

Chaotic 301

Chapter 301: The Terrifying Seal of Treasure Mountain

"I didn't think you would even know about the Seal of Treasure Mountain our Shi family took possession of a few dozen years ago." Shi Xiangran laughed darkly.

Immediately putting away her longbow on her back, she continued to run before turning her head towards Jian Chen as she called out to him, "Scoundrel, we have to run!" Even as she cried out to him, she was already running far away with a panicked look.

Jian Chen looked at the frantic girl with some confusion. He was completely puzzled, could the iron chunk in Shi Xiangran's hand contain some sort of terrifying power?

Despite the confusion, Jian Chen knew that he was completely unaware of whatever secret it might contain. Without any hesitation, he turned and began to run from Shi Xiangran.

"Hmph, with the Seal of Treasure Mountain, you shouldn't even think about escaping!" Shi Xiangran's face grew dark as he threw the iron chunk into the air.

As soon as it flew into the air, the iron chunk began to transform into a hundred meter long circumference iron seal as it flew toward Jian Chen's head at an inconceivable speed.

Jian Chen's eyes widened as he stared in complete shock at the base of the pitch black iron seal. He couldn't believe what he was seeing; Jian Chen could swear that he had never once seen or heard about something like this before.

"Just what is this eccentric item?" Jian Chen thought with shock and curiosity.

However, the floating iron seal didn't give Jian Chen any time to think, and immediately came down on Jian Chen with a huge amount of pressure.

It was with a startling realization that Jian Chen had finally figured out the secret behind the iron seal. This was used for smashing people. If anyone were to be smashed by this, then they would take a tremendous amount of damage.

Jian Chen quickly ran outside. The hundred meter long circumference iron seal descended so quickly that before Jian Chen had even run 20 meters outwards, the iron seal was already falling down towards his head.

With an explosive shout, Jian Chen brought his Saint Weapon up against the base of the iron seal in hopes of slowing its descent.

Just then, the density of the iron seal far outweighed the force Jian Chen exerted. With a bang, the seal slammed Jian Chen's body down through the earth, leaving behind an unbelievably deep crater.

In front, the shocked girl saw that Jian Chen had been pressed into the ground. Flustered, she stopped running and immediately cursed out loud, "You scoundrel, how could you be this stupid? I told you to run, but you stood there like an idiot. An idiot's death! That's what you deserve!"

“Hmph, you dared to go against our Shi family, so this is where you depart from life and die like the beggar you are.” Shi Xiangran spat as he stared at the crater left behind by Jian Chen. The strength of the Seal of Treasure Mountain was clear to see. Ever since the Shi family had gained control of it, it sat within their secured treasure room, its legend passed down from generation to generation. Up until now, its strength had been unimaginable and never had there been an Earth Saint Master that was able to survive a single impact.

Shi Xiangran lifted his hand, causing the floor ahead of him to start trembling. Immediately, the giant seal began to lift up from the ground. It shrank back down to a chunk the size of his fist, and landed in his hand.

After securing his treasure, Shi Xiangran turned back to the dead, middle aged men behind him and took their Space Belts. Then, with the barrier still activated, he turned to chase after the girl.

Just as the seal left the crater to return to Shi Xiangran, a muddy figure suddenly flew out of the hole like a lightning bolt, and stabbed at Shi Xiangran with his Sword Qi enhanced sword.

Shi Xiangran was extremely shocked, but with his strength as an Earth Saint Master, he could react in time to respond. Holding out his long spear in front of him, the barrier reactivated once more. With the barrier activated, the silver sword continued to be pushed back farther and farther away from his body.

“You! How did you not die?” Shi Xiangran cried out as he looked at the muddy figure. This type of result wasn’t something he had expected to see.

Seeing how his attack was repelled by the barrier, the muddy Jian Chen could only sigh in disappointment. Quickly kneeling down to the ground, he spat out a mouthful of blood.

Shi Xiangran sneered at the sight, “You are the first Earth Saint Master to not die from the Seal of Treasure Mountain, be proud of that achievement. It would seem that the seal has done a good amount of damage to you. Then allow me to use the seal once more to end your life. An Earth Saint Master can’t take a second hit from this, you should have no regrets with your death this time.”

With this, Jian Chen narrowed his eyes. Having learned his lesson, he quickly began to retreat backwards.

The Seal of Treasure Mountain immediately enlarged before flying towards Jian Chen. The overwhelming pressure from the seal almost suffocated Jian Chen. After taking a single hit from the seal, Jian Chen finally understood just how strong this strange seal was. If he were to be smashed by this seal once more, then it would all be over. Even if he didn’t die, he would be forced to his dying breath anyway.

“Damn it all, what kind of an object is this for it to be so strong? And just why haven’t I heard of such a thing before?” Jian Chen cursed as he looked at the giant seal flying towards him. Even when he was in Kargath Library, he had never seen any information about such a thing.

The Seal of Treasure Mountain flew at tremendous speeds, and with Jian Chen’s injuries, he could not run as fast as before. This meant he would not be able to outrun the seal. Even now as he glanced back, the seal was already quickly approaching him.

“Whoosh whoosh whoosh!”

Suddenly, a concentrated amount of fire could be heard as a series of golden arrows flew through the air and smashed against the seal.

“Bang!”

Following the loud bang, the iron seal began to shake for a moment before flying at Jian Chen at a slightly reduced speed.

Seeing how the iron seal was about to end Jian Chen’s life, the yellow robed girl immediately stopped running and withdrew her longbow to shoot at the seal with frightening speed. Each arrow allowed Jian Chen another moment to run away to escape from Shi Xiangran.

“You repulsive wench! Wait until I grab ahold of you, I’ll definitely torture you to death!” Shi Xiangran glared at the girl with a malicious look as he roared and gnashed his teeth in anger.

“Scoundrel, hurry up and get to where I am!” The girl ignored Shi Xiangran and cried out for Jian Chen to follow her.

After hearing the girl, Jian Chen didn’t hesitate any longer and immediately threw himself in her direction as the iron seal followed close behind.

She continued to pull back her bowstring, and arrow after arrow continued to fly at the seal, causing multiple explosions to rock the air.

With the girl’s assistance, Jian Chen finally pulled far away from the the seal and arrived where the girl was.

“Hurry up! The Seal of Treasure Mountain is incomparably strong! If it smashes into a Heaven Saint Master, even they will take on heavy damages! It’s a good thing that Shi Xiangran’s strength isn’t that high, otherwise he’d be able to use the Seal of Treasure Mountain to its fullest potential!” The woman cried as she continued to fire arrows at the seal while retreating backwards.

The Seal of Treasure Mountain’s advance was slowed as each arrow shot by the girl exploded upon impact. At the same time, she and Jian Chen continued to run away from it. After a certain distance, the girl aimed her bow at Shi Xiangran; although her arrow wouldn’t be able to hurt him, the explosive arrows would still prevent him from moving forwards.

“The Seal of Treasure Mountain can’t get fifty meters out of his reach, otherwise it’ll be uncontrollable.” The girl explained to Jian Chen as if she was very familiar with the treasure.

As the two ran farther and farther away, Shi Xiangran could only watch from afar while being pelted with arrows. They eventually disappeared from sight.

Four hours later, Jian Chen and the girl finally came to a stop ten kilometers away, and found a mountain cave to take refuge in. The cave wasn’t too large, and there were even traces of someone having enlarged the hole.

Sounds of crackling could occasionally be heard from the small campfire lighting up the cave. Jian Chen lay powerless on the ground with a pale face. First, he had been hurt by the girl’s arrows and then fought in a battle with her. Then, before his body had even healed from his wounds, he had been smashed deep into the ground by the giant iron seal. This had caused more damage to his body than he

was used to, and had even threatened his life. Right now his entire body was crushed and damaged to a large extent. If a regular Earth Saint Master were to be hit by the Seal of Treasure Mountain, then they would've died for sure.

The sounds of clothes being torn could be heard as the girl tended to the wound on her arm behind a large rock. The longbow continued to stay on her back for safety.

"Cough!" Jian Chen coughed twice as two mouthfuls of blood flew out from his mouth. With his current injuries, it was imperative that he heal as quickly as possible. However, with the girl nearby, he wasn't able to use his Radiant Saint Force to heal himself. If he were to use it, then his secret would definitely be revealed.

Jian Chen didn't want his secret regarding the Radiant Saint Force to be revealed, since everyone knew that Radiant Saint Masters were completely inept in martial arts. They could be said to be extremely weak. Since he was an Earth Saint Master and his aptitude with the Radiant Saint Force wasn't bad at all, then there would definitely be a lot of trouble for him if it were to be revealed. If he were to silently endure the pain and try to circulate his inner Saint Force, then his healing factor would be somewhat accelerated.

At that moment, the girl came out from behind the stone with her wounds all dressed. Looking at the muddy Jian Chen, her eyes revealed a rare emotion of worry before quickly being hidden once more. Holding out a single white jade bottle toward Jian Chen, she said, "This is my family's secret healing panacea. Go and use it."

Chapter 302: Legend of the Ruler Armament

Taking the jade white bottle into his own hands silently, Jian Chen poured the contents into his mouth. Right now he couldn't use the Radiant Saint Force to heal, so he desperately needed to use medicine to heal. Plus, with his Thousand Immunity, he wasn't afraid of the girl handing him any type of poison.

The contents of the bottle weren't in pill form and was actually in a liquid form which tasted rather bitter. Jian Chen poured the liquid within his mouth in one go and swallowed. The moment it entered his body, a warm sensation traveled through his body slowly before covering every single part of it.

Feeling a great change happen within his body, Jian Chen closed his eyes to allow the healing process to begin. However, he still maintained a strong vigilance to the outside world. Although he and the girl were now on equal terms, but who could guarantee that nothing would happen. Who knew if this girl from a grand and rich family would suddenly strike at him with her sword.

Looking at Jian Chen close his eyes while he healed with a complicated look, the girl walked over to the campfire silently. Sitting down, she held her knees together with both hands and stared at the dancing fire with her bright and intelligent eyes, her thoughts unknown to the world.

The cave descended into an unnatural quiet; only the sounds of the crackling fire could be heard. With the tree branches feeding the fire, it would occasionally let out a snapping sound.

As Jian Chen continued to heal, the girl never struck out at him once. Instead, she sat by the fire and continued to watch the flames dance absent-mindedly.

Four hours later, Jian Chen opened his eyes and crawled up in a sitting position with some effort as his arms leaned against the cold cliff walls.

After these four hours of treatment, he had completely absorbed the healing properties of the medicine. Although he was still far away from being completely healed, he was at the very least stabilized for now.

Noticing the yellow clothed girl sitting by the fire, his eyes latched onto the golden bow on her back. "Could you tell me, just what type of weapon that bow is on your back? How is it possible for it contain so much strength? And the man that was chasing you with the Seal of Treasure Mountain, just what type of weapon was that? It's plain to see that it's not your Saint Weapon but the power was completely terrifying." Jian Chen asked with curiosity as his heart raced to hear the answer.

Hearing that Jian Chen was awake, the girl tilted her head up to look at Jian Chen before immediately turning back to the dancing flames without a word.

Jian Chen didn't ask again. He knew that this matter was extremely secretive, and if the girl wasn't willing to tell him, then he wouldn't beg.

"Those weapons are Ruler Armaments." After some time, the girl finally spoke.

"The conditions of making a Ruler Armament are very unkind. There aren't many of them within the Tian Yuan Continent, and it is said that Ruler Armaments are the weapons of Saint Rulers. After a Saint Ruler dies, instead of their Saint Weapon decomposing away into the world, they retain their form perfectly." The girl slowly began to explain as she held her longbow. Then silently, she said, "This longbow's name is the Solunar Bow. This is our Huang family's Ruler Armament that has been passed down from generation to generation and has become our ancient family heirloom for the next generation."

"If this Ruler Armament was formed by a Saint Weapon, then it is no wonder it's this strong." Jian Chen thought to himself.

"The Seal of Treasure Mountain within Shi Xiangran's hand is also a Ruler Armament. Although it isn't as strong as my Solunar Bow, combined with his superior strength, he is already a Second Cycle Earth Saint Master. With the Seal of Treasure Mountain, he is much stronger than me even with my Solunar Bow." The girl explained.

"What is that barrier he has on him?" Jian Chen continued to ask. If it weren't for that barrier, then he would have killed Shi Xiangran already.

"That barrier was something a Saint Ruler put on him. Its defensive ability is remarkably strong so even my Solunar Bow is unable to break it." The girl narrowed her eyes. Regarding the barrier of Shi Xiangran, she felt like having a headache each time she heard about it.

"Is there any way for us to break it or for it to fade away?" Jian Chen asked.

The girl said, "If there is, then I'm unable to do it. If the barrier is attacked with an attack far beyond what it can handle, then it'll naturally shatter. Other than that, the barrier will fade away with time, but how long it'll take for that to happen, I don't know." Gnashing her teeth, she spoke angrily, "If it weren't for the barrier protecting Shi Xiangran, I would have shot him dead a long time ago. How vile the Shi

family is. For them to use the Gathering of the Mercenaries to steal our Huang family's Ruler Armament. It's unfortunate that my fellow family had fallen prey to the evil schemes of the Shi family for the sake of allowing me to run away. Just wait until we're out, then I'll have uncle Feng and uncle Yun avenge the death of my family members." The girl spoke with an angry promise.

Hearing that, Jian Chen laughed, "I'm sure that I heard Shi Xiangran say that he will have men deal with your two uncles, leaving you unprotected."

Clenching her fists tightly, she spat out, "Abominable Shi family! They continue to try to take our Solunar Bow, they must have planned everything out!"

Jian Chen couldn't help but to take in some delight from this, "Shi Xiangran has that barrier protecting him, making him intangible. Along with his Ruler Armament, he has truly come prepared. It would appear that your Huang family's Solunar Bow is destined to fall into their hands."

The girl snapped as she flew up with her arms raised as she stared vehemently at Jian Chen, "You should learn to be quiet you scoundrel, or else see what happens when I'm through with you!"

"Haha, all I'm saying is the truth." Jian Chen had no fear as if he felt secure in his knowledge.

"You..." The girl continued to stare angrily at Jian Chen for a while before finally sighing and walking to the entrance of the cave.

Her departure was what Jian Chen had wanted. Using his hearing to listen to see how far away the girl was, Jian Chen began to use his Radiant Saint Force to heal himself.

The Radiant Saint Force began to gather slowly and illuminated the dark cave in an instant. The Radiant Saint Force began to condense into a milky white light that made the inside of the cave seem as if it was daytime. Within this previously dark cave, the Radiant Saint Force would have caused anyone that noticed it to instantly become awake. The bright light was as fierce as the sun itself, but while it continued to shine brightly, the sight was not intense on the eyes.

Controlling the Radiant Saint Force required the usage of "Spirit". With Jian Chen's spirit increasing in amount and quality after he made the breakthrough to become an Earth Saint Master, his "Spirit" had become more refined. It could be used to improve his usage of the Radiant Saint Force to an even higher height, and so not only was the Radiant Saint Force even richer in quality, but the time to make it was less now.

Another two hours later, the Radiant Saint Force had completely healed Jian Chen at a rate that could only be described as miraculous.

Now that Jian Chen's health was back to normal, he immediately leaped up from the ground and took out a water canteen from his Space Ring. Shedding off his clothes, he began to clean himself.

This source of water was something Jian Chen had planned since the beginning. Since his Space Ring was spacious enough, he had been able to collect plenty of water gourds that weighed at twenty five kilograms each. This was enough for him to last a while even in the most dire of circumstances.

"Hua hua!"

The ice cold water splashed against Jian Chen's head as the remaining filth flowed away from his body. When the water hit the ground, it made a splashing sound as it scattered in every direction with a sharp and loud sound.

At this moment, the yellowed clothed girl was sitting on a rock right outside the cave entrance with a look of worry. She was concerned about the words Jian Chen had said to her, the Shi family were definitely prepared this time, and while uncle Feng and Yun were both quite strong, the Shi family had plenty of experts that could fight against those two. If the words of Shi Xiangran could be trusted, then their family had already employed some people to deal with the two. If this was the case, then she would have no one to rely on. In this place, Shi Xiangran still had that defensive barrier so her Solunar Bow wasn't able to do anything against him despite its power. At this moment, the Seal of Treasure Mountain was a Ruler Armament as well, in the case that Shi Xiangran were to use it against her Solunar Bow, then she would have no opportunity to strike at him.

Although it could be said that she could use her Solunar Bow against his barrier, at the very most it would be a stalemate for a small amount of time. She couldn't use the bow forever since it would drain her Saint Force at an incredible rate.

"Hmph, I'll definitely protect the Solunar Bow. If worst comes to worst, I'll have to rely on Mercenary City and wait for the clan to help. I doubt the Shi family would dare to fight against Mercenary City for it." The girl spoke in an icy tone.

At this moment, a strange sound could be heard inside the cave. Immediately, the girl turned toward the sound confused as she stared within the dark abyss of the cave. "How strange, how could there be any sound? The scoundrel is heavily injured, so he shouldn't be able to move at all."

With an uneasy heart, she began to quietly move toward the insides of the cave.

At this moment, Jian Chen had just finished bathing himself. Although the girl was walking deeper into the cave, she wasn't leaking any killing intent, imposing aura or any dangerous thoughts. Because of the heavy sounds of the water hitting the ground, Jian Chen had been unable to detect the sounds of her walking in.

Quickly, the girl continued to walk in with a curious expression. Walking in with a cautious attitude, the moment she clearly saw the scene inside, her face immediately froze. In that instant, she could see that Jian Chen had just finished showering and was completely naked.

"Ah! You rotten scoundrel!" The girl was quick to react and shrieked with a loud sound.

"Gua dong!" The gourd that Jian Chen had above his head immediately fell to the floor with a crashing sound as it broke. Quickly, Jian Chen grabbed a set of clothes from within his Space Ring and flew to a dark corner of the cave. Not even caring for the wet droplet on his body, he hurriedly began to dress himself.

By that point, the girl had already covered both her eyes with her hands as she looked elsewhere. Her beautiful face had instantly turned bright as her heart couldn't help but beat wildly.

Chapter 303: Uniting

After walking out, the girl never returned to the inside of the cave. Even Jian Chen who had changed into a new pair of clothes had turned red in the face. He had felt embarrassed to a major degree and even a little angry. He didn't think that the girl wouldn't have any manners and would walk in without making her presence known.

If it weren't for her quick reaction, Jian Chen would have assumed that she didn't have a grudge at all for him seeing her naked body and today would be the day that she would return the favor.

If Jian Chen's thoughts were to be discovered by this girl, then drowning himself in a river wouldn't be enough for the girl.

After putting on some clothes, Jian Chen walked out of the cave where the girl stood not too far away with her back facing him. Even though he couldn't see her face, Jian Chen could see the two sides of her neck were bright red, meaning her cheeks must have been as well.

After being discovered completely naked by a girl as he showered, it was completely hard for Jian Chen to not feel embarrassed. He still managed to hold a serious look on his face as he spoke out, "Hey, how could you be so rude and walk in without a sound to look at me while I shower?" A few years back after accidentally seeing the girl's body, he had suffered greatly from it. Now that the girl had silently and sneakily walked into the cave as he bathed, this was an opportunity that Jian Chen would not dare to miss.

The girl had initially been embarrassed, but the moment she heard Jian Chen say that she snuck in to look at him shower, her red face immediately grew murderous. No longer feeling ashamed, she turned around to look at him, "Pah, who says I was trying to look at you shower? Do you even have any eyes?"

Jian Chen was speechless. To avoid having water in his eyes, he had shut them, so he didn't see the girl's figure. However, he had heard her shriek. With an honest expression, he spoke evenly, "My two eyes can see perfectly fine."

"Pah, what a scoundrel you are, do you even feel any shame? Let me ask you this, that cave was originally mine, I was kind in allowing you to stay there for now, but then you began to take a shower without even telling me. This was your fault in the first place, so don't go blaming me!" The girl fired back in order to retain her pride. Before Jian Chen could say anything to use against her, she would have to try to win the argument first.

"This cave had been made by someone else, just when did it become yours?" Jian Chen asked bewildered.

"This is a cave with no owner, but since I was the first to enter, then naturally I would be the owner of the cave!" The girl said confidently. Arguing was a specialty that she was good at.

Jian Chen wasn't convinced by her words and was left speechless. He knew that if he argued with her, he would lose for sure. There weren't too many people that he'd met that he couldn't kill and equally less people that were stronger than him. However a fight of words was a different story. The points Jian Chen made were eaten up by her; logic was not something that agreed with her. Her logic was both preposterous and stubborn: the girl could say that one was two and that two was three, and would be very confident in herself. Logic was not something that agreed with her, and the words that Jian Chen had tried to use to win had been eaten up by her.

“You...you win.” Jian Chen spoke with a huff. He hadn’t planned on letting her win, but who could have imagined that not even two sentences later, she had fully suppressed him with her words and given him no chance to win.

“I’ve seen your body and you’ve seen mine. But I’ve also saved your life, so let’s consider this even. If I owe you in the future, tell me.” With that, Jian Chen began to walk away without a look back.

“Yo-you rogue!” Upon hearing Jian Chen say that he had seen her body, the girl immediately grew flustered as her mind couldn’t help but think back to that one time. Her beautiful face instantly lit up with a reddish hue. Immediately, her good mood after beating Jian Chen shriveled away as she grew both embarrassed and angry.

“Who told you to save me anyways? I didn’t ask you. If it weren’t for me impeding the Seal of Treasure Mountain, then you would have long since been smashed to pieces by it.” The girl said angrily as she tried to find a way to fire back at him.

Hearing that, Jian Chen immediately stopped moving. The situation was like she said; if it weren’t for her using her Solunar Bow to control the seal, then he wouldn’t have been able to escape from the seal. He didn’t want to say that to her, so he continued to walk away.

At this moment, the girl had finally realized that Jian Chen’s wounds were completely healed and he was back to normal.

Stunned, the girl couldn’t understand just how Jian Chen had been able to recover thoroughly from his injuries in such a short period of time.

“Hey, scoundrel, how did you heal from your injuries so fast” The girl asked from behind with a hint of anger. Her bright eyes burned with curiosity as she stared at him.

“I had some good medicine on hand.” Jian Chen didn’t want to answer, but avoiding the question would have made the girl even more insistent on figuring out his secret. For the sake of dispelling her questions and doubts, he would have to carefully think of a reason.

With this, Jian Chen had already moved farther and farther away and nearly made it out of the girl’s sight.

Seeing Jian Chen’s back, the girl felt a bit indecisive. After biting her lower lip, she shouted out loud, “Stand still you scoundrel, where are you going?”

Quickly, she had caught up with Jian Chen who didn’t turn back to look at her. Instead, he spoke calmly, “Just why are you following me?”

“Pah, who’s following you?” The girl blinked. “You’ve killed two of the Shi family experts so there is no way that they’ll let you go. With the barrier of Shi Xiangran and his Seal of Treasure Mountain, you won’t be a match for him by yourself. If I’m not there with you, then you won’t be able to live if Shi Xiangran catches hold of you.”

“You’re the one that’s afraid.” Jian Chen said.

The girl’s eyes narrowed, “I’m not afraid of anything, you scoundrel. Don’t speak any more lies or I’ll smash you into several pieces.”

“If not for that bow, you aren’t even an opponent for me, and even with that bow, you won’t be able to beat me.” Jian Chen almost seemed to forget about his unhappy state and spoke with the emotionless tone he had before all of this had even happened.

“You...” The girl grew quite angry now as her chest constricted with rage; but there was nothing she could say. Even in the injured state Jian Chen had been, he was still able to kill two Earth Saint Masters from the Shi family in record time before fighting against Shi Xiangran himself. His strength was definitely stronger than her own.

In silence, the girl began to calm down before finally speaking out unwillingly, “Shi Xiangran’s strength you’ve seen for yourself. With his defensive barrier, you have no way of harming him. Furthermore, he has the power to use the Seal of Treasure Mountain whenever he wishes. If any one of us two were to come across him by ourselves, then we will surely eat up a heavy loss or even die. My Solunar Bow can impede Shi Xiangran for some time and control the Seal of Treasure Mountain, and you can personally deal with anyone Shi Xiangran will bring. This is the only way we’ll survive against him.”

The girl hadn’t lost any face from her words, but the way she had cleverly spoken had emphasized just how much she wanted to join forces with him.

Pausing to think, Jian Chen nodded his head in approval of her plan. After killing two of the Shi family experts, the Shi family would definitely not forgive him for this. Shi Xiangran’s defensive barrier was far too strong for the Solunar Bow to break, and if Jian Chen’s azure and violet Sword Qi weren’t enough to shatter the barrier, then Jian Chen would have no other option. Shi Xiangran had been completely unrestrainable, hidden behind his barrier, he could use his Seal of Treasure Mountain to attack relentlessly. At that time, if the girl didn’t use her Solunar Bow to hold back the Seal of Treasure Mountain, then it would have been truly hard for him to run away. Even if he did run away from it, he would still have to waste the entire day running away from Shi Xiangran.

Shi Xiangran’s use of his treasure had rendered Jian Chen helpless, but if the treasure were to fall from Shi Xiangran’s hands, then Jian Chen wouldn’t see him as anyone strong.

To be chased down and killed by someone that he didn’t see as worthy would be an unbearable shame to him. So to unite with this girl would be a good plan.

Jian Chen and the girl continued to travel in silence. Not even idle chatter was heard or even an introduction spoken, so neither person knew the other’s name. In their hearts, it was as if the other person didn’t exist.

On the road, when many competitors saw just how young Jian Chen was and how beautiful the girl next to him was; they were extremely surprised. Previously, there had been two men that were barely Great Saint Masters and even a few Earth Saint Masters that had clearly underestimated Jian Chen. The vast majority of them had been stabbed through the throat by Jian Chen’s sword while the small minority had been killed by the yellow clothed girl after they spoke out in a rude manner toward her. One Earth Saint Master had even been blown up by her Solunar Bow and died a miserable and violent death.

While she herself looked quite young, she was no stranger to killing. Despite not being at the level of Jian Chen who was always calm, her expression remained the same during each kill and she delivered

each blow firmly. This caused Jian Chen to secretly admire her; for a child of a rich family to be able to do this much was a hard task, especially if she was the highly valued young daughter.

Half a month quickly went by as Jian Chen and the girl traveled without seeing Shi Xiangran. By now, they had traveled far away from the sword like mountains and were now at a mountain range with grass everywhere.

In this amount of time, Jian Chen and the girl continued to give each other the cold shoulder. They rarely spoke to each other or even chatted at all. The only thing worth mentioning was that in this half a month of time, the both of them had gained a plethora of profit. Each one of them had now a total of a thousand tokens after killing several Earth Saint Masters. Even some of the Great Saint Masters they had killed had at least fifty tokens.

Only a month and a couple days were left with the time limit for the first round rapidly approaching. In this short amount of time, the tokens would all be congregated among the Earth Saint Masters. Very few Great Saint Masters would be able to keep hold of their tokens.

Just as Jian Chen and the girl were climbing on a huge slope, the sounds of battle could be heard to Jian Chen. Looking toward the source, he could see a man with wind Saint Force surrounding his body fighting against two Earth Saint Masters. Not too far away from them was a blood soaked figure that was laying on the ground.

The wind attributed Earth Saint Master was extremely strong. Just by himself, he could fight against two Earth Saint Masters and slowly win. Both of them had plenty of injuries on their body, causing their clothes to be dyed red with blood. The wind attributed Earth Saint Master however didn't have a single scratch on him.

Subconsciously, Jian Chen looked over to where the battered individual lay. Straight away, he could see a sturdy like build that seemed quite familiar to him. Following a closer inspection, Jian Chen's eyes suddenly flew wide open as a dangerous gleam appeared within. As soon as his eyes widened, a feeling of bloodlust could be felt.

Chapter 304: Meeting Qin Xiao

"Qin Xiao~~~!" Jian Chen roared angrily as his entire figure blurred away from sight. With a lightning like speed, Jian Chen flew toward the three men who were currently fighting. At the same time, an enormous amount of killing intent began to exude from his body, shooting straight into the air.

The girl watched as Jian Chen sped away with a flabbergasted look. She was previously standing right next to him with her golden longbow out. From the days she had traveled with Jian Chen, she had quickly learned his personality, but this was the first time she had seen such a drastic change in him. She hastened after Jian Chen.

Jian Chen's roar was immediately heard by the three combatants. The two bloodsoaked figures were shocked; they hadn't expected to come across anyone that was familiar with the young lord of the Tianqin clan. The two of them had already used up all of their strength fighting and were immensely relieved to see a new chance at life. The moment they saw Jian Chen run toward them, their happy look froze in place before disappearing from their faces and were instead replaced with looks of utter despair.

The both of them knew Jian Chen and how he was the only foreign friend of Qin Xiao, but while his talent at cultivation wasn't all that bad, Jian Chen was still young and only a Great Saint Master. Their opponent was an Earth Saint Master and a truly strong one at that with his wind Saint Force. If the two of them combined wouldn't be able to force him to a disadvantage, Jian Chen wouldn't be able to.

By this point, the wind attributed Earth Saint Master had noticed Jian Chen. The moment he saw the handsome look on Jian Chen, his face immediately lost his look of confidence. A deep feeling of dread washed over him as he lost all of his desire to fight.

"Hmph, I'll let you go today." The Earth Saint Master spat out unwillingly before flying into the air to run away.

Just as the man left, one of the heavily injured men that lost most of his Saint Force immediately lost consciousness.

The other man had no energy remaining either and fell to the ground on his back with a withered expression.

"Qin Xiao, Qin Xiao! How are you feeling, wake up!" Jian Chen quickly arrived at Qin Xiao's side while calling out his name repeatedly in a frantic manner.

Qin Xiao's wounds were rather severe and he was covered with blood. Even the surrounding grass beneath him was soaked with his blood. On his body, Jian Chen noticed two terrifyingly deep wounds. Right on his waist, Qin Xiao's body was nearly cut in two with only around half of his body still connected. The other wound was on his chest where a sword had been run through, causing a severe amount of damage to even his inner organs. Qin Xiao right now was already halfway through the gates of the underworld.

"Quick, use your bow to shoot him down! Don't let him escape!" Jian Chen roared as he pointed at the rapidly disappearing figure of the wind attributed Earth Saint Master to the yellow clothed girl.

Coming into view, the girl already had a hand reaching toward her bow in order to kill the man, but the moment she had heard the commanding tone of Jian Chen, her eyebrows narrowed as she dropped her hands. Returning her hands to where they originally were, she spoke with a frosty tone, "I refuse to, why should I listen to you?"

"Bang!" Jian Chen's fist slammed into the ground, creating a half a meter hole deep into the soft ground. The bloodshot eyes of Jian Chen stared dangerously at the girl as his rage continued to fly into the air. This time, Jian Chen was truly angry.

Seeing the nearly blood-thirsty and animal like visage of Jian Chen, the girl's heart shook with some fear before stopping in place. In this moment of clarity, she suddenly felt a great deal of regret. When she refused to shoot the escaping person and lost her attention, the wind attributed Earth Saint Master had traveled past the mountain range and out of sight.

"Ji-Jian...Jian Chen."

Just as Jian Chen was about to use the Radiant Saint Force to heal Qin Xiao's wounds, a faint sounding voice could be heard as Qin Xiao's eyes opened just a crack. His mouth trembled slightly as he called out Jian Chen's name quietly.

“Qin Xiao, hold on! I’ll heal you up in a moment!” Jian Chen began to control the Radiant Saint Force around the World Essence to heal Qin Xiao. Right now Qin Xiao was in extreme danger, his life was hanging on by a thread and could be cut at any moment.

“Jia-Jian....Jian Chen.” Qin Xiao’s eyes opened a little more as his right arm quavered in an attempt to grab onto Jian Chen’s hands. Slowly placing it on his Space Belt, he began to speak, “H-he.... help..... me br-bring... out.... a gre-green... b-bo-bottle.... out... fr-from... my... Sp-Spa-Space... Belt....” Qin Xiao’s voice was beginning to fade in and out as his voice grew faint. With a faint exhale, his head tilted down and he fell unconscious.

Jian Chen understood what Qin Xiao’s message was right away. Carefully taking his Space Belt without touching Qin Xiao’s wounds, he began to furiously search within the contents before finally taking out three green porcelain bottles.

Just as Jian Chen took out the three bottles and opened them, a sweet smelling fragrance could be detected.

Each bottle contained a thumb sized pill that exuded a faint white glow.

“This...this is?!” Jian Chen cried out in shock and recognition. While the three pellets had a faint powder look on the shell, inside the shell was a pure amount of Radiant Saint Force.

Jian Chen was like a Radiant Saint Master and clearly understood the effects of the Radiant Saint Force. Immediately grabbing the pellets, he placed them into Qin Xiao’s mouth.

After swallowing the pill, Qin Xiao’s face began to take a turn for the better in color. Despite the Radiant Saint Force filled pill not being enough to fully heal Qin Xiao, saving his life would be no problem at all. However, Qin Xiao had yet to awaken.

After Qin Xiao’s condition was stabilized, Jian Chen let out a breath in relief. Then he turned to the two bloodsoaked men.

He had recognized the two men. One of them was Qin Jue, the one that Qin Xiao had said his father had picked up from the outside world and raised. He was born and raised within the Tianqin clan and had an extremely loyal heart, but right now he was unconscious. The other man also wasn’t a Tianqin clan member and was one of the men who had entered the Space Gate to Mercenary City with him. He was the comrade of Tian Zhou, but right now his face was deathly pale as he sat on the ground and ate a healing pill to recover his strength.

Three men quickly came into Jian Chen’s line of sight at a quick speed.

The three men were quickly detected by everyone, “Eldest Brother!” Suddenly, a joyous sound could be heard as the slowly healing person looked at the three approaching men and tried to crawl up to meet them.

These three men were unexpectedly Tian Zhou and two other brothers from outside the Tianqin clan.

“Fourth brother!”

“Fourth brother!”

“Fourth brother!”

Tian Zhou and the other two were quick to recognize the bloodsoaked figure and instantly called out in panic as they ran to his side.

“Fourth brother, how are you feeling, who did this to you?”

“Fourth brother, tell us, just which bastard beat you to this state?”

Seeing the bloodsoaked figure of their brother, the other two men were furious. Tian Zhou’s own face was rather unsightly as the three began to look around only to see the unconscious figure of the young lord of the Tianqin clan, Jian Chen, and the golden longbow girl right next to him.

“Who are you!” One of the men roared at the girl. They all knew who Jian Chen was, but not who this new girl was.

The girl looked at the three in disdain as she turned her head arrogantly to the side. It was as if she wasn’t willing to talk or even look at them.

Seeing the attitude of the girl, the other man barked at her coldly, “Naughty girl, we asked you a question, are you deaf?”

After he spoke, the girl’s expression darkened as she stared at them with a hateful glare, “Say one more word and I’ll kill you.” She had guessed that Jian Chen knew these men, and if it weren’t for that, then she would have long since moved against these people. After all, these three men were Earth Saint Masters and would undoubtedly have many tokens with them.

“You...” The man she spoke to growled angrily as a machete like weapon appeared within his hands, “You must be tired of living. I’ll teach you a lesson then!” With that, he flew at her.

“Hey, second brother, don’t be so reckless! You shouldn’t act so soon against a beauty like her.” Immediately, a rather ugly looking man held out his hand to stop the other man from attacking as he looked at the girl with a lecherous gaze.

Hearing this, the second brother was stunned for a moment before realizing what was happening. With a dark laugh, he spoke, “Third brother, you’re the smart one among us! It would be a crying shame for this beautiful woman to die so soon!” Then, speaking to the girl, he laughed once more, “Little beauty, I’ve changed my mind. Killing such a beautiful person would be a big shame. Why don’t you accompany us for a good time. If you can make this a pleasurable time, then big brother here will let you go.”

The girl’s face froze over in a dark expression.

Hearing this, even Jian Chen’s face grew dark. Although he had plenty of complaints about her, he couldn’t respect the two for their words now, that the girl and him were both on the same side. Lastly, Tian Zhou and his brothers didn’t sit right with him as Tian Zhou had initially caused plenty of trouble for him back then in the Tianqin compound.

“If you don’t wish to die, then it would be best for you two to shut your mouths.” Jian Chen slowly stood up as he stared coldly at the men in front of him.

“F*ck, kid. The beauty and us two are talking, since when was it your turn to interfere? Death won’t come easy for you.” The second brother glared at Jian Chen dangerously. While Jian Chen had a decent friendship with the young lord Qin Xiao who was within the same clan as Tian Zhou, they were the brothers of Tian Zhou and knew that Jian Chen was not a person he liked.

The previously silent Tian Zhou looked on with a dark expression. He had a look full of killing intent directed at Jian Chen; he had already a large amount of complaints about Jian Chen back in Walaurent City and had even started a dispute. If it weren’t for the patriarch coming to stop the two, then he would have fought Jian Chen. Even in Mercenary City, he had wanted to hit Jian Chen many times but was held back due to the Grand Elder. However now, there was an opportunity sitting right in front of him, he would naturally not let this go by.

Tian Zhou gave a knowing look at the bloodsoaked man who instantly understood what Tian Zhou was getting at. Pointing at Jian Chen, he cried out loud, “Eldest brother, second brother, third brother! We were attacked by this heartless kid! This cruel youth wanted to kill our Tianqin clan’s Qin Xiao. The other clans member and I were caught off guard when he struck and were injured severely! If it weren’t for eldest brother coming here so fast, then I’m afraid I wouldn’t be able to meet with you right now.”

Sniffing away his tears, the fourth brother began to moan out loud.

Tian Zhou’s face froze after the outburst as he glared at Jian Chen, “Youngster, you’ve twisted the kindness of my elder brother while holding the esteemed title of being an honored guest, how could you be so devoid of a conscious? Today, I, Tian Zhou, will not forgive you. Third eldest, go and capture the would be murderer of our Qin Xiao.” In Tian Zhou’s eyes, Jian Chen was only a Great Saint Master and didn’t bother to see him as a person worth capturing personally.

“Yes, eldest brother!” Immediately the third brother sprung into action and flew at Jian Chen with his Saint Weapon. From the start, he had never bothered to place this “Great Saint Master” in sight.

With a gleam of light, Jian Chen didn’t bother to say anything since it would all be useless.

“Stop!” Suddenly, a weak sounding voice could be heard as the blood covered Qin Jue awoke when the people were all distracted. With a good amount of effort, he spoke out fragily, “You misunderstand. We were attacked by an extremely strong Earth Saint Master who was unrelated to brother Jian Chen.”

Tian Zhou’s face turned ugly as he stared at Qin Jue, “What rubbish! Qin Jue, you’ve must of hit your head, you, Qin Xiao and fourth brother were clearly ambushed by Jian Chen, what other person is there?”

Hearing that, Qin Jue’s eyes flashed twice but went silent. He had only just woken up and didn’t hear Tian Zhou’s initial words so he wasn’t clear on the situation. He did know that Tian Zhou desperately wished to make life difficult for Jian Chen. but with his severe injuries, he couldn’t even look out for himself, let alone muster up the strength to help Jian Chen.

At this moment, the third eldest had already reached Jian Chen and sneered right in front of his handsome, white face. With a single movement, his arm reached out to grab Jian Chen’s shoulder with a strength that would shatter even the bones of a Great Saint Master.

Jian Chen's eyes flashed dangerously as the Light Wind Sword appeared in his right hand. The Light Wind Sword had already stopped right next to the man's throat before the third eldest could react.

This sudden development caused the man to become shocked. Even the arm that was going to grab at Jian Chen's shoulder instantly stopped as he stood completely still.

"Y-yo-you..." The third eldest kept staring at the sword at his throat in pure speechlessness as his shock caused him to begin to stutter.

A single "Great Saint Master" had unexpectedly been able to bring his Saint Weapon up to his neck without him noticing. For an Earth Saint Master, this was something he was completely shocked to realize.

"You've managed to turn black into white with this situation. Do not blame me for being impolite." Jian Chen glared icily at Tian Zhou as he spoke.

Having been threatened by the younger generation, this made Tian Zhou's face go dark, "Forward! Kill him and save third brother!" With that, Tian Zhou withdrew his red colored sword and charged toward Jian Chen.

Taking out his own Saint Weapon, the second brother charged toward Jian Chen as well.

At the same time, the third brother that was held hostage against Jian Chen's sword immediately took advantage of the shift of focus from him to Tian Zhou and the other two. With a swift movement, his hands flew at Jian Chen's throat in an instant.

With a look of disdain and a sneer, Jian Chen pulled sharply on the sword on the third brother's neck. In an instant, his head separated from his body as a fountain of blood splurged from his neck and dyed the ground below them with his blood.

"Third eldest!"

"Third eldest!"

"Third brother!"

Tian Zhou and the others cried out in fury and grievance.

"You bastard! I'll definitely kill you today!"

"For vengeance!"

Tian Zhou and the others roared in anger as they glared at Jian Chen with eyes that could start fires as if they wanted to destroy Jian Chen.

"Whoosh!"

Suddenly, another whistling sound could be heard as a golden ray of light came from behind Jian Chen. In an instant, the lightning like bolt of light speared through the second brother's chest. Right where the heart should be, only a hole could be seen.

Even after striking through the second brother's chest, the arrow didn't lose speed at all and traveled another hundred meters before smashing into the side of a mountain slope and disappearing from view.

Jian Chen turned his head to look only to see the icy cold visage of the yellow clothed girl. In her hands was the golden Solunar Bow with the bowstring looking as if it had just been twanged.

The second eldest was the one that had first insulted her, and with the girl's personality, there was no way for her to forgive him at all. If the third brother hadn't been killed by Jian Chen, then she would have killed him as well.

The second eldest's eyes opened wide as he looked at the golden longbow and the girl wielding it in disbelief. He had never thought that a young and weak looking girl like her would possess such a terrifying amount of fighting strength. That golden arrow had traveled at a speed far beyond what he could detect.

"Bang!" The second eldest's body fell to the ground, dead. After being killed by this weak-looking young girl, he would never be at ease even in death.

Seeing his second brother fall dead, Tian Zhou's face grew alarmed before instantly turning white. Both Jian Chen and this young girl's fighting strength had far exceeded what he had expected. The second and third brother both had a strength that wasn't too far away from his own, but they both had been instantly killed.

The most terrifying thing was the arrow that the yellow clothed girl shot out. They left him in a state of terror; if it had been him that was shot at, there would have been no time for him to dodge since they were so close. He would have met the same fate as his second brother.

Tian Zhou immediately halted his forward momentum toward Jian Chen. With this sudden change in development, he was suddenly stuck in a problematic dilemma.

Jian Chen turned to look at Tian Zhou with an attentive gaze and taunted, "Were you not saying that you were going to kill me? Just why haven't you done anything yet then?"

Hearing this, Tian Zhou's face grew unsightly as he stared at the two with a venomous look. "Brat, I, Tian Zhou, won't forget this day!" With that, Tian Zhou flew in the opposite direction to flee.

Immediately pulling at her bow, the girl was just about to shoot at the fleeing Tian Zhou when Jian Chen disappeared from his original position and flew toward Tian Zhou.

Halfway to him, Jian Chen's sword flashed in the light as a concentrated amount of Sword Qi flew at Tian Zhou.

Feeling something peculiar chase after him, Tian Zhou flew to the side and simultaneously used his fire Saint Force enhanced sword to smash at the Sword Qi he couldn't avoid. With this delay, his traveling speed was much slower than before and so Jian Chen had quickly caught up to him before stabbing at him without hesitation.

After being blocked from his escape path, Tian Zhou could do nothing else but fight Jian Chen. With his Saint Force exploding out from his body, the pressure around them began to escalate as the grass below them began to wither away.

“Ha!” Tian Zhou shouted. With a heavy swing, his giant sword came raining down on Jian Chen.

Without fear, Jian Chen slammed his own Sword Qi enhanced Light Wind Sword against the other. Then, with a shake of his hand, the Light Wind Sword slapped the sword, sending the giant sword flying to the side. With a strong amount of power, the sword immediately stabbed deep Tian Zhou’s chest before the tip came exiting out from his back.

“You-you are an Earth Saint Master? How!?” At that moment, Tian Zhou had been brought to full clarity. The person he had never bothered to look at was not a Great Saint Master, but an Earth Saint Master!

“It’s no wonder! No wonder at all that you were able to kill third brother and chase up to me!” Tian Zhou’s face ashened as he began to feel a great amount of regret. If he had known earlier that Jian Chen was an Earth Saint Master, then he wouldn’t have tried to provoke him.

“How unfortunate, you learned of this too late.” Jian Chen stated emotionlessly as his killing intent went undisguised.

Chapter 305: Seeing the Ruler Armament Once More

Tian Zhou stared at Jian Chen with a dangerous gleam, “Do you mean to kill me?”

Jian Chen laughed, “This is the consequence of your actions. It was you that started all of this and decided that I was in the wrong, and then you wanted to kill me. Do not blame me for returning the favor.” With that, Jian Chen slowly pulled the sword out from Tian Zhou’s chest, causing a river of blood to come pouring out.

Jian Chen’s sword had only pierced through Tian Zhou’s chest two inches away from his heart. While it had run through the chest, it wasn’t a life threatening injury for a man like him.

Knowing that Jian Chen was determined to kill him, Tian Zhou threw away his cautionary attitude and with a serious shout, he roared, “If you wish to kill me, then be prepared to pay a heavy price!” Tian Zhou’s giant sword burst out with light as a fire-like essence began to coil around his sword. The temperature around the two immediately soared higher as even the grass below began to rapidly dry up.

“Go die then!” Tian Zhou howled as his sword transformed into a flaming light that came roaring down at Jian Chen. He knew that as long as the strange, longbow wielding girl was there, he had no chance to escape. No matter where he went, he would die, but he could hopefully drag Jian Chen down with him. Even if he couldn’t kill Jian Chen, he would at least deal a significant amount of damage to him. Right now, there was only a month left until this part of the competition was over. That meant that this would be the most intense part of the competition. If he could injure Jian Chen at this crucial moment, then even an Earth Saint Master like Jian Chen wouldn’t be able to leave this place without harm.

With that single sword strike, a strong pressure flooded the area and pressed down on Jian Chen’s body. With this sensation, Jian Chen felt as if he was stuck in a quagmire, and that his own movements had become restricted.

Tian Zhou’s sword was undoubtedly using a battle skill.

Jian Chen sneered. He had seen plenty of battle skills, and had even experienced the taste of a tornado-like battle skill before, so a battle skill like this was nothing.

Only if there was no alternative would Jian Chen try to go head to head against a battle skill. But he knew he generally didn't have enough power to go against one. Sliding forward, Jian Chen narrowly dodged the sword and swiftly shot his blade forward towards Tian Zhou's throat.

Before Tian Zhou could even react, the Light Wind Sword was against his neck.

"Even if you try your hardest, your fate won't change. You are not an opponent for me." Jian Chen laughed as he looked dangerously at Tian Zhou. "Tian Zhou, since I am friends with the Tianqin clan, you may give me your final words."

"You truly dare to try and kill me!" Tian Zhou roared with an angry look. After exchanging several blows, he had already figured out that he wasn't strong enough to fight Jian Chen. Even a battle skill wouldn't be enough to defeat this twenty year old youth. Knowing that Jian Chen wasn't a Great Saint Master was truly a fact that he found hard to believe.

Jian Chen sneered, "Do you really think that just because you are a member of the Tianqin clan, I won't make a move against you? I've already shown enough restraint."

"If you kill me, the Tianqin clan won't let you go." Tian Zhou began to show a sliver of fear.

Jian Chen's glare dimmed as he shook his hand, causing the Light Wind Sword to strike Tian Zhou's face with a slap. The sharp edge of the sword cut slightly into the man's face and drew blood.

"You...." Tian Zhou grew indignant as he glared furiously at Jian Chen, yet he made no move to attack him. If looks could kill, then Jian Chen would have been burned to ashes by Tian Zhou's malicious glower.

Humiliation. This was the biggest humiliation Tian Zhou had ever felt. As a direct member of the Tianqin clan, Tian Zhou held a clear, decisive role of power and status. Even Qin Xiao couldn't compare to his status. But Jian Chen's actions had been nothing better than a slap to his face with his palm. This act alone had almost caused Tian Zhou to explode in anger.

"What about me, so what if I kill you? Don't even bother to threaten me with the Tianqin clan. You are not the representative of the Tianqin clan, and if it weren't for the sake of brother Qin Xiao, then I would have taught you a lesson back at the Tianqin clan's compound." Jian Chen stated. With a fierce glare, he kicked Tian Zhou in the chest; however, whether it was accidental or intentional, Jian Chen had kicked him where Tian Zhou had been stabbed with the sword earlier.

Tian Zhou stifled a groan as he was sent flying five or six meters into the air before finally crashing back down to the ground. Spitting out a mouthful of blood, his face went as white as parchment as his chest began to flow with blood again.

Jian Chen brought out his Light Wind Sword in a flash once more before stabbing at Tian Zhou's throat with a terrifying amount of Sword Qi. Just as he stabbed down at him, a weak sounding voice came from behind.

“Jian Chen, please, don’t kill him. In the end, he’s my uncle.” Qin Xiao had somehow awoken during their fight, and had struggled to get to where Jian Chen was, his voice a barely audible whisper.

Jian Chen’s Light Wind Sword suddenly stopped right in front of Tian Zhou’s face, the chilling feel of the Sword Qi already close enough to touch Tian Zhou’s body. There was no fear in his face; after several years of life or death fights, Tian Zhou was experienced with fatal events. Death had no effect on him.

Biting his lips, Jian Chen stared at Tian Zhou like a starving wolf and growled, “For the sake of brother Qin Xiao, I’ll spare your life today.” With that, Jian Chen recollected his sword before looking at the Space Ring on Tian Zhou’s finger. Jian Chen loftily grabbed the Space Ring and walked back to where Qin Xiao was.

Tian Zhou crawled up from the ground with a heavy look as he stared icily at Jian Chen’s retreating back. Wordlessly, he tried to address the wound on his chest before walking away. His Space Ring had been taken, and he had been humiliated by Jian Chen, but there wasn’t a single word he could say. Revenge could come later; as long as he lived, he would be able to find an opportunity to wipe out the unbelievable humiliation he had suffered today.

The bloodsoaked third brother stood behind Tian Zhou with a baleful glare as a large amount of killing intent radiated from him.

Jian Chen stopped his movements as he turned his head to look at the third brother, “Who said you could leave?” With a slash of his sword, a burst of Sword Qi flew at the man.

The third brother had already sustained heavy injuries that had taken up the majority of his strength. Thus, he was unable to dodge this blow and was speared through by the Sword Qi.

The originally bloodsoaked third brother fell to the ground slowly as more blood came pouring out of the thumb-sized hole in his throat.

Tian Zhou shook slightly, but he continued to move away without stopping. Quickly, he disappeared past the mountain ridge.

Jian Chen walked to Qin Xiao’s side and inspected his wounds before taking the other two Radiant Saint Force filled pills to feed him.

“No, Jian Chen. One pill is enough, give the other one to brother Qin Jue.” Qin Xiao blocked Jian Chen from feeding him another pill.

Nodding his head, Jian Chen put one pill into Qin Xiao’s mouth before turning to Qin Jue and giving a pill to him as well.

With a small amount of hesitation, Qin Jue took the pill into his mouth before closing his eyes to heal. With his innate silence, he had no words to say.

Jian Chen walked to where the yellow clothed girl was and said, “Please look after these two for a moment, I’ll go collect a few things from nearby.”

The girl looked at Jian Chen with a skewed look before turning her head angrily to the side without another word.

Jian Chen didn't beat around the bush either, and instead looked around himself. Pushing the tips of toes on the ground, he immediately shot off like an arrow into a specific direction before quickly disappearing from sight.

Seeing how Jian Chen had finally disappeared, the longbow wielding girl pouted unhappily as her beautiful face held some anger.

Jian Chen returned quickly with a bunch of wrist sized branches. Setting them on the ground, Jian Chen took out a few piles of rope and some quilts and began to busy himself with them.

In a flash, a simple stretcher was made for Qin Xiao to lay in. Carefully placing Qin Xiao in the stretcher, Jian Chen knew that Qin Xiao's waist had almost been cut in half, making it impossible to walk. Even standing would be tantamount to being impossible, so a stretcher would be needed.

"Brother Jian Chen, I'm sorry to be such a bother." Qin Xiao spoke out emotionally.

Jian Chen's eyes narrowed, "Qin Xiao, if I am your brother, then don't say such words."

Qin Xiao grabbed Jian Chen's hands without a word, but his heart was filled with emotions.

Grabbing the stretcher, Jian Chen lifted him into the air so the stretcher was at his shoulders. Turning around to look at Qin Jue, he asked, "Are you able to move still."

After Qin Jue had eaten the pill with Radiant Saint Force, his body was in better condition than before. While he wasn't completely healed, it was better than nothing.

With some effort, Qin Jue stood up and stared at Jian Chen with a complicated expression, "I've no problems, but I won't be able to fight. However, I'm capable of running."

"This isn't a good place to idle about, let's go." Jian Chen said.

Neither the girl or Qin Jue had any objections to this, and so after taking the second, third and fourth brothers' Space Belts, the four of them left the area.

"Bang!" Suddenly, a loud sound could be heard as an equally large amount of energy was seen rippling through the air. Jian Chen and the others could even detect that the earth below them was vibrating slightly.

"Bang bang bang bang!"

From far away, a loud sound and a large amount of energy could be seen and heard. Even the shaking of the earth continued despite the long distance, and had even cracked the ground slightly.

Jian Chen and the others immediately stopped their movements and looked at a giant mountain several hundred meters away where they could barely make out the sight of what was happening.

"There are people fighting over there, they seem quite strong." Jian Chen spoke with a solemn expression.

As soon as he spoke, a giant, iron-like seal flew from the mountains before crashing down to the ground.

“Bang!” With a mighty crash, the ground shook violently once more in a stronger surge than before, making it seem almost as if there was an earthquake.

“That’s the Seal of Treasure Mountain!” The girl cried out in shock. Her face grew solemn as she said, “Shi Xiangran has to be fighting with someone. Seeing how far back the Seal of Treasure Mountain was sent flying, the enemy must be very strong, or else there has to be many of them.”

At that moment, the seal began to fly upwards back toward the mountain slope. Jian Chen and the other three could see that before the seal could come flying down, another figure flew up into the air with his flaming, scarlet sword smashing against the seal.

“Bang!” Like a clap of thunder, the sound shook everyone’s ears as they all saw a ripple of energy fly forth. The seal continued to wobble in midair as it flew back constantly.

“Ruler Armament! That sword has to be a Ruler Armament for it to knock back the Seal of Treasure Mountain so far back!” The girl cried out in shock.

Chapter 306: Get Out

Jian Chen grew solemn the moment he saw the sight before saying, “It would be unwise to approach them now. Let’s hurry up and leave.” If he didn’t have the injured Qin Xiao draped over him, then he would have investigated the sight above. For the sake of Qin Xiao, he would place safety as their priority.

Jian Chen took the stretcher and led the girl away from the place as Tian Jue bit his lips and followed close behind.

The ground began to shake once more as the mountains shook violently. Even the ground near Jian Chen’s feet began to crack as the sounds of a fierce battle could be heard, his ears shook from the vibrations.

A few of the more courageous men were attracted by the sight and flew toward the sounds of the battle. The vast majority of them had already lost their Space Belts and were heavily bandaged while some looked quite miserable. The moment they saw the injured members behind Jian Chen, two of the more well off looking men flew at Jian Chen in a hurry.

The two were extremely fast and had traveled several hundred meters in a flash. Swiftly coming to a stop to measure Jian Chen and the others, they both noticed that Jian Chen and the other girl were no older than twenty five years at the most. Their confidence couldn’t help but go up as one of them shouted, “You there stand still!” With that, they closed the distance.

Jian Chen’s eyes flashed as the girl instantly grabbed at her longbow and shot two golden arrows from it. They traveled at an extremely fast pace.

The two golden arrows traveled through the air with a golden trail as if they were shooting stars that flew closer and closer to the two men.

When the two saw the girl take out her bow they immediately took out their Saint Weapons as a precaution. As the golden arrows were shot, they were already waving their swords in an attempt to cut them down.

“Earth Saint Masters!” Jian Chen’s heart skipped a beat. From the pulse in their Saint Force, Jian Chen could tell just how strong the two were.

Bang! Bang!

Following two metallic sounds, the smoke from the explosions, created when dirt and grass was kicked into the air by the collisions, masked the two men from view. The two men then shot straight into the air as a result of the energy. They involuntarily spat out a mouth full of blood.

While the girl was very young in age, she was very firm in her killing strikes unlike those born and raised in a sheltered lifestyle. Just like a hardened battle veteran that has experienced countless of battles, she readily stepped forward as her dainty jade like fingers stretched the bowstring on her bow. Slowly stretching it taut, she immediately let go and released a golden arrow away from her.

“Whoosh whoosh!”

Two twangs could be heard as the two golden arrows left a trail of golden light as they shot toward the two men. Before they could even react, the arrows had shot through their chests.

“Ah!”

The two men let out simultaneous cries of anguish as they felt a fist sized hole punch through their chests. As the golden arrows pushed past their bodies, the remnants of the energy exploded within their body and instantly destroyed their inner organs. As soon as the men screamed in pain, they instantly went silent.

The two of them were Earth Saint Masters, but they both had been easily killed by the girl and her longbow.

Everyone around the area could see this fight clearly. Those who initially had thoughts about robbing Jian Chen and his group instantly withdrew all notions of fighting.

“Just who is that yellow robed girl, and how strong is she? The two men who were after their tokens were Earth Saint Masters, but even they were easily killed by her...”

“I can see that this girl isn’t that old, but just how could she be that strong in such a young age? Whoever marries her in the future will be truly blessed...”

“Shh! Speak quietly, what if she hears you! If she gets angry then it’ll be all over for us once she starts shooting...”

“That’s right, a youngster like you should keep your mouth shut. A loose tongue may bring you trouble. Be careful with what you say, and for heaven’s sakes, don’t say anything unnecessary...”

From far away, three men began to talk among themselves. Looking at Jian Chen, no one dared come close to him.

After that, barely any people dared to block Jian Chen and his group’s path. Jian Chen continued to hold the stretcher in front of him while he rushed forward. After he had come across the two who blocked their path, he collected their belongings: a Space Ring and a nice looking Space Belt.

The girl watched as Jian Chen rifled through the men's belongings without saying a word. Strapping the longbow to her back, she followed Jian Chen from behind as they both left the place.

Shi Xiangran continued to fight for a long period of time, allowing Jian Chen to travel several kilometers away. Even after hearing several explosions, Jian Chen and the group didn't turn back and continued on.

Six hours later, Jian Chen and his group were farther away now and finally stopped at a cave to rest. Within the dark cave, a small campfire could be seen burning.

"This cave has someone recently staying here, forget it, let's occupy it." Jian Chen muttered before carefully setting Qin Xiao down on the ground. Collecting several untouched branches around the cave's opening, Jian Chen lit them on fire to use as a torch.

"The branches won't burn for long, you should all go inside to rest first, I'll go find some more branches." With that, Jian Chen turned to climb down the slope and collect some more branches and dried sticks.

While Jian Chen continued to collect branches, the sounds of footsteps could be heard. Ignoring the sound, Jian Chen continued to collect the tree branches on the ground.

Quickly, two shadows flew into view. From their appearances, the two were around forty years old. One was quite sturdy in stature and wore a black sleeveless gown. Both of his dark skinned arms bulged with muscles and he wore blue colored trousers with cloth shoes. The other man was quite even in his build and was not tall at all. His face was rather suited to talk to the crowd but his ordinary looking eyes shone with light. He wore a white robe that was quite damaged and there were green stains from the grass nearby.

As Jian Chen measured the two, they looked at Jian Chen in return. Realizing that Jian Chen was no older than twenty years old, the two men both dropped their guards.

Jian Chen looked at the two for a moment longer before he resumed picking up branches from the ground. With a single strand of rope, he tied a bundle of sticks together before putting them in his Space Ring.

Now that Jian Chen was an Earth Saint Master, he had no reason to hide his Space Ring any more. His strength was sufficient enough to protect himself, so the Space Ring he had originally hidden in the Tianqin clan was now worn proudly on his hand.

When the middle age man saw the Space Ring on his hand, a barely detectable glint of light flashed through his eyes but his expression remained impassive.

The sturdy man took out a wine gourd and began to take a large gulp from it before sighing carefully. Then looking at Jian Chen, he said, "Fellow brother, you sure are quite brave. With a young and brazen kid like you participating in the Gathering of the Mercenaries, I truly admire you. Just what are you gathering up branches for?"

Jian Chen tilted his head to look at the man; he looked simple and honest enough with those clear eyes.

"I'm using them to start a fire." Jian Chen replied.

As soon as all the branches were collected and bundled, Jian Chen stored them into his Space Ring and quickly left without a look back.

As the sturdy looking man stood where he had been talking to Jian Chen and looked at him run farther away from them before slowly saying, "That kid is quite mysterious."

"Haha, even I think he is quite mysterious too! For a kid this young to participate, he's stronger than me when I was his age. What an admirable achievement." His companion laughed.

The man then revealed the tiniest of sneers, "Senior An, did you see that on his person, that ring on his finger was actually a Space Ring?"

"A Space Ring!" The sturdy man gasped with a bitter smile before scratching at his bald head in embarrassment. "I wasn't paying attention at all. Yun Zheng, I could detect that that kid was stronger than me several times over. Despite him having a Space Ring, a simple Space Belt is well enough for a person's everyday use. As long as one prepares one in advance, then they will save themselves some money."

The middle aged man didn't say anything and continued to look in the direction Jian Chen ran in. After a little while he left in another direction with the other man.

Jian Chen quickly returned to the original cave and immediately took out the branches from within his Space Ring to begin the campfire. With Qin Xiao's heavy injuries, mobility was severely restricted, so Jian Chen had calculated that they would have to stay within the cave for half a month and wait for Qin Xiao's condition to at least stabilize. For that reason, he had stockpiled a large amount of branches that filled a corner of the cave with a pile of wrist sized sticks.

Adding a few more sticks to the fire, Jian Chen continued to take out some medicinal herbs from Qin Xiao's Space Belt to treat his wounds and then wrapped some bandages over them. At the same time, the equally injured Qin Jue had taken out a few medicinal pills to swallow before sitting in a meditative state as he closed his eyes to allow his body to concentrate on healing.

The girl sat on a rock in a corner of the cave as she gently stroked her golden longbow with a concentrated expression.

The entire cave was rather peaceful and only the sounds of the crackling fire could be heard.

At that moment, the sounds of footsteps could be heard walking into the cave, causing Jian Chen who was tending to Qin Xiao's wounds to instantly stop his movements and look toward the entrance. He was already prepared to fight, although Qin Xiao was in a better state than before, he was in no state to fight at all. With his waist damaged, he was unable to exert much force, so Jian Chen would have to protect him.

The girl slowly raised her head as she stared at the cave's entrance as well while clenching the longbow in her hand. Although there weren't many that could challenge her, after seeing Shi Xiangran and the other user with a Ruler Armament, the two of them were equally paranoid and vigilant.

In a flash, two figures entered Jian Chen's eyesight. With the light from the campfire, Jian Chen could see the appearances of the two men. One wore a black sleeveless gown and was quite sturdy in stature

that revealed his dark skinned and muscular arms. The middle aged man behind him was well distributed in build, they were the two that Jian Chen had seen when he was collecting branches earlier.

“Get out!” The girl commanded coldly at the two.

Chapter 307: Being Bold

As the two men saw the girl speak, the sturdy looking man took a look at the beautiful face of hers and immediately stopped right where he stood. Quickly regaining his awareness, he spoke with a depressed expression, “The miss is quite lively. I’ve traveled for thirty years and yet I’ve never seen such a vivid woman before, just what might be your name? I discovered this cave personally and coincidentally someone came in when I just left it. Even then, you are asking me to leave when it should really be you.”

Then, the man looked around the cave only to quickly discover that one of the people there was the one they had seen not too long ago—Jian Chen. When he saw him, he broke out into a smile, “How coincidental, fellow brother, we’ve found each other once again.”

Jian Chen looked at both the middle aged man and the sturdy looking man with a sharp stare only to discover that the both of them were Earth Saint Masters.

While those who could make the breakthrough from the Great Saint Master realm to the Earth Saint Master realm was only ten percent, those who could become an Earth Saint Master before the age of fifty was a one percent chance. Several hundred thousand men were participating in this competition, and only a small number of them, that wouldn’t exceed the triple digits, would be an Earth Saint Master.

Now this part of the competition was finally reaching a conclusion. By this point, the remaining few people that were completely intact were almost all Earth Saint Masters while a small minority were Great Saint Masters. So it was very rare that two Great Saint Masters would suddenly appear as they did right in front of Jian Chen.

Without even waiting for Jian Chen’s response, the sturdy man walked over to the side of the caves and sat down with a smile, “Fellow brother, since you have two injured men with you, I won’t drive you out. We should all protect each other after all. Since everyone should be lively right now, let’s talk about something, don’t you think so Yun Zheng?” The sturdy man asked the middle aged man.

The middle aged man gave a small smile before saying, “Senior An is correct. If no one has any objections, then we should all rest. If we come across any piece of trouble, then we can help each other out, after all, the more people the stronger we are.” The middle aged man sat down next to the burly man and began to look at the four people in front of him.

The girl continued to maintain her icy facade as she stared at the two men dangerously. Despite the looks of goodwill on their faces, she didn’t plan on dropping her guard.

Looking at the girl, Jian Chen hesitated for a moment before nodding his head, “That’s fine. We’ll share this cave for now, but remember this: if someone dares to harm us in any way, then do not blame me for being impolite.” With that, Jian Chen’s eyes frosted over as a dangerous gleam entered them when he said his last sentence.

Hearing this, the middle aged man to the side of the burly one grew uncomfortable for a moment. For a grand Earth Saint Master like him be threatened by a twenty year old child, that didn’t seem right. With

it as is, the man could conclude that Jian Chen wasn't an ordinary person. For a person to remain with their Space Belt for this long in an intense massacre of a competition without any major injuries was commendable. To also look at the two of them with such an arrogant expression, this was someone a person could rely on.

The man didn't seem to hear Jian Chen's threat and began to laugh, "I am called Senior An, the man to my side is called Yun Zheng, fellow brother, what is your name?"

Seeing the simple and straightforward manner of the burly man, Jian Chen immediately concluded that this man was honest. These type of people normally had no machinations hidden away within them, and even if they had, they wouldn't act upon them.

Memories from long ago were suddenly recalled back into his mind as Jian Chen thought about his eldest brother Changyang Hu and Tie Ta from Kargath Academy. These two were very similar to the Senior An in front of him. Because of this, Jian Chen's impression of him was decent.

"I am called Jian Chen!" Jian Chen spoke with a friendly smile at Senior An.

The girl who was sitting on a rock stared at the smiling Jian Chen with a complex look. Not too long after, the cold hard look on her face receded away and was replaced with a rarely seen gentle look.

Because of his genes and his cultivation methods, Jian Chen's appearance was exceptionally handsome and could even be said to be perfect. His smile could stun anyone, and there was not a single girl under the heavens that could resist. Even the girl not too far away from him had been dazed a bit. Quickly, she recovered herself and tore her eyes away from Jian Chen to look elsewhere.

"Jian Chen, I can see that you are quite young, perhaps not even twenty five years old." Senior An asked.

Jian Chen gave a small smile but didn't respond to him.

Senior An looked toward the yellow clothed girl and continued to ask, "Little girl, you've grown to be quite beautiful, even I've grown quite astounded. What is your name?"

With a snort, the girl turned away from him and leaned against the wall to look at the dusky cave roof.

With an embarrassed laugh, the burly man turned to Jian Chen for help.

"Senior An, don't bother, her temper is quite bad," Jian Chen smiled. Even he didn't know the girl's name other than the time when Shi Xiangran had called out to her as Luan Er.

Hearing Jian Chen's words, the girl immediately whirled around with a furious expression, "You're the one with a bad temper!"

Senior An stealthily took a look at the girl with a hand scratching his nose and thought to himself, "It seems Jian Chen is correct. While this girl is quite lively, her temper is equally large. This isn't a person we should offend."

Jian Chen's eyes narrowed as he looked on with a displeased expression. Then, he took out a few Space Belts with dried blood and a Space Ring.

“Woah, Jian Chen, you’ve so many Space Belts! There’s even blood on some of them, did you steal those?” Senior An looked at Jian Chen with a look of shock and his mouth wide open.

Even Yun Zheng who was sitting right next to Senior An looked at Jian Chen with some shock and a strange look in his eyes.

Jian Chen laughed at Senior An’s words and replied, “Is it considered stealing if they tried first?”

Under the amazed eyes of Senior An and Yun Zheng, Jian Chen began to take out and classify the items within the Space Belt and Space Ring. In total, there were four Purple Cards, three Class 5 Monster Cores, two hundred Class 4 Monster Cores, five hundred Class 3 Monster Cores. There was a small mountain of money that shined with purple, gold, and even silver lights. There was also a small pile of around four hundred tokens lying about.

Seeing the pile of black colored tokens, Senior An’s eyes immediately zoomed in on it and nearly began to drool as he muttered, “Wa, there’s so many tokens...”

Even Yun Zheng had been moved by such a sight as his heart began to beat wildly.

Jian Chen didn’t lift his head up from the pile and began to divide the items into two smaller piles. Storing them within a Space Belt, he handed them to the girl and said, “Take it, these are yours.”

The girl stared fiercely at Jian Chen as she took the two hundred tokens from within the Space Belt into her own. Then, she threw the Space Belt back at Jian Chen and said, “The other things in here are of no value to me.”

Without any more objections, Jian Chen took the remaining items into his own Space Belt. The two Purple Cards, two Class 5 Monster Cores, a hundred Class 4 Monster Cores, and the pile of money, he didn’t think that the girl would be so rich that she would disregard this wealth of items.

Senior An stared at the Space Belt thrown at Jian Chen with some disbelief and swallowed the saliva building up in his throat with some difficulty. Turning to look at the handsome Jian Chen, his bald head thumped against the walls of the cave continuously in regret. “Why couldn’t I have been born a few years later? Ah....why couldn’t I have been born handsome? I’ve only just figured it out, if one is born handsome and popular, even the beautiful women will take the initiative to give the good items to you...”

Senior An continued to mutter to himself as if no one was around. The girl sitting on top of the rock began to heave up and down in anger while trying to pretend to ignore the man. But her eyes continued to shoot fire as she stared maliciously at him.

Sitting right next to Senior An, Yun Zheng looked at Jian Chen and the girl with a sluggish look. Seeing how the girl acted shocked his heart. Two Purple Cards, two Class 5 Monster Cores, a hundred Class 4 Monster Cores and a large sum of money was not an easy thing to give away. This sight was far too much for him, the items in that Space Belt were an abundant amount of wealth and would even tempt an Earth Saint Master.

“It would appear that despite the age of these two, they are not people of ordinary status. To be able to toss around a Class 5 Monster Core, they must belong to powerful people and hold powerful positions.” The man thought to himself.

Chapter 308: Yun Zheng's Shock

Time flew by, Jian Chen and the group of people camped in the cave for seven days. In that time, Jian Chen, Senior An, and Yun Zheng continued to talk among each other in a good natured manner. The yellowed clothed girl rarely spoke, even now, Jian Chen still didn't know her name.

Qin Xiao's injuries continued to slowly heal, and while the cut mark on his waist wasn't completely healed, a small scab was already forming. With the help of some medicine, another ten days would be needed before he could walk. Even Qin Jue's injuries had healed sufficiently enough for him to fight. With his valiant strength, it would take another few days for him to heal completely.

Within the dark cave, the fire that had been burning incessantly danced slowly. By the side, the sitting Jian Chen slowly opened his eyes and looked around the room. Qin Jue, the girl, and Senior An were all sitting in a meditative position and Qin Xiao was still laying on the stretcher with his eyes closed in a sleeping position. Only Yun Zheng was not in the cave.

Jian Chen re-stoked the flames before walking out of the caves. A while after he had left, the yellow clothed girl opened her eyes from her meditative position and scoured the place. Then, closing her eyes, she went still again.

Arriving at the cave's entrance, Jian Chen began to take in the fresh air of the outside world before closing his eyes in a pleased manner. The ventilation within the cave wasn't the best, and the stuffy, hot air within the cave caused everyone inside to feel uncomfortable.

Taking in another deep breath, he climbed down the mountain slope to wander about. Since he had to protect Qin Xiao, Jian Chen didn't dare go far. Until Qin Xiao was fully healed, Jian Chen didn't plan on leaving this place. If they were to travel with an immobile Qin Xiao and came across a strong individual, then it would be very problematic. Even if he wasn't afraid for himself, but if the target was Qin Xiao, Jian Chen would be stuck in a problematic situation.

In this short amount of time, Jian Chen had collected a total of at least a thousand tokens. The competition had only required a total of five hundred tokens in order to pass, so Jian Chen was well above what was needed. The only thing left for him to do was survive for the rest of the time limit.

Jian Chen leaped into a thirty meter tall tree and sat on top of a tree branch. Laying down on it, his head continued to think about the Ming Dong who was still within the hidden shrine, "I wonder how Ming Dong is doing. His ancestor was good friends with the shrine lord; he will definitely help out Ming Dong. When I see him again, he'll definitely be vastly different."

"This Gathering of the Mercenaries is the easiest way to obtain a Heaven Tier Battle Skill. As long as I try my hardest, then I will definitely obtain it! When I am strong enough, I will be able to return to the Gesun Kingdom and settle my debt with the Hua Yun Sect. With a Heaven Tier Battle Skill, the Changyang clan will definitely increase in power as well." Muttering to himself, Jian Chen continued to lay about on the tree as he stared up with a determined look.

Shortly after, Jian Chen let out a breath of air with a worried look. "The Gesun Kingdom is currently in a bad situation. The neighboring four kingdoms are uniting against them. Within two years, there will definitely be a war between the two sides. Before that happens, I must increase my strength as much as possible and be of some help."

As Jian Chen continued to plan for the future on top of his tree branch, the shadows of three men quickly flew toward his direction with the speed of an arrow.

From the three men, the frontmost person was especially pale and drenched with blood. His originally white robes were heavily stained with blood as the two men behind him chased him with their Saint Weapons ready to strike.

Sensing the three men, Jian Chen pushed aside the foliage in order to see just what was happening from his overhead perch. Just as he looked at the three men, he revealed a surprised look before smiling, "I didn't think that he would be chased in such a manner. It seems that he plans to bring them back to our campground." With that, Jian Chen leaped down from his tree branch and stood right next to a tree in front of the three men.

From the three men, the person running away was the same person from the caves, Yun Zheng. At this moment, Yun Zheng was in a miserable state and had long since lost his svelte attitude.

The moment Yun Zheng noticed Jian Chen, an indescribable light flashed in his eyes before increasing his speed a bit. Flying toward Jian Chen, the pale Yun Zheng began to breathe heavily as he took refuge behind him, "Brother Jian Chen! Let's hurry up and run! These two men are too strong, let's go and get Senior An to help deal with them!"

Jian Chen shook his head with a smile, "My brother is currently resting inside, I don't wish to shock him."

"But..." Yun Zheng held some reluctance in his face, but he said no more after that as Jian Chen held his hand up, "I'll deal with this matter here."

Hearing Jian Chen's calm attitude, Yun Zheng slowly began to calm himself down before standing quietly behind Jian Chen. He wanted to see just how strong of an Earth Saint Master Jian Chen was.

The two men chasing after Yun Zheng came to a stop several meters away from Jian Chen. The two looked to be around forty years old and both wore blue robes that did nothing to hide their bulging muscles. One of the men was quite short and looked to be around five feet tall with dark skin as black as coal. The other man was rather skinny looking and had an average appearance with a bent nose. On the left side of his face there were several intersecting scars that destroyed his face. His face was rather terrifying to look at, but it also increased his intimidation factor.

The two men sized up Jian Chen as they looked at him. Giving each other a small look, one of the two immediately walked up to Jian Chen before pushing him out of the way.

Jian Chen wrapped his hands against his chest before smiling at the two, "Fellow brothers, what might you two be doing?"

Seeing the expression on Jian Chen's face, the short one began to feel annoyed at him. Without another thought, he glowered at both Jian Chen and Yun Zheng, "If you know what's good for you, hand over your Space Belt at once or else, hmph!"

"Or else what?" Jian Chen continued to smile.

The short one glared at Jian Chen with an even more cruel stare before roaring, "Or else you two will die here today!"

In an instant, Jian Chen released a large amount of killing intent, “Is that so? Then allow me to send you on your way.” With that, Jian Chen disappeared from view before reappearing in front of the short man. At the same time, his Light Wind Sword immediately came into view before the chilling cold Sword Qi stabbed at the short man with blinding speed.

The short man hadn’t expected for Jian Chen to make such a sudden move so quickly. Before he could even react or dodge the sword strike, the silver sword had already stabbed straight through his throat.

Jian Chen’s sword was far too fast, in an instant, the short man had been caught off guard and killed. Even as an Earth Saint Master, it was still impossible for him to dodge Jian Chen’s strike.

Without stopping, Jian Chen immediately pulled out his bloody sword from the short man’s throat before disappearing from view once more. In an instant, his sword flashed as it flew at the other Earth Saint Master.

At that moment, the Earth Saint Master hadn’t reacted yet as he stared in horror at the incoming Jian Chen. Then, it was with a serious look that he had realized this youth he had disregarded earlier was in fact a tiger wearing a sheepskin.

“Ha!” The man roared as his Saint Force exploded out of his body. The Saint Weapon in his hand began to flood with a blue colored light as he slashed at Jian Chen.

Jian Chen’s figure blurred as he dodged the other man’s sword. His Light Wind Sword became a silver glow of light that flew at his throat.

Reacting quickly, the man tilted his head to dodge Jian Chen’s strike and allowed the sword to slip past him. However, the sword swept past his neck and a small cut appeared on his throat. As the man was starting to rejoice, he suddenly felt a stinging sensation on his neck. Before he could even look down and see what happened, his head was immediately cut off. It spun through the air before falling back down to the ground as his headless body fell to the ground with blood flying everywhere.

These two men were strong enough to force an Earth Saint Master like Yun Zheng to flee, but in an instant, they had been killed in a single strike by Jian Chen. That made Yun Zheng open his eyes wide in disbelief and shock at what had just happened. This type of strength, was this really something a twenty-year-old youth should be able to possess?

Standing to the side of Jian Chen, Yun Zheng tried to breathe in and out in order to calm himself. Although he knew that Jian Chen was already an extremely terrifying Earth Saint Master, he didn’t think that the two men that were chasing after him would be dealt with in a single strike.

Despite this fight happening right in front of his eyes, Yun Zheng still couldn’t believe it and thought he was dreaming. This was an illusion and not reality—it completely toppled over what he knew as true. As a traveler in the continent who had painfully cultivated for thirty to forty years before finally making a breakthrough to become an Earth Saint Master before the age of fifty, this was already an achievement that could be considered to be a genius. Those who became an Earth Saint Master before the age of fifty were all well known experts and geniuses of cultivation with a bright future. Right now, two Earth Saint Masters were killed by a youth that wasn’t even twenty five years old. This was a massive blow to Yun Zheng, and as such, this was the very first time that he had felt that this world was truly unfair and absurd.

Chapter 309: Immortal's Cave

After dealing with the two men, Jian Chen collected the Space Belts of both Earth Saint Masters. Turning their bodies aside, Jian Chen didn't see anything else of value on their bodies. While these two were Earth Saint Masters, aside from their robes and Space Belts, there wasn't any Space Rings to be seen.

Space Rings were treasures within the Tian Yuan Continent that were symbols of status and power. Although Earth Saint Masters were qualified to have a Space Ring, not all of them had one.

Jian Chen looked at the bloody Yun Zheng and spoke to him, "Let us go back and treat your injuries. Walking out here with injuries isn't a safe thing to do." The two then left the area.

Yun Zheng watched the slowly disappearing back of Jian Chen with some remaining shock. Before he had even blinked, Jian Chen had killed two Earth Saint Masters; something like this would give him an everlasting impression of Jian Chen.

"Ai, could he be one of the rumored geniuses?" Yun Zheng sighed before running to catch up with the receding figure of Jian Chen.

The two figures returned to the cave where the bloody figure of Yun Zheng attracted the attention of everyone. The one friendliest to Yun Zheng, Senior An, stood straight up with a furious expression, "Yun Zheng, what bastard did this to you? Tell me, and I'll go tear them limb from limb!"

Seeing just how concerned Senior An was, Yun Zheng smiled faintly, "I had some bad luck. When I was hunting, I came across two Earth Saint Masters. But fortunately, brother Jian Chen came along and killed them both."

Hearing Yun Zheng, Qin Xiao who was lying nearby stared at Jian Chen with a surprised look before turning suspicious and doubtful at Yun Zheng's words. "Jian Chen, is what he says true? You were able to take down two Earth Saint Masters by yourself?" Qin Xiao spoke with an expecting tone.

Sitting nearby, Qin Jue's ears shook slightly, but his eyes didn't open.

Jian Chen nodded his head, but gave no response.

Qin Xiao took on a pleasantly surprised look as he spoke with some excitement, "Jian Chen, just how did you grow to become so amazing in such a short amount of time? When we first initially fought, I knew that you were already amazing, but I didn't think that you would be able to kill an Earth Saint Master so easily!"

"That is because during the time I left the Tianqin clan, I managed to make a breakthrough to become an Earth Saint Master." Jian Chen replied.

Hearing that, Qin Jue's eyes snapped open as he looked at Jian Chen with shock. Even as his eyes opened, he remained as still as a statue.

"So it was like this..." Qin Xiao spoke with some understanding.

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Time went by in a flash soon there was only half a month remaining in the competition. In that time, Jian Chen had rarely ventured out and spent the majority of his time within the cave and silently protected Qin Xiao. The yellow clothed girl had used her Solunar Bow to make a new cave for her to privately cultivate. Senior An and Yun Zheng both constantly walked outside and came back to the cave with bruised bodies the majority of the time. A few of the times, they had been chased down by several strong Earth Saint Masters back “home” where Jian Chen would promptly deal with them.

The power that Jian Chen would constantly display always reminded Senior An and Yun Zheng of his strength. Those of the same cycle were miles away from Jian Chen’s level. Second and Third Cycle Earth Saint Masters were not an opponent for Jian Chen at all. Not too long after, Jian Chen had unconsciously become the pillar for Yun Zheng and Senior An.

After several more days, Qin Xiao’s body had been completely healed. Almost as if he had provoked Jian Chen’s ire, Qin Xiao immediately set himself about to cultivate as soon as he was healed with the assistance of monster cores in order to reach the Earth Saint Master realm as soon as possible.

As for Qin Jue who had healed even earlier, it was almost as if he cherished words like gold. Ever since he had met Jian Chen up until now, he had never said more than ten words total. This had made him even more quiet than Katafei back in Wake City.

In the quiet cave, only the sounds of the crackling fire could be heard inside as the light constantly flickered.

Jian Chen sat in a meditative position in a corner of the cave with a Class 5 Monster Core in his hand in order to absorb it. With the Gesun Kingdom on the verge of danger and the Changyang clan as well, he had to hurry up and increase his strength. There was no time to squabble around and waste time.

Within the dark cave, everyone was cultivating, causing the leaking energy from the monster cores to gather within the cave. It was as if the cave was originally filled with this energy and was paradise for cultivators.

At this time, the sounds of rapid footsteps could be heard. Jian Chen’s ears shook slightly from the sound, but he made no movements to get up from his position.

The footsteps grew closer as Senior An and Yun Zheng both entered.

“Jian Chen, I’ve news, good news! I’ve heard from someone on the outside that there is cave to the south of the forest that used to have a senior cultivator in it. There’s treasure inside, and I’m willing to bet there’s at least one Heaven Tier Battle Skill!” Senior An spoke out hurriedly.

The moment Jian Chen heard the words “Heaven Tier Battle Skill”, he instantly snapped open his eyes. Although everyone was cultivating within the cave, in this sort of condition, they remained vigilant to the outside world. Not even the subtle and sudden gust of wind would be able to escape their notice.

Qin Xiao’s eyes widened as he said, “Heaven Tier Battle Skill? Are you sure that’s right? What if some enemy was trying to announce false news and later set up a huge trap for everyone?”

Senior An shook his head, “That I don’t know. But many people are already heading on over there, I’ve heard that even the five experts are going there.”

“Five experts? What five experts?” Qin Xiao questioned.

“The five experts are men with a very well known reputation and are also the strongest men around. In a short amount of time, practically everybody and everyone knows their names.” Yun Zheng spoke out to Jian Chen. While he knew Jian Chen was strong, he didn’t know whether or not he was stronger than the five experts.

Jian Chen’s heart skipped a beat, “Who are the five experts and what are their names?”

“They are called Qin Ji, Dugu Feng, Tianmu Ling, Shi Xiangran and Jiede Wukang.”

TL Note; Qin Ji is not from the Tianqin clan.

Jian Chen narrowed his eyes slightly at the mention of one of the names as he muttered, “I’ve no idea that he would covet these treasures or even be called one of the Five Experts.”

“Jian Chen, shall we go or stay?” Qin Xiao spoke, clearly showing that Jian Chen was the leader.

Jian Chen hummed to himself before saying, “We are going.” Standing up, he spoke again, “There’s no time to waste, we have to go now. There’s only fifteen days of the competition remaining.”

Afterward, Jian Chen led Senior An, Yun Zheng, Qin Jue and Qin Xiao out of the cave while the longbow girl coincidentally flew out from her cave as well to follow.

“I’ve heard there is a Heaven Tier Battle Skill in the southern caves. We’re going to go investigate, do you want to come along?” Jian Chen asked the girl.

For a moment, the girl’s eyes rested upon Jian Chen before nodding slightly without any more words.

“This time, we may come across our dear old friend, you should prepare yourself.” Jian Chen said.

With that, the six people flew out of the caves toward the south.

On the way, Jian Chen noticed plenty of people rushing the south as well. With information about a Heaven Tier Battle Skill being left behind in a senior cultivator’s cave, every single person was rushing on over.

These men were primarily Great Saint Masters with a small bag to hold their possessions on their backs. Their Space Belts had long since been taken from them aside from a few sets of clothes and food. For these men without tokens, the Earth Saint Masters wouldn’t bother them any longer unless there was some sort of deep grievances they had between each other. So these Great Saint Masters could travel on the road without any major fears.

Occasionally, there would several fights that broke out among foes, but those did not impede Jian Chen’s group at all. Many of those who saw Jian Chen’s group were quite smart. When they saw the colorful clothes and the Space Belts that swayed with their bodies every step, each one of them could guess that the people with Jian Chen were all extremely strong.

They traveled for five days when Jian Chen and the group finally reached a dense forest. In this location, there were several groups of competitors that were all here to see if the information was accurate or not.

“I’ve heard that there are several extremely strong magical beasts guarding the cave. Even the five experts and around thirty Earth Saint Masters fought several times without a chance of success of entering the cave.’

“That’s right, I’ve heard there were several battles, and some of the Earth Saint Masters already died. Only three of the five experts still remain untouched.”

“The magical beasts guarding the cave are too strong! If it goes on like this, then I’m afraid no one will be able to enter the cave before the time is up!”

“Nothing is guaranteed just yet. Right now the secret of this place is already leaked. Haven’t you seen the never ending stream of people coming here? Just wait for the five experts to all assemble, then they’ll be able to enter.”

Chapter 310: Gathering of the Five Experts (One)

By the time Jian Chen had arrived, information of the cave had already propagated throughout the area. By now, Jian Chen could confirm that while there was no confirmation of a Heaven Tier Battle Skill inside the cave, the very existence of the cave was real.

Jian Chen didn’t bother to step right in front of this crowd and immediately led his group past them and into the forest. Hearing the news from everyone else, Jian Chen had learned that the location of the immortal’s cave was in the depths of the forest.

Because there had already been countless of people here, the forests had the obvious distinction of what directions people had traveled in. Jian Chen began to follow the popular path for another four hours before finally coming to a man-made spot of flattened ground.

There were plenty of men gathered here—around three hundred men were formed in groups and several tents were scattered about. From the outside, one could see several men lying about within the tents to rest. All over the area, there were plenty of people sitting on the tree branches eating and drinking while others were resting.

There were several Earth Saint Masters— a quick count estimated there to be below forty. There were several bandaged Great Saint Masters and only a few of them still had a Space Belt.

The people in this area all seemed as if they had reached a peaceful agreement to not fight with each other or grab at their tokens. It was rather peaceful here with no one causing a disturbance.

“Let’s go see what’s up front.” Jian Chen spoke to the people by his side as they moved forward.

Jian Chen’s group had attracted the attention of many people as everyone stared at their brightly dressed group. However, not a single person came to accost them.

That was because the experts of the crowd could detect that this group had three Earth Saint Masters and thus saw no need to get into some sort of conflict. No one in this crowd wanted to offend a group with three Earth Saint Masters for no reason.

Jian Chen and the group of five continued on when all of a sudden, they heard the animalistic sounds of a magical beast. Straight after the sound, an insanely strong amount of energy rippled through the air and caused the entire earth to tremble. The countless trees up ahead of Jian Chen could be seen slightly

uprooting from the ground thanks to the energy before flying straight into the air. Ahead of them, several shadows of gargantuan beasts could be seen flying at full speed toward them with a heavy presence that made it difficult to breathe.

Jian Chen's expression turned dark as he held out his hand to the people behind him, "Get back, now!"

Without hesitation, the group flew backward in an attempt to return to the forest where the flat clearing was.

Just as Jian Chen and his group ran back to the clearing, a group of tattered men followed behind Jian Chen from the direction of the magical beasts. There was a total of twelve men. Among the group, there was a twenty eight year old youth that was similar to Ming Dong in age. This youth wore blue robes and carried a two meter long fire like sword that towered over his head. There were another four, thirty year old men with rather handsome appearances. The rest were all forty years old around with determined looks on their faces. Within this group, there were some people with blood dripping down their lips and had pale faces due to their injuries.

This group of people had attracted the attention of everyone there. As three hundred pairs of eyes landed on this group, everyone began to chatter among themselves.

"It seems this group lost again. Ai, the guardians to the cave are too strong..."

"Hmph, just how could the guardian magical beasts to the immortal cave be that easy to deal with? Without the five experts along with every single Earth Saint Masters combined together to deal with these magical beasts, then we would only just be wasting our energy."

"Just hold on, the magical beasts here are too strong, I can only guess that they are already at the Class 6 level. Only the combined power of the five experts would be enough to fight these magical beasts."

"How unfortunate, the five experts are all Earth Saint Masters. If we had a Heaven Saint Master, then entering the cave would have been easy."

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Seeing the youth with a longsword on his back, the girl's eyes gained a dangerous gleam as she spoke, "That's a Ruler Armament!"

Jian Chen grew surprised as his eyes zoomed in on the fire sword on the youth's back before gradually turning serious. He was well familiar with a Ruler Armament now and knew that they originated from the remnants of a Saint Ruler's Saint Weapon. The remaining amount of energy within the weapons was enough to make a Heaven Saint Master shudder. However, a Ruler's Armament wasn't something anyone could use to their full extent. An Earth Saint Master was only able to use one or two parts of the Ruler Armament, but despite that, the power was still terrifying.

As if remembering this fact, Jian Chen thought back to the fire sword as it gave off a bright red light that was strong enough to cause the Seal of Treasure Mountain from Shi Xiangran to be sent flying back. That one battle between Shi Xiangran and this person had attracted the eyes of many people, but Jian Chen had never found out the conclusion to that fight.

"Could it be that this youth was the one that fought against Shi Xiangran?" Jian Chen thought.

The other dozen men walked back into their tents to rest, slowly disappearing from everyone's sight.

"The magical beasts up front are too strong, we'll have to wait for a moment longer and wait for more people to come before we can try again." Jian Chen said.

Afterward, the six people all grabbed a tent from their Space Belts and began to set it up in a small circle closeby.

"Hey hey, you there! Who gave you and your group permission to set up camp here? Hurry up and tear them down, hurry up and take them down!" A thirty year old man came into view and stared angrily at Jian Chen and the other five. This man was rather skinny and wore a white robe. There was an arrogant look on his face which also had a single three claw scratch on it.

Everyone turned to look at the noise as many of them began to smile at the misfortune of the group.

"This group surely doesn't know the rules of this place. Could it be that they didn't see how many people were afraid of setting up tents here? They were right to not do so, if everyone were to be able to set up their tents, then there wouldn't be any spot to have a tent at all." A man muttered as he drank from his wine gourd on a tree branch.

"They must be newcomers to this place and don't know the rules. Ai, just why aren't they a bit smart? Did they not see how many people there are here but only a few tents? This isn't a place that just anyone could have a tent." Another man spoke up from his tree branch.

The white robed man immediately walked up to where Jian Chen's group was. The moment he saw that Jian Chen had no intention on tearing down their tents, his face distorted in anger as he shouted, "Did you not hear me? I said to tear your tents down, now!" The man then kicked apart Qin Jue's tent before stomping toward Jian Chen's tent. With a kick, he attempted to tear down Jian Chen's tent.

A flash of killing intent appeared in Jian Chen's eyes. In an instant, the Light Wind Sword appeared in his hand as a silver white light followed it. In an instant, the sword had slashed through the man's leg.

"Ah!" The man let loose a howling sound in misery. The leg he had let loose to tear down Jian Chen's tent had instantly been cut off, causing blood to leak from the stump.

Reabsorbing the sword, Jian Chen kicked the man's chest, causing him to fly ten meters away into the air before falling to the ground and tumbling several steps violently.

The fortitude of the man was evidently very weak as he began to scream out in pain continuously in a suffering manner.

Those who had been watching with interest at first all stared at the twenty year old youth with disbelief now. At this sight, the power displayed had been far more than what they had imagined.

A purple robed man with a resolute expression immediately came into the tent ground, he was one of the dozen men that had come back from the forest. When he saw the amputated leg of the man who was screaming on the ground, an unknown flash of light appeared in his eyes as he stared around the campgrounds, "What happened here?" The purple robed man's voice was especially calm, making it seem as if he was only inquiring about the matter.

At this moment, several of the tents opened up simultaneously. The men that appeared from the tents were all from the party that had ventured into the forest and were brought to the scene due to the screaming man.

“Jie Kaxi, who’s the one that hurt you?” A horrified voice could be heard as a scarred middle aged man came running forth like an arrow to the man with a furious face.

“Big brother, it was him! He cut off my leg, my leg! Ah, my leg! Brother, you must help me kill him!” The man pointed at Jian Chen with a furious look. The unbearable pain had already caused his face to distort.

The scarred man looked at Jian Chen before standing up slowly. A three meter long red spear appeared in his hands before quickly running toward Jian Chen without a single word. The spear danced with a fiery red glow as it flew toward Jian Chen.

Jian Chen gained a cold look in his eyes as the Light Wind Sword smashed against the spear. The collision caused a large shockwave of energy to fly out, crushing the surrounding ten meters of vegetation into the ground.

The people watching all retreated back several steps in order to allow the two people to settle their dispute.