

## Chaotic 2361

### Chapter 2361: Tests of Illusions

Jian Chen slowly opened his eyes. He stood up from the ground, and after gathering his concentration, he continued onwards to a higher step.

However, he now possessed a sense of natural elegance, an immortal bearing. His every action seemed to abide by some kind of supreme mystery in the laws of the world.

This was a transformation in presence from having a foot planted in the Sword Immortal realm. Jian Chen was still unable to control it completely, struggling to maintain a state where he had returned to the basics, so he always demonstrated it accidentally.

As a result, he seemed very extraordinary.

Afterwards, Jian Chen continued to climb the Path of Swords, making it further and further up.

Now, he approached the top of the Path of Swords. He was getting closer and closer to completing the tests.

However, at the same time, the resistance Jian Chen encountered became greater and greater, taking up more and more time.

The final segment of the path did not test simple things like a person's talent for the Way of the Sword and affinity for comprehension. It also included battle experience, the ability to counterattack in dire situations, and even his temperament.

Jian Chen had gone through countless battles where his life was on the line from the Tian Yuan Continent to the Saints' World, so his battle experience was extremely rich. However, it was still extremely difficult for him to make it through the various tests the Celestial Sword Saint had set down.

"Jian Chen, it has been so many years. I've finally found you..."

When Jian Chen set foot on the next step, the landscape around him suddenly changed. He had arrived in a world of natural beauty.

A great beauty stood before him. Her beauty seemed to gather all the colour in the world, making the surroundings pale in comparison.

She was Shangguan Mu'er.

"Mu'er..." Jian Chen was surprised. He looked at the beauty in a daze as the softest, weakest heartstring seemed to be tugged firmly.

"Jian Chen, you've roamed the Saints' World for the sake of greater strength such that we're almost always separated. You even have to bear the potential pain of becoming separated forever. Jian Chen, just give up on the pursuit of strength. Give up on the Way of the Sword. We can step away from the world and live a peaceful life. How good would that be..." Tears flowed down Shangguan Mu'er's eyes as she looked at him hopefully.

Her pitiful look could melt even the toughest hearts. It was very difficult for anyone to turn her down.

Jian Chen's mind immediately shook. His will wavered. In that instance, he was almost tempted to agree to Shangguan Mu'er's request, giving up on his pursuit of strength to retire and settle down for a peaceful life with Shangguan Mu'er.

"Peace isn't that easy to achieve." Jian Chen shook his head, "In this world, the strong have always preyed on the weak. Strength is the only thing you can rely on to survive. Without enough strength, living a life of peace is merely wishful thinking."

"I won't give up on the Way of the Sword, nor will I give up on the pursuit of strength, as that is what I rely on to survive," Jian Chen said firmly.

With that, the scene before him shattered. Shangguan Mu'er vanished and so did that wonderful world. He had returned to the white, hazy Path of Swords.

Jian Chen sucked in a deep breath. Determination flooded his eyes, and he took a step forwards boldly, climbing up to the next step.

Afterwards, Jian Chen experienced illusion after illusion. Without any exception, the illusions showed the people he was the closest with. All of them either betrayed Jian Chen, or they were slain in front of him. It was mental torture through various means.

These illusions all touched the softest spots in Jian Chen's hearts. It was his achilles heel, so he endured unimaginable mental torture as he went through these tests of illusions. His mind had almost collapsed.

The illusions were just too realistic. It was impossible to tell the real from the fake for those who became submerged in them, so Jian Chen was heavily affected. There were several times that he became confused.

"Inner demons. These are all my inner demons..." Jian Chen shut his eyes and felt powerless.

Inner demons were the demons of the mind. They referred to the emotions and desires of a person, the weakest embodiment of a person's mind.

Jian Chen was no enlightened saint. He had his emotions and desires as well. He had his feelings. All of this would give birth to inner demons.

"The last tests of the Path of Swords are truly brutal. They've triggered the demons in the depths of my heart. If my mind wasn't determined enough, it would have collapsed long ago, and I would have been driven to insanity," thought Jian Chen. Cold sweat gradually appeared on his forehead.

However, in the next moment, his gaze became determined. He thought, "These are all tests that I must go through along the path to becoming strong. Since I want to reach a higher level of cultivation, I can't be defeated by my inner demons."

"My family and friends are indeed my soft side. But that's all because I'm not powerful enough to protect them. However, when I become a Grand Exalt one day and stand as the sovereign at the very apex of the world, will there still be anyone who dares to threaten me with my friends and family? Once these restraints are gone, the demons in my heart will collapse on their own." Very soon, Jian Chen became determined, and he continued to climb upwards.

When he reached the next step, the landscape around him changed again. He was brought to a battlefield in outer space.

It was a war between the Saints' World and the Immortals' World. Outer space was packed with people. Jian Chen happened to be standing with Tie Ta, Ming Dong, Shangguan Mu'er, Changyang Mingyue, and everyone else he was familiar with, leading the experts of the Tian Yuan clan to war against the Immortals' World.

He had already become a peak expert of the Saints' World now.

"It's the people from the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens. Jian Chen, let's kill them together," Tie Ta's voice rang out from beside Jian Chen.

"The Sword Sect of Violet Heavens!" Jian Chen became dazed and lost.

He had obtained the twin swords, so logically speaking, he belonged to the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens. He belonged to the Immortals' World, yet at this moment, he was assisting the Saints' World in dealing with them.

"Retreat!" Jian Chen waved his hand. He did not come into conflict with the people of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens.

"Jian Chen, what are you doing?" Tie Ta bellowed furiously. Jian Chen was a figure of deterrence on the battlefield. Once he retreated, danger would immediately befall the God clan. They would be completely surrounded by the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens.

"Kill the War God of the God clan!" Several experts struck out at the same time from the side of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens in an attempt to kill Tie Ta.

Within the illusion. Tie Ta was not as powerful as Jian Chen had imagined him to be. As a result, he immediately became heavily injured and endangered when he was surrounded by several experts from the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens.

Moreover, even Ming Dong, Shangguan Mu'er, Changyang Mingyue, and so on faced danger.

Jian Chen finally took action at that critical moment, repelling all the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens.

"Jian Chen, hurry up and kill the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens. Kill the people of the Immortals' World. Once they die, the Immortals' World will suffer great losses, and they'll no longer be our Saints' World's opponent." Ming Dong and everyone else's voices rang out nearby.

However, Jian Chen hesitate. He faced a painful dilemma.

Chapter 2362: You Are Unsuitable

"They have already been heavily injured. They're basically incapacitated. They can't even escape. Disciples of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens, fall into formation and kill all enemies. Elders, use the secret technique with me to suppress Jian Chen," an old man from the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens called out at this moment. Immediately, he and the other experts sacrificed their vitality in exchange for strength greater than they previously possessed, unleashing a supreme sword formation at Jian Chen.

A painful struggle flashed through Jian Chen's eyes as he looked at the experts who killed their way over. He looked back at his heavily injured friends and family. He still ended up taking action. He stopped the sword formation and managed to stop all the experts from the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens and the Immortals' World alone.

However, he did not harm any of them.

Seeing how they were unable to do anything to Jian Chen, the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens all made up their minds. They used an ancient, forbidden technique, burning their own life force to kill Jian Chen and the experts of the Saints' World under Jian Chen's protection, even if it would cost them their lives.

"Jian Chen, why do you constantly hold back? They're from the Immortals' World. They are our enemies. Hurry up and kill them all..." Someone close to Jian Chen urged him loudly.

"Brother, kill them quickly. Take revenge for your sister. Your sister almost died to their hands..." said the silver-haired Changyang Mingyue. She had been heavily injured by the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens. She was basically at death's doorstep.

Jian Chen hovered in outer space as his body shook violently. He endured the painful torment in his heart.

On one side stood his close friends and family, while the other side was the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens that he was bound to by countless strands of fate. Now that they had turned on each other, what should he have done? What choices should he have made?

In particular, when he saw that the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens who were about to offer up their lives, he felt pain.

"Although I stand in the Saints' World, I still belong to the Immortals' World in the end. I'm a disciple of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens. Do the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens have to die for me?" Jian Chen seemed saddened as his emotions wavered drastically. He had no idea what to do as he faced a situation like this.

"Let's go!"

In the end, Jian Chen still could not bear to watch the experts of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens die for him. Before they had wasted away their lives, he waved his hand and moved away with his people.

He chose to flee!

"Jian Chen, why won't you kill the people of the Immortals' World? Why won't you kill the people of the Sword Sect of Violet Heavens..."

"Jian Chen, we need an explanation..."

"You're always showing mercy towards the opponent. Do you belong to the Immortals' World..."

Afterwards, Jian Chen faced the doubts of everyone. Many people even became suspicious of his identity, and many people he was close with could not help but back away.

Jian Chen fell silent as he faced the doubtful and cautious gazes in the surroundings.

Suddenly, Jian Chen felt alone. He had become isolated.

At this moment, the landscape around him suddenly shattered. Everyone vanished, and he was brought to another foreign battlefield in outer space.

On the battlefield, he was still a peak expert. However, he currently worked with a sovereign of the Immortals' World against an expert of the Saints' World bathed in golden light.

Four swords hovered above the head of the sovereign from the Immortals' World. He controlled the four swords, cutting through space like he was invincible.

The sovereign of the Immortals' World was blurry. Jian Chen was unable to see him. However, Jian Chen recognised the four swords under his control with a single glance. They were the Sword of Mortality, the Sword of Reincarnation, the Sword of Slaughter, and the Sword of Severance!

On the other side, the expert bathed in golden light was the War God of the God clan, Tie Ta!

He was currently working with the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt, engaged in a battle to the death against Tie Ta in the depths of outer space.

Tie Ta was extremely powerful. He needed to work with the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt to fend him off.

In the end, he and the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt paid quite a hefty price to knock back Tie Ta, heavily injured him.

The Nirvanic Immortal Exalt immediately sent the four swords over, creating a sword formation to kill Tie Ta in one fell swoop!

However, at this moment, Jian Chen's mind shuddered. He thought of all the times he had spent with Tie Ta in the past.

Suddenly, he struck out, not towards Tie Ta, but the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt's four swords. He wanted to stop them from killing Tie Ta.

"What are you doing?" barked the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt.

"I won't let Tie Ta die here," said Jian Chen.

"He's from the Saints' World. He must die," the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt called out and continued to try to kill Tie Ta.

Jian Chen did not back off. He stopped the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt from killing Tie Ta.

In the end, a battle erupted between him and the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt.

At this moment, golden light silently appeared. The heavily injured Tie Ta had taken advantage of the battle to swing his axe towards Jian Chen.

Jian Chen stared straight at the axe that traveled towards him as disbelief filled his eyes. In the end, the axe landed on him with devastating power under his gaze.

Immediately, he experienced piercing pain from the bottom of his heart. The pain made Jian Chen's mind shake, and in the next moment, he felt the world spin around him. Tie Ta vanished and so did the Nirvanic Immortal Exalt. Even the outer space around him collapsed. His consciousness had returned to his body. He had returned to the white, hazy world of the Path of Swords.

There were no longer steps condensed from sword Qi before him. Unknowingly, he had reached the end of the Path of Swords.

However, Jian Chen was unable to lighten up at all. Instead, he sat down where he was and sank into his thoughts. His heart was heavy.

It varied from person to person. He knew that everything he experienced in the illusion was the worries hidden in the depths of his heart. It had been drawn out by a mysterious power when he took the mental test. At the same time, it had sent his subconsciousness into an illusionary world created by his own mind, presenting his greatest worries in the most realistic manner.

In simpler words, everything that happened in the illusion were burdensome thoughts Jian Chen had once experienced. Perhaps these thoughts had only flashed through his head before being forgotten very soon, but they had been endlessly magnified in the illusion, forming an illusion that was almost real and could affect his mind.

The appearance of these illusions did indeed have a great effect on Jian Chen. It forced him to reevaluate his identity as well as his position.

He really was very worried that everything he saw in the illusion would happen to him one day.

"During all these years, you're the third person to complete the Path of Swords." At this moment, an old voice rang out. In the next moment, the landscape around Jian Chen changed. He had already left the Path of Swords, appearing on a mountain that reached into the clouds.

Before him sat an old man in white clothes with his back facing him.

"Junior Jian Chen greets senior Sword Saint!" Jian Chen immediately bowed with a clasped fist.

The Celestial Sword Saint sat there as still as a mediating monk. After a moment of thought, he said slowly, "The two people who completed the Path of Swords before were not suited to be my disciple. You are no exception either. You are unsuitable!"

#### Chapter 2363: Three Years

The Celestial Sword Saint's reply stunned Jian Chen. The fact that he could not become the Celestial Sword Saint's disciple did not surprise him. What did surprise him was that there were two other people who had completed the Path of Swords.

Jian Chen had experienced just how difficult the many tests on the Path of Swords were first-hand. The mental test in the end had affected him drastically. He did not even know if he had passed it successfully.

This was more than enough to demonstrate just how exceptional the two other people were. Their talent was no worse than Jian Chen's.

“Senior Sword Saint, may I ask just how much talent is needed to capture senior’s interest?” Jian Chen asked.

“It’s not a matter of talent. You and the two other people who completed the Path of Swords all possess extremely great talent. Barely anyone can match you across the entire Saints’ World. The reason why you and they were unsuitable was because you all failed the final mental test. You are unsuitable for inheriting my legacy,” the Celestial Sword Saint said slowly. His old voice was filled with energy.

Jian Chen’s heart suddenly sank. He asked, “Senior Sword Saint, do you know everything about the illusions we went through at the end?”

“That’s not an illusion, but a mental test. It’s also known as a test of inner demons. Those with firm wills will keep their hearts as firm as rock when they undergo the test. They won’t be affected at all, nor will they show any weaknesses. However, your emotions were far too intense when you underwent the test. As a result, you’re not the one I want,” said the Celestial Sword Saint.

“I see,” Jian Chen was secretly relieved. At the very least, he was certain that the Celestial Sword Saint had not failed him because of everything he experienced in the illusion. Instead, it was because of his emotions.

“Since junior is unsuited to become senior Sword Saint’s disciple, junior naturally will not keep insisting. However, can this junior stay here for three years? I will leave by myself after those three years. Of course, I do have something for senior. To express my gratitude, this junior will give senior Sword Saint this.” With that, Jian Chen took out a wooden box.

“With my cultivation, there’s barely anything that can catch my attention in the world. What can you, a mere Godking, take out? Of course, unless it’s a treasure from the birth of the universe like fortune jade,” the Celestial Sword Saint was put into a tough spot by Jian Chen’s gift.

“Although this junior does not know what kind of treasure the fortune jade mentioned by senior Sword Saint is, this junior does have quite an extraordinary item.” As he said that, Jian Chen had already opened the wooden box. Immediately, a heavenly resource appeared.

The heavenly resource was of an extremely low grade. It would not even interest regular Godkings, let alone the Celestial Sword Saint who possessed an exceptional cultivation.

“Hmm?” Suddenly, the Celestial Sword Saint became surprised. In the next moment, the heavenly resource disappeared from Jian Chen’s hand and appeared before the Celestial Sword Saint.

“It’s actually Xuanhuang Qi. It looks like you’ve found a Xuanhuang Microcosm,” the Celestial Sword Saint said calmly, without any particular emotion at all. It was like even a Xuanhuang Microcosm was unable to interest him.

“The Xuanhuang Microcosm was a place hidden in a lower world. Moreover, it has never been excavated and is of an extremely high grade. This junior is willing to offer up information about the Xuanhuang Microcosm,” said Jian Chen. He had only explored the outskirts of the Xuanhuang Microcosm when he was in the sea realm in the past. In reality, another world existed within the Xuanhuang Microcosm.

If the region outside that world belonged to mortals, then the region within the world was for immortals.

Back then, due to his limited strength, Jian Chen had only moved around the outside of that world. He had never set foot in the domain.

If the heavenly resources outside the domain were items for mortals, then the items within the domain were for immortals. They were truly treasures of high quality.

“Xuanhuang Microcosms are indeed extremely rare. A Xuanhuang Microcosm with a boundary is enough to drive many Grand Primes insane. Unfortunately, it’s still completely useless to me,” the Celestial Sword Saint said calmly. His ancient eyes remained unwavering, and he returned the heavenly resource with Xuanhuang Qi back to Jian Chen. He was completely uninterested.

Jian Chen was surprised. Was the Celestial Sword Saint really someone who had ascended from mortality, unaffected by materialistic objects, where even a Xuanhuang Microcosm with a domain was unable to interest him?

Jian Chen was troubled now. The peak experts were all waiting for him outside. Once he left the Celestial Sword Saint’s territory, it would be impossible for him to evade capture. The Celestial Sword Saint’s territory was the only safe place for him right now.

Although he also knew about the cavern hidden in the depths of the Desolate Plane, so many peak experts were eyeing him closely right now. If he really did go there, it was basically asking for trouble.

“But for the sake of the Emyrean Demon Lord, I can let you stay here for three years, but it will only be three years. After those three years, leave by yourself,” the Celestial Sword Saint said at this moment.

“The Emyrean Demon Lord?” Jian Chen revealed his doubts when he heard that. He did not know Mo Tianyun was the Emyrean Demon Lord right now. After all, when he helped Mo Tianyun destroy the formation so that his original body could break through, he had suffered the backlash from the Chaotic Force. He was close to death, having lost all sense of the outside world. He did not hear the bellows of the Saint of Grand Harmony.

“The Emyrean Demon Lord is the person who gave you that mask. He’s also the great elder of the Emyrean Demon Cult,” said the Celestial Sword Saint. Afterwards, with a wave of his hand, Jian Chen immediately felt the landscape around him change. He had been sent to a gloomy gully by a force so powerful that he could not resist.

“The great elder of the Emyrean Demon Cult is actually senior Mo Tianyun!” However, Jian Chen paid no attention to the changes around him. He stood within the gloomy cave as he felt like his head was in a mess.

He had heard far too many rumours about the legendary great elder of the Emyrean Demon Cult, but he had never thought that the great elder was actually a legendary figure of the Tian Yuan Continent in the past, Mo Tianyun!

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The experts gathered once again in the ruined city, around the Path of Swords that reached towards the sky. They stared at the end with ugly faces.

“Jian Chen has actually vanished from the Path of Swords. Has he passed the Celestial Sword Saint’s tests and become his disciple?”

“Impossible. That’s definitely impossible...”

“Let’s go to where the Celestial Sword Saint cultivates and get to the bottom of this...”

The peak experts gathered there all left with sunken faces. They had banded together, heading to the Celestial Sword Saint’s territory simultaneously.

#### Chapter 2364: Single Stroke Beheading

The Celestial Sword Saint cultivated at the Sword God Mountains. The peak experts from various places banded together and arrived outside the Sword God Mountains.

There was not a single protective formation to be seen in the mountain range, making it seem like anyone could set foot in there.

However, none of the peak experts there dared to enter the boundary of the Sword God Mountains without permission. They all remained outside the Sword God Mountains.

They looked at the depths of the Sword God Mountains as they showed deep fearfulness and dread, along with some temptation to retreat.

However, when they saw that so many other peak experts stood with them, they eased up slightly.

These people did not come here to ask for the person they wanted from the Celestial Sword Saint. They just felt rather regretful and had come to see whether Jian Chen had really become the Celestial Sword Saint’s disciple.

“It shouldn’t be that easy for Jian Chen to become the Celestial Sword Saint’s disciple,” said the hall elder of the God clan, Tyne. She happened to be among the group as well.

Audriana stood beside Tyne.

Audriana stared straight at the Sword God Mountains as she remained silent.

“Completing the Path of Swords is only an opportunity to become the Celestial Sword Saint’s disciple. It guarantees nothing. Jian Chen is a member of the Martial Soul lineage, so it’s unlikely for the Celestial Sword Saint to accept him as his disciple,” said the ancestral emperor of the Daohuang Empire firmly.

“Jian Chen is someone that my master has specifically requested for. It’s best if the Celestial Sword Saint hasn’t accepted him as his disciple,” said Tu San from the Heaven-splitting clan coldly. The Celestial Sword Saint was very powerful, but he had the support of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor, so he was extremely confident in facing the Celestial Sword Saint.

Afterwards, Tu San clasped his fist towards the Sword God Mountains and said sternly, “I am Tu San, and I come from the Heaven-splitting clan. Greetings to senior Celestial Sword Saint!” Tu San’s voice was thunderous, booming and echoing through the entire Sword God Mountains.

The peak experts there all held their breaths, looking at the depths of the Sword God Mountains as they waited for a reply from the Celestial Sword Saint.

"I already know why you've all come. I've allowed Jian Chen to stay on the Sword God Mountains for three years. After those three years, he will leave by himself. He will no longer have any connections with me." The Celestial Sword Saint's voice rang out from the depths of the Sword God Mountains. He did not pay any special attention to Tu San. Instead, he announced this information to all the experts gathered there.

Tu San's expression immediately became rather ugly when he saw how the Celestial Sword Saint had ignored him. After all, he had mentioned the Heaven-splitting clan. His visit this time was not a personal affair; it was under the name of the Heaven-splitting clan.

It was fine if the Celestial Sword Saint ignored him, but he even ignored the Heaven-splitting clan. Tu San found this to be rather humiliating.

The other peak experts all became relieved. They began to discuss with each other secretly.

"It looks like Jian Chen hasn't become the Celestial Sword Saint's disciple. The Celestial Sword Saint is letting him stay for three years probably as a reward for completing the Path of Swords..."

"That's what I was saying. Who do you think the Celestial Sword Saint is? How would it be that easy for Jian Chen to become his disciple..."

"Three years? If that's the case, I'll just wait another three years..."

"Elder, what should we do next? Should we discuss with senior Celestial Sword Saint so that he will let us take Jian Chen away after the three years, directly taking him back to the Godnigma Plane through the teleportation formations in the Sword God Mountains?" Audriana also asked secretly.

Tyne shook her head, "With the Celestial Sword Saint's temperament, it's unlikely for him to agree. We can only wait here for three years and come up with another idea once Jian Chen emerges from the Sword God Mountains."

"The problem is that there's the Heaven-splitting clan, and who knows why the Heaven-splitting clan wants Jian Chen so much. It'll be troublesome."

Tyne's brows furrowed as she seemed slightly worried. She said, "Before our War God completely matures, we can't declare war on the Heaven-splitting clan. Although the Heaven-splitting Ancestor can't do anything to us on the Godnigma Plane, we can't always stay there. We need to go to other places. We won't be the Heaven-splitting clan's opponent elsewhere."

"That's because our God clan still doesn't have an expert who can fend off the Heaven-splitting Ancestor."

"And what is the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng thinking? They should have received news of the Anatta Tower a long time ago, but why have they still not sent someone to retrieve it? If the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng sends someone, all of Jian Chen's problems will be resolved, including the threat from the Heaven-splitting clan," Tyne sighed inside. She had no idea what the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng was planning.

Audriana's heart sank. She had already realised that it would probably become a difficult matter again in three years' time.

At the same time, all seven members of the Martial Soul lineage gathered on the illusionary Martial Soul Mountain under Hun Zang's lead in outer space.

"Three years. We still have three years. Chu Jian, Yue Chao, you two return to the Martial Soul Mountain first so that you can prepare. I'll stay for now and find a chance to meet Jian Chen. After three years, we have to do everything we can to take Jian Chen back to the Martial Soul Mountain. One we're on the Martial Soul Mountain, probably no one can threaten us unless the Heaven-splitting Ancestor personally takes action," Hun Zang said to the six other members sternly.

"Then you have to be careful of Yu Chen, just in case he's scheming something," Chu Jian warned sternly.

"Don't worry. Although Yu Chen overwhelms me in terms of cultivation, he'll definitely be the one who dies in a battle to the death." Hun Zang was confident.

Tu San's face became rather sunken outside the Sword God Mountains. "Celestial Sword Saint, Jian Chen is someone my master wants. My master has already grown very impatient from all the years Jian Chen spent hiding. Do you plan on making my master wait another three years?"

Tu San directly brought up the Heaven-splitting Ancestor. He believed that only the Heaven-splitting Ancestor could strike awe in the heart of the Celestial Sword Saint now.

After all, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor was a peak expert on the same level as the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng. He was only a step away from Grand Exalt. Tu San refused to believe that the Celestial Sword Saint could stand up to him.

"I don't want to repeat what I just said. No matter who it is, you won't be able to take away anything from me in the next three years," the Celestial Sword Saint replied powerfully. He seemed to be utterly fearless.

The expressions of the peak experts gathered outside the Sword God Mountains all changed when they heard that. They stared at the depths of the Sword God Mountains in surprise.

The Celestial Sword Saint actually did not even respect the Heaven-splitting Sword Saint?

Although the Celestial Sword Saint was known for having things his way and never negotiating, he had gone a little too far this time.

Tu San's face darkened from anger. He roared out, "Celestial Sword Saint, you better think about the consequences of what you just said."

The response he received was a flash.

The surroundings suddenly darkened, and an extremely resplendent streak of light shot out from the depths of the Sword God Mountains.

The streak of light moved with unbelievable speed, making distance seem like a completely negligible concept. It arrived in a single instance, sweeping through San Tu.

It was fast, far too fast. Even the peak experts there could not react to it. San Tu's head had already been separated from his body. It was thrown high into the air as blood sprayed out, dyeing the sky red.

Chapter 2365: The Heaven-splitting Ancestor

The sudden occurrence shocked all the peak experts around Tu San. They all pulled away from Tu San as they experienced emotional turmoil.

In that moment, many people felt their heads blank out. They could not believe what had just happened before them.

The Celestial Sword Saint had beheaded Tu San with a single stroke!

It had to be mentioned that Tu San had the support of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor, someone who was only second to Grand Exalts.

"Celestial Sword Saint, y- y-" Tu San's head called out in fright in the air. He knew that if the Celestial Sword Saint wanted to kill him, he would have died long ago. It would have been impossible for his soul to survive.

Afterwards, his head rapidly joined up with his body, becoming one again.

"These are the consequences you speak of..." The Celestial Sword Saint's response rang out in an awe-inspiring manner. He was completely fearless.

Tu San heard a naked provocation from the Celestial Sword Saint's words, making him both surprised and furious. He pointed at the Sword God Mountains as his lips trembled, but he did not dare to utter a single word.

At this moment, the endless sea of clouds above the Sword God Mountains suddenly began to churn violently. At the same time, an indescribably tremendous pressure enveloped the entire Desolate Plane.

An extremely terrifying will had crossed through outer space, descending upon the Desolate Plane.

The arrival of the will made the entire Desolate Plane tremble slightly. Everything fell silent and began to shake in fear.

"It's the Heaven-splitting Ancestor..."

"The Heaven-splitting Ancestor's will has descended..."

...

The peak experts gathered outside the Sword God Mountains were all stern. They pulled away from the Sword God Mountains as they looked at the sky fearfully.

"Master, you finally came..." Tu San was overjoyed. The personal arrival of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor made his confidence swell. He became fearless, and his vexation caused by the Celestial Sword Saint evaporated in the blink of an eye.

“Master, I was almost slain by the Celestial Sword Saint’s sword. This Celestial Sword Saint doesn’t even plan on showing you any respect...” Tu San fanned the flames, pleading for his master to teach the Celestial Sword Saint a firm lesson.

“Celestial Sword Saint, you’ve gone a little far...”

A tremendous voice boomed out through the surroundings. The mist and clouds churned before condensing into a figure that stood tens of thousand metres high.

The facial features of the figure were very clear. He seemed life-like. He was a man who seemed to be in his thirties.

Even though his appearance was nothing special, he possessed a supreme bearing. He seemed undaunting, causing even the entire Desolate Plane to shake below everyone’s feet.

This person’s arrival seemed to replace the world there, becoming the only god present. The laws of the world began to revolve around him; they were under his control.

The Celestial Sword Saint remained seated on the Sword God Mountains. His ancient figure was like a mountain, completely immovable. He stared beyond the Sword God Mountains calmly, looking at the Heaven-splitting Ancestor condensed from the mist and clouds. He was completely calm, showing no particular emotion at all.

At the same time, Jian Chen emerged from a gloomy cave elsewhere in the Sword God Mountains. He became extremely stern as he stared at the huge figure outside.

Even though he did not recognise this person, he could already guess their identity.

“Why does the Heaven-splitting Ancestor want to take me away?” Jian Chen felt very curious. After all, he had no ties with the Heaven-splitting clan. Why had a supreme figure like the Heaven-splitting Ancestor suddenly started paying attention to him?

Although a supreme Godking had passed away in the Neptunean Divine Palace, he refused to believe that the Heaven-splitting Ancestor would step forward personally for this supreme Godking.

After all, the Heaven-splitting clan was not the Solitary Sword lineage. Mo Cheng was the only successor of the Solitary Sword lineage apart from the Solitary Sword Ancestor, so his death naturally alarmed the Solitary Sword Ancestor.

On the other hand, the Heaven-splitting clan was huge. The Heaven-splitting Ancestor probably did not even know the name of the supreme Godking who died in the Neptunean Divine Palace.

Moreover, the supreme Godking had died to Ming Dong’s hands. Jian Chen was not the one who killed him. There were even fewer reasons for the Heaven-splitting Ancestor to pay attention to him.

Jian Chen thoughts wandered, but he could not understand why.

At this moment, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor took action. He directly sent a palm strike towards the Sword God Mountains with his huge figure condensed from mist and clouds.

With that, space collapsed and the ground trembled. The orderly laws all became chaotic as devastating power pressed towards the Celestial Sword Saint on the Sword God Mountains.

The power was just too terrifying. It had surpassed the limits that space could endure. Even the tiniest slivers of power that leaked out was enough to make space collapse.

The expressions of the peak experts gathered outside the Sword God Mountains all changed in shock when they sensed the power of the palm strike.

“You want to deal with me just with your will? Heaven-splitting Ancestor, you underestimate me far too much!” The Celestial Sword Saint was immovable on the Sword God Mountains. He remained seated on the ground and did not stand up, but a powerful sword intent gathered on him.

Afterwards, he extended a finger, and immediately, it shone with blinding light. All the Laws of the Sword in the surroundings seemed to gather at the finger, shooting out as a strand of sword Qi that shone like a galaxy.

The sword Qi tore through the air, leaving behind a trailing streak of darkness. It pierced through the surroundings.

The Sword Qi collided with the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s misty hand. The expected boom did not come. The sword Qi directly punched through the hand, tearing through it in an unstoppable manner before directly flying towards the huge figure of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor.

The will from the Heaven-splitting Ancestor was unable to deal with the Celestial Sword Saint’s sword Qi. Wherever the sword Qi passed by, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s figure rapidly collapsed.

In the blink of an eye, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s arm vanished, and the Celestial Sword Saint’s sword Qi directly punched through his huge body.

Immediately, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s body shook and began to blur. He had almost collapsed.

“The Three Lives sword intent. It really is the Three Lives sword intent...”

The mighty voice of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor boomed out as his eyes shone brightly. He stared at the Celestial Sword Saint in interest.

“What! The Three Lives sword intent...” All the peak experts outside the Sword God Mountains cried out in response to the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s words.

“No wonder. No wonder the Celestial Sword Saint doesn’t even fear the Heaven-splitting Ancestor. Turns out he obtained the Three Lives Sword God’s legacy,” Tyne sighed in amazement in the crowd.

“The Three Lives Sword God was a sovereign of the world from the last aeon. He was a Grand Exalt who specialised in the Way of the Sword. Over a million years ago, the place where the Three Lives Sword God passed away was discovered. When all the experts of the Saints’ World arrived there, it was already empty. The legacy was gone, and no one knew who obtained it. It looks like the Celestial Sword Saint is the one who received the Three Lives Sword God’s legacy...” A peak expert sighed in amazement with mixed feelings.

“The Celestial Sword Saint actually has a Grand Exalt’s legacy, and a Grand Exalt who specialises in the Way of the Sword. No wonder he’s so powerful.”

“I just wonder if he has grasped the Authority of the Grand Exalt. The Authority of the Grand Exalt is truly an invincible technique that instills despair in opponents...”

“It would be impolite of me to not return the favour. My Sword God Mountains is not a place that anyone can trample,” the Celestial Sword Saint said coldly from the Sword God Mountains. A sword hovered above his head, shining with blinding light that illuminated the entire sky.

In the next moment, the sword seemed to fuse with the Celestial Sword Saint. With his power and will, it shot off and vanished from the Desolate Plane.

On the Nine Clouds Plane on the other side of the universe, the white-robed Heaven-splitting Ancestor sat leisurely within a pavilion inside the Heaven-splitting clan that stood supreme on the Nine Clouds Plane. He raised his head slightly and looked at the sky above him.

At this moment, the sky above the Heaven-splitting clan ripped open. A sword churning with a terrifying glow directly shot towards the Heaven-splitting clan.

Chapter 2366: Yielding

It was fast, far too fast. The sword seemed to have crossed over from a completely different world. The moment it appeared, it shone with dazzling light, shooting towards the ground with unbelievable speed.

Immediately, sword intent permeated the surroundings. It was terrifying and boundless, enveloping the entire Nine Clouds Plane.

The ancient existences who cultivated in seclusion across the Nine Clouds Plane were all alarmed. They looked towards the sword Qi and became shocked.

“What terrifying sword Qi. I- it’s the Celestial Sword Saint of the Desolate Plane...”

“It’s the Celestial Sword Saint. The Celestial Sword Saint has actually attacked the Heaven-splitting clan. H- he’s insane...”

“The Heaven-splitting Ancestor is a peak expert only second to Grand Exalts. Has the Celestial Sword Saint reached a point where he doesn’t even fear the Heaven-splitting Ancestor...”

“The sword crossed through such a distance and directly attacked the Nine Clouds Plane from the Desolate Plane. The Celestial Sword Saint is even more terrifying than I imagined him to be...”

Various peak experts sighed in amazement in places across the Nine Clouds Plane. They hovered in the air, staring at the Heaven-splitting clan from afar.

A protective formation rose up from the Heaven-splitting clan, enveloping the entire place. The Heaven-splitting Ancestor had suddenly vanished from the pavilion as well. When he reappeared, he was outside the formations, standing in the path that the sword would pass through.

The Heaven-splitting Ancestor's bearing was otherworldly. Even though he did not give off any presence at all as he hovered in the air, he seemed like he controlled the world and could determine everything in the world.

It was as if he stood above the world, surpassing everything. It was like he had become a part of the ways of the world, enough to change how they functioned.

Of course, that was only a feeling, a bearing that appeared when one's comprehension of the laws of the world reached an extremely profound level. He was only a step away from becoming a part of the heavenly ways.

The flow of time on the entire Nine Clouds Plane seemed to become abnormally slow. After the Heaven-splitting Ancestor's appearance in the air, the flow of time on the Nine Clouds Plane seemed to be affected. The laws of the world seemed to undergo some kind of change, making the Celestial Sword Saint's sword seemingly slow down.

The laws where the Heaven-splitting Ancestor stood seemed to change with his existence. With a thought, he could affect the order of the world. With a thought, he could construct new laws. With a word, he could turn an entire region into his own territory. He was extremely powerful.

This was the power of someone only second to Grand Exalts.

However, the Celestial Sword Saint was not weak either. His sword bore his power and will, so it seemed like the Celestial Sword Saint had personally arrived. The Laws of the Sword condensed on the sword clashed with the Heaven-splitting Ancestor.

Swish!

Like a galaxy, the sword shot through the air, passing through all obstructions to arrive above the Heaven-splitting Ancestor's head.

No matter how the Heaven-splitting Ancestor controlled the ways of the world to interfere with it, it was futile.

A gleam of light flashed through the eyes of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor. His face did not change, and he remained composed. He raised his hand slowly.

He seemed to perform this action slowly, but it was actually extremely fast. This was a phenomenon from the interfered Laws of Space and Time.

In a single instance, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor caught the Celestial Sword Saint's sword. Power and laws condensed on the Heaven-splitting Ancestor's hand, surrounding the sword.

Afterwards, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor suddenly clenched his hand. Immediately, the light of the laws appeared, and all the power in the surroundings seemed to fuse into his hand. Devastating power condensed in a single instance as he wanted to clamp down on the Celestial Sword Saint's sword.

The sword exploded with light at that moment. The Celestial Sword Saint's figure seemed to appear, and the sword intent from the Three Lives Sword God suddenly erupted, engaging in an intense clash with the Heaven-splitting Ancestor.



Boom!

A deep rumble rang out in the air. Two supreme powers clashed together, causing the laws to tremor.

The sword Qi on the sword shattered, scattering into the surroundings as countless densely-packed streaks. They cut through space, raining down on the ground with a power that could seemingly annihilate everything.

“Crack!” The Heaven-splitting Ancestor called out, and it seemed to represent the will of the heavenly ways. Once he said that, spatial cracks appeared out of nowhere. They were dense, and they blotted out the sky. It was a shocking, frightening, and extremely grand sight. It seemed like the entire sky was collapsing.

Every crack appeared where the scattering sword Qi had to pass through like a huge, gaping mouth.

All the scattered sword Qi vanished after shooting into the cracks.

In the end, all the sword Qi was devoured. The devastating rain had been easily nullified just like that.

The Celestial Sword Saint’s sword flew out from the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s hand. It continued to shine blindingly and ripped open the space on the Nine Clouds Plane before vanishing.

The sword had retreated after a single strike. It did not launch a second attack.

The Heaven-splitting Ancestor remained calm. He stared at the departing sword and did not take action. At a closer glance, one would notice that a faint, bloody mark had appeared on his hand.

The Heaven-splitting Ancestor, someone only second to Grand Exalts, had actually been injured by the Celestial Sword Saint’s attack.

Even though it was nothing major, just a scratch, it was shocking enough.

“Celestial Sword Saint, since you’ve obtained the Three Lives Sword God’s legacy, I’ll give it to you. I’ll wait the three years,” said the Heaven-splitting Ancestor slowly and calmly as he stared at where the sword had vanished. He was emotionless.

As he said that, the huge figure condensed from the sea of clouds from when his will descended spoke the same words on the distant Desolate Plane.

Not only did the yielding of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor surprise all the peak experts on the Nine Clouds Plane, but even the peak experts who were about to watch how the Heaven-splitting Ancestor would overwhelm the Celestial Sword Saint on the Sword God Mountains became utterly astounded.

The Celestial Sword Saint had almost collapsed the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s body of clouds. Not only was this a provocation, but it was also a humiliating matter to the Heaven-splitting Ancestor who was one of the most powerful beings below Grand Exalts. However, he actually did not pursue the matter.

This surprised all of them.

“It looks like the Celestial Sword Saint has already become so powerful that he needs to be taken seriously by the Heaven-splitting Ancestor...”

“The Celestial Sword Saint has obtained a Grand Exalt’s legacy. Although he might not be able to become a Grand Exalt himself, he’ll be able to reach the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s level at the very least. The Heaven-splitting Ancestor clearly doesn’t want to offend the Celestial Sword Saint over a small matter like this...”

“Indeed. Offending an expert like that over a small matter is indeed not a clever decision...”

Very soon, the peak experts of the two planes seemed to understand the hidden meaning behind the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s actions.

Chapter 2367: Plan

Even the Heaven-splitting Ancestor had yielded, so the peak experts gathered outside the Sword God Mountains no longer stuck around. All of them dispersed.

Most of them did not leave the Desolate Plane. Instead, they waited patiently across the Desolate Plane, waiting for Jian Chen to emerge from the Sword God Mountains in three years’ time.

However, Tu San of the Heaven-splitting clan chose to leave, returning to the Heaven-splitting clan on the Nine Clouds Plane through a teleportation formation.

The Heaven-splitting Ancestor remained seated in the pavilion. His eyes were closed as he gave off the presence of laws. He seemed to have fused with the surroundings, affecting the operation of the laws there at all times.

Before him stood Tu San, who had just returned from the Desolate Plane. He reported everything that happened during his trip to the Heaven-splitting Ancestor.

He told the complete truth, without any exaggeration at all. He did not dare to tell a single lie before the Heaven-splitting Ancestor.

With the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s level of cultivation, he could see through the mysteries of the world and peer into the past and future with a single thought. Once Tu San told even half a lie or made a slight exaggeration, the Heaven-splitting Ancestor would be able to know instantly.

The Heaven-splitting Ancestor opened his eyes after listening to Tu San’s report. His gaze was as deep as the cosmos as he said indifferently, “It’s not your fault that you weren’t able to bring back Jian Chen successfully. In the beginning, I only thought Jian Chen was an insignificant person. I never thought that he would actually be very extraordinary.”

“He’s a mere Godking, yet I can’t peer into anything that has to do with him. That rarely happens. I’ve developed some interest in him as well.”

“Master, this one will definitely bring back Jian Chen in three years’ time,” Tu San said politely.

“Alright,” nodded the Heaven-splitting Ancestor. After a slight pause, he said, “Originally, I didn’t take the Celestial Sword Saint seriously, but since he has obtained the Three Lives Sword God’s legacy, the situation has changed completely. Although it’ll be very difficult for him to become a Grand Exalt in the future, he’ll still be able to reach my current level through the legacy alone. There’s no need to gain a lurking enemy just because of three years.”

“Master is wise,” Tu San had already understood this.

The Heaven-splitting Ancestor said after the slightest moment of hesitation, “Most importantly, his battle prowess has already far surpassed his current level of cultivation. Defeating him is nothing difficult, but I have no confidence in killing him. He knows the secret techniques of Grand Exalts. If he concentrates on running, it’ll be very difficult for me to capture him. Moreover, he already has the ability to harm me now.”

“What!” Tu San was in shock. He cried out, “Master, t- that’s impossible.”

“If he didn’t have the Three Lives Sword God’s legacy, he obviously wouldn’t be able to harm me. You can’t underestimate a Grand Exalt’s legacy.” The Heaven-splitting Ancestor looked at the distant outer space as his gaze deepened.

There was a slash that had almost cut through his entire right hand. Even though the wound had closed, a mark still remained.

“You are dismissed. Go to the Desolate Plane again in three years’ time. You have to bring me Jian Chen this time. I want to see exactly why he’s special and why I can’t peer into anything about him...”

Tu San bowed politely before backing away slowly.

Soon after Tu San’s departure, an ancient voice rang out.

“Heaven-splitting Ancestor, the little master wants me to ask you when Jian Chen will be brought here.”

It was the voice of the artifact spirit of the Neptunean Divine Palace.

“Tell your little master not to worry. Jian Chen is very safe right now. She’ll be able to see him in three years’ time,” the Heaven-splitting Ancestor said indifferently.

...

Jian Chen looked at the Celestial Sword Saint who sat on the ground with his back towards him in the Sword God Mountains. He bowed deeply and said, “Thank you for assisting me, senior!”

Jian Chen understood that the Celestial Sword Saint had actually clashed with the Heaven-splitting Ancestor because of him earlier; this shocked him.

Even though he knew that this was all because of the Celestial Sword Saint’s natural pride, the matter had still arisen from him.

“You don’t need to thank me. Since I have agreed that you can stay on the Sword God Mountains for three years, you will definitely be spending those three years here. No more, no less. In three years’ time, leave by yourself. Your life will be in your own hands then,” the Celestial Sword Saint said calmly. However, his voice did seem to possess a sense of power that could not be defied.

It was as if his words were the edict of heaven, where no one could change his will or decisions.

“Be careful about the Heaven-splitting clan. The Heaven-splitting Ancestor has become interested in you. No matter what you hear in the future, never go to the Heaven-splitting clan. The Heaven-splitting

is hell, not heaven for you,” the Celestial Sword Saint said mysteriously, as if he knew almost everything in the world.

Jian Chen’s heart sank slightly. “Junior understands!”

“You can go. You don’t need to worry about anyone launching a sneak attack on you in my Sword God Mountains. You can cultivate at ease. If there are any areas in cultivation that you don’t understand, you can come here whenever you like,” the Celestial Sword Saint said slowly. He closed his eyes, and he gave off a profound presence, resonating with the world and seemingly fusing with the entire mountain range.

It felt like he had become the Sword God Mountains, perfectly merging with every inch of the land there. They seemed inseparable.

Afterwards, Jian Chen entered seclusion at ease in the Sword God Mountains. Only the Laws of Creation, the Laws of Fire, and the Laws of Corrosion from the seven laws he had received from below the Desolate Plane required more comprehension.

“I have to raise my comprehension of these three laws to Godking in the three years that I have,” Jian Chen secretly made up his mind as he sat in the gloomy cave.

However, he could not use the fortune jade now, so his rate of comprehension was obviously much slower. As a result, he did not have complete confidence in completing the required comprehension in three years.

He temporarily tossed aside his thoughts about the Grand Exalt’s cultivation method he had obtained from the Tower of Radiance. His priority right now was to comprehend the three laws.

This was because only when the eight laws from the eight experts within the cavern had been comprehended to Godking could the final strands of vital energy within them be activated, allowing all of them to fuse their powers together and deliver an astonishing strike.

Jian Chen had no idea how powerful these eight experts were when they were still alive, but there was one thing he could be certain about, and that was the cavern definitely would not be able to endure a combined attack from the eight of them.

By then, the cavern would definitely collapse, and the corpse of the Ancient Great Apes’ expert would be exposed. The Desolate Plane would definitely plunge into chaos.

Chapter 2368: At the Doorstep

Jian Chen began to cultivate, focusing on comprehending the Laws of Creation, Fire, and Corrosion.

The law he picked first was the Laws of Fire.

The Laws of Fire was an extremely powerful law for attack. Once he comprehended the Laws of Fire to Godking, it would increase his battle prowess slightly at the very least.

As Jian Chen comprehended the Laws of Fire, the Celestial Sword Saint who sat on a mountain peak suddenly opened his eyes. He glanced at Jian Chen’s location. His expression did not change at all. He calmly said, “He has already gained the bearing of a Sword Immortal. If he continues to comprehend it,

it's extremely likely for him to reach Sword Immortal within the three years. However, he hasn't chosen the Way of the Sword but the Laws of Fire instead. It looks like he really plans on doing it..."

A gleam of light flashed through the Celestial Sword Saint's eyes. His eyes became extremely deep in that instance, and he murmured, "That's the secret set up of Bloodtear. If he really does do that, he'll draw out Bloodtear... However, his true crisis doesn't come from Bloodtear. Whatever, I'll just let him toil about."

In the blink of an eye, Jian Chen had already been cultivating in the Sword God Mountains for over a month. He roused after that time, and he frowned slightly. He was in a bad mood.

Without the fortune jade, his comprehension of laws became extremely slow. Even though it would still seem unbelievably fast in the eyes of others, it was impossible for him to comprehend the Laws of Creation, Fire, and Corrosion to Godking in just three years.

"The fortune jade is just too precious. As a result, I can't use it, even if I'm inside the Anatta Tower. After all, the Celestial Sword Saint is just too powerful. He's far greater than most Grand Primes. I'm still not completely certain that the Anatta Tower can stop the senses of the Celestial Sword Saint's soul. After all, the Anatta Tower is damaged right now. It no longer possesses the defences it had when it was in perfect condition," worried Jian Chen.

"Fortunately, Kai Ya has grasped the Laws of Creation and Fire already. I'll comprehend the Laws of Corrosion first. I hope Kai Ya's Laws of Creation and Fire will be useful when I need them." Very soon, Jian Chen made up his mind. Just when he was about to continue cultivating, he suddenly sensed something and looked outside the cave.

It was also at this moment that two figures walked in from outside together.

Jian Chen's eyes narrowed, and he was taken by surprise when he saw the two figures.

They happened to be the leader of the Radiant Saint Hall and Hun Zang of the Martial Soul lineage.

"I've already been waiting outside for a month. You've finally roused," the leader of the Radiant Saint Hall said as soon as he entered the cave. He stared at Jian Chen with mixed feelings. He cut right to the chase and said, "Jian Chen, I hope you can return that to me. As long as you return that, I won't look into the other matters."

Jian Chen understood that the leader of the Radiant Saint Hall had come for the Method of the Exalted Saint.

However, he had obtained the Method of the Exalted Saint after great effort and difficulty, and it was something that he needed. He had obtained it completely thanks to his own abilities, so how could he just return it?

"You won't look into the other matters? Hmph, Yu Chen, you better listen up. I would like to ask you if you're bold enough to look into them," Hun Zang said mockingly as soon as the leader of the Radiant Saint Master had finished talking. He did not even look at Yu Cheng, and his ugly expression. Instead, he looked at Jian Chen encouragingly. He smiled, "Jian Chen, don't worry. This is the Sword God Mountains. The Celestial Sword Saint permitted us to meet you, which was quite a joyous surprise. If he dares to

touch you here, he'll definitely end up biting off more than he can chew, so you don't need to be afraid of him."

The leader of the Radiant Saint Hall snorted coldly inside, and he looked at Hun Zang icily. However, it was just as Hun Zang had said. He was indeed not bold enough to make a move in the Sword God Mountains, or it would have been impossible for him to stand so close to his arch nemesis Hun Zang.

"Jian Chen, I understand you a little. I know you're a person who places emphasis on ties of friendships. You might not know it, but your teacher, the lord of the Soaring Clouds Peak, Han Xin, and Bai Yu, who you've cared for so much, along with Donglin Yanxue, will all be pulled into this because of you. Strict punishments await them. Donglin Yanxue's punishment will be especially severe. She clearly knew that you were a member of the Martial Soul lineage, yet not only did she not report you, but she even assisted you in escaping, making our Radiant Saint Hall lose our greatest treasure. Her sins are so great that dismissing her as Chosen Saint is nowhere enough. Even execution will be regarded as a light punishment..." said the leader of the Radiant Saint Hall coldly. He never wanted to do this, but the Grand Exalt's cultivation method was just too important to the Radiant Saint Hall. He would do everything within his ability to take it back.

"Leader, are you threatening me?" Jian Chen's face gradually darkened. He said coldly, "Let's ignore the fact that I obtained the cultivation method through my abilities alone for now. Your Radiant Saint Hall should be grateful and not resentful towards me for the appearance of the cultivation method in the first place, as I am the reason why the artifact spirit of the Tower of Radiance awakened. It was also because of me that the hidden miniature world opened up, and it is all because of me that the Grand Exalt's legacy underneath the stele appeared."

"Moreover, I only obtained the cultivation method within the legacy. Everything else is still with your Radiant Saint Hall. They were obtained by the descendant of the Grand Exalt, the lord of the Scorching Sun Peak."

"If it weren't for me, the Tower of Radiance would remain the same as before, filled with endless mist. It would be impossible for it to become like now, a place that protects all Radiant Saint Masters,"

"As a result, your Radiant Saint Hall should be thankful towards me. I eliminated a huge threat for your Radiant Saint Hall..."

The leader of the Radiant Saint Hall's face changed time and time again as he listened to Jian Chen's words. He stared right at Jian Chen with a shocking gaze and said sternly, "Why did the artifact spirit of the Tower of Radiance awaken because of you?"

"Perhaps it is because I can control Martial Soul Force," Jian Chen said ambiguously. Obviously, he would not reveal the fact that the artifact spirit of the Tower of Radiance was no longer the same one as before.

"The ties between the Martial Soul lineage and the Radiant Saint Hall runs extremely deep, whether good or bad. I don't know the exact details, but I do know that there needs to be Martial Soul Force to obtain the Grand Exalt's legacy, as one cannot overcome the final juncture of the stele forcefully. Only Martial Soul Force can get through the final obstruction and release the Grand Exalt's legacy suppressed below it."

Jian Chen stared at the leader of the Radiant Saint Master with shining eyes and continued, "Martial Soul Force is crucial for obtaining the Grand Exalt's legacy."

"Impossible!" the leader of the Radiant Saint Hall stressed every single syllable. He refused to accept this.

"Leader, perhaps you should ask the artifact spirit of the Tower of Radiance. I don't know the exact details, but he should," said Jian Chen. Now that the artifact spirit had fused with some memories, he should be able to answer a few questions.

"I will be back." The leader of the Radiant Saint Hall glanced at Jian Chen deeply. He turned around and left with that.

Martial Soul Force was crucial to comprehending the diagram and obtaining the Grand Exalt's legacy. This news was simply far too shocking, and it had completely toppled the leader of the Radiant Saint Hall's thinking and understanding. He needed to return and ask the artifact spirit of the Tower of Radiance closely.

#### Chapter 2369: The Underground Cavern

Only Jian Chen and Hun Zang remained in the slightly gloomy cave after the leader of the Radiant Saint Hall's departure.

As he looked at Hun Zang, who stood just like an ordinary person, Jian Chen's feelings became rather mixed.

Before, he and Hun Zang were complete strangers. They had no ties at all, yet they were brought together because of Martial Soul Force.

However, in order to help him escape from danger, Hun Zang had even gone as far as to offend so many peak experts without any hesitation, paying no regard to the consequences.

His actions had touched Jian Chen deeply.

This was because Jian Chen could clearly sense that Hun Zang's intentions were completely different from the others. The other experts all acted on their desires, wanting to take the Anatta Tower for themselves.

However, Hun Zang had no interest in the Anatta Tower at all. His only reason for coming to the Desolate Plane was to fetch him.

Even the six other members of the Martial Soul lineage had come to the Desolate Plane, all gathering in outer space and supporting Hun Zang.

The actions of the Martial Soul lineage had changed Jian Chen's opinion of them.

At this moment, Hun Zang coughed gently and said, "The primary reason why I've come to see you this time is to discuss the matter in three year's time."

“You can only stay in the Sword God Mountains for three years. You’ll be very safe during that period, but after the three years, you’ll be directly tossed into a storm. It’ll be extremely dangerous. As a result, we need to properly consider how we’re going to break out of the encirclement and leave this place.”

“Right now, Chu Jian and the five others have already returned to the Martial Soul Mountain. They are making preparations for the mountain soul to descend with even greater power in three year’s time. However, the power of the Martial Soul Mountain cannot directly connect with the Desolate Plane. It can only descend in outer space, so the greatest problem we face is making it off the Desolate Plane and onto the mountain soul while we face the obstructions of all these experts.”

“As long as we make it onto the mountain soul, we can use the connection between the mountain soul and the Martial Soul Mountain to cross the tremendous distance, returning to the Martial Soul Mountain in a single instance.”

“Are you really not afraid of offending all those peak experts just for me?” Jian Chen looked at Hun Zang brightly.

“You’re the eighth brother of our Martial Soul lineage. You’re a part of our family. It’s no problem even if we have to go up against the world if we can take you back to the Martial Soul Mountain,” Hun Zang said heroically. In that moment, he seemed to fear nothing.

“Can the Martial Soul Mountain stop the Heaven-splitting Ancestor?” Jian Chen asked. He had already learnt from the Celestial Sword Saint that the Heaven-splitting Ancestor had developed an interest in him. This interest was not a good matter. As a result, he had to consider the existence of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor.

Hun Zang became stern with the mentioning of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor. He said, “The Martial Soul Mountain indeed cannot stop an expert like the Heaven-splitting Ancestor. However, it’ll still require quite some effort if the Heaven-splitting Ancestor wants to intrude on the Martial Soul Mountain. After all, he is one of the most powerful experts below Grand Exalts. As long as Grand Exalts don’t appear, he is the strongest. There aren’t a lot of places that can stop experts like that across the entire Saints’ World.”

“However, with the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’s status, it’s unlikely for him to take personal action just for you.”

Jian Che understood. After a moment of thought, he said, “I have my plans in three year’s time. You don’t need to come to the Desolate Plane.”

“You have your plans?” Hun Zang was surprised. Jian Chen was only a Godking, so how would he be able to avoid so many peak experts?

“If no accidents happen, something major will happen on the Desolate Plane in three year’s time. At that time, I will find a way off the Desolate Plane, so you don’t need to come,” said Jian Chen.

“Are you confident?”

“I am.”



“Alright then!” Hun Zang looked at Jian Chen sternly and passed him a jade slip. He said, “Since you have your own plans, I won’t say anything more. This jade slip records some knowledge about Martial Soul Force as well as how to use it. I learnt from Qing Shan that you have yet to learn all this, so I do hope it can provide you with some assistance.”

Hun Zang passed the jade slip to Jian Chen and continued, “However, the contents are only basic knowledge. It won’t touch upon anything deep. The true, core legacy of our Martial Soul Force is imprinted on the Martial Soul Mountain. It can’t be taken away at all, nor are there any methods to pass it on to you. If you want to obtain it, you need to come to the Martial Soul Mountain...”

After that, Hun Zang bid farewell to Jian Chen and left the Sword God Mountains.

Afterwards, Audriana of the God clan visited the Sword God Mountains as well. She was worried about the situation that Jian Chen currently faced. The descent of the Heaven-splitting Ancestor’ will had demonstrated his determination to take Jian Chen away. Even the hall elder, Tyne, felt powerless and was uncertain about how to handle the situation.

This was because the current God clan really could not deal with the Heaven-splitting Ancestor.

Compared to the worried Audriana, Jian Chen was extremely optimistic. He told Audriana to not worry.

“Jian Chen, you need to be careful of the Heaven-splitting clan. The elder believes that it’s not good matter that the Heaven-splitting Ancestor has noticed you. Take care.” Audriana looked at Jian Chen in worry and warned him sincerely before leaving the Sword God Mountains soon as well.

During the next period of time, it was extremely peaceful for Jian Chen in the Sword God Mountains. This was the territory of the Celestial Sword Saint. Without his approval, even the leader of the Radiant Saint Master or the ancestral emperor of the Daohuang Empire did not dare to intrude on this place.

As a result, Jian Chen was completely worry-free. He began to focus on comprehending the Laws of Corrosion.

At the same time, Kai Ya sat on the ground and cultivated deep underground in the cavern cloaked by the concealing formation.

At this moment, she slowly opened her eyes and murmured with a frown, “Why are breakthroughs becoming more and more difficult now? I can clearly feel that I seem to have grasped laws of the world at higher levels, but I just can’t break through with my cultivation. It feels like some power is stopping me.”

Kai Ya sighed gently. Even though she was unwilling to just let the matter be, there was nothing she could do about it.

Her gaze gradually landed on the depths of the huge, underground cavern. As she studied it, she gradually became confused.

“Why do I feel a familiar presence here? But I’ve never been here before,” Kai Ya’s bewilderment gradually increased. In the end, she looked at the very depths of the cavern, and after some slight hesitation, she stood up. Ignoring Jian Chen’s warnings from before his departure, she made her way towards the very depths.

Before long, she had approached the very depths. She clearly saw a colossal, headless corpse as she stood there. The body was floating above a pool of blood quietly.

#### Chapter 2370: Kai Ya's Transformation

The pool of blood that was as vast as an ocean radiated with terrifying, vital energy. It submerged the headless corpse in vital energy, seemingly nourishing it. It made the headless corpse brim with life.

The corpse belonged to the strongest king of the Ancient Great Apes, Gusta!

Kai Ya stared at Gusta's headless corpse from a hundred kilometres away. She would glance at the vast pool of blood from time to time. Her doubts grew.

She could clearly sense that the source of this sense of familiarity was right in front of her.

However, she was rather hesitant. She did not dare to go up, as she knew that the region a hundred kilometres around the pool of blood was a forbidden zone. It would be very difficult for her to survive with her currents strength.

However, the hesitation only lasted for a while. Suddenly, she stepped forwards, setting foot in the range of a hundred kilometres.

At a closer glance, Kai Ya's eyes had already lost their usual liveliness and color. All of a sudden, they seemed hollow as if she had lost her soul, where her actions were no longer hers.

Boom!

At the same time, the pool of blood no longer remained peaceful with Kai Ya's intrusion. The entire pool of blood surged and churned wildly as terrifying vital energy swept towards Kai Ya with devastating power.

The vital energy churned terrifyingly. Even Primordial realm experts faced the danger of dying before the vital energy, let alone Kai Ya, a mere Godking.

However, Kai Ya's eyes were hollow and dull, making it seem as if she could not sense the incoming danger at all. She continued to make her way forward, nearing the vital energy that surged over.

In a single instance, the terrifying vital energy arrived before Kai Ya with devastating power.

However, just when Kai Ya was about to be swallowed, a seemingly-invisible power appeared from her body. The appearance of the power made the laws there change. It was like the laws in the space around her had been forcefully twisted into new laws by a pair of invisible hands.

In the end, the terrifying vital energy that was enough to kill Primordial realm experts immediately eased up when it approached Kai Ya. It lost all of its wildness, no longer posing any threat.

Kai Ya's eyes remained hollow. She advanced step by step, where she took each one steadily and firmly. She grew closer and closer to the pool of blood up ahead.

The space around her twisted, and the laws fell into chaos. It was like they had been interfered with and forcefully changed, making her the supreme ruler there who could not be defied.

Up ahead, the tremendous pool of blood that nourished Gusta churned even more violently. The blood-red waves shot high into the air, sweeping towards Kai Ya with even more terrifying vital energy.

However, it remained a futile effort. No matter how terrifying the vital energy was, even if it could harm peak experts, it was still not enough to stop or harm Kai Ya.

In the end, Kai Ya arrived three kilometres away from the pool of blood.

At this moment, a barrier rose up and blocked Kai Ya, enveloping the entire pool of blood.

The barrier was extremely powerful. It had fused with the terrifying vital energy in the pool, using it as an endless energy source.

Moreover, it had even fused with the fragments of the laws of the world, allowing it to possess unbelievable defence in the end.

Kai Ya stopped before barrier. Her hollow eyes suddenly changed at that moment, becoming boundless and profound like the cosmos. The endless mysteries of the world seemed to be invoked, possessing the truths of the world and hiding the ultimate essence of the ways.

At a certain moment, her eyes were no longer hollow. They recovered their light.

It was a pair of icy-cold, emotionless eyes. They were extremely unfamiliar. The eyes basically made Kai Ya seem like a completely different person.

However, Kai Ya's entire bearing underwent a drastic change with the appearance of these eyes. In that instance, a supreme, dignified sense seemed to appear around her.

The astonishingly powerful barrier that could even stop Grand Primes suddenly twisted before Kai Ya. The barrier had cracked open silently, as if it had been ripped open by an invisible power. It formed a tunnel.

Kai Ya's eyes remained cold. The greatest essence of the ways seemed to gather around her, making her seem invincible. It was like she could control the entire region. She directly stepped through the crack in the barrier and set foot within three kilometres of the pool of blood.

Jian Chen was unable to get this close even with the Anatta Tower, yet it had been extremely easy for Kai Ya. It was like all the arrangements here were unable to stop her tracks.

The pool of blood churned wildly as it roared thunderously, like Gusta's corpse had produced a roar. Terrifying pressure crashed down on Kai Ya like a cascade.

The pressure was shockingly great. It could twist space and distort time. Even some Grand Primes would not be able to endure it.

However, Kai Ya's face remained the same as before. No matter how the vital energy churned, no matter how great the pressure became, it was all unable to shake her, unable to approach her.

In the end, she stood at the edge of the pool of blood and stared at it emotionlessly. She extended a finger towards it gently.

The world seemed to be ripped apart under the gesture, causing the ways to boom out. The churned blood began to part, forming a tunnel that led straight to the bottom of the pool.

The pool was hundreds of metres deep. A droplet of bright blood rested in the very depths quietly.

The droplet of blood differed greatly from the rest of the pool. Not only was it at a higher level, but the energy it contained was even more terrifying as well.

Even if all the vital energy within the pool was combined, it would still be nowhere near enough to match the droplet of blood.

This was because the pure energy within the droplet of blood seemed to be absorbed by the pool at all times, making the energy within it leak away, while the energy of the pool was gradually strengthened.

In the end, the energy in the pool would be used to nourish Gusta's headless body, not only making it brimming with life, but also constantly refining it, making it more and more powerful.

Clearly, the droplet of blood only existed to nourish Gusta's body.

A cold light suddenly flashed through Kai Ya's emotionless eyes when she saw the droplet of blood. As she was in thought, she gently waved at the blood.

Immediately, the droplet of blood seemed to experience a calling. It flew out from the bottom of the pool by itself, shooting into one of Kai Ya's eyes as a streak of red light.

Kai Ya's eyes seemed to be connected to a whole different world, so the droplet of blood vanished completely when it entered her eyes.

Afterwards, two colossal vortexes seemed to revolve in the depths of Kai Ya's eyes. She looked at the pool of blood.

All the blood gathered within the pool suddenly surged violently. Strands of pure vital energy were whisked away, forming a river that flowed into Kai Ya's eyes.