

## Chaotic 2841

### Chapter 2841: The Reason Within

“What? He’s one of the two virtuous sages, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven?”

“I never thought there would actually be two virtuous sages, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven and the Virtuous Sage of Earth, in our race’s history...”

“Our seniors were brilliant. They actually already began seeking the hope for their future descendants to break free so long ago, in an age so distant that it cannot be traced back to...”

...

The revelation of the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s identity immediately led to quite an uproar in the Darkstar Divine Hall. As the Primordial realm experts gathered there were taken aback and stunned by the existence of the two virtuous sages, some people also began looking at the Virtuous Sage of Heaven with some doubt.

Very clearly, they believed the existence of the two virtuous sages, but they did not find the Virtuous Sage of Heaven before them particularly trustworthy. In other words, they did not accept him particularly well.

Jian Chen had finally learnt the true origins of the Virtuous Sage of Heaven in that moment too. The shock he experienced surpassed everyone else’s emotions.

“Senior Virtuous Sage of Heaven, there’s something I’m puzzled by. Since you’ve been sent into the Saints’ World since time immemorial, then you should have cultivated in the Saints’ World for innumerable years too. With the abundant resources of the Saints’ World, coupled with the great fortune of our entire race on you, you should have reached a supreme realm of cultivation that none of us dare to imagine. But why do I feel like the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s current presence is nowhere near as powerful as I would imagine it to be?” the seventh hall master Getti asked his question first.

“That’s a good question, but I should break down this question into two parts to answer. The first part is with regard to an issue of time.” The Virtuous Sage of Heaven only smiled when he was faced with the hall masters’ obvious doubt and distrust. He explained calmly, “Although a period of time so long that even I cannot describe has already passed since I was sent out of the Darkstar World, I haven’t actually lived for that long.”

“That’s because while our clansmen did pay an extremely severe price to send me out in that distant age, my departure had not been a smooth journey. Instead, it was riddled with danger, where I could die from the slightest carelessness.”

“After all, I had to breach the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits’ seal in order to leave. Even though the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits’ power had been weakened by the residual power of our ancestor, it did not vanish completely. As a result, when the two of us left this world, the residual power of the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits tried to kill us. Even though we were blessed by our ancestor and we possessed the great fortune of our race on us, we still were not able to avoid the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits’ powers completely...”

“As a result, when the two of us reached the Spirits’ World, we were already dead. Fortunately, right when our souls were about to be destroyed, a sliver of our spirit managed to escape, perhaps due to the protection of our ancestor. Afterwards, we immediately escaped being killed off by the powers of the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirit through reincarnation...”

“It’s just that how can the powers of Grand Exalts be eroded away so easily? Even though the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits was already dead, his will still remained, and a few laws of the world he set down when he was still alive continued to exist. As a result, after reincarnating, the residual powers of the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits continued to entangle with us, making our days numbered with each rebirth and leading to early deaths every single time.”

“Fortunately, we were under the indirect protection of our ancestor’s powers, and we possessed the fortune of the entire Darkstar race, allowing us to be reborn again and again in the battle against the residual powers of the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits...”

“In the end, even we reincarnated far more times than we could keep count of. But with every rebirth, we saw a brand new world. With every rebirth, the Saints’ World was a different place. Who knew how long had passed...”

“Finally, after countless rebirths, we finally reached our current life where we completely broke free from the cycle of torture from the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits’ residual power. Allowing us to properly cultivate.” Reaching there, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven paused momentarily. He continued with a lamenting voice filled with mixed emotions. “As a result, although the two of us left the Darkstar World a very, very long time ago, we’ve spent a tremendous amount of time battling the residual powers of the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits, undergoing rebirth again and again. The actual time we’ve spent cultivating is nowhere near as long as you’ve all imagined...”

Everyone immediately fell into silent thought when they heard that.

Rebirthing again and again, engaging in the most intense battle with the residual powers of the Grand Exalt again and again, dying again and again. What kind of torture was that?

At the very least, the troubles they had been through, the torture they had endured, and the great sacrifices they had made was not something esteemed Primordial realm experts like they who cultivated safely among the Darkstar race had ever experienced before.

In that moment, many of their doubts and distrust had been diluted, replaced by sympathy and deep admiration.

That was because they discovered compared to everything the Virtuous Sage of Heaven had been through, they seemed to be living in heaven. Even though they were trapped here, unable to leave, they had no need to worry about any life-threatening danger.

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven continued, “The second part is an issue with regard to my current state. Frankly, the seal that the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits placed on us doesn’t just forbid our race from leaving. It also prevents our race from entering this place.”

“As a result, since my main body possesses the bloodline of the Darkstar race, it cannot enter here. Otherwise, I’ll definitely die.”

“The figure you see right now is a soul clone that I only managed to cultivate after paying a certain price.”

“And calling it a soul clone is actually not completely correct, as it possesses my soul, but it does not possess the bloodline or presence of the Darkstar race. That’s not something I can explain with just a few words. In short, you can view this as my second soul, my second clone, or my second life.”

“And, the primary reason why my second soul is here is for the mission of conducting the great ceremony so that the great ceremony can proceed smoothly and succeed. I don’t possess much battle prowess.”

“Senior Virtuous Sage of Heaven, may I ask where the Virtuous Sage of Earth is?” For the sake of our race, the two virtuous sages have made unimaginably great sacrifices. Your spirit of selfless sacrifice has filled me with admiration. I only want to properly pay my respects to the two virtuous sages right now,” the tenth hall master Feng Xue said sincerely.

“The Virtuous Sage of Earth is in the Saints’ World and is unable to enter here. For now, only I can visit the Darkstar race.” The Virtuous Sage of Heaven fell silent for a moment before saying, “As for the other unimportant, small matters, we can talk about them in the future. I’ve assembled you all here today primarily to hand over some details regarding the great ceremony.”

Afterwards, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven reached the main topic. He explained the process of the great ceremony and the many issues and details that required attention to the many Primordial realm experts.

Everyone in the hall listened closely, afraid of missing even a single word. However, Jian Chen was rather distracted.

That was because at that moment, he struggled to remain calm inside. Never did he think the original body of the Virtuous Sage of Heaven would actually be in the Saints’ World, and he bore the great fortune of the Darkstar race on him. After all these years of cultivation, no one could imagine what level he had reached.

### **Chapter 2842: A Terrifying Theory**

“No wonder I always found the Virtuous Sage of Heaven unfathomable and completely unreadable. So he’s always been a supreme expert.” Jian Chen’s heart thumped violently. He recalled everything that had happened when he first met the Virtuous Sage of Heaven and could not help but suspect whether his identity had been seen through by the Virtuous Sage of Heaven again.

His mask was not truly fool-proof. Those who reached the zenith of cultivation would all see through the mask and see his true appearance.

What if the Virtuous Sage of Heaven was an expert like that?

After all, not only was the Virtuous Sage of Heaven the most outstanding member of the Darkstar race back then, but the fortune of the entire Darkstar race was condensed on him too. He had undergone rebirth again and again under the protection of the residual powers of the Darkstar race’s Grand Exalt.

These inconceivable matters could converge on any regular person and they would undergo a fate-changing metamorphosis, let alone the Virtuous Sage of Heaven. After all, he had been extraordinary in the first place.

As a result, after a lengthy period of cultivation and possessing the experience from his many lives as the fortune of the Darkstar race, it would be no surprise that the Virtuous Sage of Heaven could reach a level like that.

For a moment, Jian Chen felt rather unsettled.

“Apart from the Virtuous Sage of Heaven, the Darkstar race also has a Virtuous Sage of Earth in the Saints’ World. The Virtuous Sage of Earth’s cultivation must be extremely terrifying too. Yet, I’ve infiltrated the Darkstar race this time under the request of the Myriad Bone Guild’s Heartless Child. I’ve come to stop the Darkstar race’s great ceremony.”

“The Heartless Child has gone as far as to personally escort me to the ruins of the Spirits’ World just so that I can enter the Darkstar World and stop the great ceremony. I can tell that obstructing the great ceremony is extremely important to the Heartless Child.”

“But why doesn’t the Heartless Child want the Darkstar race’s great ceremony to succeed? What’s he worrying about? With his cultivation at the very apex, even if the Darkstar race does break free, destroying the entire race will only take a flick of his hand.” At this moment, Jian Chen thought of a few problems he had never considered. The more he thought, the more doubtful and confused he became.

“Or perhaps, the Heartless Child is the Virtuous Sage of Earth among the Darkstar race?” Suddenly, Jian Chen thought of a ridiculous theory. However, as soon as he thought of that, a few doubts he could not explain were immediately resolved in the process.

“The Virtuous Sage of Heaven and the Virtuous Sage of Earth were originally together. If the Heartless Child is the Virtuous Sage of Earth, then he should share the same origins as the Virtuous Sage of Heaven standing before me. If that’s the case, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven will obviously know too that the Heartless Child has sent me to stop the Darkstar race’s great ceremony, The Virtuous Sage of Heaven clearly knows I’m working against the Darkstar race, yet he just refuses to stop me, feigning ignorance instead. All of this points to the conclusion that stopping the Darkstar race’s great ceremony is not just the will of the Heartless Child, but also the will of the Virtuous Sage of Heaven...”

“If it really is like what I theorise, then it perfectly explains why the Virtuous Sage of Heaven remained silent despite finding out about my identity. That’s because the Virtuous Sage of Heaven doesn’t want the great ceremony of the Darkstar race to succeed either...”

Jian Chen thought rapidly as more and more terrifying ideas appeared in his head. Even he himself found these ideas to be absurd and highly unlikely, but after connecting these points, he discovered many things now made perfect sense. He felt like he had peeled away the mist and realised the truth.

“Why does the Heartless Child want to stop the great ceremony of the Darkstar race? And why doesn’t the Virtuous Sage of Heaven hope the great ceremony succeeds either? Weren’t they members of the Darkstar race...”

“And with the terrifying cultivations of the two virtuous sages, let alone reaching Chaotic Prime, even if the Darkstar Emperor reaches Grand Prime, he will probably still be as puny as an ant before the Heartless Child...”

“And the Virtuous Sage of Heaven. He’s presiding over the great ceremony this time. If he doesn’t wish for the ceremony to succeed, he’s had far, far too many opportunities to stop it. Why does he need an outsider like me to carry this out?” Many questions appeared in Jian Chen’s mind. After realising the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s identity and intentions, it also brought him even more doubts and questions.

Suddenly, he remembered how the Virtuous Sage of Heaven behaved like a subject in front of the Darkstar Emperor the other day. A realisation flashed through his head, and he suddenly saw the light.

“Don’t tell me the Virtuous Sages of Heaven and Earth were also bound by some kind of oath when they were sent out back then? Such that they can’t do anything detrimental to the Darkstar race? Which is why they’re forced to go to such great lengths and have others complete certain tasks for them?”

“And their final objective is not to actually destroy the entire Darkstar race, but just like what the Heartless Child said, just to stop the great ceremony so that Chaotic Primes cannot appear within the Darkstar race. The stronger the Darkstar race becomes, the greater the chance they have of breaking free. Once the Darkstar race actually manages to break out of here, the Virtuous Sages of Heaven and Earth who possess unrivalled power and influence in the Saints’ World will be reduced to mere subjects...”

“If that’s the case, then all of the questions and mysteries can be explained...”

As the analysis became clearer and clearer, Jian Chen instead calmed down. However, this calmness did not last for too long. He soon remembered something else, and an undetectable gleam of cold light flashed through his eyes immediately.

...

“I’ve already said everything I needed to say. Please commit this to heart. We cannot allow anything to go wrong in the great ceremony this time.” The Virtuous Sage of Heaven spoke for half a day and only then did he finish up with the entire process and all the details, as well as some matters that required special attention regarding the great ceremony.

“You have nothing to worry about, Virtuous Sage of Heaven. The great ceremony impacts the fate of our entire race. If any of us makes any mistake, we’ll obviously be offenders of the entire race,” the second hall master Arna clasped his hand with undisguisable respect as he said to the Virtuous Sage of Heaven.

“Please do not worry, Virtuous Sage of Heaven. We will do everything we can to...” After Arna, the many hall masters and vice hall masters all spoke up too and basically swore oaths.

After dispersing, Jian Chen returned to the fifth divine hall. He sat back on the fifth hall master’s throne and sank into his thoughts.

He had already grasped the detailed process and undertaking of the great ceremony. Now, he was contemplating when he should strike.

“Merging with the blood of the myriad and being tempered with ancient secret techniques. The great ceremony is clearly a fortuitous encounter for Sacredfeather, but the slightest carelessness can doom him for good,” Jian Chen sighed inside. Then he vanished from the throne with a flash, arriving in the secret room he used for secluded cultivation.

Behind the shut doors, Jian Chen activated all the isolating formations of the secret room before casting down a few formations himself. He behaved secretly, very cautious and careful.

Only after completing everything did he sit down on the ground, taking out Kun Tian’s God Tier sword. He pointed the sharp tip of the sword at his abdomen before plunging it in viciously.

Under his full strength, the powerful Chaotic Body was pierced with difficulty. A smear of red immediately appeared on his abdomen. The sharp tip had already stabbed into his body, leaving behind a two inch long wound.

Afterwards, Jian Chen stuck a finger into the wound and pulled out a jade bottle he had sealed inside his own flesh.

The jade bottle was not big, only the size of a little finger. However, that was not the case inside. It hid quite a large space.

“Back then, I specially kept some of Kun Tian’s blood just in case. Now, I finally have a use for it.” Jian Chen murmured as he gazed at the tiny bottle in his hand.

### **Chapter 2843: Probing**

Afterwards, Jian Chen cut open his finger and sealed Kun Tian’s blood from the bottle in his finger.

When he sealed the blood, he could not help but think about the mysterious Virtuous Sage of Heaven again, “If the Virtuous Sage of Heaven really is a supreme expert who can see through my mask, then I won’t be able to hide anything I’ve done in the fifth divine hall from him. If his objective really is in line with the Heartless Child’s, then even if he knows my identity, he’ll take the initiative and cover me.”

“As I result, I probably don’t need to intentionally watch myself anymore before the Virtuous Sage of Heaven,” Jian Chen thought, but he still did not find it sufficiently ensuring. What if he was wrong?

“Looks like I need to find some time and probe out the Virtuous Sage of Heaven. At the very least, I need to confirm which side he’s standing on. That way, I can adjust accordingly for the great ceremony.”

...

The next day, Jian Chen visited the Darkstar Divine Hall alone, wishing to see the Darkstar Emperor. In the same, majestic hall, the Darkstar Emperor sat on his throne with his legs crossed serenely, as composed as a mountain.

As for Jian Chen, he bent his back slightly, maintaining a bow as he stood below.

“Kun Tian, why have you come to find me?” the Darkstar Emperor asked. His voice was extremely flat.

“Your majesty, I still have some aspects I’m not completely sure about regarding the great ceremony, so I wish to see the virtuous sage. I hope the virtuous sage can alleviate me of my doubts,” Jian Chen said from below.

The Darkstar Emperor considered his request silently before saying, “Is the Virtuous Sage of Heaven present?”

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven did not answer his first call.

Afterwards, the Darkstar Emperor called a second and a third time.

After three calls, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven still did not appear. The Darkstar Emperor immediately became somewhat helpless as a result. “The Virtuous Sage of Heaven has always been elusive. Even I can’t locate him. It’s best if you come another day.”

“Yes, your majesty!” Jian Chen showed a sliver of pity. He left the Darkstar Divine Hall after bidding farewell, returning to the fifth divine hall.

“Kun Tian, what is your reason for looking for me?”

However, soon after Jian Chen returned to the fifth divine hall, a familiar voice rang out in the empty hall.

He raised his head suddenly and immediately spotted the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s illusory figure. He currently hovered in the air, giving off no presence at all. Even when sweeping him with the senses of the soul, there was nothing. It was impossible to detect his existence without the naked eye.

Jian Chen’s eyes flashed. He immediately stood up and bowed towards the Virtuous Sage of Heaven. “Greetings to senior!”

He paused for a moment before continuing, “I do indeed have some things I’d like to ask senior. There are some matters regarding the great ceremony that I’m still unsure of, that I haven’t understood completely yet...”

Afterwards, Jian Chen played along and asked a few detailed questions regarding the great ceremony, as well as many questions that confounded him.

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven did not seem to be suspicious of him. He answered all of Jian Chen’s questions seriously as if he truly was working towards the success of the great ceremony.

Jian Chen could not help but develop suspicion over the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s seriousness. He wondered whether his theory about the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s identity was correct or not. The Virtuous Sage of Heaven was not on the same side as the Heartless Child?

“Thank you for answering my questions so patiently, senior. It’s just that the great ceremony this time is far too important to our race, and not only have I lost my past memories, but I’m even under the influence of the memories of the planetary beast. Once I lose control, even I don’t know what I can end up doing, so I feel slightly pressured inside. I’m afraid of affecting the great ceremony.” Jian Chen was deeply worried. He suddenly asked, “Virtuous Sage of Heaven, do you think the ceremony this time will fail? What if it fails?”

“Fail?” The Virtuous Sage of Heaven repeated that word quietly and sank into his thoughts. Only a long while later did he say slowly, “If it fails, then all the preparations we’ve made and prices we’ve paid for the ceremony over all these years will go to waste, and our grand wish of being able to reach Chaotic Prime will fall through too. Even that divine beast... sigh...”

“What will happen to the divine beast?” Jian Chen’s heart skipped a beat, but he asked without showing any of it.

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven pondered silently for a moment before answering, “If the great ceremony succeeds, then the divine beast will become the medium for us to wield our Grand Exalt’s residual powers. Its flesh, blood, and vitality will all vanish from the world. Perhaps you can say it will merge with this world of ours, becoming a sacrifice of the ceremony. But if the ceremony fails, not only is there the chance for the divine beast to survive, but it might even experience a great fortuitous encounter that will lead to a drastic increase in strength after merging with the blood of the myriad.”

“Our race has done so many horrific and brutal things to that divine beast. The divine beast definitely hates our race to the bone, so if the ceremony fails and the divine beast’s strength surges, it will become a potentially great problem for our race.”

Jian Chen frowned, and a sliver of cold light flashed through his eyes. He said coldly, “In other words, even if the ceremony fails, we need to kill the divine beast before it can grow, just so we can eliminate any potential future problems.”

“As long as you understand. However, there’s no need for you to fret over this. The emperor has thought through all the positive and negative consequences a long time ago. If that happens, he’ll personally eliminate this source of trouble.” The Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s figure gradually vanished. At the same time, his voice that seemed to be layered with other meaning in Jian Chen’s eyes drifted through his ear, “Kun Tian, since you’re the fifth hall master, you obviously have your own tasks to accomplish. The success or failure of the ceremony is not for you to worry about. You only need to focus on carrying out your tasks.”

With that, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven vanished completely, while Jian Chen returned to the hall master’s throne and sat back down, sinking into a long period of silent thought.

“If the ceremony succeeds, then Sacredfeather’s death is certain. If the ceremony fails, not only will Sacredfeather survive, but he’ll even experience a great fortuitous encounter. With how straightforward the Virtuous Sage of Heaven has been to me regarding Sacredfeather’s fate, it instead seems like he’s dropping me a hint, or should I say, a warning.”

“He’s warning me that if I want Sacredfeather to survive, I have to stop the great ceremony, or Sacredfeather will die...”

“And what he said at the end. The success or failure of the ceremony is not for me to worry about. I only need to focus on carrying out my tasks.”

“The success or failure of the great ceremony is something that all members of the Darkstar race should worry about. After all, it’s something major that can change their fate, yet the Virtuous Sage of Heaven said it’s something I don’t need to worry about?”



“As for my tasks, my objectives for infiltrating the Darkstar race is firstly to save Sacredfeather, and secondly, to complete the Heartless Child’s mission—stop the ceremony...”

“Why do I feel like the Virtuous Sage of Heaven was not directing what he said towards the Kun Tian of the past? Instead, it seems more like he’s implying something to my true identity, Jian Chen.”

Jian Chen sat on the throne as his eyes flickered with uncertainty. “Looks like my theory is likely to be correct...”

#### **Chapter 2844: The Great Ceremony Begins**

Afterwards, it became much more peaceful among the Darkstar race. The reason why it was described as peaceful was because the cultivators that could be seen almost everywhere outside the cities had decreased in number, while the outsiders who entered and left the Two World Mountains had vanished completely.

There were only patrol squads assembled from Darkstar race Godkings that roamed the lands of the Darkstar World, capturing any outsiders who wandered about outside.

The Hundred Saint City had always been in a state of full vigilance and the protective formations remained in their strongest state. As the fifty-two organisations that stayed behind in the city secretly hoped the great ceremony of the Darkstar race would end sooner, they also carefully prepared themselves by guarding the only teleportation formation in the Hundred Saint City.

That was their hope of escaping, the last thing they could count on!

They carried out extremely strict inspections on the teleportation formation. They would basically look through it once, inside and out, every single day, even sending people through it as experiments to ensure it could operate normally when they needed it to.

Although some of these prodigies had already begun considering retreating due to being afraid of death, their trip to the Darkstar World this time was more of a test from their clan. It affected their futures, which was why none of them wanted to be deserters before they had confirmed if there were any dangers or not.

Even though a third of the organisations in the Hundred Saint City had already left earlier, that was because of the seventh divine hall’s threats. If they did not retreat, all that would be awaiting them was death.

Shrinking back under those circumstances was not embarrassing, and their clans would not blame them either. However, if they retreated purely because of the tense atmosphere among the Darkstar race, escaping when they were under the protection of the fifth hall master, that was something intrinsically different.

As a result, the fifty-two organisations of the Hundred Saint City stood fast to their positions.

Time passed by silently. Under the great anticipation of the entire Darkstar race and the nervous and highly uneasy waiting of the outsiders, the day of the great ceremony that the Darkstar race had been preparing for all this time finally arrived.

The location of the great ceremony was the capital city of the Darkstar race. All the peak experts of the Darkstar race had already assembled there. Apart from all the Primordial realm experts of the Darkstar race, the city lords of the thirty-six major cities, the one hundred and eight kings and the thirty-six lords of each major city had all assembled there too.

All outsiders had vanished from the capital city a long time ago. All of the people from the Saints' World and the ruins of the Spirits' World had been gathered in the thirty-six major cities.

The great ceremony this time was a colossal matter that could change the entire Darkstar race's fate, so the Darkstar race truly placed great emphasis on the issue of safety during the ceremony. Not only were all ten renowned armies of the Darkstar race stationed inside and outside the city, but even the thirty-six cities had assembled all of their forces to stand guard under the lead of the various vice city lords.

The people they were guarding against were all the outsiders placed under house arrest in the thirty-six major cities!

Above the capital city, the ten divine halls that originally hovered there had all been moved to certain positions. They seemed to stand in a certain formation, and the Darkstar Divine Hall that originally hovered above the ten divine halls had descended, surrounded by the ten divine halls in a special array. It was like the moon surrounded by many stars.

The eleven divine halls hovered in the air. Each divine hall gave off dazzling light and emitted powerful pulses of energy. At first glance, they were like eleven luminous suns.

Below the divine halls were the forces from the thirty-six major cities. Under the lead of each city lord with the thirty-six lords and hundred and eight kings providing support, they sat in the air in huge formations.

Among them, the Darknight City also had a newly-chosen city lord, as well as a new generation of the thirty-six lords and hundred and eight kings.

Below the forces of the thirty-six cities were the countless citizens of the capital city. Currently, all of them knelt on the ground with faces filled with devotion, quietly waiting for the stirring moment.

"Open the sacrificial altar!"

At this moment, the Darkstar Emperor sat on top of the Darkstar Divine Hall in the air. His expression was solemn as he spoke in a dignified voice.

His voice spread across the entire city, landing in everyone's ears.

"Opening the sacrificial altar—drawing the power of the Windless City..."

"Opening the sacrificial altar—drawing the power of the Darkhell City..."

"Opening the sacrificial altar—drawing the power of the Duoye City..."

"Opening the sacrificial altar—drawing the power of the Darknight City..."

"Opening the sacrificial altar—drawing the power of the Blacklight City..."

...

Virtually the moment the Darkstar Emperor finished talking, the voices of the thirty-six city lords boomed through the air. With their voices, the formations assembled from the thirty-six lords and the hundred and eight kings were activated. In that moment, they seemed to establish some kind of mysterious connection with the thirty-six major cities nowhere close to them.

Immediately, thirty-six pillars of resplendent light shot into the air in the distance, rushing towards the capital city from thirty-six different places.

This was the power of the thirty-six major cities. The thirty-six clusters of energy traversed the great distance and directly enveloped their city lord, thirty-six lords, and hundred and eight kings. Afterwards, under the control of the thirty-six city lords, the thirty-six clusters of energy merged together in a single moment, radiating with enough light to dazzle the entire world and directly plunging ten thousand meters into the air above the city like a sword.

From afar, it seemed like a huge pillar of white light had risen up from the ground and pierced the heavens. It was like a pillar that upheld the sky, resplendent and glorious.

In the next moment, the space at an altitude of ten thousand meters pulsed violently. The pillar of energy condensed from the powers of the thirty-six cities seemed to be a key, opening a mysterious gate hidden within the void.

Within the mysterious gate, an altar that seemed to be forged completely out of white jade hovered up.

The altar was not particularly large. It was a few thousand meters across at most and was littered with stone tablets. Ancient diagrams and characters were engraved on the altar as if it recorded the lustrous and glorious history of the Darkstar race. It radiated with a heavy presence of age.

In the very centre of the altar stood a humanoid stone statue. It was extremely large, surrounded by thousands of stone tablets. It was worshipped by countless lives, like a sovereign of the past.

However, the stone statue was faceless. It was impossible to make out its facial features or appearance. It was only possible to tell from the characteristics of its body that it was a man.

An abnormally lofty man who gave off an aura of utter dominance and supremacy!

“Is this the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race?”

Seated in the air above the fifth divine hall, Jian Chen shuddered inside because he could sense an indescribably profound aura of ways from the faceless statue. In his eyes, the statue seemed to have condensed the ways of the Darkstar race, the apex of all ways within the Darkstar race.

The altar gradually drifted out of the space in the void before hovering ten thousand meters above the capital city. When the space there settled back down, the illusionary figure of the Virtuous Sage of Heaven suddenly appeared. He did not fly over to the altar immediately, instead climbing up a set of invisible stairs, making his way over to the altar step by step.

Standing on the altar, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s illusionary figure slowly knelt down. He knelt on both his knees and buried his head deeply into the icy-cold floor before speaking out in a booming voice, “Bow to the ancestor!”

**Chapter 2845: Elevation of the Essence Blood One**

With that, from the Darkstar Emperor and ten hall masters up above to the common citizens of the Darkstar race, everyone bowed.

This bow was directed towards the ancestor of their Darkstar race!

It was directed to the most powerful person in the history of their Darkstar race!

It was directed to the supreme sovereign of the past!

Before the stone statue of the sovereign, even someone like the Virtuous Sage of Heaven had to cast aside all of his pride, also dropping down on two knees, his face filled with devotion.

This was all because the figure the stone statue depicted had been a supreme Grand Exalt that had basically become an embodiment of the heavenly ways, able to set down laws of the world and even influence the operation of the heavenly ways to a certain degree!

A figure like that was the greatest force and the sturdiest cornerstone of a complete, major world, worshipped by millions. They could not be infringed upon or blasphemed.

Jian Chen also knelt down in that moment. Even though he was rather reluctant inside, he was forced to kneel, or he would stick out.

However, upon remembering how this figure had been a supreme Grand Exalt in the past, he no longer found it so difficult to accept.

“First bow...”

“Second bow...”

“Third bow...”

...

“Ninth bow...” Only after a total of nine bows did the illusionary Virtuous Sage of Heaven stand up. Afterwards, under his lead, they performed several other sacred and solemn rites. Only four hours later did these tedious rites come to an end.

“With the power of the thirty-six cities as the supplementary force and the power of the ten divine halls as the primary force, activate the sacrificial altar...” The Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s voice rang out again.

Immediately, the power of the thirty-six major cities was activated again. Every single city became an enormous energy reserve in that moment. Not only did the entire city glow, but every single city was hiding a cluster of boundless energy deep underground.

The energy had all been accumulated over countless years as the formations of the cities absorbed the energy of the world such that the energy stored below each city had reached an extremely startling level.

Now, these tremendous amounts of energy that had been set aside for all these years was summoned through the formations assembled out of the thirty-six city lords and their respective thirty-six lords and hundred and eight kings. It crossed through the tremendous space and reached the capital city of the Darkstar race.

This time, they were performing the rite to activate the sacrificial altar. Just the power of the thirty-six cities was clearly nowhere near enough to activate the altar, so they also required the participation of the ten divine halls.

The ten divine halls had assembled a special formation in the air a long time ago. The power of the divine halls weaved together, conjuring some kind of profound law before being sent into the sacrificial altar high in the air with the power of the thirty-six cities. As a result, the sacrificial altar lit up with blinding light in that moment as if it had awakened from a slumbering state. The entire altar seemed to come alive, giving off a bleak presence.

Jian Chen's eyes narrowed as he stared straight into the air.

"Sacrifice the divine beast!" The Virtuous Sage of Heaven's voice rang out.

The eyes of the Darkstar Emperor who sat atop the Darkstar Divine Hall lit up. They were filled with undisguisable excitement and anticipation. He immediately waved his hand and something drifted out of the divine hall hidden in his sleeve, landing directly on the sacrificial altar.

Jian Chen's emotions also began to heave violently with its appearance. His feelings surged and even his body gave off a visible tremble. Even his presence became rather disorderly.

That was because the thing that had flown out from the divine hall hidden in the Darkstar Emperor's sleeve was Sacredfeather, the Winged Tiger God of the Tian Yuan Continent, the Sacredfeathered Tiger Emperor.

Sacredfeather seemed to be in an extremely miserable state. He appeared before everyone in his beast form, but he had ceased to possess the same valiance of the past a long time ago.

He was currently matted with dried blood, and his vital energies were on the brink of running out. He was only skin and bones. He basically resembled a dried corpse.

Sacredfeather was already on the verge of death. Each breath he took could easily be his last. If the Darkstar Emperor had not kept his life intact the entire time through heavenly resources, he probably would not have been able to last until now after going through so much inhumane torture.

"Sacredfeather!" Jian Chen murmured inside and slowly closed his eyes. Who knew whether it was because he could not bear to see Sacredfeather's current state, or because he wanted to hide the surging killing intent that had already reached a level that he struggled to keep concealed in his eyes.

"Darkstar race, I will definitely make you pay a heavy price!" Jian Chen's heart tossed and turned like the raging ocean as he secretly swore an oath from the bottom of his heart.

Back on the Tian Yuan Continent, they were already together soon after Sacredfeather had been born, before he had even opened his eyes. Afterwards, just like that, a man and a tiger set off on a small, bumpy path with firm strides, growing up and growing stronger together. Along the way, they had gone through countless setbacks and experienced countless intense battles. They had gone through thick and thin together...

The feelings that existed between him and Sacredfeather could not be understood by regular people.

"The divine beast's blood!" The Virtuous Sage of Heaven's voice rang out from the altar.

The Darkstar Emperor waved his hand again, and over a hundred droplets of essence blood flew out. All of the essence blood had come from Sacredfeather. It was equivalent to all of the essence blood his body possessed.

However, the essence blood had ceased to possess Sacredfeather's presence a long time ago. All of the essence blood had been modified such that they possessed the presence of the Darkstar race.

"Draw out the blood of the myriad!" The Virtuous Sage of Heaven's voice gradually increased in pitch. With that, the Darkstar Emperor cut open his own finger first, and immediately, a droplet of essence blood that belonged to him flew out.

Every single droplet of essence blood was directly connected to the source of a cultivator's life. It was a condensation of their vital energies, and it was of utmost importance to them.

Having lost the droplet of essence blood, the Darkstar Emperor's complexion became visibly paler.

Below, the ten hall masters, vice hall masters, and even the clansmen kneeling on the ground, regardless of their strength, all offered up a droplet of their essence blood as long as they partook in the ceremony.

Jian Chen was no exception either, but the essence blood he offered up was not his own. Instead, it was the blood he had gathered from Kun Tian after killing him.

As a result, his essence blood gave off a pure presence of the Darkstar race. It did not give him away at all.

All of the essence blood slowly drifted into the air under an invisible force, merging with the converted essence blood from Sacredfeather. In the end, the cluster of essence blood reached an extremely large size, becoming a huge cluster of blood over three meters across.

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven stood on the altar as he formed seals with his hands, drawing out the invisible power of the altar and transforming it into an eerie, white flame that engulfed the essence blood before blazing brightly.

In the end, the huge cluster of essence blood from the myriad clansmen of the Darkstar race became smaller and smaller under the flames. However, as it shrank, the essence inside clearly became highly concentrated such that the level of the essence blood increased at a visible rate.

Sacredfeather's essence blood had been at a very high level of quality in the first place, but through this elevation today, the quality of essence blood immediately became much greater than Sacredfeather's original essence blood.

#### **Chapter 2846: Elevation of the Essence Blood Two**

Jian Chen stared straight at the sky, gazing at the cluster of essence blood undergoing refinement. He felt lacking in confidence.

He was familiar with the process of the great ceremony. The Darkstar race would merge the blood of the myriad with the white tiger's essence blood first, increasing its quality for the final objective of elevating the power of Sacredfeather's bloodline to a level as close as possible to the bloodline of a Grand Exalt.

Of course, by as close as possible, it was only equivalent to the first generation of descendants of a Grand Exalt. It would not truly reach the level of a Grand Exalt's bloodline.

The Darkstar race wanted to elevate Sacredfeather's bloodline to the level that belonged to a first-generation descendant of the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race. Even though it would not be from a true descendant, nor would it truly possess the bloodline of the Grand Exalt, it could resonate with the lingering powers of the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race to a certain degree. The degree of resonance and the level of compatibility would be well beyond what any member of the Darkstar race could achieve.

Even the Darkstar Emperor could not achieve something like that.

As a result, not only would Sacredfeather's chances at activating the Grand Exalt's remaining powers increase, but the amount of power he could activate would become greater too.

"Can the level of a bloodline really be elevated this easily?" Jian Chen asked himself. He was also a Primordial realm expert, and he was quite knowledgeable after spending so many years in the Saints' World. He had never seen or heard of a method similar to how the Darkstar race used so much mixed essence blood to strengthen Sacredfeather's bloodline.

As a result, when he saw the quality of the cluster of essence blood elevate under the scorching of the Darkstar race's secret technique, he became worried. He was worried about whether this would lead to any side-effects for Sacredfeather.

Otherwise, if the level of bloodlines could be elevated so easily, impressive bloodlines would be everywhere in the Saints' World that was littered with experts.

"Although the Virtuous Sage of Heaven has told us the process of the great ceremony in detail, I still feel like I'm lacking some critical information. I should wait a little longer," thought Jian Chen. He forcefully held back his urge to take action as he observed the developments of the great ceremony closely. The Darkstar race was a race that had produced a Grand Exalt in the past after all. Perhaps they possessed some wondrous techniques that even a few peak clans renowned throughout the Saints' World were not in possession of.

Two hours later, the huge cluster of essence blood, over three meters across, had finally shrunken to the size of a fist under the refinement of the formation, while the quantity of essence blood went from several hundreds of thousand droplets, or even over a million droplets, to less than two hundred droplets.

This quantity was roughly equivalent to how much essence blood they had drawn from Sacredfeather.

The only difference was the cluster of essence blood had clearly exceeded Sacredfeather's essence blood in terms of quality.

But to Jian Chen, even though the quality of the essence blood had increased drastically, it was still worlds apart from the level of a Grand Exalt's bloodline.

Afterwards, under the Virtuous Sage of Heaven's control, the fist-sized cluster of essence blood turned into a trickling stream and flowed to Sacredfeather's heart, slowly channelling into his body.

Immediately, Sacredfeather's body that was as shriveled as withered wood seemed to receive tremendous amounts of nourishment. It began to swell bit by bit as his withered flesh and blood recovered at a visible rate.

Sacredfeather slowly opened his eyes. His eyes were dim and lifeless, filled with a sensation of weakness. He could obviously sense his body recovering, but the recovery did not bring any signs of his condition taking a turn for the better. Instead, pain appeared in his eyes.

He felt like he was undergoing a painful torture that a divine beast that had reached Godking like him struggled to endure.

Crack!

Suddenly, there was a crisp sound, and Sacredfeather's flesh that had just recovered suddenly ruptured. It also seemed like he had become a piece of pottery, and that pottery had cracked.

With the constant cracks, more and more parts of his body ruptured. The cracks constantly expanded, covering his entire body very soon. It really seemed like his entire body had shattered.

This was the result of incompatible essence blood. Because Sacredfeather's essence blood had already been converted, now contaminated with the presence of the Darkstar race, the essence blood no longer belonged to him from a certain perspective. Forcefully merging it with him would obviously lead to problems.

At the same time, the strength of the essence blood had completely exceeded the limits of what he could withstand. These two issues appeared at the same time, leading to this.

However, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven who stood on the sacrificial altar was unfazed as if he had been expecting this. He formed a seal with his fingers and curled it towards him.

In the next moment, colossal formations slowly appeared on the ground of the thirty-six major cities as if they were linked to the entire city. Supported by the tremendous energy reserves accumulated over all these years, the entire formation was suddenly activated.

"Ahh!"

"W- wh- what's happening? My vitality, the powers of my soul, and my vital energies are all being drawn away rapidly..."

"Oh no, my cultivation is leaking away..."

"It's the formation below us. Damn it, the Darkstar race really was harbouring no good intentions by trapping us here. They're draining our lives through the formation..."

...

As soon as the formations were activated, wails immediately filled the thirty-six major cities. The wails were filled with raging fury and hatred, as the outsiders trapped in the cities were all being robbed mercilessly of the power of their cultivations, the power of their souls, their vitality, and even the tremendous life force in their bodies. It gathered together from various locations in the city before being transported to the distant capital city through the formation.



It was not only the thirty-six major cities. The Hundred Saint City fell victim to the same situation. Even though no formations appeared on the ground inside the Hundred Saint City, the same formation as the thirty-six major cities appeared in the sky outside the barrier, operating automatically by absorbing the energy of the world. It also devoured the power of cultivations, the power of souls, and the vitality and tremendous life force of all cultivators in the Hundred Saint City.

“The Darkstar race are a group of bastards. They had actually cast down such a vicious formation in secret a long time ago. They’re trying to sacrifice us. Let’s go! Let’s go quickly! We need to get out of here...”

“Go to the teleportation formation and pull out of the Hundred Saint City immediately...”

...

The faces of the prodigies all changed drastically in the Hundred Saint City. They all rushed towards the teleportation formation frantically and fearfully like they were fleeing for their lives.

However, at this very moment, there was a great rumble, and the teleportation formation established in the Hundred Saint City that served as their only path of escape suddenly exploded. The entire teleportation formation was blasted to pieces.

“Ahhhh! Noooo!”

Immediately, prodigies cried out miserably. Their faces immediately paled, filled with despair.

This was because all of the power in their bodies was rapidly flowing away as they stood in the devouring formation, making them become weaker and weaker. If this continued, they would not be able to last very long before they died from running out of life force.

Countless cultivators roared and shrieked out in despair in the thirty-six major cities. They wanted to resist, but they discovered that as the formation operated beneath their feet, as their power and life force rapidly leaked away, they became weaker and weaker. Let alone resist, they could not even hover in the air anymore.

The devouring force was far too great, much more powerful than what Life-devouring Beasts could achieve. And, it did not simply devour their life force, but the power of their cultivations, souls, and so on.

“Darkstar race, how diabolical of you. You actually want to sacrifice so many of us...”

“Darkstar race, even if I become a ghost, I won’t spare you...”

“There will be retribution for your diabolical actions. Our sects in the Saints’ World will never spare you...”

Within the capital city of the Darkstar race, a total of thirty-seven flows of energy containing a mix of the power of cultivations, souls, and lives enveloped Sacredfeather as bands of colourful light. As the different powers were drained from the outsiders and channeled into Sacredfeather, he immediately underwent a transformation inside and out, with all aspects being elevated.

When the formations in the cities absorbed the various powers, they also refined it, and because the outsiders were not too powerful, the refinement was completed in an extremely short amount of time, turning it into an extremely pure and masterless energy with all impurities removed.

The various pure, masterless powers were obviously very easy to absorb. As a result, when the bands of light enveloped Sacredfeather, his soul, cultivation, vital energy, and even his life force recovered at an extremely terrifying rate.

The disadvantage that came from being overly frail and unable to endure the essence blood was eliminated very quickly, as the tremendous life force from thousands of cultivators rapidly healed his wounds. It had completely caught up to the rate at which the essence blood wreaked havoc.

And, the power from the vital energy of countless cultivators rapidly strengthened Sacredfeather's body.

The power of souls from countless cultivators also rapidly strengthened Sacredfeather's soul.

In short, the Sacredfeather right now basically seemed like he had consumed some ultimate, nourishing medicine. From inside to out, every single aspect of him was growing and being elevated.

This elevation of all aspects could be described as a form of evolution!

That was because he was also merging with the essence blood the Darkstar race had refined with their secret technique. The speed at which it merged was not particularly fast, and the essence blood contaminated with the Darkstar race's presence was not particularly compatible with Sacredfeather's body, resulting in signs of rejection, but the power of Sacredfeather's bloodline still grew in quality by a visible amount.

Jian Chen sat atop the fifth divine hall and paid close attention to Sacredfeather's condition. He had already poised himself for battle in secret a long time ago, ready to take action at any time.

Everything unfolding on Sacredfeather right now had already exceeded his understanding to a certain degree, as it involved far too much uncertainty, as well as many absurd methods he had never even heard of in the Saints' World.

"With the world as the furnace and the great ways as the flame, the myriad blood merges as one!" At this moment, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven called out, and a huge, illusionary furnace appeared out of nowhere, wrapping around Sacredfeather. Afterwards, the ways and laws appeared, turning into an invisible flame and carrying out a second refinement of Sacredfeather.

#### **Chapter 2847: Grand Exalt's Essence Blood**

The refinement was not only directed at Sacredfeather's body, but also his soul and bloodline.

The process clearly brought Sacredfeather unimaginable pain. He put up a violent struggle in the spatial furnace as he let out soundless roars.

The flesh and blood he had just recovered gradually vanished through the refinement. At the same time, the presence of ways that belonged to the Darkstar race merged with his flesh and blood strand by strand through the refinement of the spatial furnace.

With each strand, the power of the Darkstar race that Sacredfeather gave off would increase and grow stronger.

At the same time, the tremendous life force drained from the outsiders constantly flowed into Sacredfeather.

In the end, as his flesh vanished under the refinement of the furnace, new flesh and blood regrew rapidly.

The new flesh and blood had become evidently more powerful after merging with the stronger essence blood and all the powers from the outsiders. The only issue with all of this was while the flesh still belonged to Sacredfeather, it became closer and closer to the flesh of the Darkstar race no matter how Jian Chen looked at it.

The refinement lasted for a total of four hours before ending. Even though it was very short, every part of Sacredfeather, both inside and out, soared qualitatively. His strength increased tremendously.

Let alone everything else, his body alone had reached the Primordial realm after receiving inhumane, torturous refinement.

With how tough his body was now, it was already enough to endure the strengthened essence blood.

However, the formations in the thirty-six major cities and the Hundred Saint City did not stop. Their devouring force did not weaken at all, growing in strength instead. Energy and vitality was drained from the outsiders, all gathering above the capital city.

In the end, the various powers gathered above the capital city became more and more tremendous.

The spatial furnace stopped refining. The entire ceremony seemed to fall into a momentary silence. Only the Virtuous Sage of Heaven stood sturdily on the altar. He was in no hurry to progress with the next step as if he was waiting for something.

Jian Chen's heart sat in his throat. He could obviously sense Sacredfeather's strengthened bloodline, but to him, it was still nowhere close to the level that a first-generation descendent of a Grand Exalt possessed.

Even though he had never met any first-generation descendants of Grand Exalts, it was not difficult to imagine.

He could already tell that Sacredfeather's strengthened bloodline had mostly been elevated in terms of 'quantity'. There was an increase in terms of 'quality' too, but the increase was not as great as he imagined it to be.

Time passed by gradually. The great ceremony entered a strange pause. The Virtuous Sage of Heaven did not do anything more, and everyone who participated in the ceremony within the capital city waited silently. Only the powers of bloodlines, cultivations, souls, and life force drained from the outsiders continued to accumulate above the capital city.

Even though the outsiders among the Darkstar race were not powerful, there were a great number of them, so when so many people's powers were gathered together, the total amount was extremely formidable.

From afar, the tremendous energy gathered in the sky above the capital city had already become an ocean, giving off a great pressure.

The pressure was so powerful that even many Primordial realm experts of the Darkstar race grew stern. As for the Godhood cultivators in the capital city below, they were fear-stricken. All of them were filled with terror.

Finally, when as much as seventy percent of all the power in the outsiders had been drained, the devouring formations finally seemed to reach saturation. The thirty-seven formations stopped operating at the same time.

Only then did the Virtuous Sage of Heaven finally proceed with the next step. He turned towards the statue of the Grand Exalt and bowed deeply, calling out, "Please bestow us with the blood, ancestor!"

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven's voice was extremely loud, clear, and resonant. It shook up the Darkstar World, even causing the laws in the Darkstar World to ripple.

In the next moment, the space before the statue's chest blurred. A drop of blood only the size of a rain droplet appeared out of nowhere.

The blood contained unimaginable power, and it possessed an unfathomable presence of laws. With the appearance of the blood, the entire Darkstar World began to churn. The laws of the world all manifested, weaving into chains of order in the surroundings.

Everyone from the Darkstar race experienced a pressure so tremendous that they could not even think of opposing when the blood appeared. The pressure suppressed their bloodlines, cultivations, and even their souls, as well as all of their dignity.

It forced them to bow towards the droplet of blood involuntarily.

"This is... a Grand Exalt's essence blood! This is a droplet of essence blood left behind by the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race!" Jian Chen stared at the blood that gave off a vast pressure from the top of the fifth divine hall. His mind shook as his heart surged wildly.

Never did he think a Grand Exalt's essence blood would actually exist among the Darkstar race, and the droplet of essence blood had clearly been preserved in a better condition than the droplet of essence blood from the ancient Skywolf. As a result, both its presence of ways and the strength of its bloodline surpassed the ancient Skywolf's essence blood.

Of course, this by no means indicated that the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race was more powerful than the ancient Skywolf, as they were in vastly different conditions when they left behind their essence blood.

The Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race had been in his prime when the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits killed him. He had also made many arrangements when he was alive, so the essence blood was better preserved.

As for the ancient Skywolf, he had left behind his essence blood when he was passing away in meditation. It was possible to tell from the simple dwelling he was using when he left behind his essence blood that the ancient Skywolf clearly had not made so many careful arrangements like the Grand Exalt

of the Darkstar race, nor did he have so many clansmen consecrating his remains. As a result, after numerous years, his essence blood obviously weakened.

“Before, I always felt like the Virtuous Sage of Heaven was hiding the most important step of the great ceremony from the ten divine halls. As it seems, he was hiding this droplet of Grand Exalt’s essence blood. Though, surely the Darkstar race isn’t planning to use the droplet of essence blood on Sacredfeather?” Jian Chen struggled to keep his cool inside. He knew exactly how precious and rare the essence blood of Grand Exalts were. If the Darkstar race were truly going to use the essence blood on Sacredfeather, they would be going all-in.

“But speaking of which, if Sacredfeather merges with this droplet of essence blood, his bloodline might be truly elevated to the level of a first-generation descendant of a Grand Exalt. If that’s the case, then everything the Darkstar race did before was just preparatory work for Sacredfeather to merge with the droplet of essence blood.”

“That’s a Grand Exalt’s essence blood after all. If you want to forcefully absorb it, you’ll probably need a cultivation at Grand Prime at the very least. It’ll be completely absurd for Sacredfeather to absorb the Grand Exalt’s essence blood with his previous cultivation at Godking. As a result, they had to find a way to make up for this, which was to modify Sacredfeather’s bloodline into one that belongs to the Darkstar race before using the identity of a member of the Darkstar race to absorb the essence blood. As such, they achieve the effect of the two bloodlines sharing the same origin. That way, the rejection from the Grand Exalt’s essence blood will be minimised.”

“At the same time, it can further strengthen Sacredfeather’s bloodline and body such that the power he’ll inherit when merging with the Grand Exalt’s essence blood will increase vastly...” Jian Chen’s eyes lit up. Merging with a droplet of a Grand Exalt’s essence blood and being assisted and refined by a formation personally under the control of the Virtuous Sage of Heaven was basically a colossal fortuitous encounter for Sacredfeather.

“It’s a fortuitous encounter, followed by certain doom. Whether Sacredfeather can stop before certain doom will be entirely up to me,” thought Jian Chen. He was already sitting on the edge of his seat now, gazing at Sacredfeather nervously and eagerly.

#### **Chapter 2848: The Artifact Spirit of the Hundred Saint City**

The subsequent process of the great ceremony was as Jian Chen had expected. The droplet of Grand Exalt’s essence blood finally drifted slowly towards Sacredfeather under the Virtuous Sage of Heaven’s guidance; this essence blood was something that would be regarded as an ultimate treasure even in the Saints’ World filled with experts.

The Grand Exalt’s essence blood merged with Sacredfeather’s body successfully.

However, the merging of the essence blood was a tremendous test of life and death to Sacredfeather. It was a horrific torture.

The strengthened flesh from merging with the blood of the myriad earlier ruptured again.

The power of the Grand Exalt’s essence blood was far too great. Even when the strength of Sacredfeather’s body had already increased drastically, even when he had already been converted to

the bloodline of the Darkstar race, greatly reducing the rejection of the Grand Exalt's essence blood, death was still certain if he wanted to absorb the Grand Exalt's essence blood with such weak strength. He would be forcefully blown up by the power of the essence blood, destroying both his body and his soul.

And this time, the severity of Sacredfeather's wounds were clearly several times or even several dozen times worse than when he merged with the blood of the myriad.

Not only did his flesh constantly rupture, but great chunks of it would rupture at the same time. Entire pieces of his flesh and blood would vanish, reduced to the smallest of atoms.

Even his soul faced severe damage, as not only did the essence blood contain great energy and power of bloodlines, it was also filled with the three vital energies—essence, qi, and spirit.

TL: The three vital energies, commonly translated as vital energies in Chaotic Sword God, is different from vital energy. One's plural and the other's singular. The vital energies are also known as the three treasures in Chinese medicine, which you can learn more about here:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three\\_Treasures\\_\(traditional\\_Chinese\\_medicine\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three_Treasures_(traditional_Chinese_medicine))

Even though these vital energies were very weak, they had still been left behind by a Grand Exalt after all. They had reached an extremely terrifying level in terms of quality.

Grand Exalts, also known as heavenly ways, were embodiments of "ways". They could set down their own laws, so everything they left behind would be at supremely high levels.

As a result, Sacredfeather's soul also faced attacks from the power of the small amount of "spirit" in the essence blood. His soul was on the verge of collapse.

Sacredfeather began to shake violently. Currently, both his body and soul endured unimaginable damage. If this continued, the only fate awaiting him was destruction to both his soul and body.

The Virtuous Sage of Heaven had clearly been expecting all of this. At this moment, the various powers and energies that the Darkstar race had absorbed from countless outsiders finally came into use.

The power of bloodlines, the power of vital energies, the power of souls, and the power of cultivations had already gathered into a great ocean of energy above the capital city.

Now, the sea of energy shining with various colours raged into Sacredfeather's body like a flood that had breached a dam, so wildly that it could even be described as violent.

The tremendous life force healed Sacredfeather's wounds, while the power of bloodlines further strengthened Sacredfeather's bloodline, also allowing Sacredfeather's bloodline to absorb the power of the essence blood strand by strand.

The power of souls rapidly repaired his soul that was on the brink of collapse. At the same time, the power of cultivations consolidated his cultivation while a fraction of it merged with his body, tempering it further and nourishing it.

The essence blood of a Grand Exalt could not be absorbed so easily. The reason why Sacredfeather had managed to progress so smoothly was not just because of the various powers and energies drained from the outsiders. The huge furnace conjured from space also played a critical role.

The furnace seemed to gather the power of the entire Darkstar race, as well as the power of ways and laws of the Darkstar World to refine Sacredfeather, prompting his absorption of the various energies.

Sacredfeather's body was rapidly destroyed by the essence blood, yet it also immediately recovered due to the tremendous life force collected from countless cultivators. As he underwent this cycle of constant destruction and recovery, his body, bloodline, and soul strengthened at a highly visible rate.

With each cycle of destruction and recovery, the energy inside the Grand Exalt's essence blood would be absorbed strand by strand.

As the energy in the essence blood was gradually absorbed, it obviously became weaker and weaker, while the damage that Sacredfeather sustained diminished too, as every single aspect of him was soaring and leaping up qualitatively.

The difference that existed between him and the essence blood was being rapidly closed.

On the altar, the Virtuous Sage of Heaven's presence seemed to merge with the world of the Darkstar race completely. He stood below the Grand Exalt's statue with his hands down as he stared at Sacredfeather with his eyes seemingly hidden behind mist. His lips gradually curled into a mysterious smile as he said with a voice that only he could hear, "It's about time. Hundred Saint City, it's time for you to carry out your true role."

With that, an invisible seal within the Hundred Saint City that no one had discovered over all these years vanished silently.

With the disappearance of the seal, the entire city changed slightly in that exact moment. The entire city seemed to go from the dead city of the past to a special city that possessed its own life.

Within the Hundred Saint City, everyone from the fifty-two remaining organisations were all pale-faced as they laid on the ground feebly. Their faces were filled with deep fear.

As well as surging fury.

The teleportation formation had already been destroyed, and as much as seventy percent of their powers had been drained. All the prodigies there were filled with despair.

All the major cities had been sealed off in the current Darkstar World. Without the teleportation formation of the Hundred Saint City, they were no longer able to leave the Darkstar World anymore.

As for leaving the city, even if they managed to bypass the ten armies of the Darkstar race stationed outside to prevent them from leaving, so what if they managed to escape?

Were they supposed to cross the Two World Mountains again?

They truly lacked the courage to.

At this moment, some of the prodigies who gasped for air on the ground, having left their lives up to fate, raised their heads and looked at the sky subconsciously. A sliver of suspicion appeared in their eyes.

But in the next moment, the suspicion immediately turned into surprise and joy.

“Have you sensed it? It’s the artifact spirit. It’s the artifact spirit of the Hundred Saint City...”

“The artifact spirit of the Hundred Saint City has finally been born. Fantastic, fantastic! We’ve waited all these years and attempted countless different things, but it’s finally been born...”

“Rumor has it that the Hundred Saint City doesn’t only possess defensive formations, but also an offensive formation. However, in order to prevent the Darkstar race from noticing, which would make them go out of their way to work against us, the offensive formation was not engraved in the city. Instead, it was left on the artifact spirit of the Hundred Saint City...”

“If an artifact spirit doesn’t exist, then the offensive formation obviously won’t exist, but once an artifact spirit is born, the city will possess these methods of attack...”

In that moment, the records regarding the Hundred Saint City from their clans all flashed through the prodigies’ heads. All of their eyes lit up slightly.

At the same time, the soul sense from the artifact spirit of the Hundred Saint City echoed through the heads of the prodigies.

“Gather everyone’s powers and deplete all the energy gathered in the reserve below the Hundred Saint City over the years in one go. After amplifying it with the formation, launch a strike equivalent to a Chaotic Prime’s...” Hearing the artifact spirit’s voice, hope filled the eyes of the prodigies.

Of course, some people were still worried and hesitant.

“No, we can’t. Once we deplete the entire energy reserve below the city, we won’t be able to use any of the defensive formations anymore. We won’t have enough divine crystals either...”

“It’s already come to a matter of life or death. We can’t worry about too much anymore. Quick, let’s gather our greatest power and send it towards the Two World Mountains so that we open a safe path to the exit...”

“A Chaotic Prime’s strike should be able to pierce the entire Two World Mountains and escort us out, right? There won’t be any Life-devouring Beasts stopping us...”

The prodigies all made up their minds. Afterwards, everyone began to channel their powers into the city.

They had never considered attacking the Darkstar race, as the Darkstar race had the Darkstar Emperor. The Darkstar Emperor was an expert on par with a Chaotic Prime, and he had countless techniques and treasures available to him. A Chaotic Prime’s strike really might not be enough to kill the Darkstar Emperor.

The first thing they thought of was escaping from the Darkstar World. After all, given the scale of the event that had happened in the Darkstar World, it would definitely rock the entire Saints’ World. If the



peak organisations banded together and put forth a petition, they might truly be able to make a Grand Exalt take action.

At a time like this, whether they could keep the Hundred Saint City or not no longer mattered.

### **Chapter 2849: The Strike of a Chaotic Prime**

Not only did the prodigies channel all of their power into the Hundred Saint City, even the sacrificial Godkings and the many cultivators they had recruited from the Saints' World poured all of their energy into the Hundred Saint City as quickly as they could.

Facing a matter of life or death, none of them held back. They ate various pills like candy to recover as they poured everything that they had into the city.

The formation that the Darkstar race had cast above the city had already struck fear into everyone's hearts. In particular, the miserable situation of having seventy percent of their power and life force drained away in such a short time made them lose all trust in the Darkstar race.

They no longer believed the promise that the fifth hall master could protect them.

Nor did they trust the Darkstar Emperor's promise that they would leave here alive.

As a result, the artifact spirit of the Hundred Saint City that had suddenly sprung into existence today became their only hope of escape.

As everyone poured their energies into the city, the Hundred Saint City gradually shone with a special glow that had never appeared before.

The reason why it was special was because in the past, the city felt extremely inflexible no matter what formations they activated. Yet now, the circulation and mobilisation of the energy in the city had an additional flexibility and smoothness to it.

Ancient inscriptions appeared on the walls of the Hundred Saint City, gathering all the energy the cultivators had channeled in.

As the strongest organisation composed of outsiders, the Darkstar race obviously took precautions towards the Hundred Saint City. As a result, the armies stationed here had already increased to five.

Apart from the five armies, there were a large number of Godkings mobilised from the thirty-six major cities. As a result, the forces gathered outside the Hundred Saint City had reached a level that they no longer feared the Primordial realm formations at all.

After all, the might of the Primordial realm unleashed by the formations assembled from Godkings was not truly at the Primordial realm. If they assembled a similar number of Godkings into formations, these Primordial realm formations were not unstoppable.

The commanders of the five armies were currently gathered together as they sternly stared at the majestic city within arm's reach.

They could obviously sense the startlingly tremendous energy from the Hundred Saint City. As a result, their hearts all sank, and they could tell that something was going wrong.

“Looks like these outsiders aren’t harbouring any good intentions. They want to make some trouble for us in the rear while we’re carrying out the great ceremony...”

“The greatest function of the Hundred Saint City is protection. The greatest threat that these outsiders can pose to us does not come from the city, but from the formations assembled from the many Godkings. So logically speaking, no matter how alarming the energy in the city is, it can only strengthen their defences, yet why do I feel all jumpy right now...”

...

The five commanders stared at the Hundred Saint City and all frowned. They became slightly uneasy.

Several vice commanders rushed over from various places, assembling behind the five commanders and giving suggestions.

“Commander, the Hundred Saint City might be doing something unexpected. It’s best if we report this to the higher-ups...”

“The Hundred Saint City is clearly behaving rather abnormally right now. Perhaps we’ve never truly understood the Hundred Saint City despite all these years. Perhaps the Hundred Saint City is still hiding some kind of impressive trump card...”

“We have to report this to the emperor as soon as possible...”

...

The vice commanders voiced their thoughts. Stationed here, their primary purpose was to stop the outsiders from charging out of the city, yet from the alarmingly great energy that the city currently gave off, they felt like the situation was about to spiral out of their control.

After all, the powerful, defensive barrier of the Hundred Saint City remained. It was so powerful that even Primordial realm experts struggled to get through it, let alone them, a group of Godkings.

As a result, even if they knew the Hundred Saint City was doing something, all they could do was watch on helplessly as long as the outsiders did not leave the city. There was nothing they could do about it.

“The emperor is currently presiding over the ceremony. He’s far too busy, and he cannot be disturbed. The ten divine halls are no different. Let’s just wait a little longer...” a commander said sternly.

Boom!

However, right as he spoke, the Hundred Saint City produced a heavy rumble, like a clap of thunder in the air. The ground shook and space ruptured.

That was because in that moment, the colossal energy reserve hidden deep under the city seemed to break free from all of its restraints. It surged out from underground crazily like a wild horse free from its reins, gathering above the city rapidly.

As for the defensive formation of the city, it had also vanished all of a sudden. As if it had run out of its supply of energy, the formation collapsed on itself.

An illusionary, spiritual figure vaguely appeared where the energy gathered. That was the artifact spirit of the Hundred Saint City. It controlled all the energy in the city, prepared to pour the strength of the entire city into a startling strike.

The defensive formations of the city were gone already, yet the armies outside the city retreated instead of advancing. They retreated again and again until they reached several dozen kilometers away. Fear filled everyone's faces.

In that moment, the energy and pressure the city erupted with had already reached a level where even Primordial realm experts would lose their composure, let alone Godkings.

Before the tremendous energy and pressure, they could not even approach the city, let alone attack the place.

"T- this power... i- it has already surpassed- it has already surpassed Infinite Prime..."

"C- Chaotic Prime... I- Is this the power of legendary Chaotic Primes..."

"That's impossible. That's impossible. The Hundred Saint City can't be this powerful..."

...

The five commanders became pale-white from shock.

"Artifact spirit, attack the Two World Mountains quickly. Carve out a safe passageway in the Two World Mountains and escort us out of here..."

The cultivators within the city were not particularly affected due to the artifact spirit's precise control as a few prodigies called out excitedly.

In the air, the indistinct artifact spirit seemed to hear everyone's wishes. It could not help but look towards the Two World Mountains.

But soon afterwards, conflict and struggle suddenly appeared in the artifact spirit's gaze. Specks of green appeared from the depths of its eyes.

"T- the presence of the ancestor of the Wood Spirits is there. I- I'm a wood spirit. I- I can't disrespect the ancestor..." the artifact spirit murmured with a voice only it could hear as the green colour in its eyes flickered and pulsed. Its internal struggle became stronger and stronger.

In the end, the green colour vanished from its eyes. Its gaze became as clear as it was before as it murmured, "No, I'm not a wood spirit. I'm merely the artifact spirit born from this city. When I was born, my master who refined me merged the memories of a wood spirit into my intelligence. I'm not a wood spirit. I'm just the artifact spirit born in this city..."

"No, I'm not an artifact spirit. I'm a wood spirit..." Very soon, the artifact spirit's eyes became filled with green again. This time, the colour was so strong that it completely annihilated all of its free will from before.

In the next moment, the artifact spirit suddenly looked into the distance, gazing in the direction of the distant capital city. It said with an icy-cold voice, "It's the Darkstar race. It's actually the Darkstar race."

The Darkstar race must all die. They deserve to die again and again..." The light in the artifact spirit's eyes sank into madness. In the next moment, it merged its body with the energy of the Hundred Saint City, forming a spear over three hundred meters across, which shot towards the capital city with surging pulses of energy.

The spear was condensed from the energy of all the cultivators in the Hundred Saint City, as well as the tremendous energy reserve built up over countless years beneath the city. The end result was that the might of the spear directly surpassed Infinite Prime, reaching the level of the First Heavenly Layer of Chaotic Prime.

And, it was at the peak of the First Heavenly Layer. It was a single step away from the Second Heavenly layer of Chaotic Prime.

The spear pierced through the air as it produced a monstrous disturbance. The space of the entire Darkstar World shook violently. Wherever it passed by, space was cut open. A long crack extended over the sky.

In the Hundred Saint City, every outsider had lost all of their energy. They laid on the ground powerlessly as they watched the huge spear hurtle off in the direction of the capital city. They were all dumbfounded.

#### **Chapter 2850: The Mad Artifact Spiri**

t

The artifact spirit's Chaotic Prime level strike that had condensed the entire city's energy was originally supposed to be directed towards the Two World Mountains under their appeal. That way, it could pave a safe path that led directly to the exit for them.

But in the end, the artifact spirit went against their wishes, sending this startling strike that contained the strength of the entire city towards the capital city of the Darkstar race.

The colossal contrast in actions that had suddenly occurred left everyone in the Hundred Saint City rather stumped.

However, they soon realised the consequences of the artifact spirit's attack. Everyone began to tremble uncontrollably as their faces became completely gloomy.

The capital city was currently carrying out a great ceremony that was extremely important to the entire Darkstar race. Now that the artifact spirit of the Hundred Saint City had provoked the capital city at such a critical time, they had truly stirred the hornet's nest.

"We're done for. We're done for. We're completely done for..."

"This damned artifact spirit. It's sent all of us to our dooms..."

...

Everyone in the Hundred Saint City was despaired. They had already lost all of their power. Even though they had pills and divine crystals that they could use for recovery, they would struggle to return to peak

condition in such a short amount of time. Moreover, the Hundred Saint City had lost all of its defensive countermeasures. They were well and truly exposed to the cultivators of the Darkstar race.

Under these circumstances, what else could they depend on to fend off the five armies outside and the many Godkings?

“Oh no! They’re trying to stop our great ceremony...”

“The power of the strike just then must have reached the legendary Chaotic Prime. The Hundred Saint City has actually used such a terrifying method to attack our capital city. They deserve to die a thousand times over...”

“None of the outsiders can be forgiven...”

...

Outside the city, furious bellows had also erupted suddenly among the five armies of the Darkstar race. Previously, they had been forced back several dozen kilometers by the pressure and energy on the level of Chaotic Primes.

The artifact spirit’s action had without a doubt crossed the Darkstar race’s bottom line, leading to utter fury and killing intent from every single member of the Darkstar race.

Immediately, the five armies were all mobilised. Everyone rushed towards the Hundred Saint City with surging killing intent.

At the same time, the Grand Exalt’s essence blood was being slowly absorbed by Sacredfeather in the capital city. With each fraction of the energy absorbed, Sacredfeather’s presence became slightly stronger.

The great power in the essence blood was no longer enough to wreak havoc in Sacredfeather’s body now.

Atop the fifth divine hall, Jian Chen’s eyes shone as he suddenly swept his gaze across the sky.

In that moment, he could clearly sense that as the power of the Darkstar race’s bloodline strengthened in Sacredfeather’s body, the sky, or even the world, silently underwent some indescribable and minute changes.

And, he was certain that the reason for these changes arose from the rapidly-strengthening bloodline of the Darkstar race in Sacredfeather.

“Is this the residual power of the Grand Exalt of the Darkstar race? Or should I say it’s the Grand Exalt’s will? Some kind of indestructible will even upon death?” Jian Chen thought, but at this moment, his eyes suddenly narrowed, and he turned towards another direction, gazing at the horizon in the distance. A smear of surprise appeared in his eyes.

“How dare they!”

At the same time, the Darkstar Emperor who hovered above the Darkstar Divine Hall suddenly changed in expression. His expression that had remained relaxed the entire time immediately became filled with

wrath. With a fierce bellow, the Darkstar Emperor's figure had already vanished, appearing outside the capital city like he had teleported.

It was also at that moment that a speck of light suddenly appeared on the distant horizon. The light expanded at an unbelievable speed, growing to the same intensity as a scorching sun instantly. It hurtled towards the capital city with earth-shaking, terrifying power and speed that was even faster than lightning.

Only powerful Primordial realm experts could vaguely make out that the intense beam of light was a spear completely condensed from energy.

It was over three hundred meters long and radiated with a destructive presence, shooting over from the distance with indescribable speed. In the moment prior, it was on the distant horizon, but a moment later, it had already arrived outside the city.

"W- what is that?"

"Chaotic Prime, the strength of the energy has actually reached Chaotic Prime already. Impossible, how can an expert like that appear within our race..."

"It's the Hundred Saint City. The Hundred Saint City is making trouble behind our back. Damn it, to think that the Hundred Saint City has actually been hiding such an alarming attack. They're trying to destroy our great ceremony..."

"Bastards, once the great ceremony is over, I will definitely destroy the Hundred Saint City in person..."

"Kun Tian, the only reason why the Hundred Saint City still stands today is because of your protection. You're definitely liable for this incident..."

...

The ten divine halls were disturbed too. The various hall masters roared out furiously with twisted faces, and the seventh hall master Getti directed all the blame towards Jian Chen without the slightest hesitation.

Jian Chen's expression was strange. He completely ignored the accusations from the other hall masters.

"Your majesty, please ensure the great ceremony proceeds smoothly, or all the preparations and efforts our race has made through the years will go to waste." The Virtuous Sage of Heaven's voice rang out in the Darkstar Emperor's ear sternly.

The Darkstar Emperor said nothing. His face was stern, and his gaze was extremely cold. With a wave of his hand, a fist-sized seal immediately appeared. The seal expanded in the air, reaching over three hundred meters across in a single moment. It shone brilliantly as it directly collided with the three-hundred-meter-long spear with the might of a god artifact.

Boom!

With a deafening rumble, the Darkstar Emperor's seal was knocked away by the spear, but the energy in the spear weakened from the obstruction. However, that was not enough to disperse it.

In particular, the figure of the artifact spirit seemed to appear within the spear. Clearly, its mind had been affected, making it go crazy. It had actually left the Hundred Saint City, personally controlling the spear and charging over without any fear of death, wanting to take out the Darkstar race with it.

“Darkstar race, you deserve only death. Your entire race should go extinct...” the artifact spirit said madly. Its figure grew fainter and fainter as its power melded away, merging into the spear, which actually made the spear become mightier and mightier.

The artifact spirit cannibalised itself regardless of the consequences to temporarily make up for the energy lost during the collision with the seal.

Afterwards, the spear continued onwards without slowing down at all, thrusting towards the Darkstar Emperor blocking its path.

The Darkstar Emperor was stern as his eyes shone with cold killing intent. With a wave of his hand, a colossal, triangular shield descended from above, blocking the spear’s advance.

At the same time, his presence surged madly. Even though he was only a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime, he gave off the impression that he was a Chaotic Prime.

He spread his arms and energy immediately gushed out like tidal waves. He used his own energy to construct a powerful, protective barrier outside the capital city to prevent the city from being affected by the residual energies and thus impacting the procession of the great ceremony.

Afterwards, he directly appeared to the side of the triangular shield with a flash, directly sending a palm strike towards the spear like a bolt of lightning.