

Chaotic 1371

Chapter 1371: Glory of the Turtle Clan (Two)

As soon as the Violet Cloud Peach reached their stomachs, it immediately transformed into a vast amount of energy. The energy was pure and powerful and filled every corner of the elders' bodies.

The elders of the Turtle clan were all extremely shocked and stunned. They found the energy just far too vast and tremendous, having exceeded the limits that their bodies could withstand. What shocked them even more was that such a small peach contained this unbelievable amount of energy.

The emperor's blood and divine water of the world were nothing compared to the peach.

The elders began to arduously refine the energy with fear and unease. They were afraid of being blown apart by the energy.

However, they all let out a breath of relief. The energy within a single peach was terrifying, but it was not as violent as they had imagined it to be. Instead, it was extremely gentle and did not negatively affect them at all.

As they refined the peaches, the Comprehension Tea came into great use. It took them into a wondrous state of mind. Under this state, the mysteries of the world, which they would usually take forever to comprehend, were being presented before them in a clear way. In their absent-mindedness, they seemed to understand and comprehend something. Their comprehension of the mysteries of the world rapidly skyrocketed.

Before Jian Chen had possessed his fated swords, he had used the tea to force his way into Sword Origin. That was more than enough to demonstrate how great the effects of the tea were on people's abilities to comprehend the laws of the world. The elders were using the tea to comprehend the mysteries of the world that was far less significant than the Way of the Sword, so their understanding improved very quickly.

Jian Chen sat before the elders and carefully observed their states. He watched over them, to prevent them from encountering any accidents as they went through the process. This was the first time he had given someone the heavenly resources from the Xuanhuang Microcosm. He could test the true effects of the heavenly resources on the elders.

The presence of the elders rapidly strengthened as powerful energy pulsed from them. Their strength continued to increase.

Suddenly, a faint white mist drifted out of the bodies of the elders. It grew thicker and thicker before enveloping them entirely.

Immediately, the energy of the world in the secret room became extremely dense before dispersing into the surroundings.

Jian Chen frowned when he saw this. He could tell that the white mist from the elders was the vast energy from the peaches.

“They’re actually unable to completely refine a first grade Violet Cloud Peach. They still wasted quite a lot of energy,” Jian Chen thought while feeling some pain. The increase in strength brought on by the peach would decrease as a result.

“Zi Ying, Qing Suo, is there any way to prevent the leakage of energy,” Jian Chen turned to the sword spirits for help.

“Master, this is a common occurrence. Not everyone can absorb all the energy within a peach. Normally in the Immortals’ World, a weaker person will always have a senior of theirs watching over them when they consume the peach so that the senior can use their supreme strength to stop the leakage of energy or use some special method to seal the energy within them. However, you still don’t possess that ability with your current strength, master,” Qing Suo told him.

Jian Chen gave up after listening to their explanation. All he could do was helplessly watch as the energy constantly drifted out of the elders. He could not stop it.

Jian Chen stayed there for close to a month before the elders finally refined all the energy they could. The moment they opened their eyes, a tremendous presence immediately radiated from them, rushing out like a flood. It blasted the room to pieces in a single moment, caused it to collapse. The entire clan was greatly affected by their auras.

Jian Chen put away the flowers, and with a flash, he left the room and returned to ground level. He stood with his arms crossed.

The secret room he had just been in began to collapse, quickly forming a deep ditch nearby.

The elders all erased their presences and rushed out of the ground. All of them stood behind Jian Chen while feeling emotional. They were all overjoyed when they sensed their current strength. They dropped to their knees and cried out, “We thank the ruler for your gift!”

At this moment, quite a few clansmen had gathered in the surroundings. They had no idea what had just happened, but they immediately bowed when they saw Jian Chen there. They politely cried out, “We greet the ruler!”

Jian Chen dispersed the crowd with a wave of his hand. He glanced over all the elders and smiled in satisfaction. He said, “Well done, you haven’t disappointed me. Your strength has rapidly increased and you have all reached the 15th Star, and five of you have even reached the 16th Star. In the entire sea realm, there is no organization, aside from the three ancient halls, that possesses over a dozen Saint King. From today on, even without me, you will be able to support the clan.

As he said that, Jian Chen glanced at the sky above him. The sea realm was enveloped by a huge barrier, which was why no rainbow clouds appeared when the elders all became Saint Kings

The elders’ excitement gradually vanished. They said rather gloomily, “Ruler, we wish for you to visit the clan often in the future. All of us will be thinking of you.”

Jian Chen glanced around the bustling clan and said, “The Turtle clan is a clan that stands at the very peak of the sea realm. I have finally completed the grand elder’s wish. I may visit you from, time to time, but I will be handing the clan to you from now on. Farewell!” Jian Chen jumped on the Zi Ying Sword and took off as a streak of light.

“We bid the ruler farewell!” The elders behind remained on their knees. Every single one of them felt horrible. Their joy from becoming Saint Kings had already completely vanished.

Jian Chen visited the grand elder’s grave before riding his sword to the Sea Goddess Hall.

Yadriam received him personally while several hall elders followed behind her. Now, all the hall elders looked at Jian Chen with gazes of respect and fear.

The most eye-catching person among them was a woman in a blue dress. She was alluring and no less beautiful than Yadriam.

Jian Chen greeted Yadriam before looking toward the woman. He clasped his hands at her and said, “I thank elder Atlantis’ assistance back when I was being hunted by the experts of the Heaven’s Spirit Hall and Serpent God Hall.”

The woman was Atlantis, the one known as the strongest below emperor. She was a hall elder of the Sea Goddess Hall.

Atlantis bowed to Jian Chen and said, “The emperor must be joking. You probably only hid your strength intentionally back them. Even without my assistance, they wouldn’t have been able to do anything to you. I was unneeded in that situation, so please forgive me for making a spectacle.”

“Jian Chen, please come in,” said Yadriam as she invited Jian Chen into the hall.

Yadriam and Jian Chen sat opposite of each other inside a well-decorated room. Atlantis personally served tea and fruit for them.

“It hasn’t been peaceful over the past few days. Her majesty’s revival has thrown the sea realm into an uproar and the two other halls have wavered. Many people have broken away from them and joined our Sea Goddess Hall. If it were not for the fact that the two hall masters were still alive, the two halls probably would have dissolved already,” said Yadriam.

“This is a perfect opportunity for you to unite the sea realm,” replied Jian Chen.

Yadriam glanced at Jian Chen and shook her head. She gently sighed, “That’s not what her majesty wanted me to do. She said that having the sea realm balanced between the three halls is not necessarily bad.”

Jian Chen said nothing. He had nothing to say about the internal affairs of the sea realm.

Yadriam picked up a finger-sized piece of fruit and ate it. She said, “Jian Chen, have you come this time for your friend?”

“Yes, that’s exactly why I’ve come. Back in the territory of the Heaven’s Spirit Hall, her majesty told me, as she was leaving, that my friend has been sent to the Sea Goddess Hall for cultivation. Hall master, is my friend well?” Jian Chen inquired.

“You have no need to worry. After you friend was brought here by her majesty, she has enjoyed the treatment of a valued guest. I have already sent people with large quantities of divine quality crystals to help with her cultivation. She is completely fine right now, and her strength is rapidly increasing. I’ll take

you to see her right now.” Yadrin stood up and left as she spoke. She personally lead the way for Jian Chen. In her opinion, the only polite thing to do his would be to personally lead him to his friend.

The divine hall was extremely vast. Jian Chen went through twists and turns as he followed Yadrin before arriving in a forbidden zone. He stood in front of a large door to a secret room.

Yadrin opened the door and a ray of dazzling blue light immediately flowed out. An extremely pretty woman, who seemed to be in her twenties, sat inside cultivating. Her long hair ran down her shoulders. Her face was almond-shaped and her lips were like cherries. Her long eyelashes gently trembled, making her seem extremely enchanting. This pretty woman was Huang Luan, who Jian Chen had not seen for a long time.

However, the current Huang Luan had already undergone an overwhelming change in strength compared to before. She possessed the Water Spirit’s Body, so her talent was shocking. She cultivated at an extremely fast rate, especially after she had arrived in the sea realm. She practiced a cultivation method imparted on her by the sea goddess, and her rate of improvement could only be described as stunning. She had already reached the Seventh Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler.

Although she was nothing compared to Jian Chen, there was rarely anyone in the world who could reach the Seventh Heavenly Layer in such a short time after just breaking through.

Huang Luan seemed to sense the door open and was roused from her state of cultivation. The moment she opened her eyes, her gaze froze. Her eyelashes gently trembled as she stared at Jian Chen in a daze. Her face was filled with excitement and joy.

“You two catch up. I’ll be leaving first as I still have matters I need to attend to.” Yadrin left and secretly dismissed the people in the surroundings, leaving Jian Chen and Huang Luan by themselves.

Chapter 1372: Departure

In the blink of an eye, the surroundings fell so silent that even a dropped needle would be heard clearly. Only Jian Chen and Huang Luan’s long breaths were vaguely audible. Huang Luan’s breathing gradually became heavier and the sound of her heart-beating seemed audible as well. This was all due to her excitement.

Suddenly, Huang Luan lunged at Jian Chen and wrapped her arms tightly around him. She buried her face deep in his chest as her body slightly trembled.

Huang Luan possessed the Water Spirit’s Body, so she should have possessed a warm and gentle personality. However, her personality was the exact opposite. Deep in her was a natural sense of chivalry, and she was relatively straightforward, especially in certain aspects. She lacked the bashfulness present in young girls.

Jian Chen gently embraced Huang Luan as he could feel her supple skin. He could not help but let his state of mind waver slightly.

“Luan’er, it’s been tough for you these days. I left you here all by yourself to cultivate. You had to endure the boredom and loneliness silently,” Jian Chen sniffed Huang Luan’s fragrance as he blamed himself. He had no choice but to leave Huang Luan here after bringing her to the sea realm.

Huang Luan covered Jian Chen's mouth with a hand as her eyes filled with tears. She affectionately looked at Jian Chen's handsome and masculine face and gently said, "Chen, I don't blame you. The only person that can be blamed is me for being useless, and I couldn't help you, forcing you to go through storms of blood all by yourself. I'm currently cultivating as hard as I can to increase my strength. Once I become a Saint King, I'll be able to help you."

Jian Chen was greatly touched by her words. He embraced Huang Luan tighter and lowered his head to gently kiss her forehead. He tenderly said, "Luan'er, you don't need to be like that. My hard days of life are over. I have the strength to hold myself up in the world now and protect those beside me..."

All the hidden thoughts they felt exploded at that very moment after being apart for so many days. In the silence and without any disturbances, Jian Chen and Huang Luan remained in each other's embrace while they softly spoke. They revealed their true feelings.

The two of them talked about a lot of things. Jian Chen told her about everything that he had experienced over the past few years right down to the smallest detail. He did not feel like he had the need to hide anything from Huang Luan. The only thing he kept secret from her were the Azulet swords and the Immortals' World. It would not be good for her to learn about these matters too soon.

Huang Luan became overjoyed after the initial shock when she learned that Jian Chen could easily kill Saint Emperors now. At that moment, Huang Luan had never felt so at ease. She remained in her lover's embrace.

Over the past few days, she had been working hard on cultivating. She used her longing as motivation. She had always thought about becoming powerful to help out Jian Chen. She knew that Jian Chen's strength had increased very quickly in recent years, but it had not been a peaceful time for him. He often walked on the edge and would always be on the front lines of life. He roamed the boundary between life and death, living each day with great difficulty.

Now, Huang Luan became extremely excited after she learned that her lover had become a Saint Emperor. This was because she no longer needed to worry about Jian Chen's safety, which allowed her to be at ease.

"Luan'er, I've come today specifically to take you back to the Tian Yuan Continent. You've been away for so long, so it's time for you to come back. And it's time for us to find Changyang Qing Yun and settle the matter of him planting an ancient secret technique in you," Jian Chen gently explained. As soon as he mentioned Changyang Qing Yun, a sliver of fierce anger flashed through his eyes.

Huang Luan remained in his embrace obediently like a cat. She tenderly nodded and said nothing.

Jian Chen took Huang Luan to see Yadriam afterward and thanked her for looking after Huang Luan all this time. He pulled out a first and second grade Violet Cloud Peach from his Space Ring and said, "Hall master, these are some heavenly resources I obtained in the space that I went into to search for her majesty's revival materials. They possessed extremely wondrous effects. This peach of a deeper color is for you, and please hand the other one to elder Atlantis for giving me assistance back then."

Yadriam thanked Jian Chen before accepting the two peaches. She did not pay too much mind to them.

Jian Chen could tell with a single glance that Yadriam treated the two peaches as nothing. He could not help but add, "Hall master, do not underestimate these two peaches. Once I leave, it's best for the hall master to ingest the peach as soon as possible. Its effects will definitely give you a pleasant surprise."

"Really?" Yadriam examined the peach in her hands and glanced at Jian Chen doubtfully. She did not believe that the peach would surprise her at all.

She was already a Saint Emperor. No matter how valuable the heavenly resource was, its effects would be insignificant on an expert like her.

Jian Chen also left behind two second grade Comprehension Tea Leaves and some water from the Springs of Life. He told Yadriam how to prepare the tea before leaving with Huang Luan.

Jian Chen stood on the Zi Ying Sword with his arm around Huang Luan's waist above the Sea Goddess Hall. He shot off into the distance as a streak of light, headed to the Serpent God Hall.

The Zi Ying Sword moved extremely quickly, so quickly that Jian Chen was unable to distinguish the rapidly receding landscape around him. He used the senses of his soul to find his way. Huang Luan felt like she had entered a tunnel in space-time as she stood on the sword. Everything was all blurry around her.

"Chen, this Zi Ying Sword is so fast. I never thought that the two swords you forged could be used like this," Huang Luan emotionally sighed as she stared at the Zi Ying Sword beneath her in surprise.

"This is only the base speed. As I grow stronger, the speed will increase," Jian Chen smiled complacently. Traveling had always been a pain to him due to the fact that he was unable to comprehend the mysteries of the world on the level of a Saint King. The Zi Ying Sword made up for this flaw.

Soon, Jian Chen arrived in the territory of the Serpent God Hall and stopped before some ruins.

This was the territory of the Kalor tribe, but it had been reduced to nothing. The entire place had fallen into ruins.

Chapter 1373: Returning to Flame City

The Kalor tribe had been reduced to almost nothing from flames. The ground had been burned to a pitch-black with a few black remains scattered throughout the surroundings.

From the ruins and remains, the Kalor tribe had been devastated several days ago. The ruins were silent without any signs of life. The moaning of the wind blew some ashes off the ground. It was a dreary sight.

The Zi Ying Sword flickered with violet light. It was enveloped by a thick layer of violet sword Qi, making only a violet figure visible. It slowly descended under Jian Chen's control, stopping twenty meters above the ground.

Jian Chen gently held Huang Luan as he slowly glanced over the ruins. He remained silent throughout his observation. He could still clearly remember that the region had been extremely bustling when he had given Kai Ya the cultivation method of the Octoterra Emperor. However, the prosperous tribe was nowhere to be seen now. It had been reduced to dreary ruins.

“Sigh,” Jian Chen exhaled deeply after quite a long time. When he had given the cultivation method to Kai Ya, it was to thank her for her help and to find the Octoterra Emperor a successor. Thus, Kai Ya would become the second Octoterra Emperor. Yet now...

“I wonder if Kai Ya is still alive,” Jian Chen thought. He felt no sorrow. This was a world where the strong preyed on the weak. Tragedies like the Kalor tribe happened often both in the sea realm and the Tian Yuan Continent.

“Chen, is your friend here?” Huang Luan gazed around before looking at Jian Chen.

Jian Chen said, “This used to be a friend’s home. I never expected this tribe to face destruction. I wonder if my friend is still alive or not.” Afterward, Jian Chen expanded his soul as hard as he could and enveloped almost three hundred thousand kilometers. He searched as hard as he could, but he did not find Kai Ya in the end.

“Let’s go!” Jian Chen stopped searching and left with Huang Luan. He flew toward the Tian Yuan Continent.

Jian Chen flew over the oceans around the Tian Yuan Continent with Huang Luan and arrived in the Fire Dragon Kingdom, one of the eight great kingdoms. He made his way to the royal palace.

The Fire Dragon Kingdom was no weaker than the Qinghuang Kingdom. They also possessed four Saint Rulers, the four Imperial Protectors of the kingdom.

Jian Chen’s sudden arrival took the royal palace by great shock. The king and the four imperial protectors received him personally. They behaved with extreme humility and fear even though they reigned at the top on any other day. They spoke politely and were afraid of breathing too loud.

Jian Chen stated his intentions in a straightforward manner. He wanted to borrow the Space Gate to return to Flame City. He had forged the Azulet swords now and could move very quickly by riding them, but it was several million kilometers or more from the sea to Flame City. Space Gates would still be faster.

The king and the imperial protectors did not show any disagreement at all toward Jian Chen’s request. They even personally activated the Space Gate for him, sending him off courteously.

As Jian Chen and Huang Luan disappeared into the Space Gate, the king and imperial protectors immediately let out a breath of relief. Jian Chen did not give off a presence at all, but they felt like they were being pushed down by a mountain when they were before him. It was a psychological pressure.

“Imperial Protectors, has Jian Chen really become a Saint Emperor? Why does he still need to borrow the Space Gate if he is one?” The king wiped the sweat from his forehead as he asked the four imperial protectors.

The imperial protectors fell into silent thought and did not respond right away. One of them only began to confidently speak after quite some time, “I have an old friend who was cultivating in the volcanic regions of the west. I’ve obtained definite information that Jian Chen has really become a Saint Emperor. Coupled with his two swords that were nurtured by the world, even Saint Emperors are no longer his opponents. Jian Chen used a single strike to defeat two Saint Emperors from the Beast God

Continent and scared the path lord of carnal desires away. Jian Chen right now is far more powerful than any regular Saint Emperor. I have no clue why he has to borrow the Space Gate, however.”

The king gasped. He became so frightened by the fact that Jian Chen had defeated two Saint Emperors with a single strike that his heart almost stopped beating.

However, he then became extremely excited and elated when he thought about how he had just come in contact with such a great expert at such a close range. He immediately sent out an order, “Immediately release the news that the Saint Emperor Jian Chen has just visited our kingdom...” The king immediately announced the news of his visit. Now that Jian Chen had basically become the strongest Saint Emperor of the Tian Yuan Continent, a personal visit from him was a great honor of the kingdom. It could raise their status and fame.

Twenty kilometers away from Flame City, space violently distorted before ripping open, forming a colorful Space Gate.

The Space Gate slowly vanished after Jian Chen and Huang Luan had stepped out. Everything quickly returned to how it had been before very.

Jian Chen hovered ten meters in the air as he stared at the city in the distance. The walls were pitch-black, making it seem like a huge beast was slumbering there. The walls gave off a feeling of domination.

A golden barrier was expanded across the city, enveloping the entire place. The only way into the place were through the city gates.

Jian Chen’s eyes narrowed when he saw the golden barrier. His gaze became extremely sharp in a single moment, like two drawn swords. His eyes shone resplendently.

This was because he actually felt shocked by the pulses of energy from the barrier. The energy was just far too powerful, having completely exceeded the energy of Saint Emperors.

“An Origin realm expert? Who else has reached that level of cultivation other than protector Shui of the Ice Goddess Hall and Xiao Ling? And they’ve even put such a powerful barrier around the city?” Jian Chen was filled with doubt. He flew toward the city with Huang Luan.

Bi Lian and You Yue were currently gathered around a table as they personally taught a chubby, white boy how to fight. He only seemed to be three or four years old.

The boy was very cute. He wore golden clothes and had no hair. His large eyes were extremely bright as they flickered with naivety. However, diligence was spelled across his face.

“Xiao Jin, tell me what this word is,” You Yue asked the young boy with a smile as she held a piece of paper.

“Heaven,” the boy responded with his cute voice.

“Then this?” Bi Lian also asked the boy what was on the piece of paper.

“Earth,” the boy replied correctly.

“Xiao Jin is so smart, a perfect memory. Without long, Xiao Jin will know everything,” Bi Lian giggled. Her gaze toward the boy was filled with affection.

At this moment, Bi Hai walked into the room in white robes. He pulled Xiao Jin away and chuckled, “Xiao Jin, you’ll have plenty of time to learn how to read in the future. Come with me first. I’ll teach you a new ability. The barrier you created is extremely powerful, but there are still many flaws. The barrier of Mercenary City made its energy sink into the ground, making the ground as tough as steel. Come with grandpa, I’ll teach you a new way to use the energy.”

The boy did not resist at all as he was lead away by Bi Hai. Only You Yue and Bi Lian voiced their displeasure.

“What do you know? There’s plenty of time to learn how to read in the future. The utmost priority is to make Flame City as tough as steel as well as to get Xiao Jin better acquainted with his abilities,” said Bi Hai righteously. He ignored the disagreement of the two girls as he lead Xiao Jin away.

But at this very moment, Xiao Jin seemed to sense something. He looked in the direction of the city gates before turning into a flash of golden light. He vanished in a single moment.

Chapter 1374: Reunion

“Xiao Jin, Xiao Jin come back! Where are you going!?” Bi Hai yelled. He was frightened and pursued Xiao Jin. He had already spent some time with Xiao Jin. Xiao Jin had always been extremely obedient during that period of time. The boy followed everything they told him to do, just like a good child. Bi Hai felt rather uneasy seeing how he acted out of the norm today.

Bi Hai was convinced of Xiao Jin’s strength after his initial doubt and after spending so much time together. Even though Xiao Jin’s strength was beyond a Saint Emperor’s strength and was extremely shocking and unbelievable, he had slowly begun to accept it after some time.

Bi Hai’s treatment of Xiao Jin immediately underwent a drastic change after understanding his strength. Xiao Jin possessed terrifying strength but still possessed the mind of a child. In fact, he knew nothing, just like a newly-born infant. As a result, Bi Hai decided to raise him like his own grandson, passing on all his battle experience and everything he knew to him. In the end, he got Xiao Jin to understand the many uses of energy and even how to use the mysteries of the world.

Bi Hai had taught him how to cast down the faint golden barrier around Flame City.

Bi Hai had become overjoyed for quite some time since Flame City had suddenly gained an expert who had surpassed Saint Emperor. However, he felt rather afraid and worried as well. He did not know the origins of Xiao Jin or whether he would suddenly leave the city at a certain point in time.

Bi Hai became extremely worried by Xiao Jin’s abnormal behaviour. He was afraid that the boy would leave and never return.

“Xiao Jin!”

“Xiao Jin!”

You Yue and Bi Lian’s cries rang out from behind. They also ran out of the hall quickly and worriedly looked for Xiao Jin. They immediately chased after him.

Jian Chen held Huang Luan's hand as he strolled through the streets of Flame City. He was traveling by foot but in no way was he slow. He traversed close to a hundred meters with every single step. He was using Spatial Force.

Jian Chen would look at the golden barrier in the sky from time to time and would become rather stern. He constantly wondered just who possessed such terrifying strength and possessed some connection to Flame City.

"Is it Rui Jin and the others?" Jian Chen wondered. Only Rui Jin possessed energy of that color among all the experts he knew. However, the energy Rui Jin used also possessed a pure and dense dragon aura. That aura was not present in the barrier.

The streets of Flame City were bustling as people moved to and fro. Jian Chen and Huang Luan moved along the main street toward the city lord's estate. No one noticed them along the way.

At this moment, a golden streak of light flew toward Jian Chen at an unbelievable speed before stopping in front of him.

Jian Chen came to a halt as he stared at the person who had suddenly obstructed him with interest. Chaotic Force surged within him, having made preparations for battle at any moment.

The person in front of him was a chubby boy in golden clothes. He was hairless and less than a meter tall. He stared at Jian Chen with his naive eyes. They flickered with interest and some confusion.

The boy felt an extremely close with Jian Chen. It was much heavier than the feeling he felt from Bi Lian, You Yue, and Bi Hai. It was as if he shared the same bloodline as him. The feeling also engulfed him in warmth, which was extremely pleasant.

At that moment, the boy seemed to have found the most important thing in his life as he stood before Jian Chen. Without any contact or communication, he decided to treat Jian Chen as someone he could rely on.

Jian Chen was unable to remain as calm as Xiao Jin while the boy stood before him. He was extremely stern and some disbelief had even appeared in his eyes. He was only able to see the boy with his eyes, unable to discover him with his soul. If he swept the region before him with the senses of his soul, he would find nothing.

"The Origin realm!" Jian Chen was surprised inside. He was unable to see through the boy's exact strength, but he knew that the boy would definitely be an expert of the Origin realm.

"All his clothes are golden, the same as the barrier around Flame City. Was this barrier cast down by this boy?" Jian Chen thought. He found it very unbelievable, but what he could not understand was where the boy had come from. Why had he appeared in Flame City?

Huang Luan had discovered Xiao Jin as well. Ever since she had entered the city, her focus had been devoted to the surrounding landscape. She had not discovered where Xiao Jin had come from since she had been admiring the prosperity of the city along the way. She did not know how powerful Xiao Jin was either. She arrived before him with smiles, bent down and touched his chubby cheeks. She asked, "Little brother, what's your name? Where do you live? You can't run around wildly on the streets all by yourself."

Jian Chen was frightened by what Huang Luan had done. The boy was an Origin realm expert, so how could he be treated in such a manner? However, what took him by surprise was that the boy did not respond in a hostile manner. He only looked at Huang Luan with curiosity visible on his face and did not reject her. He allowed Huang Luan to touch his cheek.

"I- I'm Xiao Jin," the boy said with his immature voice. He seemed rather dumb.

Jian Chen pulled Huang Luan back and stared at Xiao Jin with an odd gaze. Was he really an Origin realm expert?

"Xiao Jin, don't run away. Come quick to grandpa's side," a slightly worried voice rang out from the distance. Bi Hai shot over from the city lord's estate and tightly grabbed Xiao Jin's hand. He would not let go no matter what, afraid that the boy would suddenly run away.

"Great-grandfather!" Jian Chen exclaimed in surprise. He became even more confused when he saw how closely Bi Hai and the boy interacted.

Bi Hai had devoted all his attention to Xiao Jin, so he had not discovered Jian Chen before him. Bi Hai became stunned when Jian Chen called out, before raising his head to look at Jian Chen. He immediately became overjoyed, letting go of Xiao Jin's hand immediately. He tightly grabbed Jian Chen by the shoulders and laughed aloud, "My good grandson, you've finally returned."

"Great-grandfather, this..." Jian Chen asked in doubt as he pointed at Xiao Jin.

Bi Hai's mood became elated with Jian Chen's return. He chuckled aloud and said, "Grandson, let's return to the city lord's estate. I'll explain everything in detail there."

In the estate, You Yue, Bi Lian, Bi Hai, Jian Chen, Huang Luan, and Dugu Feng gathered together to celebrate their return. The dining table was filled with various delicacies, but none of them were interested in eating. They all wanted to confirm if the various rumors floating around the continent about Jian Chen were true.

"Yes, it was me who heavily injured the two Saint Emperors from the Beast God Continent. My cultivation level may still not be there, but if we really do end up fighting, there's probably no Saint Emperors who can be my opponent," Jian Chen spoke the truth and hid nothing. Announcing his strength to his close friends and family would only bring benefits. It would also set their hearts at ease, no longer needing to worry about his safety all day long.

They were all euphoric when they gained Jian Chen's confirmation. The rumors had appeared long ago, but they were still rumors and would not be true sometimes. They could only believe them once they received personal confirmation from Jian Chen.

At this moment, Xiao Jin ran in from outside. He climbed onto a seat and began to wolf down the delicacies on the table all by himself, but he would always glance at Jian Chen from time to time with his large eyes.

Jian Chen asked everyone about Xiao Jin's identity, but no one present could answer that question unfortunately. It was a complete mystery to them.

At this moment, You Yue said after some hesitation, "Jian Chen, my master said that he's a spirit nurtured by the world. He was born from the tungsten alloy mine."

"What? Xiao Jin's a spirit born from the tungsten alloy mine?" Bi Hai was in disbelief.

"Sister You Yue, why didn't you tell us sooner since you already knew? Oh, was it all caused by Xiao Jin when the mine was struck by the lightning?" Bi Lian said with some displeasure.

Chapter 1375: Everyone Becomes a Saint King (One)

You Yue smiled apologetically, "Sister Bi Lian, grandfather, please forgive me for keeping this a secret, because this matter is just far too shocking. Even when I personally learned this from my master, I felt like it was all just a tale. It was difficult for me to accept, which was why I didn't tell you all as soon as I learned of Xiao Jin's identity."

Jian Chen could not help but think of the metallic spirit origin energy hidden in the depths of the tungsten alloy mine with You Yue's explanation. The sword spirits had discovered its existence long ago, but it had not matured back then, so he left it hidden deep within the tough tungsten alloy. Even the grand elder of Mercenary City back then, Tian Jian, was unable to penetrate that deep, so he could only leave it be in the end.

He had never thought that the metallic spirit would have fully matured before he returned to the city and would have been able to endure the heavenly tribulations to take on a human form. It was extremely powerful.

Jian Chen's gaze toward Xiao Jin became rather odd after learning Xiao Jin's identity. He could obviously tell that Xiao Jin's naivety was like a newly-born infant. He was a harmless-looking boy but an Origin realm expert at the same time, which Jian Chen found rather difficult to accept.

He had learned from the sword spirits just how impressive the metallic spirit was and its unlimited future potential. However, he was just taken by disbelief to think that it would be an Origin realm expert as soon as it came into existence.

After all, there were only five experts of the Origin realm even in ancient times. Ignoring the one from the Ice Goddess Hall, there were the four champions of the humans, magical beasts, Sea race, and Hundred Races. This was more than enough to see just how rare they were.

Even right now, there were only two Origin realm experts on the Tian Yuan Continent at most.

However, what made Jian Chen even more confused was why Xiao Jin would appear in Flame City after assuming a human form and why he felt that Xiao Jin's gaze toward him was filled with reliance. He did not shrug off Bi Lian and the others either, which he could not understand no matter how he thought about it.

"The Tian Yuan Continent is currently facing a disaster. The World of Forsaken Saints is about to invade our world. We're in desperate need of a powerful force in this crucial period of time. Xiao Jin's sudden appearance just holds far too great of a significance. However, he seems to be lacking knowledge in many areas. We need to teach him a lot over the next few days, especially techniques regarding battle," said Jian Chen.

旋即，众人的话题从小金身上转移，又聊到了其他方面。

The topic of conversation soon shifted away from Xiao Jin.

“哥，鸣东大哥现在正在我们烈焰城专门为他准备的一间密室中修炼，鸣东大哥早就成圣王强者了，现在也不知达到了何种境界，不过鸣东哥哥的天赋比碧海祖爷爷都还要高，他的修炼速度让碧海祖爷爷都叹为观止。”

“Brother Ming Dong is currently cultivating in a secret room we’ve specially prepared for him in Flame City. He’s already become a Saint Ruler, and we don’t know what level he’s reached now. However, brother Ming Dong’s talent is much greater than grandfather’s talent. His rate of cultivation has even made grandfather speechless.”

闻言，剑尘神识一扫，果然在地底千米处的密室中发现了闭关修炼的鸣东，现在的鸣东和当初相比起来，实力进步的确非常之快，现在已经达到圣王八重天了。

Jian Chen expanded his soul and swept the surroundings. Indeed, he found Ming Dong in seclusion a thousand meters underground. He really did improve at an extremely great rate, having reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler already.

Jian Chen then looked toward the silent Dugu Feng at the table. Dugu Feng was among his earliest group of followers. He had met him with Ming Dong when they had competed in the gathering of mercenaries in Mercenary City.

Dugu Feng was not as powerful as Ming Dong back then in the competition, but the difference between the two had not been particularly great. Yet now, Ming Dong had already become an Eighth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler while Dugu Feng remained a Heaven Saint Master.”

“Dugu Feng’s not band. He’s remained as the disciplinary elder of Flame City for a very long time, committing meritorious services for the Flame Mercenaries. He’s even pushed back his own cultivation. It would’ve been impossible for the mercenaries to be as stable as it is right now without Dugu Feng,” Bi Hai said from one side. The gaze he used on Dugu Feng was filled with kindness.

“Yeah, I don’t want Dugu Feng to busy himself because of the Flame Mercenaries and end up not cultivating at all. I’ve been trying to convince Dugu Feng to return back to the clan over the past few days, but he will return again soon,” Bi Lian added as well. Dugu Feng had indeed made drastic contributions to the expansion of the Flame Mercenaries.

“My talent is nowhere near as great as Ming Dong’s talent, so it’s impossible for me to catch up to him no matter how I cultivate. Since that’s the case, I did some things that were more meaningful,” Dugu Feng nonchalantly replied. He seemed to never smile with his steadfast face.

“Dugu Feng, you don’t need to worry about talent. I have my methods of completely altering your talent and allowing you to become a Saint King in the shortest amount of time possible, even insuring that you’ll become a Saint Emperor in the future,” Jian Chen solemnly said to Dugu Feng. He did not have many friends he truly trusted and Dugu Feng happened to be one of them.

Afterward, Jian Chen asked the others about Little Fatty and the others.

“Little Fatty, Senior An, Yun Zheng, and Wang Yifeng have not returned since they set off to train themselves on the continent. We only receive some news from them from time to time, but it seems that they’ve been well over the past few years,” said Bi Lian.

“Lian’er, command the Flame Mercenaries to search the continent for them and get them to return to Flame City as soon as possible,” ordered Jian Chen. The disaster was imminent. He needed to use the resources on hand to increase their strength.

Three days later, Bi Lian, You Yue, Dugu Feng, Bi Hai, Huang Luan, and Ming Dong were all brought to the mountain range where the tungsten alloy mine used to be by Jian Chen. However, the vast mountain range had become ordinary. It was no longer as famous as before. Ever since the metallic spirit had absorbed all the metallic essence, the tough tungsten alloy had all been reduced to simple rock.

“Jian Chen, why have you brought us here?” Ming Dong asked in confusion as he looked around. He had just emerged from seclusion.

“This place is open enough. It’s a good place. I plan on making you all break through here,” said Jian Chen.

“Get us all to break through? Jian Chen, have you obtained some extremely impressive heavenly resources?” Ming Dong’s eyes lit up and his interest was immediately piqued.

Jian Chen nodded slightly, “Yes, I’ve indeed obtained some heavenly resources. They are enough to make your strength skyrocket. Ming Dong, you’re already an Eighth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler and your talent is impressive. It’s possible for you to break through to Saint King with this opportunity or directly become a Saint Emperor.”

“What!” Ming Dong was greatly shocked. He stared at Jian Chen in disbelief. Even You Yue, Huan Luan, Bi Hai, and the others were the same.

Jian Chen no longer wasted any time. He first used the blood of the hall master from the Serpent God Hall to strengthen their bodies before using the holy water of the spirit sea to alter their constitution and talent. In the end, he removed some Heaven-connecting Flowers, enough Violent Cloud Peaches, and a few Comprehension Tea Leaves from the artifact space to increase their strength.

Jian Chen did not behave stingily at all. The immortal peaches could only be consumed once in a hundred years, so in order to maximize their increases in strength, he could no longer bother with wasting anything. He brought out fifth grade Violet Cloud Peaches and Comprehension Tea Leaves and used the best spring water he had on hand to make tea.

Chapter 1376: Everyone Becomes a Saint King (Two)

Ming Dong, Bi Hai, and Huang Luan were all Saint Rulers and on the higher end of the spectrum of cultivation. As a result, they refined the blood and holy water faster than everyone else, rousing the soonest.

Without long, You Yue refined the blood and holy water since she had only recently reached Saint Ruler. Their bodies had strengthened greatly under the refinement of the hall master's blood, and even their talent and souls had undergone a metamorphosis from the holy water of the spirit sea

"Jian Chen, what is this blood? It actually contains such powerful energy. With my current strength, just refining a fist-sized amount of it would give me enough trouble," Ming Dong said in surprise. He then looked at the Heaven-connecting Flowers in the surroundings and the recently-made Comprehension Tea that gave off a thick fragrance. He felt deeply shocked when he saw the treasures Jian Chen was able to pull out.

"I really do wonder what dangerous place Jian Chen has gone to to obtain so many impressive heavenly resources over the years I spent in seclusion," Ming Dong thought to himself. He did not recognize the flowers or the tea, but he could determine they were extraordinary just from their fragrance.

"This is the blood of a Saint Emperor. I heavily-injured a Saint Emperor recently in the sea realm and managed to collect some of his blood during the process. The Saint Emperor's original form is a serpent dragon from the depths of the ocean. His blood is very useful to you," explained Jian Chen before delivering a fifth grade Violet Cloud Peach and a cup of tea to the three of them. He said, "This is a Violet Cloud Peach. It can increase your cultivation by two thousand five hundred years while this Comprehension Tea can assist you while you comprehend the mysteries of the world. Consume them together."

Ming Dong was shocked when he heard about the Saint Emperor's blood, but when he heard about the almost heaven-defying effects of the peach and tea, he immediately became stupefied.

Even Bi Hai, Huang Luan, and You Yue felt the same way. They had never even seen or heard of something so wondrous. A single peach could increase their cultivation by two and a half millennia while a cup of tea could increase their comprehension of the mysteries of the world.

Ming Dong, Bi Hai, Huang Luan, and You Yue drank the tea with the peach just as Jian Chen had told them to in a rather numb fashion. The peach transformed into tremendous, surging energy that gushed through their bodies as soon as it reached their stomachs, causing them to devote all they had into refining the energy.

Jian Chen looked at Bi Lian and Dugu Feng. Bi Lian was still an Earth Saint Master while Dugu Feng was a Heaven Saint Master. They took far longer than the four others. Even after reducing the amount of blood he had given them, they still found it extremely difficult to refine.

The two of them were very stern and would appear in pain from time to time. Their bodies gently quivered as if they were enduring intense pain.

Jian Chen observed the two of them carefully. He had already made preparations to send them into the artifact space, if the situation took a turn for the worse, in order to prevent any accidents happening to them as they refined the Saint Emperor's blood.

Dugu Feng finally roused an hour later. He had benefited a ton after refining the blood of a Saint Emperor. Ignoring the fact that his body had toughened up, even his cultivation had risen to the Fourth Cycle from the Second.

Jian Chen did not give Dugu Feng any time to rest. He immediately made him consume the peach and tea, so that his strength could increase one final time.

Two hours later, Bi Lian finally roused as well. Her face was rather pale and exhausted. She was the weakest among all of them, only an Earth Saint Master, so it was extremely difficult for her to refine the blood. However, the effects were evident. She had reached the peak of the Sixth Cycle from the Third.

Fortunately the violent factors in the blood had mostly been removed, or she would not have been able to refine the blood at all. Just a drop of it might have even been enough to kill her.

The blood of a few powerful immortals could kill Saint Emperors, so the blood of Saint Emperors could also easily kill Earth Saint Masters.

Soon after Bi Lian finished refining the blood, she consumed the peach and tea as well. She entered a higher stage of cultivation.

Although the fifth grade immortal peaches possessed a tremendous amount of energy that did not match up to its size, absorbing it all could not be achieved by any one person. It would depend on the person's strength and talent.

Jian Chen practiced the Chaotic Body, so he had a tremendous demand for energy. He also refined energy at a rate far greater than ordinary people, which was why he was able to absorb an entire fifth grade immortal peach.

However, that was not the case for the group of people here. Even Ming Dong and You Yue who possessed extraordinary talent could only absorb parts of the energy. At that moment, white mist formed from pure energy drifted out of them and dispersed into the surroundings.

The mist was extremely thick, such that it shrouded them. From afar, they seemed to be wrapped in a large, white cocoon.

Jian Chen was helpless to deal with this situation. All he could do was watch because he was not powerful enough to seal in the tremendous energy right now.

He had learned from the sword spirits that an immortal was needed to seal in the energy from the peaches.

As the energy dispersed into the surroundings, the energy of the world in the mountain range quickly became very dense. It constantly increased.

Jian Chen sat on a nearby mountain as he used his soul to watch over them as he comprehended the sword. He had not understood all the sword techniques he had learned from the sword spirits.

Several days later, three tremendous presences suddenly appeared. Ming Dong, Huang Luan, and Bi Hai all broke through to Saint King, drawing in rainbow clouds, which covered a radius of several hundred thousand kilometers.

The rainbow colors from the clouds were bright and resplendent as three layers of them stacked on top of one another. They illuminated the world and dyed the entire region a shade of rainbow colors.

Jian Chen stood up on the mountain and waved his hand. Suddenly, a gentle force surged over and enveloped Dugu Feng and Bi Lian. He took them elsewhere, preventing any disturbances caused by Ming Dong, Bi Hai, and Huang Luan's breakthroughs.

The rainbow clouds in the sky had caused a very large commotion on the continent. The birth of Saint Kings was extremely significant to the various organizations across the continent. Particularly in an age that lacked Saint Emperors, Saint Kings were even more valuable than they were before.

"Another person's become a Saint King. Fantastic, we just happen to be in need of Saint Kings." All the Saint Kings in Mercenary City glanced in the direction of Flame City.

"No, there seems to be three layers of rainbow clouds stacked upon one another. Are there three people becoming Saint Kings at the same time?" Cangqiong was the first one to discover the abnormality of the clouds. He was surprised.

"You're right. There really are three layers of clouds stacked together. We may not be able to see them from so far away, but I can clearly sense three," said a Saint King at Great Perfection. Surprise filled his face since three people simultaneously becoming Saint Kings was very rare.

"It seems to be in the direction of Flame City. Have Saint Rulers of the Flame Mercenaries broken through?"

"That may not be the case. There's some hermit and ancient clans in that direction as well. It might be them."

Quite a few Saint Kings discussed the matter in Mercenary City. It was quite a significant matter for three Saint Kings to appear together on the Tian Yuan Continent. No one was certain who they were.

However, it was only a casual discussion. This matter was not enough to draw them over to see what was going on. Only the breakthrough of Saint Emperors would attract them.

Ming Dong, Bi Hai, and Huang Luan used the Violet Cloud Peaches and Comprehension Tea to become Saint Kings. The presences from them were as vast as an ocean. They were enough to kick up large gales that swept through the surroundings, where even the clouds in the sky were affected. The rainbow clouds churned as a result.

The three of them had not roused from their cultivation yet. The effects of the immortal peaches and tea were still present, allowing their strength to skyrocket, as if there was no end to it.

Chapter 1377: Breakthroughs Complete

At this moment, another tremendous presence erupted as well. Four presences appeared at the same time, causing the energy in the surroundings to become chaotic. The wind in the surroundings became even more violent as well.

You Yue had also broken through to Saint King, drawing in more rainbow clouds. There were now four layers of clouds in the sky.

With the four layers combined, the clouds spanned across an unprecedented area. They almost enveloped the area a million kilometers away. Even in Mercenary City, the distant horizon glowed with rainbow light.

The Saint Kings who had gathered in Mercenary City all looked in the direction of Flame City. They were all astounded.

It was already an overwhelming matter for three people to simultaneously become Saint Kings on the Tian Yuan Continent. It was extremely rare even in the prosperous ancient times. There were four people becoming Saint Kings now and they were all located in the same region. They had no choice but to feel astounded.

“Good, good. Fantastic, another person’s become a Saint King. Our continent’s power has increased slightly again. The young really are going to be surpassing the old,” a Saint King at Great Perfection praised.

“Has the breakthrough to Saint King become easier than before?” Many people connected the four simultaneous breakthroughs to this question.

Back in the mountain range near Flame City, You Yue was clearly different from everyone else when she broke through. White, clear, and gentle light flickered on her body, as if she was a moon in the night.

Endless amounts of white light gathered behind her and condensed into a huge round moon in the end. It was extremely bright and gave off a gentle glow. It illuminated the surroundings, adding a unique color to the rainbow world that the clouds created.

Jian Chen stared at You Yue from afar. He knew that You Yue’s cultivation method was extremely extraordinary, far more powerful than Saint Tier cultivation methods or cultivation methods of Saint Emperors. This was why a phenomenon like this had occurred as soon as she broke through to Saint King.

Afterward, Dugu Feng and Bi Lian broke through as well, reaching Saint Ruler. The energy from the Violet Cloud Peaches still remained, continuing to carry their strength through the cultivation levels like a hot knife through butter.

In the sky, two layers of five-colored rainbow clouds silently formed, enveloping an area of a hundred kilometers. However, since four layers of seven-colored rainbow clouds already occupied the sky, the two layers were ignored. Many people even missed them all together.

A few figures appeared one after another in the surroundings. Not only did the event attract the Saint Rulers of a few hermit and ancient clans, even quite a few Heaven Saint Masters had come.

“This is unbelievable. The four who have broken through to Saint King are actually all in the depths of this mountain range. I never thought that there would be four powerful experts hidden here,” a Saint Ruler from a hermit clan softly said. He found this news difficult to believe.

“Shh, don’t make too much of a disturbance. We don’t want to disturb the four seniors who are breaking through. Let’s go see what the four seniors are like.”

The Saint Rulers and Heaven Saint Masters began to carefully advance toward the depths of the mountain range. They wanted to see the four Saint Kings personally.

In the end, the group of them stopped ten kilometers away. They could see the Saint Kings from very far away.

“One, two, three, four, five, six. There’s actually six people cultivating there, but they’re all enshrouded by a white mist. We can’t see what they look like, and there’s someone else nearby guarding them. Hmm? That person sure is weird. He actually carries two swords on his back.”

“That’s not mist. It’s formed from extremely pure energy of the world. My god, have I seen wrong? Such pure energy of the world is actually drifting from their bodies. No wonder I felt that the energy in this mountain range was countless times richer than elsewhere...”

“That doesn’t seem to be energy of the world. It’s countless times denser and purer than the energy of the world we know. Who are they?”

The Saint Rulers and Heaven Saint Masters all discussed among themselves and all felt shocked. All of them spoke very gently or used communication techniques to communicate. They were afraid of disturbing the people there.

“Everyone, I am the captain of the Flame Mercenaries, Jian Chen. My friends are cultivating here, so please do not approach them and disturb them. Otherwise, I can only cause you offense,” Jian Chen said to all of them through a communication technique.

“What! The captain of the Flame Mercenaries!?! I’ve actually just heard from the captain of the Flame Mercenaries.”

“It’s that person with two swords on his back. I never thought he’d actually be the great Saint Emperor Jian Chen. Those people are actually being guarded personally by Saint Emperor Jian Chen...”

“Everyone back off, we can’t get too close...”

“I’ve actually witnessed Saint Emperor Jian Chen with my own bare eyes. Am I dreaming...”

Jian Chen stated his own identity and immediately surprised the people in the surroundings. If they did not become excited for some reason, they became filled with dread. Their gazes toward Jian Chen were either filled with fear or abnormal excitement.

Jian Chen’s name had resonated throughout the continent long ago. Not only was this because he was the fourth Saint Emperor on the continent, but he was also an extremely powerful one as well, having defeated two Saint Emperors from the Beast God Continent in a single stroke.

Jian Chen had become a legend across the continent now. He was as well-known as Mo Tianyun from the ancient times, or possibly even more famous, because he had cultivated for less than a century.

Even in ancient times, there had never been anyone who had become a Saint Emperor without even reaching a hundred years in age.

The people who had been drawn over by the activity became extremely obedient after learning Jian Chen’s identity. They all retreated to several dozen kilometers away by themselves. They watched on from afar and even watched their own breathing. They were afraid of disturbing the people in cultivation by breathing too loudly.

As time went on, more and more people appeared. No Saint Kings had been drawn over, but there were quite a few Saint Rulers and Heaven Saint Master. However, none of the people who had come later on

dared to get any closer after being seriously warned by the people who had gathered earlier. They had taken up a role of protecting the people in cultivation by themselves.

There were people of the Flame Mercenaries among them. They were filled with pride when they heard that their own captain was there.

The group of people's break through took around a dozen of days to complete. Their strength had undergone an overwhelming change with the increase this time, with Ming Dong in particular. He was the strongest, having reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer of Saint King, followed by Huang Luan and You Yue at the Seventh Heavenly Layer. Bi Hai on the other hand fell behind. As the person who had reached Saint Rulers many years ago, he was now at the Sixth Heavenly Layer of Saint King.

Dugu Feng had become a Saint King along with the four of them. He reached the Fourth Heavenly Layer from a Heaven Saint Master in the beginning. Only Bi Lian was the weakest, but even with that being the case, she had reached the peak of the Ninth Heavenly Layer as a Saint Ruler. She was quite close to becoming a Saint King.

They were all filled with joy when they roused from cultivation, Ming Dong in particular. He had reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer of Saint King in a single stroke from Saint Ruler, making him the strongest among all of them.

"This Comprehension Tea is just far too wondrous. It can help me comprehend the mysteries of the world so easily. It makes it hundreds of times easier than comprehending the mysteries beneath Mercenary City," Ming Dong excitedly exclaimed.

Jian Chen also faintly smiled. He was happy for their drastic increase in strength.

A fifth grade Violet Cloud Peach was enough for a mortal to become an immortal in a hundred days and surpass Saint Emperor. This was why the immortal peach was a priceless heavenly resource even in the Immortals' World. It was extremely valuable. However, they were unable to absorb all the energy from the immortal peaches due to their restrictions in strength and talent. A lot of it was wasted, which was why a single peach was only able to make them become Saint Kings.

A few people gathered in the surroundings finally became bold enough to approach them. They congratulated them sincerely, but when they discovered that the people who had broken through were part of the upper echelon of the Flame Mercenaries, their mouths hung agape once again.

They were stunned by Bi Lian in particular. She had only been an Earth Saint Master before, and within just a dozen days, she had become a Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler. She was even more powerful than them, so the people who had come over with congratulations all became flabbergasted. They struggled to accept the reality of the matter.

At that moment, they even thought that their cultivation of thousands of years had been a complete waste.

Chapter 1378: Attack (One)

After returning to Flame City, the upper echelon's break through to Saint Ruler and Saint King spread through the city like wildfire. It threw the people in the city into great shock, the people of the Flame

Mercenaries affected in particular. They all put down their matters at hand and gathered in groups as they celebrated. They cheered for the increase in the mercenaries' strength.

The Flame Mercenaries had once been a powerful organization that even the ten protector clans feared, but it was all due to their captain, Jian Chen, and the three magical beasts. The Flame Mercenaries only possessed a few Saint Rulers aside from them.

It was different now. Huang Luan, You Yue, Bi Hai, Ming Dong, and Dugu Feng had all become Saint Kings, and even Bi Lian had reached the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler. They had no need to fear the protector clans anymore with such a powerful combination. Perhaps they could not match up to the protector clans in terms of heritage, but they could match up in strength at the very least.

The strength of the mercenaries made all its members extremely excited and emotional.

All the people entered seclusion again right after their strength had increased. They had grown just far too quickly within the past few days, so they needed to practice their new abilities, or they would not be able to display their power in battle at all.

A few days later, a series of cries rang out from a large bird in the distant sky. The bird was five meters wide. It had collided with the golden barrier outside, producing a miserable cry as it fell out of the sky.

On the back of the bird sat four people. Due to the momentum, they all struck the golden barrier as well. They became dizzy and fell off the bird.

However, two of them were Heaven Saint Masters and could fly. They controlled themselves very quickly before moving through the air, saving one of their Earth Saint Master companions each.

In the end, the four of them landed safely on the ground despite the shock. They rubbed their heads as they stared at the barrier around Flame City in doubt.

A huge bird beside them flapped its wings as it stood up with difficulty. Its head had become bloodied and its neck had been broken.

"Where did this barrier come from? Why can't we pass through it? Have we been kicked out of the group after leaving back then?" A young man in his twenties stared at the barrier like a victim as he complained in displeasure.

"The Flame Mercenaries are becoming more and more established. With this powerful barrier, people are unable to enter the city by air. The only way in is through the gates," said a middle-aged man. His face was resolute while his eyes were fixated on the city walls.

At this moment, a group of guards on similar magical beast mounts rushed out of the city with lightning-like speed. They charged toward the four of them and surrounded them.

"Who are you? Don't you know that it's forbidden to fly in Flame City? State your identities and intentions," the middle-aged leader coldly commanded. He was a Heaven Saint Master and wore armor forged from tungsten alloy. He seemed to possess quite an impressive demeanour.

Now that the Flame Mercenaries had powered up, even the guards had an air of complacency around them because of the glory.

“Who’s in charge of the Flame Mercenaries right now? Is it Jian Chen or sister Bi Lian? Why don’t you hurry up and report to them that the four of us have returned,” the one, who seemed the youngest among, them slowly replied, like an old man. He did not treat the Heaven Saint Master’s words with any importance at all.

The Heaven Saint Master’s face sank and his eyes narrowed in a single moment. Their captain was now a legendary Saint Emperor on the continent. His status was so great that even great Saint Kings needed to treat him courteously when meeting him. It was an unforgivable crime for the group of insignificant Earth Saint Masters and Heaven Saint Masters to directly refer to their captain by his name.

Just when the leader of the guards wanted send out the order to capture the four of them, his gaze suddenly froze. His eyes became fixated on the young man who had called Jian Chen by his name, before his face abruptly took on a new expression. He then quickly glanced over the three others and became surprised. He asked, “Are you Xiu Tianyu, Wang Yifeng, Yun Zheng, and Senior An, the four people Jian Chen is looking for?”

“I never thought that there would still be people who remember us after being gone for so long. Yes, I am Xiu Tianyu. Oh right, who cast down the barrier around Mercenary City? Why didn’t they even tell us? It hurt a lot,” the youngest-looking person present grumbled.

He was Little Fatty, Houston’s grandson. After these years of roaming the continent, he had become a handsome young man. His face was filled with the results of traveling through wind and rain. It was resolute and rather cold.

The Heaven Saint Master hurriedly dismounted and politely bowed to the four of them. He said, “I am Zhuo Fan. I didn’t know you were the four sirs before, so please forgive me if I have offended you. I don’t know what’s up with this barrier either. All I know is that it suddenly appeared recently.”

“Whatever. Let’s go into the city and find Jian Chen. We have been hearing rumors that he has become a Saint Emperor recently and defeated two Class 9 Magical Beasts from the Beast God Continent. I know these rumors are probably exaggerated, but it still should be something seeing how the entire continent knows about them,” Xiu Tianyu nonchalantly said. Afterward, he called out to Wang Yifeng, Yun Zheng, and Senior An to enter the city.

“You’ve finally returning. Looking for you really wasn’t easy,” at this moment, clear laughter rang out. Jian Chen stood at the entrance of the city in white robes as he looked at the four of them.

“Jian Chen!” Xiu Tianyu cried out. He immediately rushed over and hugged Jian Chen. The two of them laughed from the bottom of their hearts. They had not seen each other for many years, so they were extraordinarily excited to see one another again.

“Little Fatty, Wang Yifeng, Yun Zheng, Senior An, let’s enter the city first. I’ve already gotten people to prepare a banquet, to receive you after so much traveling.” Jian Chen laughed as he directed them to the city lord’s estate.

Behind, the guard, who was a Heaven Saint Master, stared at the four of them in envy. They were only Heaven Saint Masters or Earth Saint Masters, yet they had been personally received by their great captain. Probably even Saint Kings could not have enjoyed such treatment.

At the banquet, Jian Chen drank and talked with the four of them. They slowly told him about the things they had experienced over the years, and Jian Chen had also confirmed the rumors they had heard from various parts of the continent. They all became stunned when they learned that Jian Chen now possessed the strength to overwhelm Saint Emperors.

The morning of the next day, Jian Chen brought the four of them back to the mountains where the tungsten alloy mine used to be. He also let out the several dozen elites from the artifact space, planning on increasing all their strength in a single stroke.

At this moment, a terrifying pulse of energy appeared from far away. It caused the earth to violently shake.

Chapter 1379: Attack (Two)

The mountain range violently rumbled as great thick cracks began to cover the entire region. Whole mountains began to collapse as rocks rolled down, creating heavy booms.

The area that was shaking was extremely vast. The entire continent was affected. Even if someone was several million kilometers away, they could still sense the trembling ground.

Jian Chen arrived on the highest mountain in a flash. He stood straight as he gazed into the distance. He looked in the direction of Mercenary City.

Although it was impossible to see anything since Mercenary City was just too far away, he could still clearly sense just how powerful the pulse of energy was.

Jian Chen became stern. However, his eyes began to shine as well. Not only did they become extremely sharp like drawn swords, they were filled with powerful battle intent as well.

“Jian Chen, what’s happened?” The others arrived beside Jian Chen and stared off into the horizon.

The energy pulse from the distance was so powerful that even Xiu Tianyu and Wang Yifeng could sense it, even though they were just Heaven Saint Masters.

Jian Chen sucked in a deep breath and said gruffly, “Little Fatty, gather all the people here. We’re returning to Flame City immediately.

“Alright!” Xiu Tianyu firmly responded. He did not ask why as he immediately gathered the several dozen people.

Jian Chen could not help but dismiss the thought of increasing their strength today. He returned to Flame City with Little Fatty, Wang Yifeng, Yun Zheng, Senior An, and the several dozen elites from the artifact space. He immediately gave the command of closing off the city, stopping all entries and exits. Afterward, he left them behind and left the city through the space gate there with Xiao Jin.

You Yue, Bi Lian, Huang Luan, Bi Hai, and the others all emerged from seclusion soon after Jian Chen had left. They all stood in the city lord’s estate as they cast their gazes into the distance.

“What’s happened? Why has brother left so hurriedly? And why has he brought Xiao Jin with him,” Bi Lian asked rather uneasily. She had a vague idea why.

Bi Hai, Ming Dong, Dugu Feng, and the others became stern. Bi Hai solemnly said, "If I've guessed currently, the people of the World of Forsaken Saints have come. The calamity is beginning."

"Since the calamity is here, what're we standing around for. Let's all go to Mercenary City to help. Come, let's immediately open a Space Gate to Mercenary City," Ming Dong cried out as he was brimming with interest to fight.

However, he received a guard's report that the Space Gate could no longer be activated.

"Since we can't activate the Space Gate, then I'll use my abilities as a Saint King to make one," Ming Dong smiled confidently and immediately began to rip open space.

However, his smile soon froze because he discovered that he was unable to rip through the space there as an Eighth Heavenly Layer Saint Kings, making Space Gates impossible to form.

"What is happening!?" Ming Dong's face twitched a few times unnaturally.

Bi Hai looked at the golden barrier in the sky and emotionally sighed, "Xiao Jin's barrier is becoming more and more complete. Looks like my dear grandson has taught Xiao Jin quite a few things over the past few days. Unless you possess strength greater than the person who set down the barrier, you're unable to rip open a Space Gate."

"Then I'll fly out of here. With my increase of strength, I can reach Mercenary City without wasting much time at all," Ming Dong pridefully said. He immediately took off, headed for the sky, but all he hit was the barrier. With a splat, he was stuck there with his legs and arms spread apart, before falling down in a horrendous manner.

"This barrier can actually stop us from leaving, and Space Gates don't work either. What is Jian Chen's intentions? He's actually locked us in here," Ming Dong said unhappily as he returned to Bi Hai's side in a messy fashion.

"I heard that the World of Forsaken Saints has many experts. Just the number of Saint Emperors they have outnumber the Saint Kings of our continent by several times over. It's extremely likely that the people taking part in the invasion this time are Saint Emperors. Jian Chen wants to protect us and not have us fall in battle, which is why he's gotten Xiao Jin to trap us here. He doesn't want us to take part," You Yue gently said. Her eyes were filled with worry.

"Our strength is still not enough. We need to continue our secluded cultivation," Dugu Feng nonchalantly added before returning to his secret room to continue his cultivation.

There was a ditch a thousand meters wide in the ruins of Mercenary City. The ditch was pitch-black and seemingly-bottomless. However, terrifying ripples of energy would surge into the sky and obliterate the clouds. The energy there caused the space there to violently distort.

The experts gathered in the surroundings all stood afar with stern expressions. The path lord of carnal desires and the three Saint Emperors the Beast God Continent were all present. They all maintained their guard and were ready for battle.

“Oh no, there’s coming over. They’re all Saint Emperors. So many Saint Emperors,” Xiao Ling’s voice rang out from the empty air. She had materialized herself in that moment as well. Her young face was filled with fear as she stared at the depths of the ditch in unease.

When the experts heard that they were all Saint Emperors, they revealed extremely ugly expressions, causing the atmosphere there to become extremely heavy.

At this moment, a Space Gate ripped open several dozen kilometers away. Jian Chen emerged with a young boy, who was holding his hand, before quickly making his way over.

His appearance caused Lankyros and Kaiser to narrow their eyes. Their gazes became filled with fear while even the path lord of carnal desires’ gaze toward Jian Chen became filled with dread as well.

However, their gazes were focused on the two swords on Jian Chen’s back for the most part.

They were not the only ones who paid attention to Jian Chen’s swords. At that moment, everyone present had shifted their attention away from the ditch to Jian Chen’s swords.

Many of them had not personally witnessed the power of the swords, but they knew that Jian Chen had used just one of them to defeat the two Saint Emperors from the Beast God Continent with a single attack.

“Big brother, you’re finally here. The baddies from the World of Forsaken Saints are all coming. They have so many Saint Emperors, at least several hundred. What should we do?” Xiao Ling arrived beside Jian Chen as she asked him while clinging to his hand. She was almost in tears.

“What! Several hundred Saint Emperors!?” Xiao Ling’s words erupted in the minds of the Saint Kings like a bolt from the blue. They all paled.

They had thought that only around a dozen or several dozen Saint Emperors were coming. They had never thought that there would be several hundred.

Jian Chen gently rubbed Xiao Ling’s head and said, “Don’t be scared, Xiao Ling. Aren’t I here? I’ll accompany you in battle and kill enemies together. All you need to do is use the abilities from your master to attack the enemies as soon as they appear, right?”

Xiao Ling immediately calmed down quite a bit when she heard that Jian Chen would be fighting with her. She firmly nodded.

Chapter 1380: Attack (Three)

“Great-grandson, come here,” an ancient and amicable voice rang out. Changyang Zu Xiao smiled at Jian Chen. His gaze toward him was filled with approval and pride.

Changyang Zu Yunxiao and Changyang Zu Yeyun’s gaze toward Jian Chen was filled with mixed emotions. The two of them had never thought that Jian Chen would be able to grow at such a shocking pace, where the Saint Emperors of both the Tian Yuan Continent and the Beast God Continent treated him with so much fear.

Jian Chen held onto Xiao Jin’s hand as he arrived beside Changyang Zu Xiao. Xiao Ling followed behind him. He bowed as a junior and said, “I greet the great-grandfathers and grandmother.”

Both Changyang Zu Xiao and Changyang Zu Yunxiao were far greater than Jian Chen in terms of seniority. Even with the Changyang ancestor, over a dozen generations had passed since he had founded the Changyang clan. As a result, they were all Jian Chen's great-grandmothers and grandfathers.

Changyang Zu Xiao, Changyang Zu Yunxiao, and Changyang Zu Yeyun all happily smiled. Even before a battle of life and death, they were still unable to hide the pride they felt inside.

The Saint Kings in the surroundings all became green with envy when they saw Jian Chen bow to the three of them. After all, Jian Chen was a true Saint Emperor in their eyes now. This was an overwhelming matter for Saint Kings to receive a bow from a Saint Emperor.

Many people immediately became riddled with jealousy when they discovered just how much the barrier spirit relied on Jian Chen.

However, they did not know Xiao Jin's true identity. None of them were able to see through his strength, or no one would have known how they would end up reacting if they found out that two Origin realm experts relied on Jian Chen so much.

The veiled Heavenly Enchantress looked at Jian Chen from afar from within a group of people. Her enchanting eyes would shift to Xiao Jin from time to time. She secretly clenched her teeth as her gaze toward him became extremely mixed. Even her hand around the Zither of the Demonic Cry tightened slightly.

"Great-grandson, leave the child in the divine hall. There will be extremely many Saint Emperors attacking from the World of Forsaken Saints this time. We won't be able to look after him once we start fighting." Changyang Zu Xiao looked at Xiao Jin before pulling out a divine hall in an attempt to protect him.

He guessed that Xiao Jin might have been Jian Chen's child. He had no idea why Jian Chen would bring his child here, but with Jian Chen's special status, it would be inconvenient to ask.

Jian Chen had no idea how to react with what Changyang Zu Xiao attempted to do. Just when he wanted to say something, a violent boom suddenly rang out from the ditch, together with a violent spatial stream.

After the spatial stream gushed out, tremendous presences radiated from the ditch. They quickly surged into the sky as a group of Saint Emperors from the World of Forsaken Saints charged into the sky. Their terrifying presences swept through the surroundings, causing space to collapse and the world to spin. Just their presences had forced countless Saint Kings back.

"Activate the formations," called out the grand elder of Mercenary City. His voice was thunderous as it reverberated ten thousand kilometers away.

Countless formations appeared, not just on the ground but in the air as well. These formations were all the strongest formations cast down by the greatest formation masters on the Tian Yuan Continent after pouring their hearts out. Within them hid the greatest trapping and killing formations from ancient clans as well.

As soon as the formations appeared, the surroundings became a mix of formations. Layers upon layers of them appeared and flickered with different colors. The pulses of energy easily ripped through space as darkness descended everywhere.

The Saint Emperors from the World of Forsaken Saints who had charged out first were trapped. These formations were all linked together, so their power stacked together. Even though they were cast down by Saint Kings, several linked formations were still enough to trap or even heavily injure a few Saint Emperors.

There were five hundred Saint Emperors in total who had come this time. Several dozen were trapped by the formations while a portion of the others immediately forcefully attacked when they saw that they had become trapped. They attacked the formations from outside to assist the people inside in breaking free.

The other Saint Emperors charged into the surroundings as they engaged in a battle against the four races.

“Use the Emperor Armaments!” A great elder from a protector clan yelled and immediately pooled his power with others to control the Emperor Armament to battle the foreign Saint Emperors.

The other protector clans all controlled their ancestral weapons to attack the opponents after seeing the situation.

They had originally placed their Emperor Armaments there so that the great elder Tian Jian could cast down an absolute killing formation at the entrance to the other world, but after he had left to refine the divine hall of Mercenary City, he had not emerged since. This was why they could only give up on the idea of the killing formation.

The grand elder of Mercenary City sighed. He also lead all the experts of Mercenary City into battle. The foreign world had invaded too quickly. They had not finished their preparations. The great elder was still refining the absolute divine hall while Houston, who had just become a Saint Emperor, was missing as well. The reinforcements from the sea realm had not gathered either. None of the three Saint Emperors of the Sea race were present.

Other than the Changyang clan and Tyrant’s Blade School, the protector clans all wielded their Emperor Armaments against the Saint Emperors of the foreign world. As the Emperor Armaments of the two other protector clans had been taken away, the experts from the two clans could only use powerful secret techniques in battle.

A huge shield hung in the sky on the side of the Hundred Races. It was several hundred meters across as it blocked an entire region like a wall. It endured the attacks from over a dozen Saint Emperors.

This was the clan treasure of the dwarves from the ancient times, the Heaven’s Guard. It had been created by the strongest dwarven king, who had poured his heart into it, making it extremely tough. Its glory had been exhibited in the war of the ancient times. However, the shield became dented in a short amount of time as it was rained on by the attacks of the foreign Saint Emperors. Cracks slowly spread across it.

The dwarven king who controlled the shield vomited blood from behind. Not only was there blood, there were pieces of organs as well.

The dwarven king was only a Saint King at Great Perfection. The attacks that the Heaven's Guard withstood were just far too violent. Some of the force was redirected onto the dwarven king. Even after being drastically weakened, it still was enough to heavily injure him. He was unable to last much longer.

"It's a pity that I'm not a Saint Emperor. If I had the strength of a Saint Emperor, I would not be reduced to such a horrible shape from blocking the attacks of over a dozen Saint Emperors," the dwarven king sorrowfully sighed. He felt despair as he stared at the several hundred Saint Emperors from the foreign world.

A huge tree grew among the Hundred Races. It shone with resplendent green light and was brimming with life. It was the Elven Godtree, also originating from ancient times. It had survived the test of time without falling apart.

The Elven Godtree was several thousand meters tall and, combined with its thick trunk, seemed like a pillar that held up the sky. It shone with endless green light, enveloping the entire battlefield. All injured people would rapidly recover as they bathed in the green light.

The hundreds and thousands of branches from the tree danced as a flurry in the sky. All the branches extended indefinitely, coiling around the nearest Saint Emperor. Countless branches stabbed into the Saint Emperor and endlessly began to drain away the Saint Emperor's life.