of an immortal couple.

Huang Luan leaned closed to Jian Chen's bosom. She was filled with happiness and joy, watching the sun set with Jian Chen. Neither one said anything.

As the blood-red sunlight gradually faded, darkness gradually descended upon the dusk. The moment when the world was about to be engulfed by darkness, the whistling of wind vibrated from afar and a figure shot over like a comet. He made his way toward Jian Chen with lightning speed, arriving in just a few seconds.

"My beloved junior, why have you called me here?" Huang Tianba chuckled with a smile. He had even begun to refer to Jian Chen as his junior instead of brother like before. He felt extremely happy, especially when he saw how Huang Luan and Jian Chen were together.

Huang Luan became embarrassed with how she stuck to Jian Chen so intimately after her great-grandfather arrived. She hesitantly let go of Jian Chen's arm before glancing at Huang Tianba with a slight blush. She gently said, "Great-grandfather!"

Huang Tianba chuckled even more when he saw how Huang Luan became embarrassed like a little girl. He nodded but did not say anything more.

Jian Chen slowly turned around and looked at Huang Tianba calmly. He smiled, "Senior Huang, I've called you here this time because I have something important to discuss with you."

Huang Tianba immediately became stern when he heard how it was important. He said, "Please continue."

Jian Chen continued, "Senior Huang, I want to take you to Mercenary City and get the barrier spirit to invoke the mysteries of the world so you can comprehend them and thus break through. Are you willing to come?"

"What! To get the barrier spirit of Mercenary City to invoke the mysteries of the world so I can comprehend and break through?" Huang Tianba became surprised. He stared fixedly at Jian Chen, wide-eyed, as disbelief flooded his face. He felt shocked inside, struggled to convince himself that that was what Jian Chen had said.

Huang Tianba also knew a little regarding the barrier spirit of Mercenary City. He did not know a lot, but he did know one thing: the barrier spirit had existed since ancient times and was an existence that had survived through the ages. It was extremely powerful, always playing the role of the Mercenary City's protector god.

What he found difficult to believe was that Jian Chen could actually get the barrier to invoke the mysteries of the world and assist people in making breakthroughs. It was just too shocking.

No similar rumors had ever appeared on the continent, let alone the fact that anyone knew the barrier spirit could do such things.

"Senior Huang, are you willing to come?" Jian Chen seemed to smile at Huang Tianba through his eyes.

"I'm willing, I'm willing. Of course I'm willing. How could I miss something so good?" Huang Tianba returned to his senses and hurriedly replied. He was afraid that his late reply would make him miss out on such a rare opportunity.

Huang Tianba left afterward as he was ravished by joy. He handed over some matters within the clan before leaving with Jian Chen on the morning of the next day. He went with Jian Chen, making their way to the Changyang clan in Lore City.

Huang Luan left with Jian Chen. Although the problems with her Water Spirit's Body had been resolved, the imprint left in her head by the Huanggu clan ancestor still remained.

While Jian Chen stayed at the Huang family, he had visited the Huanggu clan ancestor trapped within the saint artifact. He wanted to learn the method of releasing the seal from him. However, he was a sly old fox who had lived for over two thousand years, so he knew that the secret technique was the only thing keeping him alive. How could he tell someone else how to release it so easily? In the end, Jian Chen failed to learn about the method of release from the old man no matter what he tried.

Jian Chen dared not harm the life of the Huanggu clan ancestor due to the restrictions of the secret technique. With no other choice, he left the old man be. He would come back to deal with him after he found a way to remove the seal from Huang Luan.

Jian Chen returned to the Changyang clan very quickly with Huang Luan and Huang Tianba. The two of them had stopped being outsiders to the rest of the clan long ago since they had gotten to know each other quite some time ago. As a result, they were warmly welcomed as soon as they arrived.

Bi Hai warmly welcomed them in particular. As he was good friends with Huang Tianba, he was pulled aside to drink as soon as they met.

Jian Chen stayed in the Changyang clan for one day, before leaving for Mercenary City with Bi Hai, Huang Tianba, Yang Ling, Huang Luan, and uncle Chang. They traveled through a Spatial Gate constructed by Rui Jin.

The people beside Jian Chen right now were only the people he trusted most. There was also Jiede Tai, but Jian Chen still did not completely trust him, which was why he did not take Jiede Tai with him this time.

As for Changyang Zu Yunkong, a seal remained in his head so he was unable to increase his strength at all. It would only be harmful to him otherwise.

“Big brother, you’ve finally come.” As soon as Jian Chen arrived in Mercenary City, Xiao Ling appeared before him in an illusionary form. Perhaps because she saw Jian Chen, her pure face was filled with happiness.

Jian Chen could help but smile when he saw Xiao Ling. He had begun to view Xiao Ling as his own younger sister since long ago, “Xiao Ling, how’s Ming Dong?”

“The three pieces of beast fur in your friend’s hand are not simple, big brother. The mysteries of the world are actually hidden within them. I used my own powers to awaken them inside, and then with some hard work, I invoked the mysteries of the world on the side as well, so your friend finally reached Saint Ruler. However, he’s cultivating right now,” said Xiao Ling. She was proud of herself.

“Ming Dong’s also become a Saint Ruler,” murmured Jian Chen. He felt happy for Ming Dong inside.

“Jian Chen, who’re you talking to?” A pleasant voice rang out from beside him. Huang Luan asked Jian Chen as she hung onto Jian Chen’s arm, her eyes shining with curiosity.

It was not just her; even Huang Tianba, Bi Hai, Yang Ling and Chang Wuji stared at him in amazement.

Jian Chen knew that they could not see Xiao Ling, but he did not explain his actions. He said to Xiao Ling, “They’re all friends and senior of me. I hope Xiao Ling can assist them in their cultivation in the future.”

Xiao Ling obediently nodded, “Yes. Big brother, don’t worry. Xiao Ling will definitely work hard to increase their strength.” With that, she waved her hand and Jian Chen’s group immediately felt everything go black. They had been dragged underground by Xiao Ling’s abilities, and even Rui Jin came along.

When the scene before them brightened up once more, they discovered that they had arrived in a completely sealed room. There were no cracks on the wall at all, completely flawless like nature. There was not even a door out.

Jian Chen looked around a little. He knew that the room was completely created from energy, probably prepared by Xiao Ling specially for Bi Hai and the others.

“Big brother, you can cultivate here in the future. Xiao Ling will invoke the mysteries of the world for you, but comprehending them will completely depend on you.” Xiao Ling’s illusionary body reappeared before Jian Chen as she levitated in the air.

This time, Bi Hai, Huang Tianba, Yang Ling, Huang Luan, and Chang Wuji’s attention were all drawn toward her at the same time. They could all see her.

“My dear junior, is this the barrier spirit of Mercenary City?” Huang Tianba could not help but ask as he stared unblinkingly at Xiao Ling. He was filled with curiosity.

Jian Chen nodded before introducing everyone to Xiao Ling. He left Huang Tianba, Bi Hai, Yang Ling, and Chang Wuji there.

Jian Chen also took the three pieces of beast fur from Ming Dong before handing them to Chang Wuji. He wished that Chang Wuji could reach Saint Ruler as soon as possible.

Chang Wuji’s talent was relatively ordinary. He had not reached Saint Ruler even after close to a thousand years. Now, due to the fact that he was too old and extremely close to the end of his life, the effects of heavenly resources would be minimal. The assistance from Xiao Ling and the three pieces of beast fur was his final chance at reaching Saint Ruler.

If he could not break through even under such circumstances, it would be impossible for him in the future.

Afterward, Jian Chen asked Xiao Ling whether she could remove the secret technique in Huang Luan’s head. The outcome, however, was extremely disappointing.

Xiao Ling was an expert of the Origin realm, but she was not an omnipotent god. It was impossible to break such a profound ancient secret technique planted directly on a person’s soul even if someone had heavenly abilities.

Xiao Ling was in the Origin realm. Her battle prowess was extremely great, and she was basically invincible on the Tian Yuan Continent. However, she was just too negligent; since the ancient times, she had mostly spent her time sleeping. The number of abilities she knew were just too few, so she could do nothing about the secret technique that entwined the fates of two people.

Compared to the sea goddess, Xiao Ling might have been slightly more powerful, but she was nowhere near the sea goddess in terms of knowledge, experience, and secret techniques.

For certain matters, Xiao Ling could not even compare to the mercenaries who had spent some time wandering the Tian Yuan Continent.

Chapter 1072: Comprehending the Mysteries of the World

Jian Chen could not help but become slightly dejected seeing how Xiao Ling could do nothing. He sighed inside, “Looks like I can only go ask senior Tian Jian and the people of the protector clans in the future. I hope I can obtain the method to remove the seal from Huang Luan from them.”

Jian Chen and Huang Luan stayed behind to get Xiao Ling to invoke the mysteries of the world for them.

Although Jian Chen possessed the strength of a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King with his Emperor Armament, his comprehension of the mysteries of the world remained at the level of a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler. He possessed the ability to kill Saint Kings, but he was never able to rip open Space Gates, always requiring Rui Jin and Hei Yu to assist him.

Jian Chen wanted to make up for this weakness as soon as possible right now. He did not wish for his comprehension to reach the same level of strength he possessed, only so that it could reach the level of Saint Kings. That way, he would be able to create his own Space Gates.

It was evident that Jian Chen's talent could be described as unprecedented. Both his cultivation speed and rate of comprehension was supreme. He submerged all his attention into the mysteries of the world invoked by Xiao Ling, fusing it into his soul so he could comprehend it closely.

Ordinary people would devote all their efforts into the comprehension for the mysteries of the world. The mysteries they comprehended would be hazy, uncertain and illusionary, like an image that was concealed by mist. They needed to get past this mist first, to see the reality within, if they wanted to achieve any comprehension.

Now that Jian Chen and the others possessed Xiao Ling's assistance, they seemed to be able to see the image itself, able to observe it clearly. It was not concealed by any mist, nor any illusionary and uncertain obstructions. They managed to avoid many winding paths, so it was much easier for them to comprehend compared to other Saint Rulers.

This was not spoon-feeding them. Although the mysteries of the world were invoked by Xiao Ling, they were still required to comprehend them and understand if they wanted to benefit from them. Otherwise, it would just be a waste of effort. They would gain nothing.

Jian Chen, Huang Luan, Bi Hai, and Huang Tianba were completely submerged within the invoked mysteries. They felt that the mysteries of the world were so close to them. They had never remembered that the mysteries could be so close. They felt the mysteries were so clear in that moment, no longer hazy like before.

In the room where Chang Wuji stayed, the three pieces of beast fur flew about by themselves. A profound presence radiated from them as they slowly revolved around Chang Wuji.

Chang Wuji seemed like a meditating old monk, sitting there without moving at all. All his attention was submerged into them. He could feel that he seemed to vaguely understand something, but he failed to grasp onto it during the process.

Yang Ling also sat there silently. He did not have the assistance of the beast furs, so he needed to work hard himself and comprehend the mysteries of the world in order to reach Saint Ruler.

They all lost sense of time as they cultivated. In the blink of an eye, they had all stayed in Mercenary City for a year. All of them benefited greatly, Jian Chen in particular. He reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer in cultivation, and was continuing toward the Ninth.

Bi Hai and Huang Tianba gained great benefits as well. They had reached the Sixth and Fifth Heavenly Layers respectively long ago, and were close to reaching the peak. Now with Xiao Ling's help, they comprehended the mysteries of the world in the most direct way, thus improving extremely quickly. They all made a breakthrough to the next level of cultivation, reaching the Seventh and Sixth Heavenly Layers.

Huang Luan had only reached Saint Ruler recently, but her strength had reached the Third Heavenly Layer due to Jian Chen. Her foundation was nowhere as firm as Huang Tianba's or Bi Hai's, so her strength did not increase that year.

She did not go without benefits, however. Although she remained at the Third Heavenly Layer, her comprehensions of the mysteries increased quite a lot. She was advancing to the Fourth Heavenly Layer.

Meanwhile, Yang Ling and Chang Wuji remained the same before, without making any advances toward Saint Ruler.

At the same time, a huge divine hall levitated in the dark and cold outer space directly above the continent. It was a magnificent and extravagant structure, completely white and glowing with a pure light. It illuminated the surrounding darkness.

A huge throne floated three meters in the air in the center of the top floor. A layer of visible Moonlight Force slowly coiled around it, shining with soft light and dyeing the room white.

You Yue sat on the throne with the Moon God Scepter in hand. She was meditating as powerful ripples of energy pulsed from her from time to time. The Moonlight Force around the throne was constantly absorbed by her, allowing her presence to rapidly increase.

As Jian Chen and the others comprehended the mysteries of the world through Xiao Ling's help, You Yue did not idle about either. She remained in the cold and cheerless divine hall, silently enduring the boredom and loneliness to work hard on increasing her strength.

After the modification of her constitution with the moon essence and gaining the cultivation method that surpassed the Saint Tier, You Yue's rate of improvement was no slower than Huang Luan with her Water Spirit's Body, maybe even far exceeding it. In a mere year, You Yue reached the Fourth Cycle as a Heaven Saint Master from the First Cycle. If she continued like that, she would only need another half a year to reach the Sixth Cycle.

Hei Yu, Hong Lian, Kara Lot, and Kazda Jianxiong also recovered to their peak conditions after having all their energy drained away by the Bright Moon Divine Hall a year ago. Kara Lot and Kazda Jianxiong left the artifact space half a year ago, returning to their clans after bidding farewell to Jian Chen.

Kara Liwei had also left the artifact space. She congratulated Jian Chen on the matter with You Yue obtaining the Bright Moon Divine Hall before returning with her ancestor. However, she felt very envious when she mentioned the divine hall.

Rui Jin, Hei Yu, and Hong Lian all remained within the artifact space. They were all at the Great Perfection of Saint King and only an inch away from Saint Emperor. They needed to overcome this gap by themselves, as any help from Xiao Ling was useless.

A mountain range, always surrounded by poisonous mist, existed within the Karl Empire of the three great empires. It was extremely well known in the empire, where almost everyone knew about it. Not only had it existed in the empire for over a hundred thousand years, it had taken the lives of countless adventurous mercenaries and experts. Even Saint Rulers could meet their end in the mountain range.

As time went on, the mountain range was labeled as a forbidden region within the Karl Empire by countless mercenaries and experts. It was named the Soul-claiming Mountains.

A deathly silence did not exist in the mountain range; instead, it was teeming with life. Countless green vegetation grew there, even great trees that were hundreds or even thousands of years old. Magical beasts would move about from time to time in the thickets. It was no different than an ordinary forest.

However, the only difference was that everything was poisonous. Poison was present everywhere; not only were the plants poisonous, even the soil was poisonous, enough to threaten the lives of Earth Saint

Masters. The deeper one went into the mountain range, the poison would grow stronger and stronger, where even Heaven Saint Masters would struggle to stay afloat in the end. All the magical beasts that thrived there were powerful, venomous beasts without a doubt.

A bare mountain peak stood in the depths of the mountain range. It was surrounded by vast quantities of poisonous mist, so dense that it had almost condensed into a liquid. Even the high class magical beasts that thrived in the mountain range could not approach it.

In the center of the mountain range existed a huge space carved out by a person. Fist-sized luminous pearls were lodged into the ceiling. They radiated with bright light and illuminated the dark cavern.

A middle-aged man, who seemed to be in his forties, sat there like a sculpture. He wore black robes.

The man's appearance was ordinary, but his face was resolute. The muscles on his face seemed to be stiff, as if he never smiled. It made him seem rather straightforward at the same time. There was an extremely eye-catching scar that stretched across his forehead. It was terrifying, enough to frighten people just by looking at it.

Beside him stood a 1.3-meter-long sword, stuck in the soil. The sword seemed ordinary, but a vast, chilling pressure emanated from within.

Suddenly, the man snapped opened his eyes, and they immediately began to glow with two odd and different lights. One of the eyes was sharp, filled with vigor and was firm, while the other eye possessed a demonic light. The light flashed about the eye, as if it was a will-o'-wisp jumping about.

"Kakakakaka, Bi Dao, my soul has undergone a basic fusion with yours. You can now use a portion of my powers, and you can use all of the power in my Saint Weapon, the Heaven-quaking Sword. You now possess the strength to move without restraint on the Tian Yuan Continent. Go deal with your matters as soon as possible. Don't forget about the promise after you finish with them." An odd, husky laughter rang through the middle-aged man's head. The voice was extremely unpleasant, like the sobs of a ghost.

Chapter 1073: Changes of Hellfire City

The middle-aged man suddenly stood up and a vast presence immediately began to radiate from him. It shook the surroundings with raw force, causing the entire mountain to shake slightly.

"Venerable Poisonsword, don't worry. I am a person who keeps his word. I will do it since I've agreed to you. Once I take revenge for the devastation of the Bi family, my body will belong to you. I will not resist." Determination flowed through the man's eyes. He was not afraid of death.

"Kakakaka, alright, alright, good. I trust you, but I do hope you move a little faster, so that I don't have to wait too long." The horrible, husky voice rang in Bi Dao's head again. It sounded impatient.

Bi Dao said nothing. With a wave of his hand, the sword in the ground immediately erupted with extremely great energy, which collided with the mountain. With a boom, the entire cavern collapsed. The rock was actually reduced to pieces by the supreme power that erupted from the ordinary-looking sword.

"My dwelling, my dwelling! Bi Dao you brat, do you know that I constructed this dwelling all those years ago with so much work? Y- y- y- you've actually destroyed by dwelling! You drive me mad!" The

venerable Poisonsword hiding within Bi Dao's head immediately bellowed out in anger with the destruction of the cavern.

"Venerable Poisonsword, you will be able to see the light of day again soon. Do you still care that much about a mere dwelling?" Bi Dao said coldly and emotionlessly. He had already grasped the sword tightly in his hand.

The sword was no ordinary weapon, but a King Armament left behind by a Saint King at Great Perfection. It was the Heaven-quaking Sword, the Saint Weapon of venerable Poisonsword who had once shaken up the continent twenty thousand years ago.

Venerable Poisonsword immediately shut up because of what Bi Dao had said.

Bi Dao remained silent as well. With the Heaven-quaking Sword in hand, he shot off like a cannonball, climbing up into the sky in an instant. He shot off into the distance after determining his directions and immediately disappeared into the dense mist.

Hellfire City was a king city in the Karl Empire. Regardless of size, area, or prosperity, it was only second to the seven capital cities of the continent.

Hellfire City possessed several tens of thousands of years of history in the Karl Empire. Its walls were entirely made from essence metal. They were extremely tough and could resist the attacks of Class 5 Magical Beasts with ease. Throughout history, the walls had fended off over a hundred magical beast hoards, allowing the city to come out unscathed each time.

Several millions of people lived within the city. Coupled with the everyday flow of people, the number of people that Hellfire City could accommodate was close to a hundred million. Many experts rose from Hellfire City since there was such a large population, along with countless clans of different sizes.

The Bloodcloud clan was the most powerful clan in the city. It was originally the second greatest there, but ever since the Bi family had been wiped out in a single night fifty years ago, they had completely replaced them. They were now unquestionably the greatest clan in the city.

This was because the Bloodcloud clan possessed a new Saint Ruler. He was not an ancestor of the clan, but a talented junior. With his supreme talent, he reached Saint Ruler in just a few hundred years, and he even became the disciple of an Imperial Protector of the empire. He was deeply valued and was raised as a pillar of support for the future of the empire, causing the clan's status in the city to soar, becoming admired by everyone.

A vast presence suddenly appeared outside the city. A figure made its way past the great walls of the city in the form of a blur. Without any decrease in speed, it flew to the center of the city with a threatening presence, alerting countless people along the way.

The figure brazenly flew through a small portion of the city and descended before a large manor in the very center of the city. It was where the Bloodcloud clan resided.

The figure wore black robes and radiated with a presence so vast that it would make people suffocate. His long hair danced in the windless air as his robes fluttered as well. He stared at the manor in a daze as reminiscence filled his eyes. Deep sorrow was also present.

The four burly guards at the entrance of the clan stared at the man in shock. Without saying anything, they ran into the clan to report what had happened. They dared not stay for even a moment longer.

The presence from the man had utterly frightened them, causing their legs to tremble. They believed that they had seen quite a few experts themselves, but this was the first time they had sensed such a great presence. Vast pressure came from the presence, which made the guards feel like their souls were going to shatter.

Before the guards could even report what had happened, all of the experts in the clan sensed the frighteningly-vast presence as well. Immediately, an energetic and polite voice rang out from within the clan, "May I inquire who you may be to have come to my clan as a guest? I am You Zixing, the patriarch of the Bloodcloud clan. I welcome you to the Bloodcloud clan on behalf of all clansmen."

A dashing, middle-aged man in golden robes slowly walked out of the manor. Although he was unhurried, each step of his covered several dozen meters. He arrived at the main entrance with a little more than ten steps, before politely bowing to the black-robed man.

You Zixing was the same genius of the clan who had reached Saint Ruler in less than a thousand years. He had also become a deeply-valued disciple of an Imperial Protector of the empire. At the same time, he was the patriarch of the Bloodcloud clan.

Afterward, the clan filled with blurs. Several Heaven Saint Masters and a group of Earth Saint Masters hurried over from all directions, all gathering behind You Zixing. They stared at the black-robed man sternly, unsure about his intentions.

The black-robed man stood dead-straight, like a stick outside the Bloodcloud clan's doors. He stared in a daze at the two large words—Bloodcloud Clan—written on the amethyst board above the main entrance. His expression was extremely mixed, filled with reminiscence, sorrow, and anger.

"I never thought that Hellfire City would change so much after leaving for fifty years. The once-prosperous clan from then has also become memories of the past; nothing of it remains now. Nothing," murmured the black-robed man. His sorrow grew deeper and deeper, before quickly turning into an icy killing intent. In that moment, all the pain and reminiscence in his eyes disappeared. It all became abnormally cold.

Suddenly, the man stabbed his sword into the ground. A terrifying storm of energy erupted, charging toward the Bloodcloud clan with an unstoppable force, as if it was under someone's control.

"Senior, what are your intentions?" You Zixing paled in surprise, immediately backpedaling. At the same time, Saint Force gushed out of his body, turning into a barrier to protect himself as well as the experts of his clan.

No one sustained any injuries from the terrifying storm of energy, but the main entrance and walls of the clan were not as fortunate. All of them collapsed, throwing dust into the air. Even the board hanging above the main entrance fell down.

The black-robed man advanced with a single step. He threw a punch at the board as it was falling, turning it into dust.

More and more people gathered from within the clan. All the guards as well as many clansmen had come, all hiding behind You Zixing as they stared in shock at the collapsed walls and entrance.

The disturbance at the clan alerted nearby people as well. Very soon, many people gathered from all directions to watch what was happening. There were even a few Heaven Saint Masters hanging several hundred meters in the air as they watched from afar.

You Zixing's complexion became extremely horrible. He growled, "I am You Zixing. My master is Imperial Protector Mo Jian. Senior, may I ask if my clan has offended you in any way? Please enlighten me."

The man finally looked at You Zixing. With an icy, emotionless gaze, he said, "Do you know who I am?"

You Zixing observed the man carefully, and a sliver of doubt appeared in his eyes. He said, "Junior is very limited in his knowledge, so I hope senior can forgive me." You Zixing dared not be impolite. He could already tell that the person before him was someone on the level of his master from presence alone. It would be extremely difficult to protect his life even with his master if he offended someone at a level like that.

"My name is Bi Dao," the black-robed man said emotionlessly.

You Zixing immediately jolted all over when he heard the name. He became shocked as he cried out, "What! Your surname is Bi! Are you a person of the Bi family?" You Zixing's heart began to churn as great fear began to pervade his insides. The manor of his Bloodcloud clan was constructed where the Bi family originally belonged.

Fifty years ago, the news of how the Bi family had been wiped out in a single night shook up the entire city. Now, not only did the Bloodcloud clan replace the Bi family as the number one clan, they even took the Bi family's territory. If a member of the Bi family with terrifying strength accidentally connected the Bloodcloud clan to the destruction of his family, You Zixing could not imagine the possible consequences his clan would face.

Chapter 1074: Bi Dao's Revenge

Bi Dao's right eye looked rather demonic, as if a will-o'-wisp was leaping about inside. He then took a step forward and arrived before You Zixing in an instant. He placed the Heaven-quaking Sword on the shoulder of You Zixing. With its tremendous pressure, he said, "Speak, who was responsible for wiping out my Bi family all those years ago?"

"I don't know, I don't know. Senior, I really don't know. It has nothing to do with my Bloodcloud clan." You Zixing was utterly terrified. The pressure from the King Armament seemed to invade his soul, and he could not even think of resisting in that moment.

He was a Saint Ruler, but only someone who had reached that level recently. He still belonged to the First Heavenly Layer.

A dense killing intent flashed through Bi Dao's eyes, "Then is there still any use to leave you around if you don't know?" With that, Bi Dao swung the Heaven-quaking Sword before You Zixing could explain, beheading him. At the same time, a great energy shot out from the sword and into You Zixing's head, wiping out his soul.

A talented Saint Ruler died just like this.

The light in Bi Dao's right eye danced about crazily. "God dammit, you brat, why did you kill him? Didn't you hear that his master was an Imperial Protector of the Karl Empire? Y- y- y- you drive me insane! You're just causing problems for me," venerable Poisonsword's enraged voice immediately rang through Bi Dao's head with the death of You Zixing.

Bi Dao's face remained the same, completely ignoring the venerable Poisonsword's cries. He slowly swept his gaze over the manor of the Bloodcloud clan, and he murmured, "This place belongs to the Bi family. It will always belong to the Bi family. No one can take this sacred piece of land away. I'll kill whoever does." Bi Dao spoke very softly, but it was filled with killing intent. Every member of the Bloodcloud clan heard what he said clearly.

He then gazed past the people of the Bloodcloud clan and continued, "Who is the one responsible for the Bi family back then? Speak and I will spare you."

Everyone was pale-faced. Their legs trembled since they were utterly frightened. No one dared to say anything. You Zixing was a Saint Ruler, yet he was slain without even being able to fight back. That affected them all greatly.

Killing intent surged within Bi Dao's eyes. He murmured, "Since you don't know, you can all go die." Bi Dao slowly raised the Heaven-quaking Sword, before swinging it down with lightning speed.

Boooooooooom!

With a great sound from the center of Hellfire City, the greatest clan in the city was wiped out in an instant. No one was left alive, suffering a fate similar to the Bi family all those years ago. The luxurious manor was reduced to ruins.

The destruction of the Bloodcloud clan shook the entire city very soon, astounding everyone. Countless people went to see exactly what was happening.

Bi Dao stood in the ruins of the clan with his arms crossed as he zoned out at the floor. His eyes were dull and filled with reminiscence, as if he was trying as hard as he could to think back to all the times from before.

The King Armament was stabbed into a tough piece of rock by his side. It radiated with a great pressure, causing everyone in the surroundings to shiver in fear. No one dared to approach him, watching on from afar as sounds of discussions constantly rang out.

A huge stone pillar stood behind Bi Dao, and on it was carved some large forceful words:

"A descendent of the Bi family has returned with the beast fur. Come get it."

A powerful clan that was equivalent to hermit clans had just been wiped out in an instant. It may not have been much on the continent where conflict never ended, but it caused a huge uproar in Hellfire City.

A group of guards immediately hurried from the city lord's manor to where the clan was after they heard the news. However, they hid in the crowd as they watched from afar, unwilling to reveal their presences. They felt extremely frightened when they saw how the clan had been reduced to rubble.

All the other large clans in the city arrived where they had been Bloodcloud clan as well. Without a single exception, all of them hid in the distance, fearfully staring at the black figure in the ruins. To all of them, the black figure seemed like a demon from hell. Bi Dao was that terrifying.

The huge pillar in the ruins became the center of attention as well. When they saw the words carved on it, many people immediately guessed Bi Dao's identity. He was actually a member of the Bi family that had been wiped out fifty years ago.

An old man in dragon robes and a crown sat in the study of the imperial palace in the Karl Empire as he read in interest. There was only him in the quiet study, but powerful presences erupted from the corners of the room from time to time.

The old man was the emperor of the Karl Empire. He was not very powerful, but he possessed great authority.

The way the Karl Empire was controlled differed from how the Holy Empire was controlled. On the surface, the Holy Empire seemed to be controlled by the imperial family, but true control was actually in the hands of the three great clans. The imperial family was just a puppet to the three clans. Even the position as emperor would be switched between members of the three clans.

The Karl Empire, on the other hand, completely fell to the control of the imperial family. It was the same as the Felicity Empire.

At this moment, the space around the emperor rippled slightly and a man shrouded in a black cloak silently appeared. He passed on a letter in his hands politely and said, "Your majesty, this is an urgent letter from Hellfire City."

The emperor looked up before slowly putting down the book in his hand. He took the urgent letter and began to read it. A while later, he furrowed his brows, "The Bloodcloud clan of Hellfire City has actually been wiped out, and even You Zixing is dead. You Zixing reached Saint Ruler in five hundred years and was highly likely of becoming a Saint King. Sigh, it really is a pity for such a genius to die before he could fully mature." The emperor folded up the letter and then passed it back to the cloaked man. He said, "Go, take this letter to Imperial Protector Mo Jian."

"Yes sir!" The cloaked man politely replied, before disappearing with the letter.

In the depths of the imperial palace, a white-robed, wrinkly, old man sat on a cushion with his eyes closed. He seemed extremely ordinary and possessed no eye-catching characteristics, other than the fact that his robes seemed to be rather expensive.

"Sir Imperial Protector, Enshrouded One has come under orders from the emperor to deliver this letter." Suddenly, a polite and somewhat emotionless voice rang out from outside.

"Come in!" The old man called out without even opening his eyes.

The door opened and the cloaked man entered with his head lowered. He walked in softly from outside and courageously passed the letter to the old man.

The old man slowly opened his eyes. His eyes were profound, like the vast night sky. He slowly raised his hand to accept the letter and began reading it.

The next moment, his face abruptly changed. His nonchalant gaze turned into a glare in an instant. Two streaks of light actually shot out of his eyes like blades. He was extremely terrifying, causing the space before him to tremble slightly.

“You Zixing’s actually been slain in Hellfire City. How dare they, how dare they! Who dares to do something like this? To even kill a disciple of mine, of Mo Jian!” The old man became enraged and suddenly stood up from the cushion. The letter in his hand had turned to dust.

“Hmph, I’d like to see just exactly who it is who dares to be so reckless and completely disregard any respect for me within the Karl Empire.” The old man was completely pale. With a swing of his arm, a crack immediately formed in the space beside him, warping into a Space Gate. Taking a step, he vanished.

Bi Dao stood in the ruins of the Bloodcloud clan like a sculpture. He did not move even after a very long time, while more and more people gathered in the surroundings, maintaining a distance of a thousand meters from him. All of them pointed at the ruins of the clan and actively discussed the event. The Bi family of Hellfire City from fifty years ago, which had almost forgotten by people, slowly returned to all their memories as well.

“A descendent of the Bi family has returned with the beast fur. Come get it—maybe the destruction of the Bi family had something to do with this beast fur?”

“For the descendent of the Bi family to return in such a brazen fashion, he probably wants to lure out the culprit who devastated his family all those years ago and then take revenge...”

“But just what level of strength does this descendent possess? Even You Zixing, a Saint Ruler, wasn’t his opponent. This is just too frightening...”

...

Discussions constantly rose from the crowd. Though, the words carved into the pillar behind Bi Dao had answered many of their questions.

Suddenly, a colorful Space Gate appeared in the air about the ruins. Before the person who had created the space gate even emerged, a vast presence blanketed the surroundings, stretching out in a bold manner. It actually enveloped the entire city.

Everyone in Hellfire City stopped what they were doing at that moment. They stared at the sky in shock. Many of them could not see the Space Gate high up in the air, but they could feel where the presence was coming from.

Bi Dao finally began to faintly move in the ruins of the Bloodcloud clan. He slowly raised his head and glared at the Space Gate in the air. His expression did not change.

However, Bi Dao’s right eye flashed vigorously. Venerable Poisonsword exasperated voice rang out in his head, “A Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King. It’s a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King! Bi Dao you brat! You’ve actually provoked a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King! God dammit, if you don’t want to live anymore, at least don’t drag me to my death as well! Experts like these may have been nothing to me when I was at my peak, but my current condition... Sigh, you sure have made it disastrous for me now.”

Chapter 1075: The Saint King Mo Jian

Two different kinds of light flickered in Bi Hai's eyes. He seemed to completely ignore venerable Poisonsword's anger and stared at the Space Gate in the air emotionlessly. His eye that remained normal revealed some sternness.

The Heaven-quaking Sword erupted from the rock it had been stabbed into. It became coated in a thick layer of energy, shattering the rock. It then flew into Bi Dao's hand as if it possessed a spirit.

After blanketing the surroundings with a violent presence, a white-robed, wrinkly old man slowly emerged from the Space Gate. Immediately, an indomitable might began to radiate from him, deeply shocking everyone in the city. It was like the descent of a supreme lord.

The old man looked down at everyone like a king lording over his citizens. His face was prideful and cold while his eyes shined with interest. He stared closely at Bi Dao who stood in the ruins and growled, "Was it you who killed my disciple?"

Bi Dao did not fear him. He stared at the old man and emotionlessly asked, "You must be You Zixing's master, the Imperial Protector of the Karl Empire, Mo Jian."

"Correct, that is me!" Mo Jian coldly replied.

Bi Dao's gaze remained icy, "The land beneath me belongs to my Bi family. No one can take it. I'll kill whoever tries."

Mo Jian furrowed his brows slightly with that. He seemed to stare at Bi Dao in disbelief, "You're a member of the Bi family?" The Bi family was a great clan that possessed a Saint Ruler in the past, so even Mo Jian had heard about the clan before. What he did not understand was when did an expert like this appear in the Bi family?

"Correct!" Bi Dao's face remained the same as before.

Mo Jian's face grew colder, "Since you're a member of the Bi family, you're also someone of the Karl Empire. In other words, you're no outsider. However, you killed my disciple, so you have to give me an explanation for this."

"If you want an explanation, I'll give you one," growled Bi Dao. A vast battle intent immediately erupted from him, surging into the sky. It caused the wind and clouds to churn. The Heaven-quaking Sword in his hand also erupted with a shocking sword Qi.

"Bi Dao, my strength is far from my peak right now. I can't let you waste it like this. Don't resist, I'll take over your body. This battle needs to be completed as soon as possible, or both of us will end up dead once all of my energy is expended," the venerable elder's voice rang in Bi Dao's head.

Bi Dao said nothing and slowly lowered his head. At that moment, no one realized that the light in Bi Dao's left eye quickly vanished, becoming lifeless in the blink of an eye. Afterward, an odd light suddenly appeared in that left eye, flashing about. It was filled with an evil feeling.

Now, both of Bi Dao's eyes had become demonic, as if two will-o'-wisps were dancing around inside.

Unexpectedly, Bi Dao rose from the ground, shooting into the sky like a rocket. The Heaven-quaking Sword in his hand also erupted with a bright green light. It was a potent poison.

Not only was venerable Poisonsword powerful, he was someone who frequently used poison. His poison was no less potent than Nubis' venom.

Mo Jian could not help but furrow his brows when he saw how resolutely Bi Dao behaved, ready to give it all into the battle. Although You Zixing was his disciple in name, their relationship as master and disciple did not exist at all. Mo Jian indeed was greatly angered when he heard about You Zixing's death, but that was mainly over the disrespect rather than the actual death. After all, his disciple had been killed in the territory of the Karl Empire. That was a provocation and insult in his eyes.

Mo Jian originally thought that the person who killed You Zixing was a Saint Ruler, which is why he hurried over angrily. However, once he arrived above the city and discovered that the murderer was a Saint King just like him, many of his thoughts of revenge disappeared. He could not offend a Saint King over someone who did not even treat him as a master, especially due to the fact that the Saint King was also a member of the Karl Empire and had only come to destroy the Bloodcloud clan. As a result, Mo Jian lost interest in pursuing this matter.

Asking for an explanation from Bi Dao was just a way for him to set up a way out of the situation. He had never thought that not only would Bi Dao refuse to cooperate, he would even come at him threateningly, throwing him into a temporary dilemma.

"Heaven-quaking Sword! Cloud-piercer!" Bi Dao had already struck out before Mo Jian could prepare himself. With a loud bellow, poisonous gas immediately surged out of the sword in his hands. The deep green light completely shrouded the sword, which was thrust out with a vast energy.

The sword disappeared the moment it was thrust forward. It arrived before Mo Jian in an odd manner within the next moment, and the potent poison fused perfectly with the terrifying energy. It stabbed toward Mo Jian mercilessly.

Mo Jian immediately turned solemn. He could clearly feel just how powerful this strike was, shocking him greatly. Only until that point did he suddenly realize that Bi Dao's presence alternated between strong and weak, but it was no weaker than himself. He could even feel mysteries of the world beyond the Fifth Heavenly Layer of Saint King in the strike, which utterly astounded him.

Without any hesitation, Mo Jian drew his Saint Weapon as fast as he could. His weapon was a huge one-handed sword that was the width of a palm, and as soon as it appeared, the vast quantities of energy within him surged into the sword. He stabbed out with all his might, making it collide with the Heaven-quaking Sword.

Boom!

With a deafening sound, the two terrifying energies wildly smashed into each other. They immediately caused the surrounding space to rupture, forming a black hole over thirty meters across. The surroundings violently shook.

After the clash, the Heaven-quaking Sword turned around and returned to Bi Dao's hand. Mo Jian's body, on the other hand, shook violently, and his complexion immediately became rather ugly. He was

not injured after blocking Bi Dao's attack, but he fell into a disadvantageous position. The potent poisonous gas also entered his body. He had rarely ever come across a poisonous gas like this, and it was extremely powerful. It forced him to use fifty percent of his power to suppress it.

Bi Dao floated emotionlessly in the air with his sword as the light in his eyes constantly flickered. He coldly said, "Is this enough of an explanation? If it's not enough, I can provide you with an even more satisfying one."

Mo Jian stared at Bi Dao in shock. He paid close attention to Bi Dao's eyes. He could feel that the person before him was rather strange just from his instincts, but he could not tell exactly where this strangeness came from.

Mo Jian inhaled deeply and slowly calmed himself down. After a moment of peace, he could not help but swallow his pride, "Sir is also a member of the Karl Empire. It truly is worthy of celebration for another great expert to appear in my empire. My failure of a disciple was looking for it himself for taking up your clan's territory. He deserved much more than death." Mo Jian gave in. In the clash earlier, he knew that he was definitely not Bi Dao's opponent. Gaining such a powerful enemy over someone who did not even act like a disciple was not a smart choice.

Mo Jian paused slightly before continuing, "Your strength is extraordinary, and you are also a member of the Karl Empire. If you are willing, you are welcome to take up the position as Imperial Protector at any time." With that, Mo Jian stuck around no longer and flew away.

"Wait, just who wiped out the Bi clan back then?" Bi Dao coldly asked.

Mo Jian froze and glanced at the huge pillar in the ruins. He said, "I spent most of my time in seclusion within the palace, so it has already been several hundred years since I last meddled with worldly affairs. If you want to find your enemy, you are welcome to come find the emperor in the palace. I believe his majesty will be very willing to assist you."

Mo Jian left hurriedly through a space gate. Bi Dao also descended from the sky, returning to the ruins. The flickering light in his eyes also slowly calmed down, until all that was left was a sharp gaze.

"Brat, stay a little more composed for me in the future. Just that exhausted twenty percent of my power. If it weren't for my foresight to use supreme strength to deter that person right from the get-go, we'd probably still be fighting right now. If we get stuck in a battle of endurance, we would lose for sure." Venerable Poisonsword's angry voice rang through Bi Dao's head.

Bi Dao did not respond. He focused his attention on his dantian. In there was a thumb-sized pearl that floated quietly. It was completely composed of energy, extremely terrifying energy.

The pearl was the venerable's power. It had been sealed through a special method, and the venerable could use it at his will while Bi Dao could only use a tiny portion of it. Once all the power was exhausted, it would be extremely difficult to recover. The power sealed within was indeed twenty percent less than before.

Bi Dao did not go to the imperial palace of the Karl Empire. He waited there silently in the ruins. He had a feeling that those people would definitely come.

In the blink of an eye, night had already descended, blotting the entire world with darkness. In an extremely desolate region of the continent, a huge, jet-black divine hall silently stood in a mountain range. It radiated with a chilling aura. It seemed like a place where demons lived, enough to make people shiver in fear.

“Reporting to the Yama, a descendant of the Bi family has appeared in Hellfire City of the Karl Empire. He has carved the fact that he had returned with the beast fur into a stone pillar. What should we do, Yama?” A vague, evil-sounding voice sounded in the dark palace.

“What? A person of the Bi family has returned to Hellfire City with the beast fur? Is that true?” A husky voice rang out from the pitch-black hall. It sounded like the shrieks of ghosts.

“It is completely true. However, he seems to be very powerful. He fought off an Imperial Protector of the empire without suffering defeat.”

“A member of the Bi family has returned to Hellfire City with the beast fur. Looks like he knows the destruction of his clan fifty years ago was caused by the beast fur. However, we have to obtain the beast fur now that it has appeared once again. It doesn’t matter just how powerful that person is. He can’t stop as. Send the orders to summon the ten Protector Kings to accompany me to Hellfire City.”

Chapter 1076: Trapped in Yama Hall (One)

In the blink of an eye, seven days had passed since the Bloodcloud clan had been wiped out in Hellfire City. During those seven days, news regarding the event swept through Karl Empire like a storm. Since the person who had wiped them out in less than ten minutes was a member of the Bi family, that news became the biggest a drawing point. Afterward, various rumors appeared regarding the descendent of the Bi family as well as the destruction of the Bi family fifty years ago. They crazily spread across the Karl Empire.

The imperial family of the Karl Empire did not respond in regards to how the Bloodcloud family was wiped out. Ever since their Imperial Protector Mo Jian had come back several days ago, they did nothing, indicating that they did not wish to interfere with Bi Dao’s matters. After all, Bi Dao was also a member of the empire, and he was a Saint King. He was an existence that the imperial family wished to pull over, so why would they take offense over the death of a Saint Ruler?

During those seven days, Bi Dao stood unmoving in the ruins of the Bloodcloud clan. He did not even take a single step from that place. The Heaven-quaking Sword remained stabbed into the ground beside him. Its luster was gone and it seemed extremely ordinary, but the pressure it possesses still existed. It slowly pervaded the surroundings, no longer making them seem so ordinary.

A large crowd of people remained in the surroundings of the ruins, watching on from afar. During those few days, people had come and left. There were even a great group of people who had come from several thousand kilometers away just to see the awe of a Saint King.

Very soon, darkness descended on the earth once more. The bustling city gradually began to quieten down, and the people in the surroundings all slowly dispersed. Only Bi Dao remained where he was, disregarding any fatigue.

Bi Dao could not help but think of everything that had once happened right now. Countless faces of the Bi family flashed through his head one by one, and his cold gaze gained some gentleness.

“So many years have passed. I wonder how Xiangtian is right now. He’s the only descendent left of my Bi family. I hope he can survive...”

“Sister, once I take revenge for the destruction of the clan, I’ll go hunt down the people who murdered you. Even if I have to search to the ends of the earth, I will find them and use their blood to hold a ceremony to remember you. Sister, rest well. Your brother won’t let you die for nothing.” Bi Dao was filled with deep sorrow. When the Bi family had been wiped out all those years ago, only he and his sister survived. Now that Bi Yuntian was dead, all that was left in the family was him.

Suddenly, loneliness began to pour out of Bi Dao’s heart. He felt so lonely at the moment, as if he was the only one left from the glorious Bi family all those years ago.

He had always remained in the Soul-claiming Mountains in recent years, having only left a few days ago. He had not learned about the major events occurring across the Tian Yuan Continent. He still had no idea that his sister had been revived by Jian Chen, while his nephew was no longer a mere Saint Ruler, now a great Saint King.

Suddenly, a cold breeze gently blew past him. The surrounding sounds seemed to vanish in that instant, and the city seemed to become a haunted place of deathly silence.

Bi Dao’s head immediately cleaned up, and he dismissed his random thoughts. He slowly raised his head and looked around emotionlessly. Ten figures had appeared in the surroundings silently at some time. They seemed to have fused with the darkness; although they stood there out in the open, it was extremely easy for people to miss them, making it very difficult to sense them.

The ten figures stood there silently like that. No one said anything, nor did any presences leak out, causing the atmosphere to become rather odd.

Burning killing intent immediately appeared in Bi Dao’s eyes when he looked at the ten people surrounding him. He could clearly remember that when the Bi family was devastated several dozen years ago, it was done by a group of people in similar attire.

“You’ve finally come. I’ve waited here for you for several days already.” Bi Dao’s voice was extremely icy as killing intent radiated from him without restraint. He slowly drew the Heaven-quaking sword from the ground, adding a vast pressure to his killing intent.

The ten people said nothing, but some greed appeared in their cold gazes once they all laid their eyes on the sword in Bi Dao’s hand.

“Speak, who are you? What organization do you belong to?” Bi Dao continued after not hearing the people respond.

The ten people stood there silently, as if they were a part of the darkness. No one replied to Bi Dao’s questions.

“No wonder we couldn’t find any beast fur when we wiped out the Bi family back then, so it’s actually been taken away when a survivor of the family fled.” At this moment, a husky voice rang out from nowhere. It was impossible to discern its origins.

One of Bi Dao’s eyes began to violently flicker. He stared fixedly at the space before him.

A black figure gradually appeared in the empty darkness. It seemed so odd.

“Just who are you?” Bi Dao stared at the figure. Just from instinct, he could tell that the person before him was the leader of the rest.

“Survivor of the Bi family, hand over the beast fur if you want to know who I am,” sneered the black figure.

Killing intent surged in Bi Dao’s eyes. He coldly said, “If you want the beast fur, then take it from me, but you might not have the abilities with just the eleven of you.” With that, the Heaven-quaking Sword in Bi Dao’s hand began to shine with dazzling green light. The potent poison fused perfectly with the terrifying energy erupting from the sword.

Swish! Bi Dao stabbed out with the sword, directly targeting the head of the leading figure.

“You really are a Saint King,” the black-clothed man involuntarily called out with his hoarse voice. His gaze immediately became stern, and with a flip of his hand, an exquisite black dagger appeared. It was only palm-sized, but it emitted a dense black glow. A cold light could vaguely be seen flickering on it through the dark glow.

“Kiss of the Venomous Scorpion!” The figure called out and the dagger immediately shot out as a blur.

With a violent boom, the dagger collided with the Heaven-quaking Sword. The sound erupted in the desolate night, alarming the entire city. Countless people woke up from their sleep and lit candles, flooding the city with light in just a few seconds.

Bi Dao and the man were evenly matched in the clash.

“Survivor of the Bi family, you really are very strong, but you can’t keep the beast fur. Why don’t you hand it over obediently, and I’ll spare your life. Otherwise, today next year will be when people visit your grave,” sneered the man.

Bi Dao said nothing. He wielded the Heaven-quaking Sword in his right hand while the venerable elder’s voice rang out in his head, “Brat, you won’t be able to beat him even if you use up all of my energy. Let me deal with him.”

The light in Bi Dao’s eyes became odd once more. He relinquished control over his body, handing it over to the venerable Poisonsword once again.

As soon as the venerable took over, an indescribably vast presence immediately began to radiate from him. He seemed to fuse with the surroundings, as if he had turned into the world in that moment.

“Even a mere Saint King of the Fourth Heavenly Layer dares to be so arrogant? Die!” Venerable Poisonsword sneered in disdain after gaining control. He slowly raised the Heaven-quaking Sword and stabbed out.

Not only did the strike contain a great energy and potent poison, it possessed the profound mysteries of the world. Not only did a strike from venerable Poisonsword contain much more energy than the one from Bi Dao, its might was multiplied several times over.

“Phantom’s Flurry!” The man’s gaze became even sterner. Crying out, the dagger in his hand began to wildly dance about, forming a string of afterimages that filled the space before him. All of the afterimages forcefully shot out.

However, the afterimages that struck the Heaven-quaking Sword all vanished with a bang. The sword seemed like an invincible sword, advancing like a hot knife through butter. It arrived before the man in an instant and impaled his chest.

The man roared out and immediately shot back. He separated from the sword and bellowed out, “Slaughter of the Ten Kings!”

The gazes of the ten darkly-clothed men in the surroundings all changed. Vast presences erupted from every single one of them, and they knit together in the middle of the air to form an even greater presence. Afterward, the ten of them drew their Saint Weapons at the same time, sending a powerful sword Qi into the air simultaneously.

The ten darkness-attributed sword Qis weaved together in the air and rapidly formed the face of a demon. It charged toward Bi Dao who was below.

‘Bi Dao’ could not help but sneer in even more disdain. He mocked, “An attack through a secret from the fusion of ten Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers is only as powerful as a Saint King of the Second Heavenly Layer. Is this all you have?” As he said that, he casually stabbed at the sky and a powerful sword Qi shot out, destroying the demon face.

“Let’s go!” The man with the dagger did not stick around. Shouting out, he immediately turned into a black figure, shooting off into the distance. The ten Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers did not hesitate either, silently fleeing into the distance.

“Where do you think you’re going? Stay right here!” Bi Dao regained control of his body and pursued them with bloodshot eyes. He had found the people who had wiped out the Bi family all those years ago after great effort, so how could he let them escape so easily?

Chapter 1077: Trapped in Yama Hall (Two)

Bi Dao chased the eleven black-clothed men, leaving Hellfire City very quickly. Although they had only clashed twice in the city, the disturbance was undoubtedly great. Everyone in the city was alerted. There were even quite a few Heaven Saint Masters who quickly flew over to where the Bloodcloud clan had been, wishing to witness a battle between experts to assist them with their future cultivation.

However, they were fated to see nothing. When they arrived at the ruins of the Bloodcloud clan, no one was present. Even the descendant of the Bi clan who had always remained there was gone.

For some time, the fighting that rang through the city along with the disappearance of the Bi family descendant sent clouds of suspicion into the minds of the citizens of the city. The occurrences also lead to the proliferation of various rumors.

“The descendant of the Bi family killed Imperial Protector Mo Jian’s disciple. The Imperial Protector has gathered his friends to capture him...”

“The descendant of the Bi family has aggravated a great expert by wiping out the Bloodcloud clan and has been taken away...”

“It’s probably because the Bi family descendant has gained the attention of some expert of the continent through the beast fur, leading to another intense conflict. He can not win, so he has already fled...”

“I think it’s extremely likely that the people who wiped out the Bi family all those years ago have appeared again. After fighting, they realized they weren’t his enemy, so they fled. The descendant pursued them...”

“The descendant of the Bi family is so strong that even Imperial Protector Mo Jian could do nothing to him. I don’t think there’s anyone on the continent who would want to provoke him. I think it’s because his enemies have appeared...”

...

Various rumors filled every inch of the city. The matter had already gained the attention of everyone in the city, but no one knew the truth. All they could do was guess.

Outside Hellfire City, Bi Dao pursued the eleven people in a threatening manner as wild gusts of wind blew past him. He was so fast that he seemed to have become a faint blur.

Before him, the ten Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers seemed to have fused together. They used a special secret technique to merge all their powers, maintaining a distance from Bi Dao throughout the pursuit. Every time Bi Dao was about to catch up to them, their speed would skyrocket and widen the distance between them in an instant.

Very soon, Bi Dao had already pursued them at full speed for one whole day and night. They moved extremely quickly, traversing several hundred thousand kilometers in just a day.

“Brat, this doesn’t look right. They seem to be intentionally drawing you in with how they’re acting. Be a little careful.” Venerable Poisonsword’s voice rang out in Bi Dao’s head.

“Don’t worry, I’m not an idiot. I know exactly what I should be doing,” Bi Dao coldly replied. Now that his enemies were right before him, his killing intent boiled inside. He knew that he could finally return the debt of blood from fifty years ago.

In the blink of an eye, another three days passed. Bi Dao had already traveled more than a million kilometers as he pursued the group of people. It was late, and thick clouds blanketed the sky, completely obscuring the light of the moon. Thus, the night was extremely dark, so dark that vision was severely limited.

After chasing them for four days, Bi Dao continued to tail them with no intention of giving up. His gaze was extremely determined as he thought, “The people who devastated my Bi family are much stronger than I had imagined. They actually have a Saint King and ten Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers. If I want

to take revenge, I need to borrow venerable Poisonsword's power. It'll be impossible otherwise with my talent.

"Hmph, the venerable elder's soul shares my body. I do know that you are rapidly growing accustomed to my body, and once you have completely adapted, you'll probably forcefully take over my body and devour my soul. At that time, it doesn't matter if I've successfully taken revenge. The outcome will all be the same, so why shouldn't I use everything I have? It's not like my life belongs to me anymore."

Bi Dao continued to chase down the eleven people without any fear with a mindset like that. Nothing could stop his advance, not even immense danger, because he knew that it would be the venerable elder's problem if he came across great dangers, not his own.

Right now, all Bi Dao thought about was revenge!

The eleven people entered a desolate mountain range with Bi Dao. They quickly made their way through the dark mountains, before fleeing into a pitch-black palace.

Bi Dao saw the giant palace, but he did not hesitate at all. He continued into the palace without slowing down at all.

"Brat, stop! Don't go in there, it's a trap!" The venerable elder's panic-stricken voice rang out in Bi Dao's head. The light in Bi Dao's eyes also fluctuated in brightness as the venerable elder attempted to forcefully take control.

"Venerable Poisonsword, the strongest of my enemies is only at the Fourth Heavenly Layer of Saint King. They pose no threat to you, and this is their lair. I will completely flip the lair upside down and turn it into a river of blood and corpses," Bi Dao roared out inside. His flickering eyes quickly stabilized, replaced by a cold determination.

The body belonged to Bi Dao after all. Bi Dao successfully suppressed venerable Poisonsword's attempt to steal his body.

"Bastard! Bi Dao you brat, don't be carried away by your hatred. Return to your senses! Stop, it's a trap inside! Don't go in! If you want to die, just don't drag me to my death as well!" The venerable elder was utterly exasperated as he roared out.

Bi Dao completely ignored what he said, entering the palace in the form of a black blur.

As soon as he made his way in, the main entrance immediately slammed shut. It was pitch-black inside, where nothing could be seen.

Suddenly, a scorching presence surged in. The temperature of the palace began to skyrocket and black flames appeared on the ground. It formed an odd formation, trapping Bi Dao.

"God dammit! This is a formation, brat! You've been trapped in the formation!" The venerable swore angrily as his hatred for Bi Dao seeped into his bones.

"Hahahahahaha! Survivor of the Bi family, welcome to the Yama Hall of the three great assassination organizations of the continent! You are our first guest in the past thousand years, so please enjoy the scenery of our hall!" A horrible voice appeared out of nowhere. It sounded like the sobs of a ghost, while its laughter seemed extremely sinister.

“God dammit, it’s actually the Yama Hall of the three famed assassination organizations of the continent! I’ve been trapped by them! Bi Dao you brat, you sure have brought disaster to me!” The venerable elder wailed powerlessly. If he was at his peak, he could try adventuring into the Yama Hall, but he was nowhere as powerful as he had been before in his current form as a soul. There was almost no hope for him to escape after being trapped here.

“So what about the Yama Hall? Venerable Poisonsword, you were a person who once stood at the apex of the continent. You didn’t even fear the ten protector clans, so how can a mere assassination organization stop you. I’ll let you take control of my body and take revenge for me,” Bi Dao said to the venerable elder. He could not help but think of his sister, and he sighed inside, “Sister, I’m useless. I might not be able to take revenge for you.”

“Brat, is there still any use if you let me gain control of your body? The Yama Hall is infamous. It has stood on the continent for over a hundred thousand years, so how can they be easily dealt with? Especially with how you intentionally entered their lair. Y- y- y- you drive me crazy,” venerable Poisonsword swore as he took control of Bi Dao’s body. Wielding the Heaven-quaking Sword in his right hand, he sternly stared at the surging black flames surrounding him.

“Heaven-quaking Sword, Heaven-cleaver!” Suddenly, he roared out and the sword immediately erupted with surging energy. With the sword raised up high, he stabbed at the ceiling of the palace.

With a loud boom, the entire structure began to violently tremble. However, his devastating strike did nothing to the palace. Not even a crack had appeared.

“Hahahahaha, you still want to break out of this divine hall? I’d suggest you give up on that thought. This divine hall was created by a Saint Emperor, so unless you can deal a strike as powerful as a Saint Emperor, you can’t break through it.” The sinister laughter rang out from the dark room once more.

“What! It’s a divine hall!?” Venerable Poisonsword became ashen from the great shock. He lost all hope while his resentment for Bi Dao reached a limit. He was tempted to rip Bi Dao into pieces and eat him alive.

A person wrapped in black robes sat on a throne in a hall at the very top of the structure. Below him sat ten black-clothed people in two rows dressed in the exact same fashion as him.

“Yama, the survivor of the Bi family has been trapped in the divine hall now. Should we kill him right now and take the beast fur from him?” A person below asked. His voice was icy-cold and completely emotionless.

The person on the throne was the Saint King who fought against Bi Dao with a dagger in Hellfire City and was repelled by venerable Poisonsword. He was one of the people who held the greatest power in the Yama Hall.

The ten people below him were the ten Protector Kings of the Yama Hall, only standing below the Yama in status.

“There’s no need to hurry. The survivor of the Bi family is very strong. He’s at least at the Sixth Heavenly Layer, so even though I can kill him, it’ll cost me quite a lot of effort. It’s not worth it. Since he has been trapped in the divine hall, he can’t escape. It’s a pity that the primary control of the divine hall is still in

the hands of the former Yama. I can only use a small part of the divine hall's power, so I can't activate all the formations of the divine hall. Otherwise, would there still be a need for me to personally kill him? Just the power of the divine hall would be enough."

"The former Yama's been heavily injured and has been in seclusion for a thousand years already. I think he should have roughly recovered after a thousand years, so let's wait for the former Yama to execute him."

The Yama had no other choice. In the battle a thousand years ago against the Bloodsword sect, their organization was heavily damaged. They lost many experts and had yet to fully recover even now. Although they could kill Bi Dao right now, it would exhaust many experts, which was something they did not want to risk. All they could do was leave Bi Dao and the venerable Poisonsword alive, leaving them trapped within the divine hall.

Chapter 1078: Breakthrough Obstructed

The disturbances in Hellfire City subsided very quickly. However, ever since the battle from that night ended, the descendant of the Bi family never appeared again.

A small, wooden hut stood alone on the tallest mountain of a mountain range over ten thousand kilometers away from the City of God. Even though it was buffeted by the cold wind all year round, it seemed to be deeply rooted to the ground. It stood there securely, without even swaying a little.

The layout of the hut was extremely simple, simple to the point where it was hard to believe that it was inhabited. Other than a wooden bed, a table, and a chair, there was nothing else. Everyone inside, however, was spotlessly clean.

On the bed lay a middle-aged beauty in a dark-green dress. She was elegant and her face radiated with a certain righteousness. She possessed a striking appearance, and even though she was already middle-aged, she possessed supreme beauty. A single glance would be enough to discern that she was an enchanting woman in the past.

Beside the bed sat a white-robed, middle-aged man. His face was filled with sorrow and pain, and he seemed rather haggard. He gently held the woman's white hand.

"Caiyun, you've slept for one whole year. I know that you only sealed yourself off from your aching heart and that you don't want to wake up ever again..."

"Caiyun, it's me who can't make it up to you. It's me who has no right to see you. The one who should have suffered punishment like this should have been me, not you. Caiyun, why are you so silly..."

"Caiyun, can you hear me? Don't be so stubborn. Don't be like this, alright? Wake up. Do you know that I feel horrible when I see you like this? Such agony..."

Hao Wu sat beside Zaar Caiyun, gently murmuring to himself as he held her hand. His face revealed the pain he felt.

Ever since he had brought Zaar Caiyun away from the City of God, she had always remained unconscious.

“Caiyun, maybe Mu’er can wake you up. Do I have to go find Mu’er?” Hao Wu murmured as bitterness filled him. He knew extremely well that Mu’er really hated both him and Zaar Caiyun. It would be virtually impossible to get her to awaken Zaar Caiyun with her zither music.

And if he really did try something like that, it would probably deepen the Heavenly Enchantress’ hatred for him.

“What should I do? Just what should I do? Caiyun, when are you going to wake up...”

In the blink of an eye, another two years passed. It had been three whole years since Jian Chen had arrived in Mercenary City. Jian Chen sat like a sculpture in the room Xiao Ling forged from energy deep below Mercenary City. He did not move at all, not even energy rippled from his body.

In the silent and ice-cold room, the space there seemed to pulse like a beating heart. A profound aura filled the surroundings, possessing the indescribable truths of the world.

Jian Chen sat there just like that, borrowing the mysteries of the world invoked by Xiao Ling to comprehend the truths of the world, as well as the laws of the world. After three years of hard work, the rate he improved at could not be described with words. He advanced from the Seventh Heavenly Layer to the Ninth Heavenly Layer in terms of comprehension during those three years and had stagnated at the Ninth Heavenly Layer for a whole year. He was at the peak right now, only an inch away from reaching the comprehension of a Saint King.

Bi Hai and Huang Tianba remained at the Seventh and Sixth Heavenly Layers respectively from two years ago. Their talents were nowhere near as great as Jian Chen’s, so even with Xiao Ling’s assistance, they failed to advance one minor cultivation level a year. However, the speed at which they comprehended the secrets meant it would require another three years before they could break through once more.

The reason why they had broken through together in just one year before was because they had stagnated at that level for several years already. They had already reached the peak, which was why they could make a breakthrough so soon.

The two of them were still ravished with joy even though they had just made one break through in three years, as they would have to waste at least several decades or even over a hundred years to break through when they comprehended the mysteries by themselves. With Xiao Ling’s assistance, the time required had been reduced several times over, perhaps even more than ten times over.

In three years, Huang Luan’s strength increased quickly as well. She reached the Fourth Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler, while only Chang Wuji and Yang Ling remained as Heaven Saint Masters.

Chang Wuji’s talent was ordinary. He had consumed heavenly resources before, but he was virtually at the end of his thousand-year life. He seemed to have run out of momentum, so even with the assistance of the three beast furs, he failed to comprehend the mysteries of the world completely. He remained at the peak of Heaven Saint Master.

On the other hand, Yang Ling had not broken through, but he still had a lot of time ahead of him. As a result, breaking through was only a matter of time for him.

Suddenly, the mysteries of the world that filled Jian Chen's room began to pulse violently. The space around Jian Chen also seemed to react, trembling. The room began to distort. Jian Chen's figure also became blurrier and blurrier, until he disappeared in the distorting space.

The sunny sky above Mercenary City immediately began to darken. A thick layer of clouds rapidly appeared, enveloping the entire city. The clouds shrouded the sunlight, obscuring the sky. They rapidly expanded, covering a radius of a hundred thousand kilometers. They threw Mercenary City into darkness in that instance.

The sudden change in weather caused everyone in Mercenary City to stop what they were doing. At that moment, everyone raised their heads at the sky. All of them were filled with surprise and were curious, so they began discussing the changes all over the city.

No one knew what was happening. The speed at which the clouds had gathered was unbelievable. It did not seem like a storm at all.

Just as everyone discussed the sudden change in the clouds, a vast pressure suddenly appeared and pressed viciously down from space. It engulfed all of Mercenary City, and coupled with the pressure was the profound, incomprehensible mysteries of the world.

Immediately, everyone felt like a boulder was pressing against their chests, making it difficult for them to breathe. Some weaker people even felt like they were suffocating.

"These are the mysteries of the world. Someone's broken through to Saint Ruler..."

"No, I've personally witnessed the birth of a Saint Ruler before. The pressure was never this great, and the mysteries of the world that descended were not as strong. Has someone become a Saint King?"

"The birth of a Saint Ruler is accompanied with five-colored rainbow clouds. If it's a Saint King, there will be seven-colored rainbow clouds. Let's just wait to see the color of the clouds to know if it's a Saint Ruler or a Saint King..."

"Look, everyone, colors have appeared. The rainbow clouds have appeared..."

Experts were plentiful in Mercenary City, so a few experienced ones could see through the odd phenomenon of the clouds with a single glance. They immediately called out as envy filled their eyes.

Afterward, a dazzling multicolored light pierced through the darkness. It appeared in the thick layer of clouds and quickly became magnificent. It reached seven colors in total very soon, dyeing all the clouds. It was enchanting.

"It's seven-colored! The clouds are seven-colored! A Saint Ruler's broken through to Saint King..."

"Who has broken through? Is it an elder of Mercenary City? Looks like Mercenary City has gained another expert from today on..."

The crowd fell into a hubbub. Everyone was extremely excited. To personally witness the birth of a Saint King was something they could only experience through luck. There were just too few Saint Kings on the Tian Yuan Continent, and it would be difficult for a Saint King to appear even with several billions of people.

The appearance of the seven-colored rainbow clouds alerted all the high-ranking members of Mercenary City. With Tian Jian as their leader, a group appeared in the air as they stared at the clouds in the sky in amazement.

“Grand elder, just who has broken through in our Mercenary City? Why do I sense nothing in regard to this? Is it because the person who broke through isn’t in the city but elsewhere and Mercenary City just happens to lie in the radius of the rainbow clouds?” An elder politely asked from behind Tian Jian.

Tian Jian stared unblinkingly at the clouds in the sky as interest filled his face. He said, “The clouds are centered around Mercenary City. The person who has broken through is indeed in this city, but he has hidden himself very well. Even I cannot sense where he is.”

At this moment, an odd phenomenon suddenly appeared. The pressure that filled the surroundings rapidly weakened and in just a few seconds, it completely disappeared, as if it was never present. The rainbow clouds also began to dull, turning into nothing in a few seconds as well. A deep-blue sky reappeared.

Tian Jian furrowed his brows slightly when he saw this change. Shock filled his eyes, and he called out, “What’s happened? Why have the clouds disappeared?”

“When someone breaks through to Saint King, the clouds will remain for seven whole days. B- b- but why have the clouds dispersed so quickly right after they had formed? This has never happened before! This is unheard of! There is no record of this whatsoever!” An elder beside Tian Jian cried out in astonishment.

Tian Jian pondered the occurrence as he stared at the sky. After a while, he seemed to understand something, and he sighed. He said in pity, “That person’s failed his breakthrough.”

“Failed? How is that possible? Once the rainbow clouds appear, they are destined to succeed! How can failure appear? This truly is unheard of...”

All the elders of Mercenary City were utterly confused by how the rainbow clouds had completely disappeared after appearing for less than twenty seconds. They all doubted what they saw. A few knowledgeable people also reached a similar conclusion with their deductions, and they all sighed in pity. At that moment, many people felt sympathetic for the person who had failed his breakthrough.

It would truly be a great blow to the person breaking through since that person was just about to become an expert that no one would dare to anger on the continent, yet that person failed in the final moments.

Jian Chen snapped open his eyes deep under Mercenary City. He angrily stood up and yelled at the sword spirits in his sea of consciousness, “Zi Ying, Qing Zuo, why have you come and made trouble? I almost would have become a Saint King, but I failed with what you did! Why are you stopping me from reaching Saint King?”

Everything was extremely successful as Jian Chen made his breakthrough. Just as he was about to reach Saint King, he had never thought that the sword spirits would suddenly interfere at this crucial moment, denying Jian Chen of his chance to reach Saint King.

Chapter 1079: The Five Major Realms of the Sword

Jian Chen stood up angrily as regret and pity filled his heart. Saint King—that was something he had longed for for a very long time. Although reaching Saint King in terms of comprehension would not increase his strength, he could rip open Space Gates if he did.

When that happened, the size of the world did not matter, nor did the distance between two places. It would all just be a step away for Jian Chen. He would no longer need to rely on Rui Jin and Hei Yu if he wanted to go to some distant place.

Saint King was the level of cultivation Jian Chen had yearned for. He did not lack prowess in battle. He lacked cultivation.

“Master, you can’t continue your comprehension of the mysteries of the world because it’ll only be detrimental to you,” Qing Suo timidly explained as she sensed Jian Chen’s anger.

“Master, we stopped you from reaching Saint King for your own good. You can’t reach Saint King.” Zi Ying’s voice also rang out in Jian Chen’s head. It sounded extremely stubborn, as if he would obstruct Jian Chen no matter how angry Jian Chen became.

Jian Chen calmed down very quickly with that. He suppressed his anger and growled, “Zi Ying, Qing Suo, just what is this about? Why can’t I become a Saint King?”

“Master, you must take the Way of the Sword as your cultivation path. The Way of the Sword conflicts with the mysteries of the world you currently comprehended. The two cannot exist together, or they’ll affect your future cultivation greatly.

“Master, are you wondering why we did nothing to obstruct you when you went from the Seventh Heavenly Layer to the Ninth Heavenly Layer? Well, when your comprehension remains at the Ninth Heavenly Layer, Qing Suo and I still had the ability to forcefully purge your comprehension of the mysteries of the world, allowing master to embark on the Way of the Sword with no distractions in the future, but if master reaches Saint King in terms of comprehension, it will be extremely difficult for Qing Suo and I to purge your comprehension. This is why you cannot reach Saint King.”

“What? You even have to purge my comprehension later?” Jian Chen was astounded, “In other words, I will lose all my comprehension of the mysteries of the world, including the Saint Ruler abilities I currently possess?”

“Correct, but don’t worry too much master. Once you embark on the Way of the Sword, you will discover that it is much more powerful than the mysteries of the world you are currently comprehending,” said Zi Ying.

“Master, the Way of the Sword is publicly acknowledged as one of the most powerful pathways of cultivation. Before the Way of the Sword, the mysteries of the world are nothing. Unless the disparity in cultivation is vast, the Way of the Sword is invincible,” said Qing Suo.

“Zi Ying, Qing Suo, is the Way of the Sword really as powerful as you’ve described it to be? If I do embark on the Way of the Sword, just what level of strength will I obtain?” Jian Chen was rather moved. He was a swordsman after all, so he had a special connection to the sword. The temptation he felt for the Way of the Sword just mentioned by Zi Ying and Qing Suo had reached a level that could even make him risk his life.

“Master, there are five major realms of cultivation for the Way of the Sword. They are Sword Origin, Sword Spirit, Sword Immortal, Sword Sage, and Sword God. These five realms do not represent certain levels of cultivation; they are like the Saint Tier, Heaven Tier, Earth Tier and Human Tier Battle Skills on the Tian Yuan Continent. They represent great battle prowess and supreme offensive power. However, the Way of the Sword is far, far greater than those battle skills on the Tian Yuan Continent. The disparity is basically a huge chasm. Even the weakest Sword Origin far exceeds Saint Tier Battle Skills by several times over.

“And once you reach the Sword Origin realm, every time you attack, every strike you make will far exceed the strength of Saint Tier Battle Skills. At the same time, they are unlike the Saint Tier Battle Skills which consume vast amounts of energy when they are used and cannot be used consecutively even by Saint Kings,” explained Zi Ying. He paused slightly, pondering a little before continuing, “The Way of the Sword is extremely suitable for master. If master embarks on this path of cultivation, you will possess a supreme advantage over others. If master reaches the Sword Origin realm, master will probably be no weaker than Saint Kings of the Ninth Heavenly Layer, while master will have no need to fear even Saint Emperors if you reach the Sword Spirit realm. Also, the battle prowess gained by these realms will increase as master’s base strength grows.”

The Way of the Sword was like a Heaven Tier Battle Skill. If it was given to an Earth Saint Master, they would be able to display the strength of a Heaven Saint Master, and if a Fifth Cycle Earth Saint Master cast it, they would even be able to heavily injure Heaven Saint Masters.

At the same time, if the same Heaven Tier Battle Skill was used by a Heaven Saint Master, the strength would be even greater.

Once one of the five major realms was reached, battle prowess and offensive capabilities that would be increased, not the person’s base strength. At the same time, this boosted battle prowess would increase with the growth of base strength.

Jian Chen currently possessed the battle prowess of a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King, but this was brought upon by the Emperor Armament. Without it, he would only be as powerful as a Saint King of the Third Heavenly Layer. That was Jian Chen’s base strength. Although his comprehension of the mysteries of the world was far below that, the energy within him had reached the Third Heavenly Layer, which he could also use as he willed.

Jian Chen immediately became filled with excitement because of what the sword spirits said. He no longer resented them for obstructing his attempt to reach Saint King. Instead it was replaced by a powerful desire to learn the Way of the Sword.

“Master, do you still remember when you fought with Zaar Caiyun outside the City of God? You entered a wondrous state during that fight, unintentionally dealing an attack that exceeded your current strength. That was actually the Way of the Sword, but only the edge of the first realm. It’s just a pity that you don’t have your fated swords, or master would’ve reached the first realm long ago.” Zi Ying’s voice was filled with pity.

Jian Chen immediately thought back to when he fought Zaar Caiyun and reached an understanding. He murmured, “So I had touched the edge of the Way of the Sword back then. Now I know that that was

actually the Way of the Sword.” Jian Chen looked forward to the Way of the Sword even more now. He felt like this was the cultivation pathway that suited him.

“Master, if you want to embark on the Way of the Sword, you need to obtain your fated swords. Only after successfully forging the Azulet swords can you comprehend that pathway and reach Sword Origin,” said Qing Suo. He also displayed much anticipation.

Ever since the sword spirits took Jian Chen as their master and brought his soul to the Tian Yuan Continent, Jian Chen’s future cultivation pathway was destined to be the Way of the Sword. It was just that he had never possessed his fated swords, delaying the time when he would step on the Way of the Sword. This was why Jian Chen was forced into a cultivation pathway that belonged to this world, so that he could survive.

The sword spirits had also been waiting for the day when the Azulet swords would be forged after all these years. Only by forging the Azulet swords would Jian Chen gain his fated swords, allowing him to truly begin his journey on the Way of the Sword.

“The Azulet swords, the Azulet swords. It’s the Azulet swords again.” Jian Chen became troubled. The materials for the swords were just too difficult to find. Every single one could only be found through luck, so he could not obtain them just because he needed them.

Jian Chen gently sighed. He would never give up no matter how hard it would be to find the materials. Not only was this because of the two supreme swords he had longed for, it was also so that he could successfully comprehend the Way of the Sword and enter the first major realm, Sword Origin.

“Zi Ying, Qing Suo, just how many materials do I lack before I can forge the Azulet swords?” Jian Chen asked.

“There’s still four more. We already have some leads for one of them, which is the Heaven’s Soulstone master came across when you faced the assassination of Yama Hall. Although we’ve already obtained a little from that assassin, it’s nowhere near enough,” said Zi Ying.

“The Heaven’s Soulstone and the Yama Hall,” Jian Chen softly murmured as a gleam of cold light flashed through his eyes.

There was no longer any point for Jian Chen to stick around now that his breakthrough had been obstructed and that he could not reach Saint King. After checking on Bi Hai and the others, he roused Huang Luan from her cultivation and bid farewell with Xiao Ling, before leaving with Huang Luan.

Although he wanted to leave Huang Luan there so she could continue her comprehension, the seal in Huang Luan’s head had not been erased yet. As a result, he wanted to take Huang Luan to the protector clan and find a method to remove the secret technique. He could bring Huang Luan to the city at any time in the future and have Xiao Ling assist her in comprehending the mysteries of the world.

Xiao Ling unwillingly bid farewell to Jian Chen, before sending Jian Chen and Huang Luan to the surface of the earth. When the two of them appeared, the disturbance from the rainbow clouds still lingered about, so they could hear discussions regarding the clouds everywhere.

“Jian Chen, why are there so many people talking about seven-colored rainbow clouds and someone reaching Saint King? Are they talking about you? Have you reached Saint King now?” Huang Luan stared

fixedly at Jian Chen with her large eyes as she asked in surprise. Affection filled her eyes as she looked at him.

Right now, Jian Chen's head was filled with matters regarding the Way of the Sword and the Azulet swords, so he had stopped caring about his failure to reach Saint King long ago. He could not help but smile after hearing what Huang Luan had said. He replied completely unperturbed, "They seem to be talking about me. I did indeed fail my breakthrough, so my comprehension is still at the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler."

Chapter 1080: Visiting the Protector Clan

"Jian Chen, the failure isn't important. Your talent is supreme, so you'll reach Saint King sooner or later," Huang Luan comforted. Her face was filled with concern. She seemed worried that Jian Chen's failure would affect his state of mind.

Jian Chen smiled wryly inside when he heard her concern. Once he began his journey of the Way of the Sword, the sword spirits would forcefully purge his comprehension of the mysteries of the world. He would also lose all his abilities as a Saint Ruler. Right now, breaking through to Saint King was no longer important.

Afterward, Jian Chen and Huang Luan visited the grand elder Tian Jian as well as Tie Ta who always stayed there. They talked for a little before leaving Mercenary City. Jian Chen and Huang Luan returned to the Changyang clan in Lore City through a Space Gate created by Rui Jin.

It had been three whole years since Jian Chen had last visited the Changyang clan. During that period of time, nothing really changed about the clan—other than Jian Chen's second brother, Changyang Ke.

After seeking Jian Chen's assistance that night, Jian Chen had ordered an exclusive alchemist of Flame City to refine a ten-thousand-year heavenly resource into a pill and deliver it to the Changyang clan when he last visited Flame City. After ingesting the pill, Changyang Ke immediately underwent an overwhelming change. His ordinary talent was completely raised to the level of a genius; not only did his strength increase, his rate of cultivation also became extremely fast. He had become a Earth Saint Master now, and he was at the Third Cycle.

At night, Jian Chen and Huang Luan arrived in the fragrant garden behind the clan. Huang Luan had changed into a luxurious, snow-white dress in an attempt to dress like the young lady of a large clan. Any heroic spirits present on her had completely disappeared. She seemed more like a loving, considerate, and well-educated wife.

Huang Luan gently hugged Jian Chen's arm. She leaned her head on Jian Chen's shoulder as they slowly strolled through the garden. Her face was filled with happiness.

"Jian Chen, I want to go the sea realm to cultivate after some time. The water-attributed energy there is extremely dense, so it's very suitable for my Water Spirit's Body. I believe that if I cultivate there, the rate at which my strength will increase will not be slower than in Mercenary City," Huang Luan looked at Jian Chen tenderly as she spoke. Her voice was gentle and pleasant.

Jian Chen obviously did not turn down Huang Luan's suggestion. The Water Spirit's Body was different from ordinary constitutions. The effects of cultivating in a place with rich water-attributed energy would

indeed be impressive, allowing someone with that constitution to comprehend the mysteries of the world in greater detail.

“Luan’er, once I find a way to remove the seal in your head, I’ll take you to the sea realm. As for your cultivation method, I have indeed found the first version of the Scripture of the Aquatic Sunflower in the Space Ring of the Huanggu clan ancestor. However, it’s only an elementary Saint Tier cultivation method. Let me see if I can obtain a better Saint Tier cultivation method more suited for you from the sea goddess after I return to the sea realm. I think she knows quite a few as one of the four supreme experts from ancient times,” Jian Chen caringly said. Huang Luan had already become his woman both in name and in reality, so he needed to put all his effort into forging her future.

Huang Luan nodded obediently and sweetly smiled. She felt extremely moved with how much care Jian Chen was showing. At the same time, she felt extremely satisfied.

Jian Chen’s eyes suddenly froze at this moment. A delicate person in luxurious robes currently sat in a pavilion up ahead.

“Second aunt,” Jian Chen whispered inside. Although all he could see was her back, he could tell with a single glance that she was his second aunt who had loved him like his own son since he was young.

Jian Chen and Huang Luan hurried to the pavilion. Arriving before her, Jian Chen asked, “Aunt, it’s already so late; why are you sitting here all by yourself?”

Yu Fengyang sat in an utter daze. She seemed to have failed to notice Jian Chen at all, so the sudden voice immediately caused her to jump in fright. She looked back instinctively, and when she discovered Jian Chen, a forced smile appeared on her sorrow-ridden face. She said gently, “It’s Xiangtian.” Yu Fengyan seemed much more haggard than before, much different than the way she looked several years ago. Her gaze was filled with deep reminiscence.

Jian Chen felt rather horrible when he saw how Yu Fengyang had become. His second aunt had loved him very dearly when he was young; although he was not her child, she treated him like her own, which was why she had taken up an extremely important position in Jian Chen’s heart long ago.

“Aunt, are you alright? Have you begun thinking about sister again?” Jian Chen asked in concern. He had learned about what had happened to his eldest brother and sister long ago.

The accumulated longing and pain within Yu Fengyang gushed out uncontrollably when she heard Jian Chen mention Changyang Mingyue. She began to sob painfully as tears poured from her eyes like a fountain. She cried from her loneliness.

Jian Chen’s face darkened when he saw how painfully Yu Fengyan cried. He cared very much for his aunt, so he felt rather horrible seeing her like this.

“I have no idea how Mingyue is right now. I haven’t seen her in over a decade. Mingyue, I know you’ve become the holy maiden of the Ice God Hall now. When will you return to see your mother? It’s been over a decade since I last saw you. I miss you so dearly,” sobbed Yu Fengyan as her tears mixed with her voice.

Jian Chen watched his weeping aunt with mixed emotions. After a moment of silence, he sighed inside and then proceeded to comfort her, “Aunt, don’t be like this. I haven’t seen sister in over ten years as

well, so I also miss her very much. Once I finish with my matters in a few days, I'll take you to the arctic to go find sister."

Yu Fengyang's face froze when she heard that. What Jian Chen had said was like a glimmer of hope in the dark to Yu Fengyang. Her gaze, which was filled with sorrow and reminiscence, stirred. She grabbed Jian Chen's hand in a trembling manner and emotionally said, "Is that true? Xiangtian, are you really willing to bring me to Mingyue?"

The arctic did not belong to the Tian Yuan Continent. It was just like the Three Saint Island the Heavenly Enchantress inhabited; it was located across the sea, beyond the continent. The continent and the arctic were separated by water, and it was much further away compared to Three Saint Island. Although Yu Fengyan was a madam of the Changyang clan patriarch, she possessed no real power in the world despite her status in the clan. Coupled with the fact that the arctic was so far away, it was almost impossible for her to go looking for Changyang Mingyue.

The distance was so great that even Heaven Saint Masters could not venture to the arctic. Only Saint Rulers possessed the ability, and even they would find it costly to take this very long journey. Yu Fengyang's status in the clan was not at the level where she could ask a Saint Ruler to accompany her to the arctic.

"Aunt, don't worry. Once I deal with everything, I will definitely go to the arctic Ice God Hall," swore Jian Chen. He actually missed his sister very dearly as well.

Other than Bi Yuntian, his sister treated Jian Chen the best during his childhood, even far better than his own father, Changyang Ba.

Jian Chen and Huang Luan accompanied Yu Fengyan back to her room after comforting her, before separating to their own rooms.

The morning of the next day, Jian Chen went to visit Kendall's wife and son. Their inn in Lore City was extremely famous; everyone in the city knew about it. Its name had even spread throughout the entire kingdom.

The inn was the safest inn in Lore City, possibly even in the entire kingdom. Fights and arguments would rarely occur there, and if there were people who dared to start a fight, a large group of mysterious experts would charge in from outside and throw them out without exception, sometimes even taking their lives.

The inn was always protected by a group of mysterious experts. The identities of these people had already become a known secret in Lore City. Many people knew that they were members of the Changyang clan.

Over time, it led to extremely few conflicts in the inn. Some fleeing mercenaries had even treated the inn as a safe haven.

Jian Chen had already repaired Sans' Saint Weapon that had been destroyed by the people of the Yangji sect, allowing him to cultivate once more. He was no longer a cripple, and his talent was also improved by Jian Chen through heavenly resources. As a result, his cultivation speed was extraordinary.

Jian Chen paid extra concern to the mother and son, almost to the point where he would care for the most trivial details. This was all so he could return Kendall's kindness.

He had repaid Kendall's kindness countless times over to Sans and his mother.

Bidding farewell to them, Jian Chen returned to the Changyang clan. Afterward, he left the city with Changyang Zu Yunxiao, Changyang Zu Yeyun, Changyang Zu Yunkong, and Huang Luan. They planned to visit the Changyang protector clan in order to remove the seal in Changyang Zu Yunkong's head, as well as to resolve the secret technique embedded in Huang Luan.

Changyang Zu Yunxiao constructed a Space Gate with his abilities as a Saint King. After passing through it, Jian Chen and Huang Luan discovered they had arrived in the sky above an unknown, ancient mountain range.