

## Chaotic 3001

### Chapter 3001: Cloudsurge and Rainflood (One)

However, following the shock, the successors gathered on the Martial Soul Mountain all realised the severity of the matter, which made all of them become stern.

“If that’s the case, attempting to get the Snow sect to release her through negotiation won’t work. The Snow sect’s end goal in capturing Shui Yunlan must be the Snow Goddess,” Hun Zang said sternly.

“If that’s the case, then what can we do? The Snow sect is the greatest sect on the Ice Pole Plane. They’re so powerful that they’re well beyond what our Martial Soul lineage can handle. How are we supposed to save her?” Yue Chao also frowned heavily. The Snow sect’s strength left the successors of the Martial Soul lineage all feeling very pressured.

“We can’t just stand by and do nothing as the Snow sect targets eighth junior brother’s family,” Su Qi said. She glanced past Chu Jian, Yue Chao, and Hun Zang and continued, “Senior brothers, you have the greatest seniority in the Martial Soul lineage. Can you think of any ways to help out our little junior brother?”

Chu Jian sighed gently with that. “This matter is easy to deal with if you want to think that way, but it’s also difficult if you want to think that way. At the end of the day, it’s still because we’re too weak and we’re not strong enough to contend with the Snow sect. Even unleashing the Martial Soul Formation won’t work. If we possess the great strength that can contend against the Snow sect, everything will be easy.”

“That’s right. If we want to avert the danger eighth junior brother’s family is facing, we need to find a supreme expert who can contend against the Snow sect,” said the first senior brother, Hun Zang. His eyes flickered with some hesitance and deliberation.

Afterwards, he sighed gently. “I need to leave here temporarily. Juniors, let’s activate the teleportation powers of the mountain soul again.”

“You’re leaving at a time like this? And we have to activate the power of the mountain soul? First senior brother, don’t tell me you have a way?” Everyone’s gazes had already gathered on Hun Zang.

“I’ll give it a try!” Hun Zang said gently. At that moment, his expression became rather mixed.

Soon afterwards, under the combined efforts of the successors, they activated the power of the mountain soul again. Through it, they immediately crossed a great distance and appeared in an unknown region of space.

“What’s this place?” Standing on the illusionary mountain soul, Qing Shan studied the surroundings and asked in doubt.

In this dark, icy-cold region of space, there was nothing apart from the stars that flickered in the distance and a few meteors. The entire region was silent.

“Wait here for me. I’ll be right back.”

Leaving that behind, Hun Zang left the mountain soul with a single step. With his cultivation at the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Chaotic Prime, he vanished in a mere few flashes. Who knew where he went off to in the depths of the sea of stars.

The seven other successors all stood on the mountain soul and gazed at one another in doubt.

Hun Zang travelled away from the mountain soul alone, speeding through the sea of stars. After crossing a distance that even he was unsure of, a tremendous piece of land floating in outer space finally appeared before his eyes.

Hun Zang travelled in a straight line, directly approaching the land.

The land happened to be one of the forty-nine major planes of the Saints' World, the Delight Plane.

The Delight Plane possessed an invincible organisation that was known to all, the Cloudsurge Empire.

The Cloudsurge Empire was so powerful that all the peak organisations on the plane feared it tremendously. It was even rumored that if all the organisations on the Delight Plane banded together, they would still come nowhere close to being the Cloudsurge Empire's opponent.

The reason why the Cloudsurge Empire was so powerful was not because they had a lot of Grand Primes. The most important reason was because the Cloudsurge Empire possessed a supreme figure who could sweep through the Delight Plane unmatched.

The Rain Abbess!

The Rain Abbess was so powerful that even if all the Grand Primes on the Delight Plane banded together, they would still stand no chance against her. It was exactly because of the Rain Abbess' existence that the Cloudsurge Empire became invincible on the Delight Plane, an organisation that no one dared to provoke.

At this moment, a figure silently appeared beyond the boundary of the Cloudsure Empire. He hovered several thousand meters in the air, gazing at the towering fortress that trailed like a dragon from very far away.

The figure was the first senior brother of the Martial Soul lineage, Hun Zang!

But at this moment, Hun Zang became emotionally perturbed. He gazed at the border stronghold of the Cloudsurge Empire before him, and his gaze became unprecedentedly mixed. It was extremely emotional, filled with melancholy.

He hovered there silently, gazing at the fortress from very far away, but he refused to move as if there was some kind of reason that prevented him from setting foot in the territory of the Cloudsurge Empire.

Time passed by silently. In the blink of an eye, fifteen minutes had passed. Because Hun Zang had kept his presence completely concealed, he seemed to have merged with the world, so no one discovered him even as the cultivators travelled to and from the fortress below.

"Sigh!" At this moment, Hun Zang let out a lengthy sigh. The sigh seemed to be filled with his mixed emotions, and it also demonstrated the deep feelings of helplessness and bitterness in his heart right now.

“I know I can’t keep my arrival a secret from you. I need your help with something,” Hun Zang said gently to the empty space.

He did not receive a reply. The atmosphere in the surroundings just seemed to suddenly freeze in a daze.

The wind stopped!

The energetic origin energy that filled the surroundings seemed to settle down too.

The surroundings, even the entire world, became extremely peaceful at that moment.

However, the peace did not last for very long. It was soon broken by drizzle.

Rain drifted through the air. The droplets were very small and never ending, nourishing the land and awakening the creatures like spring rain.

The moment the rain appeared, the various experts who stood at the apex of the plane in the various regions of the Delight Plane all opened their eyes. They stared at the world in alarm or surprise and sighed helplessly.

“It’s the Rain Abbess. This is the Rain Abbess’ ways.”

“What exactly happened that alarmed the Rain Abbess?”

All of the experts discovered that the steady drizzle had already enveloped the entire Delight Plane.

Beyond the border of the Cloudsurge Empire, Hun Zang remained exactly where he was. He did not stop the rain, allowing it to gradually drench his clothes. He only stared straight ahead with very mixed emotions, at the slender woman who had appeared before anyone had realised.

The woman seemed to be in her thirties. Even though she was already approaching her thirties when it came to her appearance, her charms still lingered. She was beautiful.

She appeared silently. She did not give off any presence, such that she seemed both like a mortal, yet also like a ghost.

However, she seemed much more like she had already become one with the entire world!

This woman was the unrivalled expert of the Delight Plane, the Rain Abbess!

The Rain Abbess said nothing. Her eyes that seemed to contain the endless ways landed on Hun Zang. Only after staring at him quietly for a while did she gently say, “Does the land, the empire, behind me really cause you so much fear? Such that you’d rather wait here painstakingly the entire time instead of taking a step forward?”

“Or should I say that the empire behind me is no longer qualified enough to accommodate for the esteemed identity of the greatest member of the Martial Soul lineage?”

### **Chapter 3002: Cloudsurge and Rainflood (Two)**

Hearing the Rain Abbess’s mocking words, Hun Zang’s expression became even more mixed, together with indescribable powerlessness.

He sighed gently with a multitude of emotions. “How can you say that?”

“How can I say that?” The Rain Abbess interrupted Hun Zang suddenly. Her eyes that were filled with mixed emotion became slightly sharp and cold. She sneered and said, “You’ve come to find me, yet you refuse to go through the main door. Instead, you wait here silently for me to come and see you?”

“Looks like your identity really has become special after becoming the greatest member of the Martial Soul lineage. You’ve become even more aloof than before. The esteemed status of being the greatest member of the Martial Soul lineage has already made you scorn the idea of setting foot in this tiny empire.”

The Rain Abbess turned around and glanced at the Cloudsurge Empire behind her. Her gaze seemed to pierce through space, taking in everything that the greatest organisation on the Delight Plane had to offer. Afterwards, she sighed gently. “Yeah, only the boundless sea of stars exists in the eyes of your Martial soul lineage. The land behind me is truly too small. It truly is nowhere near enough to accommodate you.”

“Fu Yu, why must you mock me like this? You should know that I bear a special duty as a successor of the Martial Soul lineage. Our Martial Soul lineage possesses our own place of belonging,” Hun Zang said. Guilt filled his gaze towards the Rain Abbess.

“In the past, I didn’t know the power in my possession was Martial Soul Force, nor did I know about the existence of the Martial Soul lineage. Only when I learnt about the Martial Soul Mountain and the history of the Martial Soul lineage did I truly understand something. As it turns out, the Martial Soul Mountain is our Martial Soul lineage’s final place of belonging.”

“Now, as the first senior brother of the Martial Soul lineage, there’s even more reason for me to serve as an example and take on protecting and continuing the Martial Soul lineage as my duty, until I die from exhaustion...”

“Is the Martial Soul lineage really that important in your heart?”

The Rain Abbess suddenly became emotional. Tears suddenly rippled in her eyes that had always been so cold as she said, “Do you still remember that in the lower world, you were still a parentless child? You relied on the charity of some old people in the village to get by each day, sometimes even going without meals. You spent every single day starving, so hungry that you were just skin and bones.”

“As for me, I was only a spiritual fish that had recently developed intelligence in the vast ocean. Back then, while I had developed intelligence, I had no cultivation at all, nor did I know how to cultivate. In the end, due to an accident, I was caught by a fisherman and brought to the tiny village where you lived...” the Rain Abbess said slowly.

Her eyes shimmered with tears while her expression was extremely complicated. There was recollection, reminiscence, as well as sighs.

Hun Zang became melancholic with that too. As if he had opened a buried box of ancient memories, he let out a deep sigh. “Of course, I still remember that. I can even clearly recall the appearance of the old man who caught you on the shore. Back then, I called him grandpa Hu. Grandpa Hu had been very

hostile to me since I was very young, as I regularly slipped into his home and ate his things. There was one time when I even accidentally broke the fishing net he had laid out to dry.”

“Actually, I didn’t want that to happen either. It was just that my parents passed away when I was young, and I was still a child, so I lacked the ability to live by myself. When I got hungry, I slipped into the homes of others to find food to eat almost out of instinct, or I relied on the villagers’ charity, picking up some scraps left behind by others to fill my belly.”

“I can still remember when I first met you. You were still a glistening spiritual fish. Grandpa Hu had just caught you from the ocean, and you were struggling desperately in grandpa Hu’s fishing net. Back then, you were so pitiful and helpless. I even knew your fate already...”

“The people in the village all recognised you as an extremely-rare spiritual fish, and they all became extremely happy. They discussed how they would deal with the spiritual fish.”

“Some said that the spiritual fish possessed spiritual Qi. By eating the spiritual fish, it would bring great benefit to the body. Others said that they should sell the spiritual fish to the officials in the city so that they could use the money from the sale to improve everyone’s lives...”

“In the end, I slipped into grandpa Hu’s home again when the entire village went to sleep with the wonderful prospects of the future in mind. I stole the spiritual fish before releasing it back into the ocean.”

“I never thought that it would actually infuriate the entire village. None of the uncles and aunties in the village spared me because of my young age. In the end, I received a fierce beating from them, and they chased me away mercilessly.”

“The hamlet was located by the ocean and extremely remote, without a single human in sight even within several hundred kilometers. I limped my way out of the village before fainting on the beach in the end from hunger.”

“Originally, I never would have awoken again after falling unconscious, but because of you, I didn’t die.”

“I can still remember it even now. You would always dive to the bottom of the ocean at the cost of tremendous effort. Then you would bring some spiritual fluid back up in your mouth and spray it on my wounds. The spiritual fluid healed my injuries...”

“I still couldn’t fish alone back then. The fish had always been so nimble, vanishing with a single flex of their tails. Not only was I clumsy, but I was slow too, so I obviously could not catch a single fish. I didn’t even have the ability to keep myself alive.”

“I was saved by you yet again. You would bring back some small fish and toss them before me every single day, giving them to me so I wouldn’t starve to death on the beach...”

“I gradually grew up and possessed the ability to fish for myself. I could thrive alone. However, I was still a mortal. What truly changed my fate was still you...”

“This time, you came to find me with a jade slip in your mouth and you left the jade slip with me. It was exactly because of the jade slip’s existence that my fate changed completely.”

“The jade slip recorded a cultivation method. Through cultivation, I grew stronger and stronger, more and more powerful. I finally began to change from a feeble mortal, becoming an expert who could raise storms step by step.

“After I become powerful, you brought me into the ocean and we found a palace in an extremely secretive location at the bottom of the sea...”

“It was just a palace to my understanding back then, but I know now that it was actually a divine hall...”

“It was also you who lead me into the divine hall, allowing me to obtain numerous fortunes from the divine hall, even allowing me to personally witness the moment you turned into a human. Afterwards, we cultivated together and roamed the world together...”

Hun Zang did not continue. He sat in the air and gazed at the magnificent landscape in the distance. His emotions surged. He was deeply touched.

### Chapter 3003: Cloudsurge and Rainflood (Three)

The Rain Abbess’s eyes were also filled with reminiscence. She stared straight at Hun Zang and said, “Ever since then, we spent every moment together, like each other’s shadows. If there were enemies, we fought them together. If there was danger, we faced it together. If there was fortune, we enjoyed it together. Even if there was death, we would... perish... together.”

“Through countless years, we experienced wind and rain together and survived who knew how many disasters and hardships. We had also once stepped over the corpses of countless enemies, hand in hand...”

“Over all these years, we never argued even once. We never had any disputes, as I listened to whatever you said. I never doubted you or disagreed with you. If you went east, I would never go west...”

“Only afterwards did I realise that the emotions we developed through countless years of wind and rain, through many brushes with death, were actually worth nothing to you...”

“You actually cast aside these feelings without the slightest hesitation for a Martial Soul Mountain, for the group of successors on the Martial Soul Mountain that you’ve never met and you don’t even know the backgrounds and pasts of.”

“Fan Yun, is this how you’re going to pay me back?” Translucent tears filled the Rain Abbess’ eyes. She was grief-stricken.

Hun Zang’s expression was extremely mixed. There was a deep sense of guilt. “Fu Yu, I haven’t forgotten for even a moment that I was only able to go from the child who almost starved to death in the hamlet to where I am today because of your help. However, you can’t always get what you want. My duty forces me to make another choice, which is to protect Martial Soul Mountain and ensure that the Martial Soul lineage continues.”

The Rain Abbess seemed to be deeply triggered by that. Powerful presence suddenly erupted from her. She roared at Hun Zang with fury and grief, “Martial Soul Mountain, Martial Soul Mountain. Only the Martial Soul Mountain exists in your eyes. If that’s the case, why don’t you piss off back to your Martial Soul Mountain?”

With a wave of her hand, fierce winds immediately began whistling through the surroundings. A tremendous energy suddenly surged forth with unstoppable force, launching Hun Zang away effortlessly.

The Rain Abbess had already disappeared by then.

Hun Zang stabilised himself several hundred kilometers away. He was pained as he said to the empty air, "I know you hate me very much inside, but there's something that I have to shamelessly come and find you for. Our Martial Soul lineage requires your assistance."

Hun Zang did not receive a reply. Actually, he was already almost a thousand kilometers away from the border of the Cloudsurge Empire.

However, Hun Zang continued, "Our Martial Soul lineage is about to face the greatest organisation of the Ice Pole Plane, the Snow sect, in a vicious battle. The Snow sect is so powerful that it's guaranteed defeat for our Martial Soul lineage, so I wanted to..." Reaching there, Hun Zang faltered. After a moment of hesitation, as if he had made up his mind, he said, "Whatever. The current me is no longer qualified to ask you to help out. Our Martial Soul lineage will deal with this matter ourselves." Determination filled Hun Zang's eyes. With that, he turned around to leave without lingering around for even a moment longer.

He left extremely decisively and straightforwardly, without any reluctance. There was only determination!

Bang!

With a thump, Hun Zang's figure appeared again. He seemed to have run into an invisible barrier, completely bouncing back.

The space where he resided had already been sealed up before he knew it. Extremely powerful Laws of Space restrained the region, turning it into a prison.

The Rain Abbess appeared silently before Hun Zang. At that moment, her face was completely sunken. Even her eyes shone in a threatening manner. She seemed extremely terrifying.

"What are you planning to do?" the Rain Abbess asked. She had basically asked that through gritted teeth, squeezing out each syllable. She had firmly clenched her smooth, fair hands as her entire body shook gently, clearly already utterly furious.

In particular, her gaze was terrifying, seeming as if she was about to kill someone.

She understood Hun Zang all too well. She could already tell what Hun Zang planned on doing next from what he said, which immediately set off her fury. It made her livid.

"Another one of your successors has some conflict with the Snow sect, so you plan on sending yourself to your own doom by confronting the Snow sect like a moth to a flame?" The Rain Abbess' voice was extremely cold, filled with undisguised hatred.

"Our Martial Soul lineage is one whole. There is no you or me. The matter of any successor is the matter of the entire Martial Soul lineage. Any of their enemies is also our entire Martial Soul lineage's enemy..." Hun Zang said in a forthright manner.

“The Icecloud Founding Ancestor of the Snow sect can take on a Seventh Heavenly Layer Grand Prime in battle. Your Martial Soul lineage is simply walking to its own death,” the Rain Abbess said coldly.

“I know, but I’ve said that our Martial Soul lineage is one whole. We will never just stand by and watch any of us die. If the need arises, we’ll even stop them, but this isn’t something we can stop, as I can already tell that this junior brother of mine is ready to cast his life aside.”

“Since that’s the case, all our Martial Soul lineage can do is provide him with our full support,” said Hun Zang.

The Rain Abbess said nothing. She only stared straight at Hun Zang, without looking away for even a moment. Her fury seemed to freeze up.

A while later, as if she had lost all of her strength, all of the presence the Rain Abbess had amassed suddenly vanished. With a face full of loneliness and solitude, she staggered through the air, walking past Hun Zan at a steady pace. She made her way off into the distance step by step, vanishing into the territory of the Cloudsurge Empire in the end. Only a voice filled with endless sorrow and great disappointment lingered in the air.

“You can go...”

.....

...

In a region of space extremely distant from the Delight Plane, the mountain soul of the Martial Soul Mountain hovered silently. The seven successors waiting there were bored to death, voicing their curiosities.

“Hey, hey, hey, what do you think first senior brother is thinking? He’s told us to wait here, while he himself has vanished off to who knows where. What’s this all about?” Su Qi played around with a branch in her hand out of boredom and asked the people beside her.

“First senior brother probably knows some supreme expert, and the supreme expert is hidden nearby. First senior brother has probably left to invite this supreme expert to fight with us,” Chu Jian said, voicing his guess.

“First senior brother knows a supreme expert, and he’ll hide it from us? He’s not loyal to us at all.” Su Qi pouted, extremely displeased with this.

“Enough, junior sister. Stop grumbling about first senior brother. Perhaps first senior brother has something painful that he cannot disclose, or perhaps the supreme expert is unsociable and doesn’t want any more people knowing. Anyway, we have to believe in first senior brother. No matter what happens, we have to believe in him,” Yue Chao said seriously.

“This place is quite close to the Delight Plane,” Jian Chen’s voice suddenly rang out. He checked the star chart against the surrounding landscape and grasped their location very soon.

“The Delight Plane? Don’t tell me that first senior brother has gone to the Delight Plane?” Qing Shan was surprised and blurted that out subconsciously.

Jian Chen said nothing. He simply stared off into the direction of the Delight Plane in thought.

“Probably not. The greatest expert of the Delight Plane, the Rain Abbess, is only a Fifth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. She might stand a chance against the Sixth Heavenly Layer, but she definitely can’t hold off the Icecloud Founding Ancestor of the Snow sect.” Bai Rufeng rejected that thought.

Soon after Bai Rufeng had finished talking, a figure suddenly flickered in the distance. Very soon, Hun Zang returned to the mountain soul.

“First senior brother, just where did you go? Did you find some powerful reinforcements already...”

The successors of the Martial Soul lineage immediately began questioning Hun Zang as soon as he returned.

However, Hun Zang was reluctant to go into detail. He said, “Stop asking. C’mon, let’s go straight to the Ice Pole Plane!”

Chapter 3004: The Heavenly Crane Clan’s Decision

The seven other successors of the Martial Soul lineage could not help but look at each other when they saw Hun Zang’s irregular expression. They were all surprised and uncertain.

They had known Hun Zang for all this time, but they had never seen him with an expression like that.

The seven successors all stayed put. Their gazes all gathered on Hun Zang, unable to hide their concern and worry for him.

Hun Zang’s expression made the thoughts of these clueless successors wander. They thought of various negative matters.

Had he failed to find a powerful ally?

Had he been mocked or insulted?

Or had the other party put forward some kind of unreasonable demand?

In short, the change in Hun Zang’s mood after returning sent a negative signal to the other successors. They could not help but fall into a protective rage for Hun Zang as they worried for him inside.

Jian Chen glanced past the other people and sighed gently. “Senior brothers and sisters, just leave the matter of the Snow sect to me to deal with. The Snow sect might be very powerful, but it’s not like I’m helpless against them.”

“Eighth junior brother, what are you saying?”

Hun Zang immediately glared at Jian Chen with what he had said, but he also noticed there was something wrong with everyone else’s expressions at this moment, so he immediately realised his irregularities had led to misunderstandings.

Hun Zang sucked in a deep breath and dismissed his mixed feelings. He said, “Stop wondering. Don’t worry, I’ve already found an expert who’ll keep the Icecloud Founding Ancestor busy.”

“If that’s the case, why are you still so glum, first senior brother? You even made us think you had just suffered some kind of injustice, making us worry,” Su Qi grumbled.

“Hehe, you’ve been overthinking. I only recalled some matters of the past, which made my mind fluctuate a little. C’mon, let’s activate the power of the mountain soul. We’ll go to the Ice Pole Plane right now,” said Hun Zang.

“Right now? First senior brother, where is the expert you invited? Aren’t they going to come with us?”

“Don’t worry about her. She’ll come.” Hun Zang was reluctant to go into detail about this. Afterwards, he immediately controlled the power of the mountain soul with the other successors and crossed through the distant space, returning to the Martial Soul Mountain.

After returning to the mountain, they immediately gathered the mountain soul’s power again to teleport them to the Ice Pole Plane.

The power of the mountain soul could only offer them one return trip with teleportation. If they wanted to teleport again, they had to return to the Martial Soul Mountains and condense new power.

Under Jian Chen’s request, the mountain soul did not appear on the Ice Pole Plane directly. Instead, it appeared in a region of space extremely distant from the Ice Pole Plane. Afterwards, Jian Chen left the mountain soul alone and headed to the Ice Pole Plane.

Although Hun Zang had already found a supreme expert who could hold off the Icecloud Founding Ancestor, it was nowhere near enough if he wanted to contend against the Snow sect, as the Snow sect had another Sixth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime apart from the Icecloud Founding Ancestor.

As a result, he needed to find even more allies. Only then would he have even greater confidence in overwhelming the Snow sect and saving Shui Yunlan through force.

Very soon, Jian Chen appeared on the Ice Pole Plan. Then, he proceeded straight to the Heavenly Crane clan without even stopping.

At the same time, ancestor Lan had already gathered the two other ancestors of the Heavenly Crane clan, ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian. She told the two of them about how an expert of the Snow sect had captured Shui Yunlan without holding back any details.

“Right now, Shui Yunlan is the only one who knows the whereabouts of the Snow Goddess. Having suddenly captured Shui Yunlan, the Snow sect has already clearly stated their intentions. Now is the time for our Heavenly Crane clan to make its decision. Do we just stand by and watch as the Snow Goddess’s reincarnation suffers at the hand of the Snow sect? Or do we strike decisively and save Shui Yunlan from the Snow sect?” ancestor Lan said expressionlessly. Her beautiful voice was filled with bone-chilling coldness, as if it could seal up the land in frost.

Ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian became extremely stern with that. They fell into a very long silence before ancestor Shi, who had the appearance of an old man, spoke up, “But it’s no different from grossly overestimating ourselves if we try and contend against the Snow sect given our strength. After all, the three of us only stand a chance against Seventh Heavenly Layer Grand Primes after we’ve ingested Ancestral Blood pills and if we unleash a formation together. On the other hand, the Icecloud Founding Ancestor alone possessed the battle prowess of a Seventh Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. The Snow sect

doesn't just have the Icecloud Founding Ancestor either. They have three other Grand Primes. The difference in strength is so great, so how will we ever stand a chance against the Snow sect?"

Ancestor Tian nodded in agreement with what ancestor Shi said. He said solemnly, "That's correct. We'll only be digging our own graves if we try to fight the Snow sect given our strength. We're more than willing, but we're limited by our circumstances unfortunately."

"In other words, the two of you plan on standing by?" ancestor Lan asked casually.

Ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian exchanged glances before both staring at ancestor Lan. They asked, "Ancestor Lan, you mean?"

Ancestor Lan gazed into the distance. She sighed gently, "The Ice Pole Plane has already been chaotic for long enough. Even the Hefeng clan that was on par with us in strength faced destruction during these years of chaos. If this continues, there'll probably be a day in the future when our Heavenly Crane clan follows the Hefeng clan's footsteps as well."

"After all, our Heavenly Crane clan is already facing the threat of the Heaven's sect. Once that person of the Heaven's sect breaks through to the Seventh Heavenly Layer, they can attack us at any time. Although the Ancestral Blood pills we've refined from the Soil of Divine Blood can bestow us with the strength to contend against the Seventh Heavenly Layer, we're still depending on external items at the end of the day. Ancestral Blood pills are consumable too. Once we run out of Ancestral Blood pills, how will we stand a chance against the Seventh Heavenly Layer?"

"Our Ice Pole Plane needs a supreme expert far too greatly. Since the Snow Goddess's reincarnation has appeared, that's a fantastic opportunity. Once the Snow Goddess returns, all of the turmoil on our Ice Pole Plane will be resolved in the process. Once we have her majesty the Ice Goddess, the Heaven's sect won't even think of making trouble with the Ice Pole Plane even if they were a hundred times bolder."

"And the Flame Reverend too. He'll stop being a threat."

With that, both ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian fell silent. They understood that ancestor Lan's words were correct. Once the Ice Pole Plane had the Snow Goddess, then they would recover the same peace as the past after several million years of turmoil.

On the contrary, if the Ice Pole Plane remained chaotic and the reincarnation of the Snow Goddess suffered a diabolical fate, then no one would know just how many more great upheavals would occur on the Ice Pole Plane.

Among these great upheavals, none of them could predict whether the Heavenly Crane clan would come to an end.

However, as soon as they remembered the Snow sect's strength, the two of them became fearful.

Ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian could not even see the faintest hope against the Snow sect.

### **Chapter 3005: Seen Through**

Ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian fell into a very lengthy silence. They seemed to be extremely conflicted inside. During that time, they constantly exchanged glances and shared their opinions secretly. In the end, as if they had made some kind of decision, they both looked at ancestor Lan and said with difficulty,

“Little Lan, you can decide this matter. We’ll listen to whatever you decide. If you insist on opposing the Snow sect in order to protect the Snow Goddess, we’ll both support you.”

“That’s right. Little Lan, you can decide whether our Heavenly Crane clan goes to war or not, as what you’ve said is very reasonable. Our Ice Pole Plane requires either the Ice Goddess or the Snow Goddess to achieve complete peace. Otherwise, let alone our Heavenly Crane clan, even the Snow sect might suddenly meet its end one day like the Hefeng clan. Despite being a peak organisation that has existed for countless years, weren’t they still wiped from the world like they stood no chance?” ancestor Tian said. As soon as he thought of the Hefeng clan’s fate, he sighed inside, feeling sympathy for their fate.

Because of the Ice and Snow Goddesses eccentricity, they had no friends, much less allies, in the Saints’ World. As such, no one assisted them during their current trouble.

However, some of the native organisations were still willing to go to war for the Ice and Snow Goddess, to go through fire and water for them.

The Heavenly Crane clan was clearly one of them.

After ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian expressed their thoughts, ancestor Lan instead fell quiet. Her eyes flickered away as she considered the situation.

She understood that her next decision would affect the fate of countless clansmen in the Heavenly Crane clan. It would also affect the fate of the clan itself.

If she mishandled it, then the Heavenly Crane clan would probably follow the Hefeng clan’s footsteps very soon.

At this moment, ancestor Lan suddenly thought of Jian Chen. She could not help but wonder, “How is he going? If he can get the Empyrean Demon Lord on his side, then it’ll be more than enough to deal with the Snow sect given the Empyrean Demon Lord’s strength. Right now, all we lack is a supreme expert who can contend against the Icecloud Founding Ancestor of the Snow sect.”

However, as soon as she had thought of that, ancestor Lan’s expression suddenly changed. She had already sensed that Jian Chen had returned despite leaving just earlier.

“Ancestor Shi, ancestor Tian, please wait a moment. I’ll be right back!” Ancestor Lan took her leave with that.

On the Soaring Snow peak of the three great ancestral peaks of the Heavenly Crane clan, Jian Chen met with ancestor Lan once more after disguising himself again.

“Yang Yutian, have you achieved anything this time? Has the Empyrean Demon Lord agreed to help you out?” Ancestor Lan directly asked away as soon as she saw Jian Chen.

Although the senses of ancestor Lan’s soul could easily envelope the entire Ice Pole Plane and even extend off into outer space, no one had the leisure to maintain the senses of their souls at all times, as that would only lead to pointless exhaustion. As a result, she had no idea Jian Chen had already left the Ice Pole Plane once in such a short time.

“The Empyrean Demon Lord is preoccupied.” Jian Chen shook his head.

Ancestor Lan immediately became disappointed with that. Without the Empyrean Demon Lord to keep the Icecloud Founding Ancestor busy, it would be almost impossible for their Heavenly Crane clan to protect the Snow Goddess.

However, ancestor Lan discovered very soon that something was off about Jian Chen's expression. Her eyes immediately twinkled. "Seeing how calm you are, you must have achieved something else?"

Jian Chen smiled faintly and clasped his fist. "You've guessed correctly, ancestor Lan. I might not have recruited the Empyrean Demon Lord, but I have recruited another powerful ally. The Icecloud Founding Ancestor already has an expert to keep her busy."

"Who?" Ancestor Lan's eyes immediately exploded with interest. Her gaze towards Jian Chen bore a smear of disbelief.

In the next moment, the senses of an extremely powerful soul radiated from ancestor Lan, enveloping the entire Ice Pole Plane in a single moment. After sweeping across the entire plane once, it directly pierced through the sky and extended towards the cosmos beyond the Ice Pole Plane.

The senses of ancestor Lan's soul were extremely powerful. It reached all the way to the depths of the sea of stars before discovering something. Her expression changed slightly before all the senses of her soul immediately rushed back like the tide, having been withdrawn.

"The Martial Soul lineage? I've actually found traces of the Martial Soul lineage in outer space?" Ancestor Lan stared at Jian Chen in interest. "You've recruited the people of the Martial Soul lineage?"

Jian Chen also became shocked. The mountain soul's location was extremely distant from the Ice Pole Plane. He never thought ancestor Lan could still detect it from so far away.

Just how powerful were the senses of ancestor Lan's soul?

However, since she had seen through it, there was no point in hiding it any more. Jian Chen directly admitted to it. "That's right. The Martial Soul lineage will be directly participating in the rescue operation."

Ancestor Lan's gaze became extremely deep. She gazed at Jian Chen deeply and said slowly, "The status of the Martial Soul lineage is extremely special in the Saints' World. They're not powerful, but they can appear and disappear elusively anywhere in the Saints' World through the Martial Soul mountain, so most organisations are reluctant to offend this special group of people if they do not have any particularly large grievances."

"However, the Martial Soul lineage would never provoke those tremendous organisations that they can't afford to provoke without good reason either. They will never do it even in the face of tremendous remuneration. Their lineage is very special. Their demand for the various items of the Saints' World is nowhere near as great as other cultivators. The Martial Soul mountain is what they truly depend on."

"As a result, even with all the rare items you've obtained from the Darkstar World, it's impossible for you to recruit the Martial Soul Mountain and make them oppose the Snow sect whose strength far surpasses theirs. That's no different from walking to their own demise for the Martial Soul Mountain."

“According to my understanding of the Martial Soul Mountain, the only time when they will throw themselves at an enemy even stronger than them, without any regard for their own lives, is when one of their successors faces life-threatening danger. That’s also the only moment when all the successors of the Martial Soul lineage will provide support without the slightest regard. Even when they know it’ll only result in death, they won’t care...”

Reaching there, ancestor Lan paused. She let out a deep sigh. “The Martial Soul lineage is a strange lineage, as well as a lineage completely beyond reason in the eyes of numerous experts of the Saints’ World. Throughout the history of the Saints’ World, the Martial Soul lineage has been exterminated several times, but it was actually possible for them to avoid many of these incidents. In the end, just because they refused to give up on any of their successors, their lineage was broken.”

Ancestor Lan’s gaze suddenly sharpened as if she could stare through souls. “Yang Yutian, should I call you Jian Chen? Or should I continue to refer to you as Yang Yutian?”

“Don’t try to weasel your way out of here. You’re able to recruit the Martial Soul lineage, which can only mean you’re also a member of the Martial Soul lineage...”

### **Chapter 3006: Wu Han**

Jian Chen was not surprised when ancestor Lan saw through his identity, as Jian Chen knew from the moment ancestor Lan discovered the Martial Soul lineage that he could not keep his identity hidden anymore.

“Ancestor Lan, you better continue calling me Yang Yutian, As for my true identity, I can’t expose it for now due to some special reasons.” Jian Chen clasped his fist. He had always been vigilant about the Myriad Bone Guild. He had no idea whether the Myriad Bone Guild would try to harm him a second time either, so he had to keep his true identity a secret.

As long as his true identity remained hidden, “Jian Chen’ would forever be a corpse in the Myriad Bone Guild’s understanding.

On the other hand, if he revealed his identity prematurely, who knew what other schemes the Myriad Bone Guild would come up with. In particular, at this critical juncture when they were about to declare war against the Snow sect, he could not afford any new problems to crop up unexpectedly. There was no reason for him to provoke a powerful enemy like the Myriad Bone Guild for no reason.

Jian Chen did not exactly have a full understanding of the Myriad Bone Guild, but it was good enough. They were a terrifying force completely on par with the Flame Reverend.

“I probably can’t keep my true identity hidden for much longer, but even if it gets exposed, it needs to be after I save Shui Yunlan,” Jian Chen thought. Lies could not be hidden away forever. In particular, with the Martial Soul lineage entering the battle, it obviously amplified his risk of being exposed. He had already mentally prepared himself for this a long time ago.

Afterwards, Jian Chen told ancestor Lan everything about how the Martial Soul lineage had found an expert to fend off the Icecloud Founding Ancestor.

With that, ancestor Lan’s frown finally eased up. She became relaxed. “That’s fantastic. If that’s the case, then our success rate should be eighty percent or higher.”

“We still have to discuss the exact details of the operation next...”

Afterwards, Jian Chen discussed the details of the operation with the Heavenly Crane clan as the representative of the Martial Soul lineage. After settling everything, he left the Heavenly Crane clan and ventured into outer space again. He passed on the details of their operation he had agreed on with ancestor Lan to his senior brothers and sisters of the Martial Soul lineage.

As for ancestor Lan, she returned to ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian and directly said to them, “We’ve already found a powerful ally against the Snow sect, so I’ve decided to participate alone. You two can watch the Heavenly Crane clan.”

“Little Lan...” Ancestor Shi and ancestor Tian’s faces changed slightly with that. Ancestor Lan stopped them the moment they tried to convince her otherwise. “Ancestor Shi, ancestor Tian, there’s no need for you to say anything more. I’ve only decided on participating alone after deep consideration.”

“Even if this succeeds, we’ll basically have interfered with the Snow Goddess’s matters. Given the Snow Goddess’s eccentric personality, she won’t consider our meritorious service. Once she returns, we’ll definitely face the Snow Goddess’ punishment.”

“Since we already have enough strength to contend against the Snow sect, I’ll temporarily leave the Heavenly Crane clan and carry out the rescue as an independent cultivator. That way, even if the Snow Goddess returns in the future, she can only punish me. The clan won’t be dragged in.”

“I’ve already made up my mind. There’s no need for you to say anything more...”

.....

At the same time, in the greatest organisation on the Ice Pole Plane, the Snow sect!

Within the Snow sect, there was a forbidden ground known as the Prison of Ice. The expressions of all the disciples in the Snow sect would change at the thought of the Prison of Ice.

This was a special place for locking up those who had committed great offences against the sect or great sins. Perhaps calling it a land of punishment was more accurate than labelling it as a prison.

The coldness that permeated the Prison of Ice contained a power of great yin and poison. Once the coldness infiltrated someone, not only would the prisoners experience pain like ants were gnawing away at their hearts, but even their souls would be tortured too.

Under this torture, even people as great as Primordial realm experts would find it difficult to bear with.

There had been many of these Primordial realm experts who had committed great mistakes in the history of the Snow sect. In the end, they were forcefully tortured to death in the Prison of Ice, their souls collapsing and disintegrating.

At this moment, in the depths of the Prison of Ice, there was a place enveloped by a powerful barrier. The barrier was so great that even regular Grand Primes would struggle to breach it.

It seemed to be a living hell within the barrier. Miserable howls rang out, the voices sharp and hoarse, filled with extreme agony that could not be described with words. It was impossible to tell whether it came from a woman or a man from how distorted the voices were.

It was a woman in white. Her messy, long hair completely obscured her face, making it impossible to see who she was. There were many holes in her clothes, revealing large portions of her smooth skin.

But at this moment, the woman's skin was unnaturally pale-white. At a closer glance, it was not difficult to see that eerie coldness constantly infiltrated her body.

Not only did the coldness cause her great harm, but it also caused her agony like she was in a living hell. As a result, she would tremble uncontrollably whenever the coldness infiltrated her body, making her howl in pain.

Her voice had already become hoarse as if her throat was gradually ripping apart as she constantly howled in pain. As such, even speaking became extremely difficult for her despite the presence of a Primordial realm expert she gave off.

"Hehehehe..."

At this moment, a crisp, pleasant, and slightly enchanting laughter rang out. An enchanting lady who seemed to be in her twenties stood gracefully before the tortured woman.

However, despite her alluring appearance, her current expression clearly seemed rather vicious.

The vicious expression on her enchanting face seemed to stand in stark contrast, completely destroying the beauty that her face should have possessed.

The woman let out a chime-like laughter, but coldness filled her eyes. She sneered. "Shui Yunlan, my good sister, just give up. You better tell me obediently where you've hidden the Snow Goddess. If you tell me quickly, you'll face a little less torture too."

At this moment, the woman who had been tortured to the point of desiring death raised her head with difficulty, which revealed a slight bit of her beautiful yet pale-white face.

She was Shui Yunlan!

"Wu Han, you traitor. Don't even think about... getting even a word... of information... about her majesty... from me," Shui Yunlan said hoarsely and through gritted teeth. Her voice was all broken up as if every single word she uttered required her full strength.

Chapter 3007: Visiting the Snow Sect

Wu Han smiled. Her smile was clearly so beautiful, yet it gave off an eerie and terrifying feeling, enough to make people shiver. "Shui Yunlan, you're still holding on desperately even now. Though, the Soul Devouring pill will be refined very soon. I think you understand exactly what a Soul Devouring pill's functions are. Once you ingest the pill, do you think you can still protect any of the secrets in your heart?"

Fear appeared in Shui Yunlan's eyes when she heard the Soul Devouring pill. She immediately wanted to end her life then and there. She would rather die than expose the Snow Goddess's hiding place.

However, she was completely restrained, and all of her powers had been sealed up, so she could not even commit suicide.

All she could do was stare straight at Wu Han with utter hatred and detest from her very bones. “Wu Han, you traitor. I curse you to a horrible death. I find it regrettable! I find it regrettable that you didn’t die at the Emyrean Demon Lord’s hands!”

“Oh my. You’re talking about the person behind the Emyrean Demon Cult, aren’t you? He really is extremely powerful, and he’s the only person left that’s bold enough to publicly oppose sir Flame Reverend. He killed his way into the Ice Goddess Hall alone and single-handedly destroyed all of sir Flame Reverend’s arrangements, slaying many experts under sir Flame Reverend’s command. Even that dead bastard Nan Potian could not get away.”

“Unfortunately for you, I’ve been blessed by the heavens. When the Emyrean Demon Lord killed his way into the Ice Goddess Hall, I just happened to be out, handling some matters. I wasn’t in the Ice Goddess Hall, which was why I survived.”

“Great blessings really do follow if you survive a great disaster. Right when I thought all the organisations the Flame Reverend left behind were destroyed and I faced despair, I didn’t expect to run into the Icepeer Founding Ancestor of the Snow sect. It was exactly the Icepeer Founding Ancestor who gave me new hope.”

Wu Han crouched down in front of Shui Yunlan slowly and gently lifted her chin with a slender finger. Gazing into Shui Yunlan’s hateful eyes, Wu Han could not help but smile resplendently. “Shui Yunlan, my good sister of the past, aren’t you curious why someone just happened to be lurking in the dark when you secretly entered the Ice Goddess Hall? You must be filled with doubt and confusion. How had the people of the Snow sect grasped that you would definitely go to the Ice Goddess Hall?”

“All of this is because I told the Icepeer Founding Ancestor. Shui Yunlan, as my good sister of many years, I understand you far too well. From the moment your name vanished from the Godkings’ Throne, I knew you had returned, and I was certain you would come to the Ice Pole Plane very soon.”

“Perhaps you were already on the Ice Pole Plane.”

“It was just that senior Flame Reverend’s people had already occupied the Ice Goddess Hall, so you wanted to come, but you dared not to. Only towards the end, when something happened in the Ice Goddess Hall due to the Emyrean Demon Lord, where the organisations of the Flame Reverend collapsed in one fell swoop, did you finally find the opportunity to enter the Ice Goddess Hall.”

“My good sister, it’s a pity that you underestimated me far too much. I had already calculated that you would do this long before, so after the Ice Founding Ancestor accepted me, I told the Icepeer Founding Ancestor to send someone into the Ice Goddess Hall beforehand so that they could wait for you to come to them. Hahahahaha!”

Wu Han could not help but laugh aloud. Seeing how Shui Yunlan had fallen into her trap in the end, Wu Han felt a deep sense of achievement and satisfaction, as if everything in the world was within her grasp.

“So it was your idea. Wu Han, I sure have underestimated you.” At this moment, an old voice rang out from behind. An old man with a bamboo hat walked over slowly from afar with his hands behind his back. He seemed to traverse through space with each step, such that he moved extremely quickly despite his slow pace.

The old man's arrival immediately made Wu Han compose herself. She turned around and bowed towards the old man. "Greetings, elder Xie! You must be joking, elder Xie. I only used some petty tricks. How could such inferior methods catch the great eye of elder Xie?"

The old man with the bamboo hat looked at Wu Han deeply before swinging his hand. A jade bottle immediately flew out. At the same time, he said, "The Soul Devouring pill has already been refined. Feed it to Shui Yunlan. After she eats the Soul Devouring pill, it'll take ten hours at most before she completely loses her mind and is subjected to the pill's influence."

Wu Han grabbed the jade bottle, and her eyes shone slightly. After a slight hesitation, she said, "If it's only the Soul Devouring pill, it'll be difficult to push its effects to the limit. On top of that, the effects of the pill take quite a while before showing themselves. I'll have to wait several hours. If I have the Soul Stunning Bell as well, it'll be a perfect combination. I'll be able to completely unleash the effects of the Soul Devouring pill in a few seconds."

"You can forget about the Soul Stunning Bell. It's with the Icecloud Founding Ancestor. Right now, all we have is the Soul Devouring pill," elder Xie said coldly from under his bamboo hat that obscured his appearance.

"Then I'll just go with the Soul Devouring pill. It'll take a little longer at most." Wu Han dared not to say anything more. She forcefully shoved the Soul Devouring pill into Shui Yunlan's mouth.

At the same time, outside the Prison of Ice, the formations around the Snow sect opened wide. A rainbow bridge extended through the air. One end was located outside the sect, while the other end reached all the way to the forbidden grounds deep within the Snow sect.

At the same time, colourful snowflakes drifted down from above. Gentle, beautiful music appeared too.

All the disciples of the Snow sect immediately understood that an expert with an extraordinary identity had come to visit the Snow sect, such that even the Snow sect had to hold such a large welcoming ceremony for them.

Two figures travelled together on the rainbow bridge, following the bridge all the way into the depths of the Snow sect.

One of them was ancestor Lan of the Heavenly Crane clan, except she was wrapped in cold mist, only revealing a hazy figure. Her appearance was obscured.

An old man followed behind ancestor Lan.

The upper echelon of the Snow sect was not unfamiliar with the old man, as he was a great elder of the Heavenly Crane clan, He Qianchi!

"Ancestor Lan of the Heavenly Crane clan has come to visit. Though, what kind of luck is it that old codger He Qianchi is here today? He's actually come with ancestor Lan."

"He's actually fortunate enough to visit our Snow sect with ancestor Lan. Looks like He Qianchi's status in the Heavenly Crane clan has been elevated by quite a lot."

Many great elders of the Snow sect also appeared on the two ends of the rainbow bridge. They were all very polite, bowing towards ancestor Lan on the rainbow bridge, but the corner of their eyes were fixed on the old figure behind ancestor Lan, filled with surprise.

Very soon, ancestor Lan entered the forbidden grounds in the depths of the Snow sect with He Qianchi. Two ancestors of the Snow sect were already waiting there in person.

The two ancestors were the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor.

The Frigid River Ancestor was an old woman with white hair, a Fourth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. On the other hand, the Profound Sky Ancestor was a middle-aged man with a robust figure, a Third Heavenly Layer Grand Prime.

“Ancestor Lan has come in person. We’ve failed to welcome you from afar, so please forgive us, ancestor Lan.” The Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor both clasped their fists at ancestor Lan with smiles.

### **Chapter 3008: The Icepeer Founding Ancestor**

“I’ve personally come to visit your esteemed sect, so will it just be the two of you?” Ancestor Lan glanced past the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor. Her voice was flat, but there was a hint of annoyance.

“Please forgive us, ancestor Lan. The Icecloud Founding Ancestor has already spent many years in secluded cultivation. She’s been comprehending the mysteries of the Seventh Heavenly Layer arduously all this time. Unless the sect faces life-threatening danger, the Icecloud Founding Ancestor won’t emerge. As for the Icepeer Founding Ancestor, she’s also in secluded cultivation, so there’s only the two of us in the Snow sect for now,” the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor said apologetically. They were extremely polite.

The Snow sect was the greatest organisation on the Ice Pole Plane, but the two ancestors dared not brush aside ancestor Lan of the Heavenly Crane clan.

They understood just how powerful ancestor Lan could be. Even without Ancestral Blood pills, her strength was completely on par with the Icepeer Founding Ancestor. If she used Ancestral Blood pills, then no one would be able to restrain ancestor Lan anymore on the current Ice Pole Plane apart from the Icecloud Founding Ancestor.

That included the Chillwind sect that ranked second!

If it were not for the fact that a period of weakness followed ingesting the Ancestral Blood pill, and Ancestral Blood pills were essentially a foreign item to the cultivator from a certain perspective, then the Heavenly Crane clan’s ranking might even be above the Chillwind sect’s.

The Chillwind sect, the Heavenly Crane clan, and the Hefeng clan all possessed distinct rankings, but in reality, the differences between their strengths were not that great.

Even for the Snow sect that ranked first, the only reason why they held their ranking firmly and were unshakable was because of the Icecloud Founding Ancestor’s presence.

The two ancestors invited ancestor Lan into a beautiful hall. They also offered up many precious fruits to welcome her.

Ancestor Lan did not touch the spiritual fruits on the table. She sat down on a chair and sighed gently. "Sigh, I originally visited because I wanted to discuss the ways with the Icecloud Founding Ancestor so that we can share our comprehension and experiences with the Seventh Heavenly Layer. If the Icecloud Founding Ancestor wasn't available, the Icepeer Founding Ancestor worked too. I never thought that I would grasp the timing so horribly, where the two ancestors just happen to be both in secluded cultivation."

Hearing that, the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor exchanged glances. They were both troubled. It was true. As Third and Fourth Heavenly Layer Grand Primes, they had no say in a matter that touched on the mysteries of the Seventh Heavenly Layer, as ancestor Lan wanted to discuss the ways and share her experiences with the Icecloud Founding Ancestor or the Icepeer Founding Ancestor.

At this moment, He Qianchi, who had been standing beside ancestor Lan the entire time, suddenly thought of something. His expression changed, and he clasped his fist at ancestor Lan. "Ancestor Lan, I suddenly thought of one of the great elders of the Snow sect, elder Xie. Recently, he borrowed something extremely important from me. Could you allow me to use the opportunity today to retrieve that item?"

"Is that true?" Before ancestor Lan could say anything, the Frigid River Ancestor spoke up in surprise, his face filled with doubt. Both of them had an extremely deep understanding of elder Xie. In their knowledge, elder Xie never had any contact with the Heavenly Crane clan at all, so why would he borrow something from He Qianchi?

Ancestor Lan nodded slowly. "If that's the case, please summon this great elder, esteemed ancestors."

"Haha, it's a small matter, a small matter. I'll contact the fourth elder right now so that he can hurry over." Despite their doubts, the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor could only agree to it since ancestor Lan had already spoken.

After all, the two ancestors who could face ancestor Lan on equal footing, the Icecloud Founding Ancestor and the Icepeer Founding Ancestor, were not present. Even with the Snow sect behind them, they were relatively unconfident in facing ancestor Lan given their strength.

On top of that, it was merely calling a great elder over. That really was nothing to the two Grand Prime ancestors of the Snow sect.

At the same time, in the depths of the Prison of Ice of the Snow sect, the old man with a bamboo hat stood with his arms behind his back. His eyes hidden under his hat stared straight at Shui Yunlan, who had already ingested the Soul Devouring pill. He was waiting for the effects to kick in.

At this moment, elder Xie's face changed. With a flip of his hand, a jade talisman immediately appeared, and a message from the Frigid River Ancestor drifted into his ears.

*"The Frigid River Ancestor is summoning for me?"* Elder Xie frowned slightly. After a slight moment of hesitation, he turned around and said to Wu Han, "I'll be gone momentarily. I'll leave here up to you."

“Don’t worry, elder Xie. Just leave it up to me to uncover the secrets of Shui Yunlan. I definitely won’t disappoint senior Icepeer.” Wu Han giggled and gave her word.

Elder Xie left the Prison of Ice and appeared in the hall where the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor received ancestor Lan very soon.

However, when he saw the ancestors, elder Xie had already taken off his bamboo hat, revealing a face with a bronze mask on. His true appearance was still hidden.

“Yu Yangxie greets the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor.” Yu Yangxie greeted and bowed towards the two ancestors of the Snow sect as soon as he entered the hall. He noticed ancestor Lan of the Heavenly Crane clan as well, so he bowed deeply to her too. “Greetings, ancestor!”

“You’re one of the great elders of the Snow sect, known as elder Xie to others?” asked ancestor Lan as she raised her gaze to meet Yu Yangxie’s.

“That’s me!” elder Xie said politely. He felt a little overwhelmed now that he was receiving so much attention from ancestor Lan.

Ancestor Lan nodded gently. After confirming elder Xie’s identity, she said nothing more. However, He Qianchi behind her took a step forward. He stared at elder Xie with shining eyes and said with a stern voice, “Elder Xie, you borrowed something important from me recently, so why don’t you return that item to me given that I’m here today? How’s that?”

Elder Xie frowned slightly with that. He expressed his doubts. “He Qianchi, we don’t know each other, so since when have I borrowed anything from you? You may be mistaken.”

He Qianchi suddenly remembered something and smiled. “You’re right. I’m the one who is confused. Elder Xie has indeed never borrowed anything from me.”

Hearing that, elder Xie sighed a breath of relief. For some reason, when he heard those words from He Qianchi earlier, his heart actually tightened, giving him a bad omen.

Now that He Qianchi had admitted he was mistaken, elder Xie exhaled deeply.

However, He Qianchi’s next words shocked the unprepared elder Xie.

“Because that’s not a thing at all, but a person, Shui Yunlan!” He Qianchi’s voice was extremely flat, but when elder Xie heard that, it was no different from a bolt from the blue. It immediately made him shudder. A hint of panic and shock appeared in his eyes.

Even though the panic had only appeared in his eyes for an instant, ancestor Lan and He Qianchi caught it perfectly, as they had been paying attention to him the entire time.

“How’s that possible? How’s that possible? How does the Heavenly Crane clan know about this?” Elder Xie composed himself very soon, but he experienced inner turmoil. He was anything but calm.

“Hahahaha, I didn’t expect ancestor Lan of the Heavenly Crane clan to personally visit my sect. It truly is an honour for my sect.” At this moment, a middle-aged woman’s voice rang out from outside. With the voice, a woman surrounded by snowflakes drifted into the hall.

The middle-aged woman's arrival immediately made ancestor Lan's expression turn stern behind the mist. She said gently, "Icepeer Founding Ancestor, you've finally emerged. And I had thought that I had no chance of seeing you with this visit."

"I've been in secluded cultivation for all these years, and I rarely pay attention to the matters outside, so please forgive me, ancestor Lan," said the Icepeer Founding Ancestor. She seemed to be in her forties, but she was still charming. She must have been an enchanting woman during her youth.

The Icepeer Founding Ancestor made her way over leisurely and sat down before ancestor Lan. She waved her hand at elder Xie and said, "Yu Yangxie, we don't need you here anymore. You can go."

"Yes, ancestor!" Elder Xie bowed politely.

"Hold on!" He Qianchi immediately spoke up to stop him. In that moment, his old eyes actually shone with sharp light like swords. Even with three ancestors of the Snow sect present, he did not cower.

However, before He Qianchi could say anything more, the Icepeer Founding Ancestor's eyes turned cold. "Hmph, the adults are talking, so since when did we need a junior like you to stir up a fuss? Ancestor Lan, the person you've brought knows no concept of courtesy." With that, cold winds immediately buffeted the surroundings. An extremely great power emerged from thin air, falling down on He Qianchi mercilessly.

This was a terrifying power that belonged to a Sixth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. Before this power, there were no Chaotic Primes that stood a chance. The only fate they faced was suppression.

#### Chapter 3009: Making Things Clear

Seeing how the Icepeer Founding Ancestor was about to mercilessly suppress He Qianchi, ancestor Lan sitting before him let out a beautiful laugh instead. She said with her voice of some delicateness but great beauty, "You sure have a temper, Icepeer Founding Ancestor. He Qianchi is still a great elder of my Heavenly Crane clan after all. Even if he's in the wrong, that's for our Heavenly Crane clan to handle. Since when was your Snow sect allowed to meddle with our affairs?" Towards the end, ancestor Lan's voice turned cold.

As she spoke, a gentle power appeared, protecting He Qianchi. At the same time, it seemed to turn into a sharp spear that thrust towards the Icepeer Founding Ancestor's power of suppression mercilessly.

Bang!

Immediately, a heavy sound erupted in the glorious hall, together with a terrifying wave of energy that swept out with devastating might. The divine hall immediately became riddled with cracks, which rapidly spread across the structure. The sounds of fractures rang out constantly.

The divine hall was only a medium quality god artifact, so how could it withstand the pulses of energy from experts like the Icepeer Founding Ancestor and ancestor Lan?

Even a casual clash between the two of them far surpassed the limits of what a medium quality god artifact could withstand.

But fortunately, the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor were present. Sensing that something was amiss, they immediately stabilised the divine hall with their power, which was the only reason why the divine hall did not collapse.

Under ancestor Lan's protection, He Qianchi was obviously unscathed, while the Icepeer Founding Ancestor's power of suppression had completely collapsed under ancestor Lan's counterattack.

However, the Icepeer Founding Ancestor's attempt at suppressing He Qianchi was merely a cover. On the surface, the power she used did not contain any killing intent. It only seemed like an attempt to teach He Qianchi a lesson regardless of the perspective.

But behind the power of suppression hid a killing force that made even ancestor Lan narrow her eyes.

It was a finger-sized icicle that flickered with dazzling blue light. It was hidden in the space there and had only appeared after ancestor Lan had dispersed the power of suppression.

The moment the icicle appeared, it shot towards He Qianchi's forehead even faster than lightning.

This strike was truly a strike to kill!

"Icepeer!" ancestor Lan bellowed furiously. She suddenly stood up from her seat, and a powerful presence erupted out, pouring into the surroundings. With the appearance of her presence, the medium quality divine hall immediately gave way, collapsing with a great rumble and scattering into the surroundings as countless fragments.

At the same time, ancestor Lan extended a finger, and the Laws of Ice surged in the surroundings. The place where He Qianchi stood immediately became sealed in ice, where thick layers of ice enveloped He Qianchi completely.

Boom!

At the same time, the blue icicle that almost resembled a sneak attack struck the frozen space around He Qianchi.

The collision between the two was like the collision of two colossal meteors, as well as the violent collision between two planets. It immediately erupted with a devastating rumble, and destructive energy ripped through space, reducing the forbidden grounds of the Snow sect to darkness instantly. Countless spatial cracks riddled the forbidden grounds and swallowed everything.

The ground shook, and the mountains swayed. Many of the frozen peaks that had stood in the Snow sect for who knew how many years collapsed. The great rumble from the forbidden grounds startled the entire sect.

"What is going on? What has happened?"

"It is from the forbidden grounds where the ancestors cultivate in seclusion. Something has happened in the forbidden grounds..."

"What a terrifying shockwave of energy. Even after diminishing in power through the various formations of our Snow sect, it still maintains such a terrifying force. Have the ancestors fallen into a dispute with the Heavenly Crane clan?"

.....

In the Snow sect, the Infinite Prime elders and Chaotic Prime great elders all emerged from secluded cultivation, staring at the forbidden grounds with uncertainty. They were all stern.

The energy that swept through the surroundings gradually dispersed in the Snow sect, while the shattered space gradually recovered too, revealing everyone once more.

By now, the wonderful hall used to receive ancestor Lan had already vanished. Everyone hovered under the open sky.

Ancestor Lan stood in front of He Qianchi, confronting the Icepeer Founding Ancestor. Her lovely, large eyes became colder and colder.

Elder Xie had left his original position and appeared behind the Icepeer Founding Ancestor too. Clearly, the Icepeer Founding Ancestor had protected him.

“Icepeer Founding Ancestor, what are you trying to do?” Ancestor Lan stared at the Icepeer Founding Ancestor sharply.

“This great elder of your Heavenly Crane clan is far too disrespectful. I was merely teaching him a small lesson. I didn’t expect you to be so protective of him,” the Icepeer Founding Ancestor said coldly. Her eyes were also frigid.

“A lesson? May I ask just which Chaotic Prime can withstand a strike like that? You were clearly trying to kill him,” ancestor Lan said coldly.

“That would be going a little too far, ancestor Lan. Do you really think a Chaotic Prime would still be alive if I actually tried to kill them with my strength? As for the strike earlier, I had anticipated what you would do, ancestor Lan, which was why I gave you a warning. I wanted you to understand exactly where you are right now.” The Icepeer Founding Ancestor became very forceful. “This is the Snow sect, not the Heavenly Crane clan. We don’t allow Chaotic Primes to behave recklessly in the forbidden grounds of our Snow sect.”

“I didn’t think the Icepeer Founding Ancestor would try to gently dismiss her attempt on my life so easily. The Icepeer Founding Ancestor is truly extraordinary at coming up with reasons. If ancestor Lan had just been a moment slower earlier, I probably wouldn’t be standing here anymore.” He Qianchi was not afraid as he stood behind ancestor Lan. He met the Icepeer Founding Ancestor’s sharp gaze and continued, “In my opinion, the Icepeer Founding Ancestor’s behaviour earlier was not to remind ancestor Lan, but to silence me with death.”

“How dare you! You have no place to speak here!” The Icepeer Founding Ancestor’s face sank as she directed her gaze towards ancestor Lan. “Ancestor Lan, have you come to my Snow sect this time intentionally to challenge our authority?”

Ancestor Lan sighed gently. “So be it, Icepeer Founding Ancestor. I’ll stop beating around the bush with you. I’ll come clear. I’ve come to your esteemed sect this time to ask for someone from your sect.”

“As for who the person is, I think you already know, Icepeer Founding Ancestor. Hand the person over, and I’ll leave right now. Otherwise...” Ancestor Lan paused, and her eyes shone with sharp, cold light. She continued, “It’ll probably be very difficult for the situation today to be resolved peacefully.”

The Icepeer Founding Ancestor sneered. “Is your Heavenly Crane clan threatening our Snow sect? Aren’t you getting a little overconfident? Our Snow sect doesn’t have anyone from your Heavenly Crane clan, and even if we do, that’s because they offended our Snow sect, resulting in their imprisonment.”

“How could we let an offender like that go so easily? Wouldn’t that just make our Snow sect seem like a pushover?”

“Since the Icepeer Founding Ancestor plans on continuing with her act, then let me make things clear. The person we are looking for is one of the four great protectors of the Ice Goddess Hall, Shui Yunlan. Your esteemed sect’s great elder Yu Yangxie captured her,” said ancestor Lan.

“Lies! Shui Yunlan is a member of the Ice Goddess Hall. How could our Snow sect commit such treachery against a member of the Ice Goddess Hall? And Shui Yunlan has already vanished for several million years. To this day, no one knows where she is. No one even knows if she’s still alive,” the Icepeer Founding Ancestor was furious and said with indignant righteousness. She pointed at ancestor Lan and berated loudly, “Ancestor Lan, I instead have a question for you. What are you scheming by vocally slandering our Snow sect? Don’t tell me your Heavenly Crane clan has already joined the Flame Reverend like the Hefeng clan?”

#### Chapter 3010: Battle Against the Snow Sect

As the Icepeer Founding Ancestor berated ancestor Lan, the faces of the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor suddenly sank as well. The Frigid River Ancestor said sternly, “Ancestor Lan, these are not things you can talk about irresponsibly, or make any jokes about. Shui Yunlan is a member of the Ice Goddess Hall, and she’s someone the great Ice Goddess and the Snow Goddess deeply favours. No matter how bold our Snow sect is, we would never offend someone like that, let alone abduct them.”

The Profound Sky Ancestor said as well, “Ancestor Lan, if you’ve come to visit us, then our Snow sect will welcome you with open doors and receive you with the highest possible courtesy. However, if you’ve come to slander our Snow sect, then no one in the sect, from the lowest disciples to the highest ancestors, would accept that. Once we really do reach that point, you better consider whether your Heavenly Crane clan can withstand the wrath of our Snow sect, ancestor Lan.”

Ancestor Lan had been expecting a response like this the entire time, so she was not surprised at all. She found it perfectly normal.

“If that’s the case, then I’ll have to borrow great elder Yu Yangxie of your esteemed sect. We’ll know whether your Snow sect is innocent or is harbouring malicious intent as long as we ask Yu Yangxie.” Ancestor Lan’s voice suddenly sharpened. As she said that, she casually extended her slender hand and reached towards Yu Yangxie.

Immediately, energy surged through the surroundings. A tremendous presence erupted in the forbidden grounds of the Snow sect, sweeping across the entire sect.

It was devastating the moment ancestor Lan struck. A huge hand of ice appeared out of nowhere, wrapping around Yu Yangxie from above with destructive energy and laws.

It was not just Yu Yangxie. Even the Sixth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime, the Icepeer Founding Ancestor, was within the range of ancestor Lan's hand of energy.

"How dare you, ancestor Lan! Looks like your Heavenly Crane clan is determined to bring doom upon yourself!" The Icepeer Founding Ancestor flew into a rage. She immediately pushed Yu Yangxie over to the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor and said, "Frigid River, Profound Sky, you must protect our great elder's safety. He's a mighty great elder of our Snow sect. Given his esteemed status, how can he be interrogated so easily based on a simple request?"

As she said that, the Icepeer Founding Ancestor also struck decisively. Her presence erupted and rushed into outer space. Then she launched a palm strike, colliding with ancestor Lan valiantly.

Under the Icepeer Founding Ancestor's protection, it was virtually impossible for ancestor Lan to capture Yu Yangxie.

Their clash was unavoidable.

Boom!

A great rumble immediately erupted in the forbidden grounds of the Snow sect. The disturbance was several dozen times more terrifying than earlier, or even over a hundred times more terrifying.

Not only did the entire Snow sect shake violently from the clash, but the surging storm of energy even broke through the formations around the forbidden grounds and spread outside the sect.

Immediately, space trembled, the surroundings were devastated, and the stars dimmed.

This was a clash between Sixth Heavenly Layer Grand Primes. It was so terrifying and shocking that it had far surpassed the imaginations of weaker cultivators. It was even a rare sight to some Infinite Primes.

In the next moment, countless senses of the soul surged into the air from various places of the Ice Pole Plane. They were all filled with surprise, shock, and disbelief as they gathered above the Snow sect.

Near the Hefeng clan, the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult, Cheng Ming, stood atop the demonic castle and gazed in the direction of the Snow sect. His eyes were deep.

"Quick, strengthen the formations of the forbidden ground and prevent the energy from spreading, or the sect will be devastated," the Frigid River Ancestor called out from the forbidden grounds. She had never been so stern before. She immediately formed seals with the Profound Sky Ancestor. Energy seeped out of their bodies, all of it gathering in the powerful formations around the forbidden grounds.

Under the full support of the two ancestors, the protective formations finally stabilised from their precarious state. It blocked most of the energy from the clash within, preventing it from reaching the rest of the Snow sect.

After all, the main purpose of the formations was to protect the forbidden grounds from disturbances from the outside world. As a result, it was not particularly powerful and could not be compared with the defensive formation around the entire sect.

When the storm of energy settled down in the forbidden grounds, ancestor Lan and the Icepeer Founding Ancestor's figures had already vanished. At the same time, in the vast outer space beyond the Ice Pole Plane, waves of energy slammed together like the stormy seas, shattering planets after planets. The space there was broken to the point where it struggled to recover.

Ancestor Lan and the Icepeer Founding Ancestor were locked in an intense battle in outer space. Their figures flickered between the shattered space, sometimes entering the other region of space filled with violent streams of energy and temporal vortices and sometimes returning to the space of the Saints' World.

Even though the environment of the void was extremely dangerous, where some terrifying temporal vortices could even easily claim the lives of Grand Primes, it no longer posed much of a threat to them given their cultivation. They could move about freely like they were fighting on flat land.

Ancestor Lan and the Icepeer Founding Ancestor had changed their battlefield, but the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor still remained in the forbidden grounds. They were utterly furious and radiating with killing intent.

"Bastard, the Heavenly Crane clan has been far too flagrant. You actually started fighting in our Snow sect. If the two of us hadn't reacted in time and strengthened the protective formation around the forbidden grounds, the outcome would have been unimaginable if the storm of energy spread beyond here."

"It wouldn't just be unimaginable. Probably our entire Snow sect would be devastated. After all, the turmoil comes from within. Our protective formations are directed outwards, not inwards."

The Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor were fuming. They utterly hated the Heavenly Crane clan to the core.

Ancestor Lan's actions were no different from publicly declaring war, and she had made it such that they would have to fight to their deaths.

"From today onwards, the Heavenly Crane clan is a great enemy of our Snow sect. Our Snow sect will never stop until the Heavenly Crane clan is destroyed," the Frigid River Ancestor and the Profound Sky Ancestor said at the same time. Their resonant voices passed through the formations around the forbidden grounds and reached across the entire Snow sect, leading to a great uproar. Many disciples and members of the upper echelon blanked out slightly.

What was going on? Hadn't they just welcomed ancestor Lan into the sect with an extremely great gesture of courtesy?

Why had she become a great enemy of the Snow sect all of a sudden?

Such a great reversal occurred in such a short amount of time, which left many disciples dumbfounded. They struggled to respond.

“He Qianchi, you’ve witnessed everything. This is your Heavenly Crane clan digging your own grave, so you better not say I’m harassing those weaker than me. I’ll kill you as a mighty Third Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. You can be the first one from the Heavenly Crane clan to pay.” The Profound Sky Ancestor’s face was filled with killing intent. His face was terrifyingly sunken, glaring at the stumped He Qianchi who still remained in the forbidden grounds. It was as if the Profound Sky Ancestor wanted to eat him.

As soon as he had said that, the Profound Sky Ancestor appeared before He Qianchi silently. He formed a claw with his hand, where a sharp blade of ice condensed around every single finger, shining with cold light. Then he reached towards the top of He Qianchi’s head mercilessly.