

## Chaotic 2831

### Chapter 2831: The Places Confirmed

“Esteemed hall master, our Greenfields clan has prepared five billion supreme grade divine crystals. We hope to obtain five centuries of protection from you...”

“Our Heaven’s sect has also prepared five billion supreme grade divine crystals to offer up to you...”

...

The representatives of the various organisations had been waiting for Jian Chen to bring this up, so as soon as Jian Chen spoke, all the organisations gathered in the Pantheon Divine Hall took out their prepared Space Rings.

Each Space Ring was filled with five billion supreme grade divine crystals, and that only served as the bare minimum. When Jian Chen scanned around with the senses of his soul, he even discovered over seven billion divine crystals prepared in a few Space Rings.

That was over two billion more than what he had asked for!

The meaning behind this additional sum was self-explanatory.

However, the fact that made Jian Chen sigh was that one of these Space Rings with over seven billion divine crystals happened to be from He Qianqian.

Very clearly, the Heavenly Crane clan had truly attached extremely great importance to certain rare resources unique to the Darkstar World. They were unable to bring in any God Tier heavenly resources or pills that could heal the soul, nor could they pay the tremendous price that Getti demanded, ten billion supreme grade divine crystals per century, but the Heavenly Crane clan was actually willing to go above and beyond the required price of Jian Chen’s offer, a billion divine crystals per century, just to earn one of the fifty spots available.

As Jian Chen sighed inside, he also became rather reluctant to turn them down.

After all, he was still technically a member of the Heavenly Crane clan as long as he remained in the Darkstar World. Moreover, He Qianqian had treated him quite well during the time he had spent in the Darkstar World. He had already begun treating He Qianqian as a friend.

It was a pity that he had to make He Qianqian leave the Darkstar World, as that was a form of protection for her!

All protective formations had been removed from the Space Rings, so Bing Yuan could also detect the sum of divine crystals in each Space Ring from Jian Chen’s side. He immediately gasped because of this before becoming completely flushed.

Every single organisation had prepared five billion at the very least, with no one offering up less than five billion. If this were summed up across the several dozen organisations present, the amount of divine crystals present would truly reach an astronomical figure.

Because of the evolution of the Fruit of Nurturing Ways, the Darkstar race's demand for energy had increased by several dozen fold or even over a hundred fold. As a result, the entire Darkstar race experienced a severe shortage of divine crystals. If they could obtain so many divine crystals, they would definitely be able to deal with the urgent issue at hand.

Jian Chen revealed a satisfied smile too. "Very good, very good. Since you've all fulfilled my request in time, I will obviously uphold my word and protect fifty organisations among you. You can now place your Space Rings on the table, and I will choose fifty of them."

As a result, all the prodigies placed their Space Rings onto the discussion table excitedly and uneasily.

However, Jian Chen sank into his thoughts as if he was considering who to protect among them. In the end, after several seconds of hesitation, he chose the first organisation.

With a flick of his finger, a single Space Ring immediately hovered up from all the Space Rings on the table, arriving before him.

This meant he would be accepting this Space Ring, and the owner of the Space Ring and their organisation would receive five centuries of protection from here on out.

Of course, the protection would be carried out under the name of the fifth hall master Kun Tian!

As for the organisation that had been chosen, they all became overjoyed. Their tense hearts finally settled down.

After all, there were only fifty places, and there were as many as seventy or eighty organisations gathered in the Pantheon Divine Hall. At least a third of them would be eliminated.

Afterwards, Jian Chen moved faster and faster. Space Rings hovered before him one by one. All the organisations that were chosen became overjoyed as if a heavy burden had been lifted from their shoulders, while the organisations that had not been chosen became more and more nervous.

In particular, when Jian Chen reached forty Space Rings, a few prodigies were unable to keep their composure anymore. Nervousness and worry appeared on their faces, and thin beads of sweat had even covered the foreheads of some.

He Qianqian was one of them. Even her alluring face became slightly pale.

The Hao family of the Prosper Plane also felt extremely unsettled. Even though the Hao family was extremely powerful and influential in the Saints' World, they still struggled to collect certain rare resources. If they lost the unique resources of the Darkstar World, it would have a similarly great impact on the nurturing of future talents for the Hao family.

Very soon, the number of Space Rings hovering before Jian Chen reached forty-nine. Only a single spot remained.

As for the remaining third of organisations that had not been chosen, most of them had already become despaired. They all seemed like they were close to losing their wits.

Finally, He Qianqian was unable to hold back her anxiety and said, "Fifth hall master, our Heavenly Crane clan has prepared seven and a half billion supreme grade divine crystals, and this is only the first payment. A second payment will be delivered later on, so please..."

"Stop talking!"

The reply she received was Jian Chen's icy voice and cold glare. Jian Chen directly interrupted her, saying coldly, "I don't need you to tell me what choice I'm supposed to make."

He Qianqian's expression immediately sank before paling. She shut up instantly. She had already realised that by speaking rashly, she had angered the fifth hall master, potentially leaving behind a bad impression in his eyes.

With He Qianqian as an example, the remaining organisations that had not been chosen immediately shut their mouths obediently. They knew the fifth hall master had a short-temper and was very easily angered. As a result, they all remained silent, waiting for the confirmation of the final spot eagerly and nervously.

Jian Chen was clearly quite hesitant with the final spot, but he did not hesitate for too long. He finally made a decision in the end and chose the Heaven's sect!

The Heaven's sect was the overlord of planet Cangmang among the eighty-one major planets of the Saints' World. Their strongest ancestor was the planet lord of Cangmang. Without any exaggeration, the status of the Heaven's sect was equivalent to an imperial clan's on planet Cangmang.

With the fifty places determined and confirmed, the chosen organisations all smiled victoriously, while those that were not had extremely ugly expressions.

He Qianqian was devastated, but she was also filled with doubt at the same time. Their Heavenly Crane clan was definitely one of the organisations that provided the most divine crystals. She struggled to understand why the fifth hall master would rather choose organisations that only provided five billion divine crystals instead of the Heavenly Crane clan that provided over seven billion divine crystals.

Was it because I overspoke? He Qianqian asked herself.

"How has your Heavenly Lightning clan been going about preparing what I want?" In the end, Jian Chen's gaze landed on Lei Yun of the Heavenly Lightning clan.

### **Chapter 2832: The Deal with the Seventh Divine Hall**

Lei Yun's forehead immediately became laced with cold sweat. He said in a hurry, "Esteemed hall master, the pieces of jade you require are completely different from supreme grade divine crystals. Actually, the reason why everyone present could gather so many divine crystals in merely three days was because none of these divine crystals came from their organisations in the Saints' World. Instead, they had been borrowed from various organisations in the remnants of the Spirits' World. Otherwise, it would have been impossible for them to offer up five billion supreme grade divine crystals in three days."

"As for the jade that the hall master requires, I may not know their exact value, but they're definitely something extremely precious. Even our Heavenly Lightning clan does not possess something like that.

The seniors of our clan only obtained it through other means. As a result, if our clan wants to gather the thirty pieces of jade that the hall master requires, we'll definitely need some time. I hope the senior can extend the deadline by a few days."

It made sense to Jian Chen. He knew exactly how far the remnants of the Spirits' World was from the Saints' World. Even if he ignored everything else, travelling through the passageway between the remnants of the Spirits' World and the Saints' World would take quite some time.

Moreover, they would still have to travel across the Saints' World that was even vaster to return to their clans. It would also take a certain period of time.

Back then, the Heartless Child had brought him here. With the Heartless Child's supreme cultivation that he could only look up to, he had basically reached a terrifying realm where he could ignore spatial distances to a certain degree when he traveled. That was why the journey had not taken him too long.

However, not everyone possessed the same, peak-level cultivation as the Heartless Child. As a result, getting the Heavenly Lightning clan to complete this task in three days was clearly rather unrealistic.

Thinking up to there, Jian Chen did not urge the Heavenly Lightning clan. He said, "Then I'll give you another seven days. In seven days' time, whether your Heavenly Lightning clan stays or leaves will be completely up to you."

Afterwards, Jian Chen mentioned a few other convenient matters with the prodigies before leaving the Hundred Saint City with Bing Yuan.

At the same time, he took the fifty Space Rings with him.

Every single Space Ring contained at least five billion supreme grade divine crystals. There were even quite a few with a surplus of a few hundred million or a billion. This was a rather colossal sum to the Darkstar race, enough to cover the shortage of the medicinal garden completely.

Bing Yuan wanted to speak up by Jian Chen's side, but he faltered. He simply could not understand why his hall master had not accepted all the divine crystals.

Was there any difference between protecting fifty organisations and protecting all of them? They could obtain over a hundred billion supreme grade divine crystals without any additional effort. Just who was willing to let such a great opportunity slip by in the Darkstar race?

However, upon considering how his hall master had become extremely irritable under the influence of the planetary beast ever since his visit to the Two World Mountains, Bing Yuan held back his urge in the end and did not speak up. He only felt pity over all the divine crystals that had been within arm's reach.

Jian Chen and Bing Yuan returned to the fifth divine hall. As he sat on the fifth hall master's throne, the light in Jian Chen's eyes flickered before looking over in the direction of the seventh divine hall. He released the senses of his soul and extended it towards the seventh divine hall without the slightest attempt at concealment.

In the seventh divine hall, the seventh hall master Getti also sat boldly on his throne, hesitating over something with a frown.

He had already learnt about what had happened in the Hundred Saint City, and he also knew that there were several dozen organisations in the Hundred Saint City that Kun Tian had turned down right now with over a hundred billion divine crystals at hand, seeking protection.

Even Getti struggled to keep his composure before such a tremendous sum of divine crystals. He was extremely tempted because if the seventh divine hall possessed such a sum of divine crystals, it would be more than enough to resolve the urgent issues they were facing right now.

However, he had already become fearful of Kun Tian. In particular, ever since the clash between Kun Tian and Irvin three days ago, this fear became even more intense.

Suddenly, Getti's face changed and immediately coldened. He said to the space before him coldly, "Kun Tian, you've intruded upon my seventh divine hall with the senses of your soul for no good reason, so what do you want?"

"I've come obviously to propose a deal with you." The senses of Jian Chen's soul arrived in the seventh divine hall and directly communicated with Getti.

"A deal? What deal can we even discuss between us?" Getti's face was cold, and his tone was extremely icy as if he was completely unapproachable.

It was true. Only conflict ever existed between their fifth and seventh divine halls. The overt and covert struggle had already continued for countless years. Never did the concept of a deal exist between the two divine halls.

"Of course. I know your seventh divine hall will run out of divine crystals to support the medicinal garden in merely a few days. Once you are unable to meet the medicinal garden's demand and impact the evolution of the Fruit of Nurturing Ways, that's not a consequence your seventh divine hall can bear," Jian Chen said at a leisurely pace.

Getti frowned heavily and snorted coldly. "Our seventh divine hall might not have a large supply of divine crystals remaining, but it's nowhere close to the level where we can't even meet the demands of the medicinal garden. And, the organisations cooperating with our seventh divine hall have been delivering divine crystals to us daily. Our region of the medicinal garden hasn't reached the level where we need you to tell us what to do."

"Those divine crystals will be nowhere near enough to provide the Fruit of Nurturing Ways with the energy it requires when it evolves. Getti, just stop trying to convince yourself otherwise." Jian Chen smiled faintly and said, "Though, there is an opportunity now that can relieve your seventh divine hall of all worries regarding insufficient divine crystals. From today onwards, our fifth divine hall can take full responsibility over all the divine crystals your seventh divine hall must provide to the medicinal garden until the Fruit of Nurturing Ways truly ripens."

Getti's eyes lit up. This time, he did not turn down Jian Chen's suggestion immediately. Instead, he sat on his throne and ruminated for a while. In the end, he said nonchalantly, "Then what kind of price do you want us to pay?"

"Price? It's nothing like that. To you, it's merely the matter of a single statement. You don't need to pay anything..."

...

Jian Chen retracted the senses of his soul. As he sat on the fifth hall master's throne, he could not help but smile mysteriously. He said to Bing Yuan below, "From today onwards, the divine crystals for the region of the medicinal garden that the seventh divine hall is responsible for will be completely covered by us."

"Ah! W- what?" Below, Bing Yuan was stunned. His face was filled with disbelief.

At the same time, the seventh hall master issued an order. He sent the Fourth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime vice hall master, An Lie, to personally lead two armies of the Darkstar race to the Hundred Saint City in a vigorous manner.

The armies did not advance particularly quickly, so the Hundred Saint City learnt about it before they had even arrived. It immediately filled the people of the city with fear.

"Oh no, oh no. The Darkstar race is carrying out a large-scale attack against us. This time, they're being led by a Fourth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime..."

"They're from the seventh divine hall. We're done for. Are they planning on destroying our Hundred Saint City..."

"Don't fret. We're already under the protection of the fifth divine hall. Immediately send people to seek assistance from the fifth hall master..."

The protective formations of the Hundred Saint City activated at full strength once again, and the entire city was on guard. At the same time, the organisations under the fifth divine hall's protection began sending people to the capital city to contact the fifth divine hall.

### **Chapter 2833: Revisiting the Medicinal Garden**

The entire Hundred Saint City was enveloped in a heavy atmosphere. Even the organisations under the protection of the Fifth Divine Hall were unsettled. They began to wonder whether something had actually happened among the upper echelon of the Darkstar race, which would invalidate the fifth divine hall's protection. Otherwise, why would a Fourth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime vice hall master personally lead two armies with him towards the Hundred Saint City in an aggressive manner?

With the Hundred Saint City on full alert, the two armies An Lie led finally arrived. The armies then began to separate, forming a huge enclosure around the entire city.

The organisations in the Hundred Saint City all changed in expression when they saw the Darkstar race's behaviour. The two armies had actually surrounded the Hundred Saint City. They were clearly planning to round them up and prevent anyone from escaping.

The current situation was extremely disadvantageous to the Hundred Saint City.

They were facing a Fourth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime after all. Before such an expert, the defensive formation of the city could only last for a few days at most. Once it ran out of energy, the Hundred Saint City would collapse on itself.

On the tall walls of the Hundred Saint City, the prodigies all stood in a row, and the prodigy from the Jade Pill sect who had been promised eternal protection from the fifth hall master was the most confident out of them all. He stood proudly as he called out, "Vice hall master An Lie, hall master Kun Tian of the fifth divine hall has already promised to protect us such that we won't be stigmatised or abused by any organisation of the Darkstar race. However, seeing how you've encircled us with your armies, may I ask what vice hall master An Lie is planning?"

An Lie hovered in the air at an altitude several dozen meters higher than the walls, looking down on the city below. The commanders of the two armies stood politely behind him.

Hearing the prodigy of the Jade Pill sect's words, a warm smile appeared on An Lie's face. He said, "You have nothing to worry about. We naturally will not touch a single hair on the organisations under the protection of the fifth hall master, but not all organisations in the Hundred Saint City are under the fifth hall master's protection."

With that, the organisations under protection immediately let out a sigh of relief, while the unprotected organisations became rather pale. They had already realised the seventh divine hall had mobilised such a great force clearly to target them.

At this moment, An Lie's voice sounded out again, "Many of our clansmen have died to your hands. This is a grudge so great that even if we slaughter you all, it won't even nearly be enough. However, since some of you are under the protection of the fifth hall master, we obviously need to show the fifth hall master some respect. We won't touch you in the next five centuries. However, our seventh divine hall will never spare the others."

"I'll give you three days to consider. If you don't remove the formations in three days' time, then the only thing I can do is personally destroy the defensive formation. Our seventh divine hall will have shown sufficient respect to the fifth hall master too. Though, if you really force me to take personal action because of your defensive formations, then even if the fifth hall master comes in person, he'll have nothing to say..."

...

The two armies of the Darkstar race encircled the Hundred Saint City for three only days. During the final moments before the third day ended, the Hundred Saint City finally removed their defensive formation. The entire city was completely vulnerable.

However, when Getti led his army into the city, the organisations stationed in the Hundred Saint City had already reduced by a third. Only the fifty-one organisations under the fifth hall master's protection remained behind, while the other organisations, including the Heavenly Lightning clan, had all pulled out already, leaving the place through the teleportation formation established in the city.

An Lie had clearly been expecting this, so he was not surprised at all. He had only paid a visit to the Hundred Saint City symbolically before leaving. However, before he left, he did wonder to himself, "Just what is Kun Tian planning? His thoughts really are becoming harder and harder to grasp now."

...

The fifth divine hall.

“Hall master, vice hall master An Lie of the seventh divine hall has already led his soldiers into the Hundred Saint City, but the organisations that are not under your protection had left a long time ago, so vice hall master An Lie gained nothing. He’s currently returning with his troops...” a Godking knelt in front of the throne with his head lowered to the ground as he said politely.

“You can go!” Jian Chen said gently on the throne.

“Yes, hall master!”

After his subordinate had left, Jian Chen let out a long sigh of relief and murmured to himself, “I’ve finally gotten them to leave. This is good. It’ll reduce a lot of my worries. The seventh divine hall sure upholds their word. Oh, the region of the medicinal garden under the seventh divine hall’s management has almost run out of divine crystals. The sixth divine hall has too. I need to go replenish them.”

Afterwards, Jian Chen left through the teleportation formation to the medicinal garden without bringing anyone with him.

The medicinal garden was a secret among the Darkstar race. Only Primordial realm experts had a right to learn of its existence, and all the divine crystals the Darkstar race had obtained from the outsiders were for sustaining the medicinal garden.

Arriving in the medicinal garden, Jian Chen discovered that basically the entire garden was drizzling. The rain was not the kind of rain that naturally formed in the atmosphere. Instead, it was completely condensed from pure energy.

The current density of energy in the garden was over a hundred times greater than when he had visited last time, or even more than that.

Of course, the dense energy was only scattered around the edges of the medicinal garden. The closer to the centre, the thinner the energy became.

The centre was where the Fruit of Nurturing Ways grew. As it seemed right now, the region around the Fruit of Nurturing Ways had already been emptied out. There was not a single shred of energy that would remain there for even a split second.

It was currently in a critical phase of its evolution to a high grade God Tier heavenly resource. The amount of energy it required when evolving was tremendous, and it also absorbed the energy at an extremely alarming rate. It had sucked the energy in the region dry a long time ago, without even leaving behind a drop to spare. Even though new energy constantly surged in from all directions, it would be sucked clean instantly.

Jian Chen visited the regions under the fifth, sixth, and seventh divine hall’s responsibility first, using up several tens of billion supreme grade divine crystals in one go and filling the three regions to the brim. Only then did he stop and observe the situation of the Fruit of Nurturing Ways from afar.

An even stronger formation protected the central region where the Fruit of Nurturing Ways grew. The Darkstar Emperor had personally assembled the formation. It was more than enough to block the attacks of Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes.



Of course, due to the limited supply of energy, if an expert at that level really attacked it, the formation would not be able to withstand many strikes.

“The Fruit of Nurturing Ways should be close to fully ripening. It’s just a pity that I can’t accurately predict when it’ll ripen with my ability. I just wonder whether the Heavenly Lightning clan can provide me with the thirty pieces of jade that contain the Laws of Time or not. If I have those pieces of jade, when the Fruit of Nurturing Ways ripens will be completely under my control.” Jian Chen stared at the Fruit of Nurturing Ways as his eyes blazed with undisguisable desire.

Once the Fruit of Nurturing Ways became a high grade God Tier heavenly resource, he would definitely be able to step into the next realm after he ingested it!

### **Chapter 2834: Lying Low**

“If a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime ingests a high grade Fruit of Nurturing Ways, they have an eighty percent chance at reaching Chaotic Prime.”

“A high grade Fruit of Nurturing Ways is enough to produce a Chaotic Prime. Right now, the Fruit of Nurturing Ways is at mid grade, so it can only allow a peak Godking to reach Infinite Prime. With my current realm of cultivation, I’m still quite a far bit off from Chaotic Prime. If I want to make a breakthrough with my Way of the Sword, a mid grade Fruit of Nurturing Ways might still not be enough...”

“As a result, I can only wait until the Fruit of Nurturing Ways completely reaches high grade. Only then will I have absolute confidence in breaking through...”

In Jian Chen’s eyes, the Fruit of Nurturing Ways that the Darkstar race had tended to for tens of millions of years was already his. A powerful formation with a warning function enveloped it, where it could alert the Darkstar Emperor immediately as soon as it was attacked or tampered with.

However, it would still take time for the Darkstar Emperor to hurry over here from the capital city. Even though this would not take too long, Jian Chen could easily tear through the formation forcefully and harvest the Fruit of Nurturing Ways before the Darkstar Emperor had arrived.

“Darkstar race, since you’ve drained Sacredfeather of his essence blood so ruthlessly, even planning on sacrificing him, don’t blame me for being ruthless too,” Jian Chen thought. A sliver of cold light flashed through his eyes in that moment.

Afterwards, Jian Chen stopped caring about the Hundred Saint City. With He Qianqian, Jin Hong, and the people of the Hao family all evacuated from the city, he was no longer concerned about it.

As for the divine halls that opposed Jian Chen, they were unable to order the Hundred Saint City around either, as all of the hall masters had already realized how determined Kun Tian was to protect the Hundred Saint City. Without any benefits large enough to make them lose their minds, none of them were willing to anger the fifth hall master over some divine crystals before becoming locked in a pointless battle to the death with the enraged fifth hall master.

Moreover, the current Kun Tian had already surpassed most of the hall masters in terms of strength. Basically no one could hold him off with absolute confidence anymore apart from the first hall master who was at the Seventh Heavenly Layer.

During the next few days, Jian Chen locked himself in the secret room. He did nothing else apart from acting like he was studying the high grade Godking grass. In the past, he had demanded large quantities of high grade Godking grass from the ten divine halls under the guise of research. In order to avoid any suspicion, he obviously had to keep up the act.

Otherwise, if he held onto the Godking grass and Ancestral Sacred Earth from the ten divine halls and did nothing, it would be as clear as day that he was running a scam. It would be very easy for him to attract suspicion.

Of course, he did contact the other divine halls again for even more Ancestral Sacred Earth.

However, Ancestral Sacred Earth was different from high grade Godking grass. High grade Godking grass could not be sold to the outsiders, and the ten divine halls did not have much use for them either, so tossing it all to him was no loss to them.

Ancestral Sacred Earth was different. Not only was it much more scarce than Godking grass, but the ten divine halls could often earn a tremendous sum of supreme grade divine crystals when they sold them to the outsiders. If a few divine halls were lacking sufficient divine crystals for the medicinal garden, they could basically all exchange away some Ancestral Sacred Earth.

“Bing Yuan, inform all the divine halls that I require large quantities of Ancestral Sacred Earth to research Godking grass. We’ll purchase it from them at a price of half a billion supreme grade divine crystals per tael.” With no other choice, all Jian Chen could do was purchase it with divine crystals.

He had only recently obtained a tremendous amount of supreme grade divine crystals from the Hundred Saint City. He was truly wealthy. Even after fulfilling the needs of the medicinal garden for three divine halls, he still had quite a large amount remaining.

Moreover, these divine crystals only fetched an unimaginable price within the Darkstar race when they experienced a shortage of divine crystals. Once he brought them back to the Saints’ World, their value would sharply decline.

That was because many precious heavenly resources could not be purchased using divine crystals in the Saints’ World. Basically all of them were exchanged for with items of equal value. Ancestral Sacred Earth happened to be one of those precious items.

Even if he could purchase them with divine crystals, they would mostly be exchanged for coloured divine crystals, which were also extremely precious.

Bing Yuan conveyed Jian Chen’s message to the nine other divine halls quickly. Basically all of them, apart from the fourth and seventh divine halls that were no longer bothered by the supply of energy to the medicinal garden, had exchanged some Ancestral Sacred Earth with Jian Chen.

The seven divine halls each offered up a different amount of Ancestral Sacred Earth, but in total, there were thirty-five taels.

“Only thirty-five taels? This is nowhere near enough. Looks like they value the Ancestral Sacred Earth well beyond Godking grass.” Jian Chen was dissatisfied with this result, as the supply of the fifth divine hall was a catty and a half. The seven other divine halls had only earned him three and a half catties, which was nowhere close to what he had been expecting.

“Bing Yuan, tell the other divine halls that the emperor has personally ordered for the ten divine halls to provide full support for my research of Godking grass. I need vast quantities of Ancestral Sacred Earth for researching Godking grass, so this is nowhere near enough.”

“I’m only willing to exchange divine crystals with them in consideration of their urgent need for divine crystals for the Fruit of Nurturing Ways. If they miss out on today, then they won’t be receiving a single divine crystal if they provide Ancestral Sacred Earth to me in the future. Don’t let them miss out on such a great opportunity.”

“The fourth and seventh divine halls too. They also have to provide me with some Ancestral Sacred Earth. The research of Godking grass is something major that has to do with the entire upper echelon of our race. No one can remain uninvolved. Everyone needs to help out...”

“Yes, hall master. I’ll tell the nine other divine halls right now.” Accepting the order, Bing Yuan immediately backed away.

After Bing Yuan had left, Jian Chen became rather worried as he sat in the secret room. He suddenly remembered how the Darkstar race possessed an unfathomable Virtuous Sage of Heaven. He wondered whether his actions would attract the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s attention.

“It is a little risky, but something as precious as Ancestral Sacred Earth is worth this risk. Also, so many days have passed already, but the Darkstar Emperor remains silent. The Virtuous Sage of Heaven is nowhere to be seen either, so they shouldn’t know about my true identity,” thought Jian Chen. At the same time, he made up his mind to lay low until the day of the great ceremony arrived.

Two days later, Jian Chen had exchanged for a total of six catties of Ancestral Sacred Earth from the nine divine halls at the price of half a billion supreme grade divine crystals for a tael. For this, he had paid out thirty five billion supreme grade divine crystals. The additional five billion all ended up in the tenth hall master Feng Xue’s hands.

Now, the Ancestral Sacred Earth in Jian Chen’s possession had reached seven and a half catties, which finally left Jian Chen satisfied.

Of course, Ancestral Sacred Earth and high grade Godking grass were not the only rare items within the Darkstar race. There were a few other precious materials that only the Darkstar race produced, but they paled in comparison to the Ancestral Sacred Earth.

In order to avoid suspicion, Jian Chen began to lie low after gathering enough Ancestral Sacred Earth. He did not set his eyes on any other rare materials.

“The resources I’ve obtained are all renewable in the Darkstar race. The treasures of truly alarming value are all in the Darkstar Emperor’s hands.” Jian Chen looked at the ceiling. His gaze seemed to pass through the obstruction of the secret room and land on the Darkstar Divine Hall hovered above. He could clearly sense the Darkstar Emperor’s presence that was as vast as the boundless ocean.

## **Chapter 2835 – The Day of the Great Ceremony**

“It’s only a pity that I’m still not the Darkstar Emperor’s opponent with my current strength unless my Way of the Sword breaks through to the partial achievement of Sword Immortal.” Jian Chen’s eyes

gradually lit up. Reaching the partial achievement of Sword Immortal was very difficult from one perspective, but it was also simple from another perspective.

If he comprehended it normally, the breakthrough would obviously be riddled with difficulties. He would require fortuitous encounters, tremendous amounts of comprehension, and a steady accumulation over a lengthy period of time.

However, if he possessed a high grade God Tier Fruit of Nurturing Ways, then going from the initial achievement to the partial achievement of Sword Immortal would become extremely easy.

“Looks like I have to obtain the Fruit of Nurturing Ways regardless of the cost.”

In the blink of an eye, another seven days passed by. Having spent his entire time fiddling around with Godking grass in the secret room, Jian Chen finally received good news.

Lei Yun of the Heavenly Lightning clan had returned to the Hundred Saint City with thirty pieces of jade with the Laws of Time. The thirty pieces of pure-white and flawless jade were delivered to Jian Chen’s hands in a box.

As soon as he received the box, Jian Chen opened it eagerly. Thirty pieces of jade laid in their quietly, all containing extremely pure power of the Laws of Time.

At the first glance, Jian Chen discovered the thirty pieces of jade were exactly the same as the three pieces Lei Yun had initially taken out in the Pantheon Divine Hall. Even the Laws of Time inside were the same.

“Great! This is fantastic! With these pieces of jade, I can make the Fruit of Nurturing Ways ripen whenever I want.” Jian Chen secretly rejoiced. He had already prepared the energy that the Fruit of Nurturing Ways required to evolve, and the remaining issue of time would be resolved with the thirty pieces of jade. In his eyes, the Fruit of Nurturing Ways was already within his reach.

“Send a tael of Ancestral Sacred Earth to the Heavenly Lightning clan in the Hundred Saint City! This is what I promised them. Since they’ve fulfilled my request, I obviously won’t mistreat them. On top of that, give the Heavenly Lightning clan a thousand stalks of low grade Godking grass.” In a fantastic mood, Jian Chen directly rewarded the Heavenly Lightning clan with a thousand stalks of Godking grass.

Time passed silently as Jian Chen waited patiently. Finally, the ten hall masters all received precise news regarding the day of the great ceremony half a month later.

The great ceremony was set to occur in three months’ time.

Soon after confirming the exact time of the great ceremony, the Darkstar Emperor summoned the ten hall masters again, so the hall masters and vice hall masters assembled in the Darkstar Divine Hall once more.

“The Godking Life-devouring Beast corpses we have for the great ceremony is nowhere near enough. If we rely on the outsiders to hunt them down in the Two World Mountains, we don’t make it in time. As a result, in order to collect enough corpses as soon as possible, I’ve decided to lead you all to kill our way into the Two World Mountains.” The Darkstar Emperor sat on his throne like a lofty mountain as he spoke in his voice filled with an undefiable sense of dignity.

The various hall masters and vice hall masters all looked at one another. At that moment, no one knew how to react properly. With their status in the Darkstar race, they had never thought that they, the esteemed hall masters and vice hall masters, would actually have to be mobilised and kill their way into the Two World Mountains for the sake of some measly Godking Life-devouring Beast corpses

This was definitely the first and only case of something like this occurring throughout the history of the Darkstar race.

“Because the great ceremony this time is different from the past, not only do we need large quantities of Godking Life-devouring Beast corpses, but we also need the corpse of a regional king Life-devouring Beast that has reached the Primordial realm. We need to gather all these corpses within half a month,” the Darkstar Emperor continued sternly and seriously, which only demonstrated he was not joking. He had truly made up his mind about leading the Primordial realm experts into the Two World Mountains to hunt Godking Life-devouring Beasts.

As soon as they heard about the corpse of a Primordial realm Life-devouring Beast, the hall masters and vice hall masters below all changed in expression.

Once members of their Darkstar race entered the Two World Mountains, not only would their powers be heavily suppressed, preventing them from unleashing their full strength, but even leaking a sliver of their presences would immediately alarm all the Life-devouring Beasts in the Two World Mountains, leading to an encirclement.

If they began fighting in the Two World Mountains, not only would they be suppressed, but they would not be able to recover their energy either, and their life force would be constantly devoured by the Life-devouring Beasts.

On the other hand, the Life-devouring Beasts had almost endless power due to the special environment of the Two World Mountains blessing them, and they could recover in an extremely short amount of time from wounds no matter how severe.

With these advantages and disadvantages, the strength of the two sides that originally possessed roughly equal power would obviously be pulled apart, such that the difference between the two sides basically could not be made up for.

As a result, the hall masters and vice hall masters all became rather stern when they heard they had to enter the Two World Mountains to hunt Life-devouring Beasts.

“Killing a weaker regional king Life-devouring Beast is not too difficult for me, so leave that to me. What you need to do is do everything you can to hunt as many Godking Life-devouring Beasts as possible,” The Darkstar Emperor said relaxedly. When he mentioned killing a Primordial realm Life-devouring Beast, his countenance had not even changed as if he was mentioning a negligible feat.

However, Jian Chen knew the Darkstar Emperor did indeed possess that strength. During the last time when he entered the Two World Mountains, the Darkstar Emperor had already demonstrated great strength that could overwhelm everything. If he suddenly launched a sneak attack against a weaker Primordial realm Life-devouring Beast, he could indeed kill it in one strike before retreating with ease.

During the morning on the next day, Jian Chen led the three vice hall masters of the fifth divine hall to the Two World Mountains with all the Primordial realm experts from the nine other divine halls and the Darkstar Emperor.

Their jobs were broken down very clearly. First, the Darkstar Emperor would draw away the attention of all the Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts, and the remaining hall masters and vice hall masters would scatter and hunt down Godking Life-devouring Beasts.

Immediately, great rumbles roared out in the depths of the Two World Mountains and thunderous beast roar rang out constantly. The Darkstar Emperor completely erupted with his presence, making him something akin to an extremely resplendent sun in the Two World Mountains. He immediately attracted the attention of all the Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts.

This time, the Darkstar Emperor did not become embroiled in a great battle with the Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts like last time. Instead, he used his movements techniques to maneuver through the depths of the Two World Mountains whilst leading the Life-devouring Beasts around.

Just like that, he minimised the energy he exhausted, and he would obviously be able to remain for a longer time in the depths.

The hall masters and vice hall masters all scattered throughout the depths, killing off the Godking Life-devouring Beasts one by one as quickly as they could while minimising any disturbances.

Immediately, the number of Godking Life-devouring Beasts in the Two World Mountains plummeted, and the Life-devouring Beasts that chased the Darkstar Emperor around everywhere were basically playing cat-and-mouse. Due to their limited intelligence, they were unable to immediately read the Darkstar Emperor's simple plan.

### **Chapter 2836: Hunting Operation**

The hunting operation lasted for seven whole days. During the seven days, countless Godking Life-devouring Beasts died in the depths of the Two World Mountains.

The past few days were definitely the darkest days of the Two World Mountains since its creation, as the Two World Mountains had never lost such a tremendous number of Life-devouring Beasts in all the years it had existed, and they were all stronger Godking Life-devouring Beasts.

After several days of hunting, it also became more and more difficult for the experts of the ten divine halls to find Godking Life-devouring Beasts.

When they first entered the Two World Mountains and expanded the senses of their souls at the Primordial realm, they could often discover several or even many Godking Life-devouring Beasts within the range of their senses even after shrinking from the suppression.

But now, they would often have to spend a lot of time and cover a lot of ground before they ran into a living Godking Life-devouring Beast.

It was as if all the Godking Life-devouring Beasts in the Two World Mountains had been hunted to extinction in seven short days.

At this moment, a lengthy bellow suddenly erupted from the depths of the Two World Mountains. It was the Darkstar Emperor's voice, and it truly resembled the furious howl of a Chaotic Prime. The terrifying sound waves possessed great penetrative power, piercing through the entire Two World Mountains.

Hearing the Darkstar Emperor's howl, the Infinite Primes scattered in various regions of the Two World Mountains all stopped searching before flying out as quickly as they could without the slightest hesitation or doubt.

"The Darkstar Emperor has ordered for a retreat. Looks like he's close to his limit too. Though, to be able to maneuver among so many Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts for so long when he can't even recover a shred of energy, the Darkstar Emperor is extremely impressive." Jian Chen gazed in the direction of the Darkstar Emperor before retreating as well.

The depths of the Two World Mountains were shrouded in thick mist, and the geography would constantly change, making it extremely easy to get lost.

However, to the Darkstar race, the Darkstar World served as the perfect guiding beacon of light. As a result, no matter what alarming changes the geography of the depths went through, they would never get lost.

Jian Chen was not a member of the Darkstar race, so he could not sense the Darkstar World, but he had already left behind an obscure imprint outside a long time ago, so he had nothing to worry about being able to find his way out.

Primordial realm experts moved extremely quickly, basically able to cover a thousand kilometers in an instant. As a result, in a mere four hours, all the hall masters and vice hall masters in the Two World Mountains had withdrawn from there, assembling in the territory of the Darkstar race.

"It's been a very long time since our race has carried out such a large operation. This time, surely we've killed every last Godking Life-devouring Beast in the Two World Mountains..."

"Yeah. Even if some managed to escape, there shouldn't be many remaining. Though, I feel like having us kill these Life-devouring Beasts that are only Godkings with our level of strength is a little bit of an overkill..."

"Well, there's nothing we can do about it. Due to their limited strength, it takes tremendous effort for the outsiders to kill a single Godking Life-devouring Beast. If we want to rely on them, who knows how long it'll take before they hunt down enough. As for the Godkings of our race, they'll basically be reduced to the Life-devouring Beast's food once their strength has been suppressed. As a result, the only way to hunt down large quantities of Godking Life-devouring Beasts in a short time is for us to set out personally..."

The Primordial realm experts discussed casually together. Many of them breathed rather heavily. In particular, the weaker Primordial realm experts like Bing Yuan even became slightly pale.

The seven days of hunting took different tolls on them. The weaker they were, the greater the toll was.

A heavy presence rapidly approached them from the Two World Mountains. The Darkstar Emperor was the last one to emerge. His hair was messy, and there were hints of exhaustion on his face. Many parts of his clothes were tattered too. He seemed to be in a rather miserable shape.

However, he was unscathed.

Although everyone had left the Two World Mountains, the Two World Mountains did not settle down because of that. The Life-devouring Beasts had discovered that many of their clansmen in their territories had been slaughtered, so they all let out furious roars, shaking up the mountains. They rampaged about in the depths, all gathering at the boundary of the Two World Mountains in the end. Their huge eyes that shimmered in the thick mist shone with raging fury and hatred.

However, they seemed to be afraid of something and refused to step out of the boundaries of the Two World Mountains.

“These dirty beasts aren’t stupid. They know not to set foot in our territory.” A vice hall master sneered as he stood outside the Two World Mountains. He no longer feared the Life-devouring Beasts anymore after leaving the Two World Mountains.

“Hmph, if we enter the Two World Mountains, we’ll be suppressed by the will of the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits. However, if they dare to enter our territory, they’ll also be suppressed by the will of our ancestor. Not only will their strength be limited, but even recovering from their wounds will become riddled with difficulties. By then, killing these dirty beasts will be a piece of cake for us,” said another vice hall master, his eyes filled with a provoking light.

The Darkstar World and the Two World Mountains were better described as territories the Grand Exalts of the two races carved up in the past than two different regions. Both members of the Darkstar race and Life-devouring Beasts would be suppressed and experience plummeting strength if they set foot in each other’s domain.

“If it were not for an absolute figure like the Darkstar Emperor, the current generation of the Darkstar race probably wouldn’t be able to enter the Two World Mountains and kill so many Godking Life-devouring Beasts like today.” Jian Chen saw the crux of the problem, as he discovered the number of Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts in the Two World Mountains were roughly similar to the Primordial realm experts of the Darkstar race. Even if there was a difference, it was not particularly big.

It was not just quantity. This even applied to their strength. The Darkstar race had a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime, the Darkstar Emperor, while the Two World Mountains also had a Nine Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime Life-devouring Beast.

The two of them seemed to maintain some sort of balance, yet also seemingly restraining one another.

The reason why the balance would be broken was because the Darkstar Emperor was far too powerful. Despite also being a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime, he could enter the depths of the Two World Mountains and hold his ground against all the Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts alone.

There was nothing the Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime Life-devouring Beast could do to the Darkstar Emperor.

But similarly, the Darkstar Emperor clearly lacked the strength to kill the Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime Life-devouring Beast in the Two World Mountains!



To Jian Chen, the current stalemate between the Two World Mountains and the Darkstar race seemed more like an extension of the hatred between the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits and the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race.

“Count up the Life-devouring Beasts and see if there’s enough for the ceremony,” said the Darkstar Emperor. In that moment, he seemed to become a huge vortex devouring the essence of the world, rapidly absorbing the energy in the surroundings to replenish his own at a speed that completely exceeded what a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime should have possessed.

In Jian Chen’s eyes, this recovery rate normally only appeared on Chaotic Primes.

### **Chapter 2837: Fear-stricken**

Afterwards, everyone began to gather and tally the Life-devouring Beasts in their Space Rings. After a count, the several dozen Primordial realm experts of the Darkstar race had killed over fifty thousand Godking Life-devouring Beasts in seven days.

On average, basically everyone had killed over a thousand.

Of course, this was only an average. In reality, the hall masters killed the most, as not only were they the strongest, but the senses of their souls enveloped a larger region too. They possessed an advantage whether it was for searching or for hunting.

The other, weaker vice hall masters, such as weaker First Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes like Bing Yuan, obviously hunted down fewer Life-devouring Beasts.

As a matter of fact, there were a few vice hall masters who became no stronger than peak Godking Life-devouring Beasts after the suppression from the Two World Mountains due to how weak they were. After seven days of killing and fighting, they had received a few wounds that were not particularly heavy.

Even a small fraction of their life force had been devoured.

“Over fifty thousand. That’s enough...” the Darkstar Emperor said in thought before bringing everyone back to the capital city of the Darkstar race.

As soon as they returned to the capital city, all the hall masters and vice hall masters, including the Darkstar Emperor, entered seclusion immediately.

During the seven days of hunting in the Two World Mountains, they were unable to recover any energy, which took an extremely great toll on them. They were aiming for a full recovery now.

But even after leaving, the Two World Mountains still had not settled down. Perhaps due to losing far too many Godking Life-devouring Beasts this time, the Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts of the Two World Mountains gathered at the boundary of the Darkstar World and refused to leave. Their colossal figures shimmered in the dense mist as they constantly let out furious roars at the outside world, striking fear into the hearts of all nearby outsiders and members of the Darkstar race, as if they were afraid these terrifying Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts would charge out and massacre them.

This matter led to a great uproar within the Darkstar World. Members of the Darkstar race unaware of the reason behind this even reported these abnormal movements to the ten divine halls fearfully.

Only after seven whole days did the Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts at the boundary of the Two World Mountains finally disperse. Very soon, the Two World Mountains recovered its peace again.

However, on the next day after settling down, the supreme expert of the Darkstar race, the Darkstar Emperor, silently entered the depths with his presence concealed.

Before long, there was a miserable howl from the depths, filled with despair and fear, like the sound produced during a final struggle before death.

With the howl was the powerful presence of the Darkstar race that rapidly expanded through the Two World Mountains, enveloping the entire place in a single moment.

Immediately, the Two World Mountains that had recently settled down were thrown into chaos again. The Primordial realm Life-devouring Beasts hidden throughout let out angry roars, converging from all directions with absolute fury.

However, by the time they arrived at the location of the incident, the owner of the territory had already vanished. All that was left was a ground covered in green blood.

...

As the day of the great ceremony drew closer and closer, the entire Darkstar race became visibly busier than before. People with sharper senses would even notice that a solemn and holy atmosphere had silently enveloped the entire capital city.

The day of the great ceremony required various preparations and the Darkstar Divine Hall specially assigned people to handle them. This included constructing the altar, preparing the sacrifices, and so on. These matters could only be regarded as miscellaneous and negligible, without needing to involve the ten divine halls.

The several tens of thousand Godking Life-devouring Beasts they had hunted had all been taken away. The people planning the ceremony would further handle them.

That was not all. Even the droplets of divine beast essence blood allocated to the ten divine halls and the various cities in the Darkstar race had been collected under the Darkstar Emperor's orders after being completely converted, set aside for the day of the great ceremony.

The Hundred Saint City and all the outsiders were all placed under the close supervision of the Darkstar race. Among the ten armies of the Darkstar race, one of them was personally stationed in the Hundred Saint City, containing everyone within the city and forbidding anyone from leaving.

This time, as the protector of the Hundred Saint City, the fifth hall master did not stand up for them, as this order originated from the Darkstar Emperor.

Very clearly, even though it seemed impossible for the Hundred Saint City and its puny strength to interfere with the great ceremony in the Darkstar Emperor's eyes, the great ceremony was far too important. He could not allow anything to go wrong during the process. The Darkstar Emperor had clearly done this to eliminate all problems that could potentially exist.

Apart from the Hundred Saint City, all the outsiders active in the Darkstar World had been locked up in their respective cities. The Darkstar race had basically placed them under house arrest. From now onwards until the end of the great ceremony, no outsiders were allowed to leave their cities.

And, the Darkstar race had even sent out many Godkings, forming patrol groups to keep watch of the entire territory of the Darkstar race. As soon as they discovered any outsiders out in the wilderness, they would forcefully imprison them in the nearby city. Anyone who refused to cooperate would be executed without mercy.

The Darkstar race's actions immediately filled all the outsiders with fear. Even though the outsiders placed under house arrest could move around in their cities, none of them were at ease. They were unsettled inside, unsure about what had happened within the Darkstar race.

Even the few well-informed outsiders struggled to find peace after learning about how the Darkstar race was currently preparing for a great ceremony. They were rather unsure whether the Darkstar race had placed them under house arrest to prevent them from making trouble or for some other reason.

"I've heard that some demonic cultivators of the Saints' World will often slaughter large numbers of living creatures when they hold certain ceremonies and rituals..."

"Surely the Darkstar race hasn't trapped us in the city one by one for these demonic purposes so that they can sacrifice all of us..."

...

As more rumors arose, combined with the various means the Darkstar race used to keep them under custody, more and more people believed the Darkstar race wanted to sacrifice them.

This immediately filled all the outsiders with despair. They felt like they were done for.

However, not everyone accepted their fate so willingly. As the saying went, repression led to resistance. After the Darkstar race imprisoned them like criminals, a few outsiders finally banded together and prepared for a counterattack.

This immediately caused a headache for the various city lords. Most of these outsiders were not particularly powerful, with Godkings occupying an extremely small amount, but there were a lot of them. Even if they banded together, they still could not pose a threat to the force of suppression from the city, but it was still trouble.

Normally, something as small like this would be no trouble at all. They could suppress the resistance with a flick of the hand, but the critical day of the great ceremony was now approaching. During these sensitive times, any factors of unpredictability could be enlarged indefinitely.

"The emperor has strict orders to kill no outsiders within the city. If not for that, it's really tempting to slaughter all of these outsiders and make things right once and for all." Many city lords sighed within the thirty-six cities of the Darkstar race.

The seventh divine hall responsible for handling all the matters of the race, regardless of size and importance, obviously found out about the situation of the outsiders beginning to spiral out of control in

the cities. The seventh hall master even personally visited the Darkstar Divine Hall to see the Darkstar Emperor, proposing to slaughter all of the outsiders and remove all potential trouble for good.

“Getti, we can’t kill the outsiders. They still have their uses. The reason why they’re uneasy is all because they’re worried we’ll sacrifice their lives. You can pass on my word personally to all the outsiders that I, the emperor of the Darkstar race, will promise to all of them that we, the Darkstar race, will not touch anyone’s lives. All of them will leave here alive in the end,” the Darkstar Emperor’s flat yet dignified voice rang out.

### **Chapter 2838: Various Arrangements**

“Yes, your majesty!” Getti replied politely before immediately carrying out the Darkstar Emperor’s order.

Even though the Darkstar Emperor’s attitude towards the outsiders left Getti doubtful, the Darkstar Emperor possessed paramount authority within the Darkstar race. As long as the Darkstar Emperor issued an order, no one dared to refute or question it. Even if they believed the Darkstar Emperor’s order was a mistake, they would still carry it out.

However, when the Darkstar Emperor’s order that seemed more like a promise reached the outsiders locked up in the thirty-six major cities through the seventh divine hall, the nervous and uneasy outsiders immediately settled down. Even their momentum for a desperate attempt at resistance collapsed temporarily.

There really had not been a lot of outsiders who questioned the Darkstar Emperor’s promise. Although no one had personally seen the Darkstar Emperor so far, many of them still found the Darkstar Emperor relatively trustworthy due to his reputation.

“So it’s all just a false alarm. It’s like what I said. The Darkstar Emperor won’t do anything to us, nor are they bold enough to actually harm us. After all, we basically represent half of all the organisations in the entire Saints’ World. If the Darkstar race really slaughters us all, the great sovereigns of our Saints’ World will definitely take action and annihilate the Darkstar race...”

“That’s right. If the great sovereigns of our Saints’ World take action, the Darkstar race won’t have the slightest hope of surviving. The Darkstar race offending the Hundred Saint City is already the limit. After all, the Hundred Saint City is only composed of several dozen large organisations from the Saints’ World, but behind us are countless sects and organisations...”

Similar discussions occurred throughout the Darkstar race. In particular, whenever some outsiders mentioned the “great sovereign”, their faces became filled with undisguisable pride. When they glanced past the members of the Darkstar race, their eyes would be filled with faint disdain.

Among these outsiders, quite a large portion were people with backgrounds in the Saints’ World. Even though the organisations behind them were not as great as those in Hundred Saint City, there were still quite a lot of organisations with weaker Grand Primes.

And, there were an extremely small number of existences with backgrounds in the Saints’ World that completely rivalled the organisations in the Hundred Saint City, or even surpassed most of them.

However, these organisations had not participated in the construction of the Hundred Saint City, so they obviously did not forge an alliance with the organisations behind the city. They were independent existences in the Darkstar World.

As a result, while supreme existences like Grand Exalts were not commonly known by most cultivators in the Saints' World, they had ceased to be some sort of secret a long time ago among some of these people.

"They won't touch our lives, and they guarantee all of us will leave here alive? That's a little vague. The Darkstar Emperor is playing word games with us." At the same time, the remaining fifty-two organisations in the Hundred Saint City assembled in the Pantheon Divine Hall to discuss the current situation of the Darkstar race.

"Hehe, exactly right? For example, beating us up until we're half dead and tossing us out, or letting us leave with missing limbs. After all, we'll all be leaving here alive without our lives being touched. The Darkstar Emperor only said he wouldn't harm our lives, but nothing about not harming a single hair on us..."

"That's right. Not harming our lives and not touching a single hair on us are two concepts that are worlds apart. Coupled with how the Darkstar race has imprisoned so many outsiders from the Saints' World in the thirty-six cities and they've sealed off the teleportation formations to prevent these people from leaving, they must be hiding some ulterior motive..."

The many organisations analysed in the Pantheon Divine Hall, but the speakers were not leading prodigies, but old servants who followed the prodigies.

Right now, these old servants served as the wits of the various organisations to come up with plans for their young masters and mistresses.

And they truly were suited for this. They were not powerful, but their brilliance was something else. They served as the wise intellectuals who managed all business with the Darkstar race for their clans.

"Young master, for the sake of safety, it's best if you leave the Darkstar World as soon as possible," an old servant said.

"One of the other major reasons that the clan sent me into the Darkstar World was so that I can temper myself through the trials I'll face. If I choose to shrink back just because of some rumors and your wild guesses, what face do I have to contend for the position of young patriarch..." a prodigy said stubbornly, dignified and fearless.

"We have to take precautions about this. How about this? We can send people to fill the teleportation formation with energy for now so that it is available whenever. Once something we can't handle really occurs, we'll retreat as soon as possible," Lei Yun of the Heavenly Lightning clan said.

His suggestion immediately received unanimous agreement. Afterwards, they immediately sent someone to undertake a full inspection of the teleportation formation before charging its energy until it was full so that it was available for use at any time.

However, unbeknownst to them all, an illusionary figure hovered high in the sky outside the barrier the defensive formations of the Hundred Saint City created as they charged up the teleportation formation.

He seemed to be fused with the surroundings, not only giving off absolutely no presence, but also impossible to detect with the naked eye.

Even if someone glanced past this figure with their eyes absent-mindedly, they would only find thin air. They would not detect anything at all.

At this moment, the figure looked down on the Hundred Saint City from above and spoke with a murmur only he could hear, "When I saved you in the Hundred Saint City back then, I was counting on you to be of some use during crucial moments of the great ceremony. If I simply let you all leave safely, wouldn't my efforts all be a waste?" As he said that, the illusionary figure clicked his finger at the Hundred Saint City below. An extremely weak and obscure energy shot out in that moment, right into the Hundred Saint City.

The powerful formations that the Hundred Saint City took pride in seemed like they did not exist at all before the weak and obscure energy. They were unable to obstruct it at all, allowing the strand of energy to pass through the formations and enter the Hundred Saint City in complete secrecy. In the end, it vanished into the only teleportation formation within the Hundred Saint City.

Nothing happened to the teleportation formation. It continued to function as normal, except there was a strand of energy that no one could detect within it.

"Only success is permitted for the operation this time. Even with my pawn embedded among the upper echelon of the Darkstar race, Jian Chen, I still need to prepare multiple backup plans. The trump card of the Hundred Saint City has never been used in the Darkstar World. It's about time for it to demonstrate its power. It combines everyone's power in the Hundred Saint City before the countless formations in the Hundred Saint City amplify it and the tremendous energy reserve hidden deep beneath the city to form an ultimate attack on par with Chaotic Primes."

"When this strike is launched at the location of the great ceremony from so far away, its power will decrease slightly, but it'll still be able to impact the great ceremony to a certain degree. The strike might not be able to completely ruin the ceremony with the Darkstar Emperor's presence, but it can cover Jian Chen a little when it matters."

"Jian Chen, you better not let down my expectations of you. If you fail as well, then all I can do is use my final move..."

"It's just that I really don't want to use this final move, or not only will my second soul disintegrate under the power of the blood oath, but even my original body in the Saints' World will be heavily injured."

"Although I've already prepared countless different methods to obstruct and weaken the power of the blood oath, that's still the power that belongs to the Grand Exalt of the Darstar race after all. Even though the Grand Exalt is already dead, no one in the current day and age can withstand the backlash from the power of the blood oath apart from the Wind Venerable..."

### **Chapter 2839: The Virtuous Sages of Heaven and Earth**

Within the quiet murmurs, the figure that hovered outside the protective formations of the Hungry Saint City gradually vanished. He had already left the place with unfathomable speed.

In the moment before, he was still near the Hundred Saint City, but in the next moment, he had already appeared in the capital city of the Darkstar race that was extremely distant from the Hundred Saint City.

He did not use the Laws of Space, but he surpassed the Laws of Space. He had basically covered billions of kilometers in a single breath.

Even Jian Chen who comprehended the Laws of Space and had reached the Primordial realm with them was nowhere close to such speed.

At the same time, the Darkstar Emperor hovered above his throne with his eyes closed in the Darkstar Divine Hall above the capital city. He was currently using the senses of his soul to observe the situation of the Darkstar race.

At this moment, the illusionary figure appeared silently in the Darkstar Divine Hall. Without touching the ground, he hovered in the divine hall at an altitude that was a head lower than the Darkstar Emperor.

The Darkstar Emperor seemed to sense something. He opened his eyes and gazed at this illusionary figure that had arrived so elusively and showed a hint of respect for once. He said, "Virtuous Sage of Heaven, now that the day of the great ceremony grows closer, may I ask how much confidence you have in success?"

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven sank into his thoughts momentarily and said slowly, "Originally, the chances of success were fifty percent at most, with an equal possibility of succeeding and failing, which would completely be up to chance in the end. However, now that we have the divine beast's blood, the chances of success have increased drastically. My estimation is that the chances of success have reached as high as eighty or ninety percent."

"Eighty or ninety percent. In other words, success is basically guaranteed for the ceremony this time." The Darkstar Emperor let out a long sigh. He was filled with indescribable joy. A success rate as high as eighty or ninety percent left a very slim chance of failure.

"That should be the case, but please bear in mind that nothing is absolute, your majesty. Even if it seems like we have a success rate of a hundred percent, any accidents that we aren't anticipating may result in the failure of the ceremony," said the Virtuous Sage of Heaven.

"Accidents? In my opinion, if there really are accidents, they'll come from these outsiders. However, how can I not take any precautions with regard to them? The great ceremony is something colossal that impacts the fate of our entire race, so I won't permit any accidents to happen at all," the Darkstar Emperor said resolutely, and his usually calm gaze became extremely cold.

If the great ceremony succeeded, then he would be able to reach Chaotic Prime. If it failed, then he would have to remain at his current realm of cultivation, and he would not be able to break through for a very long time into the future.

As a result, not only did the great ceremony impact the fate of the entire Darkstar race, but it was also connected to his personal interests.

Hearing that, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven could not help but smile eerily, except his entire body was blurry and hazy, like he was hidden in mist. No one could make out his true appearance, including the Darkstar Emperor.

After pausing for a moment, the Darkstar Emperor said with a tone where he was basically asking for guidance, "Virtuous Sage of Heaven, you said that once I reach the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Chaotic Prime, I'll really be able to use the secret technique passed down throughout our race to wield the power left behind by our ancestor and the planetary beast to break free from the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits' restraints and free our race from from this prison?"

"There's a sliver of a chance, but even I don't know whether you'll succeed in the end or not. After all, this touches on the level of Grand Exalts. It involves far, far too many things that I don't understand," the Virtuous Sage of Heaven said in deep thought, except a cold light flashed through his eyes that no one could make out, obscured in the mist.

"Even a sliver of a chance is fine. It's still better than no chance. Breaking free from the imprisonment of this world and going outside to take a look at the real world has been the long-cherished wish of our race throughout all these years." The Darkstar Emperor sighed as his expression became sorrowful and dreary.

Put positively, the Darkstar World was a miniature world that the Darkstar race possessed absolute power in, but put negatively, it was a prison.

This prison had kept them trapped for countless years, forcing the many generations of their Darkstar race to forever live in this miniature world that could not be regarded as a true world left behind after the planetary beast had died.

Breaking out of this prison and venturing to the true world outside had been the wish of every generation of the Darkstar race.

"Once the great ceremony succeeds, I'll use the Fruit of Nurturing Ways to reach Chaotic Prime immediately. The Ninth Heavenly Layer of Chaotic Prime won't be able to deter me. I will use the shortest time possible to reach the minimum cultivation required to comprehend the ancestor's secret technique. Afterwards, I'll wield the residual power left behind by our ancestors to break out of the Grand Exalts of the Wood Spirits' prison."

"It's just that in recent years, our race has developed grievances with quite a lot of organisations from the outside world. Once we break free, the organisations with Grand Primes won't spare us, and those items left behind by our ancestor will probably be coveted by the outside organisations too. Virtuous Sage of Heaven, you are a great sage of our race. You already existed even before I was born. May I ask if the organisation you've established in the Saints' World after all these years of development is enough for our race to deal with the great problems we'll be facing once we break free?" the Darkstar Emperor asked.

"You have nothing to worry about, your majesty. My organisation has already reached a level where we don't even have to fear the Hundred Saint City. As long as our race breaks free, even those outside organizations that operate among our Darkstar race won't be able to threaten us," said the Virtuous Sage of Heaven.

"Then I don't have to worry. Oh right, may I ask if the Virtuous Sage of Earth is well?" the Darkstar Emperor asked.



“Thank you for your concern, your majesty. He’s well!” the Virtuous Sage of Heaven said. Even though he spoke with a neutral tone, as if he was on equal footing with the Darkstar Emperor, he seemed more like a subject most of the time he communicated with the Darkstar Emperor.

After a moment of thought, the Darkstar Emperor asked again, “Virtuous Sage of Heaven, I’ve always been very curious about what your organisation in the Saints’ World is called. How many experts do you have? And what cultivation have you and the Virtuous Sage of Earth reached so far such that you don’t even fear the organisations behind the Hundred Saint City?”

“This has been something that has bothered me for many years now. Will the Virtuous Sage of Heaven really refuse to divulge even a little?”

“You should know our ancestor’s instructions too, your majesty. All information regarding us in the Saints’ World is the greatest secret within our race that cannot be divulged to anyone. Even you are no exception, your majesty. I have the right to protect this secret.”

“This is just to prevent any accidents from happening. After all, our archnemesis, the Wood Spirits, are not extinct in the Saints’ World. If the Wood Spirits find out our race has already secretly developed our own organisation in the Saints’ World, you should be extremely familiar with the consequences, your majesty,” the Virtuous Sage of Heaven said calmly.

#### **Chapter 2840: The Origins of the Virtuous Sages**

“The Wood Spirits!” the Darkstar Emperor uttered those three words sternly. The words “Wood Spirits” seemed to possess some kind of magic, which made his emotions fluctuate and prevented him from remaining composed.

Even his expression changed. It was something difficult to describe with words, but most of it was bone-deep hatred.

That was because the Wood Spirits were the bitter enemies of their Darkstar race. In the battle countless years ago, the Darkstar race had been defeated. Not only did the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race die at the hands of the Wood Spirits, but even their entire race had become trapped in this miniature world for generations upon generations, never to emerge for their entire lives.

But even when their Darkstar race had declined to such a state, the power left behind by the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits still created a place like the Two World Mountains to suppress the Darkstar race.

Without any exaggeration, an extremely long period of time had already passed since the battle back then, but the hatred between the Wood Spirits and the Darkstar race had not been reduced at all. Instead, this hatred gradually sank into the very being of every member of the Darkstar race as time went on.

It was hundreds or even thousands of times more difficult for them to break through compared to the outsiders. Outsiders could directly cultivate to Grand Prime, while they could only reach Infinite Prime.

The outsiders could roam freely in the vast sea of stars, visiting wherever they wanted to go, while they could only hole up in this miniature world.

The root of all of this was connected to the Wood Spirits.

This was a bitter feud, a hatred of an entire race that no one could pacify!

“Virtuous Sage of Heaven, how powerful are the Wood Spirits in the outside world?” the Darkstar Emperor asked. He had once been apathetic to the situation of the Wood Spirits in the outside world because they were unable to leave this place, while the Wood Spirits clearly were not bold enough to enter. As a result, even with their bitter hatred, the two races were not fated to meet one day.

The situation was different now. Their Darkstar race already possessed a sliver of hope to break out of this prison, so they could not help but re-evaluate the existence of the Wood Spirits.

“The Wood Spirits right now are nothing to be feared. It’s just that the clan they’re a part of has already produced a supreme figure who can claim invincibility below Grand Exalts in the Saints’ World of this day and age. And, this person has already become our enemy.”

“And they don’t even know about the details of my background yet. If the matter of us secretly developing an organisation in the Saints’ World is found out by the Wood Spirits, our forces in the Saints’ World will be in even greater danger if the Wood Spirits fan the flames on the side,” said the Virtuous Sage of Heaven. As soon as he mentioned the supreme figure, his tone became evidently sterner.

Together with it was a deep feeling of fear.

The Darkstar Emperor frowned. “I never thought our race actually has such a great opponent in the outside world. Looks like even if we break out of here in the future, we need to carefully remain in hiding for a while.”

“Your majesty, there’s still quite some time before we can break out of this prison. We can discuss the matters of the Saints’ World in the future. Right now, it’s best if we gather the hall masters and vice hall masters and explain to them in detail the process and characteristics of the great ceremony.” The Virtuous Sage of Heaven changed the topic as if he was rather reluctant on expounding on the matters of the Saints’ World too much.

The Darkstar Emperor nodded and said in thought, “Fair enough. The great ceremony this time is different from the past. We require the Virtuous Sage of Heaven to reside over it in person. If that’s the case, we obviously can’t keep your identity a secret anymore. Though, it’s about time we tell our upper echelon about the two virtuous sages of our race.”

Afterwards, the Darkstar Emperor immediately summoned the hall masters and vice hall masters of the ten divine halls. This time, apart from the people of the ten divine halls, even the five strongest city lords of the thirty-six major cities had arrived.

The five city lords were also Primordial realm experts, but they were all First Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes.

“The Virtuous Sage of Heaven!” Jian Chen noticed the Virtuous Sage of Heaven as soon as he arrived in the Darkstar Divine Hall, as the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s current location was far too conspicuous. He stood right beside the Darkstar Emperor. It would be difficult to not notice him.

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s presence immediately made Jian Chen raise his vigilance. He became extremely careful as he watched himself with everything he had to avoid revealing any openings.

That was because among the Darkstar race, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven was the only one he could not read. Even though the illusionary body he currently presented did not possess particularly great strength, Jian Chen found the Virtuous Sage of Heaven rather unfathomable.

The hall masters and vice hall masters of the nine other divine halls clearly noticed the illusionary figure beside the Darkstar Emperor too. They were all taken aback and filled with doubt.

Very clearly, all of the Primordial realm experts present, apart from Jian Chen, did not even know the Darkstar Race had a figure like the Virtuous Sage of Heaven.

The Darkstar Emperor glanced past everyone gradually. He first said, "Since everyone is present, then it's about time I announced a secret that only past emperors of the race had the right to know."

The Darkstar Emperor's words made the gazes of all the Primordial realm experts present stiffen. Many of them subconsciously glanced past the Virtuous Sage of Heaven who stood on the side as they sank into their thoughts. They all guessed that the secret that the emperor mentioned was probably related to this illusionary figure.

No one said anything. Everyone was waiting for the Darkstar Emperor to speak because as the upper echelon of the Darkstar race, they all knew that there were many absolute secrets that even hall masters had no right to learn about. Throughout the years, only the Darkstar Emperor of each generation could come into contact with this top-secret information.

The Darkstar Emperor only said slowly after a small while of silence, "Countless years ago, our race once possessed some seniors and sages of great wisdom. In order for our race to break free one day, they came up with countless ideas and undertook countless experiments, paying a price well beyond our imagination before finally coming up with a method that could utilise the residual powers left behind by our ancestor like holding the great ceremony."

"Soon after the discovery of the great ceremony, our seniors discovered that once they performed the ceremony and utilised the residual powers of the ancestor, it would momentarily clash with the powers of the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits. When this clash occurs, the seal the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits placed over our race will weaken for an instant."

"As a result, the seniors of our race chose the two most talented seniors in our race and imbued them with the great fortune of our race before utilising our ancestor's residual power through the ceremony. While our ancestor's power clashed with the power from the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits, they finally managed to send out these two seniors who possessed the fortune of our race in hopes that they could find the way for our race to escape in the Saints' World."

"Ever since then, these two seniors became the virtuous sages of our race, as not only is the fortune of our race condensed on them, they also carry all of the hopes of our race breaking free on their shoulders, as well as the responsibility to watch over and protect our race one day in the future."

"These two virtuous sages were revered as the Virtuous Sage of Heaven and the Virtuous Sage of Earth by later descendants, as they are the future hope of our race, the hope to bring our race to a new world..."

"And the one standing right beside me is one of the virtuous sages, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven!"

