

Chaotic 3261

Chapter 3261: Anatta's Fruit of Ways (2)

Faced with the Anatta Grand Exalt, even the Snow Goddess who completely neglected the Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Grand Exalt demonstrated deep fear in her eyes.

With the Ice Goddess around, the Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt could not do anything to her, but the Anatta Grand Exalt was much stronger than the Ice Goddess as the greatest sovereign of the Saints' World.

"Sigh!" At this moment, the Ice Goddess nearby let out a sigh. She silently appeared before the Snow Goddess and said, "Sister, you should sever this tie with the mortal world. Don't forget, you're now the Snow Goddess, not Changyang Mingyue!"

"You should treat all of Changyang Mingyue's experiences as a dream, an illusion. Forget all of your ties, sever all of the karma, and return to being your true self. You shouldn't have come here today. You shouldn't have had anything else in your heart apart from the Ice Goddess Hall. C'mon, let's go back together." The Ice Goddess sighed. She spoke gently, but due to her personality, her voice was instead filled with a ruthless sense of coldness.

It felt like she was a cold machine devoid of emotions. In her eyes, there was nothing apart from her younger sister.

The Ice Goddess waved her hand gently. She did not allow the Snow Goddess to resist at all, forcefully taking her away from here.

With just a single thought, the two goddesses crossed through an endlessly vast distance, directly appearing in the Ice Goddess Hall.

"Sister, the twin swords have been exposed. H-he'll die. I-I don't want him to die." The Snow Goddess's gaze was anything but calm in the Ice Goddess Hall that permeated with coldness. Her emotions surged.

"Sigh, I didn't think a single reincarnation would leave you mentally disturbed. Sister, forget about Jian Chen. Forget about everything your reincarnation went through." The Ice Goddess sighed.

The Snow Goddess shook her head gently and said, "Sister, I'm begging you. Save Jian Chen. I don't want him to die."

"I really can't save him. Let alone me, there's probably no one in the current Immortals' and Saints' World that is capable of saving him, as he's already become Anatta's fruit of ways. His fate is already set in stone," said the Ice Goddess.

"Fruit of ways?" The Snow Goddess was taken aback.

"Anatta entered the Way of Love through Jian Chen. Now that Anatta has already comprehended it to the limit, she should enter the Way of Heartlessness through Jian Chen. Since Jian Chen has already become Anatta's fruit of ways, no one in the world can save him, as that would be equivalent to becoming Anatta's mortal enemy."

The Snow Goddess was left dazed for a very long while. Only afterwards did she murmur, "How is this possible..."

"Sister, you better let me seal away the memories of your reincarnation temporarily. You'll forget Jian Chen and everything your reincarnation went through next. When you remember these memories again, everything will be over." The Ice Goddess got to work, personally sealing away a portion of the Snow Goddess' memories.

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"Is there really no other way?"

At the top of the Sword God Mountains on the Desolate Plane, the white-clothed Mo Tianyun stood beside the Celestial Sword Saint, casting his gaze out into the stars and speaking sternly.

The Celestial Sword Saint sat with his legs crossed, making tea in a leisurely manner. "No one can save him. Whether he can survive this crisis will be up to his own fortunes."

"The twin swords have already been exposed. The experts of the Saints' World have all gathered. Even the sovereigns of the Saints' World have appeared. Does he really still have a chance at survival given how dire the situation is?" Mo Tianyun sighed gently.

The Celestial Sword Saint was completely unfazed. He said indifferently, "Who knows until you reach the final moments?"

"Sigh, it's all my fault for noticing too late. It's all my fault for not leaving an imprint on him too. Otherwise, even if he encountered danger, he would not have had to expose the twin swords, much less end up like this." Mo Tianyun blamed himself a little. Now, the seven Saint Monarchs had gathered and the sovereigns of the world were all present. Even he felt deeply powerless over such a perilous situation.

The Celestial Sword Saint focused on brewing tea, saying in an unconcerned manner, "You did the right thing. If you left an imprint on Jian Chen, you might have harmed yourself in the end. He is fated to face a crisis. This crisis will occur sooner or later, except it was actually much sooner than I expected it to happen."

"No one can help him with this crisis. The only thing we can do now is wait and see."

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At the same time, on a prosperous planet, Fang Jing wielded the Dominion's Brush and did everything she could to conceal herself, hiding herself in the crowd as well. She was as cautious as she could be.

"Sorry, senior Violet Heavens. I can't help your successor," Fang Jing thought sorrowfully. She was filled with a deep sense of powerlessness.

The sovereigns of the Saints' World had gathered just within arm's reach. Even with the Dominion's Brush obscuring all of her presence, the air was filled with an invisible sharpness, leaving her frightened and on edge. She did not dare to move at all.

In the space surrounded by experts, the Ice and Snow Goddess left, while the Anatta Grand Exalt shone with hazy light as if the ways were manifesting. She stood in outer space, seemingly gazing at Jian Chen silently.

"Senior Anatta, Jian Chen is definitely the reincarnation of the old bastard Violet Heavens. Please kill this person and eliminate this potential source of trouble forever, senior."

"Sovereign, please erase Jian Chen. Since he's from the Immortals' World, he obviously cannot be spared."

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At the back, the experts all spoke up. Right now, all of them understood why the Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt refused to do anything. They also understood the Nine Brilliance Star Lord's qualms.

Jian Chen was actually the Snow Goddess's younger brother, and the Snow Goddess clearly cherished him dearly, even offering up her own sovereign god artifact without hesitation.

Killing Jian Chen was offending the Snow Goddess. With the way the Snow and Ice Goddesses handled things, offending the Snow Goddess was equivalent to offending the Ice Goddess.

The Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt obviously did not want to provoke the Ice Goddess.

"Hmph, with his connection to the Ice Goddess, we would indeed have some second thoughts about killing Jian Chen, but now that the Anatta Grand Exalt is here in person, I refuse to believe the Ice Goddess is bold enough to provoke the Anatta Grand Exalt," the Heaven Perceiving Saint Monarch of the Thousand Mechanisms clan thought.

"Even in the past, the Anatta Grand Exalt was stronger than the Ice Goddess. Now that the Anatta Grand Exalt has comprehended four ways, the difference is even greater," the Vengeful Heaven Saint Monarch of the Ancient Burial clan thought.

It was not just the two of them. Many other experts possessed the same thoughts. They all thought they already understood Jian Chen's background.

For a moment, everyone's gazes gathered on the Anatta Grand Exalt, including the Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt.

Under everyone's watch, the Anatta Grand Exalt finally took action. She strolled over like a mortal, approaching Jian Chen step by step at an extremely ordinary pace. As that happened, the light around her leapt violently. Even her presence became unstable.

At that instant, she had completely lost her imperturbable heart of coldness. Her emotions surged violently as her will swayed.

The Anatta Grand Exalt's chaotic emotions even affected the ways in the space there, leaving them chaotic too.

At that instant, if they could peer through the light around the Anatta Grand Exalt, they would see her slender body trembling away controllably.

And this trembling intensified as she got closer to Jian Chen.

Chapter 3262: Anatta's Fruit of Ways (3)

The Anatta Grand Exalt was a sovereign of the world with four ways comprehended to completion. She was also the undisputed greatest expert of the current day in the Saints' World. There was absolutely no doubt over her strength.

At this moment, her unstable emotional fluctuations directly interfered with the ways of the world, making the laws of the Saints' World pulse and enter disorder.

After all, Grand Exalts represented the heavenly ways to a certain extent. An expert like that was completely capable of bending the heavenly ways and the entire world to their will.

At this moment, at every corner of the vast Saints' World, whether it was the forty-nine great planes or the eighty-one great planets, all the cultivators who could sense the laws of the world could clearly sense the disorder.

The disturbed laws influenced the billions of cultivators throughout the Saints' World.

Even the seven Saint Monarchs, the Nine Brilliance Star Lord, and the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng were affected. Their usage and grasp over the laws became more difficult.

"The Anatta Grand Exalt has been angered. I didn't expect a mere Chaotic Prime junior could actually anger our Saints' World's greatest sovereign so much."

"Even the light around the Anatta Grand Exalt is flickering violently. I really wonder just how intense the fury is to make the greatest sovereign of our Saints' World lose his composure like this."

"I've lived for countless years and I've seen the Anatta Grand Exalt a few times before, but this is the first time I've ever seen him so angry."

"Hmph, don't you remember that the sovereigns of the Immortals' World had just launched an assault on our Saints' World with such a large disturbance, forcing the Anatta Grand Exalt to leave this world to fend them off? Yet in the end, the successor of that old bastard Violet Heavens was hiding in our Saints' World. How can the Anatta Grand Exalt not be angered?"

The peak experts all sighed as they watched the Anatta Grand Exalt approach Jian Chen, communicating between themselves secretly. Their voices were all filled with emotion.

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When they discussed a sovereign, none of them dared to speak up verbally. They all communicated through methods inaudible to others.

“And they say the Anatta Grand Exalt’s ninth disciple is Jian Chen’s sworn brother. Now that the Anatta Grand Exalt has found out about Jian Chen’s true identity, how can he not be furious? After all, the successor of the twin swords has become a sworn brother of his own disciple. That’s a huge insult to any sovereign,” the Heaven Perceiving Saint Monarch of the Thousand Mechanisms clan said. He hovered in outer space calmly, shining with blinding light beside the six other Saint Monarchs. He even stroked his long beard calmly, continuing, *“This Jian Chen sure is rather capable. Not only has he established close ties with the ninth disciple of the Anatta Grand Exalt, he’s even the younger brother of the Snow Goddess’s reincarnation. If he hadn’t exposed the twin swords which gave away his true identity this time and was allowed to continue to grow, who knows what would have ended up happening.”*

Many of the peak experts present sighed. All of them could tell the Anatta Grand Exalt was extremely furious this time, even raging with anger. Even the laws had been affected.

“Bloodtear, what exactly is happening with Anatta?” On another side, the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt asked the Bloodtear Great Exalt in surprise.

As a sovereign, he could sense much more than the other peak experts. He did not believe this was a result of the Anatta Grand Exalt’s anger.

“Just watch. You’ll find out very soon,” the Bloodtear Grand Exalt said indifferently. He was an established Grand Exalt after all. Both his knowledge and experiences far surpassed any newly-broken-through Grand Exalt.

By now, the Anatta Grand Exalt had already arrived before Jian Chen, standing just three metres away from him. The light around her pulsed violently, flickering about. She just stared at Jian Chen and said nothing.

Jian Chen’s expression became mixed as he stared at her. He once again recalled how he had crossed the Bridge of Life and Death and finally met with the Anatta Grand Exalt back then in order to save fairy Hao Yue.

“Sir Grand Exalt, thank you for saving my friend back then. However, I’ve disappointed you, because I wield the twin swords and the progenitor of my lineage, the Violet Heavens Grand Exalt, is from the Immortals’ World.” Jian Chen’s voice was feeble. *“However, fairy Hao Yue has nothing to do with this. I hope she won’t be affected because of me.”*

The Anatta Grand Exalt said nothing. She stood before Jian Chen silently as her presence remained unstable, facing internal conflict.

A wry smile gradually formed on Jian Chen’s face. He glanced past the experts gathered there. *“I know I must die today. To be able to draw over so many seniors and experts, even the audience of sovereigns themselves, despite being a Chaotic Prime, is an honour, even if I must die.”*

“Do you really want to die?” The Anatta Grand Exalt finally spoke. That was the first sentence she had said since arriving here.

But this time, her voice was no longer the sound of the ways that seemed to contain all the sounds of the world.

This time, it was clearly a woman's voice, pleasing to the ear, like the sounds of nature.

However, the wonderful voice was clearly slightly shaky.

On the brink of death, Jian Chen obviously did not care about these details. He said calmly, "I obviously don't want to die, but given the circumstances, my fate is no longer for me to decide. But that's fine too. I was already expecting this before I fused the swords. I would have died anyway. At least dying here is better than dying by the hand of Nan Potian."

The light around the Anatta Grand Exalt shook violently. She murmured with a voice only audible to her, "This day shouldn't have come so quickly. Why, why wasn't it with you? None of this should have happened."

"Sigh, I've come late." At this moment, an old voice rang out in outer space with a sigh, except most of it was pity.

An elderly figure appeared out of thin air beside the Anatta Grand Exalt. His body was illusionary, so it was not his main body.

"Greetings, the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths!"

The illusionary figure's appearance led to another solemn bow and greeting from all of the experts present.

The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths had descended here with a sliver of his will. He stood beside the Anatta Grand Exalt, gazing at Jian Chen with mixed emotions. He sighed gently. "I didn't expect this to happen from a slight neglect. Sigh."

"Jian Chen, do you know who I am?" The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths gazed at Jian Chen with a gaze that no one could understand. He did not give off any pressure at all, so he just seemed like a regular old man.

"They've already told me. You're one of the seven Grand Exalts of the past, the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths!" Jian Chen replied instinctively.

"That's right. I am Ancient Paths, but I'm also Chanlong from the past!" the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths said.

"Master Chanlong?" Jian Chen blanked out. The old man who carried around a disc and possessed extremely great mastery over the Way of Formations crossed his mind instinctively.

The experts in the surroundings were all dumbfounded. They were tongue-tied. What was Jian Chen's luck? He was actually an old acquaintance of the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths too.

Chapter 3263: Kai Ya?

The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths said rather helplessly, "The experts of the Immortals' World suddenly attacked our Saints' World at a time like this while I was forging the important artifact. I split my focus,

forging the item while paying close attention to the situation outside the world, but I ended up neglecting the situation in the Saints' World. Otherwise, your twin swords would not have been exposed so soon."

The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths' words made Jian Chen narrow his eyes. His gaze was dim, but he stared straight at the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths' old, approachable face. "Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths, d-d-don't tell me you found out about the twin swords a long time ago?"

The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths laughed. "Do you think no one knows about your secret? It's not just me. Anatta and Bloodtear were both aware of the twin swords a long time ago."

"In particular, Anatta found out about the twin swords far earlier than any of us. Anatta even knew that you were the successor of the Immortals' World's Violet Heavens Grand Exalt."

Jian Chen's expression immediately changed. His gaze blanked out as well.

The Anatta Grand Exalt had actually found out a long time ago that he possessed the twin swords? The Anatta Grand Exalt actually knew a long time ago that he belonged to the Immortals' World?

It was hilarious that he had specially left the twin swords behind in the Tian Yuan clan when he attempted the Bridge of Life and Death to save fairy Hao Yue to avoid the Anatta Grand Exalt seeing through his secret.

How would Jian Chen have thought that he had known about everything regarding him a long time ago?

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When he recalled the situation back then, Jian Chen immediately found himself to be so hilarious and ignorant.

The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths continued, "Do you still remember what you did on the Desolate Plane? Back then, you even alarmed the Bloodtear Grand Exalt."

"In reality, Bloodtear noticed the twin swords on you back then. If no accidents happened, you would have died then and there, as the successor of Violet Heavens is no different from a heinous criminal in our Saints' World."

"Yet in the end, you did not. Do you know why?"

Nearby, the presence of the Bloodtear Grand Exalt that was enveloped in a sea of blood seemed to fluctuate slightly.

"Bloodtear, is Ancient Paths telling the truth? You knew about this child's true identity a very long time ago?" The Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt stared at Bloodtear in surprise.

"That's correct!" the Bloodtear Grand Exalt replied seriously.

The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths did not hide anything, so all of the experts present obviously heard every detail about their conversation, which made their faces all change.

"Don't tell me Jian Chen's true backing is not the Ice Goddess Hall?"

At that moment, many experts experienced the same question, as the two goddesses had yet to return back then.

Jian Chen said nothing. He only stared straight at Ancient Paths. He was uneasy.

In the past, when he faced the Bloodtear Grand Exalt's soul clone, he already felt like the twin swords were exposed, as it was completely impossible for him to hide any secrets before a Grand Exalt.

However, the Bloodtear Grand Exalt retreated afterwards, so he thought a measly figure like him could not raise the attention of the Bloodtear Grand Exalt. That was why he did not take it too seriously.

Only when he heard what the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths said did he suddenly come to the realisation that the Bloodtear Grand Exalt had not actually retreated for the reason he thought he had.

"It was because of Anatta!" the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths continued.

Jian Chen shuddered inside. His face was filled with disbelief. He suddenly turned towards the Anatta Grand Exalt enveloped in light.

Suddenly, he seemed to connect some details. His body immediately began to tremble violently. He was overcome with shock. He cried out, "D-d-don't tell me you're Kai Ya?"

When he reached this conclusion, Jian Chen's heart immediately began to surge. He was overcome with shock.

Kai Ya had already demonstrated various extraordinary abilities by his side back then. Her extraordinary aspects even made Jian Chen suspect her to be the reincarnation of some significant figure.

Of course, the most important detail was that Kai Ya could actually enter the Anatta Tower freely, without any obstruction!

In the past, he did not think too much about it, nor did he have the courage to think too much about it, but now that the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths had mentioned all of this, Kai Ya's figure immediately appeared in his mind.

Kai Ya just happened to be by his side when he faced the Bloodtear Grand Exalt's clone outside the Desolate Plane.

And afterwards, when Kai Ya died to the Elder of Mountains and Seas, he wanted to find him for revenge, yet in the end, the Elder of Mountains and Seas had died under mysterious circumstances despite being a Grand Prime.

These various events all demonstrated the great possibility of his guess.

"I-i-impossible. This is impossible." Jian Chen was lost in a daze. He was thrown into mental disarray, struggling to accept this conclusion.

The Anatta Grand Exalt said nothing. The light around her flickered away violently, dimming and brightening. She raised her hand slowly, and the Laws of Creation descended, enveloping Jian Chen like an ocean.

Under the Laws of Creation, Jian Chen's wounds immediately healed at an unbelievable rate.

No, it could not be described as healing. Instead, the damaged parts of his body were recreated by the Laws of Creation. His internal organs reappeared too.

The lost flesh regrew from nothing.

The Anatta Grand Exalt's Laws of Creation were healing all of Jian Chen's injuries in a different way.

Seeing how the Anatta Grand Exalt was healing Jian Chen instead of killing him, all of the experts felt like they were thrown into confusion and disorder.

However, Jian Chen completely ignored his wounds. His gaze trembled as he stared at the Anatta Grand Exalt emotionally. His feelings fluctuated with unprecedented intensity as his voice trembled, "A-a-are you really Kai Ya? Are you really Kai Ya? Tell me, did Kai Ya die or not..."

In the past, Kai Ya had died to the Elder of Mountains and Seas in order to save him. That had always been Jian Chen's greatest source of pain and regret. Even after destroying the entire Gloomwater sect to avenge her, he struggled to find peace with this pain and regret.

Now that he had learned that the deceased Kai Ya might have been the Anatta Grand Exalt, Jian Chen was immediately overcome with a vast array of feelings. He struggled to calm down.

The Anatta Grand Exalt said nothing, remaining silent the entire time. However, the light around her flickered more and more violently.

"You've finally realised, but what's the point of this? Since you've already become Anatta's fruit of ways, you're destined to die. Sigh, a cursed tie of karma, a cursed tie of karma..." The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths shook his head with a gentle sigh.

His words undoubtedly confirmed Jian Chen's guesses, which immediately made him shake violently.

Jian Chen only understood half of what Ancient Paths had said. He did not know what a fruit of ways was, but he did understand that even if the Anatta Grand Exalt before him was Kai Ya, he would not be getting out of here alive today.

This had already become a matter that touched on the feud between two worlds, as well as the sentiment of the people of a major world. The coldness it represented had far surpassed the feelings of an individual.

"I know I must die today. I-i-if you're really Kai Ya, could-could you let me see you before I die?" Jian Chen stared at the Anatta Grand Exalt. There was sorrow and disappointment, together with sadness, joy, and surprise. His feelings were extremely mixed.

His sorrow and disappointment came from the fact that he had actually been fooled all this time. She was clearly still alive, yet she left him racked with guilt and self-blame for all these years.

His joy came from the fact that she was actually still alive. She had not died...

Chapter 3264: The Truth

The excitement and joy that Jian Chen revealed when he spoke of Kai Ya seemed to touch the Anatta Grand Exalt deeply. Her presence immediately sank into disorder as the light around her fluctuated violently, close to collapsing.

As for the countless experts gathered there, including the Saint Monarchs, their hearts had begun surging a long time ago. All of them widened their eyes.

Having reached their cultivation, they obviously were not fools. They immediately understood a certain truth from the conversation between the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths and Jian Chen.

The Anatta Grand Exalt had actually used Jian Chen to enter the Way of Love.

The conclusion left them all tongue-tied. It felt absolutely bizarre and unacceptable.

“Let me look at you. Let me know that you’re still alive. Even if I die here today, I have no regrets.” At that instant, only the Anatta Grand Exalt seemed to exist in his eyes. He stared at the Anatta Grand Exalt that bathed in the obscuring light of ways with a trembling gaze and murmured, “You saved my life in the past after all. Back then, when we were faced with the Elder of Mountains and Seas’ pursuit, I should have been the one who died. I owe you this.”

“If I can die by your hand, I have no regrets.”

A storm of energy immediately erupted in outer space. The Anatta Grand Exalt’s presence lost control. She erupted with startling energy, and the three thousand laws were all strongly affected, fluctuating violently.

Jian Chen’s words had left an extremely great impact on her emotions. She struggled to calm down.

Finally, after several seconds, the light around the Anatta Grand Exalt gradually dimmed, slowly fading away.

Very soon, all of the light around her vanished, completely exposing her before Jian Chen and also exposing her to all of the experts.

She was a young lady with an appearance like a heavenly maiden’s. She was like an exquisitely carved jade, possessing all the beauty in the world. She was a work of nature and absolutely perfect, such that no one could find a single flaw in her.

Her expression had not changed, quiet and beautiful, but her eyes seemed to contain all the wonders of the world. The laws seemed to weave through her eyes, flowing with undisguised tenderness.

However, her gaze seemed extremely mixed, with all sorts of colours woven together. Within the tenderness was struggle, pain, regret, hesitation, and conflict.

Through her eyes, it was very easy to see just how complicated of a situation her heart was currently in.

“Heavens, the Anatta Grand Exalt has a-actually revealed her true appearance!”

“I’ve lived for all this time, yet I’ve never witnessed the Anatta Grand Exalt’s true appearance. Jian Chen only uttered a single sentence, and the Anatta Grand Exalt revealed her true appearance to him.”

“She’s the Anatta Grand Exalt, the greatest sovereign of the Saints’ World in this current day. Just how esteemed is her status? Yet she’s actually exposed her true appearance because of Jian Chen. Unbelievable, how unbelievable.”

In the surroundings, the experts were all thrown into an uproar. Their hearts thumped away uncontrollably. Let alone the Saint Monarchs, even the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng was shocked. Her mouth hung agape as she blanked out.

Despite witnessing the Anatta Grand Exalt’s appearance, Jian Chen became disappointed. He shook his head gently in dejection. “No, you’re not Kai Ya. You’re not Kai Ya.”

The absolute beauty before his eyes that resembled nothing less than a heavenly maiden was not the Kai Ya he was familiar with. Instead, it was the statue of the woman he had seen on the ninth floor of the Anatta Tower when he first found it in the sea realm in the lower world.

However, the Anatta Grand Exalt was clearly even more charming compared to the statue. She was even more heavenly.

“Having come so far, it’s time for you to know the truth.” The Anatta Grand Exalt sighed gently. After removing all of her disguises, ripping away her veils, she instead became more honest.

“The Kai Ya you met in the past was actually my reincarnation. Afterwards, I awakened the memories of my past life in the Saints’ World and I learnt about your true identity.”

“However, due to certain reasons, I did not take my reincarnation away with me. Instead, my soul returned to the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng to reconstruct my body. Meanwhile, my reincarnation had all of the memories of her past life sealed, remaining by your side with just the memories of this life.”

“My reincarnation did not know her true identity, but everything that my reincarnation went through was actually my experiences.”

The Anatta Grand Exalt began to explain, coming clean completely. After removing all of her disguises, she finally opened her mind and came forward, no longer running away. Instead, she faced him in a courageous way, without fearing the gazes of others, nor concerning herself with her own image.

In the surroundings, all of the experts immediately became petrified. They were dumbstruck. Their thought processes all paused.

“You killed the Elder of Mountains and Seas?” Jian Chen asked.

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“Yes!”

“Do you have any idea just how much pain I was in, just how regretful I felt, just how much self-blame and guilt I experienced when Kai Ya died? You’ve hid it from me good,” Jian Chen said wryly.

“In your heart, Kai Ya is just an ordinary friend. Since she’s just an ordinary friend, why do you care about all this?” The Anatta Grand Exalt’s eyes shone with a cold glint.

Jian Chen fell silent. That was true. In the past, he could already tell that Kai Ya had developed feelings towards him, but he refused to accept any more people into his heart, so he always treated Kai Ya as a sworn friend.

However, when they were faced with the Elder of Mountains and Seas' pursuit afterwards, Kai Ya sacrificed herself to pave a path of survival for him, which changed his heart. He had changed completely.

However, all was too late by then. Kai Ya had already died to the Elder of Mountains and Seas. She was gone forever. All that remained was the wonderful memory of her.

As well as the pain, guilt, and endless regret that only existed in Jian Chen's heart.

Because of that, he personally destroyed the Gloomwater sect.

Suddenly, what the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths said echoed in his head. Jian Chen's eyes immediately became a little brighter. He said softly, "I understand now. The reason why you must kill me is not because I belong to the Immortals' World. The real reason is because I've become your fruit of ways."

"You comprehended the Way of Love through Kai Ya. Afterwards, you'll end my life with your own hands to comprehend another way?" Jian Chen stared straight at the Anatta Grand Exalt. He spoke very gently and very flatly, devoid of any emotion. "Anatta Grand Exalt, am I right?"

The Anatta Grand Exalt fell silent. However, the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths said, "You're right. Anatta used you to enter the Way of Love, so your existence obviously became Anatta's weak point. It left her with a flaw."

"As a result, Anatta must comprehend the Way of Heartlessness through you to make up for this flaw so that she has no openings."

"If that's the case, then do it. I have no regret if I die by Kai Ya's hand. My only request is that I hope you can take care of my clan. They're innocent." Jian Chen let out a long sigh. He was melancholic. At this moment, truly nothing could move him anymore.

He shut his eyes slowly, clearly having accepted his fate already. He let go of everything and completely cast aside the significance behind death.

Before the greatest sovereign of the Saints' World, he definitely did not have even a sliver of chance of escaping.

Chapter 3265: The Wind Sovereign

Before Jian Chen, the Anatta Grand Exalt could not help but tremble. She stared straight at Jian Chen with an extremely mixed gaze. Despite the vast array of emotions in her eyes, the struggle and conflict were evidently more visible.

“This day shouldn’t have arrived so soon,” she murmured in a way that others could not understand. Her voice was clearly shaky.

Before she had comprehended the Way of Love, she was emotionless and cold, an embodiment of the heavenly ways. She looked down on the world from the highest point, where all living things were worthless. It was completely impossible for her to develop so many complicated emotions.

However, after entering the Way of Love, especially after comprehending the Way of Love to completion, her emotions had already become a tremendous ocean. She was no longer the cold and emotionless sovereign of the world.

Once in love, emotions were deep like the ocean.

With the completion of the Way of Love, her strength grew, but it also perturbed her heart.

The Anatta Grand Exalt extended a trembling hand. Her fingers were slender, and her flawless skin was smooth and white like jade.

Her slender finger slowly approached Jian Chen as it trembled, pressing towards Jian Chen’s forehead.

As she did that, her gaze shook violently. Her emotions fluctuated tremendously.

“Is the Anatta Grand Exalt going to kill Jian Chen now?”

At this moment, everyone watched closely. The experts gathered in the surroundings all narrowed their eyes, staring straight at the Anatta Grand Exalt.

The Anatta Grand Exalt’s finger approached Jian Chen’s forehead!

The finger did not give off any energy, nor was there any pressure, but no one present doubted the devastating power behind the finger.

However, at this moment, the three thousand laws of the Saints’ World began to shake violently. A bleak, ancient, and even slightly epoch-making presence immediately swept through the entire Saints’ World.

The presence was extremely powerful. From the moment it appeared, not only did all of the Ninth Heavenly Layer Grand Primes change in expression, even the Bloodtear Grand Exalt, the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt, and the Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths narrowed their eyes.

The appearance of the presence made the three of them become solemn at the same time.

“Show some mercy, Anatta!” An ancient voice rang out from the depths of outer space. The stars in the distance all dimmed. Together with a bleak and ancient presence, a transparent film suddenly appeared.

The film constantly changed, sometimes large enough to blot out the sky and other times small enough to fit in a hand. It constantly contorted about, and the face of an old man sometimes appeared. It seemed extremely eerie and very unstable.

“It’s the ancestral artifact of the Spiritsages.”

“It’s the fetal membrane of the world left behind after the Spirits’ World was ruined.”

The experts gathered here were all highly knowledgeable. They immediately recognised the origins of the item.

In the end, the film vanished, and a robust old man replaced it. He gave off a terrifying presence that made everyone change in expression.

“The Wind Venerable. It’s the Wind Venerable.”

“This presence! Heavens! The Wind Venerable has broken through! He’s actually taken that step!”

All of the peak experts, including the seven Saint Monarchs and the disciples of Grand Exalts, became surprised. Their eyes were filled with great envy.

Many of them had reached the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Grand Prime a long time ago, only a single step away from the supreme position of sovereign.

That was the direction that all of them strived towards, as well as the realm they all dreamed of.

Yet this small step had obstructed them for countless years.

Now, when they saw how the Wind Venerable had taken this step, they were immediately shocked. After all, he used to be at the same realm as them. They were very much perturbed.

Ancient Paths, Bloodtear, and Overarching Heaven all looked towards the Wind Venerable. They were also surprised and taken aback.

Only the Anatta Grand Exalt did not respond. Right now, only Jian Chen existed in her eyes!

“I’ve come late!” The Wind Venerable sighed gently. He was extremely stern. In the next moment, he directly turned into the fetal membrane of the world. The presence he gave off was bleak and ancient, like it was from the beginning of the universe.

The world membrane vanished, moving through outer space and completely neglecting the limitations of space and distance, directly enveloping Jian Chen.

The Wind Venerable wanted to use the powerful defences of the world membrane to save Jian Chen from the Anatta Grand Exalt.

However, the moment the world membrane vanished, the space there turned into a sea of blood. The Bloodtear Grand Exalt took action, obstructing the Wind Venerable.

“Wind Venerable, you truly should be congratulated for stepping into this realm, but you shouldn’t interfere with this, nor can you interfere with this!” the Bloodtear Grand Exalt said. His sea of blood turned into an independent domain, splitting up the world.

“Bloodtear, move aside. I owe a great favour to Jian Chen. I’ll protect him no matter what!” The Wind Venerable’s furious roar rang out from the sea of blood. The world membrane became extremely large, enough to blot out the sun. A mysterious power emanated from it, radiating with a presence from the birth of the universe. It was as if a major world was manifesting into creation.

At that instant, the world membrane emerged from the Bloodtear Grand Exalt's domain. It broke free from the restraints of the sea of blood before turning the tides and trapping the Bloodtear Grand Exalt's sea of blood instead.

From afar, the world membrane seemed to become a colossal, transparent cover, wrapping around the tremendous sea of blood.

Soon afterwards, the sea of blood began to rage violently. The might of a Grand Exalt erupted, setting off the laws. The sea of blood rapidly shrank, forming a blood-red sword that slashed against the world membrane mercilessly with devastating power.

Immediately, the world membrane began to inflate violently. Wherever the sword reached, the membrane would rapidly expand, forcefully turning the spherical membrane into something that resembled an oval. A surging storm of energy erupted inside.

However, all of the energy was firmly contained within the world membrane. Even the terrifying energy shockwaves from a Grand Exalt seemed to be incapable of rupturing this paper-thin membrane.

The Bloodtear Grand Exalt was trapped in the fetal membrane of the world!

Afterwards, the membrane's powers continued to spread out. It trapped the Bloodtear Grand Exalt while reaching towards Jian Chen.

However, there was a flash from the distance. The Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt slashed over with the Divine Sword of Spirit Severance, raising a huge disturbance. It slammed against the fetal membrane of the world mercilessly.

Immediately, the space there caved in, and the laws were thrown into disarray. All of the supreme experts gathered nearby backed away. The world membrane rapidly shrank as well, distorting under the force and constantly changing in shape.

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But in the end, the world membrane withstood the Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt's attacks without even sustaining a mark.

However, with the delay from the two sovereigns, the Wind Venerable had already lost his opportunity to get to Jian Chen as soon as possible.

By now, the Anatta Grand Exalt's slender finger had already pressed against Jian Chen's forehead gently.

Chapter 3266: A Century of Mortal Life (1)

Boom!

When the Anatta Grand Exalt made contact with Jian Chen's forehead, his mind immediately rumbled like the roaring of thunder. It filled his entire consciousness instantly.

At that instant, Jian Chen's soul shook as his consciousness wavered. He only felt like the world was spinning around him. He immediately lost senses of the outside world.

He forgot himself, forgot the outer space, and forgot everything. His consciousness descended into a chaotic state.

After who knew how long, as if a single second, as if a year or a century, or as if an entire epoch, the crowing of a rooster cut through the morning light, erupting in the silence. Soon afterwards, a woman's voice rang out from the distance, gentle and filled with love.

"It's morning, Chen. Wake up. Get up and have some breakfast."

Jian Chen opened his eyes slowly. He studied the surroundings. This was a small wooden hut. It was not particularly large, and the layout was extremely simple. There was a small wooden bed, a small square table only a metre across, and some crude, wooden ornaments.

At this moment, he laid on the wooden bed, clearly having just woken up.

"Who am I? And where is this?" Jian Chen sat up in the bed. There was a hint of confusion in his eyes. In a daze, he felt like he had forgotten many things, actually unable to recall them all.

He sat in the bed in thought for a very long time before finally recalling his supposed identity.

His name was a single character, Chen. He was born in a farmer's family located in a small mountain village. He had only just turned six, and he was the only son. His mother and father were both regular mortals, living off the land. They lived a plain but peaceful life.

"So I'm called Chen. That's strange. Why do I feel like I've forgotten a lot of things?" Jian Chen sat up and scratched his head. He was very puzzled. He got out of bed with doubt, except he staggered, almost falling to the ground.

The wooden bed was far too tall. With his current size, he could only leap down from there. His feet could not touch the ground.

Studying his body that was only a metre tall, Chen became even more confused. For some reason, there seemed to be a voice in his subconsciousness telling him that he was not supposed to be like this.

With great confusion and suspicion, Jian Chen left the room and arrived before the dining table.

His parents had been waiting there for a long time already. His father was called Changyang Ba, a burly middle-aged man of great strength.

His mother was called Bi Yuntian, a kind and virtuous housewife.

"Mum, dad!" Jian Chen greeted them. He climbed up a table in an extremely unfamiliar way, and the three of them began to eat happily. Their lives were plain and quiet.

"Chen, you should eat your porridge first. Eat it while it's hot. It's not good for the body if it's cold," Bi Yuntian said tenderly.

Afterwards, Chen just grew happily in this ordinary family. In the blink of an eye, it was already fourteen years later.

That year, Chen turned twenty. He had already grown into a complete adult. He was a handsome young man, the perfect man in the eyes of many of the ladies of similar age in this mountain hamlet.

However, Chen did not develop any feelings towards any of them, so when many of the people his age became partners and started families, Chen was still without a spouse.

“Chen, you’ve grown up. It’s time to talk about marriage and starting a family. I’ve already matched you with a lady from a neighbouring village. You should make yourself neat and tidy tomorrow. You’ll meet her then.” That day, Chen’s father, Changyang Ba, told Chen happily.

The next day, Chen and his father visited the neighbouring village and met the lady.

Chen finally met the lady.

When he first laid his eyes on the lady, he was immediately astounded. She left a deep mark on both his mind and soul.

She was very beautiful, so beautiful that she did not seem to belong to this world. Instead, she seemed like a maiden that belonged to the heavens. In particular, she possessed an indescribable bearing about her, which endowed her with a sacred beauty. She was aloof yet otherworldly, like she did not belong in the mortal world.

“My name is Chen!” Jian Chen said softly.

The lady’s eyes were bright. She sat in front of the wooden table and stared straight at Chen. Her eyes shone with a light that Chen was unable to read as she said softly, “My name is Zhen!”

“Zhen, you’re so beautiful.”

Zhen smiled shallowly, which was tranquil and charming. She only looked at Jian Chen silently, without saying anything.

Perhaps it was the connections of fate or the arrangements of something greater, the moment they met, the tracks of their lives collided together violently. There seemed to be an invisible ribbon that bound the two of them together firmly, unable to separate them.

Afterwards, Chen and Zhen began to meet together in private. Both of them developed feelings for one another.

Finally, after three years of love, Chen and Zhen married in this ordinary mountain hamlet!

On that day, they held a banquet. Everyone from both villages came to celebrate. Under everyone’s blessings and anticipation, Zhen formally became Chen’s wife.

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In the Saints’ World, the Wind Venerable turned into the fetal membrane of the world, trapping the Bloodtear Grand Exalt first before clashing with the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt. Under the Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt’s arduous efforts to stop him, the Wind Venerable failed to reach Jian Chen immediately.

In the distance, the seven Saint Monarchs and the late Grand Primes watched the battle between the three sovereigns as they paid attention to the Anatta Grand Exalt.

“It doesn’t seem like the Anatta Grand Exalt has killed Jian Chen!” Among the seven Saint Monarchs, the Blood-clothed Saint Monarch of the Bai clan said sternly. All of them could sense that Jian Chen was still alive.

“This is a dream technique. Master has used a technique to create a dream, dragging Jian Chen into it,” the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng said softly nearby. Her expression was extremely mixed.

“What? A dream technique? The Anatta Grand Exalt has dragged Jian Chen into a dream?” Everyone looked at one another before casting mixed gazes towards the Anatta Grand Exalt. Many of their faces became rather strange.

The Anatta Grand Exalt’s face was extremely beautiful, like it had been carefully carved by the ways themselves. They were flawless like a creation of nature. She stood there silently, giving off a supreme presence that overwhelmed them all.

However, her eyes were shut as her finger pressed against Jian Chen’s forehead gently.

She used her dream technique to pull Jian Chen into a dream that she had created. No one outside knew what was going on in the dream.

In the dream, in the same, ordinary mountain hamlet.

In the blink of an eye, it had already been three years since Chen and Zhen were married.

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During the three years, the two of them lived simply and plainly. Chen tended to the fields and would sometimes go into the mountains to hunt.

As for Zhen, she carried out her duties as a virtuous housewife, handling the chores at home and sewing clothes.

On this day, in a wooden hut that clearly had only been built recently, Zhen sat on a stool with a needle and thread in hand, repairing a broken piece of hemp clothing needle after needle.

There were already many patches and traces of repair on the piece of clothing. Clearly, the patches were all real. She had appended them with her own hands, needle after needle.

“Hahaha, guess what I caught today, Zhen!” Chen’s voice rang out from outside. With a creak, he pushed open the wooden door. Chen, who had clearly become much burlier than before, strode in with a wild boar on his shoulders.

“I got quite lucky today. I caught a wild boar. It’ll be enough to feed us for several days. Zhen, we can change up our diet a little.” Chen tossed the boar onto the ground. He was in a cheerful mood.

Zhen smiled sweetly. She set down her needle and thread and arrived before Jian Chen, saying softly, “You’ve torn your clothes again. Are you injured?”

“Injured? I’m not. It’s just hunting a boar. How can it harm me? I just accidentally let this animal bite my clothes. I’ll have to trouble my wife again.” Chen laughed.

“Take off your clothes. I’ll repair them. Oh right, I just finished repairing this, so put it on and try it out.” Zhen was virtuous and considerate, personally helping Jian Chen take off his torn hemp clothes before putting on the one she had just repaired for him.

Chapter 3267: A Century of Mortal Life (2)

Zhen helped Chen put on the clothes she had just patched. Chen moved his arms and legs around out of habit and let out a simple but happy smile. “Whether it’s the clothes you weave or the clothes you patch, they just feel the best when I wear them, like they’re completely a part of me.”

“For some reason, when I wear the clothes you’ve made for me, I feel like you’re always with me no matter where I am.”

Zhen smiled sweetly and grumbled flirtatiously, “Stop running your mouth already. Why don’t you butcher this pig instead?”

Afterwards, Chen carved up the boar he had caught, while Zhen personally took to the kitchen.

The two of them worked well together, each making their own contributions and supporting this happy little family together. Some of the days were dull, but it was still filled with happiness.

In the blink of an eye, several years had passed. During those years, Chen and Zhen had always lived happily and in satisfaction, living a life without any conflict. They loved each other deeply. They never argued or disputed over anything.

However, the only imperfection was when the other people in the village the same age as them became parents, they were still without children.

On this day, on a small hill, Chen sat on the ground, dazing out as he stared at the familiar hamlet at the foot of the hill.

Zhen was right beside him, holding onto his arm intimately with her eyes shut, resting her head against Chen’s shoulder as if she was carefully savouring this rare moment of peace.

“Zhen, do you know that I’ve actually always had a very strange feeling? I’ve always felt like I’ve forgotten a lot of things, but I just can’t recall these memories no matter how I try,” Chen said gently at this moment.

Zhen, who rested her head against his shoulder gently, immediately snapped open her eyes when she heard that. A smear of panic and uneasiness appeared in her eyes.

“The endless sea of stars... the sky is full of stars... I just feel like I’ve wandered through them before...” Chen murmured. His eyebrows were firmly furrowed as he tried his best to recall it, wanting to remember everything he had forgotten.

The panic in Zhen's eyes grew heavier. She hugged Jian Chen all of a sudden and said softly, "Chen, stop thinking about it. Stop thinking about it, okay? Promise me. Don't think about those things. Let's just finish this life peacefully and quietly like this, alright?"

Chen's eyes narrowed. He looked towards Zhen in suspicion and doubt. This was the first time he had seen Zhen with an expression like that despite all these years of being married to her.

He fell silent for a moment before saying, "Zhen, will our peaceful days be destroyed if I remember everything I've forgotten?"

Zhen nodded. She seemed like a timid girl, extremely terrified. She said softly, "This life, we've distanced ourselves from the ties of the secular world. We've distanced ourselves from the conflict, the scheming, and the various favours and grievances. We're not tied down by anything, but we have to forget everything and abandon everything, spending the rest of our lives in this ordinary little village separated from the world. I'll accompany you, and you'll accompany me. We'll accompany each other, until death do us part, alright?"

"In this life, we're both mortals. Mortals age, fall sick, and die. Mortals go through joys and sorrows of meetings and partings. In this short century, I only hope we can accompany each other, to rely on one another and approach our end happily and without worry."

"Promise me, Chen."

Zhen gazed at Jian Chen affectionately. She was extremely beautiful, like she was a work of nature. She possessed a very special aura about her. Even describing her as alluring enough to topple cities was not enough for her beauty.

However, in the depths of her eyes was a light that Chen was completely incapable of reading. It seemed to be grief and sorrow, yet it also seemed like a sense of powerlessness over fate.

"Alright, I promise you!" For some reason, Jian Chen was deeply touched. He embraced Zhen's slender body gently and kissed her on the lips softly. He stopped thinking about those seemingly-forgotten memories, maintaining a calm mind to enjoy this mortal life that was plain and simple yet devoid of any worries.

The two of them embraced one another in joy and happiness.

After a while of silence, Chen suddenly said, "Zhen, do you feel like our family is still not whole enough?"

"Really?" Zhen raised her pure-white chin in confusion.

"We're still missing a child!" Chen said seriously. "Look at everyone else in the village. Their children are even old enough to work in the fields, yet we're still without a child."

"Zhen, we need to make a child."

Zhen stiffened. She blanked out, unable to return to her senses for quite a while.

Three months later, Chen finally got what he wanted. Zhen fell pregnant!

After ten months of pregnancy, Chen and Zhen's children were finally born. They were a pair of twins, a boy and a girl. The boy was the older brother, while the girl was the younger sister.

Under Zhen's suggestion, the boy was named Wuyou!

The girl was named Wuhui!

TL: Wuyou means without worries. Wuhui means without regrets.

On that day, the entire village came to celebrate, holding a great banquet to congratulate Zhen and Chen on their children.

Zhen held her newly-born children and smiled gently. She gave off a motherly glow.

Chen was also so happy that he was unable to stop smiling.

The birth of the children added some more joy and laughter to Zhen and Chen's plain and simple little family. It became a little more lively, and it also made the little family a little more whole.

Under Chen and Zhen's care, Wuyou and Wuhui grew up healthily and happily, without any worry, away from all conflict.

Time flew like an arrow. In the blink of an eye, two decades had passed, and the two children had turned twenty. They had each found the other half to their lives.

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As for Zhen and Chen, they entered their middle ages as well, no longer possessing the vigour of their youth.

The two of them loved one another dearly. Over twenty years of marriage without a single argument. Not a single thing that displeased them occurred. Their feelings for one another was extremely deep. The days were happy and content.

On this day, Chen and Zhen's little home was decorated with lanterns and streamers. The character for happiness was hung up everywhere because today was Wuyou and Wuhui's marriage.

Wuyou had fallen in love with a lady from a neighbouring village, while Wuhui was married off to an outstanding young man from their village.

The two siblings chose to get married on the same day.

On this day, Zhen and Chen sat in the seat of honour. They smiled peacefully, accepting the bows and tea of respect served up by their son-in-law. The ceremony came to a close. Now, the older brother Wuyou and the younger sister Wuhui both possessed a small family of their own.

Very soon, Wuyou and Wuhui had children of their own, and Zhen and Chen had grandchildren. They were a grandfather and grandmother now.

However, as time went on, Zhen and Chen became older. They had already been married for half a century now. Their black hair gradually greyed as their conditions declined with each passing day.

As mortals, they aged, fell sick, and died. They went through the joys and sorrows of meetings and partings. Very soon, Chen faced the first tragedy in his life.

His father Changyang Ba and mother Bi Yuntian had reached the end of their lives, leaving this world together.

Chapter 3268: A Century of Mortal Life (3)

This was the first sorrow Chen had experienced during his life as a mortal. He spent the day kneeling before his parents' memorial tablet in utter grief.

In just a short century, they would go through all sorts of feelings and experiences, meetings of life and partings of death. That was the life of a mortal.

Very soon, it had been a decade since Chen's parents passed away.

Zhen and Chen's children, Wuyou and Wuhui, gradually entered their middle ages.

As for Chen, he became even older. His physical strength worsened with each passing day, and his hair had already become peppered. His face was even covered with wrinkles, no longer possessing the striking appearance he had in his youth.

Very soon, it was new years' eve again. It was the same mountain hamlet as before, except the small wooden hut had already become a great big courtyard.

At this moment, in the courtyard, Zhen and Chen sat in the seats of honour. In front of them were a great group of people prostrating on the ground, led by Wuyou and Wuhui.

Apart from Wuyou and Wuhui, the rest of them were all Chen and Zhen's grandchildren.

They had become surrounded by children and grandchildren a long time ago.

"Grandpa, happy new year."

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Beneath them, all of Chen and Zhen's children and grandchildren wished them a happy new year. Between their sincere, festive words was Chen's glad smile.

Zhen sat beside him with a similar smile, but the smile seemed a little wry, lacking some spirit.

"This is just a dream and everything before us is fake, but I really have no other way. Chen, when you awaken, I hope you don't hate me."

"What must happen will happen. Some conclusions are already set in stone and cannot be changed. Chen, all I can give you is this lifetime of accompaniment, this lifetime of love." Zhen's expression was rather mixed. She sighed in the bottom of her heart with sorrow and helplessness.

Only she knew this was a dream. When they woke up, everything before her would cease to exist.

At this moment, Chen slowly turned towards Zhen beside him. "Zhen, we've both grown old. We probably don't have much time left with our century of life, but being able to see all of our children and grandchildren has already left me satisfied."

At this moment, in Jian Chen's eyes, Zhen had also become an elderly woman with white hair, no better than his current state.

"Grandpa, what are you saying? Grandma is clearly so young and beautiful. She only looks like she's in her twenties. How is she old?"

"Yeah, yeah. Grandma is young and beautiful. She's nothing like what you said, grandpa."

"Grandpa is telling blind lies."

Down below, their grandchildren raised a fuss.

Chen smiled gently, only treating it as a joy without taking it seriously.

Chen became older and older and weaker and weaker. Another decade passed by, and Chen collapsed. He lay in his bed, sick, spending most of his time each day unconscious. The time he spent awake lessened.

He had already reached his declining years, approaching the end of his journey as a mortal. His organs deteriorated as every part of his body weakened. Clearly, he did not have much time left.

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When Jian Chen was unconscious, Chen arrived by his side. She sat by the bed and gently touched Chen's cheeks. Her gaze was loving, but there was also an undisguisable sense of pain and reluctance.

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"This life is about to end. Both you and me will be returning to the real world. Chen, I wonder if you hate me."

"Chen, did you know that ever since I awakened, I remained by your side the entire time. I know everything you experienced in the Saints' World, everything you faced on your journeys. I've been accompanying you from a corner you cannot see, watching over you silently."

"However, while I know you, you've never known me," Zhen murmured softly as if she had recalled some of the past, sinking into her memories.

"In the Saints' World, it was impossible for you to face any true danger. All of the life-threatening dire situations you thought you faced actually never came close to a moment when your life was truly threatened. Once you were truly in danger, I would have saved you."

"As a result, it was completely impossible for your identity to be exposed so soon."

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“When the people of the Immortals’ World attacked, I was forced to receive them in battle. Originally, your life should have been safe and sound with it, much less facing any dire situations, but why wasn’t it with you at this exact time?”

“Even after calculating everything, you still miss something in the end. This day arrived far, far too soon.”

Zhen laid on Chen’s chest. Tears flowed from her eyes with sorrow and reluctance. There was a sense of sadness that came with parting.

She gently cut open her finger. A droplet of crimson blood dripped onto Chen’s lips. Upon absorbing the blood, Chen finally woke up slowly.

“Zhen, I think I heard you say something, but I couldn’t hear you clearly,” Chen opened his eyes weakly. His eyes were dim and dull, while his voice was feeble.

“Chen, when you notice that this life is actually a dream, will you hate me?” Zhen gazed at Jian Chen and asked softly.

Chen smiled and said, “As mortals, we’re destined to die, to be reduced to a pile of earth, to return to how we were. Life is like a dream. This life has always been a dream. Everyone will wake up eventually, so why would I hate you?”

“Zhen, I’m old. I’ve already reached the end of my life. I can feel that I can’t hold on for much longer. I can’t continue with you. Zhen, thank you for accompanying me for my life.”

“Your accompaniment is the greatest joy of my life,” Chen said lovingly. His voice was extremely weak. The two of them had spent their entire life loving one another, without any disputes or conflict. They spent every single day in laughter and happiness. This was the most unforgettable memory to him.

After saying that, Chen slowly shut his eyes again, seemingly falling back asleep. His breathing was almost gone. He did not have much time left.

Zhen dripped another droplet of blood into Chen’s mouth, but with each droplet of blood, the life force in Zhen’s body was reduced.

This life, she was also a mortal, only possessing the lifespan of a mortal. It was just that Chen left faster than her.

She was delivering her own life, delivering the meagre life force she had remaining to Chen.

“Chen, in this dream of a life, I will accompany you to the very end, until we wake up from the dream, as this will be the last time we spend together,” Zhen murmured.

Three days later, Chen and Zhen passed away. With an entire hall filled with the painful sobs of their children and grandchildren, they finally completed the last part of their lives as mortals.

On the day of his passing, Chen smiled in satisfaction. He held Zhen’s hand firmly and left very peacefully, without any regrets at all.

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In the Saints' World, the Anatta Grand Exalt slowly drew back her finger. When she opened her eyes, an extremely mixed light appeared.

A century had passed in the dream, but only five seconds had elapsed in the Saints' World. The Wind Venerable was still trapped with the Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt, unable to approach Jian Chen.

It had only been three seconds since the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng stated that this was a dream technique.

At this moment, Jian Chen's eyelids trembled gently, and he also opened his eyes slowly. His gaze was slightly dazed.

He did not know why he had fallen unconscious, but he felt like he had just experienced a very long dream. Everything he experienced in his dream felt extremely real, like it was reality.

Suddenly, his gaze landed on the Anatta Grand Exalt, and his body suddenly stiffened before shaking violently. His eyes shone with an indescribable light as he said with a shaky voice, "Y-y-you're Zhen?"

Chapter 3269: Crisis of Life or Death

Mixed emotions flickered in the Anatta Grand Exalt's eyes. She stared into Jian Chen's eyes silently, except it was quite obvious that she was anything but calm right now from her heaving chest.

During the dream of a century, only she had remained conscious the entire time, aware of who she was and what her identity was. She had not been like Jian Chen who had forgotten everything during the century, uncertain about his past, uncertain about his true identity, completely submerged in the dream and completing his life with the mind and mentality of a mortal.

"I understand now. That was a dream. Everything that happened in there was fake, including Wuyou and Wuhui. They were both an illusion in the dream. They did not exist," Jian Chen murmured. He felt sorrow, disappointment, pain, and pity.

During the century in the dream, he spent his life plainly, finishing his life lovingly with this wife. Before death, he had even been surrounded by his children and grandchildren. His life had truly been complete, without any pity at all.

Only when he woke up from it did he discover it was actually all an illusion. Everything he experienced during that time was fake and did not actually exist, which was the source of Jian Chen's depression.

"Wuyou and Wuhui were fake. All of the grandchildren were fake as well. But Zhen, she actually existed, right? Y-you're Zhen. Am I right?" Jian Chen stared at the Anatta Grand Exalt. At this moment, he no longer cared about the fact that she was the greatest sovereign in the Saints' World anymore. All he wanted was an answer.

A century of marriage, a century of love, and a century of accompaniment. Jian Chen's soul had been through all of that, so it was no different from reality.

As a result, the century-long dream still affected Jian Chen.

As for Zhen, she had already become his dearest love, his wife that he had spent a lifetime with.

In the distance, all of the peak experts heard Jian Chen and widened their eyes. They were filled with extreme shock and disbelief.

The first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng's mouth even hung agape for quite a while.

"Wuyou and Wuhui? The grandchildren? Heavens, just what did the Anatta Grand Exalt and Jian Chen go through in the dream?"

"Grandchildren? Even a fool could guess what that implies. It's absurd, completely absurd!"

"Impossible, that's completely impossible!"

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For a moment, all of the experts present experienced an upheave of emotions. They were left tongue-tied.

They were all monsters that had lived for countless years. What hadn't they seen? What hadn't they experienced? They could guess everything from Jian Chen's words and expression.

"You have to answer me. Are you still refusing to give me the true answer even when I'm about to die? You don't want me to die knowingly?" Jian Chen stared straight at the Anatta Grand Exalt.

The Anatta Grand Exalt shut her eyes as if she was rather afraid to meet Jian Chen's eyes. She said extremely softly, "You're right. Apart from you and me, everything was fake."

"So... Zhen was you." Jian Chen blanked out. He stared at the great beauty before him with a mix of emotions. He had no idea what to think of this.

In the dream, they had shared the same bed. They had been a loving couple for a century long.

But in the Saints' World, she was the greatest sovereign who possessed paramount authority!

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Jian Chen extended his trembling hand, slowly reaching towards the Anatta Grand Exalt's cheek, wanting to touch her face.

It was as if the supreme beauty right before him was no longer the greatest sovereign of the Saints' World, but his loving wife that he had spent a century married to in the dream.

As a result, he completely did this out of instinct, out of the habit he developed in the dream.

However, his instinctive actions utterly frightened all of the experts present. They all held their breaths. Their hearts seemed to stop beating.

That was the greatest sovereign of the Saints' World. Just how esteemed was her status? Yet Jian Chen was actually trying to stroke her cheek. That was simply insane.

As Jian Chen's hand reached closer and closer to the Anatta Grand Exalt, the experts in the distance all widened their eyes. Their gazes were fixed on Jian Chen as if they wanted to see how he would die and also as if they wanted to see what fate he would suffer.

It was not just them. Even Overarching Heavens, Bloodtear, and the Wind Venerable who were currently locked in battle could not help but look over.

Nothing happened. Under everyone's watch, Jian Chen's hand pressed gently against the Anatta Grand Exalt's cheek. He did not show any unfamiliarity at all. Everything seemed so natural.

Because of the century they spent together in the dream, this had already become a habit, an action of instincts.

The Anatta Grand Exalt shut her eyes. Her body shook gently, but she did not resist.

At that moment, time seemed to stop and the air seemed to freeze. The Wind Venerable, the Bloodtear Grand Exalt, and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt subconsciously stopped fighting.

In the distance, all of the late Grand Primes felt like their hearts were about to leap out of their throats.

That was the Anatta Grand Exalt, yet at this moment, she actually let a man touch her face in public. This was completely unheard of.

"Zhen, I know I'm destined to die today just from my identity as a successor of the Immortals' World, regardless of whether I'm your fruit of ways or not. You saved my life in the past, so I have no regrets if I am able to die by your hand. I only hope you can promise one thing. Don't let the Tian Yuan clan of the Cloud Plane be affected because of me."

"They're the group of people that I can't stop worrying about. I hope they can be well. This is my final wish."

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"Zhen, could you promise me, in consideration of the century we spent together..." Jian Chen said softly.

The Anatta Grand Exalt shut her eyes slowly. She gazed towards Jian Chen tenderly. Her eyes were filled with pain and sorrow. Suddenly, she took a step forward and kissed Jian Chen without hesitation.

On one side was a Chaotic Prime, someone as puny as an ant in the eyes of Grand Exalts. On the other side was the greatest sovereign of the current day in the Saints' World. These two people who differed tremendously in both status and strength just kissed deeply in outer space.

When their lips made contact, the entire region fell silent. Everyone's hearts nearby stopped beating. Even the seven Saint Monarchs were stupefied.

As for the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng, she seemed like she had lost her soul. She no longer had the courage to believe that this was her great master.

After a very long time, their lips parted, and there were already tears on the Anatta Grand Exalt's face as if she had just gone through a true parting of death, overcome with grief.

"I... promise... you..." The Anatta Grand Exalt's voice was rather shaky. After saying that, her presence suddenly changed. The laws weaved through her eyes and the ways manifested as if the birth of a universe was unfolding in her eyes.

Suddenly, she let out a sorrowful howl. Her eyes were completely bloodshot, waving her hand gently towards Jian Chen without any hesitation.

With that, the world rumbled and the laws were thrown into disorder. The entire space there collapsed. A terrifyingly destructive power, tremendous beyond belief, hurtled towards Jian Chen without any hesitation.

Chapter 3270: The Way of Heartlessness

This was the true power of a sovereign. Before this power, even Jian Chen's Chaotic Body that had reached the sixteenth layer was as flimsy as paper.

His body immediately became covered with cracks before completely shattering apart like a piece of porcelain, turning into countless tiny fragments.

First his body, then his soul. His soul also sustained similarly devastating damage. Even when his soul had merged with a strand of true Chaotic Force, it was like a candle in the wind before a sovereign's power. It was extremely feeble.

"Stop!" The Wind Venerable roared furiously in the distance. The fetal membrane of the world immediately shone with dazzling light, erupting with terrifying power that shook the world.

He had used the origin power of the fetal membrane of the world. He was overperforming, which would take an extremely great toll on himself. It was equivalent to how other experts would have to pay a certain price if they used some kind of forbidden technique.

The power of the world membrane erupted. The Wind Venerable immediately bypassed the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt, arriving before Jian Chen instantly.

The Anatta Grand Exalt did not stop the Wind Venerable. Her eyes were completely bloodshot as her long hair fluttered about. She seemed like she had gone insane, filled with pain and sorrow.

She knew that Jian Chen would be dead for sure from her attack. No one could save him.

There were no Chaotic Primes that could survive a sovereign's attack.

Let alone the fact that the one behind the attack was the greatest sovereign who had comprehended four ways to completion.

“With this life, our ties come to an end.” Bloody tears rolled down the Anatta Grand Exalt’s cheeks. She did not have much contact in person with Jian Chen, but she had inherited all of her reincarnation’s experiences. Kai Ya’s love for Jian Chen had also affected her.

On top of that, the dream of a century and the lifetime as a couple was also her own experience. During the dream, her mind and spirit had both become one with Jian Chen before, completely melding together, making the deepest contact possible.

As such, even if the century they spent together was a dream, it was no different from reality to her.

Her love was deep. During the century-long dream and the mutual contact and accompaniment, Jian Chen had already left a deep mark on her heart.

And now, she personally destroyed Jian Chen, erasing her beloved from this world forever, so the pain she was in went without saying.

“Argh!”

The Anatta Grand Exalt let out a howl at the sky, shaking up the laws of the Saints’ World. The entire space there turned to darkness as the stars exploded.

Her presence became chaotic as thousands of emotions weaved through her bloody eyes. The laws flew past in her gaze.

At this moment, all of the supreme experts gathered in this space stood silently. They had personally witnessed the disintegration of Jian Chen’s body, as well as the power of a sovereign shattering Jian Chen’s soul. They also saw the grief-stricken Anatta Grand Exalt.

At this moment, the white clothes that the Anatta Grand Exalt wore rapidly turned black. It all occurred in an instant.

When her clothes completely turned black, her gaze and her bearing changed as well. The love and pain from earlier had immediately vanished from her eyes as if they had been completely annihilated.

A bone-chilling coldness then began to radiate from her, giving off a frigid sense of unfamiliarity. Even her eyes returned to the icy-coldness of the past again.

No, her gaze right now was much colder than before she had comprehended the Way of Love.

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Her eyes devoid of emotion were so cold that it struck fear into people. It truly viewed life as nothing.

“The Way of Heartlessness. This is the Way of Heartlessness.”

“The Anatta Grand Exalt fell deeply in love with Jian Chen first so that she could comprehend the Way of Love through Jian Chen. Now that she’s personally killed Jian Chen, she’s comprehended a new law under her extreme viciousness and sorrow, the Way of Heartlessness.”

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All of the experts in the surroundings were shocked. Their gazes were extremely mixed.

“This Jian Chen sure is impressive. He first dragged over the Snow Goddess, making us mistake his backing to be the Ice Goddess Hall. Now, for his sake, even the Wind Venerable who’s just become a sovereign is willing to risk his life to save him. Just how many people can accomplish something like that in the Saints’ World?”

“Compared to the emotions and ties that occurred between him and the Anatta Grand Exalt, that’s actually all nothing.”

“Hmph, to be able to make the Anatta Grand Exalt fall in love, directly stroking her cheek and even receiving a deep kiss from her in the eye of the public, Jian Chen is going down in history even if he’s died.”

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When they recalled how the Anatta Grand Exalt had kissed Jian Chen, there was actually no one present who felt envy or jealousy.

The Anatta Grand Exalt stood at a height that was far, far too high. She was an existence they could only ever look up to and never match, much less develop any thoughts of blasphemy.

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As such, they obviously could not develop any surreal thoughts in their heads. They did not dare to develop any fantasies, much less any envy or jealousy.

“It’s said that Jian Chen even has some ties with the War God of the God clan. It’s just a pity that the God clan is nowhere near as great as it once was. The War God of the God clan has yet to mature completely.” Someone sighed softly.

Jian Chen’s body was collapsing and his soul was dispersing. Under the power of a sovereign, he was unable to resist at all, currently dissipating in the surroundings, inching closer and closer to death.

As for the Anatta Grand Exalt dressed in black, she turned around coldly and heartlessly, leaving this place and vanishing into outer space instantly.

She knew that Jian Chen was dead for sure. Lingered around was completely pointless now.

At the same time, the world membrane that the Wind Venerable had transformed into expanded and immediately wrapped around where Jian Chen was. The entirety of Jian Chen’s collapse was also in the world membrane’s vicinity.

The world membrane seemed to give off a presence from the creation of the world. The blinding light illuminated everything. No one knew what was happening inside.

The Bloodtear Grand Exalt and the Overarching Heaven Grand Exalt did not continue fighting him. Jian Chen was already dead and the Anatta Grand Exalt had comprehended the Way of Heartlessness. There was no longer any meaning in fighting the Wind Venerable.

At this moment, the two of them gazed at the Wind Venerable with mixed emotions. Who knew what they were thinking.

“You’ve merged your body with an object and reached this realm through a different method. Should you be considered as an object now, or the same creature as the past? Sigh.” The Grand Exalt of Ancient Paths’ soul also gazed at the Wind Venerable with mixed emotions. After the sigh, he vanished completely, only leaving behind a message of lament. “Anatta didn’t hold back. Jian Chen is dead for sure from her strike. There’s no possibility of him surviving. Wind Venerable, stop wasting your efforts...”

All of the experts gathered there fell silent. They also thought that Jian Chen was already dead. Otherwise, if the Anatta Grand Exalt had held back and had not truly killed him, she would not have comprehended the Way of Heartless from her grief.

Only by truly achieving heartlessness did she have a certain chance at comprehending the way!