

Chaotic 1261

Chapter 1261: The Protective Barrier Disappears

“Everyone leave Mercenary City immediately...” A clear voice rang out from afar. It originated from a Heaven Saint Master who was in the city, and he yelled extremely loudly. His voice basically reached all of the city.

All the people in the city returned to their senses with that. They all looked at the rapidly-expanding cracks in the ground. No one dared to stay any longer in the city, all moving away. All of them moved as quickly as they could.

Ever since the city had been founded, it had always been peaceful, yet such a violent earthquake had actually occurred now. This was far too abnormal. Almost everyone sensed that some great change was about to happen.

Swish! With the whistling of wind, a Heaven Saint Master flew through the air coated by barely visible, azure-colored, wind-attributed Saint Force. He shot through the air as an azure streak of light, quickly flying to the outskirts.

“My god, that guy’s crazy. He’s actually flying in Mercenary City. Isn’t he afraid of the punishment from the barrier...”

“Even if he’s fleeing for his life, there’s no need to do that. Doesn’t he know that flight is forbidden in the city...”

“Flight is an ability that only the upper echelon of Mercenary City can enjoy, and none of them are weaker than Saint Rulers. Not only is this person a Heaven Saint Master, he’s not a member of Mercenary City either. He’s done for...”

“That Heaven Saint Master is going to be in trouble. Let’s see just what punishment he suffers next...”

Many people who fled sneered inside as they watched the Heaven Saint Master fly. Many of them were prepared to see the outcome of the Heaven Saint Master soon.

Among the people who fled, there were many Heaven Saint Master, but all of them had chosen to run on the ground. There was no one bold enough to fly in the city.

However, the people who were ready for a good show kept waiting, but not only did the flying Heaven Saint Master escape without any of the imagined punishments, he even flew out of the city in an extremely short amount of time.

“What’s this about? This Heaven Saint Master hasn’t suffered any punishment from the barrier. Are the rumors false...”

“No, it’s impossible for the rumors to be false. Ten years ago, I personally witnessed a Heaven Saint Master flying through the city become heavily injured by a bolt created by the barrier’s energy in the sky. Was that Heaven Saint Master some important member of Mercenary City? Is that why there was a special exception?” A black-robed old man asked in doubt. He was also a Heaven Saint Master, but he dared not to fly. He also ran quickly along the ground with everyone else.

“Everyone look, the barrier of the city has vanished.” Suddenly, an alarmed cry rang out from afar. Everyone raised their heads immediately after that, but when they saw the sky, all of their mouths hung agape as disbelief flooded their faces.

This was because the huge barrier that had always enveloped the city was rapidly fading. In less than five seconds, it had actually disappeared without a trace, despite existing for countless years without any accidents.

All the people sank inside when they saw this. This was an extremely horrible omen. Almost all of them could sense that some shocking changes were about to happen to the city, and as soon as they thought about that, everyone sped up a little. Without the threat of the barrier, many Heaven Saint Masters became fearless. They took to the sky as various streams of light.

At the same time, several dozen Saint Rulers hovered high in the air at the center of the city. They were extremely stern as they glanced between the vanished barrier and the trembling ground from time to time.

“What’s happening to our Mercenary City? Why has the protective barrier suddenly vanished, and why has such a great earthquake suddenly occurred?” A Saint Ruler involuntarily questioned. He stared at the huge cracks a palm wide that riddled the city. They all knew that the piece of earth that the city sat on had been protected by the barrier through all ages, causing the ground to become rock-hard. Even Saint Rulers could not leave a mark if they used everything they had, yet the ground had now been reduced to such a sorry state. All of them were left in disbelief.

“Quickly use a secret technique and contact the grand elder and everyone else,” a Saint Ruler commanded in a hurry. Although they were part of the upper echelon of the city, all of them were Saint Rulers. All the Saint Kings had left the city, so they could do nothing about the sudden changes with their mere strength as Saint Rulers.

All the Saint Kings remained gathered in the ancient mountain ranges where Tian Jian had become a Saint Emperor. They all congratulated him and asked for guidance in regards to Tian Jian’s experience of becoming a Saint Emperor.

The several Saint Kings from Mercenary City were all excited and smiled more brightly than anyone else. It was extremely significant for Mercenary City for Tian Jian to become a Saint King.

But at this moment, the grand elder’s face suddenly changed in a drastic way. He had received a message through a secret technique from Mercenary City and learned of the great changes.

The grand elder’s complexion immediately became extremely horrible. He turned to the Saint Kings beside him and said, “Something bad’s happened. Mercenary City has undergone an upheaving change. Elders, immediately head back to the city as soon as possible. We cannot waste any time at all.”

“Alright, we’ll hurry back immediately.” The Saint Kings from Mercenary City could see how severe the situation was from how the grand elder had lost his composure. Without any hesitation, they immediately constructed a Space Gate and hurried back.

The grand elder did not return with them. With a flash, he arrived by Tian Jian’s side and said through a communication technique, “Great elder, I’ve just received a message from Mercenary City. The city is

undergoing great changes. The protective barrier has vanished while the entire city is violently trembling. The ground has cracked and the city is in ruins.” The grand elder spoke extremely sternly. If he had not been certain that the person who sent him the message would not lie, he would be doubting the reality of the matter right now.

This was because this was an unprecedented event ever since the founding of the city.

Tian Jian’s expression changed as well because of what the grand elder had said. He could not help but think back to the matter Jian Chen had mentioned before, about how the tunnel to the World of Forsaken Saints had been sealed deep underneath the city and how an earthquake had already occurred back when he was grand elder. However, it had occurred and ended very quickly and did not cause too great of a commotion.

“Has the seal beneath Mercenary City been broken?” Tian Jian suddenly thought of this matter and his heart immediately sank. He heavily replied, “Grand elder, let’s return to the city immediately.” Before he had even finished speaking, Tian Jian began to construct a Space Gate, quickly stepping through it as he pulled the grand elder along.

“Everyone, please gather in Mercenary City immediately. I have some important matters to discuss with you all.” Just as the Space Gate was about to close, Tian Jian’s voice rang out, landing in all the ears of the Saint Kings present.

All of them looked at each other. They had been stunned by the abnormal actions of the Saint Kings from Mercenary City.

“Tian Jian and the Saint Kings of Mercenary City have left in such a hurry. Has something happened to the city?” A Saint King from an ancient clan asked in doubt.

“Mercenary City has always been guarded by the protective barrier that even Saint Emperors cannot smash through. In terms of defenses, even the protector clans cannot match up against them. It would be slightly reasonable if you said that something had happened to the protector clans, but it’s an absolute joke if you’re talking about Mercenary City,” a dignified old man in golden dragon robes chuckled. He was the ancestral emperor of the Felicity Empire and was extremely powerful. He was at the peak of the Eighth Heavenly Layer and about to reach the Ninth.

Quite a few people from the protector clans immediately became displeased by what the ancestral emperor had said, but none of them dared to say anything in response. This was because the ancestral emperor was correct. In terms of defensive measures, the protector clans were not on the same level as Mercenary City.

When they faced the sneak attacks from the experts of the Hundred Races, they were not even able to stop a small group of Saint Kings with just the strength of a single protector clan. On the other hand, Mercenary City had managed to block the attacks from all the invaders with just a barrier. Even the simultaneous attacks from several forbidden artifacts could not even shake the barrier, which was more than enough to see how terrifyingly tough the barrier was.

“Everyone, let’s gather in Mercenary City since great elder Tian Jian has invited us,” the ancestral emperor added at the end. He left with the two other Saint Kings from the Felicity Empire, heading to Mercenary City.

Chapter 1262: Gathering at Mercenary City

“It’s not like we have anything better to do. Let’s check out Mercenary City and see just what’s happened that’s caused these elders to leave in such a hurry. Plus, this is a personal invitation from great elder Tian Jian. Everyone needs to respect him. Don’t you think so?” A Saint King from the Potian sect of the ten protector clans said aloud as he glanced at the independent Saint Kings around him. Even before they had a Saint Emperor, Mercenary City vaguely stood supreme in regard to the protector clans. Now that they had a Saint Emperor, they were incomparable to the past, so even the protector clans needed to treat Mercenary City politely.

“Haha, sure. Great elder Tian Jian used to be a well-respected person on the Tian Yuan Continent, let alone now. I don’t think any of us present will turn down great elder Tian Jian’s invitation, and since he said he has something important to discuss before he left, it must be something significant. After all, I do trust that he’s not someone who likes to tell lies. You never know, the important matter that great elder Tian Jian might be wanting to speak to us about might just be his experience and knowledge of becoming a Saint Emperor,” a red-faced old man laughed aloud. He was one of the great elders from the Heaven’s Incense School. He also glanced at all the independent cultivators when he said that, clearly directing what he had said at them.

On the Tian Yuan Continent, regardless of the protector clans, ancient clans, or the three great empires, they all would never turn down an invitation from Mercenary City. After all, they were people with large organizations behind them and none of them wanted to offend Mercenary City, which basically reigned supreme. However, this was different for independent cultivators who belonged to no organization and were not bound or restricted by anything. They would hide all year round in desolate regions to cultivate. Among them, there were quite a few prideful and odd-mannered people who did not fear Mercenary City.

Many people present understood that the two Saint Kings had stepped forward to express their stance on Mercenary City through the words they had just spoken.

Afterward, all the Saint Kings from the ten protector clans, the ancient clans, the three empires, and so on ripped opened Space Gates and hurried away. All of them headed to Mercenary City.

Soon afterward, only the several dozen independent Saint Kings were present. They were indeed rather unwilling to follow through with Tian Jian’s invitation. They were used to living freely and acting as they wished without participating in the battles between any large organizations. Even if Tian Jian had said he had something important to discuss, many of them still believed that it had nothing to do with them.

However, after what the two Saint Kings from the Potian sect and Heaven’s Incense School had said, many of them immediately changed their minds. They were not afraid of offending Mercenary City since it was a famed superpower and would not hold a grudge against them over these small matters. What really changed their minds was what the Saint King from the Heaven’s Incense School had said.

Even though many of them understood that Tian Jian would never pass on his experience and knowledge of becoming a Saint Emperor to them, just the temptation of becoming a Saint Emperor was far too difficult to resist. Even though they knew it was impossible, they still grasped at that tiny amount of hope.

As a result, the independent Saint Kings hesitated slightly before all ripping open Space Gates as well, heading to Mercenary City.

Tian Jian and the Saint Kings of Mercenary City had all returned to the city. All of them sternly stared at the trembling ground with extremely ugly expressions.

The protective barrier of the city had vanished, and even the terrifying energy hidden within the ground had disappeared, making the ground become extremely fragile. Now, because of the violent trembling, it had already cracked. From a higher altitude, the ground of the entire city seemed like a huge spider web. The structures built on it were ruined or had collapsed, and the beautiful city had ceased to exist. It was in a disastrous state.

At this moment, the Saint Kings from the protector clans, the three empires, and the ancient clans all arrived in Mercenary City. As soon as they had emerged from their Space Gates, they became stunned by the drastic changes to the city. Disbelief filled all their faces, and they struggled to return to their senses even after quite a while.

Finally, a Saint King from a protector clan managed to snap back to his senses before everyone else. He secretly gasped and arrived beside Tian Jian. With his hands clasped, he asked, "Great elder Tian Jian, w- what has happened? Why has Mercenary City suddenly become like this?"

The Saint King had asked the question weighing on everyone's mind. Immediately, all the people looked at Tian Jian.

Tian Jian said nothing. He stared sternly at the ground beneath him as the light in his eyes flickered.

Boom! At this moment, another heavy sound reverberated from deep beneath Mercenary City. The ground began to shake even more as strands of terrifying energy, enough to make all the Saint Kings shiver, began to leak from the ground. Even though it was just strands of weak energy ripples, they had completely surpassed the level of Saint Emperors.

"What terrifying energy! Just what is beneath the ground?" A Saint King from an ancient clan asked with a sheet-white face. He could feel that he was as insignificant as an ant before a strand of one ripple of this energy, which made him shiver inside.

At this moment, an extremely powerful ripple of energy erupted from beneath the city. A three-meter-wide hole suddenly appeared on the cracked ground, and soon afterward, four figures quickly floated out surrounded by an extremely powerful energy. In the end, they were sent to Tian Jian's side, and the energy around them silently vanished.

The four of them were Ming Dong, Yang Ling, Changyang Zu Yunkong, and Huang Tianba, who had all been cultivating beneath the city.

All the Saint Kings stared at the four of them in surprise, as if they had just seen a ghost. None of them apart from Tian Jian had thought that three Saint Rulers and a Heaven Saint Master would be hiding in the depths of the city.

"W- who are you? Why have you been hiding beneath the city? Speak, what were you doing down there?" A Saint King of Mercenary City returned to his senses and immediately roared at them with a glare.

Tian Jian raised his hand to stop the expert who wanted to capture the four of them. He stared at them and asked, "Do you know what's happened down there?"

Ming Dong, Yang Ling, Changyang Zu Yunkong, and Huang Tianba were all confused as well. They had been cultivating all good and well underground, yet they were suddenly roused by Xiao Ling. Before they could understand what was going on, they were suddenly sent above ground, without any clue as to what had happened.

"Great elder, the four of them have managed to get beneath the city through some unknown method, and who knows what they've done. I'm thinking that the sudden changes of the city are directly connected to them. Please look into this, great elder," said a Saint King of Mercenary City in a heavy voice as he glared at the four of them with hostility evident in his eyes.

Tian Jian shook his head, "This has nothing to do with them. I may know a little as to why these changes have happened."

"What? The great elder knows the reason?" Another Saint King stared at Tian Jian in surprise.

At this moment, another several dozen Saint Kings appeared. The independent Saint Kings had all arrived and all became stunned by the ruined city. All of them stared at it blankly with shock plastered across their faces.

Tian Jian gazed at the people of the protector clans and asked in a heavy voice, "Everyone, do you still remember the matter that I had discussed with you when I invited you to Mercenary City several years ago?"

"Of course we remember. Great elder, was that actually true? Is there really a passage to another world sealed beneath the city? And that the other world is so powerful that just the number of people who have surpassed Saint Emperor exceeds ten?" A Saint King from a protector clan asked in a heavy voice. His complexion was horrible. All the people of the protector clans had heard that there was a seal beneath the city. However, the matter just seemed far too unrealistic. They all chose not to believe it before personally witnessing it, treating it as a baseless rumor.

However, they could not help but believe the story a little more now that the most powerful city on the continent had suffered such great changes.

"What? There's a passage seal beneath Mercenary City..."

"Just the number of people that has surpassed Saint Emperor exceeds ten? How is that possible..."

A few Saint Kings who had not heard of the matter before immediately revealed a different expression. They were all frightened by the power of the World of Forsaken Saints. There was only three Saint Emperors on the Tian Yuan Continent right now. How were they supposed to repel the World of Forsaken Saints if they really were that powerful? Even if the four great races gathered together, all they would be in for was a slaughter.

At this moment, the energy within the black tunnel leading to the foreign world abnormally churned deep beneath the city. It caused the surrounding space to tremble in an extremely unstable manner. The sealing formation had already become visible and every single thread of the formation shone with a

dazzling light, radiating with terrifying energy that filled the entire space. It was like a huge net, stretched across the entrance.

Xiao Ling hovered in the center of the formation as her bright eyes flickered. She nervously stared at the formation before her while her young face was filled with fear. She seemed extremely pitiful.

“Oh no, oh no! Master’s seal is about to be broken. What do I do? Just what do I do? I can’t last much longer. Brother, brother where are you? I’m so scared,” Xiao Ling hovered all by herself underground as she sobbed.

“Brother’s too weak, so even if he’s here, he can’t help me. Master, master, where are you? Master, come out quick, I can’t guard this seal much longer. This person is too powerful. Boohoo, master, where are you? Don’t abandon me...” Xiao Ling could not help but burst into tears as soon as her master was mentioned. Her relationship with Mo Tianyun was like a daughter and her father. Mo Tianyun’s disappearance to her was like a three-year-old child losing both her parents.

Chapter 1263: Spiritking

An extremely vast world existed on the other side of the seal beneath Mercenary City. It was so great that even if the Beast God Continent, the sea realm, the Tian Yuan Continent and the Wasteland Continent were combined, they would not even fill half of all the space that existed.

The energy of the world there was extremely abundant as well, far more abundant than on the Tian Yuan Continent, and most importantly, that vast world possessed origin energy that had vanished from this world for countless years. It was also rich in resources, so the entire place seemed perfect. Probably the only downside was that the sun of that world was blood-red. It possessed the scarlet color of human viscera, radiating with endless light. It dyed the entire place blood-red, adding a malevolent feeling to the entire world.

There were not many Saint Kings on the Tian Yuan Continent. Even with the entire world in perspective, including all the Saint Kings who always remained hidden away, there was no more than a thousand at most. As for Saint Emperors, they were even rarer. With the Tian Yuan Continent, the sea realm, and the Beast God Continent combined, there was only nine.

Yet in the blood-red world, Saint Kings could be seen everywhere. The number had reached a stunning level, and even the number of Saint Emperors outnumbered all the Saint Kings on the Tian Yuan Continent.

A huge mountain range that spanned an area of several million square kilometers stood in the center of that blood-red world. It was known as the World Mountains, the greatest mountain range in the world as well as the most terrifying forbidden ground.

Not only were there countless powerful vicious beasts, there were also many unknown dangers of various origins on the World Mountains. Even Saint Emperors could only move around on the very outskirts since entering the general region would basically lead to death. Without any exaggeration, the general region of the mountains was a grave for Saint Emperors.

The general region was not even the most terrifying place either. The most terrifying place was the center of the mountain range where a huge mountain over ten kilometers tall stood.

The mountain stood like a pillar that was holding up the vast sky of the world. It was shrouded by a faint layer of red mist, obscuring the body of the mountain and making it even more mysterious. The space halfway up the mountain was extremely unstable. It would twist violently and cracks of various sizes would form from time to time. These cracks would come in contact with the cliff-face of the mountain itself from time to time and rocks would often silently vanish, without even leaving behind a pile of dust. It was extremely terrifying.

Approaching the huge mountain would be stepping into the central region of the mountain ranges, which was also known as the depths of the World Mountains. Even those that had surpassed Saint Emperor and reached the Origin realm needed to tread carefully in the depths. If they were sucked away by a spatial crack due to carelessness, even those of the Origin realm could die.

Throughout history, the depths of the mountain range had devoured the lives of many experts at the Origin realm, which was why the mountain range had become a forbidden region where even experts of the Origin realm dared not to set foot without considerable thought.

But at this very moment, a large group of people had gathered on the peak of the greatest mountain in the mountain range. There was over five hundred people, and they all wore the same black clothes. An odd, round symbol was present on all the black clothes, and in the center of the symbol was a huge, majestic hall.

This was an image of the sacred organization that ruled the world, the symbol of the Sacred Spirit Hall!

The Sacred Spirit Hall was like the imperial palace of this blood-red world. It was the symbol of absolute authority.

The group of people there were extremely powerful. They were all Saint Emperors, and there were quite a few peak Saint Emperors among them. Any single one of them would be enough to terrify the ten protector clans if they were on the Tian Yuan Continent. However, all of them currently held their breaths and stood there silently like statues. They did not move at all.

At the very front of the group were over forty experts of various ages who stood in a single line. They also waited silently. The presence that radiated from them casually was even greater than the presence of Saint Emperors. If their auras were equivalent to an elephant, then the presences of the Saint Emperors were like ants, extremely insignificant.

They had all surpassed Saint Emperor and had reached the Origin realm, and eight of them were even at Returnance.

But without any exception, all of the Origin realm experts hid their presences, standing there like statues. They all held their breaths as they stared at the man at the very front. Quite a few of them showed deep admiration and fear through their gazes.

He was a black-robed and tall man. He stood there silently with his back to everyone, giving off a feeling that he was indomitable, as if he was the heavens and he ruled the lives of everyone else. Just looking at him felt like he had fused with the world, yet there was also the illusion that he stood above the world.

By his side hovered a heavy, dark sword made of metal. The metal shone with a dark glimmer and radiated with a bright light. Although it was motionless, the great aura from the weapon actually made the eight Returnance experts behind him shiver inside.

A pitch-black tunnel stood a thousand meters in front of the black-robed man. The space in there pulsed and distorted in violent spasms.

“Spiritking, will we be able to break through the seal to the other side this time?” A Returnance expert asked at this moment.

The man standing at the very front was the supreme ruler of the Sacred Spirit Hall. He was the one who held supreme power over this world, the Spiritking.

The Spiritking was a legendary person within the World of Forsaken Saints. He possessed the greatest talent and greatest comprehension throughout all of history, reaching Reciprocity in just a mere eight centuries. He created powerful moves himself. When he had first set a foot in the Reciprocity realm, he challenged the three other Reciprocity experts of the World of Forsaken Saints.

The first expert was at mid Reciprocity and was defeated in ten moves by the Spiritking, who had just reached Reciprocity. The second and third experts were at mid and late Reciprocity respectively, but after an intense, four hour fight with the early Reciprocity Spiritking, they both died to his blade.

The three Reciprocity experts were originally the rulers of the Sacred Spirit Hall. They were known as the three great Spiritkings, but after they were all slain by the black-robed man, he himself became the Spiritking. He became the Spiritking of a new generation and the only Spiritking of the World of Forsaken Saints.

Although the new Spiritking had only reached Reciprocity recently and was still at early Reciprocity, all the Origin realm experts in the world believed he possessed the power to fight the weakest person who had attained Godhood.

The gap between the Origin realm and Godhood was as large as a chasm. It was not even comparable to the gap between Saint King and Saint Emperor, but rather the gap between the Origin realm and Sainthood would be more comparable.

The current Spiritking possessed the power to fight an expert who had attained Godhood at early Reciprocity. Even if it was only the weakest expert at Godhood, it was shocking enough.

“The person who came to our world and cast down this seal is indeed very strong. No wonder none of our Origin realm experts were his opponent. The seal he had cast down between the two worlds can only be destroyed by someone at Godhood. I easily destroyed the seal in our world before probably because there was no one controlling it, but there’s an Origin realm expert on the other side supporting the seal right now, so it won’t be destroyed easily,” said the Spiritking. He spoke in an extremely nonchalant tone, but his voice carried a certain femininity. Although he was a man, his voice was extremely pleasant.

“Spiritking, will it fail again this time?” An enchanting woman who seemed to be in her twenties gently asked. Her voice was filled with charm, as if it could suck away the souls of people. She was one of the eight experts at Returnance.

“Although there’s an Origin realm expert supporting the seal on the other side, I am confident I can get through the seal since I’ve come here today. Maintaining the seal will require a vast amount of energy. Let me waste that Origin realm expert’s energy first, and once they’re running low, I’ll use my Seal-breaking and break through the seal,” said the Spiritking nonchalantly. At this moment, the space in the tunnel stabilized again. The space had been disrupted by his full-powered attack from earlier.

A resplendent gleam of light immediately flashed through the Spiritking’s eyes when he saw the space restabilize. The dark sword floating beside him immediately erupted with a dazzling silver light as an extremely powerful sword intent permeated the surroundings. Under the contamination of the powerful sword intent, the violent wind, the air, and even the abundant energy of the world in the surroundings became strands of invisible sword Qi.

Swish! The dark metal sword was surrounded by a coat of powerful silver light as it vanished into the tunnel in front of them as a white streak of light.

Chapter 1264: The Seal Breaks

A resplendent gleam of light immediately flashed through the Spiritking’s eyes when he saw the space restabilize. The dark sword floating beside him immediately erupted with a dazzling silver light as an extremely powerful sword intent permeated the surroundings. Under the contamination of the powerful sword intent, the violent wind, the air, and even the abundant energy of the world in the surroundings became strands of invisible sword Qi.

Swish! The dark metal sword was surrounded by a coat of powerful silver light as it vanished into the tunnel in front of them as a white streak of light.

The tunnel between the World of Forsaken Saints and Mercenary City was filled with extremely violent streaks of energy, causing the space in it to become extremely unstable. The entire tunnel would distort from time to time.

At this moment, a dazzling streak of white light flashed through the tunnel, moving extremely quick. This was the Spiritking’s dark metal sword.

The sword seemed completely ordinary and was not eye-catching in any particular way, but it possessed great power. The strength of the metal sword greatly surpassed the Emperor Armaments on the Tian Yuan Continent, and even the Emperor Armaments of the ten protector clans could not compare to it.

The rather unstable space would begin to ripple violently wherever the sword passed by, but it was extremely tough, so it did not shatter.

On the other side, the web-like seal covered the entrance of the tunnel. The metal sword passed through the spatial tunnel with an unstoppable force. It was coated by a radiant glow of silver light, striking the seal viciously.

Boom!

With a deafening boom, the sword struck the center of the seal and the great force turned the formation into a conical shape. Then, the sword erupted radiately, producing rain-like droplets of energy that attacked the seal, violently destroying it.

The seal immediately began to violently flicker and the energy that maintained it was consumed at an extremely terrifying rate.

Xiao Ling immediately became extremely nervous. She placed her hands on the seal as origin energy was rapidly channeled into the formation. She tried to maintain the final seal.

However, the seal only managed to block the Spiritking's attack with great difficulty even after being supported by Xiao Ling's own power.

Although the seal was powerful, it was only enough to repel the attacks of experts in the Origin realm. Once it encountered attacks at the level of Godhood, even if it was from the weakest Godhood expert, it would break for sure. Although the Spiritking was only in the Origin realm, he possessed the power to rival the weakest expert who had obtained Godhood, so the seal could not be maintained before his great strength. If it were not for Xiao Ling's support, the seal probably would have been smashed through long ago.

However, Xiao Ling could not last much longer either, because the energy she had accumulated over countless years had almost been consumed.

The metal sword was locked in a stalemate with the seal for several seconds before finally expending all the power it had and returning to the World of Forsaken Saints. Xiao Ling became relieved, but when she discovered that all the energy in the underground space had been consumed, she immediately became terrified. She sobbed, "Oh no, oh no. There's no more energy to keep up the seal. What do I do? Master, where are you? Come back quick. If you don't return now, your seal will be destroyed by bad people. That bad person is so strong. I can't beat him. Master, come back quick..."

The Spiritking stood unmoving at the highest point of the World Mountains, as if he was all that existed in that world.

At this moment, the metal sword that had dulled emerged from the spatial tunnel. As if the sword was conscious, it flew into the Spiritking's hand without anyone's control.

"It's time." At this moment, the Spiritking spoke in heavy voice. Suddenly, a supreme presence surged from him in all directions. He slowly hovered in the air, reaching an altitude of ten meters as terrifying energy filled the surroundings.

At that moment, he seemed to have become a mighty spirit. He gripped his sword as he stood there, causing the sky to tremble.

The several dozen Origin realm experts all looked at him from behind in fear. All of them could sense the incomparably vast pressure radiating from the Spiritking. Even the eight Returnance experts were not exceptions. All of them felt that the Spiritking was invincible.

"Seal-breaker!" Suddenly, the Spiritking roared out as the pure origin energy without him surged into the metal sword, immediately causing it to erupt with an unprecedented brightness and causing it loudly resonate. Afterward, the Spiritking stabbed out with a flash.

The strike possessed an indescribable profoundness. With that single strike, the world dulled while the air stopped moving. Time seemed to have halted, and even the surrounding space oscillated with a ripple.

The Spiritking stabbed the metal sword at the tunnel with a speed that was difficult to observe with the naked eye, attacking the seal on the other side again.

When the seal came in contact with the metal sword, an extremely profound energy began to spread out. It was like poison; as soon as it came in contact with the seal, the powerful seal began to dissolve at a visible rate.

Xiao Ling was surprised when she saw this. She poured everything she had into the seal, but no matter how hard she tried, she could not slow down the rate at which the seal collapsed.

Boom! A few seconds later, the seal finally shattered with a rumble, causing the entire underground space to violently tremble.

Xiao Ling stared blankly at the broken seal while her face became extremely pale. She was filled with fear as fat tears uncontrollably rolled down her cheeks as she broke into tears. She sobbed, "It's done for! It's all over! The seal's been broken! The seal's been broken! Master, where are you!? Come back, the seal's been broken. The seal's been broken. What do I do..."

The moment the seal shattered, Mercenary City suffered the most powerful jolt as well. Whole regions of earth collapsed as the cracks, which criss-crossed the ground, all expanded to the width of a meter. All the structures in the city had collapsed, including Mo Tianyun's sculpture at the center.

All the experts of Mercenary City, including the ones who had hurried over from various places, watched the tragedy unfold with sunken faces. At this moment, no one was able to lighten up, including the protector clans who were envious of Mercenary City for obtaining a Saint Emperor.

This was because Tian Jian had already told all the Saint Kings present the information he had learned from Jian Chen. If it was any other time, none of them would have believed such an unrealistic matter, but the collapse of Mercenary City was the best evidence without a doubt. It was no longer up to whether they believed it or not.

If the seal to the World of Forsaken Saints really had been destroyed and the experts there launched an invasion, how was the Tian Yuan Continent supposed to repel them with their puny strength. This was definitely a calamity for the Tian Yuan Continent that might even affect the entire world.

The dark, metal sword returned to the Spiritking's side again back in the World of Forsaken Saints. It hovered quietly by his side as the Spiritking stared at the spatial tunnel in front of him. He finally showed a smile of delight.

"Spiritking, may I ask if the seal on the other side has been destroyed?" The alluring, Returnance woman nervously asked.

The Spiritking slowly turned around. He seemed to be roughly in his thirties, and he was not handsome at all. His appearance was extremely ordinary. His eyebrows were sharp, like swords, while his face was weathered, having survived through wind and storms of blood.

"I've already destroyed the seal on the other side, but the space in the tunnel has become extremely unstable after several attacks from me. It's filled with chaotic streams of space, so we can't pass through it. We can only go after it has stabilized," answered the Spiritking.

With that, the Origin realm experts immediately beamed in joy. One of the Returnance old men excitedly said, "The Spiritking really is the hope of our world, to have completed the world's wish from so many years ago all by himself. Over two hundred years ago, our world gave birth to five Reciprocity Spiritkings, but they had failed to smash through the seal even after working together. The current Spiritking possesses the power to rival all five of them all by himself. The Spiritking is the strongest expert of the World of Forsaken Saints in all of history."

The Spiritking did not react in any particular way to the old man's compliments. His expression remained as nonchalant as before. He said, "Origin realm experts will bring very great pressure to the spatial tunnel if they enter, so they can only pass through once the space has completely stabilized and the tunnel has been reinforced. However, experts below the Origin realm are not restricted by this. All we need to do is wait for the streams of space in there to calm down. The weaker the person, the safer they are. One of you stay here and keep guard. We'll send some people through to investigate the situation on the other side first. Do not forget our intentions."

"Yes, Spiritking," all the Origin realm experts replied at the same time.

Afterward, the Spiritking flew down the mountain with his sword on his back. He completely ignored the spatial cracks that could even claim the lives of those in the Origin realm halfway down the mountain.

Chapter 1265: Countermeasures

Several hundred Saint Kings currently hovered above Mercenary City. Every single one of them had their eyebrows furrowed tightly with extremely stern expressions. After they learned that a tunnel to another world was truly sealed beneath the city, they all contacted every Saint King they knew, leading to even more hurrying over. In the end, the Saint Kings gathered at Mercenary City only increased.

This was because all of them could feel that this was something significant, directly tied to the safety of the continent. It was far more severe than the invasion of the Beast God Continent before. Every single one of them was responsible for protecting the continent, even if many of them were independent.

"Great elder, what should we do now? And can that seal block the attacks from the experts of the World of Forsaken Saints or not?" A great elder of a protector clan asked in worry. With so many people, all they could do was gather there. They did not even possess the strength to take any action, let alone know about the situation of the seal.

"I don't know about the situation underground either. Even if this land has lost the protection of the barrier's strength, it's still not a place we can just barge into. We can only ask the spirit of the barrier to gain a detailed understanding," replied Tian Jian with a heavy voice.

"Does the barrier spirit still exist now that the barrier of the city is gone?" A Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint King asked in surprise. He was also a great elder of a protector clan.

No one else knew the true identity of the barrier spirit on the present continent other than Jian Chen and the Heavenly Enchantress. Even Tian Jian did not know. All of them believed that the barrier spirit was a spirit that had been born from the barrier and was dependent on the barrier.

“With so many years, the barrier spirit has always guarded the seal beneath Mercenary City. The barrier is gone now, but I am almost certain that the barrier spirit still exists. I just don’t know how to contact it,” said Tian Jian.

But, just as he finished speaking, a girl’s cries of sorrow suddenly rang out. Her cries were extremely sorrowful, and when all the Saint Kings heard her sobs, their expressions all changed, because they could not find the source despite hearing them clearly. It seemed to have originated from nowhere.

“Have the experts of the World of Forsaken Saints come?” The ancestral emperor of the Felicity Empire heavily asked. His expression became extremely horrible. He could sense the person’s strength just from the sobs.

“No. It’s the barrier spirit!” Tian Jian cried out as he beamed.

As expected, a girl who seemed to be twelve or thirteen years old slowly appeared in the air as soon as Tian Jian finished speaking. When she first appeared, she was just a faint image, but her figure started to rapidly consolidate at a visible rate. Within just a few seconds, she had become completely tangible. She seemed fleshy, far more realistic than any time Jian Chen had seen her.

This time, Xiao Ling did not hide her existence. Her figure was completely revealed, allowing everyone to see her clearly as she constantly rubbed away her tears.

Everyone turned their gazes toward her and became filled with curiosity and shock. Including Tian Jian, this was the first time anyone here had seen Xiao Ling. What had taken a lot of them by surprise was that the barrier spirit was actually such a cute girl.

“Barrier spirit, what’s the situation underground? Is the seal still whole?” Tian Jian nervously inquired.

“It’s broken, it’s broken. The seal’s been broken by the bad people on the other side. Boohoo, master’s seal has been destroyed. Oh no, what do I do?” Xiao Ling sobbed. She was filled with a sense of helplessness.

The complexions of all the people present became extremely horrible, and some of them even paled slightly.

“Barrier spirit, what’s the strength of the World of Forsaken Saints?” A great elder from a protector clan asked a heavy question.

“I don’t know, I don’t know, but the person who broke the seal is so strong. He’s at least at Reciprocity. I can’t beat him.” Xiao Ling became terrified as soon as they mentioned the Spiritking.

“Reciprocity? Is that a realm beyond Saint Emperor?” An independent Saint King mumbled. Even the ten protector clans, which had existed for many years, did not have too great of an understanding regarding the cultivation realms beyond Saint Emperor.

“Master said that above Sainthood is the Origin realm. The Origin realm has three smaller levels, which are Receival, Returnance, and Reciprocity. The person who broke the seal is at Reciprocity at the very least, but I’m only at Returnance, so how can I beat him? Don’t look down on the strength between Returnance and Reciprocity. Master said that the difference between the two is like Saint King and Saint Emperor,” Xiao Ling explained.

All the people present immediately gasped. All of them understood exactly how vast the difference between Saint King and Saint Emperor was. The difference was as immense as the earth and the sky. They could not be compared.

“What!? How is the World of Forsaken Saints so powerful? If we compare those who have just surpassed Saint Emperor to Saint Rulers, doesn’t that mean that Saint Emperors are just Heaven Saint Masters? And we Saint Kings would only be equivalent to Earth Saint Masters. Using several hundred Earth Saint Masters to fight against a Saint Emperor? What is this joke?” An independent Saint Kings cried out in disbelief. The disparity was just far too great, so great that it was unimaginable.

Xiao Ling worriedly said, “The tunnel has already been opened, and without much longer, there will be people from the other side who will come over. Master once said that he entered that world all by himself and killed a lot of experts. I don’t know if those people hold a grudge for master. If they do, they’ll definitely come to kill us once they come over. We better find something to do quick.”

Everyone was speechless and moaned inside. The World of Forsaken Saints even had experts who stood at the apex of the Origin realm, so no one was certain whether they had others at Reveal and Returnance. Even in ancient times when the Tian Yuan Continent was most prosperous, they would not be their opponents, let alone now.

“The city lord left behind an extremely tough divine hall in Mercenary City back then. I wonder if it’ll be useful,” Tian Jian said with a deep voice. The divine hall’s power was evident. It could even kill Saint Emperors, but Tian Jian was not confident about experts of the Origin realm because the divine hall had never been used against them before, so it was obviously impossible for him to know whether it could block their attacks or not.

Xiao Ling’s eyes immediately lit up. She excitedly responded, “Oh yeah, we still have the divine hall that master left us. The divine hall is very tough. Probably even I can’t break through it. I just don’t know if it can block attacks from experts at Reciprocity, but there’s no other choice now. Quickly move master’s divine hall to guard the entrance.”

“Okay, I’ll go refine the divine hall immediately.” Tian Jian left with that. He knew that time was very tight, and he needed to refine the divine hall in the shortest amount of time possible.

“There’s also fairy Hao Yue’s Bright Moon Divine Hall. The divine hall is extraordinarily tough. Even Saint Emperors cannot destroy it. We can borrow the divine hall to guard the tunnel. Although I don’t know if it can stop them, but it’ll be better than nothing,” said a great elder of a protector clan.

Chapter 1266: Violet Cloud Peaches

As soon as someone mentioned that they wanted to use the Bright Moon Divine Hall to guard the entrance of the tunnel, Changyang Zu Yunxiao’s face immediately sank. The divine hall only belonged to You Yue, and You Yue was Jian Chen’s fiancée. If they really managed to obtain the divine hall to plug the entrance, getting it back would not be easy.

This was because the Bright Moon Divine Hall was also a structure that even Saint Emperors could not smash through. In order for the people of the protector clans to maintain their authority on the continent, they could not let such a powerful divine hall exist.

The people of the protector clans dared not to touch You Yue before. First, because they would not be able to do anything to her if she hid in the divine hall. Second, Jian Chen was beside her as well as three powerful magical beasts that stood on equal ground with Saint Emperors. As a result, the protector clans could only helplessly watch the powerful divine hall end up with You Yue without being able to do anything.

However, the situation was completely different now. The existence of the World of Forsaken Saints was an extremely great threat to the Tian Yuan Continent. It could even be described as a disaster that could impact the entire world. Using this as an opportunity to take away the divine hall was all in the name of the greater good, so no one could say anything, and if the divine hall was destroyed, the people of the protector clans wouldn't mind that happening. However, the people who would end up losing out would be his side.

Changyang Zu Yunxiao made up his mind to prevent this at all costs, "The Bright Moon Divine Hall is indeed extremely tough and the materials used to construct it are extremely rare, forged from substances of the moon. However, fairy Hao Yue, who crafted it, was only a peak Saint Emperor at most. She did not reach the Origin realm. Her divine hall probably can block the attacks of Saint Emperors at most, and it'll be useless before those of the Origin realm."

A great elder of the Yangji sect sneered when he heard that, "We're currently facing a devastating threat. No matter what it is, we will try it as long as there's a sliver of hope of stopping the experts from the World of Forsaken Saints. We, the ten protector clans, have quite a few divine halls, but all of them can only block the attacks of Saint Kings. They're completely useless before Saint Emperors, and with the entire continent in perspective, only the divine hall of Mercenary City and the Bright Moon Divine Hall can perhaps block attacks from experts of the Origin realm."

"That's right. We can no longer talk about personal benefits or losses at this moment. The Tian Yuan Continent is facing danger and every single person is responsible for its safety. Brother, I'll visit Flame City with you and borrow the Bright Moon Divine Hall. If they don't comply, we can only react correspondingly," said a great elder of the Yiyun sect righteously. He seemed like he was solemn on the surface, but he sneered inside, "Jian Chen, you killed a great elder of my Yiyuan sect and completely embarrassed us. We might not be able to take revenge on you, but you cannot stop us from taking away your girl's divine hall."

The great elder of the Yangji sect immediately beamed now that he obtained the support of a great elder from the Yiyun sect. He looked around and said, "Everyone, may I ask if there is anyone else willing to come with us to Flame City, to borrow the Bright Moon Divine Hall and safeguard the Tian Yuan Continent?"

An independent Saint King stepped forward and sternly said, "I may have secluded myself as a hermit and never took part in any conflicts, but this matter directly relates to the fate of the Tian Yuan Continent, so I obviously cannot stand down. Allow me to accompany you. If the Bright Moon Divine Hall can stop the invasion of the World of Forsaken Saints, the owner of the divine hall will commit a service of great merit."

A few other Saint Kings stepped forward after him. Almost all of them were independent cultivators who stayed isolated in desolate regions like hermits.

In the end, the Yangji sect and the Yiyuan sect sent two Saint Kings each to travel to Mercenary City with another five independent Saint Kings, for a total of nine people.

Changyang Zu Yunxiao panicked inside when he saw this. Just when he wanted to say something, he was stopped by Changyang Zu Xiao through a message, “Yunxiao, this is not the time for you to stop them. The people of the Yangji sect and the Yeyuan sect are very biased against Jian Chen, so if you want to stop them, be careful about getting dragged into it as well as becoming a public target of scorn.”

Changyang Zu Yunxiao fell silent and sighed inside. He wanted to help You Yue keep the divine hall very much, but he could do nothing.

The grand elder of Mercenary City said, “Everyone, the World of Forsaken Saints doesn’t just pose a threat to our Tian Yuan Continent. Even the Sea race, the magical beasts, and the Hundred Races will face a similar threat. I believe we should send envoys to all three races with a request for reinforcements. Although our strength is extremely insignificant compared to the World of Forsaken Saints, we need to stop them from coming over with everything we have.”

“The grand elder cannot be more correct, but we are not on good terms with the three other races. We’ve even fallen out a little with the magical beasts and the Hundred Races, so I believe we should think through this some more before deciding,” said a great elder of a protector clan.

“Then please come into the miniature world of our Mercenary City. We can discuss countermeasures there...”

Jian Chen had no clue that the seal beneath Mercenary City had been destroyed since he was in the Xuanhuang Microcosm. He was currently traveling with Tie Ta, making their way to the center. He came across a few regions with some vegetation. Every single region with vegetation would contain Springs of Life as well as Xuanhuang beasts.

Jian Chen would take half the spring water from every region as well as the essence that had been nurtured by the Spring of Life. The essence was the true object of value. It was extremely beneficial to the soul, and the sea goddess required this as a material to reconstruct her body.

Along the way, more and more spring water accumulated in Jian Chen’s artifact space. It had exceeded forty thousand liters. Half of it was at the first grade of the Immortal Tier. Over ten thousand liters was of the second while the remaining amount was of the third.

Third grade of the Immortal Tier was the highest-quality spring water Jian Chen had come across so far.

Other than the spring water, Jian Chen had found many various heavenly resources as well. There were ginsengs, ganodermas, knotwood, and so on from the ones he could recognize. Every single one of them had exceeded a hundred thousand years in maturity, and all of them had been tainted with faint Xuanhuang Qi due to growing in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, allowing them to increase in value. Jian Chen had come across over ten Immortal Tier heavenly resources that he had never seen or heard before, but they were of the second grade at most. Jian Chen had also learned that the sword spirits did not care about these heavenly resources at all. The only reason they got him to collect them was because they would be useful to him.

Jian Chen also came across another three Comprehension Tea Trees and removed all their leaves. Unfortunately, all of them were of the first grade.

Other than that, Jian Chen had slain several dozen Class 7 and 8 Xuanhuang beasts and collected the energy crystals that corresponded to monster cores.

Although Jian Chen had only spent seven days in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, Jian Chen was extremely satisfied with what he had obtained in that time frame. Tie Ta was the same. He had always been smiling in those days and could not even close his mouth since he had also obtained several dozen energy crystals, all of them of the seventh or eighth class.

When Jian Chen crossed several dozen kilometers of barren land and arrived at another region of life, he discovered a three-meter-tall peach tree growing there. It was covered with fist-sized peaches, violet in color. All of them were actually the exact same size.

“Master, these are immortal peaches, the Violet Cloud Peaches. It only bears a single fruit every nine thousand years, and it can only bear a hundred and eight peaches throughout its life. Consuming the peach can directly increase the level of cultivation of the person. The highest-quality peaches are of the ninth grade in the Immortal Tier. They can increase your level of cultivation by four thousand five hundred years’ worth. The peaches in front of you are only of the first grade, and consuming one of them can only increase your cultivation by five hundred years.”

Chapter 1267: The Sword Spirits’ World

“A peach can increase my cultivation by five hundred years? Zi Ying, just how much is five hundred years? And how is it calculated?” Jian Chen asked in some doubt. A few Saint Rulers could never reach Saint King within their lifespan while others would only require a few decades. Jian Chen was extremely curious to know the exact amount of five hundred years’ worth of cultivation.

Zi Ying pondered silently before responding, “Master, there’s quite a few heavenly resources that can directly increase the cultivation of the user like the peaches back in our world, and all of them are measured by the number of years they can increase. This amount is calculated from the amount of cultivation gained by a person with ordinary talent as they absorb immortal energy in the given time frame. A peach that can increase someone’s cultivation by five hundred years’ contains the amount of energy equivalent to the achievements of a person with ordinary talent after cultivating for five hundred years.

“But some people with impressive or astonishing talent will cultivate extremely quickly. They will only need a hundred years, just a few decades, or a couple years to reach what an ordinary person would achieve in five hundred years.”

Jian Chen finally gained an understanding of the five hundred years of cultivation the peaches could provide him with. He thought, “A single immortal peach can increase my cultivation by five hundred years. It does sound rather terrifying, but it’s just the achievements of a person with ordinary talent in a five hundred year timespan. On the other hand, I’ve attained achievements that some people might not even attain in three thousand years within less than half a century. And the amount of energy my Chaotic Body needs is unimaginably vast. Looks like the effects of the peaches won’t be as great on me as I initially imagined.”

“Zi Ying, how many peaches do I have to eat to reach the fourth layer? And if I want to reach the fifth, how many would that be?” Jian Chen asked. He was tempted to immediately ingest the peaches to strengthen his Chaotic Body after learning about the effects.

“Master, a first grade immortal peach is roughly equivalent to two Class 9 Monster Cores. Master’s Chaotic Body may have reached the peak of the third layer, but a single first grade peach won’t be enough to reach the fourth layer. You will require three at the very least. However, the immortal peaches cannot be eaten as master has imagined. After ingesting the first one, you must wait a hundred years before ingesting a second, or it’ll have no effects at all,” Zi Yang explained rather bitterly. This obliterated Jian Chen’s thoughts of eating a whole lot of them at once.

Jian Chen became disappointed with that, but he also learned that he needed to ingest a Violet Cloud Peach that could provide one thousand five hundred years’ worth of cultivation to reach the fourth layer, or six Class 9 Monster Cores.

Although he still had the Class 8 and 9 Monster Cores he had obtained from the Heaven’s Incense School, Jian Chen did not plan on using them right now since he would not necessarily reach the fourth layer with them, and it would waste a lot of time as well. He did not have much time in the Xuanhuang Microcosm. He wanted to use the remaining time to find as many heavenly resources as he could to bring out with him.

However, what did shock Jian Chen was that a single first grade peach was equivalent to two Class 9 Monster Cores.

Perhaps because Zi Ying understood what Jian Chen was thinking, he explained, “Master, the stronger the person becomes, the faster they can absorb immortal energy. The people from our world cannot be compared to the Tian Yuan Continent. The accumulated energy of five hundred years from any single one of them with ordinary talent is equivalent to several thousand years from a person with impressive talent on the Tian Yuan Continent, which is why a first grade peach contains enough energy to rival two Class 9 Monster Cores.

“Also, the energy from our world is at a level greater than the Tian Yuan Continent. If a Saint Emperor from the Tian Yuan Continent goes to our world to cultivate, their rate will increase by several fold at least. Not only is this because the energy of our world is several times more abundant than the Tian Yuan Continent, it also has immortal energy that is on a higher level. The immortal energy is on the same level as the origin energy that master knows about.”

“Is that so?” Jian Chen gained a better understanding. He could not help but asked, “Zi Ying, Qing Suo, just what was the world you two came from like?” This question had weighed on Jian Chen’s heart for many years now. He had once asked this question before, but the sword spirits declined to answer because he was still too weak. Now, he finally could not help but ask again.

Both of them fell silent. After quite a long while, Qing Suo said, “Master, we originally planned on answering this question after you reached Saint Emperor, but you’re not far from that level now. Since master wants to know so much, we’ll tell you.” A sliver of reminiscence appeared in Qing Suo’s eyes as she continued, “Master, the world we came from is called the Immortals’ World. It’s a higher world that’s even greater than the Tian Yuan Continent. Saint Emperors in our world are only people at the

lowest level. In our world, they are like newly-born infants, having just stepped upon the path of cultivation.”

Even with mental preparation, Jian Chen was greatly shocked by what they said. Right now, he could not even match up to a Saint Emperor. To him, they were undefeatable existences, yet they were actually insignificant in the world where the sword spirits came from. Jian Chen had been taken aback by this fact.

Qing Suo continued, “Back in master’s former world, Qing Suo and I were greatly injured due to the destruction of our swords. We were in a slumber and recovered at an extremely slow rate. Afterward, the familiar presence from master’s cultivation of the Azulet Swords Law awakened us. Back then, we discovered master in a world with extremely thin energy, yet you were able to attain such accomplishments with the sword at such a young age all by yourself through an incomplete copy of the cultivation method, so we were drawn in by your talent. At that time, we just happened to make it the moment before master died, so Zi Ying and I guarded master’s soul and wanted to take master to the Immortals’ World. We believed that master would definitely achieve impressive accomplishments when cultivating in the Immortals’ World with master’s talent in the sword.

“It was just that we had never expected that we had not recovered enough strength. We were unable to break through the barriers of the worlds. Coupled with the fact that we expended our energy extremely quickly as we traveled through space, we could not last much longer, which was why we accidentally brought you to the Tian Yuan Continent.”

Jian Chen could not help but think back to the moment when he had fought Dugu Qiubai in the past. Back then, the two of them had perished together. He had accidentally come to the Tian Yuan Continent with the help of the sword spirits, but he just wondered what Dugu Qiubai’s situation was. Did he die back then?

Jian Chen gently sighed inside. He became slightly disconsolate and said, “Zi Ying, Qing Suo, I will be going to the Immortals’ World sooner or later.” Jian Chen also understood that it would become more difficult to raise his Chaotic Body to the later layers. The Tian Yuan Continent did not have enough resources to support his growth, so he needed to proceed to the Immortals’ World if he wanted his Chaotic Body to keep growing, so he could find even more resources.

Zi Ying opened his mouth. He wanted to say something, but he held it back in the end. Only he and Qing Suo understood that since they had come here, returning to the Immortals’ World would be riddled with obstructions. It would never be that easy.

Two Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King Xuanhuang beasts guarded the immortal peaches. They were finished off by Jian Chen and Tie Ta without any effort at all. Even though the two of them possessed very tough bodies, they were unable to stand up against Jian Chen and Tie Ta who possessed extraordinary battle prowess. In the end, the two of them took an energy crystal each. Jian Chen did not miss the corpses either.

Afterward, Jian Chen began to collect the Violent Cloud Peaches. The tree had a total of one hundred and eight of them, and he picked all of them. He could fit one to around a dozen peaches in each jade box he had, depending on its size.

Jian Chen completely ran out of jade boxes to store heavenly resources after picking the peaches, or more accurately, he had run out of jade boxes he had prepared. He would need to sort through his other Space Rings for more of them.

As Jian Chen worried over the possibility of not enough boxes, the sword spirits suddenly informed him that the wood from the Xuanhuang Microcosm could be used to make boxes, which could also be used to store the heavenly resources. As a result, Jian Chen and Tie Ta worked together, collecting a large amount of wood nearby and sending it into the artifact space. Jian Chen got the elites of the Flame Mercenaries to make the boxes and also urged the artifact spirit to direct all the Class 7 Magical Beasts into human forms to create boxes as well.

Chapter 1268: Fifth Grade Comprehension Tea Tree

Jian Chen no longer needed to worry about not having enough boxes now that there was such a large number of people and magical beasts creating them for him in the artifact space.

Two days later, Jian Chen came across an even larger region of life. It seemed more like a huge oasis, taking up several tens of thousand square kilometers. The vegetation was lush and grew vigorously as huge trees towered several hundred meters high.

A mountain a thousand meters tall stood at the center of the region. It was extraordinarily steep and slippery, making it extremely difficult to scale. However, an ancient tree, around a person's height, stood at the very top of it like an old man. It was not tall, but it was teeming with life, as if it would never decay away.

"That's a Comprehension Tea Tree!" Jian Chen immediately cried out in joy as he stared at the tree at the very top. Although he was very far away, he could recognize it with his vision, and he felt something vastly different about it compared to the first grade trees he had come across before. It was clearly of a higher grade.

"That's a fifth grade Comprehension Tea Tree," said Zi Ying, having recognized it with a single glance.

"And there's Flamecloud Fruit here. The effects of Flamecloud Fruit are the same as Violet Cloud Peaches. They can directly increase the cultivation of a person, and they possess the effects of refining immortal energy. The only defect is that Flamecloud Fruit is only effective to those who practice fire-attributed cultivation methods. Although master uses Chaotic Force and is not limited by the attributes in terms of power, the effects of the fruit will be greatly reduced for master," Qing Suo said in pity.

Jian Chen glanced over and indeed discovered a small tree covered in red half way up the mountain. It was only ten meters tall and covered in thumb-sized red fruit.

"Is that the Flamecloud Fruit?" Jian Chen mumbled softly. He discovered that the red fruit shone with a red glow, as if there was a ball of flames flickering inside.

"These Flamecloud Fruit possess even great benefits for those who practice fire-attributed cultivation methods. Senior Hong Lian just happens to use fire-attributed energy, so these fruit should be very beneficial to her. Just a single one of them should be enough to elevate senior Hong Lian to a Saint Emperor," Jian Chen thought. He immediately remembered Hong Lian when he learned the effects of the fruit.

Jian Chen patted Tie Ta on his shoulder before moving. He had already charged off toward the mountain using the Illusory Flash while Tie Ta followed close behind him. He was no slower than Jian Chen.

Jian Chen was extremely cautious along the way. Every single region of life possessed Xuanhuang beasts, and the more valuable the item, the stronger the Xuanhuang beasts would be. Since a fifth grade Comprehension Tea Tree had appeared here, the beast which guarded it would be extremely powerful as well. It was extremely likely that it would be the strongest Xuanhuang beast he would face since he had come into this place.

However, Jian Chen was surprised by the fact that he did not come across a single Xuanhuang beast when he made it to the foot of the mountain. He did not even sense the presence of a Xuanhuang beast.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta looked at each other. They were rather stern. This situation only meant that the Xuanhuang beast's strength had completely exceeded the two of them. Once it hid itself, it would be extremely difficult to find.

"Jian Chen, this might be a Saint Emperor Xuanhuang beast," Tie Ta said with his heavy, deep voice. He was extremely stern, but he did not show any fear at all.

Jian Chen gave a deep nod in agreement, "Xuanhuang beasts do not have intelligence. They completely rely on their instincts to fight. Even if it's a Saint Emperor Xuanhuang beast, it will be nowhere near as powerful as a Saint Emperor in all aspects other than its toughness. It will not know any Saint Emperor abilities either, so we still can kill it." With that, Jian Chen began to climb the mountain. The steepness of the rocks did not trouble Jian Chen. As if it was any flat ground, he easily made his way up, and Tie Ta followed close behind him. If it were not for the fact that flight was restricted in this world, reaching the top would have been even easier.

Before long, Jian Chen and Tie Ta arrived at the peak, but their expressions suddenly changed in the next moment.

Chapter 1269: Class 9 Xuanhuang Beast

Before, when the two of them were below the mountain, their vision had been obscured, so they could not see the top of the mountain from afar. Now that they had scaled the mountain, everything was clear to them.

The peak of the mountain took up a very large expanse of space. It was craggy and filled with ditches, especially in the center. There was a twenty-meter-deep ditch that was over a thousand meters wide, and in the center of it lay two extremely large Xuanhuang beasts.

The two of them were larger than any Xuanhuang beast Jian Chen had ever seen. He had come across many Class 7 and 8 Xuanhuang beasts in the past, but all of them were several dozen meters long at most. Yet, the two alligator-like Xuanhuang beasts in front of him were a thousand meters long. Even though they lay on the floor, they were thirty meters tall and wide. From afar, they looked like huge bridges.

Jian Chen could not sense the presence of the two Xuanhuang beasts at all. This was not because they knew how to hide it, but this was a natural phenomena that would occur once their strength reached a

certain level. To be able to do that, the two beasts clearly were much more powerful than Jian Chen and Tie Ta.

“Two Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts!” Jian Chen’s heart sank slightly. Even though he had expected the beast that guarded a fifth grade Comprehension Tea Tree to have reached the level of Saint Emperor, he definitely did not think that there would be two of them. If there was just a single one, he and Tie Ta could still confidently deal with it if they worked together, but it would be a whole different story if there were two.

The moment Jian Chen and Tie Ta made it to the top, the two alligator-like Xuanhuang beasts opened their eyes at the same time. Four large, orange-yellow eyes landed on the two of them. They were bright and filled with a violent thirst for blood.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta immediately felt that they had been locked on by a vast presence, as if a huge mountain sat on top of them. They felt their bodies increase in weight as their movements became dulled as well.

“Let’s go!” Without any hesitation, Jian Chen immediately cried out and leaped off the mountain with Tie Ta. They quickly floated into the distance. Although the mountain peak was spacious, it was not suitable for battle. In order to prevent the ripples of battle from reaching the Comprehension Tea Tree, Jian Chen and Tie Ta could only draw the two Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts away.

Almost the moment they had leaped off, the two alligator produced weird ear-piercing cries. They stood up at that moment and became fifty meters tall. They were like mountains.

The entire mountain suddenly shook violently while the two alligators followed Jian Chen and Tie Ta, jumping off in pursuit. This region was their territory, so they clearly would not let the two ant-like existences that had intruded escape.

Although the two alligators were huge, they were also nimble. They were extremely quick as well, actually quite a bit faster than Jian Chen and Tie Ta. In the blink of an eye, they had caught up to them by quite a bit.

Sensing that the alligators were getting closer and closer, Jian Chen immediately used his Illusory Flash and his speed abruptly exploded. He tore away from the alligator once more with a long streak of afterimages behind him.

“Mysteries of War, Celestial Movement!” At the same time, Tie Ta used his Mysteries of War. He suddenly vanished before reappearing several kilometers away in the next moment. Like teleportation, his figure flickered, and he managed to travel over twenty kilometers away from the alligator. He was much faster than Jian Chen.

At this moment, Jian Chen and Tie Ta had already drawn the two alligators several dozen kilometers away. Afterward, they stopped, as if they understood each other tacitly, and quietly waited for the two beasts to reach them.

Jian Chen and Tie Ta did not stand together, but over ten kilometers away. The two Xuanhuang beasts split up as well, each charging toward one target.

Clearly, one of the Xuanhuang beasts was female while the other was male, but their strength was the same. Suddenly, a bright golden light began to flicker. Tie Ta had drawn his golden axe as he stood there in an awe-inspiring manner. He bathed in the golden light, erect like a war god as powerful battle intent revolved around him. He gave off a feeling that made him seem like he was invincible.

Jian Chen also stood with his Emperor Armament. He stood dead-straight as a powerful sword intent radiated from him, surging straight into the sky. He seemed to have become a sword that hovered in the surroundings.

Jian Chen dared not to show any carelessness against two Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts. He was already ready to use everything he had. At that moment, his consciousness completely fused with his sword intent, as if he had combined with the Emperor Armament in his hand. Suddenly, he seemed to sense something, but he was unable to grasp it no matter what. It felt like it was concealed by layers of mist, making it hazy and extremely blurry.

“This is the Way of the Sword!” Jian Chen’s heart twitched. He could feel once again that he had touched the first realm of the Way of the Sword, but to his disappointment, he had never been able to grasp it, perhaps due to the fact that he did not have his fated sword. He always felt like he was lacking something.

Jian Chen did not have the time to comprehend the mysteries of the Way of the Sword in detail. The Class 9 Xuanhuang beast had already arrived before him. It opened its mouth and bit at Jian Chen. At the same time, a powerful suction force emerged from its mouth, attempting to suck Jian Chen in.

Jian Chen immediately felt his movements slow down in an abnormal way now because of the suction force. However, he was not flustered at all. Chaotic Force surged out of him and wrapped around him to resist the suction force. He used the Illusory Flash to avoid the alligator’s mouth and stabbed out as hard as he could at the alligator’s head along the way.

Ding! With a crisp sound, like the collision of metal, Jian Chen’s full-powered attack failed to harm the alligator at all. He even failed to break through the alligator’s skin, only leaving behind a faint, white mark.

“What a tough body. Looks like I can only attack its weakest point,” Jian Chen was secretly shocked. The Class 9 Xuanhuang beast’s flesh had reached an unbelievable level of toughness. His full-powered attack, equal to a Saint King at Seventh Heavenly Layer, could not harm it at all. By the looks of things, probably even a Saint King at Great Perfection using all his strength could not break through the alligator’s skin.

Chapter 1270: Scarlet Gold Ore (One)

At the same time, the huge, golden axe in Tie Ta’s hand landed on his Class 9 Xuanhuang beast. The outcome was the same as Jian Chen’s. His powerful strike failed to harm the Xuanhuang beast at all, not even puncturing its skin. All that was left was a faint mark.

Tie Ta immediately frowned at this. The toughness of the Xuanhuang beast had also exceeded his imaginations, but he did not become dejected at all. He now gripped the axe with two hands as he lifted it high above his head. It shone with a bright golden light as a powerful battle intent coiled around him, fusing with the axe head.

“Mysteries of War, Mortality-breaker!” Tie Ta called out as the axe was swung down covered in a coating of golden light.

This time, Tie Ta used the Mysteries of War, so it was far more powerful than his attack earlier.

Boom! The golden axe landed on the Xuanhuang beast and actually produced a heavy boom. Violent streams of energy shot out in all directions as storms of energy, kicking dust and stones into the air. The dust obscured most of Tie Ta and the Xuanhuang beast.

Tie Ta’s strength had increased a lot after he had cultivated for three months in the whirlpool of energy. He was far more powerful than he had been in the battle against the Tao family. The power of his Mysteries of War had even reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer of Saint King, now even stronger than Jian Chen.

However, his attack still failed to break through the Xuanhuang beast’s skin, only leaving behind a white mark that was slightly bigger than before.

Roar! The Xuanhuang beast was angered and produced a deafening roar. It raised one of its limbs and pressed it against Tie Ta. It clearly could not allow such an insignificant, ant-like existence to attack it time and time again. Although it did not possess any intelligence, it felt supremacy due to its strength, unable to tolerate contact from those weaker than it.

Due to being overly large, the Xuanhuang beast’s limb was extremely huge as well. It was twenty to thirty meters wide, larger than a regular house.

The Xuanhuang beast quickly slammed down its foot. Like a huge stamp descending from the sky, it engulfed an entire region. Tie Ta immediately felt a vast pressure appear beneath him since he was below the foot. Although the Class 9 Xuanhuang beast did not know any special abilities, it was still a powerful existence on par with Saint Emperors after all. Just any old attack from it possessed an extremely large amount of force and the pressure created could trap any prey that was weaker than it.

Tie Ta felt his body become heavier and heavier. His feet had already sunk into the ground and continued to sink. The Xuanhuang beast’s huge foot rapidly came crashing down from above him. With every inch it fell, the pressure Tie Ta felt became greater.

“Mysteries of War, Celestial Movement!” Tie Ta cried out before using a Mystery of War again. Bathing in golden light, he suddenly vanished with a flash and reappeared on the back of the Xuanhuang beast like he had teleported.

“Mysteries of War, Destruction!” Tie Ta roared out and was covered by golden light. Supreme battle intent permeated his surroundings once again. It combined with his axe as invisible energy and strengthened it. A destructive energy erupted from the axe that seemed like it could destroy everything in the surroundings.

Just from the presence, Destruction was far more powerful than Mortality-breaker. One of them was just a simple but powerful attack, while the other possessed an aura of destruction. It could annihilate anything.

When the golden axe struck the back of the Xuanhuang beast with its destructive aura, it actually left behind a thin, two-meter-long gash. Tie Ta’s Destruction could actually puncture the skin of the

Xuanhuang beast. Although the wound was only an inch deep, not even a tenth of the beast's hide, it was still shocking.

The Xuanhuang beast violently shook in an attempt to throw Tie Ta off its back. Tie Ta held onto a protrusion on its back, securing himself firmly to the beast's back. He swung his axe with one hand and continued to use Destruction on the two-meter-long gash, causing it to rapidly widen. Once he got through the thick hide of the Xuanhuang beast, he would be able to harm the it.

The Xuanhuang beast immediately began to growl angrily and stomp the ground when it saw how it could not shake off the insignificant existence on its back. It created huge ditches one after another in the tough soul as it used its thick and powerful tail to whip at Tie Ta. However, Tie Ta would avoid it using his Celestial Movement before returning to the same spot to continue deepening the wound.

One swing...

Two swings...

Three swings...

The force of Destruction was greatly reduced since he was using it with one hand, but the Xuanhuang beast could not endure his consecutive attacks. The gash became deeper and deeper on its back, but there was still no blood. The Xuanhuang beast's hide was extremely thick. Tie Ta had not even cut through half of it.

Tie Ta was like a piece of gum stuck to the beast's back, unable to be removed no matter what. Although the beast posed no harm to Tie Ta for now, it was still very difficult for him to slay the beast since he had yet to even get through its hide.

On the other side, Jian Chen used the Illusory Flash to avoid the attacks of the beast. After a period of weaving and dodging, Jian Chen had completely grasped the way the beast attacked. It did not use any tricks and only used the most primitive methods of attack as a beast. Although it possessed the great strength of a Saint Emperor, it was not even as threatening as a Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint King besides its thick skin.

Jian Chen hid himself from the beast's vision. With his presence fully erased, he silently made his way below the beast and stabbed as hard as he could at its snow-white belly.

However, the attack failed to harm the Xuanhuang beast at all. Jian Chen felt his sword strike something soft, preventing him from using any force.

The belly was the weakest point of many magical beasts, and it was a crucial region that was directly connected to its various organs. Unfortunately, even this weak point of many magical beasts had been greatly strengthened on this Xuanhuang beast.

"Looks like I can only attack its eyes, mouth, ears, and nostrils," Jian Chen sighed inside. In all his years of fighting, this was a battle he felt most helpless about. It was not because his opponent was far too powerful but because their hide was just too thick.

Jian Chen emerged from beneath the Xuanhuang beast with a flash, standing right in front of the beast's head without hiding himself at all. He swung his Emperor Armament at the ground and immediately, a

black, crescent sword Qi vanished into the soil. It moved through the ground, heading quickly toward the Xuanhuang beast.

Soil was kicked into the air wherever the sword Qi passed, launching large swathes of sand and dust into the air. The sky became a hazy mess. Both Jian Chen and the Xuanhuang beast had their vision obscured in such circumstances, unable to see each other at all.

Jian Chen closed his eyes and charged into the cloud of dust. At this moment, he no longer bothered with the fact that his soul would be consumed at an extremely rapid rate. He expanded the senses of his soul to a thousand meters and used it to observe his surroundings as he rapidly approached the beast. At the same time, he carefully erased his presence to prevent the Xuanhuang beast from discovering where he was.

Jian Chen arrived twenty meters away from the Xuanhuang beast's head very quickly. Suddenly, his speed exploded, and he traversed the distance with the Illusory Flash, arriving before the beast's eye. He radiated with a powerful sword intent as the Emperor Armament shone with a black streak of light that was several meters long. The violent and destructive presence entered the Xuanhuang beast's eye, causing it to feel a piercing pain.

Before the beast could close its eyes, the Emperor Armament had transformed into an obscure streak of black light as it stabbed into one of the Xuanhuang beast's eye that was half a man wide. The Chaotic Force hidden within the weapon wildly erupted, blinding the Xuanhuang beast's eye at that moment. The residual energy used the eye as an entry and spread toward the brain of the Xuanhuang beast in attempt to destroy its central nervous system.

The Xuanhuang beast produced a painful cry as it writhed on the ground, kicking up even more dust and sand. It became so obscured that it was impossible for Jian Chen to see right in front of him.

Jian Chen originally planned on using this opportunity to blind the beast's other eye as well, but seeing how it writhed in an unpredictable manner, all he could do was give up with no other choice and retreat.

Not only did the Xuanhuang beast's pain come from its blinded eye, it was also caused by the small amount of Chaotic Force Jian Chen had deposited. Wherever the energy went, the surrounding blood and flesh would vanish. The Chaotic Force quickly made its way toward the beast's head.

The Xuanhuang beast also seemed to be able to sense the threat traveling toward its brain. Energy immediately surged out like water from a broken dam, quickly reaching its head. Afterward, it surrounded the small amount of Chaotic Force and slowly nullified it.

Jian Chen could sense the Chaotic Force vanish. He thought, "The Xuanhuang beast has grown up in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, so it must've absorbed some Xuanhuang Qi. Xuanhuang Qi is a powerful energy on par with Chaotic Force, so it possesses enough power to repel it. The threat of my Chaotic Force toward the beast has been greatly reduced. Greater effects will only appear when I use it on beasts that are weaker than me."

"My Chaotic Force will be wiped out before it can reach the beast's central nervous system. Looks like with my current strength, it's very difficult for me to slay Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts even when using its weak points to my advantage." Jian Chen emotionlessly stared at the writhing Xuanhuang beast in front of him. The light in his eyes flickered, but as if he had thought of something, a firmer gleam of light

flashed through his eyes. The next moment, the saint artifact flew out from the center of his eyebrows and with a wave of his hand, he removed something from the artifact space.

At that moment, an extremely terrifying ripple of energy pervaded the surroundings. The energy ripple was so powerful that even the two Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts paused.