

Chaotic 461

Chapter 461: A Name That Spreads Everywhere

Under the eyes of everyone, Georgien was defeated by Jian Chen. He flew through the air, tumbling twenty meters away to the ground. Even after he had stopped rolling, blood could be seen pouring from his pale mouth.

At this stunning sight, everyone from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom was astonished. The previously confident second prince and prime minister Che turned pale, and the second prince started to shiver and shake with fear.

When they planned on causing trouble within the imperial palace of the Gesun Kingdom, they were relying heavily upon Georgien as a Heaven Saint Master. Georgien had been dealt serious injuries in several moves, indicating the difference between their strengths. Now that Georgien was powerless to defend himself, how would he be able to defend the second prince?

The entire group of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom now had nasty looks on their faces. Each one stood by the second prince and prime minister with dignified stances as if prepared to defend them from the Gesun Kingdom.

Jian Chen had been able to defeat a Heaven Saint Master in such a short amount of time. This had shocked everyone to the point of causing them to be speechless. He was so young, but he was already a Heaven Saint Master with a strength that was absolutely mind blowing. Furthermore, the strength he wielded was not just an ordinary amount of strength.

A battle between Heaven Saint Masters was usually filled with an enormous amount of energy. Victory would not be so easily determined in such a short amount of time, but Jian Chen had managed to inflict two severe wounds on a Heaven Saint Master within a brief two breaths worth of time. A strength this strong was far too shocking for anyone.

Georgien coughed up violently enough for two people before slowly bringing himself up from the ground. Terrified, he looked at the young Jian Chen in front of him. He could hardly believe that Jian Chen was just a barely twenty years old youth. With such a strength like this along with a mysterious power that could destroy Saint Weapons, Georgien's heart was filled with terror.

Jian Chen would hold the advantage, even in a battle against a Heaven Saint Master, because he wielded this power. At the very least, he would be able to easily kill a Heaven Saint Master. After all, in a battle between two people, a clash of weapons was unavoidable. Since Saint Weapons were linked to their owner's life, if their Saint Weapon was damaged, the owner would be severely damaged as well.

Since Georgien was using his sword to support himself off the ground, the two jagged chips on his sword were clear to see.

"Just what is this power of yours? To be able to so easily damage my Saint Weapon?" Georgien looked at Jian Chen seriously. Although he tried to force himself to look calm, his words had already betrayed a hint of a stammer. That power of Jian Chen's completely terrified Georgien.

Jian Chen recollected the Origin Energy back into his own body and wrapped his hands against his chest. "I see no need to tell you that. Men of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, were you not quarreling earlier about capturing me? Have everyone come forth, I, Changyang Xiangtian will receive you."

The experts from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom all looked at each other. They were caught in a situation where they could neither advance nor retreat. Now that they knew Jian Chen's strength, they had already lost the previous arrogance they had. Even the second prince and prime minister had fallen silent. Their enemy had easily defeated a Heaven Saint Master, so even if all the Earth Saint Masters were to charge at him, they would only be charging toward their deaths. A Heaven Saint Master and an Earth Saint Master were on completely separate worlds in strength, one traveled the heavens, the other traveled the earth. The difference between the two sides could not be argued about.

Georgien took in a deep breath, his expression began to grow dejected as he reclaimed his Saint Weapon. "I had no idea that the Gesun Kingdom would have such a blessed genius. Changyang Xiangtian, you are strong and there is no doubt that I am not a match for you. As a representative of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, I wish to apologize for the rude display from before." Without waiting for a response from Jian Chen, Georgien began to lead the entire group away.

"Halt, where are you going?" Ming Dong's figure suddenly appeared in the way of the group and laughed, "Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, did you really think that my brother and I would be that easy to bully without consequence? You were just going on about capturing the two of us to bring back to your shitty Highness as if we were beneath your notice. But now that you know you are no match, you decide to slip away? How easy do you think that'll be?"

Georgien's face darkened as a hint of anger flashed across his face, "Then what are you thinking of?" He growled.

"Your entire group will remain here, do not even think about leaving the Gesun Kingdom's imperial palace." Ming Dong spoke coldly with an earnest look.

At this, everyone from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom blanched for a moment before the prime minister spoke, "Then do you plan to completely imprison everyone here, or do you wish to kill us all?"

"Even the tiny Heavenly Eagle Kingdom can be so savage." Ming Dong snorted before looking to Jian Chen, "Brother, how do you propose we deal with them? Last night's events cannot be so easily forgiven." Although the assassin from yesterday night had been captured, his mouth was sealed tight and so the Gesun Kingdom were unable to figure out his true identity or affiliations. To anyone with a sharp mind, there was a mutual understanding of the truth.

Jian Chen thought for a moment before waving his hand, "Ming Dong, let them go."

"Jian Chen, don't tell me you'll let them walk away that easily?" Ming Dong had an unwilling look on his face.

"Let them go, that is what I plan to do." Jian Chen spoke.

With Jian Chen so resolute on his decision, even Ming Dong had no alternative. Stamping past the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, he spoke, "You better hope that your paths will not cross with me in the

future. Otherwise, you will not get off easily.” With that, Ming Dong allowed them to pass and stood by Jian Chen’s side.

The entire group from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom let out a sigh in relief. Without any hesitation, they quickly left the area. They no longer had any face to stay within the Gesun Kingdom. When the envoy left the palace, they immediately left for the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom.

“Jian Chen, why did you let them go?” Ming Dong asked the question that was weighing on his mind.

“The Gesun Kingdom has only just experienced a war and is greatly injured. We cannot bear to make the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom our enemy.” Jian Chen said.

“What are you afraid of? Don’t forget your current status. Are you afraid of a tiny kingdom like the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom?”

Jian Chen shook his head, “Although the power of the Qinhuang Kingdom is tremendous, so is the distance from there to here. Having the army dispatched here is far too unrealistic, and since the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom is so close to the Gesun Kingdom. With their power, it is best to not be caught in a deadlock with them. Although I am not afraid, the Gesun Kingdom cannot be thrown into this.”

“So you were thinking about the wellbeing of the Gesun Kingdom.” Ming Dong felt relieved. He had always been alone and thus had always looked out only for himself, no matter what. Very rarely did he ever consider the consequences of his own actions, so he had not initially understood why Jian Chen had gone through such troubles.

The king had reached Jian Chen’s side and begun to speak several words of concern to him. His attitude was that of a father who cared for his son. Speaking kindly, the king already saw Jian Chen as his son-in-law.

The disturbance of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom had quickly died back down, but Jian Chen’s strength had been revealed. News of his strength spread through the imperial palace and had made him a revolutionary figure from within. At the same time, Jian Chen and the princess’ marriage had been circulated as well for everyone to know.

Although the engagement had been confirmed several years ago, it had not been announced until now. Only the two sides and the Hua Yun Sect knew of the engagement before, making the marriage a secret within the palace.

After the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom’s envoys had left, the king invited Jian Chen and his family back into the palace to have a discussion in private. Not too long after, an imperial decree was given that shocked the entirety of the Gesun Kingdom.

Changyang Xiangtian, the fourth master of the Changyang clan would now hold the title of an Imperial Protector of the Gesun Kingdom with an authority that was not below the king himself. At the same time, the king announced Changyang Xiangtian’s marriage to the princess, letting everyone in the entire kingdom know about the affair.

After this series of events had happened, the previously low-profiled Changyang clan in Lore City became one of the most heavily watched clans within the entire Gesun Kingdom. Their reputation had grown to the point where everyone knew about them and could no longer be as low-profile as they

were before. Furthermore, Changyang Xiangtian became a person of interest to everyone in the kingdom. Every single deed or achievement he had accomplished before was investigated by the masses, and they gradually learned even more things about him.

The strength Jian Chen revealed at the imperial palace hadn't been kept secret. Instead, the king had secretly spread news of it. Quickly, the news of a 21 year old Heaven Saint Master spread throughout the kingdom for everyone to know.

However, this piece of information had led to everyone turning their nose up in disbelief of the news. A 21 year old Heaven Saint Master? That was far too ridiculous.

In a luxurious tavern in Lore City, a brightly red-dressed Dugu Feng sat by himself and drank a cup of wine. Everyone had been talking about the matter with Jian Chen, but Dugu Feng had cared not for this and turned his nose up, unconvinced.

Suddenly, a random conversation at a nearby table caught Dugu Feng's attention.

"This Changyang clan is one of the four great clans in our Lore City aren't they? The matters regarding their fourth master, Changyang Xiangtian are things I know about. I've heard that even when he was young, he was a genius among geniuses. In Kargath Academy, he defeated a Middle Great Saint and several other Saints working together as a Primary Saint. How amazing is that? However, he had offended the Hua Yun Sect and mysteriously disappeared after that without a single trace. It was only in these past two days that he suddenly reappeared."

Dugu Feng slowly put down the wine cup in his hand as his eyebrows knit together in thought. "He was also from Lore City, could it be him? Could it be that when he went to the Holy Lands, he managed to make the breakthrough to become a Heaven Saint Master?"

Chapter 462: Illusion Array (One)

After listening to Jian Chen's suggestion, the tidbit that indicated that Jian Chen was the Imperial Protector of the Qinhuang Kingdom was not revealed. So when he became an Imperial Protector for the Gesun Kingdom, several dukes and chancellors contested it, but their voices were tiny. With the king having the support of both Ye Ming and Khafir, the opposition was quickly suppressed, which gave way to Jian Chen becoming an Imperial Protector for the Gesun Kingdom. In fact, he was now the only Imperial Protector the Gesun Kingdom had.

The coronation ceremony for Jian Chen becoming an Imperial Protector was packed with people. Practically anyone that was anybody in the Gesun Kingdom showed up. Not only did the three other major clans from Lore City send their representatives to show their support, but even many people from faraway cities came to participate.

This event caused the name of the Changyang Clan to skyrocket. They completely overshadowed even the Hua Yun Sect's power to the point where they had replaced them as the authority figure. At this, Changyang Ba didn't know whether to laugh or cry. There was a helpless look on his face knowing that the Changyang clan could no longer be as low-profile as before.

Once the coronation ceremony had finished, Jian Chen and his family left the imperial palace shortly after. On the second day, they left the palace and were accompanied by 500 Black Armors back to Lore City. Ming Dong followed Jian Chen away from the imperial palace.

Within the troops, there was a single white dressed beauty that was very easy to see. Situated among the Black Armors, she was like a beautiful flower that was blossoming in a magnificent manner that was both eye-catching and dazzling.

The Princess of the Gesun Kingdom had begged to leave the imperial palace in order to temporarily live with the Changyang clan under the guise of wishing to nurture and cultivate their relationship. Changyang Ba and Bi Yuntian had both heartily agreed to her request, since this was what the both of them had been hoping for. With their agreement, even Jian Chen was helpless to disagree.

The entire family traveled on merrily with laughter as they comforted each other with happy words.

Because of the pace, they arrived back at Lore City by the afternoon of the second day. Lore City had long since received information that they were approaching, and had a giant party ready to receive them at the gates with respectful smiles and polite attitudes.

After the welcoming, Jian Chen and his group returned to the Changyang Manor with the 500 Black Armors declining to stay any longer. Once they were done with their meal, they immediately started their trek back to the imperial palace.

The Changyang clan was decorated with bright lights and colored banners to symbolize the happy state of the manor. Jian Chen had just stepped across the gates to the clan when he realized that there was a difference from the Changyang clan from before. The patrolling soldiers around the clan and even the clan servants displayed prideful expressions on their faces. Their heads were also held high in a dignified fashion.

“Haha, clan leader, fourth lady, Xiangtian, you’ve finally arrived back home.” Among the higher ranking elders waiting for them, a familiar looking face immediately called out to the returnees when they came into sight.

“I never would have imagined that my Changyang clan would have such a talented offspring. This is truly a boon for my Changyang clan.” An elderly voice could be heard from behind only to reveal the elder that guarded the library. His face revealed a gentle smile that did nothing to hide his prideful and gratified expression.

“Xiang’er, this is your grandfather, come pay your respects!” Changyang Ba quickly spoke to Jian Chen in a low, serious voice.

Hearing this, Jian Chen immediately went to salute him, “I pay my respects to grandfather.”

The grandfather laughed before looking over Jian Chen for a moment. Nodding in approval, he spoke, “Neither arrogant nor hot-tempered, good, good. Truly a dragon among men, and despite your age, you have already a dignified air to you.”

Jian Chen’s family members exchanged several words of greeting with the higher echelons of the clan before heading off to rest. On the way back to his own room, every single guard that saw Jian Chen

immediately gave him a respectful salute. Each one looked at him with an eye of adoration while several others showed a tint of jealousy.

Suddenly, outside the gates of the Changyang clan, a richly dressed 28 year old youth in red, with hair of the same color could be seen. His complexion was firm and his aura unordinary, making anyone that saw him know he was no ordinary person.

The youth had been immediately blockaded by the guards at the gate. One of the gatekeepers immediately called out, "Halt, this is the Changyang clan. Without an invitation, no one can enter."

The youth paused right in front of the gate and spoke calmly, "I am looking for Changyang Xiangtian."

"Impudence! Are you one that can call the fourth master by his name?" The two gatekeepers immediately grew solemn as they looked at the newcomer with unfriendly looks. Because of the fact that Jian Chen had elevated the Changyang clan into a position of power among the Gesun Kingdom, the guards felt as if everyone were beneath them now.

The youth was not angry and continued to speak calmly, "I am called Dugu Feng. Go and report to Changyang Xiangtian. If he knows me, he will naturally come out."

Hearing this, the two gatekeepers gave each other a mutual look as if to send a message before calming down momentarily. One of the guards spoke, "Please wait here, I will report to the fourth master."

Quickly, Jian Chen and Ming Dong who were chatting to each other heard about Dugu Feng being here. With a happy look, Ming Dong and Jian Chen immediately walked for the giant gate.

Seeing Jian Chen's rushed manner, the guard that came forward to alert him was startled. He thought back to the way he had treated Dugu Feng and immediately grew afraid that Jian Chen would take his anger out on him, causing him to grow extremely anxious. He knew now that the Changyang clan was a major power, but the one who held the power wasn't the clan leader; instead, it was the fourth master Changyang Xiangtian. His words were worth far more.

Jian Chen arrived at the front of the gates where he saw Dugu Feng, someone he had split paths with half a year ago. Right now, Dugu Feng was still the same as he was before. There was no change to his appearance, and there was still a cold and detached look to him.

"I don't see the wrong person, it really is you." Jian Chen laughed.

Seeing that the fourth master of the Changyang clan was the one he had been looking for, Dugu Feng couldn't help but break out into a smile, "So you were originally called Changyang Xiangtian. It's no wonder I wasn't able to find you for so long in Lore City."

Laughing, Jian Chen didn't bother to explain at that moment and replied, "Come in, we'll talk inside."

Afterward, the two guardsmen let out a breath in relief and joy the moment they had disappeared. Jian Chen had taken Dugu Feng into the clan compound.

"I didn't think that he would actually be the friend of the fourth master. It is a good thing we didn't offend him, otherwise, it would be foolish of us to think we could remain in the Changyang clan." One of the guards spoke with some lingering fear while the other guard nodded in agreement.

Jian Chen took Dugu Feng into his own room and began to talk with him. From Dugu Feng's own mouth, Jian Chen had already known that Dugu Feng had left the Dugu clan. From that moment on, he was no longer affiliated with the Dugu clan, and whatever he did now, would not affect the Dugu clan in any way.

The matter in which Dugu Feng had conducted himself gave rise to Jian Chen having respect for him. In his heart, he had already thought of Dugu Feng as someone worthy of respect. Although neither person had known the other for long, Jian Chen knew that he could trust him.

"Ah, Jian Chen, don't you have the mercenary group? Have Dugu Feng enter it, our strength will increase once more with him." Ming Dong suddenly suggested.

"I had that idea as well." Jian Chen smiled before his eyebrows knit together, "I don't know when Senior An and Yun Zheng will arrive."

"It's simple, Jian Chen. Didn't you give an address to Senior An and Yun Zheng? All you have to do is notify the city lord and have them ask everyone that enters. This way, when Yun Zheng and Senior An arrive, we'll be notified, and if they haven't come, we won't waste any time." Ming Dong proposed.

Jian Chen's eyes lit up, "En, that is a good proposal. Xiao Yue, call housekeeper Sid over."

Afterward, Jian Chen told housekeeper Sid to go to the city lord and instruct him to do as commanded. Sid immediately ran for the city lord's mansion with great speed and relayed the instructions word for word for the city lord to hear. When the lord of Lore City heard of the command that came from the fourth master Changyang Xiangtian himself, he immediately grew serious. Without any hesitation, he went off to make the arrangements himself.

After several days, Jian Chen had finally finished all the matters from the Gesun Kingdom as well as his own home. For now, he could relax.

Late at night, Jian Chen sat on his bed and took out a map from his Space Ring. "It's about time to investigate that Saint Ruler's cave. I hope it does not disappoint and has a Ruler's Armament, Saint Ruler's skeleton, or anything else that could help me cultivate my Chaotic Force. When I am able to use my Chaotic Force, my strength will surely reach a new realm. Ah, I cannot wait."

On the morning of the second day, Jian Chen told Ming Dong, Dugu Feng, and his parents that he would be leaving. He then flew through the air toward the cave of the Saint Ruler, indicated on the map.

The cave of the Saint Ruler was situated 50,000 kilometers southwest of the Qiangan Kingdom in a mountain range. It was only 11,000 kilometers away from his Changyang clan. It would take two or three days to arrive if Jian Chen were to travel without rest.

Chapter 463: Illusion Array(Two)

Jian Chen quickly passed over the boundaries between the kingdoms and finally arrived at the beautiful mountain ranges on his third day of traveling. This large mountain range was extremely vast and the peaks pierced the clouds, hiding more than half the mountain from below.

This mountain range was not as ordinary as it looked. There was an abundant amount of energy from the world—about two to three times the normal amount. Even without a monster core, this was still a very decent place to cultivate. In this place, double the work could be done with half the effort.

Jian Chen floated a hundred meters up the mountain before looking around. Sometimes, he would refer to the map in his hands as he searched for the area where the cave was.

Several moments later, Jian Chen let out a sigh in disappointment. Although the map indicated that the cave of the Saint Ruler was in this mountain range, it was not all that detailed and did not accurately pinpoint where the cave was.

Jian Chen looked once more at the topography of the entire area and focused on it in his mind. Putting away the map, he began to use the wind element to envelop his body, allowing him to fly into the air. At the same time, he began to spread his presence out. It covered a diameter of fifteen kilometers in an attempt to scour the entire range for any hints or clues to the secret cave.

Quickly, Jian Chen arrived in the depths of the mountain range when all of a sudden his eyes noticed something strange. Up ahead, there were hundreds of wooden houses scattered about in a single ring and a fifty meter tall tower stood in the middle. On top of the tower, three bold words were written on it—Pure Heart Pavilion!

“Within the mountain ranges, there is still a hidden sect?” Jian Chen was extremely curious and began to fly toward the buildings,

Just as Jian Chen drew close to the Pure Heart Pavilion, an elderly voice could be heard through the air, “A guest is approaching from far away, how delightful! Disciples, let us welcome him.”

As soon as he spoke, the doors to the houses began to open as men wearing all sorts of clothes began to walk out. Both men and women, of varying age with smiles adorning their faces and a spirited aura surrounding them, appeared.

At the same time, a white-robed elder came flying from the tower. The elder had a long braided hairstyle and held the air of a sage to him as if he was one who had achieved the status of an Immortal.

Jian Chen floated 500 meters away from the entire crowd with a suspicious look on his face as if he was trying to figure out what they would do next. His presence had already spread throughout the Pure Heart Pavilion sect grounds, and from his presence, he could clearly sense their strengths without fail.

There weren't many people to the sect—about sixty people total. Aside from the long-haired elder, there was still another Heaven Saint Master gathered within the crowd. Half of the sixty people were at the Earth Saint Master realm while the remaining half were at the Great Saint Master level and under.

“Traveler, if you are inclined, please come sit at our Pure Heart Pavilion for a while.” The floating Heaven Saint Master had a smile on his face as he spoke.

Laughing, Jian Chen spoke, “We are complete strangers. Sire has neither idea if I am a well-doer or an evil-doer. Yet, I am invited in on our very first meeting, does sire truly trust this one that much?”

The elder laughed in return before using his hand to stroke his beard, “Pure Heart Pavilion, ah, Pure Heart Pavilion. As the name implies, we are of pure heart with few desires. As such, our Pure Heart

Pavilion is penniless and we do not covet wealth like those other sects. We desire no items, and since we disciples cultivate in hiding, we have no enemies. Friend, you think too much.”

Hearing this, Jian Chen had a suspicious expression on his face. He had already traveled the Tian Yuan Continent for a very long time and met all sorts of people, but those with pure hearts and few desires, he could safely say that he had never met anyone like that before.

“In that case, this one will be troubling you for a while.” Jian Chen accepted with cupped hands before following them into the sect.

Under Jian Chen’s omnipresence, the area of the Pure Heart Pavilion wasn’t hidden at all. However, what led to Jian Chen being surprised was that the elder was true to his word and the entire sect was extremely impoverished. As an example, none of the disciples could be seen wearing a Space Belt or Ring or even anything similar. There were no monster cores, no exotic foods, or any valuable jadeite pearls or stones. Even the more fundamental items to living like rice could not be seen.

Furthermore, when it came to the disciples of the sect, Jian Chen could see that they were all pure in the sense of not wishing for anything. Each one of them had an air of a person who had rejected the secular world.

Knowing this, Jian Chen could hardly believe his eyes. This feeling was almost like he was in a completely different world.

Jian Chen followed the elder into the tower where he was given a single cup of pure mountain water.

“I am Tian Xuzi, a master of sorts to the Pure Heart Pavilion. For my very young friend to reach such a high level of strength, I cannot help but find it hard to believe.” Tian Xuzi sighed in admiration.

“Was elder able to tell my age that easily?” Jian Chen was greatly astonished. Within the continent, the appearance of a person was not always an accurate method of determining age. Unless it was someone who knew of his details, anyone that saw him as a Heaven Saint Master would never believe he was as young as he looked. Another reason for that was because within the Tian Yuan Continent, there were many methods for a person to maintain their youthful appearance.

Tian Xuzi nodded his head as his right hand moved to stroke his long beard. Slowly, he said, “The mysteries within the ancient records my Pure Heart Pavilion cultivates with allows us to see the origin of everything clearly. So my young friend, I can see your age quite clearly as well. You are no older than 25 years old.”

At his statement, Jian Chen truly felt astonished. Seeing how Tian Xuzi’s stare had a slight change to them, Jian Chen sighed in admiration, “It seems that your sect truly practices an extremely mysterious record.”

The elder laughed, “Of course, the Pure Heart Secrets are truly abstruse and can decipher the origins of everything, but those capable of cultivating these secrets are rare and few. The Pure Heart Pavilion has existed on this mountain range for well over a thousand years, but in this current generation, the sect has never had as many disciples as now. That said we only have eighty disciples. The other twenty disciples are out traveling the continent to seek others that are capable of practicing our Pure Heart Secrets.”

“Ai, those who can practice the Pure Heart Secrets are far too few in this world. Because of the secrets, a practitioner must be pure of heart and have little desires. Otherwise, they wouldn’t make any progress. At the same time, the rates in which practitioners learn at are slower than the outside world. Firstly, that is because we focus on tempering the mind. Secondly, we cannot absorb the energy within a monster core and instead absorb the pure energy of the world to slowly accumulate energy. For that reason, our speed is not yet like those of the outside world.”

“It would appear the Heavens are fair, if the Pure Heart Secrets are that divine in power, then its restrictions makes sense.” Jian Chen had said, this was the very first time he had seen or heard of such a strange method of cultivation.

“Little friend, I know that you would not have come out here without reason. Why have you come to this mountain range?” Tian Xuzi asked.

Jian Chen sat upright with both eyes staring back at Tian Xuzi. Feigning a casual air, he asked, “Sire, you must have lived within these mountains for a very long time and thus, know it like you know your own hand. Would sire know of any strange areas within these mountains?”

Tian Xuzi gave a beaming smile at Jian Chen, “The strange area you are talking about, it must be that Saint Ruler’s cave, yes?”

Jian Chen’s eyes lit up as he cupped his hands and smiled, “Sire has an amazing prophetic ability to be able to speak so accurately.”

“Not at all, this elder has no such ability. It is only that the cave of the Saint Ruler is the only area in this mountain range with any mystery to it.” Tian Xuzi spoke. “The predecessor living in that cave was extremely mysterious. Using the profound mysteries of the world, he was able to control the world so that an illusion would safeguard the location of his cave and allow the Saint Ruler to escape detection. In fact, the illusion array he put up was far too strong for even him to break. A hundred years ago, this old man went to the cave to pay my respects to the predecessor, but his body had long since withered away to becoming a skeleton.”

“Sire has entered the cave of the Saint Ruler?” Jian Chen was startled before growing serious. He wanted that Saint Ruler’s skeleton.

“This old man cultivates a method that can see the origin of everything. While the illusion array that predecessor put up is strong, it has no affect on me. With just a small amount of effort, I would be able to enter. But the items inside, I have never touched. The Pure Heart Secrets doesn’t allow me to be tempted by such things. So the wonders and treasures that lay in there may as well be sands and stone to me.”

Jian Chen let out a sigh in relief, “Would it be possible for sire to tell me where that cave would be?”

“About fifty kilometers south from here, the cave lies at the bottom of a great valley.” Tian Xuzi did not hide any details from Jian Chen and told him the exact coordinates.

“Many thanks for the information, sire.” Jian Chen spoke gratefully.

“That won’t be necessary, even if this old man didn’t tell you, you would be able to find the cave after a small amount of effort. However, the cave is protected by an extremely strong illusion array, only Saint Rulers would be able to enter it.” Tian Xuze informed him.

“This one will remember that. Sire, this one still has some matters to take care of, I will be taking my leave first.” Now that Jian Chen knew the location of the Saint Ruler’s cave, he had lost his patience to stay here and quickly bid farewell to Tian Xuze.

Tian Xuze watched Jian Chen fly away from his window, and when Jian Chen fully disappeared, he whispered to himself, “What a truly outstanding genius. If he was able to become a Heaven Saint Master at such a young age, then he is truly one of the strongest individuals on the continent. At the very least, he’ll be the second coming of Mo Tianyun. Perhaps I should report this to the master of the sect, if he is able to bring him close, then the pressure from the guardian clans will lessen by a large amount. The pressure from the Beast God Continent wouldn’t be as stifling either.”

Chapter 464: Illusion Array (Three)

Traveling in accordance to the directions given to him by Tian Xuze of the Pure Heart Pavilion, Jian Chen finally arrived at a great valley with a deep bottom.

Jian Chen slowly descended toward the bottom of the valley. Tian Xuze had said that the cave would be at the bottom of the valley with its exact position hidden in a way that would be hard to detect.

Quickly, Jian Chen arrived at the bottom of the valley. There was a giant pool that exuded a chilling frost that permeated his entire body and bones like daggers.

Jian Chen looked around the dark place he was in. The visibility here was quite poor, but it was not significant enough to hamper Jian Chen, who could still see around himself. But the valley was so expansive that even his eyes could not see the entirety of the area it covered. Even more so, a chilling frost covered the area, making finding a foothold extremely difficult.

“This is already the deepest part of the valley, where might the Saint Ruler’s cave be?” Jian Chen muttered to himself. When it came to the cave, he only knew the name—everything else was unknown to him. Even what the cave look like was a mystery to him; combined with the fact that it was hidden, finding the cave would be an extremely difficult challenge.

Jian Chen began to spread his omnipresence about himself to cover a fifteen kilometer area. Even the places beneath the water were not hidden from him as he searched the valley for any hidden places or things.

Jian Chen followed the walls of the valley as he floated in the air. Wherever he traveled, his omnipresence covered the entire area in an attempt to continue searching. Within this area of Jian Chen’s presence, even the smallest ripple of energy would not go unnoticed.

“Hua!”

Right underneath the pool of water, a single water snake came leaping out of the water. Opening its jaws, the water snake came flying at Jian Chen in an attempt to bite him at a lightning fast speed.

Jian Chen's eyebrows knit together; he had noticed the water snake before, but for the sake of searching for the Saint Ruler's cave, he had ignored it. Thus, he was now annoyed by the snake's interruption.

A frosty glow appeared in Jian Chen's eyes as he clutched at the sky. Suddenly, a large amount of the fire element began to gather around his hand before condensing to instantly form a giant sword made of flames. With a brilliant flash of red light, it flew toward the snake.

The fire sword shot straight into the open jaws of the snake causing it to explode from the reaction that followed. Parts of its body blew off and dispelled the nearby frost vapor from the heat of the explosion. In an instant, the previously cold area grew nice and warm.

With a single thought, Jian Chen forced a single fist-sized crystal stone to fly through the mist and right into his hand. This was a Class 5 Monster Core. Although it was not as important to him as before, it was still worth a considerable amount.

Jian Chen continued to trek through the valley while growing closer and closer to the pool of water until he was just a mere twenty meters above it. The distance was so small that the mist that was rising up from it began to dampen Jian Chen's previously dry clothing.

Although the valley was extremely vast, Jian Chen had only taken two hours to search the entire valley. What disappointed him was the fact that he had not yet discovered the cave of the Saint Ruler.

Jian Chen hovered in midair with a contemplative look. Suddenly, he looked to the water beneath him, "Could it be underwater?" At that thought, he immediately plunged into the water.

Just as Jian Chen's body approached the water, the surface of the water suddenly split apart in two. Without a sound, it formed a giant crack. Jian Chen continued to descend into the body of water without any of the water spilling a drop onto his body. Instead, the water formed a ring around Jian Chen.

The water was about 500 meters at its deepest, so Jian Chen quickly reached the bottom of the water. The temperature of this area was even colder than the surface, forcing Jian Chen to give a sigh of annoyance. An Earth Saint Master would have absolutely no chance of surviving down here—the frosty air was that big of a danger.

It was so dark that any regular person wouldn't even be able to see their own fingers, but thanks to Jian Chen's omnipresence, it bore no effect on him. As he moved, Jian Chen continued to scour every single inch of the area.

Although Jian Chen had already used his omnipresence to search the area above and below the water, the areas at the bottom most parts of the water were incredibly strange. Not only was it cold beyond belief, but it could even dampen Jian Chen's omnipresence. Because of that, Jian Chen didn't dare think that his search above the water was accurate.

There were all sorts of monsters living within the abyss of the waters. However, even the strongest of these creatures was only Class 5 at the most; therefore, they posed no threat to Jian Chen.

Another two hours passed when Jian Chen had finished searching the entire area. However, like last time, there were no new discoveries or any clues to be seen.

Flying out from the water, Jian Chen hovered over the surface of the chilly water with his eyebrows narrowed in concentration. He had originally thought that with his omnipresence, nothing would be able to escape his grasp and he would be able to pinpoint the Saint Ruler's cave without fail. But now that he had searched the entire place, Jian Chen had finally realized that the level of concealment the cave had was far stronger than he initially thought.

"Tian Xuzi said that the cave would be at the bottom of the valley. But why is it that after I've searched the entire place, I cannot find it?" Jian Chen muttered in heavy concentration.

"Perhaps Tian Xuzi lied to me and the cave isn't located here. Perhaps this isn't the right valley he spoke of—meaning I am in the wrong place?"

All of a sudden, Jian Chen shot high into the air like an arrow, and floated overhead the valley. When he circled around the general area, he could not find a second valley.

After some time, Jian Chen returned to his original position after looking ten kilometers in the general area. There was only one valley.

Returning to the bottom of the valley, Jian Chen looked at the chilly water deep in thought. The Saint Ruler's cave was truly too hidden for him to find. Now, Jian Chen was beginning to doubt whether or not if the cave was truly here.

"Master, Ziyang knows where the cave you wish to find is." Suddenly, a single voice popped in Jian Chen's mind. The Sword Spirit Ziyang had noticed the vexation Jian Chen was in and offered to help.

Hearing this, Jian Chen revealed an overjoyed look on his face and immediately thought, "Ziyang, would you be able to tell me where the Saint Ruler's cave is?"

"Yes, master. The cave is protected by an array that separates it from the world. Master's omnipresence is far too weak to be able to detect the location." Ziyang spoke.

"Ziyang, please tell me just where the cave is located." Jian Chen could barely restrain the emotions flowing through to his face as he moved about impatiently.

Chapter 465: Illusion Array (Four)

"Ziyang, please tell me just where the cave is located." Jian Chen could barely restrain the emotions flowing through to his face as he moved about impatiently.

"Master, it is located fifty meters on the wall behind you." Ziyang spoke.

Hearing that, Jian Chen whirled around and walked to the location Ziyang spoke of. There was a precipice where several weeds could be seen. From the outside, it looked rather normal and there was no cave that was visible. At the very least, Jian Chen couldn't sense anything strange from it.

"Master, there is an illusion array concealing the cave. If you attack the area and destroy the array, you'll be able to see the cave," Ziyang told him.

Jian Chen looked at the seemingly ordinary looking wall with a curious expression. He couldn't believe that an illusion array would have such an amazing effect. Even with his eyes, he wasn't able to detect any abnormalities even with his omnipresence combing over it.

Jian Chen swiped at the sky, causing the fire element in the world to gather and form a boiling hot fire sword. Shooting forward with his hand, Jian Chen struck the fire sword on the cliff wall.

“Bang!” Following an extremely loud bang, the fire sword exploded against the cliff wall and filled the area with a burning hot heatwave. The temperature in the air soared as the flames evaporated the mist. Parts of the cliff had even broke off and splashed into the water below.

After some time, the area cleared up and a single three meter hole became visible right in front of Jian Chen. However, nothing could be seen within it.

“Could it be that this is the Saint Ruler’s cave?” Jian Chen muttered. Using his omnipresence, he began to spread it inside the cave in an attempt to look inside. When his presence reached five meters in the cave, an unknown energy blocked it, preventing him from going any further.

“Master, there’s still an illusion array guarding it.” Ziying spoke to Jian Chen.

“The preventions put in place are quite strict.” Jian Chen sighed. Back during the Gathering of Mercenaries, he had come across the cave of a Saint Ruler. However, that cave didn’t have any protections as difficult as this one. It only had an unusually sturdy stone door blocking its path.

The Saint Ruler’s cave had provided an undeniable sense of enticement to Jian Chen. So without hesitation, he flew inside the jet-black cave and began to walk deeper in.

Quickly, Jian Chen arrived at the illusion array that had blocked his omnipresence. Clutching his hand, the fire sword materialized in his hand once more. What left Jian Chen tongue-tied was the fact that when the sword drew close to the illusion array, it suddenly vanished without a trace.

“Master, this illusion array is borrowing the power of a Space Gate. Aside from attacks that are strong enough to bring the illusion array to its breaking point, it will not be destroyed.” A feminine voice could be heard within his head, this time, it was Qingsuo that spoke.

“Then what should I do?” Jian Chen asked the Sword Spirit. This was the very first time he had come across an illusion array. He had never heard of such a thing before, so the existence of one was a complete mystery to him. He had no idea how to deal with it, causing him feel helpless.

“This illusion array borrows power from what a Space Gate is formed from. With the assistance of the world’s power, the area within fluctuates and changes at will. It is also able to produce an endless amount of illusions to puzzle the eyes. But, it cannot attack. So, unless one comes across a Saint Ruler, this illusion array will cause anyone that enters it to be completely isolated from the world.” Qingsuo spoke.

Jian Chen hesitated for a moment before asking, “Qingsuo, then do you have a method for dealing with this illusion array?”

“Master, although Ziying and Qingsuo have used up most of our energy to break the illusion array, we can still see through it. As long as master follows what we say, we will be able to pass through the illusion array.” Qingsuo almost looked proud as she replied.

“That’s fine. I will listen to your instructions.” Since things had gotten to such a stage, Jian Chen placed all his hopes on the two Sword Spirits.

“Master, first walk into the illusion array.” Qingsuo started Jian Chen off.

Jian Chen felt completely at ease with Ziyang and Qingsuo and had no qualms of harm befalling him. So without hesitation, he walked into the illusion array that would be able to isolate him and his omnipresence.

As soon as he stepped across, it was as if he had crossed worlds. Jian Chen felt the scenery around him begin to distort as he discovered that he was now standing in a desert. The sun was beating down on him heavily with its harsh rays and the fine sand beneath him had started to bake his feet. It was as if he was standing on a burning red piece of metal.

“Master, this is all an illusion. The person behind this illusion had to rely on the power of the world to create it. Know that it’s not real. Continue to walk forward slowly.” Qingsuo explained.

Obedying her words, Jian Chen took a single step forward. Another step. Then, a third step. Finally, on his fourth step, the sands beneath his feet began to swirl around before forming a vortex that threatened to devour him whole.

“Quicksand!” Jian Chen started. He subconsciously thought about using the energy of the world to force his way out before Qingsuo and Ziyang suddenly cried out to him.

“Master, don’t fight it! Otherwise, you’ll be transported to the outside by the power of the Space Gate.” Ziyang and Qingsuo spoke at the same time.

Hearing this, Jian Chen gave up any idea of resisting and allowed for the sand to submerge his body.

It was pitch-black underneath to the point where even Jian Chen couldn’t tell east from west. He was better off with his eyes closed, since he wasn’t able to distinguish anything. When he tried to use his omnipresence, he came to the realization that it was being forcibly suppressed, meaning he couldn’t use it.

Not too long after, Jian Chen felt himself finally stop descending through the ground. At the same time, his body was being pressed by something heavy. From this feeling, Jian Chen truly felt as if it were sand that was crushing him.

“Master, take a step to your left or right.”

Jian Chen closed his eyes and turned himself at an angle before walking one step forward.

This single step seemed as if it had taken him thousands of kilometers to a completely different place. Even with his eyes closed, Jian Chen could clearly feel a stinging light radiating from the sky and the fragrant smell of flowers wafting through the air.

Opening his eyes, Jian Chen realized he was now in a spectacular garden that was almost impossible to describe with words. It was almost like a paradise with all sorts of sweet smelling thing and a pool not too far away. The water in the lake was clear, and many fish could be seen swimming in it.

“Master, walk forward.”

Jian Chen began to walk forward before finally stopping by the side of the lake.

“Master, this is all fake. The things you are seeing are not real; there is no water in front of you, continue to move forward.”

“What a magical illusion array, it seems completely real.” Jian Chen sighed as he admired the illusion array’s effects. Then, taking a step forward, he began to walk into the pool of water.

When Jia Chen’s foot touched the surface of the water, his body did not sink. It was almost as if he was floating. Jian Chen felt as if he were stepping on a thin piece of glass.

Still following the Sword Spirit’s instructions, Jian Chen continued to walk across the water until he arrived at the very center of the lake. Suddenly, the scenery around him began to spin and spin before the garden disappeared almost instantaneously, only to be replaced with a bottomless abyss right in front of Jian Chen’s eyes.

The world began to grow dim, there was no sun, and at the same time, there was no moonlight. It was as if he had stepped into the lands of Hell, standing on the tip of the precipice. Right in front of him was an abyss with no bottom to be seen. Yet, a grotesque sound could be heard faintly, originating from down below. It was not unsimilar to a devil howling in a way that would terrify any listener.

“Continue to walk forward” Qingsuo spoke inside Jian Chen’s mind.

After hearing him, Jian Chen continued to listen to the Sword Spirit’s instructions through all the different types of worlds the illusion array threw at him. From time to time, he would walk forward through the areas, backward, or even having to move left or right. After being tormented endlessly for an hour, Jian Chen finally walked through the completely mysterious illusion array.

After exiting the illusion array, Jian Chen found himself within the dark belly of the mountain. It was spacious all around him with only a single wooden house to be seen in the desolate area.

“Ziying, Qingsuo, there shouldn’t be anymore illusions, correct?” Jian Chen asked the Sword Spirits. The illusions had felt all too real to him to the point where Jian Chen could no longer distinguish between reality and delusions. This caused Jian Chen to doubt whether or not he was in reality.

“Master, we’ve exited from the illusion array. Whatever you see in front of you is real.” Ziying spoke.

Ziying’s reply caused Jian Chen to relax and immediately revealed a smile on his face. After being thrown side to side for so long, he had finally arrived at his final destination.

Quelling his excitement, Jian Chen stepped closer and closer to the wooden house in front of him.

Just as Jian Chen exited from the illusion array, in the valley overhead, five bright lights could be seen flying toward the valley at an extremely fast speed. Finally, they came to a stop above the valley and looked down below.

Among the five, there were four elders and a middle-aged man. Each one wore a different color robe and had serious expressions on their faces. They also had a strong amount of power flicker off of their bodies.

“According to what that Heaven Saint Master from the Qiangan Kingdom said, the Saint Ruler’s cave should be located here. Fifty meters away from a precipice in a valley. This is the place.” The middle-aged man spoke as he looked down.

“There’s no differences between this place and the information we heard, this must be it. Let’s go down and hope that the Heaven Saint Master wasn’t lying to us.” The elder spoke calmly.

“Haha, Elder Feng, you think too much. That Heaven Saint Master holds a special position within the Qiangang Kingdom and was the king of the previous times. He wouldn’t dare lie to us, otherwise, he wouldn’t be able to handle the consequences. Besides, he did not tell our Huang family this secret without conditions.” Another elder laughed.

Chapter 466: Remnants of the Saint Ruler

“That is true. I am still not sure who this person they wish for us to kill is.” The newly named elder Feng spoke.

“Who cares about his identity. Once we take the items from the cave, we will head over to the Gesun Kingdom. I am sure we will be able to find that Heaven Saint Master quickly.”

After saying that, the five Heaven Saint Masters began to descend down into the valley. Soon enough, they hovered fifty meters above the chilly waters and started to inspect the place.

“Take a look here, there’s a cave.” An elder pointed in a certain direction in amazement. Turning to look at the pointed direction, they discovered that there was a cave around three meters tall with a pitch-dark entrance.

“Would it really be over there? Let’s take a look.”

The five men simultaneously began to fly over to the entrance of the cave, arriving in the blink of an eye. Their surroundings were emitting a fierce energy that dragged them through the air.

“Do you sense that? The space here has a faint trace of the fire element.” An elder stated with a frown.

Seeing the others agree with him, an elder whose body radiated with the fire element spoke as well, “That’s correct, the fire element is indeed floating around this area. While it is quite faint, I can still sense it clearly. I suspect there was another person here not too long ago.”

“The scratches around the cave entrance are fresh as well. Someone has indeed beaten us to this place first.”

“There aren’t many that know of this cave. If we’re going off of what the Qiangang Kingdom’s expert said, then there is a powerful illusion array concealing the cave. If we didn’t know the definite position, we would have never been able to discover the secret of the area. Unfortunately, just several days ago, the cave of the Saint Ruler was revealed to the individual from the Gesun Kingdom. It appears that the one who beat us here is undoubtedly that same person.”

“When you say it that way, I agree with you. Now that that person is here, we won’t need to waste any energy traveling to the Gesun Kingdom. We can just kill him here and accomplish the condition the Qiangang Kingdom expert had stipulated onto us.”

“Very well then!”

Instead of entering the cave, the five continued to float where they were and began to chat.

“Since that man is already inside, we just have to wait outside. This way, we won’t waste any energy dealing with the illusion array inside. If he is defeated by the array, then he’ll be sent outside. If he overpowers the array, he’ll still come back here eventually, giving us the chance to kill him. We can take the remnants of the Saint Ruler from him; it would save us all some energy.”

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Within the hollowed-out belly of the mountain was the Cave of the Saint Ruler. It was quite dim and the air was damp with only several dozen night pearls serving as faint light sources within the dark area.

There weren’t any trees or grass in the cave, and aside from the illusion array and the wooden house, there was absolutely nothing else. From this, it could be inferred that the owner of the cave did not care for the environment and instead, only cared for the sake of his own cultivation.

Jian Chen walked to the wooden house and began to look over it. The entire house was a dark color and felt as solid as tempered iron. Furthermore, he could sense that there was a considerable amount of energy flowing within the house. This energy clearly belonged to the existence that had lived within it for almost an eternity. At the very least, this house had stood for a thousand years through the corrosion of time, yet still remained in good condition.

Jian Chen looked at the wooden house with confused eyes before gradually growing serious. After all, this was where a Saint Ruler expert had lived. Although Jian Chen was a Heaven Saint Master in strength, a Saint Ruler would still bring an unbelievable amount of pressure onto him.

A Heaven Saint Master understood the energy of the world, that was the reason why they were so different from an Earth Saint Master. A Saint Ruler had already understood the mysteries of the world and could borrow their assistance of the world’s power to create illusions that were hard to distinguish. Their strengths were such that they were many times greater than a Heaven Saint Master’s.

The difference between a Heaven Saint Master and a Saint Ruler was even larger than that of an Earth Saint Master and a Heaven Saint Master. The two ranks were worlds apart and could not be discussed together.

Standing right outside the dark house, Jian Chen let out a sigh. Calming his heart of any emotions, he brought both his hands onto the ice cold door and slowly pushed it open with all his strength.

With a creaking sound, the doors began to open. The scenery inside appeared before Jian Chen’s eyes.

The very first thing that was visible to Jian Chen was a bed fashioned from iron along with a wooden table and a chair. From this, it could be seen that aside from the master of the house, there were no other guests.

Inside the wooden house was a large abundance of energy that never seemed to fade. However, without entering the house, the existence of this massive energy would not be found. Perhaps it was because of this energy’s existence that the inside of the house was extremely clean, as if someone swept it every day.

Jian Chen walked into the wooden house and scanned around. It was rather ordinary looking; its simplicity was not like that of a normal person’s home. Aside from the table, chair, and bed, there was nothing else there.

This house didn't have just one room; the place Jian Chen was blankly standing in right now was only the living room. In one of the corners, there was a single doorway that connected deeper into the house.

Gingerly, Jian Chen walked inside the house. But the moment he pushed open the door, a surge of energy diffused outwards, the pressure making Jian Chen's body grow heavier as if he was carrying a large and heavy stone on his back.

Under the tremendous pressure of this weight, Jian Chen felt as if he was a small sailboat in the ocean, insignificant and unable to defend himself.

Jian Chen looked forward only to see a crystalline skeleton sitting in a cross-legged position on the bed. The energy from this Saint Ruler was many times stronger than the amount of energy he had felt back in the Gathering of the Mercenaries. The mere aftermath of the first layer of released energy made Jian Chen feel an extremely great pressure.

"One wouldn't think that this was the cause of a skeleton. It seems that he had not yet reached the Ninth Layer when he was alive." Jian Chen muttered. In his heart, he was excited. Although it was only a skeleton, the energy within it was no weaker than a Ruler Armament. That to him was already a major profit since the skeleton would be able to be processed for Chaotic Force through the Sword Spirits. This way, he would be able to use the Chaotic Force one day.

Carefully walking up to the skeleton, which was still radiating pressure, Jian Chen slowly placed the skeleton into his Space Ring. After the Saint Ruler's skeleton had disappeared, the remaining pressure that was weighing down on him instantly disappeared without a trace.

After successfully obtaining the Saint Ruler's skeleton, Jian Chen's heart couldn't help but beat rapidly in extreme excitement. No matter if it was the Saint Ruler's skeleton or Ruler Armament, it was still a priceless, rarely seen treasure on the Tian Yuan Continent. If someone were to grab hold of either one, then they would be able to ascend to even the Heavens. A mediocre clan would rise up to become a great clan overnight. As for Ruler Armaments, they were viewed and kept as treasures passed down the clan members.

Thus, it could be inferred that a Ruler Armament was no weaker than a Saint Ruler's Skeleton. It had a high value as a treasure; after all, something like this could only be left behind by a Saint Ruler who had died.

Afterward, Jian Chen discovered a silver Space Ring besides the empty spot where the skeleton used to be. The Space Ring didn't contain many things—most of them were hoarded items. But after rifling through it, Jian Chen found a single ancient scroll.

The scroll was two meters in length and was yellow with age. However, it was still in perfect condition without any damage. Written on the scroll were plenty of words the size of tadpoles with just as many diagrams.

Breathless, Jian Chen began to study the inner contents of the scroll with a face that revealed his excitement completely. This was a Heaven Tier Battle Skill—a Middle Heaven Tier Battle Skill at that.

Heaven Splitter. It used a strange method to circulate the Saint Force from within, compressing it. It could then be brought forth as an explosive energy to assault the enemies. Its range was quite expansive and could be controlled manually.

Heaven Splitter was much different from any of the Heaven Tier Battle Skills Jian Chen was familiar with. All of the Heaven Tier Battle Skills Jian Chen knew of used Saint Weapons as their medium and burst out with powerful energy to assault their enemies. However, with the Heaven Splitter, one could use both hands to send out Saint Force to perform a ranged attack on the enemy as the user desired.

Secondly, the ancient scroll mentioned that if a First Cycle Heaven Saint Master were to use Heaven Splitter, they would be able to easily destroy a mountain several hundred meters tall. From this, it could be determined that the battle skill was extremely strong.

Jian Chen quelled the emotions raging within him as he put the Heaven Splitter scroll into his Space Ring. In his mind, he decided that the very first thing he would do when he returned home would be to give Heaven Splitter to Chang Wuji to learn. That was because Chang Wuji was the only Heaven Saint Master of the Changyang clan, having him learn it couldn't be more fitting. Plus, Chang Wuji had always been concerned with him and had silently served and protected the Changyang clan for many years.

As for the others that he was familiar with, Jian Chen would have to think about them another time. Changyang Ba's strength was still only at the Great Saint Master level, so he couldn't learn a Heaven Tier Battle Skill. One had to at least be an Earth Saint Master to learn a Heaven Tier Battle Skill.

Aside from Heaven Splitter, Jian Chen had also discovered a Heaven Tier Cultivation Method. Although it was Heaven Tiered, cultivation methods were mediocre in comparison to battle skills. Both the Changyang clan and Kargath Academy each had one. Despite that, Jian Chen didn't ignore it, since a powerful clan definitely wouldn't have just one type of cultivation method.

Chapter 467: Meeting Elders Feng and Yun Once More

Aside from Heaven Splitter, Jian Chen had also discovered a Heaven Tier Cultivation Method. Although it was also Heaven Tier, cultivation methods were mediocre in comparison to battle skills. Both the Changyang clan and Kargath Academy each had one. Despite that, Jian Chen hadn't ignored the cultivation method since a powerful clan wouldn't have just one type of cultivation method.

People could only learn a single cultivation method, but when it came to the power of a clan, it was best to have more than one to choose from. After all, not every cultivation method was suitable for everyone.

There weren't many valuable things in the Space Ring left behind by the Saint Ruler. Not a single monster core or coin could be seen—they were probably left behind in the Qiangan Kingdom. Aside from the Heaven Tier Battle Skill and Cultivation Method, there wasn't any other item that interested Jian Chen.

After he finished looking through the contents of the Space Ring, Jian Chen searched the entire house once more. But in the end, he didn't find anything out of the ordinary. However, he did find that after he had taken the Saint Ruler's skeleton, the energy that was accumulated within the house had disappeared. Although this house had been created from wood and steel, it would be impossible to stay within this damp cave forever. Without the Saint Ruler skeleton's energy backing it up, the moment the

energy assimilated in the house was drained off, the thousand year old house would disappear from the world.

Afterward, Jian Chen did one more sweep of the entire place. As there were still no profits to be found, he left the place. Leaving the area was much easier than entering it. The very moment he stepped into the illusion array, he felt the space within tremble before he was directly sent to the 3 meter in diameter, pitch-black passageway.

Jian Chen took a deep breath before walking outside with a faint smile. In his heart, he thought, "As expected the Qiangan Kingdom didn't lie to me. There was truly a fully intact Saint Ruler's cave. Not only did I gain a Saint Ruler's skeleton containing great amounts of energy, I was able to receive a Heaven Tier Battle Skill and Cultivation Method."

A bright light appeared in Jian Chen's line of vision. He quickly walked out of Saint Ruler's Cave, arriving above the frigid lake at the bottom of the chilly valley.

Just then, Jian Chen's expression suddenly changed. A light flared in his eyes, followed by a flash of pale cyan, as his body shifted five meters to the side.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Five ear-splitting sounds could be heard as five different strikes of Sword Qi came flying forward to bombard the spot Jian Chen had just stood in. The Sword Qi thundered down towards the center of the frigid lake, causing splashes everywhere.

Jian Chen's face grew extremely unsightly. He abruptly lifted his head only to see that at some point, five figures had appeared above him. The five attacks just now had been sent out by them.

The wind elements around Jian Chen's body suddenly became extremely powerful. His body shot up through the air like an arrow leaving a mystical bow.

"Don't let him get away!" One of the five men had cried out. The five of them immediately formed a ring in the air to form a blockade in an attempt to seal off all of Jian Chen's possible escape paths. At the same time, five Sword Qi strikes were shot towards Jian Chen once more.

Jian Chen's eyes revealed a bright glow as five separate swords made of fire formed around his chest. Then, they transformed into five furious dragons radiating intense, scorching heat that collided with the Sword Qi..

"Bang!"

The sky burst out with a fierce explosive boom as the energy from the fire elements filled the entire sky and valley. The aftermath of the explosion rebounded off both the walls of the valley and fractured them into multiple spiderweb-like cracks. This continued to repeat until the cliff faces on both sides had countless large and thick cracks in them. The entire valley shuddered under the blow, causing several stones to fall off and drop into the cold waters below.

Jian Chen charged upwards from below the cliff, not running away like the five Heaven Saint Masters had thought he would. Instead, he floated up to an equal level with them.

“Who are you?” Jian Chen asked in a low voice. His eyes glowed brightly with a fierce killing intent toward the five as his gaze swept past the.. However, when he looked to two of the men in the middle, his eyes suddenly widened with some shock.

Jian Chen’s mind suddenly thought back to several years ago right in front of Wake City. He had been washing himself carelessly when he had come across Huang Luan. Afterward, he had fought with the two strong individuals Huang Luan had called uncle Feng and uncle Yun. Weren’t these two men right in front of him the same men from long ago? Despite the time that had passed since then, Jian Chen could still recognize them.

“It’s you!”

“So it’s you!”

The moment when Jian Chen had recognized the two, the two elders recognized him as well. With their eyes largening in surprise, shock began to register across their faces.

The other three men took notice of the shock on their faces. One of them quickly asked, “Elder Feng, elder Yun, do you two know him?”

Neither of the elders seemed to have heard the question and continued to look at Jian Chen. With a quavering voice, one spoke, “You...you...you stepped into the realm of the Heaven Saint Masters.” At that moment, both of the elders’ hearts were storming with emotions.

When it came to Jian Chen, they were no stranger to him and had a deep impression of him. Because of their negligence in Wake City, a mere Great Saint had been able to “steal” a glance at their Huang Luan bathing. Their precious Huang Luan had been seen by a man for the very first time, and when they had struck out at Jian Chen, they had been injured by his azure and violet Sword Spirits. This had greatly shocked them.

Afterward, during the Gathering of the Mercenaries half a year ago, they’d seen Jian Chen’s display at the arena. At that time, it was extremely shocking to them. Before that time, Jian Chen had only been a Great Saint; they hadn’t thought that in four years of time, Jian Chen would have risen at an unbelievable rate and become an Earth Saint Master. This type of strength was practically unheard of before.

Plus, they had also heard from Huang Luan that Jian Chen had been tried during the Gathering of the Mercenaries. When the Solunar Bow of the Huang clan had nearly been stolen by the Shi family, it had been because of Jian Chen, that the Solunar Bow had been preserved at the very last moment. Thus, Jian Chen had earned the ire of the powerful Shi family.

And now, half a year later, Jian Chen had unexpectedly skyrocketed from being an Earth Saint Master to a Heaven Saint Master. An unbelievable speed like this left the two elders tongue-tied and heavy-hearted.

“Elder Feng, elder Yun, who is he? Do you two know him?” Another person asked.

The elders gave a sigh before slowly steeling their nerves. “He is Jian Chen, the very same Jian Chen that earned the number one spot in the Gathering of the Mercenaries.”

“What? He is Jian Chen?” Hearing that, the other three men revealed looks of shock as they again shifted their gazes back at Jian Chen.

Those who participated within the Gathering of the Mercenaries had to be below fifty years old in age. If Jian Chen had participated in that, then he was no doubt younger than that. By this point, it had only been half a year since the Gathering of the Mercenaries. Having said that, this meant that the youth in front of them had reached the Heaven Saint Master realm before the age of fifty.

Within the Tian Yuan Continent, a progress speed as fast as this could only mean that he was an unparalleled genius.

“Jian Chen, why are you here?” Elder Yun asked in surprise.

Jian Chen stared at everyone with a blank expression, “Such a phrase like that should be asked by me. Why are you here, and why act against me just now?”

Hearing this, elder Yun’s gaze moved to the entrance of the Saint Ruler’s cave with a twinkling light. He quickly connected the dots quietly spoke with a heavy expression, “I hadn’t imagined that the person the Qiangan Kingdom’s Heaven Saint Master had been talking about was Jian Chen.”

Although the elder had spoken in a soft voice, Jian Chen had heard it clearly. His eyes began to blaze with a fearsome glare as he asked, “Did Qian Yun tell you the location of the Saint Ruler’s cave?”

“Correct, a Heaven Saint Master from the Qiangan Kingdom had told us about the Saint Ruler’s cave. In exchange, he told us to take the life of a certain person.” The middle-aged man spoke without expression, but his gaze held a hint of a cold light as he looked at Jian Chen.

Jian Chen’s mouth quirked to form a cold smile as his glare dropped several degrees. “I didn’t think that the Qiangan Kingdom would deal such a hand. If they want you to kill someone, it is surely me.”

“Correct.” The same middle-aged man expressionlessly replied.

Jian Chen looked at that man and asked, “Now that I am here, what will you do now?”

Anger filled the man’s heart. He coldly snorted and said, “The promises our Huang family make must be fulfilled. No matter who you are, you will not leave today!”

“No!” Elder Yun and elder Feng cried out, “Jian Chen has been a benefactor to our Huang family. If not for him, our Solunar Bow would have been stolen by the Shi family. Furthermore, he has saved the life of our young miss.”

“Elder Yun, that is only the miss’ side of the story. We don’t know what happened in that isolated space during the tournament where we cannot differentiate between falsity and truth. Who knows whether or not the young miss’ words are true?” The middle aged man fired back in argument.

“Then surely Shi Xiangran’s death must be true to you.” Elder Feng replied, clearly on Jian Chen’s side.

“And what can Shi Xiangran’s death prove? It doesn’t say for sure whether there were personal feelings of gratitude or resentment between Jian Chen and Shi Xiangran.” The man justified.

The two elders glanced at each other, the expressions turning extremely ugly. After realizing that their target was Jian Chen, the two had a change of plans. Even if they were to brave the aftermath of damaging their clan's reputation, they didn't wish to make a move against Jian Chen. Not only was he a genius, but he had been a benefactor to their family. This was more than enough for the two elders to do so. Furthermore, he and Huang Luan had a strange sort of connection between them.

However, their wishes did not speak for the entire group. The middle-aged man's attitude, in particular, made it hard for them to act.

Chapter 468: Retreat of the Huang Family

At that moment, one of the other elders observing the situation spoke, "Jian Chen, when you entered the Saint Ruler's cave, did you take any of the items in there?"

"Correct, I've taken the items within." Jian Chen didn't hesitate to speak without any complaint. Although he was against five Heaven Saint Masters, he wasn't afraid.

"Then there's nothing else worth talking about. Everyone, let us kill him for the sake of our mission. The reputation of our Huang family cannot be harmed by something like this. Otherwise, if our patriarch finds fault, who will take the blame?" One of the men spoke. At the mention of their patriarch, the other four men showed startled looks on their faces—they must be afraid of him.

"Absolutely not. Jian Chen is a friend to our Huang family. If you continue to act in such a way, then the patriarch will definitely find fault within us. Our Huang family is not a family that would commit such an ingratitude to a friend." Elder Feng spoke harshly.

"I agree. The Solunar Bow is extremely vital to our Huang family. Our patriarch personally bore witness to the Gathering of the Mercenaries and had even inquired the young miss for her side of the story. I'm sure that the young miss has already explained everything in detail to him. If not for Jian Chen's help, our Huang family would not have the Solunar Bow anymore. It is for that reason that Jian Chen is our benefactor. If you wish to continue to fulfill the mission from the Qiangan Kingdom, then our Huang family will truly be known as one who violates justice. Our patriarch would not forgive us for this."

"Elder Yun, elder Feng, you two need not try to frighten me. I've already said before, the young miss may not be speaking the truth." The middle-aged man asserted his thoughts without relenting.

"Huang Junran, Huang He, what are your thoughts on this matter?" Elder Feng asked the two other impartial men.

The two elders went silent for a moment before Huang Junran spoke up, "Elder Feng, elder Yun, elder Yan, the three of you speak with reason, but the items within the Saint Ruler's cave are of extreme importance to us and thus we cannot afford to let them go. Jian Chen, how about this; you give us the items you found in the cave and we will not make things difficult for you."

"We don't require much, just the Saint Ruler's skeleton will do. A single Saint Ruler's Skeleton at the Fifth Layer is something that our patriarch has a great use for." Elder Huang He spoke. If they could bring back the skeleton, the strength of their patriarch would increase several times over—while the rest of the items in it were essentially dispensable. Their Huang family had a clear idea of how strong the Saint

Ruler who had lived in the cave along with what his identity was, so they didn't think that there would be any other item worth their notice.

Hearing these two speak, Jian Chen gave a cold smile, "You should give up on such a notion. The skeleton of the Saint Ruler will not be given to you."

"Jian Chen, you should learn to accept a toast when it is given to you. Don't think that becoming the King of Mercenaries has given you power beyond belief. To the Huang family, if we want to kill you, it would be as easy as squashing an ant." The middle-aged man spoke dangerously.

Jian Chen's face grew dark as the sheen in his eyes grew colder. With a terrifying and malicious glare, Jian Chen spoke to the middle-aged man, "Then do you think that I, Jian Chen, will kill you with the very same ease of stepping on an ant?"

"How shameful, you will die here!" The man's temper was clearly quite bad. He became infuriated by Jian Chen's stinging remarks. Immediately, he brought out his Saint Weapon and charged at Jian Chen.

Jian Chen's hand clutched at the empty air, causing a sword made of the fire element to materialize. With a wave of his hand, the sword immediately shot toward the middle-aged man with a sweltering temperature.

With a loud shout, the man's Saint Weapon came crashing down on the fire sword causing an explosion. The fire sword was instantly disintegrated by the man's Saint Weapon and gave a final burst of fire that dyed the area red.

The middle-aged man did not falter in speed. His Saint Force continued to protect his body from the sea of flames as he quickly arrived in front of Jian Chen. His sword was ready to pierce Jian Chen's chest.

A layer of azure and violet light began to appear in Jian Chen's right hand before forming a 1.3 meter long glow. Grasping the Origin Energy of the Sword Spirits, Jian Chen clashed weapons with the middle-aged man.

There was a crisp sound as the middle-aged man's Saint Weapon chipped away to reveal a jagged piece of the Saint Weapon fall to the ground.

With his Saint Weapon damaged, the middle-aged man's face suddenly blanched. A moment later, blood splattered out from his mouth. Hurriedly flying backward, the man looked at Jian Chen in utter surprise.

The moment when the two men had clashed was observed by the four other men. When the middle-aged man's sword tip had broke off, the other four couldn't help but feel their heart's leap widely. The startling azure and violet glows of light in Jian Chen's hand were of an unknown energy to everyone.

The middle-aged man flew thirty meters backward through the air before stabilizing himself. His pale face looked to the azure and violet ray of light in Jian Chen's hand before crying out, "What is that energy? Why is it so strong?"

Jian Chen stared emotionlessly at the middle-aged man before speaking, "Fact of the matter is, if I wanted to kill you, it would be as easy as stomping on an ant. Right now, you have no chance of taking

the Saint Ruler's skeleton from me." Despite being from the Huang family, the middle-aged man was trying to humiliate Jian Chen—there was no way he would easily forgive him.

The middle-aged man had a sickening color to his face, but soon enough he looked back at Jian Chen with a renewed expression of fury, "The Saint Ruler's skeleton is extremely important to our patriarch. We cannot just let it go! Elders, let us three fight together to kill him!"

Huang Junran and Huang He hesitated for a moment. In the previous moment, they hadn't thought of Jian Chen as anyone important. Although Jian Chen was a Heaven Saint Master, he was not a major threat to the Huang family. However, now that they had personally bore witness to Jian Chen's Origin Energy and its might, they could no longer look at Jian Chen in the same light as before. The Origin Energy of the azure and violet Sword Spirits could easily damage a Heaven Saint Master's Saint Weapon; that was an ultimate threat to their life. The tremendous power that Jian Chen controlled in his hand was enough for them want to not offend him or even go against him as an enemy.

"Fellow elders, what are you hesitating about? Could it be that you don't realize just how important the Saint Ruler's skeleton is for our patriarch?" The middle-aged man urged them. He didn't dare fight Jian Chen by himself. With that Origin Energy of Jian Chen, he was completely afraid of fighting him.

"Elder Yan, I think that this matter should be discussed with the patriarch. Elder Yun and elder Feng are correct in their words. Jian Chen has done a favor for our Huang family, we cannot conduct such a behavior toward him like this." Huang Junran suddenly spoke, clearly not willing to be an enemy of Jian Chen's.

"En, that is right. I have that notion as well." Huang He spoke.

The middle-aged man, now named elder Yan, had a disbelieving look on his face as he stared at the two elders. He quickly realized that both elders had a change of plans and he instantly swallowed the fury in his unwilling heart. If the two elders did not fight with him as a three man party against Jian Chen, there was no chance to win. If they didn't join him and he continued to fight alone, then he would be no opponent for Jian Chen. In the end, he would be the only one to eat a loss.

"Jian Chen, I, Yan Lie, will remember this." The man spat out. With that, he didn't even address the other four elders and quickly turned to leave the area.

Huang Junran and Huang He left the area as well without a word, leaving both elder Yun and elder Feng behind.

Both elders gave Jian Chen a complicated look for a moment, before elder Feng spoke, "Jian Chen, ever since your participation at the Gathering of the Mercenaries, the young miss has grown quite silent. Sometimes, she has a faraway stare in her eyes. Ai, if you have time, please come visit our Huang family. Whatever transpired in the isolated space is something our entire family wishes to know about. Our family leader and patriarch especially wish to thank you."

"If there is time in the future, I will most certainly come pay a visit." Jian Chen cupped his hands together.

Elder Yun let out a sigh of relief before offering an apology, "Jian Chen, the matter from a few years ago was our fault. The two of us wish to offer our apologies in hope that you will forgive us."

Jian Chen gave a free smile as he spoke, "If we speak of that matter, then it was my fault. The unhappiness between Huang Luan and I has been resolved during our time in the isolated space. The two elders needn't worry."

Hearing this, both elders had a happy smile on their faces, "Jian Chen, my friend, we must return home now, so we bid you goodbye. We will definitely make sure to report this to our patriarch and avoid having elder Yan Lie make matters worse."

Jian Chen laughed as he brought his hands together, "Then if the elders could please give miss Huang Luan my greetings."

"Hahaha, Jian Chen my friend, these words I will definitely convey to her." One of the elders laughed. In the next moment, they both transformed into two bright light and disappeared into the sky.

Watching the two elders go, Jian Chen had no thoughts of retaliating against the Huang family. Not only did he have a connection with Huang Luan, but the Huang family was quite strong in power, and even Jian Chen feared them at this moment. This was because the Huang family had a Saint Ruler which would pose a problem to Jian Chen.

In an instant, Jian Chen's face took on a freezing cold glare as his eyes began to flash with killing intent. "Qiangang Kingdom, you truly do scheme so sinisterly. Fine, I will play along with you." He muttered.

Chapter 469: Retaliation From the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom

"Qiangang Kingdom, although I was able to obtain the Saint Ruler's skeleton, you have found trouble with me. I no longer need to abide by our earlier agreement. Wait and see, when I have time, I will visit again to merit out fairness." Jian Chen muttered under his breath as he floated in the air. At the same time, he felt worried about the Huang family. Although he had once helped Huang Luan, the skeleton of a Saint Ruler wasn't beneath a Ruler Armament in rarity and value. Whether or not the patriarch of the Huang family would trouble him for the skeleton, Jian Chen didn't know. All he knew was that the skeleton was indeed a great boon for the patriarch if he had gotten it.

However as an Imperial Protector of the Qinhuang Kingdom, Jian Chen held a certain amount of power over even the greatest of clans on the continent. Even the patriarch of the Huang family would presumably avoid overstepping his boundaries to deal with Jian Chen.

"It seems that being able to use the Chaotic Force is even more important than ever. This way, I will have a weapon to use against those of the Saint Ruler level." Jian Chen muttered in resolute determination. After he returned, he would refine the energy within the Saint Ruler's skeleton straight away.

Transforming into a jet of azure and violet light, Jian Chen flew off in the direction of the Gesun Kingdom before ultimately disappearing into the horizon.

At the same time in the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, a single squadron had entered the imperial palace. All the guards had knelt on both sides as a polite gesture of welcoming.

After several days of traveling, the second prince and the prime minister had finally returned to the imperial palace of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom.

The very moment they had entered the palace, the travel-weary second prince and prime minister instantly dismounted from their horses and walked straight for the halls to report to the king.

Notified of their arrival to the large halls for a discussion within the palace, the king had sat in his throne. On both sides, twenty armored experts stood without moving, looking more like statues than humans. Each one of them was stony-faced, but their eyes emitted a sharp contrast.

The second prince and prime minister walked into the palace. When they saw the king sitting high above upon his throne, they immediately knelt down in subservience.

“Your servant pays his respect to his Majesty!”

“Your child pays his respects to his Majesty!”

Taking the teacup offered to him by the nearby maid, the king smiled. “Let’s skip the formalities. My son, prime minister, has our proposal with the Gesun Kingdom gone smoothly?”

“Father, the Gesun Kingdom is far too insolent, not only do they see themselves as higher than everyone else, but they do not even see our Heavenly Eagle Kingdom as above them. Not only did they injure senior Georgien, we were barely able to escape from the imperial palace.” The second prince immediately told the king what had transpired in the Gesun Kingdom and had added his own details to it to make it seem even worse.

Hearing the second prince speak, the king’s smile slowly began to grow darker and darker until he looked to the prime minister and asked slowly, “Prime minister, is what my son says true? Has the Gesun Kingdom acted in such a way?”

“Your Majesty, the second prince speaks truly. The Gesun Kingdom has without a doubt placed our Heavenly Eagle Kingdom beneath them. Furthermore, Georgien was indeed injured by them and they were just about to take us in forever.” The prime minister spoke respectfully.

“What bullies they are!” The king roared angrily as his hand slapped the armrest of his throne, “Men! Call for senior Georgien.”

“Yes!” A guard immediately ran off.

Quickly, the pale-faced Georgien came running into the hall and knelt before the king. “Are you fine, Georgien?” The king asked in concern. When it came to Heaven Saint Masters, he had to make sure to treat them well.

Georgien nodded his head, “Given some time, I will heal.”

With that, the king listened to Georgien give his explanation. Although there were slight deviations to what the second prince and prime minister said, the main points were still the same. It was these main points that caused the king of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom to take on a nasty expression.

“You there, bring a thousand year ginseng from my personal collection.” The king commanded to one of the palace maids.

“Yes, your Majesty.” The maid obeyed before leaving.

“Senior Georgien, not too long ago, I received a thousand year old ginseng. I present this to you in hopes of a speedy recovery. As for the matter with the Gesun Kingdom, this king will make sure justice is made.” When the Gesun Kingdom was mentioned, the king’s eyes flashed dangerously.

Georgien smiled, “Thank you your Majesty for your concern. However, the one called Changyang Xiangtian of the Gesun Kingdom must be treated with care. He is not only a genius among geniuses, but he wields an incredibly powerful energy that can damage the Saint Weapons of even a Heaven Saint Master. It was because of this power that I was injured.”

“Then there is even more reason to kill him. Otherwise, our Heavenly Eagle Kingdom will have a powerful threat in the future.” The king spoke.

After Georgien left, the king returned to his throne and looked down at the two subjects still kneeling before him. With a royal air befitting that of the king, he spoke, “Prime minister Che, have you made certain of the relationship between the Gesun Kingdom and the Qinhuang Kingdom?”

“Your Majesty, your servant has investigated the matter, as the king has imagined, the relationship between the two kingdoms isn’t close at all. By the time I arrived at the imperial palace, the Imperial Advisors had already left. After my talks with the Gesun Kingdom’s king, I speculate that even the king himself does not know what brought the Qinhuang Kingdom to help them.”

“Hmph, is that it?!” The Heavenly Eagle Kingdom’s king let out a smile, “It seems that our biggest worry would be that Changyang Xiangtian then. If he was able to become a Heaven Saint Master at such an age and have some sort of powerful ability to damage a Heaven Saint Master’s Saint Weapon, that cannot be let to stand. It is unfortunate that he is not from our Heavenly Eagle Kingdom. Fine, you two must be tired from your travels, go and rest up. The rest, I will take care of.”

“Yes, your Majesty!”

Half a day later, eight Heaven Saint Masters had been gathered within the depths of the imperial palace of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom. After talking for an hour, they all left, but two additional people had joined their ranks to make a total of ten.

Two days later, the air within the imperial palace was different than before. The Black Armors continued to patrol the entire palace while the king himself strolled around it in an extremely pleasant mood. At the current moment, he was playing chess with Ye Ming; he was no longer worried about the future development of the Gesun Kingdom. That was because there was now an incredible strong mountain of a power backing up the entire kingdom.

“Bang!”

Suddenly, a large explosion rocked the entire palace, causing it to shudder. A bright red light could be seen as it filled the entire place and sent rubble flying everywhere.

Chapter 470: Calamity at the Palace

While playing chess within the garden with Ye Ming, the king was startled to hear an explosive sound ring out. Straight away, the both of them flew up from their seats and looked in the direction of the palace.

“What has happened?” The king asked with narrowed eyebrows. When he saw the fiery light flash over the sky, he instantly realized something bad had happened.

Ye Ming stared in that direction with confusion for a moment before a change of expression washed over his face. “Not good, there’s a mishap going on.” With that, Ye Ming’s body instantaneously disappeared as he flew toward the palace at high speeds.

Right at the location of the palace gates, the previously grand looking palace walls had crumbled to mere rubble that lay strewn across the ground. About twenty bloody soldiers could be seen unconscious around the rubble, but whether they were alive or not remained to be seen. The azure-colored marble that paved the ground had burned remains from the fierce fire that had flashed over it, making the entire place as hot as the inside of a steamer basket.

Above the broken city walls, ten men wearing different colored clothing could be seen floating twenty meters in the sky. Each one of them were Heaven Saint Masters and observed the sight below them with an icy stare.

The commotion in the area caused all of the guards within the palace to come running along with the experts to this part. But whenever someone arrived and saw the ten experts floating up above them, each one of them grew extremely pale in the face.

“Goddamn, those are Heaven Saint Masters! Sound the alarm, the enemies are here!” An Earth Saint Master cried out an order with quivering lips. Ten Saint Masters was a number that the Gesun Kingdom would find hard to repel.

Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong!

The sounds of several battle drums could be heard soon enough with their sounds reverberating through the air and throughout the palace. This alarm was the highest level alarm that hadn’t been heard for more than a few dozen years. In the case that it was rung, it meant that the palace was in immediate danger of an extremely large threat. It was an alarm that forced everyone to put down whatever they were doing and defend the palace against the enemy.

The alarm caused every single soldier and any other expert not yet there to be startled into disbelief. Quickly, they gathered themselves up and immediately headed for the palace gates to see what had happened.

A single large source of energy could be felt from within the palace as the water attributed Ye Ming came flying forward. In an instant, he came to a stop right in front of the palace gates. Staring hard at the ten Heaven Saint Masters, his concentration was focused solely on them and not on the broken rubble beneath him.

“Who are you?” Ye Ming asked.

Among the ten, a single rich-dressed elder laughed coldly, “We are from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom. Bring out the princess of the Gesun Kingdom as well as the one called Changyang Xiangtian right away. It would be best if you don’t force us to look for them ourselves; otherwise, the consequences for your kingdom would be far too dire to accept.”

“The Heavenly Eagle Kingdom? So you dare to behave so atrociously toward our Gesun Kingdom? You really take us to be a kingdom that is easily bullied.” Ye Ming growled with an extremely serious expression. With there only being a single Heaven Saint Master at the imperial palace and the other people strewn about without power, there was no way for the Gesun Kingdom to call on enough strength in such a short amount of time to withstand the ten Heaven Saint Masters from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom.

“You speak correctly. There has been nothing of any importance that our kingdom found to fear from your kingdom.” Another red-wearing middle-aged man spoke with a look of disdain.

Ye Ming gave a snort. As a single person, he was not afraid of the ten in front of him. “Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, if you don’t wish to bring trouble upon your own head, you would do best to retreat. If not, then the Qinhuang Kingdom will not let this matter slide. Do you not understand the connection our two kingdoms have with each other?”

“Pah, you bluff. Don’t even bother trying to convince us that your Gesun Kingdom and the Qinhuang Kingdom have some sort of secret connection. We aren’t three year old children, we cannot be fooled that easily.” An elder laughed. They had heard from the king of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom that there was no connection or friendship between the two kingdoms, so they weren’t afraid of the power that the Qinhuang Kingdom held.

“Hurry up and call out the king and his daughter. Otherwise, your Gesun Kingdom’s palace will be razed to the ground this very day.” A suntanned elder spoke dangerously with eyes that seemed as if they could shoot lightning.

By now, the imperial palace had already gathered a thousand of the finest Black Armor soldiers. However, when they saw the ten Heaven Saint Masters from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, they were stunned. A Heaven Saint Master was an entity that stood at the very top of the world. They weren’t enemies that any one of the Black Armors could contend against. Despite having over a thousand Black Armors, they were completely powerless in the face of these Heaven Saint Masters.

By now, the king had finally appeared with several of the strongest Black Armors from the garden. Upon seeing the ten floating Heaven Saint Masters, the king had a look of utmost concentration. However, his forward pace hadn’t stopped for a moment and continued to walk with his head held high.

One of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom noticed the king straight away and began to whisper to his comrades, “Take a look, that’s the king of the Gesun Kingdom.”

The ten Heaven Saint Masters from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom began to look at the king. Then, one of them nodded, “That should be him, let this old man take him.” Then, that very same person flew down to the king.

“Don’t think you will get away with this!” Ye Ming roared as he moved to block the elder. Without hesitation, he brought out his Saint Weapon and sent a furious slash of energy toward the incoming elder.

With a icy glare of his own, the elder took out his own Saint Weapon to block Ye Ming.

“A battle to be won is a battle that is over quickly. Bai Lie, let us two help elder Mo.” Another elder immediately brought out his Saint Weapon to attack Ye Ming.

The elder he had been talking to nodded his head and immediately entered the fray, making it a three on one battle.

The strength of the three Heaven Saint Masters were by no means weaker than Ye Ming. One of the three had actually been a step higher than Ye Ming in strength. With it being one against three, the pressure on Ye Ming was abnormally high; with three people focusing on him, it was very hard to dodge or even retaliate.

After all, he was not on the same level of those from the Qinhuang Kingdom or Chang Wuji from the Gesun Kingdom.

The four men continued to battle passionately. Each strike of their Saint Weapons led to a large amount of energy sloughing off of their weapons. It sounded like lightning striking from the ninth layer of the heavens. The large amount of energy was enough for the palace walls to be battered again and again, inflicting several serious blows to them.

The imperial palace had already been thrown into disarray from all of this. With over a thousand of the finest soldiers running amok, they seemed as if the sky above them was sending down a disaster.

“Your Highness, please get away from here!” The Black Armors guarding the king immediately gauged that the situation wasn’t clearing up and immediately called for the king to escape into the palace depths. They all knew that against ten Heaven Saint Masters, there was no way for them to stop them. The only solution here was to flee.

One of the men from the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom instantly noticed the Black Armors running away with the king. With a sneer, he spoke, “Pah, where do you think you’re going? Do you take us as wall decorations and someone to ignore as you run away?” As he spoke, a strong amount of earth attributed Saint Force wrapped around his body and trailed behind him as he sped toward the king.

One of the Black Armors grew startled and cried out, “They’re chasing us! Take his Majesty and escape from here, I’ll hold them off.”

“Yes, captain!”

“Take care of yourself, captain!”

Several Black Armors called out with serious faces. Their forward movement toward the palace hadn’t stopped for a moment as they continued to escort the king with haste toward the imperial palace through a hidden passageway.

The captain of the Black Armors brought out a brilliantly silver machete and swung it toward the incoming Heaven Saint Master with a large shout.

“Bi Clan First Sword Form — Sky Opener!”

The silver machete instantaneously transformed into a dark green color which then exploded out from the machete’s blade with a brilliant resplendent light that filled the sky. The entire world was dyed with a dark green color that shot toward the Heaven Saint Master with blinding speed.

At the same time, a heaven-oppressing amount of pressure suddenly filled the entire area. The glow from the machete had locked onto the Heaven Saint Master with a fierce light. To the Heaven Saint Master, the entire area seemed as if it was locking him into a quagmire that made just moving a difficult matter.

“This... this is a Heaven Tier Battle Skill!” The Heaven Saint Master that was chasing after the king cried out in shock. He had briefly been unable to believe just what had transpired. No matter what he thought of, there was no way he ever would have thought that an Earth Saint Master of the Gesun Kingdom would have a priceless Heaven Tier Battle Skill.

“What? The captain has a Heaven Tier Battle Skill?!” Those Black Armors that had been escorting the king paused for a moment. Their eyes opened wide in shock as they turned to look at their captain in disbelief as well.

Up in midair, the news of a Heaven Tier Battle Skill had caught the interest of the remaining six Heaven Saint Masters in the sky above. Each one gave a startled cry as they looked to the Black Armors captain that had been using the Heaven Tier Battle Skill to fight. Their eyes held a coveting look that did nothing to hide their desire on wishing to learn the Heaven Tier Battle Skill that the Black Armors captain was using.

Even the three Heaven Saint Masters fighting against Ye Ming were tempted by the Heaven Tier Battle Skill. The three let out a loud cry while simultaneously landing a single serious blow on Ye Ming. As he let out a mouthful of blood and fell back down to the ground, the three men instantly charged at the Black Armors captain.

The Heaven Saint Master that had been locked in place due to the Heaven Tier Battle Skill let out a cruel smile. “I didn’t think that a tiny Earth Saint Master would have a Heaven Tier Battle Skill. How unexpected this was, but with your strength, you cannot bring out the entire might of the battle skill. Even if it is a Heaven Tier Battle Skill, it isn’t enough to pose a problem to me. Allow me to show you my Earth Tier Battle Skill then!” The Heaven Saint Master’s Saint Weapon began to glow with a fierce earthen glow as he prepared to use his Earth Tier Battle Skill against the Heaven Tier Battle Skill.

The two sides collided with a fierce explosion of wind, causing the area around the imperial palace to crack into several large fissures.

Although the battle skill from the Bi clan was a Heaven Tier Battle Skill, he was an Earth Saint Master. This meant that the power of his Heaven Tier Battle Skill would be lessened. Unless he was a Sixth Cycle Earth Saint Master, using a Heaven Tier Battle Skill would not be effective against a Heaven Saint Master. So when the Heaven Saint Master’s battle skill struck Bi Dao’s own, the Heaven Tier Battle Skill was instantly dissipated and the Earth Tier Battle Skill struck Bi Dao in the chest. He immediately spat out a mouthful of blood and flew a hundred meters back toward the palace, landing on the ground.