

Chaotic 1131

Chapter 1131: The Nirvanic Immortal Exalt

“Sh*t, more and more feral beasts are detecting our presence. We need to get to the second layer of formations as soon as possible,” A’Er said through a communication techniques. He was extremely stern. The beasts here were just too powerful. There were multiple beasts that were equal to hall elders, and there was even a Class 9 feral beast hidden between them.

The five of them began to move even faster. At that moment, all of them pushed their speed to the utmost limit, using every second they had to travel to the second region. They used everything they had hid before, no longer holding back at all.

The beasts in the first region learned that there were intruders through communication techniques with one another. They all roared out furiously as they aimlessly attacked in attempt to find the intruders. The ground trembled violently from the attacks and the entire region shook. The space there even began to ripple, showing signs of shattering even though it was much tougher than the space in the sea realm.

The ground within the formation was clearly protected by a powerful and mysterious energy. No matter what attacks landed on the ground, the land was not destroyed.

The space became even more unstable from the attacks of the beasts, so Jian Chen and the others could not use their various abilities to hurry along by controlling space. They all used the various movement techniques they knew to travel extremely fast. Jian Chen used the Illusory Flash to stick close behind the old men. They continued to hold hands with one another to avoid becoming lost.

Terrifying energy ripples from the attacks swept past them. The powerful attacks from the beasts landed beside them many times, almost injuring them. If it were not for their strength, just the ripples of energy would have been enough to stop them from advancing or even heavily injure them.

A’Da and the three others all became extremely stern. They clenched their teeth tightly as sweat poured from their foreheads. At that moment, they felt like a few kilometers, which was usually nothing to them, was extremely far away. It was impossible for them to travel at their usual speeds in the space shaken up by energy.

Spurt!

Suddenly, A’Si vomited a mouthful of blood. His chest was randomly struck by a fist-sized ball of energy, and his flesh completely disappeared there. He became heavily injured.

A’Si tightly clenched his teeth and endured. He continued toward the second region without slowing down at all.

Finally, they successfully reached the second layer of formations before quickly entering it.

However, before they could relax, A’Da said, “Crap, the formation’s changed from the attacks of those beasts. The method we originally comprehended to get through here has become useless.”

A’Er, A’San, and A’Si’s expressions all drastically changed. They all called out without a second thought, “Retreat, let’s retreat and get out.”

Comprehending the method to enter the formation was not something that could be completed in a short moment. They did not have much time right now, so they could not slowly study the formation.

They immediately began to retreat, wanting to leave the formation. Otherwise, all the beasts would see them once the formation stabilized. There would only be death for them at that point.

As they ran back, all of them sustained some injuries. Even Jian Chen was hit as well. His left arm had been clawed to a bloody mess.

When the four old men made it back to the first layer of formations, their faces changed once more. A'Da cried out, "We're in deep trouble now! The formation out had also changed from the attacks of the beasts. We can't leave."

"What!" A'Er and the others all became shocked with that. Despair filled their eyes. They had all realized the problem. They were trapped in there with a group of terrifying beasts, and the beasts would definitely not let them go.

At this moment, the formations gradually began to stabilize. The distorted space rapidly recovered and the blurriness slowly disappeared.

"We don't have anymore time. We're dead if we still don't get out," A'Si yelled in a panic.

The four of them were utterly panic-stricken right now. They had lost all composure, only Jian Chen was the exception.

"Maybe this will work," said Jian Chen. Afterward, he let out the white tiger from the saint artifact and said, "Xiao Bai, quickly take us out of here." Jian Chen immediately jumped onto its back and told A'Da and the three others to grab onto its wings. He planned on using the white tiger's natural ability to ignore formations and spatial barriers to take them out.

Without any hesitation, the white tiger attempted to charge out with Jian Chen. However, when it hit the formation, it did not directly pass through like usual and was instead blocked.

The white tiger growled and attempted to get through the formation again. However, it still failed. It was trapped in the formation with Jian Chen and the others.

Jian Chen was filled with disbelief with that. He dismounted the white tiger and gruffly said, "The formations here are weird. They aren't as simple as they seem." As he said that, he sent the white tiger back into the saint artifact.

The formations finally stabilized while they tried to leave with the white tiger. All of them were exposed to the beasts.

Roar!

With an earth-shaking roar, all the eyes of the beasts became bloodshot. They became filled with a ruthless bloodlust. Although they all possessed intelligence, the bloodthirsty instinct within them remained.

Several beasts immediately began to attack Jian Chen. The weakest was at the Seventh Heavenly Layer of Saint King, and there was even one at the Ninth Heavenly Layer that charged over.

The feral beasts all varied in appearance. Some were like large cats while others seemed to be the amalgamation of several animals. It was impossible to name them.

Jian Chen drew his Emperor Armament and charged at the beasts. A'Da and the three others also quickly formed a sword formation to fend off the beasts, but the disparity between their strength was just far too great. Although their sword formations were very strong, they were still not strong enough to defend against a single swipe from many of the beasts. They all were thrown back as they vomited blood. A'Da's entire arm had been crushed and pulled off by the jaws of a beast. It was painful that he could not help but shriek. His severed arm was devoured noisily.

"Brother!" A'Er, A'San, and A'Si all cried out. They knew that it would be very difficult for A'Da to recover his severed arm since there was no medicine that could regrow limbs.

"Quick, use the final forbidden technique and flee. We can't stay here, or we'll end up dead for sure," A'Da called out as he resisted the pain. His voice was extremely hoarse. Afterward, he turned to Jian Chen and said, "Brother Yang Yutian, forgive us. We'll be leaving first. I hope we can meet again in the future." With that, the four of them immediately gathered together in a weird formation. They placed their swords horizontally against their chests and chanted, "Of the vast world, all is one. With the Nirvanic Sword Formation, only we are supreme. With the four swords as one, all shall be destroyed!"

With their chant, the four metal swords immediately began to shine with blinding light. At that moment, the light from the four swords bonded together before enveloping the four of them and surging into the sky. They vanished at that very moment.

In the blink of an eye, only Jian Chen was left in the formation, stuck in a difficult battle against the beasts. Jian Chen already knew that he had no other choice now. There was no hope of victory at all just by himself, so he immediately stopped holding back and released Rui Jin, Hei Yu, and Hong Lian from the saint artifact.

The three of them did not need an explanation from Jian Chen. They understood the situation just from a single glance. Rui Jin said, "Let us deal with the trouble here." Rui Jin gazed past the many beasts and locked onto the two-meter-long, tiger-like beast in the distance. His eyes began to shine with interest and the Sacred Dragon's Sword and Sacred Dragon's Armor appeared at the same time. He equipped the armor and charged at the Class 9 feral beast with the sword.

At the same time, Hei Yu donned his origin energy armor. He drew his machete and split the Ninth Heavenly Layer feral beast Jian Chen was fighting into two. Weapons with origin energy were just far too powerful. Just a single strike was life-threatening, so the beast immediately met its end. It could not even resist.

Flames roared around Hong Lian. She was like a goddess of flames as the terrifying fire seemed to be able to scorch the air. The flames caused the surrounding temperature to skyrocket and many of the beasts became extremely fearful of her flames.

Hong Lian did not take part in the battle and instead stood beside Jian Chen, glaring at the surrounding beasts. Her strength had been greatly reduced, but she was still able to frighten away the beasts.

A thought pulsed from the Azulet sword spirits as they gathered around a multi-colored rock in Jian Chen's sea of consciousness.

“No wonder I felt that the presence of the four metal swords was rather familiar, so it turns out that they practice the famed technique of the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt, the Nirvanic Sword Formation...”

“The Nirvanic Immortal Exalt was one of the five Grand Exalts. He had reached the same level of cultivation as former master, having reached the utmost extremes in terms of strength. It’s a pity he died to the Grand Prime of the warring gods in the end...”

“In that battle back then, the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt fell first. His four swords shattered and their sword spirits dispersed. Afterward, our original swords shattered as well. We managed to survive in the end and were born from Yinyang Qi and are blessed by the world, but our vitality was greatly weakened as well...”

“The Nirvanic Immortal Exalt always moved by himself. He never had a disciple, so it’s fortunate that his famed technique was not lost after his death. Though, it’s a pity that the four of them haven’t seemed to obtain the full cultivation method and their swords are too low-quality. Otherwise, the force of the Nirvanic Sword Formation would never have been so puny...”

Chapter 1132: The Third Layer of Formations

Jian Chen did not hear the discussion between the sword spirits. He had placed all his attention on Rui Jin, Hei Yu, and Hong Lian.

Even Saint Emperors would struggle to injure Hei Yu and Rui Jin once they had equipped their origin energy armor. Their origin energy weapons allowed them to use attacks on the level of Saint Emperors, so their battle prowess was extremely frightening. They were basically two real Saint Emperors.

Rui Jin fought the Class 9 feral beast all by himself. Their fight was devastating as terrifying energy rammed into the formations on their sides, but the formations only trembled slightly and did not break.

What was even more unbelievable was that their fight actually failed to cause any damage to the ground. The invisible energy that protected the land was just far too incredible.

The Class 9 feral beast had awakened intelligence long ago. It had grasped Saint Emperor abilities after many years of cultivation, so it was very powerful. It was equally matched with Rui Jin, but it feared Rui Jin’s Sacred Dragon’s Sword very much. It always dodged and never dared to take it head-on.

Origin energy was a type of energy at a whole different level. It was far more powerful than the energy of Saint Emperors, so it would pose great harm to Saint Emperors.

When the path lord of carnal desires and the two Saint Emperors of the Beast God Continent clashed with Rui Jin and Hei Yu, none of them dared to take the origin energy attacks head-on. That origin energy was something that Saint Emperors feared very much.

Hei Yu charged at the beasts with his machete and started a massacre. The strongest beasts only possessed a similar level of cultivation as him, but Hei Yu was a mutated Divine Alligator. He possessed a battle prowess far greater than beasts of the same level. Coupled with his origin energy weapon, he was even stronger. Even when caught in an encirclement of beasts, he did not fall to a disadvantage at all. He instead continued to kill them one by one.

In just a few seconds, over ten beasts had died to Hei Yu's hands. This included two at the Great Perfection of Saint King.

Fear filled the eyes of the remaining beasts when they saw how powerful Hei Yu was. They wanted to run away. Among them were three other beasts at Great Perfection as well, but they did not become involved with the battle. They retreated out of the formation after understanding the situation in front of them. They had already become utterly terrified by Hei Yu's battle prowess and had lost all courage to fight.

In the end, a few more beasts died and the remaining ones retreated out of the formation. They had learned how to get out quite some time ago.

Without an opponent, Hei Yu glanced at the Class 9 feral beast that fought Rui Jin. A vicious light flickered through his eyes.

The Class 9 feral beast's heart skipped a beat when he saw this. A thought immediately pulsed from it, "Outsiders, you are very powerful. I will leave and let you have this territory." With that, the Class 9 feral beast no longer bother with Rui Jin. It leaped through the formation.

Class 9 feral beasts was equivalent to Saint Emperors. They were not easy to kill, and if they wanted to leave, even Rui Jin and Hei Yu were not enough to stop them. In the end, the first region between the formations was reduced to a ground full of 16th Star feral beasts where blood dyed the ground.

Jian Chen checked through their corpses and found by surprise that they all possessed thunderstones. Even the weakest thunderstones were at the Seventh Heavenly Layer, and there were even two at the Great Perfection of Saint King.

"Senior Rui Jin, senior Hei Yu, senior Hong Lian, can you help me fill up these thunderstones with energy when you have the time?" Jian Chen collected all the thunderstones and passed them all to the three of them along with his 15th Star thunderstones in his Space Ring. The thunderstones required an expert that was just as strong or stronger than the beast it came from to input energy, and only then could they become quaking thunders. Otherwise, nothing would happen at all.

The three of them split the thunderstones into three portions. It was a simple matter to them.

"Jian Chen, where is this place? Is it the Death Nest?" Hei Yu looked around and asked.

"No, this is a zone of danger in the sea realm, the divine realm!" Jian Chen explained.

Suddenly, streaks of light began to shine from Rui Jin's eyes. He examined the formations without even blinking. As he slowly glanced around, two layers of formations hidden in space slowly appeared.

"The formations here are very powerful and very profound," Rui Jin said after a while. He was very stern.

Now that the threat of the beasts had been resolved, Jian Chen placed his focus on the divine water of the world and the formations again. He then let the white tiger out of the artifact space and continued to attempt to pass through the formations with the white tiger.

But, to Jian Chen's disappointment, the formations here were extraordinary. The white tiger's innate ability was actually ineffective against these formations.

“It’s a pity that A’Da and them aren’t here. They’ve studied formations quite extensively, so if they were here, we could find a way again very quickly,” Jian Chen gently sighed. He had come across quite a few formations in his life, but he had broken through all of them through brute strength. He had never studied them, so he had no foundation in the aspect of formations.

“I’ve tried earlier and found that these formations can completely withstand a full-powered attack from me. It’s impossible to break through them forcefully,” Hei Yu said as well. He was extremely stern. He had only come across formations so powerful once before and that was in the Bright Moon Divine Hall.

“Let me try!” Rui Jin called out. He swung the sword in his hands and struck the formation as hard as he could. However, the formation only shook slightly after being hit by his attack that was on-par with a Saint Emperor. He could not break through it.

Rui Jin refused to believe this outcome and swung his sword several more times. He struck both the first and second layer of formations, but the outcome was still the same. The toughness of the formations could be described as heaven-defying. Strength at the level of Saint Emperors was not enough to break through them forcefully.

“The formations have been struck by attacks from the beasts during the instability, so they’ve undergone some minute changes. The way in before has become useless now, or I could’ve tried using A’Da’s special sequence of footsteps that had brought us in in the first place. Looks like we’re now just stuck here and need to slowly study the formation,” Jian Chen helplessly said. They could do nothing about the formations present here.

“Three steps diagonally left, nine steps diagonally right, five steps left, two steps back, four steps diagonally right...” Suddenly, a voice rang out in Jian Chen’s head. Zi Ying remained quiet for some time before speaking.

“Zi Ying, is this the way into the formation?” Jian Chen asked in surprise and joy.

“Master, this is one of the many ways into this formation. This formation may be extraordinary, but it is not one of the best. It is not a problem for us,” said Zi Ying.

“Master, Zi Ying and I know quite a lot of things. We may just be sword spirits, but we have existed for a very long time after all. We can find a way through most formations, but not all formations have a method to get through them. There are many killing formations that have no way out. If master comes across a formation like this, we will be no help.” Qing Suo’s pleasant voice rang out. It was filled with pride.

Jian Chen followed the special sequence that Zi Ying told him. He finally made his way into the second region without any obstructions while Rui Jin and the others did not return to the artifact space either. They followed Jian Chen to the second region.

The white tiger stayed out as well. It shrank to the size of a cat and quietly sat on Jian Chen’s shoulder. The light in its eyes flickered as it looked around curiously, but its gaze stopped many times on the formations. It would produce a deep growl from time to time, appearing to be rather irritated. It felt unhappy with what happened earlier.

Clearly, the white tiger took the fact that it was unable to pass through the formations to heart.

The second region was very safe. There were no beasts there, and Jian Chen was even closer to the spirit sea after arriving there, such that he could see the lake that glowed with water several kilometers away.

“Master, you need to attack the eighteen crucial points of the formation to get through it. They need to be destroyed at the same time and a passage through the formation will rip open. This passage closes up very fast, so you need to pass through it as quickly as you can,” Zi Ying saw through the secrets of the formations very soon and told Jian Chen how to get past it.

“That’s easy. I can instantly send out eighteen sword Qi,” said Jian Chen. He was proficient with using the sword fast, so this was nothing difficult to him.

“Master, it won’t be enough with your power. You need attacks at the level of Saint Emperors to destroy these crucial points,” Zi Ying followed up.

“What? It needs to be at the level of Saint Emperors?” Jian Chen was shocked. He had never come across such a powerful formation where only Saint Emperors could enter.

“Master, from my observations, the power of the formation does not seem to be at its maximum. Otherwise, the eighteen crucial points would have been even tougher, and even attacks at Saint Emperor wouldn’t have been enough. The power of this formation completely exceeds this world. It shouldn’t have appeared here in the first place,” said Qing Suo.

“Was this formation cast down by someone in the Origin realm?” Jian Chen was secretly shocked. The first person he thought of was the sea goddess.

Afterward, Jian Chen told Rui Jin and the other two how to get past the formation. He needed to rely on them for attacks at the level of Saint Emperors.

“My strength has been greatly reduced right now. I can’t use the full force of the Scorching Godfire Hairpin, so I won’t be able to attack a crucial point,” Hong Lian emotionlessly replied.

“There are many secret techniques I know that can send out eighteen attacks at the same time, but I can only use the Sacred Dragon’s Sword to reach the might of Saint Emperors. It’s impossible for me to attack that many times in so little time,” Rui Jin frowned.

Hei Yu remained silent for a while before saying, “I can only deal four attacks at the same time.”

“I can deal six attacks. There are eight points left.” Rui Jin stood with his arms crossed as he sternly stared at the formation ahead.

At this moment, an idea appeared in Jian Chen’s head. He immediately pulled out the divine water of the world he had just obtained and passed it to Hong Lian. He said, “Senior Hong Lian, this water can help you recover your strength. Ingest it now. Once your strength recovers, we’ll have a much better chance at getting through the formation.”

Hong Lian accepted the divine water of the world and glanced at Jian Chen in suspicion. She drank a small mouthful of it with some doubt, but her face became filled with obvious joy the next moment, “This stuff really can help me recover my strength. It can cure the backlash from using the Rebirth of Flames for Scorching Divine Phoenixes, but there’s just far too little. It can’t return my strength to my peak, probably to the Eighth Heavenly Layer at most. I might only be able to attack three points.”

Jian Chen slightly frowned. He still possessed some more divine water, which was the portion he had bought with a vast quantity of crystal coins from the auction. However, he had prepared it to forge the Azulet swords, and there was even less than what he had just obtained. Even if Hong Lian ingested it, she might not be able to benefit from it. It was not enough to recover another level of cultivation's worth of strength.

After pondering a while, Jian Chen did not use the other divine water he had on him. He said rather painfully, "Looks like we can only use the quaking thunders to blow up the five other points. It's fortunate that I have quite a few of them on me. If you place a few together in one point, it should be at the level of Saint Emperors. We only need to arrange these quaking thunders in five locations."

Chapter 1133: Several Hundred Liters of Divine Water

"Quickly recover your strength Hong Lian. Hei Yu and I will use this time to fill the thunderstones with energy," said Rui Jin. He then sat down where he was with Hei Yu. He began to pour energy into the thunderstones.

Hong Lian ingested all of the divine water in one mouthful before sitting down far away. Immediately, scarlet flames erupted from her and enveloped the area around her. The surrounding temperature quickly began to rise.

The flames around Hong Lian burned more and more intense. They grew hotter and hotter. Her presence continuously increased. She was currently making a recovery.

Jian Chen sat down on the ground far away from Hong Lian. He then pulled out the Great Divination Technique from his space ring to continue his comprehensions.

Jian Chen was very interested in the Great Divination Technique's ability to forecast the future and reveal the truths of the world. He had wanted to grasp the secret technique for quite some time already, but it was extremely difficult to gain a grasp of the foundation, which was why he had always remained stuck.

Jian Chen entered a special state very quickly. He devoted all his attention to the wondrous state of comprehending the Great Divination Technique. He had forgotten about himself, about time, and about everything else in that moment. His mind entered a simple state of semi-consciousness.

Jian Chen's mind seemed to have arrived in a vast universe. He stood in cold, dark space as stars littered his surroundings. They moved about silently in a profound trajectory.

Jian Chen seemed to have seen the birth of the universe and the chaotic age where everything came into existence. He saw laws slowly form, one after another, filling up the entire universe.

At that moment, Jian Chen seemed to have understood something, but it was hazy, dream-like, and unrealistic. He could not grasp it even though he wanted to.

Jian Chen completely isolated him from the flow of time. He stayed in that state for a long amount of time, even he himself did not know how long. Finally, a call rang out from the depths of his soul, jerking him awake. He had exited the state at that moment.

“Master, Rui Jin and the other two have finished their preparations.” It was the artifact spirit’s voice. Jian Chen had ordered the artifact spirit to immediately wake him up if something happened.

Jian Chen quietly put away the Great Divination Technique. He knew it was extremely difficult to comprehend the Great Divination Technique. Grasping the basics would not be easy.

To one side, Rui Jin, Hei Yu, and Hong Lian stood side by side as they calmly gazed at Jian Chen. A pile of fist-sized quaking thunders had been placed near their feet as violent and extremely unstable energy pulsed from them. The pulsing actually managed to disturb the surrounding energy of the world.

Jian Chen stood up. After talking a little, he learned that he had actually sat there for a month already, which made him sigh inside about how cultivation really was timeless. Hong Lian had already recovered to the Eighth Heavenly Layer after ingesting the divine water of the world. Her battle prowess had increased by quite a lot.

Afterward, Jian Chen told the three of them where the eighteen crucial points were. He split thirteen of them between Rui Jin, Hei Yu, and Hong Lian, before picking up the large pile of quaking thunders and leaving an imprint of his soul on them. This was for igniting the quaking thunders.

All of them finished their preparations very quickly. Rui Jin, Hei Yu, and Hong Lian all drew their origin energy weapons. With an order from Jian Chen, they began to attack the crucial points as hard as they could in unison. They struck out multiple times in a single moment with attacks on the level of Saint Emperors.

At the same time, the quaking thunders turned into balls of light with a thought from Jian Chen. Close to thirty quaking thunders simultaneously flew out in organized groups under Jian Chen’s control. They flew to the five remaining points before exploding with deafening booms. Each cluster was as powerful as an attack from a Saint Emperor, so the five points were obliterated at the same time.

The eighteen points were destroyed at the same time with Jian Chen, Rui Jin, Hong Lian, and Hei Yu’s efforts. The destruction of the points caused the final layer of formations to pulse in an unstable fashion and a meter-wide passage gradually ripped open. It was very unstable.

Jian Chen’s eyes narrowed. Without any hesitation, he immediately charged toward the passage with the three others. The white tiger remained on Jian Chen’s shoulder, clinging to a strand of Jian Chen’s hair with its little paws.

The passage remained for a very short amount of time, closing up again in just a few seconds. The pulsing formation calmed down very quickly again, and they had successfully made their way through it, reaching the last region.

“This formation is just far too powerful. Even this is not enough to destroy it,” Hei Yu could not help but sigh in amazement as he stood by the last layer of formations.

Jian Chen stared fixedly at the lake that sprayed water. His eyes blazed with interest. After many setbacks, his heart’s desire had finally come true, and he had found the source of the divine water. At that moment, both Hong Lian’s problem with strength and the difficulties the elite Flame Mercenaries faced while reaching Saint Ruler could readily be solved. They were no longer problems.

Jian Chen slowly walked toward the spirit sea excitedly. As he drew near, a heavy fragrance hit his nose. Many special plants and weird flowers grew around the lake. They were very extraordinary. Their smell possessed the special effect of calming people down. It was even effective to people at Jian Chen's level.

A geyser formed at the center of the lake as it launched water into the air. The water was extremely pure and filled with spirituality, vastly different from regular lake water. Thumb-sized droplets of divine water existed within the normal water. Although they were together, the two did not mix.

A portion of the divine water hovered on the lake surface before falling back into it. Only the tiny portion that remained atop the lake mysteriously disappeared.

This was the source of the divine water of the world. All the divine water in the divine realm drifted out from here.

With a plunk, Jian Chen jumped into the lake. He swam to the center and paid no attention to the small amount that sank down.

Not much time passed before Jian Chen arrived in the center of the lake. A meter-wide pit existed there, and it was filled with divine water of the world. There was an extremely great amount, at least several hundred liters. The thumb-sized amount Jian Chen had spent a lot of effort to obtain earlier was like an ant next to an elephant.

The divine water of the world that was shooting out of the geyser and sinking to the bottom of the lake gathered at the pit from all directions. This was like the den for divine water, able to suck over all the dispersed water.

Jian Chen could not help but gulp down a huge mouthful of the water. A wonderful feeling immediately invaded his soul. At that moment, Jian Chen could feel his soul sublimating. It filled him with an indescribably great feeling, as if he was treading on air.

The effects of the divine water were extremely wondrous and powerful. Although it was less effective to Saint Kings than Saint Rulers, Saint Kings could still benefit from it. It was only a matter of quantity.

The mouthful of water Jian Chen had drank was equivalent to several thousand years or even over ten thousand years' worth of water from the divine realm.

After a very long while, Jian Chen finally recovered from the wonderful feeling. He did not feel his strength increase in the slightest, but his soul was clearly much more refined now. The effects of the divine water were not great on experts that had reached a certain level of power, but it was a high-quality beverage.

Jian Chen hurriedly pulled out a huge gourd from his Space Ring and began to collect the water. The divine water in the small pit was rapidly pulled up as a suction force appeared from the gourd.

Jian Chen stopped after collecting several hundred liters. At that moment, the remaining divine water sat at the bottom of the pit. There was not much left.

Jian Chen sealed up the gourd and weighed the hefty gourd. Only then did he leave satisfied, returning back to the shore.

Rui Jin, Hei Yu, and Hong Lian stood silently on the shore as they watched Jian Chen. They did not go down to drink the water since it was useless to them even with the water's wonders. It was only somewhat useful to Hong Lian.

"Jian Chen, give me twenty-five liters of the water. This water is very useful to me," Hong Lian asked Jian Chen as he arrived before the three of them with the gourd.

Without saying anything else, Jian Chen immediately pulled out a palm-sized jade bottle from his Space Ring. He extravagantly set aside fifty liters for Hong Lian. He had over four hundred liters in the gourd, so even if he gave Hong Lian fifty liters, the remaining amount was still enough to support the Flame Mercenaries for at least a hundred thousand years. It could ensure that experts appeared continuously for the Flame Mercenaries.

Even with Hong Lian's mental fortitude, she could not help but become slightly overjoyed after obtaining fifty liters of divine water. She said, "Let me return to the artifact space. I want to recover my strength as soon as possible."

"I just happened to want to enter the artifact space as well and check on the group of elites." Jian Chen immediately pulled out the saint artifact and entered with Hong Lian. Rui Jin and Hei Yu remained outside, watching over and protecting the saint artifact.

Jian Chen appeared in a grand hall within the artifact space. He boldly walked over to the throne and casually sat down. Hong Lian went to her own dwelling to go into seclusion, planning on ingesting the water and returning to her peak condition.

"Is the artifact spirit present?" Jian Chen called out in the empty hall from the throne.

"This one is present. May I ask for master's orders?" The artifact spirit appeared beside Jian Chen and asked courteously.

"Bring me the group of people I've left in here. I want to see them immediately," ordered Jian Chen.

Chapter 1134: The Hidden Power of the Flame Mercenaries

"Yes, master!" The artifact spirit courteously replied. With a wave of his hand, the space within the artifact immediately began to surge. Powerful energy rippled through the entire place, alerting all the magical beasts.

This was the power of the artifact space. As the spirit of the saint artifact, the artifact spirit was like a god in there. He could control everything at will.

A few burly men clothed in magical beast fur or with bare chests were scattered throughout the space, fighting the native magical beasts. They either moved about by themselves or traveled in small groups.

These people had undergone a baptism of blood and tests of life-or-death to become iron-willed warriors. Each and every single one of them radiated with an abnormally bold presence, coupled with the smell of blood. This presence could only exist because all of them had stepped over countless corpses of magical beasts to stand there. All of them knew powerful battle skills, and their strength was almost unrivaled.

At this moment, the surrounding weather began to surge. A mysterious and vast energy filled the skies, sucking away all these people who were dispersed throughout the space.

Jian Chen sat emotionlessly on the throne within the central, majestic hall. Below him, several dozen burly men with the smell of blood suddenly appeared.

"We greet the captain," The people all knelt down and thunderously yelled out. They were not very surprised when they suddenly appeared there since they had experienced this more than once in the past.

Jian Chen could not help but faintly smile when he saw each and every one of them radiating with fighting spirit and bold presences. He gently said, "Rise, everyone."

"Yes, captain!" All the people clearly replied in unison, their voices echoing in the surroundings. They all stood up at the same time, looking at the young man who sat above with excitement or calmness.

Jian Chen slowly glanced over the people and said, "Impressive, impressive. Your strength has rapidly increased over these years. My hopes were not wasted. Carl, report the exact details of the group."

"Yes, captain," the person who stood at the very front politely responded. He paused slightly to collect his thoughts and continued, "Captain, there are a total of sixty-six people in this group. With the support of heavenly resources and large quantities of monster cores over the past few years, all of us have become Heaven Saint Masters and twelve of us have reached the Sixth Cycle."

"Good, well done!" Jian Chen was extremely satisfied. These people had cultivated at an extremely fast rate. Over the past few decades, all of them who had been Saint Masters or Great Saint Masters had finally reached Heaven Saint Master. This was a speed that few could rival on the Tian Yuan Continent.

However, this was all because Jian Chen had poured a large quantity of resources into them. He had supplied them with various battle skills, monster cores, money, heavenly resources, and high-quality cultivation methods. They could be described as having enjoyed treatment that only the scions of large clans could enjoy, which was why they possessed their current glorious achievements.

Afterward, Jian Chen pulled out the serpent dragon blood he had obtained from the Mountains of the Sleeping Dragon. He said, "This is the blood from a Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint King serpent dragon. Carl, store the blood in a few wooden tubs so that everyone can bathe in it. It will allow the toughness of your bodies to reach another level."

"Yes, captain," Carl rejoiced. He knew extremely well just how much blood like that was worth, so he immediately and carefully put it away. Afterward, he left with a few people.

He returned soon after with a few large tubs that had just been made from felled wood. He then poured the blood into the wooden tubs, taking turns with everyone else to enter the bath of blood.

A violent energy and a portion of the serpent dragon's essence was hidden within the blood. It was obviously nothing to experts like Jian Chen, but to these people who were only Heaven Saint Masters, there were extremely great effects. Several burly men immediately felt extreme pain all over when they entered the bath. It was so painful that they began to perspire. However, every single one of them clenched their teeth and did not even make a sound.

Jian Chen did not stay here for them to finish their baths. He passed a huge hunk of serpent dragon meat and some divine water of the world to Carl. After talking over some matters with them, he left the artifact space. Jian Chen no longer worried about the problem that some of them could not reach Saint Ruler now that he had the divine water. He anticipated the day when several dozen Saint Rulers would appear in the Flame Mercenaries in the near future.

This was the power that belonged to the Flame Mercenaries. They were experts he had raised personally, so he didn't need to question their loyalty. They were way different than the foreign Saint Rulers that had joined them.

Jian Chen reappeared by the shore of the spirit sea. After putting away the saint artifact, he constantly looked around and asked, "Zi Ying, Qing Suo, how do we get out of here?"

"Master, someone has set up a few things here in the past. There are two transportation formations hidden here. One of them seems to target the holy water of the spirit sea while the other is made for the entry and exit of people. All you need to do is fly past a certain altitude and you'll be sent away by the spatial energy. However, before you leave, you should collect some of the water from the spirit sea and the spiritual mud at the bottom off the lake. These items are extraordinary and are filled with spirituality. They may not be materials for forging the Azulet swords, but they can increase the quality of the four people's weapons," Zi Ying explained.

Jian Chen became slightly stupefied when he heard that. He began to doubt what he had just heard. He asked, "Zi Ying, you're actually considering other people. This is ground-breaking! Just who are the four of them that have caught your eye?"

Zi Ying pondered silently. He then said, "Master, there's a few matters we can't tell you about too early. You will learn what you need to know later."

Jian Chen did not pester the sword spirits. He knew they were looking out for him with everything they did.

Afterward, Jian Chen pulled out another large gourd and collected some of the water and spiritual mud. Afterward, he took to the sky with Rui Jin and Hei Yu, triggering the transportation formation hidden in the space. All three of them disappeared.

They discovered that they had returned to the depths of the divine realm when they reappeared. They had all been sent there randomly.

There was no longer anything Jian Chen needed from the divine realm after obtaining the divine water of the world. He quickly flew toward the outskirts. The white tiger, Rui Jin, and Hei Yu had all returned to the artifact space.

Two days later, Jian Chen arrived at the edge of the Soaring Ants' territory according to his memory. He stood there and gazed at the region, but he turned back into a blur after just a few seconds. He disappeared into the distance in a flash.

Chapter 1135: Xie Wang's Departure

Jian Chen left the divine realm and returned to Divine City a hundred kilometers away. Virtually the moment he stepped into the city, he heard many people discussing Lan Mo's death in the divine realm.

Lan Mo had already been dead for over a month, but the news of his death had just reached the divine city. This was why there was such a great hubbub over it. Almost everyone in the city was talking about it.

The Lanshan clan did not make an overwhelming response to his death. The entire clan was enveloped by deep sorrow and was currently holding a grand funeral for him.

The experts of the Hundred-footed clan had only come out of the divine realm a few days ago. When they passed through the Lanshan clan, they informed the patriarch of a few things that had happened. They told the patriarch that his son had died to an extremely powerful 16th Star expert. Thus, the patriarch could not even consider revenge.

Jian Chen's presence was finally no longer restrained now that he had left the divine realm. He immediately expanded it to envelope the entire city. He did not find Zhou Chuyun or the others. He was not sure whether they had quietly left the city already or that they had never returned from the divine realm.

At this moment, Jian Chen's face changed. He drew back his presence and softly mumbled, "They really are here." With that, Jian Chen flew off before descending in front of a luxurious inn.

At the same time, four closed windows suddenly opened. Four old men drifted out of their rooms and hovered in front of Jian Chen.

"Yang Yutian, it our miscalculations were why we couldn't pass through the second layer of formations, but the four of us still intend to try again in a hundred years. I do hope you can come with us," A'Da calmly said. He was not shocked at all by the fact that Jian Chen had made it out of there alive.

Jian Chen shook his head and gently smiled, "I might not be going anywhere with you four in the future because there isn't anything I need from here now. I've come to find you this time because I want to give some things to you." With that, Jian Chen pulled out a big gourd from his Space Ring and tossed it to A'Da.

A'Da caught the gourd and suspiciously glanced at Jian Chen. He was filled with curiosity and doubt, having no clue as to what was inside the gourd.

However, he immediately jolted when he discovered what was in the gourd. He was filled with disbelief, and he involuntarily cried out, "T- this... Yang Yutian, y- y- you actually made it in there..."

The three other old men also became extremely curious when they saw their brother lose composure. They took the gourd from A'da and peeked into it, but they ended up exactly the same as A'Da. Disbelief filled all their eyes.

They originally thought that Jian Chen had fled using a secret technique just like them. Never did they think that Jian Chen had actually managed to get past so many beasts and arrive in the central region, shocking them greatly.

"This is what you need, right?" Jian Chen stood with his arms crossed as he looked at them with a vague smile.

The four of them all sucked in a deep breath and calmed down very quickly. One of them said, "Correct, these two items are extremely useful to us. It was also the reason why we wanted to enter there. Yang Yutian, the four of us owe you a favor."

Jian Chen conversed a little more with four brothers before leaving Divine City. He returned to the Turtle clan soon after that and asked about the current situation of the clan.

"Ruler, with senior Qing Yixuan present in our clan, we have strengthened by quite a lot. We have also attempted to take back a few crystal mines that are still in the possession of others, but we did not succeed at all. All the remaining large organizations have joined together, and they have connections with the Tao family. As soon as the experts of our clan are mobilized, they will gather the experts from several clans to defend. There was nothing we could do," a Saint Ruler elder said on his knees. His voice was filled with helplessness and a sense of being wronged.

Jian Chen frowned slightly, "This Tao family really is obstinate. Looks like they've already made up their minds to oppose us."

"Please take charge of the overall situation, ruler, and lead us gloriously," the elder courteously requested.

After a momentary pause, Jian Chen said, "We'll let them enjoy themselves for now. I have even more important matters to attend to. They cannot be delayed. However, the end of the Tao family will come the next time I return."

Jian Chen really did feel rather hurried inside. He had no idea exactly when the Saints' Fruit would ripen, so he needed to head over as soon as possible. Otherwise, he would lose a good opportunity to obtain it.

This was because he had learned from the sea goddess that a vicious battle would erupt every single time the fruit appeared. When the time arrived, probably all ten protector clans would take part in the fight for it.

This was because no one would ever give up so easily on the only way to reach Saint Emperor. It possessed a fatal enticement to all people.

"Jian Chen, if we don't move against the Tao family now, they'll become even more difficult to deal with in the future. We've received information recently that the Tao family is going to be united with another peak-level clan through marriage. Dealing with the two of them will be extremely difficult," Qing Yixuan walked in from outside and stared at Jian Chen.

"That's not a problem. Let them marry each other. Even if the marriage is a success, it won't be able to change anything," Jian Chen said at ease. He seemed to be very confident.

Qing Yixuan frowned slightly, as if she disliked Jian Chen's arrogance. She said, "The Tao family belongs to the territory of the Sea Goddess Hall. I know your status in the Sea Goddess Hall is rather special, but the hall will not provide you with any support if you want to deal with the Tao family. I know you're very strong, but the Tao family is even stronger. They are no weaker than you. I really do wonder where your confidence comes from."

Jian Chen began to laugh. He looked down at Qing Yixuan from the throne high up and said, "Qing Yixuan, you don't need to worry about this. I have my plans."

Qing Yixuan could not stand Jian Chen's condescending attitude. She coldly snorted before leaving. At the same time, she said, "There's something you should know. You're not the only one with a divine hall. The Tao family has one too."

"A divine hall," Jian Chen murmured as the light in his eyes flickered. He gently sighed inside before dismissing the elder that knelt below. He pulled out the saint artifact and let out Xie Wang, who had always been cultivating in it. After letting him out, he passed on a portion of divine water of the world and said, "Xie Wang, this was for the deal we made before. Take the divine water of the world, and from now on, you have recovered your freedom. You are no longer bound to me."

Xie Wang behaved in a straightforward manner, taking the divine water without holding back. He said, "Although I can break through to the 15th Star using the cultivation method of the Octoterra Emperor, it'll take quite a long time. It'll be different with the water. It can shorten the amount of time I need to break through."

"Jian Chen, I'll give you back the cultivation method. I owe you a huge favor, and I'll return it to you after I strengthen up."

Xie Wang left, disappearing in the vast sea realm with the divine water he had obtained from Jian Chen. The environment there was more suitable for his cultivation.

Chapter 1136: A Gift

Jian Chen sat on the throne all by himself within the majestic hall. It was silent in there.

Jian Chen sat there lazily. With a flip of his hand, a simple book appeared in it. It was covered with the marks of time, clearly having existed for quite some time already.

"It's a pity that only members of the Sea race can practice the cultivation method of the Octoterra Emperor. Otherwise, I could have added another great cultivation method to the collections of the Flame Mercenaries," Jian Chen mumbled as he looked at the cultivation method. His voice was filled with pity.

"Octoterra Emperor, I obtained your divine hall and I found a successor for you, so your cultivation method will not be lost. This can be counted as a form of compensation," Jian Chen murmured to himself. He did not let Xie Wang take the cultivation method away with him, but he believed that Xie Wang had already memorized the contents.

The cultivation methods from the sea realm were unsuitable for humans and magical beasts. He had originally obtained a Tian Level Saint Technique that was equivalent to the Saint Tier Battle Skills on the Tian Yuan Continent and the Octoterra Emperor's cultivation method from the divine hall. Nubis had taken the Tian Level Saint Technique and wanted to modify it into his own battle skill. He was still working hard on it today.

Jian Chen could only hand the cultivation method to Xie Wang. Only members of the Sea race could practice it, and he knew very few people in the Sea realm. Xie Wang was undoubtedly one of the best choices.

"It's a pity that the members of the Turtle clan are limited by their original form. The cultivation methods that suit them the most are those that strengthen the body. The Octoterra Emperor's cultivation method is not suitable for them since they have better methods to use," Jian Chen mumbled. He did not want a cultivation method left behind by a Saint Emperor be forgotten just like this. He wanted to find even more outstanding successors for the cultivation method, and just Xie Wang by himself was not enough.

Suddenly, Jian Chen's eyes lit up. He stood up from the throne and said, "I might be able to find someone who's suitable. Someone come!" Jian Chen immediately summoned an elder of the Turtle clan. After asking him about a few things, he departed from the Turtle clan.

There was a large tribe several hundred thousand kilometers away from the Turtle clan. There were several hundred thousand people who lived there, and it was rumored to have a 15th Star expert. It was renowned throughout the surrounding radius of several tens of thousand kilometers, and they held supreme power in that small region.

The tribe was called the Kalor tribe. It was rumored that the founding expert shared the same name as the tribe, and those surnamed Kai were part of the leading family of the tribe.

Several Earth Saint Master guards stood straight-backed under the leadership of a Heaven Saint Master outside. They silently guarded the main entrance of the tribe.

At this moment, a streak of light flashed by. A person had shot over from the distance with extremely great speed, arriving there in just a few seconds. The person was so fast that the guards could not react.

The person turned out to be a very handsome young man who seemed to be in his twenties and wore blue a robe. He had erased his presence and none of it leaked out, so he seemed just like an ordinary person.

The guards outside the entrance all became surprised. The young man did not give off any presence, but just the speed he had traveled at was something that other ordinary experts could not match.

"Esteemed warrior, I, Shak, captain of the second unit of the Kalor tribe, would like to express the most sincere welcome to you. Is there anywhere I can help you with?" The Heaven Saint Master arrived before Jian Chen with his head lowered. He spoke politely.

"Is Kai Ya a member of your tribe," the young man asked nonchalantly.

"Esteemed warrior, Kai Ya is the young lady of our tribe," responded Shak.

"I want to see your young lady. Please pass on the message," said the Jian Chen.

With that, Shak became slightly troubled. He carefully inquired, "May I ask how you would like to be referred to? I'll pass on the message right now."

"The ruler of the Turtle clan," replied Jian Chen.

"What! You're the ruler of the Turtle clan!?" Shak paled in fright. He stared at Jian Chen in disbelief.

Recently, the Turtle clan had become extremely well-known in the territory of the Sea Goddess Hall. It was rumored that an impressive ruler had appeared in the clan. He had first subdued the Taihong clan

and then made the three disciplinary elders of the Heaven's Spirit Hall submit to him. He caused the Turtle clan's strength to skyrocket, allowing them to regain their former glory.

Also, the Turtle clan had been waging battles everywhere recently. They took over a lot of crystal mines using absolute power, forcing many large clans to work together with the Tao family just so they could contend with the Turtle clan. It shook up the entire territory.

Although very few people had seen the mysterious ruler of the Turtle clan, he had already become an expert that had shaken up the entire sea realm.

Shak never would have believed that the ordinary young man right before him was the legendary ruler of the Turtle clan.

"Ruler, please wait. I'll go pass on the message immediately," Shak returned to his senses and responded with a trembling voice. Afterward, he ran inside as fast as he could.

Jian Chen did not follow him and instead silently waited there. Otherwise, he probably would have caused quite a disturbance in the Kalor tribe.

Kai Ya currently sat opposite of a middle-aged man with refined facial features in an extremely well-adorned room. They spoke freely.

The middle-aged man was Kai Ya's father as well as the current patriarch of the Kalor tribe. He possessed a great status.

At this moment, an old man hurried into the room. He hastily said, "Patriarch, someone has reported that the ruler of the Turtle clan has come to our tribe. He's currently at the main entrance."

"What? The ruler of the Turtle clan? Elder Zhou, are you sure you've heard correctly?" The patriarch immediately stood up as shock filled his face. Mentioning the mysterious ruler of the Turtle clan, who had only appeared recently, was like thunder to his ears.

"It was reported by someone below. Patriarch, we better go check on whether it's true or not. Just in case it's true..." Elder Zhou hurriedly replied. He was afraid that they would offend the ruler by making him wait too long.

"Why would the ruler of the Turtle clan come to our Kalor tribe?" The patriarch was filled with suspicion as he quickly walked away.

The patriarch hurriedly arrived at the main entrance with a great group of elders behind him. They saw Jian Chen standing there in the distance, and Kai Ya, who was beside the patriarch, jerked. Her gaze was filled with astonishment as she subconsciously cried out, "It's actually you, warrior!"

"Kai Ya, do you recognize this person? Is he really the ruler of the Turtle clan?" The patriarch asked through a communication technique.

Kai Ya did not respond since she did not know Jian Chen's true identity either.

At this moment, the group of people from the Kalor tribe had arrived before Jian Chen. All of them curiously observed and examined him, but Jian Chen kept his presence hidden, so none of them could

see his strength. The patriarch immediately clasped his hands, "I am the patriarch of the Kalor tribe. May I ask how I may refer to you?"

"I am the ruler of the Turtle clan, Jian Chen. I've actually come this time primarily to find miss Kai Ya," replied Jian Chen. After speaking, he waved his hand before anyone could say anything else. A mysterious power immediately wrapped around Kai Ya, and he flew away with her.

The sudden actions caused everyone to become stunned. No one had thought that Jian Chen would actually take Kai Ya away in such a straightforward fashion. However, Jian Chen was just too fast, so none of them could catch up even if they tried.

"So is he the ruler of the Turtle clan or not? Why has he taken away Kai Ya?" The patriarch wondered aloud. He was filled with worry.

One of the old men remained silent for a while before walking over from behind. He said, "Patriarch, I recognize this person. When miss Kai Ya and the others suffered in an ambush with me outside Jass City, he was the one who helped us and saved our lives. He shouldn't do anything detrimental to the young lady."

...

Jian Chen stood with his arms crossed on a steep mountain peak a thousand kilometers away from the Kalor Tribe. He gazed at the vast expanse in front of him.

Kai Ya stood behind him as her dress and hair were buffeted by the wind. She stared at Jian Chen's back with her bright and intelligent eyes. She was strewn between emotions.

"Sir, I never thought you would be the renowned ruler of the Turtle clan," Kai Ya said rather bitterly. She understood what the identity meant very well. She had never thought Jian Chen's background would actually be so impressive.

Jian Chen did not have much to say now that he had met Kai Ya again. The two of them had only met by chance originally. Jian Chen turned around and a book appeared in his hand. He said to her, "Miss Kai Ya, this is the cultivation method of the Octoterra Emperor. It's a pity that it does not suit my clansmen, and I don't know many people in the sea realm either. You're probably one of the few I do know, so I want to gift this cultivation method to you. Are you willing to practice it?"

"So you've come to find me this time just to give me this cultivation method?" Kai Ya remained abnormally calm. She did not become shocked because of the cultivation method.

Jian Chen nodded and said nothing else.

Kai Ya slowly extended her hand and accepted the cultivation method from Jian Chen. She gently said, "Thank you, ruler!"

"Don't thank me, because this cultivation method is completely useless when it's with me, which is why I might as well give it to someone who needs it. Kai Ya, I hope I will see a second Octoterra Emperor in the future," Jian Chen nonchalantly replied before disappearing into the distance as a streak of light.

Kai Ya held the cultivation method in her right hand. She stared deeply in the direction Jian Chen had vanished and only left after quite some time. She returned to the tribe.

Soon after returning, Kai Ya announced that she would go into a long period of secluded cultivation, causing quite the discussion among the members of the tribe.

Chapter 1137: The Death Nest

Kai Ya's sudden decision to go into seclusion interested her father very much. He had no idea what had happened to Kai Ya after she had been taken by that person who called himself the ruler of the Turtle clan. He was actually able to make Kai Ya go into a long period of seclusion despite the fact that she rarely went into seclusion at all.

Afterward, the patriarch of the Kalor clan immediately sent a few elders to visit the Turtle clan several hundred thousand kilometers away to verify whether Jian Chen was the ruler of the Turtle clan or not.

Around a dozen days later, the elders all returned from the Turtle clan. They had verified that Jian Chen was the ruler of the Turtle clan, allowing the patriarch of the Kalor clan to relax. At the same time, he was filled with even more doubt. He constantly wondered why the great ruler of the Turtle clan would suddenly seek his own daughter, and he wondered what exactly happened after his daughter was taken away. Why had she gone into a long period of seclusion?

The news that the ruler of the Turtle clan had personally visited the Kalor clan spread like wildfire. Several surrounding large clans and organizations learned about it, which immediately led to quite a large disturbance among them. The status of the Turtle clan had already skyrocketed in the sea realm. They were not as glorious as before, but they had truly become one of the peak organizations in the sea realm, so they obviously received the attention of countless people.

The legendary ruler of the Turtle clan was extremely unpredictable and mysterious in the eyes of the large organizations. Some well-informed clans had learned that he had once challenged the Serpent God Hall all by himself, forcing several hall elders to their wits' end. He then proceeded to the Heaven's Spirit Hall and made them bow down before he had even begun fighting. The piece of news that the three disciplinary elders of the hall submitted to him had caused all of them to become tongue-tied.

And now, many organizations began to suspect certain matters after hearing that the ruler had personally visited the Kalor clan. They searched about everywhere to figure out the connection the ruler had with the Kalor clan.

Nonetheless, the Kalor clan's status in the sea realm greatly increased after what had happened this time.

Afterward, Jian Chen called for the sea goddess. With her assistance, he met Huang Luan who had been cultivating in a desolate region. Jian Chen had learned from the sea goddess that the secret technique planted in Huang Luan's head had already been removed by the hall master of the Sea Goddess Hall, which gave Jian Chen relief.

Huang Luan had stopped practicing the Scripture of the Aquatic Sunflower and now used a cultivation method she had learned from the sea goddess. The cultivation method was of an even higher tier than the Scripture of the Aquatic Sunflower, so it was even more suitable for her and her Water Spirit's Body.

Jian Chen stood afar and observed Huang Luan as she sat on the ground. He did not disturb her and stood there silently. He stood there for a whole hour before finally disappearing quietly.

Up above the sea realm, there was the sunny sky. The scorching sun illuminated the world with light, scorching the ground like an oven. Waves of heat radiated out.

The sea surface far away from any shore was calm, like a blue mirror. It connected to the sky on the horizon.

At this moment, the calm sea surface was broken. It suddenly began to ripple, quickly expanding in all directions. Gradually, the rippling increased and turned into a fountain very soon, as if something was floating up to the surface. Finally, with a huge splash, a huge column of water shot into the air. A figure took to the sky from the water, moving extremely fast. He reached an altitude of several thousand meters instantly, becoming an ant-like speck in the sky.

Jian Chen hovered in the air above the sea. With a flip of his hand, a pure-white thumb-sized piece of jade appeared. Under a slight tightening of his grip, the jade turned to power.

A few second later, the space in front of Jian Chen began to violently ripple. Finally, it shattered like a mirror and a small, burly giant emerged silently from the shattered space, shining with a golden light. The light seemed to contain some mysterious power, preventing the shattered space from closing up even after quite some time.

At the same time, chaotic spatial streams wreaked havoc in the shattered space. If anyone fell into it, they would become quite injured, yet the figure stood within the storm like it was nothing. The golden light around him seemed to isolate him in a different world, where the spatial streams could not approach him.

At this moment, the golden figure took a step away from the shattered space. The golden light also began to fade and without anymore obstructions, the shattered space finally began to slowly close up.

“Jian Chen, you’ve finally come back from the sea realm. You’ve been gone for two months already. If you still didn’t come out, I would’ve come looking for you personally,” the burly giant flew over as he chuckled at Jian Chen.

He was Tie Ta. Although he did not comprehend the mysteries of the world, he was a war god. The mysteries techniques he knew were powerful and wondrous, incomparable to the mysteries of the world. They were not the mysteries of the world, they exceeded them.

“Tie Ta, you’ve become stronger and stronger,” Jian Chen sighed emotionally as he observed Tie Ta. Tie Ta’s natural advantage was just far too powerful. He was blessed by the world and the world passed on abilities to him. He had no need to go through any systematic learning to grasp these many wondrous and powerful secret techniques, and he would just possess mastery over them. Everyone would be envious of him if they knew this.

Tie Ta smiled honestly and scratched his head. He seemed rather proud but amazed and helpless at the same time. He said, “Jian Chen, don’t praise me. My strength may be much greater now, but I still feel like I can’t beat you. Back in Kargath Academy, there wasn’t such a great difference between our strength, but no matter how powerful I became, I could never surpass you.”

Jian Chen smiled with that, “Tie Ta, let’s go to the Death Nest first. I’ve wasted over two months already, so we can’t delay this any further.”

Jian Chen invited Hei Yu out of the artifact space and got him to construct a Space Gate for them. Afterward, he left through it with Tie Ta.

On the Three Saint Mountain of Three Saint Island, the Heavenly Enchantress sat with her legs crossed on a huge rock by a cliff. Her figure was beautiful and her white dress seemed even paler than snow. She seemed like an otherworldly goddess.

The simple Zither of the Demonic Cry was placed on her legs. Her thin fingers slowly danced about the strings, playing beautiful tunes. It was extremely pleasant, enough to unknowingly intoxicate people in such a way that they could not resist.

The strings of the zither slowly trembled. The beautiful music lacked happiness and joy. It was inflexible, becoming rather sorrowful and heavy.

The Heavenly Enchantress frowned slightly. She removed the veil on her face and revealed her indescribably pretty appearance. However, some worry and helplessness was present as well.

A white, chubby boy, who only seemed to be three or four, currently tried to climb up the rock arduously behind her. His eyes were filled with unyielding determination.

Chapter 1138: Xiao Bao

The white, chubby boy pressed his body against the huge rock. He stood on the slight protrusions of the rock, and he was over ten meters from the group. It was very difficult to imagine that a child at such an age could climb so high through his own hard work.

At this moment, the boy slipped. He immediately began to fall from the rock. He was clearly frightened, subconsciously calling out, "Mum!"

Before the boy could finish speaking, a white figure had appeared beside him almost instantaneously. She extended a hand to catch him, saving him from danger.

The white figure that had suddenly appeared was the Heavenly Enchantress. However, the Zither of the Demonic Cry had now disappeared from her hands even though it almost never left her side, now replaced by the boy.

The Heavenly Enchantress cradled the boy in her arms. She looked at him with mixed emotions along with an unhideable fondness.

"Xiao Bao, you're not listening again. Have you forgotten what I've said to you?" The Heavenly Enchantress chided as she sternly stared at the boy.

The boy was extremely active and mischievous. He did not seem to fear the Heavenly Enchantress at all. He extended his chubby, dusty arms to grab the Heavenly Enchantress' neck. He said, "Mum, Xiao Bao has been very good. Xiao Bao is only thinking of mum and wants to spend time with mum." With that, the boy stared at the Heavenly Enchantress in vivid interest with his bright eyes and seriously said, "Xiao Bao knows you've been very sad. Don't be sad anymore, okay?"

A rare gentleness appeared on the Heavenly Enchantress' face. She gently rubbed Xiao Bao's head, but she produced a deep sigh inside. She was filled with bitterness.

At this moment, three figures flew over from afar. They stopped near the Heavenly Enchantress in the end, and these figures were Qin Qin, Xiao Qian, and Xiao Yue.

Qin Qin's disposition had undergone a very great change from a few years ago. She now possessed an additional feeling of refinement, as if she had broken free from mortal affairs.

Qin Qin had already sensed the Heavenly Melody with the assistance of the Heavenly Enchantress and embarked on a unique path of cultivation. However, just a few years was not enough for her strength to increase too much. She was only equal to Earth Saint Masters, so she needed Xiao Qian and Xiao Yue's help to fly.

"Mum, mum, look! The three sisters have come," Xiao Bao immediately squealed out in excitement from the Heavenly Enchantress' bosom. He broke free from her hold and happily ran to the three of them.

"Sister, huggie!" Xiao Bao opened up his arms in front of Qin Qin.

Qin Qin fondly lifted up Xiao Bao while Xiao Qian and Xiao Yue gathered over as well. They played around with Xiao Bao as they laughed, and their gazes for the boy were filled with fondness and love.

Xiao Bao's status on Three Saint Island was extremely special. He had basically become the young master there, being looked after by Qin Qin, Xiao Qian, and Xiao Yue daily. He was protected and loved by them.

However, the relationship between the Heavenly Enchantress and Xiao Bao only seemed to be foster mother and foster son in the three lady's eyes.

Qin Qin carried Xiao Bao to one side and played around with him. However, the Heavenly Enchantress remained where she was with Xiao Qian and Xiao Yue. Their smiles immediately vanished after Xiao Bao had been carried away and faint worry filled their faces.

"Mother, we have successfully exchanged for the ten-thousand-year heavenly resource, the Heaven's Heart Lotus, at Biyou Island. It's said that the Heaven's Heart Lotus has wondrous effects at changing constitution, so it should be effective to Xiao Bao." Xiao Qian pulled out a square jade box from her Space Ring and passed it to the Heavenly Enchantress.

"Master, the properties of the Heaven's Heart Lotus are far too powerful. If Xiao Bao ingests it directly, I fear that he won't be able to withstand the potency. We need to use a few other medicines with the Heaven's Heart Lotus to make it into a pill," said Xiao Yue.

The Heavenly Enchantress thought with furrowed brows. Afterward, she nodded and said, "Xiao Qian, Xiao Yue, I'll go to the Tian Yuan Continent to find a highly-ranked alchemist to refine the Heaven's Heart Lotus. You need to protect the island while I'm gone."

"Yes, master!" Xiao Qian and Xiao Yue replied together.

The Heavenly Enchantress paused slightly before adding, "Also, you have to look after Xiao Bao. That child always likes to run around. The terrain of the mountain is perilous, so you can't let him come across any danger. If something happens, contact me immediately using the secret technique."

The Heavenly Enchantress immediately left the island with the heavenly resource after telling them what to do while she was gone.

Xiao Qian and Xiao Yue watched the Heavenly Enchantress leave in a daze. They both sighed gently and one of them said, "I hope the pill from the Heaven's Heart Lotus can change Xiao Bao's constitution so he can cultivate like any other person. Otherwise, Xiao Bao's fate will be..."

"Sigh, Xiao Bao really is pitiful. Not only did he lose his parents as soon as he was born, but he's also a cripple that almost never appears. We've fed him so many several-thousand-year heavenly resources over the years, but we unfortunately still haven't been able to change his constitution. It's only made Xiao Bao's body become much more powerful than an ordinary child. There's still nothing inside him. Not even a speck of Saint Force."

"We watched Xiao Bao grow up. He may not be our child, but we're like his family. We need to make it so that he can cultivate normally no matter what. If we run out of choices, we might as well ask master to request a hundred-thousand-year heavenly resource from Mercenary City."

...

In a certain place on the Tian Yuan Continent, an extremely huge formation covered a pitch-black forest. The forest was shrouded by black mist, which surged about like dragons. The mist seemed like vicious and terrifying ghosts that were brandishing their teeth and claws from time to time, which was chilling.

All the vegetation in the forest only had two colors, red and black. The black trees were hidden in the surging black mist, seeming like huge ghosts from afar. The blood-red plants radiated a demonic light, as if they were covered with blood. The ground was scarlet as well, like dried blood.

The forest enveloped by the formation was the most dangerous place on the Tian Yuan Continent, the Death Nest.

The Death Nest was single-handedly created by the strongest human, Mo Tianyun, many years ago. Countless experts had fallen in the war between the three races in ancient times, and Mo Tianyun used his great abilities to move and bury all their corpses in one location. Regardless of Saint Emperors, Saint Kings, or Saint Rulers, they were all buried in the current location, the Death Nest.

The Death Nest was the grave of many Saint Emperors among the three races. The ground had been died red by the blood of Saint Emperors, so it remained scarlet even after countless years. Even the plants that grew there became demonically red.

The ground in a radius of ten thousand kilometers was withered and barren. Nothing grew and it was desolate, having been affected by the Death Nest. The region was unsuitable for habitation and even the sky had become heavy. Even with a scorching sun in the middle of the sky, it was gloomy. None of the sunlight could reach there, making it rather cold in fact.

Chapter 1139: Vengeful Spirits of the Death Nest (One)

Even though many heavenly resources grew in the Death Nest, no one went there to collect them. Its infamy completely deterred Heaven Saint Masters who were the peak-level experts of smaller kingdoms. Probably only Saint Rulers possessed the ability to protect themselves, but that was in the very outskirts. They needed to be careful as well and not go too far in.

There was a rumor on the Tian Yuan Continent that all the plants that grew within the Death Nest possessed very powerful Yin Qi and grudges that could not be purged. If they were ingested by people, there would be no benefits at all and would instead lead to endless detrimental effects.

As a result, there were extremely few people who entered the Death Nest since ancient times. A few powerful Saint Kings would enter from time to time and seek treasures that had been lost since ancient times.

Suddenly, the space several hundred meters above the Death Nest began to violently distort. A Space Gate slowly formed and the robed Jian Chen, the bare-chested Tie Ta, and the black-robed Hei Yu stepped out.

The three of them hovered at an altitude of several hundred meters as they curiously observed their surroundings. Soon afterward, the three of them frowned. A seriousness filled their faces, as well as a little bit of surprise.

“The Death Nest really is worthy of being called the greatest zone of danger on the Tian Yuan Continent. We still haven’t even entered it, yet it’s already pressuring me psychologically,” Jian Chen said.

Tie Ta’s eyes shone as he constantly observed the surrounding area. He would look at the sky sometimes and then look at the forest of death enveloped by a huge formation at other times. He said, “This place is so evil. I seem to be able to feel the wailing of countless souls. No, that’s not it. It feels like faces of ghosts are appearing and brandishing their jaws and claws at us. Those are all vicious ghosts. Jian Chen, this place is frightening.” As a war god, Tie Ta’s senses were greater than Jian Chen, so he sensed it all much clearer.

“Mo Tianyun sure has done a lot to create such an evil place. Just why did he do this? Was it to raise the Saints’ Fruit? Is it really worth it to use the corpses of countless experts just for a piece of fruit?” Hei Yu murmured. He was unsettled. He finally understood the terror of this place after personally witnessing it himself.

“The Yin Qi and presence of grudges here have reached a terrifyingly powerful level. It can shroud the sun and moon, affecting the surroundings as well. Just why did Mo Tianyun do this? Is this an ability that has surpassed Saint Emperor? And I can actually feel a heart-shaking power in the formation. This formation definitely can withstand attacks from Saint Emperors easily. Probably only those who have surpassed Saint Emperor can break through it,” Hei Yu said gruffly.

The three of them remained outside for a while. Afterward, Jian Chen said, “Tie Ta, senior Hei Yu, let’s go in and check out these vengeful spirits. Let’s see just how frightening they are.”

Jian Chen traveled toward the huge formation with Tie Ta and Hei Yu. The formation around the Death Nest only seemed to exist to trap the beings inside. It could not stop the entry of outsiders. As a result, the three of them smoothly passed through and entered the Death Nest.

As soon as they stepped in, they felt cold. Yin Qi that was several times denser flooded them, making them feel like they had stepped into a cavern of ice instead.

“What powerful Yin Qi. This Yin Qi is enough to claim the lives of Earth Saint Masters instantaneously. Even Heaven Saint Masters won’t dare to stick around for too long,” exclaimed Jian Chen.

Currently, the three of them were at the edge of the forest. The black mist in the forest surged and churned unceasingly. The ground was scarlet, making it seem like demonic blood, but it was filled with malevolence. It was sunny outside, yet everything became gloomy inside the Death Nest. Visibility was minimal.

In the forest, red and black mixed together. Countless ancient trees and dense grass swayed in the wind, making them seem like ghosts moving about. Coupled with the wild wind, ghosts seemed to be wailing, which was chilling.

The three of them were especially cautious as this was the first time they had ever come across such a hellish place. Even though they were powerful, unknown dangers lurked right before them, so they dared not to be careless.

Jian Chen attempted to expand his presence, but as soon as it left his body, an abnormally icy presence invaded his soul. It made him feel a stabbing pain in his soul, where even he became rather dizzy.

Jian Chen immediately drew back his presence and was no longer willing to use it anymore. His presence was wondrous, but it was not all-powerful. It would be suppressed in some special environments.

The three of them walked through the gloomy forest as the mist constantly churned. It radiated waves of cold, as if countless claws of ghosts were touching them all over. It was hair-raising, and they became covered in goosebumps.

At this moment, strands of iciness emerged from the mist and clung to Jian Chen's skin before entering his body.

Jian Chen sensed it, but he did nothing to resist it. Instead, he relaxed and allowed the iciness to enter his body.

At the same time, a weak ripple of energy appeared beside him. Hei Yu and Tie Ta had come across a similar situation as Jian Chen. They started circulating their much-more-powerful energy to erase the invading iciness.

The iciness had entered Jian Chen's flesh and blood. It wormed into Jian Chen's organs before beginning to devour all vitality present in his body. He immediately felt his vitality leak away bit by bit through the iciness that had entered him.

"Looks like this iciness contains these properties. It can invade the body and devour vitality. One of Ming Dong's great-grandfathers had entered the Death Nest with senior Tian Jian in the past, and Ming Dong's great-grandfather passed away because he was struck with a curse from the Death Nest. Was it this iciness?" Jian Chen thought inside. With a single thought, he yanked back all his vitality that was leaking away. Afterward, with a small tremble, he used his powerful body to shatter the iciness within him.

The three of them continued on their way. They came across quite a few heavenly resources, but it was a pity that all the resources had been contaminated by Yin Qi. They could not be ingested, so they were just a waste.

The three of them traveled a few more kilometers. Suddenly, a huge ghost's face surged out of the black mist, biting at the three of them with its enormous mouth.

Jian Chen, Tie Ta, and Hei Yu did nothing. They had just come in here, so they had no idea about the dangers. They wanted to use a weak existence like this to test their strength. Then they could find the best way to deal with similar dangers in the future.

The ghost face was completely formed from grudges. It had naturally formed because of the endless amounts of grudges present, and it was equivalent to a Heaven Saint Master.

Biting down, the ghost face devoured the three of them. They felt their vision darken. They had plunged into pure darkness in that moment. An even icier presence wormed its way into their bodies, where even their souls were invaded by the grudges.

After understanding that the ghost face possessed offensive capabilities, they easily dispersed it, causing it to turn back into a black mist that drifted away.

Chapter 1140: Vengeful Spirits of the Death Nest (Two)

The presence of grudges filled the Death Nest. Black mist surged as cold wind blew, making the vegetation there sway with the wind. The wind sounded like the wails of ghosts.

The Death Nest was split into three zones. The first zone was enough to threaten Saint Rulers, and the vengeful spirits that appeared there were mostly at the level of Saint Rulers. Saint King vengeful spirits would appear there rarely as well. It would spell almost certain doom for any Heaven Saint Masters that entered the area since even Saint Rulers had the chance of dying. The second zone was where Saint King vengeful spirits gathered with a very small chance for Saint Emperor vengeful spirits to appear. Only Saint Kings could move freely there.

The third zone was the most terrifying place of the Death Nest, as it was where Saint Emperor corpses were buried. It was the lair of Saint Emperor vengeful spirits and was extremely terrifying. Even Saint Kings at Great Perfection needed to be very careful in that zone.

The Saint Emperor vengeful spirits were born from the grudges of the dead. They had lost their abilities from when they were still alive long ago, but they were still quite difficult to deal with. They were extremely powerful.

Jian Chen, Tie Ta, and Hei Yu moved through the Death Nest, proceeding to the depths. They encountered attacks from many ghost faces, and the iciness that had invaded their bodies earlier appeared very often as well. However, it could not stop their advance.

After traveling several dozen kilometers, a blurry figure condensed from black mist appeared several hundred meters away from them.

It sat on the ground, inhaling and exhaling the presence of the grudges into the surroundings. It absorbed the essence from the ground to cultivate. All of this essence originated from the ground that had been dyed by the blood of countless Saint Emperors.

The three of them stopped and stared at the vengeful spirit a few hundred meters away. After a period of close observation, Tie Ta said, "That vengeful spirit's already at Saint King. I never thought we'd come across such a powerful vengeful spirit so quickly in the first zone. If other Saint Rulers came across this vengeful spirit, it would be very difficult for them to survive."

“It seems to be cultivating. That’s unbelievable. These vengeful spirits condensed from the grudges of the dead can actually cultivate. Do they already possess a conscience?” Jian Chen sighed in amazement. He found it rather unbelievable.

Afterward, Jian Chen used the Illusory Flash and shot toward the Saint King vengeful spirit several hundred meters away. At the same time, the vengeful spirit discovered Jian Chen and suddenly stood up. It was entirely condensed from black mist and the endless grudges of the dead, so it was rather ethereal and not really tangible.

The appearance of the vengeful spirit was blurry. It seemed like a person, but it lacked facial features. It turned its head to look in Jian Chen’s direction before floating toward him in the form of a black mist. It moved extremely quick.

Although the vengeful spirit possessed the strength of Saint Kings, it was nowhere near as powerful as an actual Saint King. Jian Chen began fighting the vengeful spirit while studying it at the same time.

A while later, Jian Chen finally confirmed that the vengeful spirit lacked self-awareness. Cultivation was instinctual to it, so Jian Chen breathed out in relief. If the vengeful spirits possessed were self-aware, they would be far too terrifying. After all, there were many Saint Emperor vengeful spirits in the third zone.

Jian Chen chopped through the vengeful spirit with a single stroke of the Emperor Armament, reducing it to black mist. However, it recondensed the next moment and continued to fight Jian Chen. The suffocating iciness and the endless amount of grudges formed a very terrifying attack. The iciness invaded Jian Chen body in attempt to devour his vitality while the grudges charged at Jian Chen’s soul. However, Jian Chen remained unaffected by both.

The vengeful spirits were extremely difficult to kill. They were condensed from an endless amount of grudges and were not living like humans, nor did they possess the weakness of a soul. Without any exaggeration, they could be described as invincible. The only method to deal with them was to constantly attack them to exhaust their energy. Once their energy was completely consumed, they would be reduced to nothing more than a part of the black mist.

With an emotionless glare, Jian Chen attacked the vengeful spirit time and time again with his Emperor Armament. Only after killing it more than ten times did all of its power disappear, turning back into a surging black mist.

“Jian Chen, the power you use is nothing ordinary. If you use you power against these vengeful spirits, it will quicken their deaths. It would be very difficult for other Saint Kings to use less time to deal with one if they came across a vengeful spirit,” Hei Yu said. He stood with arms crossed next to Tie Ta.

Jian Chen seemed to be in thought. He then put the Emperor Armament away. He continued on his way with Hei Yu and Tie Ta.

There were extremely few Saint King vengeful spirits in the first zone of the Death Nest. Most of them were at the level of Saint Rulers, so they did not come across any more Saint King vengeful spirits during the following journey. After traveling several thousand kilometers, they finally passed through the first zone of the Death Nest and reached the second.

The iciness and presence of grudges that pervaded the second zone were ten times greater than the first. The iciness ate away at the body while the grudges invaded the soul. It forced the three of them to circulate their energy to resist them. Jian Chen had already fused a small part of Chaotic Force into his body, relying on the terrifying defense of the Chaotic Body.

A faint layer of golden light appeared around Tie Ta. It isolated him from the iciness and grudges of the dead. Even Hei Yu began to use his own power to resist the two.

The three of them became rather surprised when they had first arrived in the second zone. Just the Yin Qi and grudges were enough for Saint Kings to treat them seriously. They sighed emotionally at the terror of the Death Nest again.

A few bones and shrapnel of weapons began appearing in the second zone. The bones were littered with the marks of time, clearly having existed for countless years already. The pieces of weapons had been created from extremely valuable materials, but they had already been contaminated by the Yin Qi and the grudges, so they now bore a malicious nature. They could not be used.

“These are bones of a member of the Dragon clan,” Hei Yu suddenly said as he stared at a bone the size of a human. His voice was filled with shock.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta glanced over when they heard that. The unknown piece of bone was dark-red in color, as if it had been dyed by blood.

“The Dragon clan disappeared in ancient times. It’s already been a million years since, so this bone was clearly left behind before the Dragon clan had vanished. It’s been so long already, so it should have turned to dust long ago. How can it still exist and be in such a perfect condition?” Hei Yu gruffly said as disbelief flooded his face.

“The bone is filled with Yin Qi and grudges. Is it these two energies that prevent the bone from decaying, which is why its still perfect after at least a million years?” Jian Chen guessed.

Hei Yu thought attentively and said, “That should be the case. Doesn’t that mean there are many bones left behind from the ancient times in the Death Nest then?”

The three of them continued on their way. They discovered many bones and more pieces of weapons as they traveled. There was no lack of bones from the Dragon and Phoenix clans, which were recognized at a glance by Hei Yu. They had even found a Space Ring buried in the soil that had not been completely destroyed. Items could still be removed from within. However, nothing in it caught Jian Chen’s eye.