

## Chaotic 1251

### Chapter 1251: Xuanhuang Microcosm (One)

Jian Chen and Tie Ta examined the black hole. It was the eye of the whirlpool formed by the worldly ebb. It was very calm but filled with a mysterious power. Even Jian Chen's soul, which had surpassed a Saint King at Great Perfection, could not reach into it.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta stood at the edge of the hole for a while before nodding at the same time and leaping in.

Jian Chen only felt himself rapidly fall when he jumped into the hole, but that feeling only lasted a few seconds. Afterward, he felt like he was floating in space as if gravity had disappeared. The surrounding space would pulse from time to time, and Jian Chen would sense something different every time, as if he was shifting with every pulse.

"Is this spatial teleportation?" A thought suddenly crossed Jian Chen's mind. Everything was pitch-black, and he could see nothing. In order to verify whether he was right or not, he immediately attempted to expand his presence to observe his surroundings. Unfortunately, his presence was suppressed to the limit of his body by a mysterious power, preventing him from expanding it.

Oddly enough, Jian Chen actually failed to sense the flow of time in the pitch-black environment. The darkness seemed to have lasted for an entire era yet also seemed as brief as a few seconds. When Jian Chen's finally regained his vision, he had arrived on a whole different world.

Standing on solid ground, Jian Chen immediately looked around. He could not help but feel relieved when he discovered Tie Ta standing beside him unharmed. He guessed that he had probably teleported a long distance through pitch-black space. Teleporting was extremely dangerous since they could end up lost in the void with the slightest careless mistake, or they could have been separated after teleportation.

The independent space contained many unknown dangers. They did not even have a single idea as to how large the place was. If they ended up separated after being teleported, reuniting would almost be impossible. But fortunately, that did not occur.

"My strand of soul has been greatly consumed by passing through the tunnel. It is extremely weak now, and it can last for half an hour at most. Jian Chen, I will do all I can to find the materials I need before this strand of soul dissipates. Once I find them, I will tell you where they are," said the sea goddess. She had already arrived before Jian Chen and Tie Ta, but her figure was extremely illusory now. She seemed like a wisp of smoke that could be blown away by the slightest wind.

"It's best if you make a mark here. If you find the item, you can return here and return to the original world through the distorted space behind you," continued the sea goddess.

"Alright, I'll make one right now," said Jian Chen. He immediately began to do create a mark. Marking a location was extremely easy at his current strength. He made one nearby very quickly and then preceded to make several more in the surrounding radius of three kilometers just in case.

The sea goddess stared at Jian Chen as he made the marks. She came to an understanding through Jian Chen's speed and methods of making the marks that his strength was unaffected in this independent space, which immediately made her ravish with joy.

"There's still three whole months. That should be enough time for Jian Chen to collect my materials here. Maybe once Jian Chen gets out, I'll be able to fulfil my wish of reconstructing my body," thought the sea goddess. She then turned into a wisp of smoke that spread out as she expanded her limited energy, searching for the materials she needed in all directions.

Jian Chen arrived in front of Tie Ta and asked, "Tie Ta, can you use your strength as usual?"

Tie Ta closed his eyes to sense his strength before responding, "I can use it as usual, and even my Mysteries of War have not been impacted. I can use my regular strength in here. What about you, Jian Chen?"

"My soul has been suppressed to sixty percent of its peak condition, and I cannot sense the mysteries of the world at all. I cannot use the abilities as a Saint Ruler, but I can use my Chaotic Force as usual," said Jian Chen in a heavy voice before letting out Nubis from the artifact space. However, his presence began to weaken at an unbelievable rate as soon as he was let out. In less than a minute, all the energy within Nubis was suppressed by a mysterious power. He could not even use his abilities as a Saint King. He had been reduced to an ordinary person.

Nubis immediately became pale-white. He cried out, "God dammit, what is this bloody place? I've actually been reduced to a regular person. To think of all the glory and strength I, the great Nubis, possess outside, I can't even beat a Class 6 Magical Beast in here. This place is far too terrifying. Jian Chen, return me to the artifact space." Nubis was unwilling to stay outside a moment longer and immediately returned to the artifact space.

Among the three of them, Jian Chen used Chaotic Force. Although it was not true Chaotic Force since its strength was not even ten thousandth of the real deal, it still possessed the word 'chaotic,' so it completely exceeded the limits of regular energy and was obviously unable to be suppressed. As for Tie Ta, he was a warring god. His legacy originated from the world, so the energy he used was obviously incomparable to the norm, which explained why he was unrestricted by the mysterious energy of the space. Only Nubis walked a regular path of cultivation, so he was impacted by the restriction.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta left the area. They chose a single direction to move off in as they constantly looked around. They were currently located in a desolate, boundless plain. The sky there was yellow, which was extremely rare, and there was no energy of the world nor mysteries of the world. Jian Chen could not even sense Radiant Saint Force.

However, Jian Chen could feel an energy that he had never seen or heard throughout the space. Although the energy was extremely thin, he could vaguely sense that it was no weaker than his Chaotic Force.

Afterward, Jian Chen began trying to absorb the mysterious and powerful energy, but to his surprise, he was unable to absorb it.

Chapter 1252: Xuanhuang Microcosm (Two)

“I never thought that there would be a power great enough to rival Chaotic Force in this independent space. This is really surprising. Looks like this space is far more complicated than I had imagined,” Jian Chen thought inside, but he also became more cautious. Although Tie Ta and his strength had not been suppressed, Jian Chen dared not to be careless within this extraordinary independent space.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta lost their ability to fly freely in this space. An invisible force filled the surroundings, and they would be suppressed by it as soon as they took to the air. Not only were they limited to an altitude of a hundred meters, the energy they consumed was several hundred or even a thousand fold compared to the energy consumed outside.

As a result, Jian Chen and Tie Ta chose to travel by foot, but they still moved extremely quick. They had traversed over a hundred kilometers in a short while, but the surroundings remained the same. It was still desolate as far as the eye could see.

At this moment, the sea goddess’ soul floated over as a wisp of smoke. She condensed herself as an extremely faded figure in front of them. This strand of soul was clearly even weaker than before.

“Jian Chen, there’s a small forest two hundred kilometers southeast of where you are now. There’s a natural pool of water there, and it’s filled with green water. The water is filled with a very powerful presence of life, and there’s a thumb-sized ball of liquid at the bottom of the pool. The liquid is different from the water and is extremely sticky. It’s one of the two materials I need to reconstruct my body. Jian Chen, go help me collect that liquid right now, but I may need quite a lot of it when I do rebuild my body, so please collect as much of it as possible in the next few days,” explained the sea goddess. However, her illusory figure wavered slightly as she spoke, as if she was about to disperse soon.

“We’ll head over there immediately. Do not worry, your majesty. I will definitely collect enough materials for you to rebuild your body,” Jian Chen swore before immediately changing directions with Tie Ta, heading off to the southeast as fast as he could.

“There’s two Class 7 vicious beasts that guard the small forest. They’re no threat to you, but still be careful because there are even more powerful beasts in the depths of this space. I once explored this place with my soul in the past, and the strongest one I came across was a equivalent to a Saint King at Great Perfection. I suspect that it still isn’t the most powerful in this space, but I could not probe any further before my soul dispersed due to hitting my limit. As a result, I don’t know if there are Saint Emperor vicious beasts in here.

“At the same time, the green water in the pool is no ordinary object either. It’s best if you take some with you. The green water here is something that has never been seen outside, so it’s probably some impressive treasure. My soul is being consumed at an extremely fast rate and is about to disperse. Jian Chen, it’ll be up to the two of you in the future. Remember to return safely in three months’ time. I shall await your good new outside...”

The sea goddess’ voice gently faded away. At the same time, the strand of her soul completely dispersed into the surroundings.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta said nothing. They only focused on hurrying along, and very soon, a small forest appeared in their vision. The lush, small trees swayed in the breeze.

The small forest stretched for several dozen kilometers, so it was indeed insignificant compared to the random forests that could stretch for thousands or even tens of thousands of kilometers on the Tian Yuan Continent. The vegetation that grew there was sparse. Although the tallest tree was only a dozen or so meters tall, every single tree grew vigorously, with densely-packed, lush leaves across every branch. They were teeming with life.

As soon as Jian Chen and Tie Ta entered the forest, they propelled themselves by kicking off the trees. They shot into the sky as they charged toward the center of the forest like arrows. They vanished in the blink of an eye.

Jian Chen did not use his presence. His presence was severely limited in this strange little world, and as soon as he used it, it would be consumed at a rate several dozen times faster than the outside world. As a result, he just used his eyes to distinguish where the center of the forest was.

In less than a minute, the two of them arrived at the very center of the forest. They stood beside a green pool of water that was only two meters wide. The water was transparent, free from any impurities, so they could see the bottom of it. It was only one meter deep at most, and Jian Chen had indeed discovered a thumb-sized ball of liquid sitting quietly at the bottom. The liquid's color was an even deeper hue than the water, allowing him to distinguish it in a single glance. It just sat in the water and did not dissolve.

Jian Chen slowly closed his eyes as he stood beside the small pool. He sucked in a deep breath and immediately felt the intense presence of life enter his body through his nostrils. Comfort filled his organs.

"What an intense presence of life. There's such a clear feeling with just a breath. If I drink it, wouldn't the effects be even more shocking? It even has the effect of extending my longevity." Jian Chen exclaimed as he stared at the green water before him. He had not cared much when the sea goddess had mentioned that the water was teeming with the presence of life. Only after personally experiencing how intense it was did he understand how extraordinary the water was.

"So nice!" Tie Ta copied Jian Chen as he closed his eyes and sucked in several breaths of the presence of life. He looked like he was intoxicated.

Just when the two of them had relaxed, two figures suddenly darted out of the forest, charging towards the two of them with lightning-like speed.

Jian Chen's eyes snapped open as a sharp gleam of light flashed through them. He glared at the two figures as a strand of gray sword Qi condensed in his right hand in a single moment. The sword Qi was condensed from Chaotic Force and was a meter long. It radiated with a violent and destructive presence.

With a swing of his arm, he used the sword Qi as a sword and chopped at the figures at a speed several times faster than them. Jian Chen could clearly sense a sliver of resistance when the sword Qi collided with the figures. The toughness of their bodies was rather frightening, but it was still not enough to change anything. One of them was split in half by Jian Chen.

On the other side, Tie Ta hurled his fist at the other figure. With a heavy sound, the figure was knocked far away, hitting a tree as thick as a water bucket twenty meters away before falling to the ground. If

this happened outside, the same tree would have snapped in half if it was struck with such force or even turned to pieces, but the tree only shook violently. Not only was it completely fine, not even a branch had snapped off.

Jian Chen examined the figures that had ambushed the two of them. He discovered that they were one-meter-long, feral-dog-like beasts covered with fleshy scales. All their limbs possessed sharp claws and their bodies were extremely tough.

However, both of them had been reduced to corpses now. Besides the one that had been split in half by Jian Chen, the one that had rushed Tie Ta died from his punch. Even though the two of them were Class 7 vicious beasts, they were weak like ants before Jian Chen and Tie Ta.

“I wonder if these vicious beasts have monster cores,” Jian Chen thought. He then walked over to the vicious beast he had killed and used sword Qi he conjured at the tip of his finger to carve through it, carefully searching through the body.

A while later, Jian Chen was pleasantly surprised. Indeed, there was a tough, peanut-sized crystal within the vicious beast. It contained a pure and powerful energy equivalent to the energy hidden within Class 7 Monster Cores.

“This really has failed to disappoint me. Is this the monster core in these vicious beasts?” Jian Chen marveled at the peanut-sized crystal in his hand. The energy within the crystal was equivalent to Class 7 Magical Beasts, but it was much smaller.

Tie Ta’s face lit up in joy as well when he saw this. He jogged over to the vicious beast he had killed with a punch and also removed a peanut-sized crystal from its body. He rubbed it against his clothes like a treasure before happily putting it into his space ring. He smiled honestly, “Hehe, if I sell this Class 7 Monster Core on the Tian Yuan Continent, it should make me quite some money.”

Jian Chen glanced at him in a critical fashion. He had roamed the Tian Yuan Continent for so long, but this was the first time he had heard that a Saint King lacked money.

Afterward, Jian Chen returned to the side of the pool. He gathered some of the water without any hurry and then carefully pooled some of the green water near his mouth, slowly gulping it down.

Immediately, a cool feeling filled his body before turning into warm feeling that quickly reached his organs. It was absorbed by his entire body, and he felt an indescribable comfort. At that moment, Jian Chen felt deluded, as if his life force had slightly increased with that mouthful of water.

Obviously, Jian Chen understood this was all an illusion. The water he had just drunk did not increase his life at all.

“What a heavy presence of life. Master, what heavenly resource have you found this time... Hmm? I can actually feel the faint presence of Xuanhuang Qi...” A sword spirit’s voice rang through Jian Chen’s head before coming to a sudden halt. The next moment, it began to cry out in disbelief, “How is this possible? Why do I feel the existence of Xuanhuang Qi...” The sword spirit appeared outside with that. They looked around and immediately became extremely excited. Their faces were filled with serendipity and disbelief. They cried out, “It’s a Xuanhuang Microcosm. It’s actually a Xuanhuang Microcosm...”

Chapter 1253: Spring of Life

Jian Chen immediately became stunned when he saw how violently the sword spirits reacted. He had been with them for so long, and it was extremely rare for them to behave like this. However, Jian Chen knew that the sword spirits were extremely experienced and had seen countless wondrous treasures. Ordinary items never piqued their interest, but anything that could be an extremely rare treasure without a doubt.

“A Xuanhuang Microcosm?” Jian Chen murmured softly before looking at the world around him. He started to feel like the world was far more complicated than he had expected since the sword spirits reacted like that.

“Jian Chen, who’re they?” Tie Ta discovered the sword spirits when they appeared above Jian Chen, so he asked a question while full of doubt. The gaze he directed at the two of them was filled with a deep curiosity. The appearances of the sword spirits were the same as before. They appeared as a young man and a woman around the age of twenty. The man was handsome while the woman was pretty. They seemed like a match made in heaven, and the only flaw was that they were illusory and not tangible.

Jian Chen gave a simple explanation to Tie Ta before asking the sword spirits, “Zi Ying, Qing Suo, what’s this Xuanhuang Microcosm about?”

The sword spirits were extremely excited as they constantly looked around. Their excitement became even more intense instead of dissipating, as if they had found a huge treasure stash.

“It’s actually an untouched Xuanhuang Microcosm. This is fantastic, far too fantastic. Master, we never thought that you’d have such great fortune that you’d come across an untouched Xuanhuang Microcosm,” Qing Suo said in delight as her excitement surged.

Zi Ying understood that Jian Chen had no idea what a Xuanhuang Microcosm was, so he explained what it was in detail, “Master, the Xuanhuang Microcosm is a microcosm formed from Xuanhuang Qi. Xuanhuang Qi is an energy that arises from Chaotic Force and is only second to Chaotic Force. It is even greater than the Yin Qi and Yang Qi that arises from chaos. However, Xuanhuang Qi is also known as Creation Force because it can create everything. This microcosm before you is created from Xuanhuang Qi, so we call it a Xuanhuang Microcosm.”

“Many heavenly resources and heavenly treasures appear in Xuanhuang Microcosms, treasures that can even move experts at the level of our former master. Because the Xuanhuang Microcosm is filled with Xuanhuang Qi, everything that appears here is extraordinary. Even the most common heavenly resources in the outside world will drastically increase in value after they are tainted with Xuanhuang Qi. An ordinary thousand-year-old heavenly resource from the Xuanhuang Microcosm will be worth a two-thousand-year-old or even three-thousand-year-old heavenly resource outside.

“Other than that, the Xuanhuang Microcosm will give birth to many wondrous items that can’t possibly appear in the outside world, and the spring water filled with the presence of life master has just ingested is one of them. The origin of this spring water is known as the Spring of Life. Not only can this water be used to create immortal pills, it can greatly increase their grade. At the same time, ingesting the water can heal any hidden wounds, so it possesses regenerative properties. However, the most valuable part is still the essence that has been nurtured for countless years within the water. The essence can extend lives, nourish the life source of people, and refine their souls. It can also heal wounds on the soul which makes it extremely valuable.”

Jian Chen could not help but marvel at Zi Ying's explanation. He had never thought that he had unknowingly come to a such treasury. From what Zi Ying said, every single item within this microcosm was a treasure. Not only did this include the useless-looking vegetation, it probably included an ordinary blade of grass and possibly even the soil.

At this moment, Jian Chen's gaze landed on the thumb-sized ball of liquid at the bottom of the pool. He asked, "Zi Ying is this the essence that's been nurtured by the spring water?"

Zi Ying only glanced at the liquid at the bottom of the pool before continuing to observe his surroundings. He said, "Correct, that's the essence, but most heavenly resources are split into different grades. The Spring of Life here is only the first grade of the Immortal Tier, which will produce spring water of the the lowest grade among all of the spring waters. It's useless to some stronger people. If master reaches the sixth layer of the Chaotic Body, the spring water and essence here would be completely useless."

Jian Chen immediately became disappointed when he heard that the spring water was useless to stronger people, but it was immediately replaced by delight when he heard the last part. He understood now. It was only the first grade of the Immortal Tier, but it was useful to experts below Saint Emperor. It was probably useless to those of the Origin realm.

Jian Chen immediately pulled out a container and eagerly began to collect the water after gaining an understanding of its value. Jian Chen then carefully stored away the thumb-sized essence at the bottom of the pool.

"Master, this Spring of Life is what this forest relies on, so you can't drain the whole thing," Qing Suo warned.

Jian Chen nodded. In the end, he only took half of all the water, which was over fifty liters in total. If it were not for the fact that his gourd was similar to a Space Ring and contained another space inside, he would probably have needed several of them to store all the water.

"Master, the closer you get to the center of the microcosm, the more heavenly resources you'll come across, and their quality will be even greater. We're only on the very outskirts right now. Let's travel further in. There'll definitely be even more good things inside, and even the Springs of Life will be of higher grades," said Zi Ying excitedly. Although there were very few items useful to him in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, that was not necessarily the same for Jian Chen.

"Zi Ying, will there be even more Springs of Life inside," Jian Chen suddenly asked as his face became rather blank.

"Correct. Although there are no Springs of Life in the outside world, they're equivalent to ordinary water sources here. They are not rare. The Springs of Life near the center of the microcosm can even form small lakes."

Jian Chen glanced at the palm-sized gourd in his hand. He had not purchased it himself but found it in a space ring owned by one of the experts that had died to his hands. Every single gourd contained around half a cubic meter of space, so they could store roughly five hundred liters. However, he only had around ten of gourds in total. Although he had a few more containers that could store liquids, the

amount of space was limited. Even if he combined all the containers, he could only store around ten thousand liters at most.

The Xuanhuang Microcosm contained many Springs of Life and the water in it was so precious that it was non-existent outside. Jian Chen obviously wanted to store enough of it in one stroke, and ten thousand liters was clearly not enough for him. After all, the worldly ebb in the sea realm only occurred once every ten thousand years.

#### Chapter 1254: Comprehension Tea Tree

Jian Chen's face immediately became rather bitter when he thought of the fact that he did not have enough containers. The Springs of Life were everywhere in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, but they were extremely rare in the outside world. Could he only take ten thousand liters with him since he had entered the Xuanhuang Microcosm by coincidence?

Although it sounded like a lot, there were just far too many people Jian Chen needed to think about on the Tian Yuan Continent. Ten thousand liters was nowhere near enough.

"Zi Ying, Qing Suo, I want to collect some of the spring water in this place and take it out, but I don't have enough storage for it at all. Do you have any good ideas?" With no other choice, Jian Chen could only seek help from the sword spirits. In most cases, heavenly resources needed to be stored carefully through a special method, and he did not understand the spring water, so he obviously could not think of a better idea.

"Then do this, Master. Gather some of the soil in this place and use it to create pools in the artifact space. You can load the spring water into those pools," Qing Suo immediately responded.

A sliver of surprise appeared in Jian Chen's eyes. He asked, "Does that work? Won't it affect the efficacy of the spring water?"

Qing Suo giggled and sweetly answered, "There's no need for you to worry, master. The water's efficacy will not be affected for at least ten years. Once master leaves the microcosm, you'll have plenty of time to find even more containers to store the spring water, but all of them must be wooden.

Jian Chen completely stopped worrying with that. He did not need to worry about the fact that the containers needed to be wooden. All he needed was to pass down a single message when he returned to the Tian Yuan Continent and the Flame Mercenaries along with the Bloodsword sect would be able to help him find a large number of wooden storage items.

Afterward, Jian Chen immediately began to collect some of the Xuanhuang Microcosm's soil. He sent all of it into the artifact space and got the several dozen elites of the Flame Mercenaries in there to create pools to store spring water.

Zi Ying glanced at the corpses of the two beasts and said, "Master, you can collect the corpses of the Xuanhuang beasts as well. Since these beasts have grown up in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, their flesh is extremely nutritious to cultivators. They will bring many great benefits if their meat is consumed over a long period of time."



With that, Jian Chen collected the two corpses as well before strolling through the forest. After confirming there was nothing valuable left, the two of them headed off. They traveled in the direction the sword spirits provided, heading to the central region.

The Xuanhuang Microcosm was filled with various wondrous treasures, but almost all the good items gathered near the center. There were very few items on the outskirts.

Since they couldn't stay in this place for very long, the two of them traveled very quickly to save time. After entering the Xuanhuang Microcosm, the sword spirits maintained their human form above Jian Chen's head, moving along with him. The task of looking for treasures along the way fell to them. After all, their knowledge and experience was incomparable to Jian Chen. Many heavenly resources seemed ordinary and did not stand out in any aspect, but their value would be incalculable. Jian Chen would not necessarily recognize them even if they were placed right before him, so he needed a guide like the sword spirits.

After traveling for another several hundred kilometers, a small hill gradually appeared before Jian Chen and Tie Ta. It was filled with wondrous flowers and the fragrance they gave off lingered in the air several dozen kilometers away. It was a faint but lovely smell.

Jian Chen smelled the unique fragrance from far away and subconsciously sucked in a deep breath. He immediately felt at ease and reinvigorated, as if his head had cleared up a lot at that moment. A light, joyful feeling filled him all over.

"These flowers can't be any regular flowers for them to have such great effects on Saint Kings," Jian Chen praised from the bottom of his heart. The Xuanhuang Microcosm really was littered with treasures.

The two of them arrived at the hill very quickly. The whole place was filled with various flowers. Jian Chen had never seen a single one of them before, so he obviously could not name them.

Now that he was in the sea of flowers, the fragrance was becoming heavier and heavier. It slowly entered Jian Chen's body through his nostrils, and he felt intoxicated. It felt like all his pores had opened up and the foul gases contained within him had all been released. Even though that was not really the case, the fragrance made him feel such a wondrous thing.

"These flowers are known as Heaven-connecting Flowers. Their fragrance can help you concentrate and refine things. If you cultivate in a place where a lot of these flowers are planted, not only can they refine the energy within you, they can suppress your inner demons, providing you with a smooth path for cultivation and your demons will not affect you," Zi Ying explained to Jian Chen.

"I want to take all these flowers away and then plant some at the Changyang clan and in Flame City," Jian Chen immediately made up his mind. He understood extremely well just how valuable these flowers were.

Qing Suo rolled her eyes at Jian Chen when she heard him. She giggled, "Master, these flowers aren't easy to plant. They can only survive in the soil of the Xuanhuang Microcosm, and they need to be watered by the water from Springs of Life. The spring water appears naturally in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, but they're a consumable in other places. If master really does plan on planting these

flowers in all those places, master'll need at least several thousand liters of spring water to water them so that they can survive."

Jian Chen secretly became speechless. Providing the soil for the flowers was no problem, but he could not afford the water. However, Jian Chen did not want to let go of the flowers with how beneficial they were to cultivating. He did not take them all. Instead, he dug away several dozen square meters of flowers to replant in the artifact space. He even removed a lot of the soil in the surroundings just in case.

Even though it was just a few dozen square meters of flowers, he needed at least a few liters of spring water to support them every month.

At this moment, Zi Ying's eyes suddenly froze. He stared at the extremely-obscure tree that grew at the top of the hill and cried out, "That's a Comprehension Tea Tree. I never thought that we'd come across one so quickly. Master, the tea that you make with the leaves of the Comprehension Tea Tree is extremely precious. Ingesting the tea can assist people in comprehending the ways. Even in our former world, a few leaves from trees of higher grade would cause many experts to fight until they were bloodied and bruised. Master, if you have the assistance of the tea leaves, you'll be able to reach the first realm of the Way of the Sword in the shortest time possible once you forge the Azulet swords."

#### Chapter 1255: Class 8 Xuanhuang Beast

Jian Chen's gaze immediately landed on the highest point of the small hill, on the extremely obscure tree. His eyes immediately began to burn with desire. He did not even need to think about how great and valuable the tea leaves would be since they could help him comprehend the Way of the Sword.

Jian Chen used the Illusory Flash as he shot toward the highest point at an extremely fast speed. He was a blur. He was not far away from the tree, so he arrived right before it in a moment. There was actually a pool of water near the tree, and it was filled with green spring water. Both its size and depth exceeded the Spring of Life Jian Chen had come across in the small forest before.

However, Jian Chen did not care at all despite finding a much larger Spring of Life. He did not even glance at it, only noticing its existence from the corner of his eye. Currently, the focus of his eyes was the Comprehension Tea Tree. That was where he gathered all his attention.

The tree was only a meter tall, but it was extremely sturdy. It possessed a thick layering of bark that did not match with its height and many branches. However, there were only eighty-one leaves scattered across the whole tree. On each leaf, there were eighty-one veins. These veins seemed to have grown naturally without a specified pattern, but with a close observation, they seemed to fuse and resonate with the world, like they possessed the infinite truths of the world.

Jian Chen stared at the veins of the leaves, and gradually, his attention was drawn into them. In that moment, he seemed to have seen the pitch-black cosmos as the complicated and profound truths of the world flashed through his head. Vaguely, he felt like he had understood something, seen something, and grasped something.

However, this feeling only lasted for a very short amount of time. When Jian Chen returned to his senses, he immediately discovered that the feeling just then had completely vanished without a trace. He was still the same, having not understood or grasped anything.

Jian Chen gasped. The Comprehension Tea Tree sure was extraordinarily wonderful. Just by staring at the veins of a leaf, he had experienced something like that, as if he was about to comprehend the truths of the world. If he drank the tea made from the leaves of the tree like the Azulet sword spirits had said, wouldn't the effect increase by several fold?

On the Tian Yuan Continent, Heaven Saint Masters needed to comprehend the mysteries of the world to reach Saint Ruler. Advancing to Saint King or even Saint Emperor, required the comprehension of the mysteries of the world as well. It was just that the comprehension required was on whole different levels.

Among the three thousand great ways, the mysteries of the world comprehended by Saint Rulers, Saint Kings, and even Saint Emperors were all a way. Their rough control over space and the ability to use Spatial Force was a way as well, and Saint Tier Battle Skills also belonged to one of the ways. This was even the case for the five realms of the Way of the Sword. Not only could the tea leaves allow Jian Chen to comprehend the first realm of the Way of the Sword as quickly as possible, they were also beneficial to the cultivators on the Tian Yuan Continent as well. The tea leaves could assist them in comprehending the mysteries of the world.

Clearly, Jian Chen understood this, and he immediately became extremely excited. Although the spring water and flowers he had obtained were unbelievable treasures, they were nothing compared to the Comprehension Tea Tree.

At this moment, Jian Chen felt the ground beneath his feet tremble. Soon afterward, soil was suddenly kicked into the air several dozen meters away, revealing a hole that was a meter wide. A three-meter-long, tiger-like Xuanhuang beast that was completely pitch-black with a single horn on its forehead leaped out. Its scarlet eyes shone with aggression as it stared fixedly at Jian Chen. It was filled with hostility and a powerful presence radiated from its body.

Jian Chen stared at the Xuanhuang beast that had suddenly appeared, and he felt slightly surprised. It had actually already reached the level of a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King. However, it lacked intelligence and the abilities of Saint Kings, only possessing the instincts of a beast, so it only had the battle prowess of a Third Heavenly Layer Saint King at most. But since it was a Xuanhuang beast born in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, even a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King would need tremendous effort to slay it with the toughness of its body.

Even though that was the case, the beast was still abnormally powerful; at the very least, Saint Emperors that came from the outside world would not even be able to flee before it, unless they were like Jian Chen and Tie Ta, whose strengths were not restricted.

The Xuanhuang beast pounded forward dexterously and immediately transformed into a blur, rushing over from several dozen meters away and arriving between Jian Chen and the Comprehension Tea Tree. It constantly growled with deep rumble.

Jian Chen understood what was happening when he saw what it did. Almost every region in the microcosm with life was protected by a few Xuanhuang beasts. Just like the small forest he had passed through earlier, it was the same with this hill covered in various vegetation, and clearly, the hill where he stood was the territory of this Xuanhuang beast. It was just that this beast was stronger than the two from before.

The Xuanhuang beast gave a deep growl in warning once again as it constantly raked one of its front paws against the ground. It held a stance that seemed like it was about to launch an attack, warning Jian Chen to leave. With its bestial instincts, it could clearly sense that Jian Chen was not easy to deal with, which was why it did not attack him as soon as it had seen him.

Jian Chen coldly smiled. He needed to obtain the Comprehension Tea Tree in front of him. He would not give up on it even if the Xuanhuang beast was at the level of Saint Emperors, let alone a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King.

Jian Chen drew his Emperor Armament from his Space Ring unhurriedly. Stabbing out, a sword Qi a finger wide immediately shot out, striking the beast's head. It left behind a small gash.

The bodies of Xuanhuang beasts were extremely tough. Jian Chen's casual strike had made it bleed, but the small injury was basically nothing to it. However, it had become furious because of Jian Chen's attack. It roared before leaping toward Jian Chen with a wild gust of wind.

Chapter 1256: Killing the Beast and Obtaining the Leaves

The bodies of Xuanhuang beasts were extremely tough. Jian Chen's casual strike had made it bleed, but the small injury was basically nothing to it. However, it had become furious because of Jian Chen's attack. It roared before leaping toward Jian Chen with a wild gust of wind.

Jian Chen did not continue to attack when he saw the Xuanhuang beast lunge over. He gently kicked off the ground with the tip of his foot and drifted back as quickly as the Xuanhuang beast, softly creating a beautiful curve in the air like a falling leaf as he landed away from the hill.

When Jian Chen landed back on the ground, he was already several hundred meters away from the hill. However, he did not stop because of that. He kicked off with the tip of his foot again and began to fly back extremely quickly.

The Xuanhuang beast had become aggravated when Jian Chen had injured it. It pursued him without rest and constantly roared. However, it was unable to get within ten meters of Jian Chen. Its speed was actually exactly the same as Jian Chen's speed, making it difficult for it to get any closer.

After all, the Xuanhuang beasts did not have any control over the mysteries of the world. They could not use Spatial Force to move faster.

Jian Chen continued to back off as he pulled the beast away. He came to a stop five kilometers from the hill while staring at the Xuanhuang beast with shining eyes. The beast did not seem to be a Class 8 vicious beast in his eyes. Instead, it appeared to be an extremely precious Class 8 Monster Core.

Tie Ta stood in the sea of flowers on the hill several kilometers away. He glanced at Jian Chen before losing interest. He continued to sniff the flowers in a bent over position. He closed his eyes as he greedily breathed in the heavy fragrance. He seemed to be intoxicated.

A sword Qi flashed to life several kilometers away from the hill. Jian Chen was already embroiled in a great battle with the Class 8 Xuanhuang beast. The Emperor Armament in his hands glowed bright. Its snow-white blade was like a mirror, reflecting its surroundings.

Swish!

Jian Chen stabbed out extremely quickly. With a flash of white light, the Emperor Armament shot out like a bolt of lightning, shooting toward the beast's head.

At the same time, the Xuanhuang beast launched its own attack on Jian Chen. The attack was simple and concise, lacking any abilities. It opened its large mouth and bit at Jian Chen's weapon.

Ding! As if it was a clash of metal, Jian Chen's Emperor Armament was tightly gripped by the beast's sharp teeth. The toughness of its jaw was unimaginable.

The Xuanhuang beast forcefully twisted its head after it had gotten a hold of Jian Chen's Emperor Armament in attempt to snap it. However, Emperor Armaments were left behind by Saint Emperors, so no matter how hard the beast tried, it could not break the blade since the sword was even tougher than its jaws. Its teeth failed to leave a single mark on the Emperor Armament.

The Xuanhuang beast seemed to have understood that it could not break Jian Chen's Emperor Armament, so it simply yanked the weapon away. However, Jian Chen stood like a sword as he held onto the Emperor Armament. No matter how hard the beast tried, it was unable to make Jian Chen take a simple step, but web-like cracks quickly spread out in all directions with his feet at the center. They reached several kilometers away.

The Class 8 Xuanhuang beast possessed shocking strength, but Jian Chen knew many skills. He stood there as if his feet were rooted to the ground, redirecting the force that the Xuanhuang beast exerted on him into the ground. He achieved an effect where he seemed to be connected to the ground. It was impossible for the Xuanhuang beast to be Jian Chen's opponent with just its bodily strength.

Jian Chen sighed inside. If the beast in front of him possessed intelligence, killing it would take some effort, but it just happened to lack that. All it possessed was great strength that could only follow its bestial instincts, so dealing with it was easy. Suddenly, Jian Chen's gaze grew cold, and he suddenly channeled some energy through his sword-wielding hand. He raised the beast, which was still biting the blade, high up in the air. He quickly spun in a circle a few times before smashing it against the ground. It created a huge crater, but the beast's jaws remained tightly locked around the weapon.

Jian Chen arrived before it with a single step. He raised his foot high up into the air before viciously stopping on the Xuanhuang beast's head. The force was abnormally great, burying the beast's head deep into the soil below.

Roar! The Xuanhuang beast was angered by Jian Chen's stomp, so it produced an earth-shaking roar. It finally let go of the Emperor Armament as it bit at Jian Chen's foot.

Jian Chen coldly smiled. He avoided the huge mouth of the beast as he coated the Emperor Armament with a layer of Chaotic Force, taking advantage of its attack to stab the beast in the head. This time, Jian Chen felt an even greater resistance. The beast's head was unbelievably tough. Jian Chen believed that even steel that had been forged countless times would not be as tough as this beast's head.

This was because Jian Chen could split any type of steel, no matter how great, into two with a simple stroke of his blade like a hot knife through butter. However, Jian Chen had to use a lot of force, including Chaotic Force, on the Xuanhuang beast's head, and he was only able to stab half of the sword in, just happening to reach the center of the beast's head.

Jian Chen did not give the Xuanhuang beast the chance to struggle one final time. Sword Qi formed from Chaotic Force surged from the Emperor Armament, reducing the head of the beast into a mess in a single moment. The Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King Xuanhuang beast died in the end without even being able to let out a miserable wail.

Jian Chen found a thumb-sized energy crystal within the beast's body. Only after sensing the powerful and energetic ripples of energy did he nod in satisfaction. The energy within the crystal was equivalent to a Class 8 Monster Core.

Class 8 Monster Cores were extremely rare on the Tian Yuan Continent. Only the Gilligan clan was in possession of one or two Class 8 Magical Beasts.

#### Chapter 1257: Reconstruction Gel

After removing the energy crystal from the Xuanhuang beast's corpse, Jian Chen tossed the carcass into his Space Ring. He had obtained a Class 7 and 8 Monster Core in less than half a day after coming here, which delighted him very much. At the same time, he believed that there would definitely be even more Class 7 and 8 Xuanhuang beasts as he progressed further into the depths. That way, he would be able to obtain more and more of these energy crystals. He might even be able to break through to the fourth layer using the energy crystals from the Xuanhuang Microcosm.

Although Jian Chen had managed to increase his chaotic neidan from the size of a chicken egg to the size of a fist and reached the peak of the third layer back in the whirlpool of energy, it did not increase his battle prowess at all. It only made the Chaotic Force he could store in his dantian reach to a limit. Only by breaking through and reaching the fourth layer could his strength increase.

Jian Chen returned to the hill. His battle with the Class 8 Xuanhuang beast was extremely short, having ended in less than a minute. Tie Ta remained in the sea of flowers. He was intoxicated by the fragrance so much that he could not return to himself.

Jian Chen glanced at Tie Ta from quite far away and did not disturb him. He knew that Tie Ta was no weaker than him right now, but the matters he had experienced and the heavenly resources he had come across were nowhere near as plentiful. The fragrance of the Heaven-connecting Flowers was extremely attractive to someone who had not come across various heavenly resources before, let alone Tie Ta who had rarely ever come across any of them. This was why Tie Ta's immunity for the flowers was not as great as his own.

Jian Chen arrived in front of the Comprehension Tea Tree and was about to begin collecting the leaves. The reason why he had fought the Xuanhuang beast five kilometers away was because he was afraid that the ripples of battle would damage the tree. He did not want such a valuable Comprehension Tea Tree to be destroyed by his own carelessness.

"Master, the Comprehension Tea Leaves are rather different from regular heavenly resources. You must not use your hands to touch the leaves when you collect them. You must use their branches instead. At the same time, you cannot use jade boxes to store them. It would be best if you used wooden boxes created from the trees that naturally grow in the Xuanhuang Microcosm," Zi Ying warned Jian Chen. He was afraid that Jian Chen would store the tea leaves like any other heavenly resource and either ruin its quality as a result or destroy them entirely.

Jian Chen immediately used the Emperor Armament to chop down a 30-centimeter-wide tree nearby. The trees in the Xuanhuang Microcosm were extremely tough. Jian Chen needed to swing the sword several times to cut through the tree that was only as thick as his waist. Afterward, he hollowed out a piece of wood and created a simple and extremely rough-looking box before returning to the location of Comprehension Tea Tree. He gently snapped off a few branches of the tree and used them as chopsticks, removing the leaves one by one.

The leaves of the Comprehension Tea Tree took an extremely long time to grow. They would only grow back after ten thousand years. However, this also meant that basically every time the worldly ebb descended, the trees would be covered in leaves again, so Jian Chen did not hold back. He removed all eighty-one leaves on the tree and carefully stored them in his wooden box before sealing it up with self-crafted wooden nails.

“Master, these Comprehension Tea Leaves are only of the first grade of the Immortal Tier. They’re the lowest quality in the entire Xuanhuang Microcosm. You’ll definitely come across trees of higher quality as you head further into the depths. Different quality leaves need to be stored separately, so it’s best if you make a few more boxes,” Qing Suo explained to Jian Chen.

As a result, Jian Chen made a few more simple boxes from the remaining wood, around a dozen just in case. Every single one of them was around half the size of his body, so they could easily store several hundred tea leaves.

Jian Chen originally planned to take the tree with him and plant in the outside world, but he could only give up on that idea after he learned from the Azulet sword spirits that the tree could only grow within the Xuanhuang Microcosm, and it would immediately wilt if it left the realm. Clearly, Comprehension Tea Trees could not be planted like the Heaven-connecting Flowers.

In the end, Jian Chen left behind the bare Comprehension Tea Tree. It stood all by itself on top of the hill. Although its trunk was filled with vigor, there was not a single leaf left. It seemed like an old man who had all his hair plucked out.

Afterward, Jian Chen arrived before the Spring of Life several dozen meters away. The pool was much larger than the one he had come across in the small forest, and it contained several times more spring water as well, reaching over five hundred liters. A ball of essence sat at the bottom of the pool as well.

Jian Chen immediately pulled out several storage containers from his Space Ring to collect the spring water. He removed around two hundred and fifty liters, half of the total again. He obviously did not miss the essence either.

Jian Chen checked through the lair of the Xuanhuang beast after collecting the spring water, but he found nothing. He then called over Tie Ta to leave. He continued into the depths of the region by following the sword spirits’ directions.

But after traveling for ten kilometers, Jian Chen finally came across the other material that the sea goddess needed to reconstruct her body. It was a white substance the size of a fist and slightly transparent. It was soft to the touch and elastic, but it was extremely tough at the same time. Jian Chen was unable to rip it in half when he used all his force.

“Master, this is called Reconstruction Gel. It can reconstruct the bodies of people. It’s something extremely common in our former world, but we never thought that the sea goddess mentioned by master would understand the usages of this gel. She really has surprised us,” said Zi Ying.

Chapter 1258: Recurrence of the Nine-colored Clouds

Jian Chen immediately collected the Reconstruction Gel. Although it was extremely common in the former world of the sword spirits, it was probably something that would never appear on the Tian Yuan Continent.

“It’s just a pity that there’s only fist-sized amount of this gel. It’s nowhere near enough to reconstruct the sea goddess’ body. I’ll need to collect as much of this gel and essence from the Springs of Life as possible in the future,” Jian Chen mumbled to himself before continuing on his way with Tie Ta.

Back on the Tian Yuan Continent, Changyang Ba and Jian Chen’s mother, Bi Yuntian currently sat in the conference hall of the Changyang clan with several sagely old men in luxurious robes as they conversed.

Because Changyang Ba and Bi Yuntian had managed to give birth to an extremely impressive son, they had already become figures that could create a great sensation. Even though their strength was nothing on the Tian Yuan Continent, the respect they deserved even exceeded the kings of the eight great kingdoms. Before the two of them, even the Saint King ancestors of ancient clans needed to show some respect and lower themselves to be on friendly terms. They dared not to offend them.

The sagely old men that currently spoke with them were the Saint Rulers of the closest ancient clan to the Gesun Kingdom. They had come under the orders of their ancestor with precious gifts to visit the patriarch of the clan and the fourth madam.

Saint Rulers were all hermit experts on the Tian Yuan Continent. It was common for them to not appear within a century, and some people could even go their entire lives without catching a glimpse of a Saint Ruler’s glory. There were no Saint Rulers that watched over any organizations in the Gesun Kingdom apart from the Changyang clan. If it was before, Changyang Ba would have needed to nod and bow while speaking carefully. He would have been fearful of offending a Saint Ruler with just one wrong word and drawing disaster upon his clan.

But now, not only did the two of them stand on equal ground with Saint Rulers of ancient clans, able to converse without any fear, they could even show dissatisfaction. That was how glorious and prideful they had become.

It had been more than once that they felt prideful for their impressive son, because they both knew very well that the status of the clan and their own glory was all brought on by their son, Jian Chen, himself.

If they did not have Jian Chen, the current Changyang clan would probably be so insignificant that they would have been trampled by the Huayun sect, which only had two Heaven Saint Masters.

“Patriarch, madam Bi, we shall bid farewell. Our ancestor of the Yunhe clan has personally told us to tell the patriarch and madam that you are welcome to visit our clan any time. We will definitely welcome you with the greatest etiquette. We hope that we can be on good terms with your great clan and the esteemed young master forever and become the greatest of friends.” The Saint Rulers from the ancient clans stood up and clasped their hands at the couple. They spoke extremely politely.



Changyang Ba and Bi Yuntian hurried to return the gesture, but they were completely calm since experts of ancient and hermit clans had constantly visited them over the past few years. They had received Saint Rulers countless times, and even the Saint King ancestor of the Tianmu clan had paid them a personal visit.

At this very moment, a powerful ripple of energy suddenly emerged from the back courtyards of the Changyang clan. Even with the formations and barriers, it was not concealed.

The Saint Rulers who were about to leave immediately became surprised. They were shocked by the powerful ripple of energy. It was just far too powerful. With their understanding, even Saint Rulers at the Ninth Heavenly Layer could not emit such powerful ripples of energy.

“Patriarch, madam Bi, may I ask what this is about?” One of the old men asked out of curiosity.

Changyang Ba and Bi Yuntian looked at each other. They had obviously felt the ripple of energy come from the back courtyard, but that had already become the forbidden grounds of the Changyang clan. Other than their son, no one in the clan could casually set foot there, so they had no idea what was happening there.

“Look at the sky outside!” Suddenly, one of the Saint Rulers cried out as he pointed at the sky outside the hall.

Everyone immediately shifted their gazes and saw that a layer of colorful clouds had already flooded the deep blue sky in a silent manner. There was a total of seven colors.

“They are seven-colored rainbow clouds. It’s the sign of someone reaching Saint King. Someone’s broken through to Saint King!”

“Is there really another person breaking through to Saint King in the Changyang clan?”

The Saint Rulers of the Yunhe clan all cried out as unhideable admiration appeared plastered across their faces. In this era that lacked Saint Emperors, Saint Kings had basically become the greatest experts of the continent, existences that stood at the apex.

Even though it was just breaking through to Saint King, just overcoming the gap between Saint Ruler and Saint King made reaching the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Saint King and standing on the apex of the continent a possibility.

The rainbow clouds had appeared silently and covered a radius of several hundred kilometers. Even the Saint Kings in Mercenary City that was a million kilometers away could sense it.

The new grand elder of Mercenary City hovered above the land as he stared in the direction of the Gesun Kingdom in interest. He mumbled, “From today on, another Saint King has appeared on the Tian Yuan Continent. I just wonder who it is.”

The four Imperial Protectors of the Qinhuang Kingdom silently hovered above the four Qin Heaven Palaces as they stared silently in the direction of the Gesun Kingdom. Admiration filled all of their eyes.

Every Saint Ruler wished that they could become a Saint King one day and truly stand at the apex of the continent. Unfortunately, there were many people who would end up stuck at the Ninth Heavenly Layer, and there were only a few who could truly overcome the barrier of becoming a Saint King.

Aside from them, all the Saint Rulers who had sensed that someone was about to become a Saint King hovered high up in the air in various places across the continent. They all stared blankly at the horizon.

A long whistle rang out from the back courtyard of the Changyang clan. A figure shot into the sky with lightning-like speed and bathed in endless light. It was an extremely impressive sight.

The figure was a beautiful woman. Even though she seemed to have reached middle age, she was still extremely pretty. She was Changyang Zu Yeyun.

She had been stuck at the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler for many years already. Her mental state had been incomplete because she was always thinking about her son, Changyang Zu Yunkong, which was why she never broke through. Not only had her son returned safely, even the seal in his head had been removed, so her greatest dream of many years had been fulfilled. Now that her mental state was complete, she had finally become a Saint King.

At this moment, a Space Gate suddenly appeared. Changyang Zu Yunxiao, who had been tasked with watching over the royal palace of the Gesun Kingdom, rushed back as soon as possible. The gaze he used to look at Changyang Zu Yeyun was filled with excitement. Not only did reaching Saint King bring on an increase in strength, it also brought an increase of life. Saint Kings could live longer.

“Another Saint King’s appeared for the Changyang clan.” The Saint Rulers from the Yunhe clan all sighed emotionally.

However, only a short while after the seven-colored clouds had appeared for Changyang Zu Yeyun when she became a Saint King, they rapidly dispersed. Soon after, rainbow clouds of even brighter colors suddenly filled the sky, stretching even further. This time, the clouds engulfed the entire continent, and they had increased to nine colors instead of the seven from earlier. The nine colors merged together to form the most beautiful scene ever. The clouds dyed the entire world with different colors and blotted out the sun.

The joy on Changyang Zu Yeyun and Changyang Zu Yunxiao’s faces immediately froze. They stared blankly at the nine-colored clouds as disbelief filled their faces.

Changyang Zu Xiao appeared silently in the sky. He also stared at the clouds in shock as his expression became extremely mixed.

#### Chapter 1259: The Third Saint Emperor

“Nine-colored clouds. It’s actually the nine-colored rainbow clouds. Has another person reached Saint Emperor on the Tian Yuan Continent?” Several Saint Rulers flew out of the forbidden grounds of the Changyang clan and wondered aloud while staring at the clouds that stretched across the continent.

These Saint Rulers were all people who had broken away from the protector Changyang clan with Changyang Zu Xiao and Changyang Zu Yunxiao. All of them were members of the Zu branch, and any single one of them would possess terrifying seniority among the Changyang clan of Lore City. All of them were Jian Chen’s great-grandfathers.

Staring blankly at the rainbow clouds in the sky, Changyang Zu Yeyun revealed an extremely interesting expression. Today should have been the day where she celebrated reaching Saint King. The descent of the seven-colored clouds would have informed the entire world that another Saint King had been born

on the continent. However, she had never thought that as soon as the clouds that celebrated her breakthrough appeared, they would be completely engulfed by nine-colored rainbow clouds. Changyang Zu Yeyun had no clue how to describe how she felt because of this.

“Houston reached Saint Emperor only recently, having become the second one of the Tian Yuan Continent. I never thought that another Saint Emperor would appear on the Tian Yuan Continent so soon. This really is unbelievable. Is breaking through to Saint Emperor really that easy now?” Changyang Zu Yunxiao looked at the sky as he asked with mixed feelings.

Changyang Zu Xiao gently sighed, “From now on, our Tian Yuan Continent will have three Saint Emperors. I just wonder who the person who has broken through is. Does he belong to the protector clans? Or does he belong to some other organization? Or maybe he’s even an the independent cultivator?”

“Now that our Tian Yuan Continent has three Saint Emperors, our absolute strength is on par to the Beast God Continent. It doesn’t matter who he is, he’ll increase the strength of our continent at the very least. Now if the Beast God Continent tries to invade the Tian Yuan Continent again, they better think it over properly,” said Changyang Zu Yeyun. Although her glory for reaching Saint King had been overshadowed by a Saint Emperor, she did not become annoyed at all. Instead, she became rather happy.

If the seven-colored rainbow clouds Changyang Zu Yeyun’s breakthrough to Saint King had lead to a few emotional sighs among all the Saint Kings, the appearance of the nine-colored rainbow clouds had thrown the entire continent into a commotion again. It shocked all the Saint Kings, and they experienced both admiration and envy inside.

Saint Emperor was a realm that was unreachable in the eyes of all Saint Rulers, but it was the realm that all Saint Kings strived for on the Tian Yuan Continent. It was just that breaking through was extremely difficult. The continent, with its enormous population, had given birth to many geniuses. Reaching the Great Perfection of Saint King for them was no difficulty, but reaching Saint Emperor was virtually impossible.

Just when the grand elder in the air was about leave Mercenary City, he discovered that the rainbow clouds in the sky had dissipated and had been replaced by nine-colored rainbow clouds.

The grand elder obviously knew what the nine-colored clouds represented extremely well. He immediately became stunned as he stared at the clouds blankly. He remained rather dazed for quite some time.

It had been less than half a year since Houston had become a Saint Emperor, yet another Saint Emperor had appeared on the Tian Yuan Continent now. This made it rather difficult for Saint Kings, who were used to Saint Emperors only appearing once every thousand years or several thousand years, to accept.

The space around the grand elder began to ripple, and in just a few seconds, several dozen experts had already appeared around him. None of them were weaker than Saint Rulers, and there were even several Saint Kings sandwiched between them.

All the experts of Mercenary City had been drawn out by the descent of the nine-colored clouds.

“Another person’s become a Saint Emperor. I wonder who it is...”

“In three days, we will know who has become a Saint Emperor...”

Two of the Saint Kings murmured after feeling stunned for quite some time.

All the Saint Kings from the three great empires, protector clans, and ancient clans emerged from seclusion, including some independent Saint Kings who dwelled in desolate mountains.

An extremely run-down thatched hut stood silently in an ancient forest that was always enshrouded by mist. The sounds of magical beasts would constantly ring out, including deafening roars that would reverberate across the sky from time to time. These were the roars of Class 6 Magical Beasts, and there were more than just one of them. However, all of these magical beasts gathered around the thatched hut. Even though the hut sat exactly where the energy of the world was most abundant in the forest, none of the magical beasts dared to step a single foot closer. They maintained a distance of three thousand meters from the hut.

At this moment, an ordinary-looking old man covered with wrinkles and wearing coarse robes emerged from the hut. He looked at the sky as a gleam of light shone across his ancient eyes. However, he then deeply sighed, “I never thought that someone else would reach Saint Emperor so quickly. I’ve already been stuck at Great Perfection for several hundred years, and I don’t have much time left, but I still can’t break through. I wonder if I’ll have the chance to become a Saint Emperor...”

In the blink of an eye, three days passed. The nine-colored clouds remained in the sky, but an odd rippled spread across the land from far away.

Without any hesitation, all the Saint Kings ripped open space to create Space Gates to reach the origin of the ripple. Many of them wanted to know just who had become a Saint Emperor.

At this moment, a white-robed, middle-aged man sat on the tip of a sword-shaped mountain in an ancient mountain range several million kilometers away from Mercenary City. He radiated with an extremely vast presence, and an extremely terrifying energy pulsed from his body in an unstable manner. It would surge out of him from time to time, causing the space around him to violently shake.

Space Gates opened one after another several thousand meters away from him. From them emerged Saint Kings from everywhere. There were experts from Mercenary City, the three great empires, the ancient clans, the protector clans, and even some independent Saint Kings.

As soon as the people arrived there, their gazes landed on the middle-aged man who sat on the mountain peak. Many of them immediately revealed a different expression.

“It’s great elder Tian Jian...” A Saint King from Mercenary City immediately cried out.

Chapter 1260: Shocking Changes of Mercenary City

The Saint Kings from Mercenary City immediately became emotional while excitement appeared on their faces, because the person who had become a Saint Emperor this time was their great elder, Jian Chen!

“Fantastic, fantastic. Great elder Tian Jian has finally made a breakthrough in his final moments of his life and has become a Saint Emperor. He now possesses ten thousand years of life. Our Mercenary City finally has a Saint Emperor from now on.”

The Saint Kings from Mercenary City were completely overjoyed when they saw Tian Jian, who radiated with the presence of a Saint Emperor. From how they reacted, it was as if the person who had broken through was not Tian Jian but themselves.

However, the people of the protector clans became anguished. Other than the Saint Kings from the Pure Heart Pavilion and the Tyrant’s Blade School as well as Changyang Zu Yunxiao, Changyang Zu Yeyun, and Changyang Zu Xiao, who had hurried over from Gesun Kingdom, the Saint Kings of the seven other protector clans all revealed very ugly expressions.

It was definitely a major matter for Mercenary City now that Tian Jian had become a Saint Emperor, but this was not something most people from the protector clans wished to see. They wanted the Saint Emperor to belong to any of the protector clans other than Mercenary City.

This was because Mercenary City was in possession of a supreme divine hall. This divine hall had been left behind by Mo Tianyun in ancient times, and its toughness completely exceeded any divine hall on the Tian Yuan Continent, having reached an unimaginable level. Even Saint Emperors could not leave a single mark on the divine hall when they used their full strength, and probably only sovereign-like figures that had surpassed Saint Emperor and stepped into the Origin realm could smash through it.

Not only did the toughness of the divine hall make all Saint Emperors despair, it possessed something else that no other divine hall on the Tian Yuan Continent had, which was offensive capabilities. Not only could it repel any attacks from Saint Emperors, it could automatically attack as well.

Many years ago, a great battle had once erupted between Mercenary City and the ten protector clans. In that battle, all the protector clans worked together to beat Mercenary City into a retreat. In the final stage, a Saint Emperor from Mercenary City used the supreme divine hall and managed to slay over ten Saint Emperors from the protector clans all by himself. This matter shook the entire continent and consolidated Mercenary City’s unmovable status on the continent.

In the eyes of the protector clans, the divine hall of Mercenary City was even more terrifying than the barrier spirit. This was because the barrier spirit only guarded Mercenary City. It was a defensive force and would never launch an offensive without reason. However, the divine hall was different. Once Mercenary City possessed a Saint Emperor, they would have the power to move the divine hall to anywhere. Even using it to attack the protector clans was completely possible.

Even during the age when all ten protector clans were glorious and possessed Saint Emperors, Mercenary City was invincible through the divine hall. Yet, the protector clans were just a shell of their former selves now, lacking a single Saint Emperor. Even if they used all the heritage they had gathered over the years, they would not be able to rival the divine hall of Mercenary City with their puny strength.

Although they knew that it was impossible for Mercenary City to act against the protector clans, their balance had been broken now. They needed to take precautions.

At this moment, Tian Jian slowly withdrew his vast presence. Even the energy that rippled in him was erased. He controlled the energy that had suddenly erupted from reaching Saint Emperor earlier. Soon

afterward, he slowly opened his eyes. They were extremely nonchalant-looking but also dark and profound, like ink.

“Congratulations on becoming a Saint Emperor, great elder Tian Jian!”

As soon as Tian Jian stood up, all the Saint Kings who watched from afar came up to congratulate him. Their voices were filled with deep admiration. The other Saint Kings had no particular thoughts on Tian Jian becoming a Saint Emperor since a Saint Emperor in Mercenary City did not affect them at all. Only the Saint Kings of the ten protector clans did. Even if Mercenary City did not have a Saint Emperor like before, these Saint Kings were still vast existences that could not be provoked.

The Saint Kings of the protector clans came up to congratulate him as well. Although many of them did not wish to have a Saint Emperor appear for Mercenary City, they still needed to lower their heads.

Several million kilometers away in Mercenary City, the commotion caused by the clouds had completely subsided, but there were still many people who discussed the legends regarding the nine-colored clouds. There were even more people who discussed just who had become a Saint Emperor, what his background was, and so on.

Probably no one among the lowest mercenaries and small clans knew what the nine-colored clouds represented, but it was no secret to most people in Mercenary City. This was because a lot of people who gathered in the city came from hermit or even ancient clans. They had all heard the legend regarding the rainbow clouds that accompanied breakthroughs to Saint Ruler and beyond. As a result, a few people could be heard discussing about how some great person had reached Saint Emperor in the inns and streets of the city. Some said that this new Saint Emperor came from the ten protector clans, others said they came from an ancient clan, and there were even some others who said that they were independent.

In short, no one had thought that it was the great elder of Mercenary City since they all believed that the breakthrough would have occurred within the city if it was a member of Mercenary City. All the Saint Kings of Mercenary City had basically left the city to learn who had become the Saint Emperor, so clearly, the Saint Emperor was not a part of Mercenary City.

Just as everyone was energetically discussing the new Saint Emperor, the city suddenly began to shake violently, as if a great earthquake was happening. The ground shook a lot and many people had almost tripped from being caught off-guard.

“What’s this? What’s happening...”

“Earthquake! Earthquake! Mercenary City is going through an earthquake...”

“Bullsh\*t. What kind of place do you think Mercenary City is? Don’t forget that it’s guarded by the powerful barrier spirit, so how can an earthquake happen here...”

Everyone immediately became greatly shocked by the quaking city. Many of them ran out onto the streets frantically and glanced around in doubt and surprise.

None of the people in Mercenary City were weak. Let alone a mere earthquake, they had even witnessed mountain-collapsing tsunamis that were even more terrifying than any earthquake. The

reason why they had all become so frantic over this sudden earthquake was because they were in no ordinary city. They were in Mercenary City.

They all understood that Mercenary City was protected by a powerful barrier. Since ancient times, the barrier had never been destroyed by anyone, which was why there was no exaggeration in calling Mercenary City the safest place on the continent. In all the years that the city had been guarded by the barrier, everything had been peaceful. No one had ever heard about an earthquake.

Rumble!

At this moment, a heavy sound rang out from the depths of the city. With the sound, the city began to violently tremble even more. The entire city now shook, and the trembling was so great that even a few Earth Saint Masters struggled to maintain their balance. Huge, thick cracks had appeared on the ground and were increasing, growing more and more dense until they became web-like, riddling all the streets and alleyways with fissures. Even quite a few of the structures in the city had been affected by the ripple and tiny cracks appeared in the corners before quickly spreading across the entire structure.