

Chaotic 1281

Chapter 1281: Movements of the World of Forsaken Saints

Changyang Qing Yun's defeat was an extremely great hit to the morale of the Changyang clan. Changyang Qing Yunfeng, Changyang Qing Jueri, Changyang Yuan Wuji, and Changyang Yuan Zhenghua all paled as they spectated from afar. At that moment, they felt the world spin, as if the sky was about to collapse.

"Changyang Qing Yun is the strongest person in the Changyang clan, and even he's not the Heavenly Enchantress' opponent. He couldn't even last three attacks. This Heavenly Enchantress is just far too terrifying. She can't be a Saint Ruler," Changyang Qing Yunfeng thought in shock. The strength the Heavenly Enchantress had displayed was so great that they felt despair.

The dead silence was finally broken after a while. The grand elder of Mercenary City breathed heavily and said "Why don't we end the enmity between Shangguan Mu'er and the Changyang clan here? Everyone, the battle has ended. Please return to the miniature world so that we can continue our meeting."

With that, all the Saint Kings gathered there returned. Meanwhile, the Heavenly Enchantress said no more and returned with everyone else with her zither. All that was left in the end were the five great elders of the Changyang protector clan. They all stood around in gloom.

"Sigh, let's go as well," only after quite a long time did Changyang Yuan Zhenghua sigh at the sky before turning to leave. What had happened today was undoubtedly a slap to their faces in the eyes of the other protector clans. Not only did they lose all their dignity, they were, more importantly, heavily disgraced.

At this moment, Changyang Qing Yun returned to his senses as well. When he thought about how he had announced that he wanted to teach the ignorant Heavenly Enchantress a lesson, he felt his face burn. He was tempted to just find a hole and hide in it. He had lost all his dignity with what had happened today. He was too ashamed to see people again.

At that moment, Changyang Qing Yun seemed to have aged a lot. In just a few short months, their protector clan had been disgraced twice. This had never happened throughout history.

The Spiritking stood in front of the tunnel to the Tian Yuan Continent in the World of Forsaken Saints. He emotionlessly stared at the tunnel of distorted space. Behind him, over forty Origin realm experts stood silently in a single line with a group of Saint Emperors gathered behind them.

"This tunnel is rapidly stabilizing. Saint Kings can pass through it now, and probably in around a dozen days, Saint Emperors will be able to pass through," said the Spiritking.

"Spiritking, why don't we send a group of Saint Kings through the tunnel to investigate the circumstances of the other side, so we can gain an understanding as to the exact power of the other world?" A young man at Reival young inquired courteously from behind the Spiritking.

The Spiritking sank into his thoughts before nodding slightly. He said without even looking back, "Eight hall elders, immediately return to the hall and choose some Saint Kings of Great Perfection. Bring them here. They can do the investigating."

“Yes sir!” The eight Returnance experts from behind the Spiritking replied at the same time before leaving the peak of the mountain together.

The central mountain in the World Mountains was extremely dangerous. Even Reival experts would face danger there, so the only way to bring Saint Kings up was for Returnance experts to move them personally.

The several hundred Saint Emperors had only managed to reach the top safely due to the protection from the Spiritking and the eight Returnance experts. Even though that was the case, several of them had passed away due to the horrible environment as they scaled the mountain.

Soon after that, the eight Returnance experts all returned. They had brought several Saint Kings with them, fifty total. It was not because they did not want to bring more people, but that Saint Kings at Great Perfection were not as powerful as Saint Emperors. It was difficult for them to survive at the top of the mountain, so they could only bring them with their strength.

“We greet the Spiritking,” the fifty Saint Kings at Great Perfection all dropped to the ground. They were extremely polite.

With his back to everyone, the Spiritking said, “This is a tunnel to another world. Pass through it and enter the other world to investigate the situation there. That world’s strength is unknown, so you must be careful. If it’s possible, you can attempt to negotiate with them.”

“Spiritking, if the people of the other world attack, what should they do?” A Returnance expert asked.

“If they attack, you can obviously counterattack. I do know that you’ll probably end up dead after you pass through, so leave a fragment of your souls in this souljade before you pass through. Even if you die there, we can revive you using a secret technique. However, the price will be that your strength will decrease drastically after you leave behind a fragment of your soul. After you are revived, you must cultivate again.” The Spiritking paused slightly and then continued, “Of course, you don’t need to worry. Once you revive, the Sacred Spirit Hall will supply you with resources to help you become Saint Emperors in the shortest time possible as compensation.”

The Spiritking produced a pile of jade rocks from his Space Ring. After splitting them among the fifty Saint Kings at Great Perfection, he said, “There should be experts guarding the entrance to the other world once you get there. If you can’t defeat them, crush this piece of jade. The spatial energy inside will teleport you to a random place in that world. However, you have to remember to not attack them unless they’ve launched an offensive at you. Understood?”

“Yes sir!” The fifty Saint Kings at Great Perfection replied together.

A Returnance expert stood forward and pulled out fifty ink-black pieces of jade. He said, “These are souljades. They can store your souls. Leave a small portion of your souls in them before passing through.”

The Saint Kings all took a piece of the rock and left behind a fragment of their souls. They all became rather pale and weak after depositing a portion of their souls, but they still entered the tunnel to the Tian Yuan Continent.

The Spiritking and the Origin realm experts watched the group of Saint Kings disappear into the tunnel. All of them remained there. They did not wish the group they had sent through to fight. They wanted it to investigate the other world so they could have some understanding. As a result, all of them knew that probably all the Saint Kings would die. They would then revive them using the souls deposited in the souljades and learn of the other world.

Not only could the souljades be used to revive them, it possessed another ability, which allowed them to fully retain their memories. This included everything that would happen in the other world as well as everything they would experience.

Chapter 1282: Fourth Layer of the Chaotic Body

Jian Chen sat like a statue within the artifact space. He held onto his last two Class 9 Monster Cores as the sword spirits hovered above him, assisting him refine the energy of the monster cores and allowing him to reach the fourth layer in the shortest amount of time possible.

The two Class 9 Monster Cores in Jian Chen's hands shone with a hazy glow. The vast and powerful energy within them was rapidly absorbed by Jian Chen, before being refined into Chaotic Force and fusing into his chaotic neidan.

His chaotic neidan had already reached the size of an adult's fist in his dantian. This was the limits of the third layer.

The two Class 9 Monster Cores shrunk at a visible rate. With the assistance of the sword spirits, the energy within them flowed away at an astonishing rate. After a few days of cultivation, Jian Chen had used up all the energy crystals he had obtained from Xuanhuang beasts as well as his Class 7 and 8 Monster Cores. The two Class 9 Monster Cores were the only ones left.

When he absorbed a third of the energy in the monster cores, Jian Chen's chaotic neidan finally ruptured with a rumble. At that moment, strands of Chaotic Force surged out like a flood, violently leaking from his shattered chaotic neidan. Like wild horses, they rampaged through Jian Chen's body.

Jian Chen shuddered. At that moment, he began to expand at a visible rate, expanding to become over half of his regular size. He seemed like a blown up balloon.

This was not the first time Jian Chen had experienced something like this. He immediately dismissed his thoughts and focused his attention, using the cultivation method recorded in the Azulet Swords Law to control and circulate the Chaotic Force the best he could.

Under Jian Chen's experienced circulation, the Chaotic Force slowly came under his control. It began to be compressed and purified, condensing ten strands into five and five into a single strand.

Gradually, the Chaotic Force in Jian Chen's dantian became stronger and stronger and more and more pure. As his Chaotic Force evolved, his body began to struggle to endure the energy. The fourth layer Chaotic Force had wreaked havoc within him. His organs, flesh, and blood had all experienced the violent rampaging of the fourth layer Chaotic Force.

Jian Chen's body quickly began to leak with blood. In just a short moment, he became covered in blood with his clothes dyed red as well. Every single drop of blood possessed extremely powerful pulses of energy. Without any doubt, a single drop of his blood was enough to kill a Saint Ruler.

Jian Chen's body underwent the process of continuously being destroyed by the Chaotic Force before recovering. Every time his body was ruined, strands of fourth layer Chaotic Force would fuse into his flesh as it recovered, making it even more powerful.

His body would strengthen over time as he resisted the rampaging of the fourth layer Chaotic Force.

Chaotic Force and the Chaotic Body increased together. Every time the Chaotic Force reached a new layer, his Chaotic Body would need to follow up as well. His body would always be on the same level of strength as the energy he used, or he would not be able to store the Chaotic Force that had suddenly grown stronger.

Right now, Jian Chen's Chaotic Body was progressing to the fourth layer as it withstood the violent frenzy of the Chaotic Force.

The process last for an entire day before coming to an end. Jian Chen's Chaotic Force and Body had reached the fourth layer. Both his Chaotic Body and Chaotic Force had strengthened rapidly, but the price was that his fist-sized chaotic neidan had been compressed into the size of a soybean again. There was not a lot of Chaotic Force in it anymore.

The blood on Jian Chen did not coagulate. All of it re-entered his body through his pores, only leaving behind a bloodied set of clothes.

Jian Chen slowly opened his eyes. He silently felt his new Chaotic Body and Chaotic Force as joy filled his face. He mumbled, "The Eighth Heavenly Layer of Saint King. The fourth layer of the Chaotic Body gives me the strength of an Eighth Heavenly Layer Saint King, and it's at the peak of the Eighth Heavenly Layer, infinitesimally close to the Ninth."

"The third layer gives me the battle prowess of a Saint King at the Third Heavenly Layer. With the Emperor Armament, that becomes the Seventh Heavenly Layer. I wonder what strength I can display if I use the Emperor Armament now," Jian Chen mumbled. Not only did his battle prowess increase after reaching the new layer, his defensive capabilities became extremely great as well. The fourth layer of the Chaotic Body could receive attacks from Eight Heavenly Layer Saint Kings and emerge unscathed as long as they did not use a Saint Tier Battle Skill.

This was because the power of the Chaotic Body and Chaotic Force were equivalent. Since the Chaotic Body could store such powerful Chaotic Force, just his body would not be something an Eighth Heavenly Layer Saint Kings could injure. They would not even be able to scratch him. Only at the Ninth Heavenly Layer could someone break through his defenses and cause him an injury.

However, this injury would only be miniscule!

"The current toughness of my body is probably far beyond the bodies of Class 9 Magical Beasts," Jian Chen thought. At the same time, a thought suddenly crossed his mind. If he reached the fifth layer, then even regular Saint Emperors would not be able to scratch him.

"I've already wasted quite a few days by breaking through to the fourth layer. The upcoming period of time will be extremely valuable. I need to gather a few heavenly resources in the shortest time possible. I can't stick around here any longer," Jian Chen thought. He quickly suppressed his joy, changed into a clean set of clothes, and went to visit the white tiger and Tie Ta.

The white tiger was still in a slumber right now. It had not completely digested the the Immortal Tier heavenly resources it had ingested a few days ago, but Jian Chen could clearly sense that the white tiger's strength was rapidly increasing. It was already quite close to the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler.

"Once I leave the Xuanhuang Microcosm, the white tiger will probably become a Class 8 Magical Beast as well," Jian Chen murmured softly. The white tiger was a Winged Tiger Beast and possessed a well-endowed advantage. It could devour heavenly resources without any worry to rapidly increase its own strength. If it were any other beast of antiquity or human Saint Ruler, they would have imploded long ago, and even if they could avoid that fate, it would lead to incurable after effects.

Jian Chen then visited Tie Ta. He was still absorbing the energy crystals he had obtained from the Xuanhuang beasts, now roughly a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King.

Even Nubis was cultivating. However, he did not increase his own strength, and instead, he was wolfing down the spring water and essence from the Springs of Life. He was refining his own soul.

The several dozen elites of the Flame Mercenaries did not sit around doing nothing either. They worked with the Class 7 Magical Beasts, who lived in the saint artifact, to craft crude wooden boxes for Jian Chen with the wood he had supplied them with.

Jian Chen left the artifact space and returned to the Xuanhuang Microcosm. He advanced through the boundless world by himself, searching for a Class 9 Xuanhuang beast to test his strength.

Chapter 1283: Encountering a Class 9 Xuanhuang Beast Again

On the way, Jian Chen constantly searched for Reconstruction Gel. He had already gathered a massive pile of it in the artifact space. The larger ones had reached the size of a person while the smaller ones were only the size of a fist.

Jian Chen had already completed the sea goddess' request and had already collected a lot of both the Reconstruction Gel and the essence from the Springs of Life.

Before Jian Chen had entered the microcosm, he had wished to find what the sea goddess needed a little earlier so he could leave right away. Then, he could continue absorbing the energy of the worldly ebb to cultivate. But now, he was not hurried at all. He wished he could stay a little longer in fact.

Half a day later, Jian Chen came across another large region of life. This time, he did not search for the heavenly resources in a hurry. He stood beside the Spring of Life and radiated a powerful presence and made it churn. It engulfed the entire region and was filled with provocation.

As soon as Jian Chen's provocative presence radiated out, a deafening beast roar reverberated from the center of the region. With a gentle swish, a black shadow shot toward Jian Chen with lightning-like speed.

Jian Chen's eyes suddenly narrowed as he stared at the black shadow that rapidly approached him. He thought, "I just happened to be looking for a Class 9 Xuanhuang beast to test my strength. I never thought I'd come across one so quickly." Kicking off the ground gently, he began to float away like a fallen leaf. However, he moved extremely quick.

In just a few seconds, Jian Chen had retreated to a spot twenty kilometers away with lightning-like speed. The Emperor Armament had silently appeared in his right hand as Chaotic Force surged endlessly into it. It was covered in a dark hazy glow, and the destructive and violent presence it gave off was even heavier than before.

However, Jian Chen frowned slightly. He glanced at the Emperor Armament in his hand. He could clearly feel that when he injected Chaotic Force into the Emperor Armament, it no longer gave him the feeling like before. When he was still at the third layer, the Emperor Armament could easily endure the Chaotic Force he injected, but it now became rather difficult for the Emperor Armament since he had reached the fourth layer. Not only would he encounter some obstruction as he sent his Chaotic Force into the Emperor Armament, he would even destroy the interior slightly.

Although the damage was not severe so far, it would deepen with every use, thus, influencing the amount of strength he could use.

“Looks like the Emperor Armament is no longer suitable for me. I need to forge the Azulet swords as soon as possible. Only they can withstand Chaotic Force,” Jian Chen sighed inside. The Emperor Armament he had used for quite some time already was becoming obsolete.

With a furious growl from up ahead, the Xuanhuang beast from the region tailed Jian Chen. Although it lacked intelligence, it could still tell that Jian Chen was provoking it. To it, being provoked by an insignificant existence that was not as strong as itself could not be tolerated.

Seeing how Jian Chen stopped, the Xuanhuang beast did not lunge at Jian Chen in a hurry. It stopped a hundred meters away and glared at him.

At this moment, Jian Chen saw the Xuanhuang beast for the first time. It was a pitch-black, four-meter-long, panther-like Xuanhuang beast that possessed a small horn on its head with a pair of small black wings on its back.

Jian Chen became rather stern. Even with his increased strength, he still could not remain careless before a Class 9 Xuanhuang beast. Although the one in front of him was not comparable in size to the two alligators, it was quite stronger than the alligators.

Suddenly, Jian Chen vanished from where he was with a sway. He aggressively charged at the horned panther to deal the first blow.

The panther produced a hearty growl. It sank down before suddenly kicking off the ground, pounding over like an arrow. It opened its wings slightly and became a little faster, charging toward Jian Chen at a speed much greater than the speed he was moving.

Jian Chen narrowed his eyes. The panther's speed had caught him off-guard, but he did not become flustered at all since he was experienced. Just as he was about to collide with the panther, he made an odd maneuver and avoided the panther's frontal attack. As he brushed past the panther, he stabbed at the cat's belly.

At the same time, there was a black flash in front of him. With a crisp crack, his chest had been whipped by the panther's tail. His clothes there turned into fragments instantly, and he was blown away.

Jian Chen flew for fifty meters before hitting the ground. He felt a burning pain from his chest. There was already a red mark there.

Jian Chen lowered his head to look at his chest. He was shocked inside, "If I hadn't reached the fourth layer, just that attack would have punctured my chest and injured me. This Xuanhuang beast is very strong, reacts quickly, and can counterattack with its tail. Is it experienced in battle as well?"

Jian Chen glanced at the panther and saw a meter-long wound on its belly from his attack. It was bleeding.

"Looks like my full-powered stab can only reach the levels of Saint Kings at Great Perfection or maybe just at the level of Saint Emperors. The effect of the Emperor Armament on my battle prowess is no longer as great as when I was at the third layer," Jian Chen sighed inside. The Emperor Armament had already become rather unsuitable for him.

Growl! The panther produced a throaty sound before turning into a black shadow, charging at Jian Chen again. It opened its huge mouth to bite at Jian Chen's head. It seemed even more vicious after becoming injured.

Jian Chen showed no fear. Strands of Chaotic Force churned from his soybean-sized chaotic neidan, filling every corner of his body. He pushed the defenses of the fourth layer to the max. This time, he did not choose to dodge. Instead, he engaged in a head-on battle with the panther.

The Emperor Armament shone brightly as he blanketed the panther with a flurry of strikes. The afterimages of the sword stacked together and filled up an entire region of space. It was difficult to distinguish between the attacks that were real and the attacks that were fake.

The panther became slightly confused. It was unable to tell what was real and fake between the flurry of stabs. Sometimes it felt like all of them were fake, but sometimes it also felt like all of them were real.

Chapter 1284: Comprehending the Way of the Sword (One)

The panther became slightly confused. It was unable to tell what was real and fake between the flurry of stabs. Sometimes it felt like all of them were fake, but sometimes it also felt like all of them were real.

Since it could not tell between what was real or fake, it produced a wild flurry with both its claws. With sharp gusts of wind, violent streams of energy shot out, kicking dust into the air.

Jian Chen controlled the Emperor Armament with all his focus. The Emperor Armament weaved through the panther's claws as it stabbed toward its eyes.

However, just when the Emperor Armament drew close, the panther suddenly twisted its head to one side as if it had sensed it. It avoided the strike on its eyes, but the Emperor Armament still managed to leave behind a deep gash on its neck. Blood immediately poured out like a fountain.

The panther became even more furious after it was injured a second time. It immediately roared at the sky as energy gathered in its mouth. It quickly condensed a head-sized ball of earthen-yellow energy and shot it at Jian Chen. At the same time, the short horn on its head began to glow with faint yellow light as well.

When Jian Chen wanted to avoid the ball of energy, the horn on the panther's head suddenly shot out a streak of yellow light that engulfed him. Suddenly, Jian Chen felt his limbs tighten, having been immobilized by a mysterious force.

Jian Chen was shocked. In the past few days he had spent in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, he had come across quite a few Xuanhuang beasts, but none of them possessed such special abilities. This one could actually immobilize him.

Jian Chen circulated his Chaotic Force furiously. His body jolted as hard as he could, and only then did he shake away the mysterious force around him. However, the ball of energy had struck his chest while he had been momentarily stuck.

Bang! With a heavy sound, Jian Chen was blown far away, landing on the hard earth several kilometers away. His chest was reduced to a bloody mess and several of his ribs were broken.

Jian Chen stood up with a flip. Even though his wound looked horrible, it did not affect his battle prowess much. Coupled with his circulation of Chaotic Force, his broken ribs and wounds healed at a visible rate. The power of Chaotic Force was on full display at that moment.

Up ahead, the panther clearly became stunned when it saw Jian Chen easily standing, as if he was completely fine after taking on its attack. However, it recovered very soon before charging at Jian Chen once more. Its horn began to shine with yellow light again.

Jian Chen stood steadily as he used the precious amount of time to heal as quickly as possible. His gaze was fixed on the small horn on the panther's head as his expression became extremely stern.

Although the energy from the horn could only immobilize him for an extremely short amount of time, that was enough to change the outcome of the battle. He could endure it a few times, but once it happened too many times, he would find it difficult to continue even with his Chaotic Force. After all, he was not taking on attacks from a Saint King but a Saint Emperor.

"Be careful, master. That's the innate ability of some Xuanhuang beasts. There are not many beasts that possess innate abilities in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, but every single one that does is virtually invincible among its level of cultivation. Master only needs to dodge the innate ability the moment it is fired," Zi Ying's voice rang out in his head.

Jian Chen was secretly surprised. He said, "I never thought that Xuanhuang beasts would have innate abilities as well. I just wonder how many times it can use it." He had already sensed that the panther would become rather exhausted after using its innate ability.

With the assistance of the sword spirits, Jian Chen noticed some minute signs the Xuanhuang beast would exhibit the moment it used its innate ability, so he managed to avoid it the second time. At the same time, he increased the number of injuries on the panther with his sword.

The bodies of Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts were just far too tough. With Jian Chen's current strength, he could not impale them. He could only deal a three-inch-deep wound at most. At the same time, the Xuanhuang beast possessed residual strands of Xuanhuang Qi. Even if Jian Chen injected his Chaotic Force into its body, the damage caused was extremely limited.

The panther used its innate ability three times in a row. It missed with the last two tries and realized that it might as well stop using its innate ability. It engaged in an intense battle with Jian Chen and relied on the toughness of its body. The powerful ripples of energy turned the surroundings into a mess.

Gradually, the wounds on both the beast and Jian Chen increased. They both became bloodied. Jian Chen had attempted to stab the panther's eyes several times as they fought, but not only was the panther much stronger than the alligators he had encountered before, but its reaction speed and agility was also incomparable to the alligators. At the same time, it was well-versed in battle. There was an extremely low number of Xuanhuang beasts that were experienced in battle, but this beast managed to narrowly dodge Jian Chen's attacks every time he stabbed out.

The vitality of Xuanhuang beasts was plentiful. Although Jian Chen could not kill the panther in a short amount of time, it was only a matter of time before it died.

Suddenly, a thought flashed through Jian Chen's head. His gaze immediately became rather hazy as his movements slowed. At that moment, he seemed to have grasped something, but he also felt that everything was blurry and hazy, like he could not see reality at all.

A sudden slip in attention during battle was fatal to all experts. The panther immediately arrived in front of Jian Chen as it opened its large mouth to bite him.

Jian Chen did not seem to realize. His eyes remained distant and confused, but they soon cleared up a little. He then grasped at the emptiness in front of him, and immediately, an extremely bright streak of light appeared in his hand. The light was as thin as a chopstick and as long as an arm. It concealed extremely powerful and sharp sword Qi, enough to make people shiver inside.

Chapter 1285: Comprehending the Way of the Sword (Two)

Jian Chen did not return to his senses yet. Unconsciously, he stabbed at the panther's head with the streak of white light.

With a spurt, the white light actually punctured the panther's head. Entering through the area between its eyebrows, it almost managed to cleave its head in half.

Roar! The panther produced a cry of pain. It immediately lost all its vigor. However, its body still struck Jian Chen since it could not stop.

Jian Chen staggered a few steps back. He was roused from the wondrous mental state after being hit by the panther. His eyes were confused, but they sharpened very quickly.

Bang! A heavy sound rang out from beneath his foot as the panther collapsed on the ground and painfully squirmed. The huge wound on its head was horrendous. Its nerves had been heavily damaged. Although it was still not dead, it was on the brink of death.

Jian Chen did not hesitate when he saw this. He immediately stabbed at the panther's head with his Emperor Armament. Using the wound as an entry point, he stabbed into the head and completely severed the panther's central nervous system.

The panther froze before slowly softening. It lay on the ground without moving as if it had lost all its strength.

Jian Chen removed an energy crystal from the panther's body before throwing the corpse into the artifact space. He then sank into his thoughts.

"Master, I never thought that you'd touch the boundary of Sword Origin and at an even greater level than the times before. I've begun to wonder if master will comprehend Sword Origin the very moment you get a hold of your fated swords," Zi Ying's voice rang out in praise. It was filled with much excitement.

"This only means that master is extremely suited to walk the Way of the Sword. If others want to comprehend the first realm of the sword, it's extremely difficult. There is rarely anyone who can comprehend the first realm as a Golden Immortal. Most of them have to become a Daluo Golden Immortal or even a Xuan Immortal before they can reach Sword Origin. Once master forges the Azulet swords, you'll definitely comprehend the Way of the Sword before you become a Heavenly Immortal, and with master's current talent, you'll definitely reach the fifth realm and become a new Sword God," exclaimed Qing Suo excitedly. She was hopeful of Jian Chen's future.

Jian Chen roused from his thoughts after listening to what the sword spirits had said. He knew that he had touched the first realm of the Way of the Sword, which was the same as what had happened outside the City of God before. It had all happened suddenly and unknowingly. However, he failed to grasp the Sword Origin when he had touched on them before, perhaps due to the absence of his fated swords. All he could use the touch for was a single attack, and once he was roused from that state of mind, he could no longer re-enter it.

To him, there was still a lot of haziness obstructing him from reaching that realm.

"Zi Ying, can you explain how strength is divided in the Immortals' World? The Heavenly Immortals, Golden Immortals, and Daluo Golden Immortals have all made me confused," Jian Chen said rather gloomily.

The sword spirits thought a little. Qing Suo then said, "Master, strength in our Immortals' World is divided into Human Immortals, Earthen Immortals, Heavenly Immortals, Golden Immortals, Daluo Golden Immortals, Xuan Immortals, Nine-heavenly Xuan Immortals, Immortal Monarchs, Immortal Emperors, and Immortal Exalts. The Human Immortals and Earthen Immortals aren't actual immortals. Human Immortals are equivalent to the Saints and Heaven Saint Masters on the Tian Yuan Continent while Earthen Immortals are equivalent to Saint Rulers, Saint Kings, and Saint Emperors. Only the Heavenly Immortals, who have surpassed the level of Earthen Immortals, are true immortals."

Jian Chen became confused by what was said. He murmured, "Earthen Immortals are equivalent to Saint Rulers, Saint Kings, and Saint Emperors while only those that have surpassed Saint Emperor are Heavenly Immortals. Then what's the Origin realm all about?"

"Master, what we just mentioned was how strength was divided in the Immortals' World. The Origin realm is a realm of cultivation from the Saints' World. The Saints' World is a world on the same level as the Immortals' World, but we're enemies. In the Saints' World, there are five major realms of cultivation: the Mortal realm, Sainthood, the Origin realm, Godhood, and the Primordial realm."

"The Mortal realm is equivalent to the Human Immortals of the Immortals' realm, which ranges from Saints to Heaven Saint Masters. Sainthood would be the Saint Rulers, Saint Kings, and Saint Emperors

while the Origin realm is also divided into three: Reival, Returnance, and Reciprocity. Godhood is divided into Deities, Gods, Overgods, and Godkings while the final Primordial realm is divided into Infinite Primes, Chaotic Primes, and Grand Primes. The Immortal Exalts of our Immortals' World are equivalent to the Grand Primes of the Saints' World, Immortal Emperors are equivalent to Chaotic Primes, and Immortal Monarchs are equivalent to Infinite Primes."

"Master, do you still remember the Empyrean Demon Orb you had obtained from the Octoterra Divine Hall back then? It was the famed treasure of the Empyrean Demon Monarch from the Demons' World. She had garnered the attention of various large organizations both in the Demons' World and the Immortals' World. Not only was it because of her exceptional talent, being one of the few geniuses within the two worlds, her strength was so great that she managed to fight with an Immortal Emperor for four whole hours as a peak Immortal Monarch. Even though she died in the end, the matter shook up both worlds. This was because the disparity between Immortal Monarch and Immortal Emperor is extremely vast and even a high god artifact cannot make up the disparity. Very few people can fight an Immortal Emperor as a Immortal Monarch, but she managed to do it."

Qing Suo sighed deeply when she spoke up to there. She became rather gloomy and said, "Back then, even former master paid some attention to her. Master had even said in the past that she would become a Demon Emperor without long, which was equivalent to an Immortal Emperor of the Immortals' World. He had even said that she had the chance of becoming a Demon Exalt, but unfortunately, she had already passed away the next time we saw her. Her famed treasure, the Empyrean Demon Orb had even vanished with its artifact spirit intact."

"So the Empyrean Demon Monarch actually comes from such great origins!" Jian Chen was secretly shocked. The strength of the Empyrean Demon Monarch had far exceeded what he had initially thought.

At the same time, Jian Chen understood that he had become one of the few, great experts on the Tian Yuan Continent with his current strength, but it was nothing in the Immortals' World or the Saints' World.

"Zi Ying, Qing Suo, has there ever been someone who has surpassed Grand Prime and Immortal Exalt?" Jian Chen suddenly asked out of curiosity.

This time, both sword spirits shook their heads without any hesitation. Zi Ying firmly said, "There has never been a person who has surpassed Immortal Exalt. However, if you are asking about someone who has made it the furthest as a Immortal Exalt, then there is one person, the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt.

"The Nirvanic Immortal Exalt reached the limits back then. His strength could be described as surpassing the limits of Immortal Exalt, but he still remained in that realm of cultivation. He just belonged to the very peak of it. Coupled with his four swords, he was the strongest in the Immortals' World without any doubt. Although former master was also one of the five Grand Exalts of the Immortals' World along with the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt, even he was a little weaker in terms of strength."

"The Nirvanic Immortals Exalt was actually this powerful!" Jian Chen was greatly shocked. He could not help but think of the four brothers he had encountered in the divine realm because the four of them practiced the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt's cultivation method, but it seemed incomplete.

“But unfortunately, the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt was not the opponent of the warring god. He passed away in the great battle against the Grand Prime of the warring gods, having been cleaved to death by a blow from his axe. Sigh...” Zi Ying sighed. He was rather sorrowful. As the strongest expert of the Immortal World, he actually suffered such a miserable outcome.

“Is the Grand Prime of the warring gods really that powerful, where even the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt isn’t his opponent?” Jian Chen immediately asked. He could not help but think of Tie Ta. He was also a warring god, except he had not fully matured right now. He was still nowhere near becoming a Grand Prime.

“Master, the warring gods are given birth to by the world. They are blessed by the world and possess extremely great battle prowess. They are invincible among the same realm of cultivation. Not only was the warring god who had reached the peak of Grand Prime invincible in the Saints’ World, it was the same in the Immortals’ World and Demons’ World. Probably only the Chaotic Body could rival him in the world, but the Chaotic Body has never managed to reach Immortal Exalt. As for the Grand Prime of the warring gods, he had been heavily injured in the battle against the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt and was finally slain by former master,” Zi Ying’s voice contained some helplessness.

With a thought, Jian Chen asked, “Zi Ying, I remember that you told me before that the Chaotic Body is divided into four levels within the Immortals’ World: Minor Achievement, Partial Achievement, Major Achievement, and Great Perfection. The first six layers are Minor Achievement, the next six are Partial Achievement, while the thirteenth layer to the eighteenth are Major Achievement. Is Great Perfection equivalent to Immortal Exalts?”

“Correct. The Great Perfection of the Chaotic Body is equivalent to the Immortal Exalts of the Immortals’ World, but it’s never appeared before. There has never been anyone who’s reached Great Perfection. However, reaching the peak of Major Achievement would provide them with the strength to fight against Immortal Exalts, but that’s only regular Immortal Exalts. It’s still extremely far away from the five Grand Exalts,” Zi Ying said.

Jian Chen’s head sank when he heard that. He thought, “No one has managed to reach the Great Perfection of the Chaotic Body. Will I stop there as well?”

After thinking to himself, Jian Chen asked a few more questions before concluding his conversation with the sword spirits. He returned back to the region of life that had been guarded by the panther and collected quite a few Immortal Tier heavenly resources. To his utter surprise, he actually found another Violet Cloud Peach Tree. It had reached the second grade, where its peaches could give a thousand years of cultivation.

After collecting all the valuable items, Jian Chen immediately re-entered the artifact space. He got the artifact spirit to find a hidden place for him. He dug out a fire pit there and used a metal container to hold some spring water before he put it above the fire to boil it. He then rummaged through his Space Ring and finally found an exquisite tea set.

He had found the tea set in the Space Ring of some Saint King he had killed in the past.

“Master, what are you doing?” Zi Ying stared at Jian Chen’s actions, perplexed and asked.

Jian Chen sat down before the fire pit as he attentively boiled the water. He seriously replied, "I am making tea, to comprehend the Sword Origin realm through the Comprehension Tea Leaves."

"Master, you still don't have your fated swords yet, so you can't comprehend the first realm of the Way of the Sword. There's no need for you to rush so much. Once you forge the Azulet swords, you will comprehend the first realm very quickly," Qing Suo said heavily. The two sword spirits had existed for countless years, and they had never heard of a single person who had managed to comprehend the Sword Origin realm without their fated swords. Even though Jian Chen had already come in contact with that realm twice, they still did not believe that Jian Chen could comprehend it right now.

"I don't think that's definitely the case. I've already entered the Sword Origin realm twice. I've failed to grasp it, but I've gained a blurry understanding of it. My Chaotic Body has reached the fourth layer, and I've gained a great increase in strength, but it's still rather difficult for me to deal with some stronger Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts. I can only kill them easily by borrowing the power of the Way of the Sword. In order to be able to travel even further in this microcosm, I need to try it whether I succeed or not," Jian Chen firmly answered. He had already made up his mind.

Chapter 1286: Comprehending the Way of the Sword (Three)

Comprehension Tea Leaves were Immortal Tier heavenly resources, so they obviously could not be boiled with regular water. Not only would normal water decrease the effects of the tea leaves, their quality would also drop by a lot. It was more suitable for Jian Chen to use the spring water from the Springs of Life to make the tea. Not only would it allow the tea to exhibit all of its effects, it could even amplify the effects to a certain level.

The spring water in the kettle became bubbling water very quickly. Jian Chen grabbed it and placed a whole tea leaf inside. He began to make the tea with all his concentration.

The tea leaf slowly began to dissolve in the boiling water before completely vanishing in the end. It had completely dissolved into the water, making the color of the water grow brighter than before. The steam that it gave off possessed the profound presence of the ways.

Jian Chen took a deep breath through his nose and his head became empty. His mind had become extremely clear. If it were not for the fact that the Xuanhuang Microcosm was different from the outside world, where it lacked the mysteries of the world, Jian Chen suspected that he would have uncontrollably broken through to the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler and become a Saint King, gaining the ability to make Space Gates.

Jian Chen knew that the tea could not be set aside for too long. Before it had even cooled, he drank the whole cup.

The moment he drank it, he could feel a sense of clarity rise up from his chest. It headed into his head and fused with his soul.

Immediately, Jian Chen felt like he had entered an illusion, as if all the laws of the world were presented right before him at that moment. He seemed to be able to see the veins of the world and understand all the mysteries present. Jian Chen knew that this was not true, so he quickly gathered his attention and devoted all he had to comprehend the Way of the Sword.

Jian Chen began to meditate as he closed off all his senses, no longer paying any attention to the outside world. However, the sword spirits nervously stared at his face. Qing Suo asked in worry, "Zi Ying, do you think that master will really succeed in comprehending the Way of the Sword? In the lengthy past, no one has managed to comprehend the Way of the Sword below the realm of a Heavenly Immortal and without their fated swords."

Zi Ying shook his head, "Although we don't believe that master can comprehend the Way of the Sword and reach Sword Origin before he's forged the Azulet swords, we can't forget that master is extremely suited for the Way of the Sword. He touched the boundary of Sword Origin as an Earthen Immortal already, and the second time was even deeper than the first. He even used eighty percent of the Sword Origin's power. With the Comprehension Tea Leaves, even if master does not reach Sword Origin, he will benefit greatly. There might even be the tiniest possibility that he really does reach Sword Origin."

"If master really does reach Sword Origin this time, becoming a Sword God will be no problem in the future. He might even become a Sword God much earlier than we have anticipated," Qing Suo said.

Zi Ying nodded, "Chaos gave birth to Yin and Yang while the fusion of Yin and Yang produces chaos. We were born from strands of Yin and Yang Qi, so the Azulet swords are the only weapons suitable for Chaotic Force. Once master forges the Azulet swords, he'll be invincible in his cultivation realm when coupled with his Way of the Sword. He might even be able to easily kill those of greater cultivation levels. If master becomes a Sword God in the future, he might even be able to rival Grand Exalts with his Chaotic Body at the peak of Major Achievement."

In the blink of an eye, three days passed and Jian Chen roused from his meditation. His eyes shone brightly as joy was plastered across his face. After the three days of comprehension, he had failed to reach the first realm of the Way of the Sword, but his comprehension of Sword Origin was becoming deeper and deeper. His understanding rapidly increased. He had really benefited from this tea.

Without any hesitation, Jian Chen immediately began to boil water again. He made tea with a second leaf as he continued to comprehend the Way of the Sword.

Jian Chen used three days more for this second period of comprehension. He roused again and immediately began to make tea a third time.

On the third day after Jian Chen had drunk his third pot of tea, his presence suddenly changed just when the sword spirits thought he was about to rouse. His presence sharpened, as if countless sharp blades slowly revolved around him. Although his presence remained invisible, anyone could feel its sharpness.

The next moment, streaks of finger-long, white light, as thin as string, began to condense in the air. They slowly revolved around him. Every single one of them was pure and concentrated sword Qi.

This sword Qi was completely different than regular sword Qi. Regular sword Qi was condensed from energy, but these were not composed of energy at all. They seemed unique.

"T- this is the Sword Origin realm! Master's actually succeeded!" The sword spirits continued to watch, stunned. Disbelief filled their faces.

"The rumor that you cannot reach Sword Origin without your fated swords has been disproven today, and so has the rumor that you can't reach it without being a Heavenly Immortal. If this piece of news

made it to the Immortals' World, it's enough to shake up the everything," Qing Suo mumbled as she stared at Jian Chen in a daze. Fascination, excitement, joy, ecstasy, disbelief, and so on were all present on her face right now.

At this moment, the thin, bright sword Qi revolving around him slowly began to gather, becoming a single strand in the end. The strand was condensed into a small, sixty-centimeter-long sword that shone even more resplendently. The sword Qi was sharper as well.

Jian Chen's eyes remained closed, but he slowly raised his right hand. He gently held the sword completely condensed from sword Qi and his entire body seemed to fuse with it. The small sword seemed to have become his limb, becoming a part of him.

Jian Chen slowly opened his eyes. There was only peace in them. He stared at the sword Qi attentively. He showed no joy or sadness, only clarity. After quite a long time did he murmur to himself, "So it's like this. This is the Way of the Sword. I've finally understood the Way of the Sword and reached Sword Origin." As he spoke, he slowly loosened his hand and the pure sword Qi dispersed into the surroundings, transforming into nothingness.

"Congratulations, master! You've actually managed to comprehend the Way of the Sword and reach the first realm, Sword Origin!" The sword spirits congratulated him as joy filled both their faces. They felt happy for him from the bottom of their hearts.

Jian Chen stood up and smiled from the bottom of his heart as well. He said, "The Way of the Sword is a rule. The sword Qi condensed from my comprehension of the Way of the Sword is the power of a rule. It is extremely powerful, incomparable to any sword Qi I can condense right now. Using the Way of the Sword to fight people is equivalent to using rules to fight people."

"Master, rules are also laws, which are what they're called in the Saints' World. They are known as ways in our Immortals' World," Zi Ying corrected. He was born on the Immortals' World, so he obviously preferred the Immortals' World's method of reference.

Jian Chen chuckled. He did not delve on the matter with the sword spirits and said, "I've used nine days to comprehend the Way of the Sword. There is less and less time remaining. I need to go out. I believe that killing Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts with my current strength shouldn't be too difficult now.

Jian Chen knew that his battle prowess had drastically increased now that he had reached Sword Origin, but he was uncertain as to just how much it had increased by. He did not dare to test his strength in the artifact space since the artifact space could only withstand attacks from those below Saint Emperors. Saint Emperors were enough to shatter the space. He did not wish to destroy the artifact space with his own hands after it had helped him so much.

Chapter 1287: Easy Kills

Tie Ta remained in cultivation, but since it was much easier to absorb the energy crystals from the Xuanhuang beasts than monster cores, his strength had increased extremely quickly. Jian Chen could basically sense that Tie Ta's strength was increasing at every moment of the day.

Jian Chen did not disturb Tie Ta. He left the artifact space by himself and advanced through the boundless plains of desolation. Since the sword spirits guided him, he did not become lost. He maintained a straight path throughout his journey.

A day later, a great mountain range appeared in Jian Chen's vision. From afar, it seemed like a huge, slumbering dragon. The mountain range weaved about and was extraordinarily steep. Even from afar, Jian Chen could clearly sense a vast presence radiating from the mountain range.

The mountain range seemed very close, but it was extremely far away from him. After traveling several hundred kilometers, he finally arrived at the foot of them mountain. Immediately, Jian Chen felt like he was facing an entire world.

Jian Chen felt like he was standing before a vast world as he stood before the mountain range. It was teeming with a vast, boundless presence, and he felt as insignificant as an ant when he stood there. Not only was it due to a difference in size, it was also due to a difference in presence.

The height and size of the mountain range was unknown. It reached as far as the eye could see, while the mountain peaks were obscured by a layer of hazy yellow clouds.

The mountain range was red in color since it was filled with various fire-red vegetation. It was teeming with fire-attributed energy of the world. Jian Chen had never sensed energy so vast, and it even possessed faint strands of Xuanhuang Qi.

"This is the elemental mountains. The mountain range is a natural barrier in Xuanhuang Microcosms. The entire mountain range forms a circle around the center. As long as you cross the mountains, you'll be able to reach the central region of the Xuanhuang Microcosm," Zi Ying appeared above Jian Chen and gave an explanation to Jian Chen as he stared at the huge mountain range.

As soon as Zi Ying finished speaking, Qing Suo appeared as well. She stared at the elemental mountains ahead and said, "There are many heavenly resources of the five attributes within the elemental mountains, and the Xuanhuang beasts that guard them are quite strong as well. There are no Xuanhuang beasts below Saint Emperor, and there might even be one or two Heavenly Immortal Xuanhuang beasts, so master needs to be extra-careful in the mountain range. The difference between Earthen Immortals and Heavenly Immortals is qualitative. With master's current strength, there should be no problems dealing with peak Earthen Immortal Xuanhuang beasts, but things will become troublesome if you come across a Heavenly Immortal Xuanhuang beast."

Jian Chen became rather stern. Heavenly Immortal Xuanhuang beasts would be existences that had surpassed Saint Emperor on the Tian Yuan Continent. Jian Chen no longer feared Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts now that he had reached Sword Origin, but he was not confident he could deal with Xuanhuang beasts that had surpassed Saint Emperor.

Jian Chen entered the elemental mountains. He entered the region of the fire-attribute, so all of the vegetation around him possessed a demonic red. The vegetation gently swayed like tiny sparks dancing about happily while the temperature soared as he traveled deeper.

The vegetation in the elemental mountains was not made up of ordinary plants, but they were not heavenly resources either, so they were not as useful. However, there were many heavenly resources hidden among them.

“Master, there is a stalk of Scorching Fire Grass three kilometers to your left. If cultivators of fire-attributed cultivation methods ingest the grass, not only will it increase their cultivation speed, it will refine their energy.” Five minutes later, the sword spirits discovered a heavenly resource hidden among the plants and immediately informed Jian Chen.

Jian Chen arrived where it was, and he carefully removed a weed-like plant from the ground. The Scorching Fire Grass was only the size of a palm and seemed very ordinary. It was so red that it almost seemed like blood, hiding extremely dense fire-attributed energy within.

“First grade of the Immortal Tier!” Jian Chen recognized the quality of the Scorching Fire Grass with a single glance. He knew quite a few Immortal Tier heavenly resources in the Xuanhuang Microcosm now, so he obviously developed some ability to discern certain types of heavenly resources.

The Scorching Fire Grass was not some particularly valuable heavenly resource, so there was no Xuanhuang beast guarding it. Jian Chen left as soon as he had collected it, continuing his search.

“Master, there’s another Flamecloud Fruit Tree up ahead. It’s reached the fourth grade,” Qing Suo said again without long.

Following Qing Suo’s directions, Jian Chen indeed came across another Flamecloud Fruit Tree. The tree was much larger than the one from before. The thumb-sized fruits on it glowed with a hazy, red light, as if there were flames dancing inside them.

However, two Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts loafed around the tree. They seemed like foxes. They were completely fire-red and relatively small, only the size of an adult human. However, their heads were tiger-like, abnormally fierce in appearance as they glared around.

The moment Jian Chen discovered them they discovered Jian Chen as well. They immediately stood up and produced throaty growls, slowly advancing toward Jian Chen. Their four limbs were powerful while their claws were both sharp and long. They gave off an icy-cold glint.

Jian Chen habitually pulled his Emperor Armament from his Space Ring. His mind emptied as he reached Sword Origin. He swung the sword at one of the Xuanhuang beasts from fifty meters away.

Jian Chen’s attack seemed to stimulate a certain presence in the surroundings. It seemed simple, but it seemed to also possess a certain supreme power. As he struck out, a glow appeared, causing the surroundings to dull. An extremely bright, snow-white streak of light shot out, flying toward the Class 9 Xuanhuang beast.

The Xuanhuang beast narrowed its eyes as fear filled its face. It could feel just how terrifying the streak of light was. It wanted to dodge, but it discovered that it could not no matter what it did. As a result, it swung its paws in attempt to tear the streak of light to pieces.

Spurt! The streak of light collided with the sharp claws, and they were completely severed. However, the silver-white light weakened slightly after encountering the obstruction, finally landing on the Xuanhuang beast’s head.

A deep wound immediately appeared on the head of the Xuanhuang beast as blood wildly spurted out. It quickly dyed its entire head red.

The other Class 9 Xuanhuang beast could not help but halt after seeing its companion injured from just the first clash. It looked at Jian Chen in fear and already began to consider retreat. Although these beasts lacked intelligence, their bestial instincts still made them feel dread when they were attacking an existence that was stronger than them.

Chapter 1288: Class 10 Xuanhuang Beast (One)

Jian Chen was stunned as well when he managed to easily injure a Class 9 Xuanhuang beast. After reaching Sword Origin, the increase in his strength had completely exceeded anything he had been expecting, but he was soon overwhelmed by joy. He understood that Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts no longer posed a threat to him. Their tough bodies were as fragile as tofu now.

At this moment, a bright, dazzling white light flickered again. Jian Chen swung the Emperor Armament and an extremely pure and powerful sword Qi shot toward the injured Xuanhuang beast. It seemed like a simple strike, but it possessed the endless mysteries of the Way of the Sword. It did not seem like a sword Qi but the laws of the world. It was a way.

The second sword Qi disappeared into the wound caused by the first and cleaved the Xuanhuang beast's head in half. It continued on without weakening into the beast's neck and then body.

In the end, the Xuanhuang beast's entire body was cleaved in half by Jian Chen's second sword Qi, except the two halves remained stuck together. Afterward, the beast collapsed on the ground and stopped moving. Its central nervous system had been utterly destroyed by the violent sword Qi while its vast vitality rapidly leaked away.

The other Class 9 Xuanhuang beast was stunned by what had just happened. It had also sensed that the intruder was far stronger than what it could deal with after witnessing its companion die so quickly. It immediately produced a terrified growl before turning around to flee.

A Class 9 Xuanhuang beast was equivalent to a Class 9 Monster Core, and Class 9 Monster Cores were extremely valuable on the Tian Yuan Continent. Jian Chen could not allow the beast to flee right before him, so he immediately used the Illusory Flash and pursued the beast as a blur. Chaotic Force surged out, causing the Emperor Armament to shine with a dark light and radiate with the violent presence of destruction. A snow-white layer of light silently appeared on the surface of the sword as well, radiating with extremely sharp sword Qi.

The snow-white light mixed with the Chaotic Force and seemed to fuse. However, this force was clearly much greater than when Jian Chen had struck out before.

The Class 9 Xuanhuang beast became even more horrified when it sensed the terrifying presence behind it. It began to flee even faster, but just when it had increased its speed, it felt that it had been locked onto by a powerful presence. The red world that it was familiar with disappeared as well, having been replaced by a snow-like whiteness.

Spurt! Jian Chen shot a meter-long black-and-white light from his Emperor Armament. It struck the back of the Xuanhuang beast. He almost managed to cleave the Xuanhuang beast in half, with only a fifth of the beast's flesh keeping its two halves together.

The Xuanhuang beast could no longer flee after it became so heavily injured. It collapsed on the ground, but due to inertia, it slid several kilometers through the forest before coming to a stop. It produced a painful wail.

Jian Chen slowly made his way over to the Xuanhuang beast with his Emperor Armament. Although it was still alive, it was completely incapacitated. Its injuries were so heavy that it could not even stand.

Jian Chen stabbed the Xuanhuang beast's head and destroyed its nerves, completely ending its life. He skillfully removed the energy crystal from its body before tossing the corpse into the artifact space.

Afterward, Jian Chen returned to where he was before and collected the corpse of the other Xuanhuang beast. Afterward, he began to collect the Flamecloud Fruit.

In the blink of an eye, Jian Chen had already stayed in the elemental mountains for five days. The mountain range was extremely vast. Even after five whole days, he had not managed to make it out of the fire-attributed region with his speed.

But in the five days, Jian Chen had collected quite a few heavenly resources. Without any exception, all of them were fire-attributed heavenly resources. He had also come across around a dozen Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts during that time, which he all killed. He obtained the same amount of energy crystals, which were equivalent to Class 9 Monster Cores.

There were no Xuanhuang beasts below Class 9 in the elemental mountains. All of them were at least Class 9, but there were far fewer than he had expected. Every single Class 9 Xuanhuang beast was very far away from each other. They all had their own territory and guarded some valuable heavenly resources.

After five days of traveling, Jian Chen had scaled up a mountain over nine thousand meters in height. Less than three hundred meters above him was the layer of hazy-yellow clouds.

The clouds were not ordinary. Even with Jian Chen's eyesight, he could not see through them, and he could sense that the Xuanhuang Qi that permeated the world was even denser in them. However, he could not absorb it no matter how hard he tried. He did not even have a method to take away even just a tiny portion of it.

Many of the mountains in the elemental mountain ranges reached into the clouds, so it was impossible to see just how tall they were.

Jian Chen continued to climb since he had been locked into this mountain range. As he rapidly climbed higher, the surrounding energy of the world became even more abundant. He knew he would come across even higher grade heavenly resources as he approached the peak.

He had already spent over a month in the Xuanhuang Microcosm and only had around one and a half months left to continue exploring.

Chapter 1289: Class 10 Xuanhuang Beast (Two)

The temperature surged as faint strands of yellow mist appeared around Jian Chen. He had entered the thick layer of clouds and his vision became obscured. Visibility was extremely low, and even the usage of his soul became more and more restricted.

At this moment, Jian Chen suddenly froze. He suddenly swayed and reappeared over ten meters away like he had teleported.

Bang! As soon as Jian Chen reappeared, a red blur landed where he was standing before, and with a violent sound, rocks were shattered and thrown into the air along with dust.

Jian Chen became extremely stern. He had failed to see what that red blur was, nor did he learn what had suddenly attacked him. If he had not maintained his vigilance and dodged instinctually, he probably would have suffered a lot just then.

However, before Jian Chen could think about it some more, his expression suddenly changed. All his muscles tightened as his eyes stared right before him. He felt a terrifyingly powerful presence lock onto him. Not only did Jian Chen find it suffocating, he felt his body become as heavy as a mountain. Even his movements became limited.

The presence was so tremendous that it basically froze every inch of space around him, almost trapping him through the control of space.

“Beyond Saint Emperor!” Jian Chen was shocked. Even though he had yet to see the appearance of the Xuanhuang beast, he had determined that it had reached the Origin realm just from its presence alone.

This was because he had slain many Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts already and understood their strength. It was impossible for a beast at that level to give off so much pressure.

“This Xuanhuang beast has already reached the level of Heavenly Immortals. Master, you’re not its opponent. Run!” The sword spirits’ voice rang out in Jian Chen’s head as well.

Jian Chen rapidly began to retreat without a second thought. He leaped down the mountain. The Origin realm and Sainthood were two major realms of cultivation, so the difference of strength was extremely great. Jian Chen was confident he could kill any Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts, but that confidence was not the same against Class 10 Xuanhuang beasts.

Jian Chen descended along a steep, curvy cliffside, dropping several thousand meters in just a few seconds. He had left the thick layer of clouds in the sky and his visibility finally returned to him. However, he dared not to relax at all. Not only did the vast presence remain locked on him, but it was also growing stronger.

“Oh no, that Class 10 Xuanhuang beast’s chasing me right now, and it’s getting closer and closer,” Jian Chen could feel how bad the situation was inside. He suddenly kicked off a great tree beside him, immediately shooting off into the distance like a loose arrow.

Due to the restrictions of the mysterious force, flying was basically impossible in the Xuanhuang Microcosm, so Jian Chen could only glide like a bird while using the Illusory Flash.

Hiss! At this moment, an ear-piercing sound rang out from behind. A thousand-meter-long python emerged from the thick layer of clouds and appeared in front of Jian Chen. Its body radiated a red light, which seemed to fuse with the surroundings. It slithered forward as its tongue flickered in pursuit of Jian Chen. It was quite faster than him.

When the red python first came out, it was nine thousand meters away from Jian Chen, but that distance was reduced to six thousand in less than a minute before shrinking to three thousand. In the end, it was only a few hundred meters away from Jian Chen.

Jian Chen's heart slightly sank. The terrain was complicated, which limited his strength. Meanwhile, the python behind him had lived here for many years already. It moved through the mountains and forests like a fish through water. It was impossible for Jian Chen to escape since the distance between them was decreasing.

Jian Chen ended up stopping. Chaotic Force surged from his right hand before condensing into a dark sword of energy. Resplendent and pure sword Qi was present in the Chaotic Force, mixing with it and, hence, increasing his strength. He had given up on the Emperor Armament long ago. After reaching Sword Origin, the Emperor Armament only became more damaged, and even if he used it, it would not increase his strength at all.

"Since I can't shake off this Class 10 Xuanhuang beast, I'll fight it. I may not be able to defeat it, but I can see just how terrifying existences that have surpassed Saint Emperors are and use this opportunity to gain a rough understanding of them," Jian Chen thought. He was confident that killing this Class 10 Xuanhuang beast would not be easy.

At this moment, the giant python opened its mouth and a wave of flames surged out. They shot toward Jian Chen with extreme heat, burning all the vegetation that they came across to a crisp.

Jian Chen was shocked inside. He could feel that the fire from the python was even more powerful than Hong Lian's flames. Although Hong Lian was a Scorching Divine Phoenix and held supreme power over fire, the python's flames were much more terrifying than her flames due to such a great disparity in strength.

Jian Chen used the Illusory Flash to safely avoid the flames despite his surprise. He felt that he was rather fortunate that he was only facing a Class 10 Xuanhuang beast who lacked any abilities. If it was a true Origin realm expert, he would not be able to counterattack at all.

Jian Chen quickly approached the python after dodging its flames. Leaping over ten meters into the air, he arrived above the python's head and stabbed down as hard as he could with the sword he had condensed.

The next moment, Jian Chen's eyes silently narrowed, because his full-powered attack only managed to leave an insignificant scratch a finger deep. It could not even be counted as a wound.

"What a terrifying body. It's probably more than ten times tougher than the bodies of Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts. Probably only Origin realm experts can heavily injure it," Jian Chen was astounded. The toughness of the Class 10 Xuanhuang beast had greatly exceeded anything he had expected. Even with his mental preparations, he was still shocked.

At this moment, a terrifying force appeared. The python viciously shook its head, flinging Jian Chen far off into the distance. He crashed into a dozen thick trees.

Jian Chen immediately felt like all his bones had become dislocated with just that. Every inch of his body throbbed painfully. If it were not for his Chaotic Body, he would have been reduced to a smear of flesh.

Jian Chen only managed to stabilize himself after flying for many kilometers. He then began to flee without even looking back. From just that momentary contact, he had already gained a rough understanding of the strength of Class 10 Xuanhuang beasts. They were undefeatable.

However, Jian Chen was still unable to move faster than the python due to the terrain. He was caught again without long.

“Master, you can’t move in a straight line, or there’s no way you’ll move faster than it. At the same time, all the Xuanhuang beats in the elemental mountains have their own territories. This Heavenly Immortal Xuanhuang beast is probably the supreme ruler in the fire-attribute region, so master won’t be able to break away successfully if you stay here. We just happen to be quite close to the earth-attribute region. Let’s go over there. That’s the only way we can escape this Xuanhuang beast,” Zi Ying’s voice materialized in Jian Chen’s head. Raising his head to look, there just happened to be the yellow, earth-attribute region several dozen kilometers away, so he immediately changed direction and ran toward it in a zig-zagging fashion.

The distance took Jian Chen less than a minute to traverse. He arrived at the boundary of the fire-attribute region very quickly and was about to cross over.

The python in pursuit immediately became flustered when it saw that Jian Chen was about to flee from its territory. It spat out streams of fire, clearly not planning to let Jian Chen off easily. This was because the presence of Chaotic Force on Jian Chen made it drool. It was on the same level as the Xuanhuang beast, so it had a vague feeling that its strength would increase a lot if it managed to consume the insignificant existence.

Several dozen streams of fire formed a great net in front of Jian Chen. Although Jian Chen had managed to avoid most of the streams, he was still struck by one. The unimaginable heat immediately turned his clothes to ash. Even with his fourth layer Chaotic Body, he found it difficult to endure, having become bright-red from the heat. He shed an entire layer of his skin, which was excruciating.

Jian Chen gritted his teeth as he bitterly endured. He used the Illusory Flash to avoid the net of fire and finally made it out of the fire-attribute region and into the earth-attribute region.

The python did not follow him over. It stopped at the boundary and stared at Jian Chen, unwilling to give up on its prey. Its tongue flickered constantly as it produced ear-piercing hisses.

Although the python did not follow him over, Jian Chen did not stop. He endured the burning pain all over him as he quickly fled into a forest.

The python remained at the boundary for quite some time, but it did not cross it in the end. It returned in gloom and full of regret.

At this moment, Jian Chen currently sat beneath a large tree. His burnt skin was being shed part by part before being replaced by new skin. Although he was severely burned, it was nothing that the terrifying recovery of the Chaotic Force couldn’t handle.

Ten minutes later, Jian Chen stood up full of vitality. He pulled a new set of clothes from his Space Ring and changed into them. He had already made a full recovery from his wounds, but he was as bald as an egg. His flowing, long hair had all been burnt to a crisp.

Chapter 1290: The Final Material

In the blink of an eye, Jian Chen had stayed in the earth-attribute region for several days. He had come across over twenty Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts during that time. He killed them all and collected their corpses and energy crystals.

However, Jian Chen had gained a clear understanding of the strength of Class 10 Xuanhuang beasts after being chased by one before, so he did not provoke any of them over these past few days. As soon as he came across a region that might have been the territory of one, he would take a long detour around it.

Other than that, Jian Chen had come across many Immortal Tier heavenly resources as well. The various heavenly resources he had collected over the past few days had already formed a small mountain. There was so many that even Jian Chen was shocked.

A few days later, Jian Chen passed through the earth-attribute region. He had only a month and a few days left until his three months in Xuanhuang Microcosm came to an end, so he knew just from the size that even if he spent the rest of his time here, he would not be able to make it through the entire mountain range.

The mountain range was just far too vast. It was the largest Jian Chen had ever been in. To cross through a region with his speed took several days even if he traveled in a straight line. He would have to spend even more time if he wanted to search through every region. With his remaining time, just searching through a single region would be extremely difficult, let alone the entire place.

"I can't waste valuable time here. I should cross the mountains and enter the depths to have a look there. There must be even more treasures there," Jian Chen made up his mind. Although he knew that there were still a lot of Class 9 Xuanhuang beasts left in the elemental mountains, he no longer planned to stay any longer. He immediately changed directions and crossed the mountains as he made his way into the depths.

Jian Chen traveled for two whole days before making it through the mountains, arriving in the region they encircled. The huge basin seemed like an ancient forest as trees towered over him. They were several hundred or even thousands of meters tall. The vegetation there grew vigorously, having reached over ten meters in height. It was teeming with life.

Although it was only separated by a single mountain range, the outside and inside seemed like two completely different worlds.

Jian Chen entered the forest. The heavenly resources in the forest were even more plentiful than the elemental mountains. When he had traveled less than twenty kilometers, he came across another Violet Cloud Peach Tree. It had already reached the fifth grade. A single peach could provide the energy equivalent to two thousand five hundred years of cultivation.

An extremely powerful Class 9 Xuanhuang beast guarded the tree. Jian Chen believed that even if the Xuanhuang beast had not reached the peak of Class 9, it was close already. He spent a lot of effort to slay it before taking all the immortal peaches with him.

"That's Mortal Energy Fruit. Master, Mortal Energy Fruits are an immortal fruit that can recover consumed energy extremely quickly. If you've consumed too much energy in a fight, you can consume

one and return the energy within you to its peak amount in an extremely short amount of time.” Zi Ying discovered another extremely rare heavenly resource and cried out in excitement.

“Master, go pick the Mortal Energy Fruit. They’re extremely rare even in the Immortals’ World. They’re one of the best immortal fruits for recovering energy. Every single one of them is extremely expensive, and they’ve even reached the fifth grade.” Qing Suo happily encouraged Jian Chen.

Jian Chen gazed over and discovered a tree over ten meters tall up ahead. A few fist-sized, milky-white fruits hung on its branches. The fruits possessed a special pattern on their surface, and up close, the pattern seemed like the faces of people.

“And there’s Amethyst Spiritual Bamboo over there. The sap of the bamboo is something that can heal the injuries of the soul, and it can also refine the soul and strengthen it. They’re even more valuable than the Mortal Energy Fruit, an item of demand but no supply,” Zi Ying then said as he pointed at a region of amethyst bamboo nearby. He became even more delighted.

However, he suddenly became stunned after saying that. He stared at an amethyst, fist-sized rock within the bamboo forest, and a while later, he suddenly cried out, “Yin Hellstone, that’s Yin Hellstone. Master, there’s even a piece of Yin Hellstone within the Amethyst Spiritual Bamboo. That’s the last material for forging the Azulet swords!”

Qing Suo was surprised by that and immediately looked over as well. Joy filled her face and she said, “It really is Yin Hellstone. I never thought that we’d find the final material for the Azulet swords here. Master, you have to obtain that stone no matter what. Once we forge the Azulet swords, master will truly embark on the Way of the Sword. Master will also be able to practice the techniques of the Way of the Sword.”

Jian Chen became excited as well. Forging the Azulet swords was extremely important to him. Not only would he be able to obtain a weapon that truly suited himself, allowing his strength to skyrocket, he would also be able to formally practice the techniques of the sword and continue further into the realm of the Way of the Sword. He could become a true practitioner of the sword with the techniques he acquired.

Although he had already reached Sword Origin, he was not in possession of his fated swords, so every time he used the wonders of the Way of the Sword, he felt like he was lacking something. He was unable to use his power naturally.

Jian Chen was tempted to run up and hug the stone, but he needed to suppress the urge. He cautiously looked around as he expanded his soul.

Jian Chen could tell from the sword spirits that both the Mortal Energy Fruit and Amethyst Spiritual Bamboo were no worse than fifth grade Violet Cloud Peaches, yet they had actually appeared together, with a piece of Yin Hellstone sandwiched in between. The beast that guarded them would obviously be powerful.

The senses of Jian Chen’s soul were severely restricted within the basin. Even as he poured all his efforts into his soul, he could only engulf a radius of five kilometers. The two heavenly resources and the Yin Hellstone were ten kilometers away from him, so it was impossible for him to discover any Xuanhuang beasts if they were hiding there.

Jian Chen became rather troubled in that moment. He needed to obtain the Yin Hellstone no matter what, but it was quite possible that a Class 10 Xuanhuang beast, or a beast even stronger than that, guarded the Mortal Energy Fruit and Amethyst Spiritual Bamboo. It was definitely not something he could fight. He did not know if he would have the time to collect the Yin Hellstone if he faced the pursuit of such a powerful Xuanhuang beast.

“Master, there are no Xuanhuang beasts in a radius of five kilometers around the Mortal Energy Fruit and Amethyst Spiritual Bamboo. It’s probably left, but from the residual presence, this Xuanhuang beast should be a Heavenly Immortal already, and even a late or peak Heavenly Immortal,” Zi Ying said sternly.

“What! The Xuanhuang beast’s already reached late or even peak Heavenly Immortal? Doesn’t that mean it’s even more powerful than the python I can across a few days ago?” Jian Chen’s heart skipped a beat. This was horrible news to him.

“That’s exactly the case. The python master came across a few days ago was only an early Heavenly Immortal, quite a lot weaker than this one.” Qing Suo became rather stern as well. They were uncertain if Jian Chen could flee if he ended up being pursued by this beast.

“Zi Ying, Qing Suo, can you see just how far the Xuanhuang beast has gone? If it’s gone far enough away, I can try to snatch it. I might have enough time to take away the Yin Hellstone,” Jian Chen asked. His attention was entirely set on the Yin Hellstone. The Mortal Energy Fruit and Amethyst Spiritual Bamboo were valuable, but he set them aside for now.

Although the Xuanhuang beast was not close to the Yin Hellstone, it was still a beast in the tenth class after all. It could travel several dozen kilometers in the blink of an eye. Jian Chen feared that the Xuanhuang beast was close to the Yin Hellstone, hidden in a place the sword spirits could not detect.

“Our powers have been greatly suppressed in the Xuanhuang Microcosm as well, so we can only see up to a region of a little less than twenty kilometers. We are helpless any further than that,” Zi Ying regretfully replied