

Chaotic 621

Chapter 621: Wang Yufeng

“Brat, you’re a reckless one if you’re sticking your nose into the business of our Heiyun clan. Do you wish to die?” One of the middle-aged man barked angrily at Jian Chen.

Still smiling in disdain, Jian Chen replied, “The way I see it, the ones that wish to die are you three and not me.”

“You’re going to die for that!” The three men snarled with fury. Immediately, two of the three men charged with their Saint Weapons in order to teach this young man in front of them a rough lesson.

Pointing his finger, Jian Chen allowed for two beams of Sword Qi to fly out towards these two men.

Pcht! Pcht!

The two beams of Sword Qi embedded itself into the males’ forehead and then out of it, leaving behind a huge cavity in their heads.

There hadn’t even been enough time for them to scream out before they died. But because of inertia, their bodies continued forward another five or six meters before finally coming to a stop on the ground with their eyes wide open in death.

The fact that Jian Chen had killed two Earth Saint Masters as if it were nothing with just a flick of his finger had caused an endless amount of surprise to everyone watching. They had fled several meters away to maintain their safety as they gasped in shock at the sight. Even those who had been standing nearby Jian Chen had kept their distance--not a single one of them dared to draw any closer as if afraid of causing trouble with this man.

The single remaining survivor from the Heiyun clan had been dumbfounded by the strength of Jian Chen. He was fully aware of the strength of the two friends of his--they were stronger than even he was--so he was completely caught off guard that a young twenty something year old man would be able to kill them both so easily.

But even despite his befuddlement, the man had quickly recovered. Without any hesitation in his decisions, he immediately turned around and fled. He was a clever person and knew that Jian Chen had a bone to pick with his clan. If he stayed behind, then he would have been killed like the other two friends of his. And so the only way to survive was to escape as well.

Leveling a calm stare at the escaping man, Jian Chen raised his finger again and shot a beam of Sword Qi accurately onto the man’s calf.

The man had let out a pain-filled scream as the beam straight through his leg. With pain shooting straight up through his leg, the man’s ability to run had been knocked for a loop, causing him to fall to the ground.

Slowly walking on over to the middle-aged man, Jian Chen looked at him with cold eyes. “Where is the Heiyun clan located?”

There had been no fear in the man's eyes as he snarled back at Jian Chen, "I'm not afraid to die! Whether it's by torture or by illness, you'll never get anything from me!"

"You didn't seem to look like tough guy." Jian Chen smiled.

The youth that had been chased by these three men crawled up to his feet with a painful grit of his teeth. When he saw that the bird-like magical beast cub in his hands was unharmed, he let out a sigh in relief. After listening to what Jian Chen had said, he spoke, "I know where the Heiyun clan is." His voice was had been exuberantly weak since his internal organs were heavily injured as well.

A fearsome glint entered Jian Chen's eyes as he took in this information. "If someone else knows the answer, what use is there for you?" He spoke. With a single burst of Sword Qi, he stabbed it straight into the last man's head.

Afterwards, Jian Chen walked up to the other youth. When he saw just how heavily injured the youth was, Jian Chen gave a small pause of hesitation as if considering something. Then, he took out a Radiant Spirit Pill from his Space Ring and handed it to him, "Eat this and recover your strength. You'll be taking me to the Heiyun clan, so traveling there as you are now would be inconvenient for the both of us."

"Sire, I thank you for your benevolence in saving me, but this item right here is far too precious for...." The youth hesitated to take it.

"A Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pill is nothing for me. Eat it." Jian Chen waved his finger and levitated the pill into the youth's man and then throat.

With the Radiant Spirit Pill ingested, the injuries that the youth had sustained was beginning to heal. Although it wasn't fully enough for a full recovery, it had served to heal him to a considerable degree.

"Sire, you've saved my life already, and now you're giving me such a precious Radiant Spirit Pill to treat my wounds. I am truly at a loss for what reason sire would be so benevolent." The youth spoke gratefully.

"I have a bone to pick with the Heiyun clan, saving you was a convenient task to do on the way. There is no need for your thanks, take that pill as recompense for you guiding the way for me." Jian Chen smiled.

"Sire, your generosity has earned my respect. I am Wang Yufeng, how may I address sire?" The man cupped his hands together.

"Your wounds have healed by now. Let us be on the way then. Take me to the Heiyun clan." Jian Chen replied.

From this, Wang Yufeng knew that Jian Chen wasn't willing to give his own name and knew better than to continue asking for it. "The Radiant Spirit Pill is truly a powerful pill. In such a short time, I feel my wounds already stabilized. Leading the way would be no problem at all with this short of a recovery rate. Sire, the Heiyun clan is about five thousand kilometers away, please allow me to guide you there now." He spoke before starting to run.

But just as he took a single step away, Jian Chen had already held his shoulder tightly and allowed for the wind elements in the world to carry them both. With the wind carrying them swiftly up into the air, the two of them quickly became the size of an ant before speeding away into the distance.

“Heavens! That young man was a Heaven Saint Master!”

“No wonder he was able to kill those three Earth Saint Masters so easily! He was a Heaven Saint Master!”

The people on the streets had let out a cry of astonishment when they saw Jian Chen bring Wang Yufeng away into the air and began to gossip to one another.

Looking down to see that the city below them was growing smaller and smaller, Wang Yufeng had been stunned. But soon enough, he recovered enough to look at Jian Chen in a completely different light.

“You’re a Heaven Saint Master!” He exclaimed in shock. He had truly found it hard to believe that a youth that was younger than him was actually a Heaven Saint Master. Could this youth used some sort of secret technique to alter his appearance?

But as he thought, a sudden realization hit Wang Yufeng, causing him to blanch. “Are you Jian Chen?”

“Correct!” Jian Chen confirmed.

“Ah! So you’re Jian Chen!” Straight away, Wang Yufeng’s face adopted an extremely emotional expression. The name of Jian Chen was essentially the same as a clap of thunder. Not only was he the King of Mercenaries, he was also a Heaven Saint Master that had been able to kill five Heaven Saint Masters outside of Mercenary City all by himself. Such a shocking battle prowess like this was absolutely breathtaking and was far more than enough for any youngster to idolize him. Wang Yufeng had been no exception to this.

Wang Yufeng had absolutely no idea that the person that had saved him would actually be the illustrious King of Mercenaries, Jian Chen. Compared to him, Wang Yufeng was almost worlds apart in power and fame and had thus left him utterly responseless.

“I did not think that I would be able to meet the renowned Jian Chen. To be able to meet your acquaintance is an honor that I, Wang Yufeng, had never felt before. Jian Chen, although I am not as strong as you are, I am a Second Cycle Earth Saint Master. If you will allow it, please allow me to accompany you in your travels. I will work as hard as a horse and as loyally as a dog!” Wang Yufeng looked expectantly towards him. He had been earnest in serving a Heaven Saint Master. It would not hurt him in any way, especially if that Heaven Saint Master was a practically unlimited potential expert like him.

Shooting a glance at Wang Yufeng, Jian Chen shook his head, “I have plenty of enemies that are equally strong as I am in power. Following me would not be a good idea, or else you may find yourself stuck in a pit of eternal damnation.”

“I, Wang Yufeng, am not afraid to die in order to live! I fear no enemy and truly wish to travel with you. It would be far more marvelous to travel with you than with myself. Jian Chen, please accept me into your group.” He spoke in resolution. He knew that this was an extremely rare opportunity, so he was very unwilling to let it go.

Jian Chen had hesitated for a brief moment when he saw how resolved Wang Yufeng was. Thinking about how few people there were in the Flame Mercenaries that that were loyal to him, Jian Chen

reconsidered it. "Very well then, since my mercenary group is shorthanded at the moment, I'll accept you into it."

Jian Chen's reply had caused Wang Yufeng no small amount of joy and had him light up with excitement.

"Ah, why were the men of the Heiyun clan chasing you?" Jian Chen asked curiously.

A dark expression crossed Wang Yufeng's face in that moment. Looking down at the bird-like beast cub in his hands, he snarled, "It was all because of this beast cub that I was chased. A month ago, I happened across a Steelwing beast nest in a nearby forest. There was only a single cub, so I was fortunate enough to obtain the cub after expending a large amount of my strength. But then the Heiyun clan accosted me on my way back and wanted to take it from me for their own greed. I knew that I wouldn't be able to take them on and fled for an entire month. Sometimes, I would barely escape death from their hands, and then it was at this final encounter that I was able to receive Lord Jian Chen's help."

Chapter 622: The Formidable Chaotic Force

Jian Chen turned to look at the magical beast cub in Wang Yufeng's hands. The beast cub was jet-black in color, and was roughly the same size as his tiger cub. The wings of the bird looked as if they were made of hard iron, and looked similar to an eagle with its sharp sword-like beak.

However, it was clear to see that this Steelwing Beast was a newborn. It barely possessed any intelligence, and there was not a single bit of danger awareness to be seen. As such, it was currently quite content and quiet in Wang Yufeng's arms, unaware that the man who was holding it had killed its mother.

"Class 5 Magical Beast cubs that can fly are hard to obtain. If they are carefully bred from young until they mature, they will provide a great deal of assistance. However, riding a flying type magical beast has its own risks associated with it. It would be best for a Heaven Saint Master to ride one." Jian Chen spoke.

Wang Yufeng chuckled in response, "I understand that line of reasoning. The nature of a magical beast is a vicious one which can often lead to them going berserk. I heard once that many of the more gentle flying type magical beasts lose control of themselves, causing their riders to plummet to their deaths. However, I'm sure that I'll be able to reach the highest level of control with this one so that such an event will never happen. In any case, a Steelwing Beast is a Class 5 Magical Beast. When their intelligence matures, they'll be far more stable unlike the lower ranked magical beasts, so the chance of losing control of themselves should be very low."

Jian Chen nodded his head in agreement. "What you are saying makes sense. However, you must take advantage of the young age of the Steelwing Beast and carefully nurture it. If it matures before you tame it, it'll only become harder."

"I know. For now, I will treat this little child as if it were my own. I will love it dearly." Wang Yufeng laughed.

As they traveled, Jian Chen and Wang Yufeng talked to one another. On the way, they talked about plenty of things, allowing Jian Chen to gain a more in-depth understanding of Wang Yufeng. However, Jian Chen did not once ask about his background, meaning it was still a mystery to him. That was

because when one answered such a question, it was only natural that they would ask the speaker the same question. Don't ask, don't tell. That was how to avoid any careless slip of the tongues.

The base of the Heiyun clan was in a First Class City around five thousand kilometers away. With Jian Chen carrying Wang Yufeng through the air, it took about two hours to arrive at the flourishing city. Afterward, Jian Chen traveled to a large manor that Wang Yufeng had pointed out to him. He hovered roughly five hundred meters in the air above it.

The fact that Jian Chen was using the wind elements in the world to travel had easily caught the attention of plenty of people below. One by one, they pointed at the floating figures in the air and started to gossip.

The Tianzhu Kingdom was a country that could be said to be in the middling ranks. It was slightly stronger than the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom, and Heaven Saint Masters could be said to hold mighty ranks here. Whenever one ventured out in public, they would catch the eyes of many people.

Under Jian Chen's grasp, Wang Yufeng was able to point at the manor beneath him and say, "This is the place. This is the manor of the Heiyun clan."

Without even needing to ask Wang Yufeng, Jian Chen could tell that this manor was indeed the base of operations for the Heiyun clan. That was because Jian Chen had already scoped out the place with his presence and had a very clear idea of the terrain. Above the gates at the entrance of the compound was a signboard that made it all too obvious just who lived here.

Inside the manor, Jian Chen could detect three Heaven Saint Masters. One of them lacked both of his legs — it was the very same one that had tried to stop him in the Thousand Venom Valley and tried to take the tiger cub away from him.

"Heiyun Clan, I, Jian Chen, am a man that keeps his word. I've come to settle the grudge made between us last year. And from today on, there will be no such thing as the Heiyun clan." Jian Chen cruelly smiled. With a wave of his hand, the energy of the world came bubbling forth at rapid speed to gather into a ten meter long sword made of fire. The heat that radiated off of the blade was scorching and immediately elevated the temperature of the surrounding area.

With a brandish of his hand, the fire sword immediately disappeared into a blur of red lightning that struck the manor.

"Boom!"

An explosion dispelled the silence in the manor as a tremendous fire washed over the surrounding area. As the waves of flame billowed forth with great speed, the destruction of the manor continued without stop.

In an instant, the previously tranquil Heiyun clan turned into a bonfire with flames that danced and roared. The blue sky above was covered by the pluming black smoke from the wreckage, making it extremely eye-catching to the people below.

The interior of the manor was brought to a frenzy as countless servants and guards came running out of their rooms. When they saw the sea of flames, they all turned pale with fright and fled toward the outskirts with great panic as if afraid that the flames would incinerate them before they could escape.

“What in the world is going on?” A middle-aged man cried out as he barged out of his room. Up until now, he hadn’t even realized that someone had attacked the Heiyun clan.

“Quick! Put out the fire!” One of the more elderly caretakers cried out, but not a single person had heard him due to the intensity of the flames and the sounds that accompanied them. A few measly buckets of water wouldn’t be able to put a dent in these flames in any case.

“Someone has attacked our Heiyun clan. Be on your guard, on your guard I said!” The captain of the guards immediately commanded the rest of the guards of the clan, but when he realized that there were people floating in the sky, his face paled drastically. “No! The ones who’ve attacked us are Heaven Saint Masters! That’s not someone we can fight! Qu-quick! Call out the patriarch!”

At the warning of the captain, three separate entities flew out of the interior of the manor. The three men quickly soared to the heavens to meet with Jian Chen, and at the same time, an elderly voice called out with such volume that the ears of everyone else ached from it.

“You there, for what reason have you to attack my Heiyun clan!” The elderly man called out with as much dignity as he could muster, but even his dignity could hardly hold back the furious anger the speaker had.

Soon enough, the three Heaven Saint Masters arrived at the same altitude as Jian Chen. Standing shoulder to shoulder just twenty meters away from Jian Chen, each one of them looked ready to kill him.

“Who are you? State your name at once and why you are attacking my clan.” The bald elder standing in the middle barked out as he grasped his sword. The sharp point of the sword glinted ominously, and if it were any regular person standing there, their valor surely would have dipped to non-existent levels.

Ignoring the elder that spoke, Jian Chen stared at the elder without any legs next to him. Jian Chen gave him a cold smile. “Perhaps you might recognize me?”

The elder without legs obviously recognized Jian Chen, and let out a gasp in shock, “It’s you!” In his mind, he couldn’t help but think of the legends he had been hearing as of late about Jian Chen. His heart skipped a beat, and he contemplated trying to flee.

“Third elder, who is he? Do you know him?” The bald elder asked.

“He’s the one who’s been making waves recently with the rumors. The King of Mercenaries — Jian Chen!” The elder barked with a great deal of difficulty.

The bald elder blanched as well when he heard that, “What!? He’s Jian Chen?” Prior to this, Jian Chen had killed five Heaven Saint Masters by himself outside of Mercenary City. Even the news of his fight with two Saint Rulers within the city had been heard by these elders. Such a powerful figure like that was not an opponent that the Heiyun clan could take on. Even with the three Heaven Saint Masters, they stood no chance at all.

“So you do remember me. Then, I presume you remember what I said to you years ago. I said it once. If I, Jian Chen, am not dead, then I’ll be sure to annihilate your entire Heiyun Clan. I have never once reneged my words before. I will not let a single one of my enemies escape, and today is the day I make good on that promise of mine.” Jian Chen laughed.

The three Heaven Saint Masters blanched at Jian Chen's words. While two of the three men there had not participated, they all knew just what event Jian Chen was referring to.

"Sire Jian Chen, my Heiyun clan was the one at fault during that time. We give our sincerest apology, and are willing to offer ample compensation. We ask that sire Jian Chen pardon our Heiyun clan, and we are more than willing to offer our assistance to you should you require us or our territory." The bald-elder's intimidating glare melted away to adopt an apologetic smile. His voice gained a softer tone and no longer contained the iron edge from earlier

Unmoved by the proposal, Jian Chen chuckled, "How lightly you treat your words. Back when I was on the verge of death because of your clan, this blood debt was formed. Just how could I give it up so easily? Only in your dreams." With that, Jian Chen spoke no more and immediately shot toward the head of the leading Heaven Saint Master. The Chaotic Force began to cycle around his body, and with a flash of light from his dantian, the energy flew into his palm.

Now that he could control the Chaotic Force, Jian Chen's palm took on a gray color as a destructive amount of power came forth. The surrounding area around his palm looked like water as it distorted with ripples and waves.

At this one moment, Jian Chen could feel the practically unlimited amount of power he was wielding. It was almost as if his hand could split apart the world around him, and a single punch could kill a Heaven Saint Master instantaneously. This would be the very first time he wielded such a tremendous power.

With a grunt, Jian Chen slapped the area around him with his palm, causing the space in front of the slap to distort so violently that a slight fissure formed.

With such a destructive force being unleashed from his palm, it was as if a dragon had suddenly been let loose.

Chapter 623: Destruction of the Heiyun Clan

With such a destructive force being unleashed from his palm, it was as if a dragon had suddenly been let loose.

The space beneath the strike surged violently as the powerful energy ravaged the area around it with dreadful might.

The three Heaven Saint Masters could feel just how powerful Jian Chen's strike was from the surrounding space. It was like an icy block that froze the three of them in place. Moving even a single finger became difficult.

The three Heaven Saint Masters had only enough time to turn pale in fright before the boundless wave of energy slammed against their bodies unceremoniously.

In the face of such a tremendous amount of energy, the three Heaven Saint Masters folded as if they were ants. Without putting up any resistance, the three their bodies split apart into a violent display of blood and gore.

The palm strike of Jian Chen had not stopped there. The influx of energy completely shattered the bodies of the three Heaven Saint Masters before continuing to slam into the manor below.

“Boom!” Following a tremendous cracking sound, the entire world seemed to shudder as if giving birth to an earthquake. Practically everyone in the city felt the ground beneath them shake, and several of the more shoddily built restaurants could not help but unsettlingly sway. Bits and pieces of the Heiyun clan’s manor splintered into every single direction possible. At the center, the ruins of a tremendous strike could be seen.

In an instant, the previously flourishing city was left a mess, and the Heiyun clan tragically suffered. The previous proud manor had been reduced to a ruined wasteland, and only smoke could be seen from what used to be the walls and roofs. At the very center of the manor grounds, a single hole about a hundred meters wide and ten meters deep could be seen.

Furthermore, this giant influx of energy had damaged every single building within a kilometer radius. From the epicenter of the Heiyun clan, not a single building remained untouched by the blow.

The might of the palm had caused such devastation. This was the power of a Saint Ruler!

From his perch high in the sky, Jian Chen observed his handiwork. He felt startled by the might of his own palm, and remained quiet for some time. He did not expect such devastation to occur after attacking the elders.

“Is this the power of the Chaotic Force?” Jian Chen thought to himself in surprise. The might of the Chaotic Force had indeed been out of his expectations. Three of the Heiyun clan’s Heaven Saint Masters had been killed so easily that it was almost as if they were nothing. His attack made him experience just how true the saying was, ‘In front of a Saint Ruler, everyone else is an ant.’

That saying was a veritable truth. In front of a Saint Ruler, everyone else may as well be an ant.

Even Wang Yufeng, who had been leading Jian Chen, was rendered speechless by the devastation. His eyes were as round as plates, and his mouth had dropped open wide enough for an entire chicken egg to fit in it from his shock.

He could see that Jian Chen had only struck with his palm, yet that attack had killed three Heaven Saint Masters. Furthermore, it had brought forth such devastation! It truly filled him with disbelief, and for a moment, he doubted what he was seeing.

He wasn’t a Heaven Saint Master, but even he understood that a Heaven Saint Master shouldn’t be able to cause this much destruction.

“Could... could Jian Chen already be a...” Wang Yufeng suddenly began to shiver as a question popped in his head. This thought that had suddenly popped in his head was so terrifying that even he wished to stop thinking about the answer.

Plenty of people gathered in the surrounding area of the Heiyun clan to see the outcome. A procession of soldiers had already formed as well, but even they could only look up in misery at the floating figures above. Each spectator remained silent, completely shocked at the sight.

The army of soldiers didn’t dare say a thing. Despite the destruction of part of the city, not a single one of them was brave enough to even fart right now.

The Heiyun clan held an extremely lofty and powerful status within the city. They had been the strongest faction in the city and had been considered second to none even in the kingdom they resided. However, this mighty faction had been wiped out in an instant, and against their assailant, they might as well have been nothing. This was something that every single spectator found hard to believe.

Half a moment later, Jian Chen finally let out a long turbulent sigh to control his emotions. With a wave of his hand, he tossed several Space Rings into the hands of several people down below. "We're going!" He informed Wang Yufeng before turning around to leave the city, leaving behind the dumbfounded citizens of the city.

It had only taken a single wave of his palm to cause an irrevocable amount of damage to the Heiyun clan. The blood debt that Jian Chen had with the Heiyun clan could be considered to be done and over with.

The following days after, Jian Chen relentlessly continued to try to find the whereabouts of the Jiede clan. The Jiede clan remained true to their label as a hermit family, staying hidden in a forest or mountain somewhere. They were an isolated faction that never showed their faces to the world, causing Jian Chen to hear absolutely nothing that could lead him to their location. In fact, many of the people Jian Chen asked had never even heard of their name before.

However, the gods were willing to reward the hardworking man. On the third day of Jian Chen's laborious attempt to learn of the Jiede clan's whereabouts, a relatively strong sect reported that they knew of the Jiede clan. Jian Chen brought Wang Yufeng with him there.

The Jiede clan was said to have been founded at the core of a mountain with countless of magical beasts standing guard around it. There was no shortage of Class 5 Magical Beasts there, and there were several Class 6 Magical Beasts that the clan had tamed. They were trained to guard the gates and to prevent any outsiders from entering.

Jian Chen brought Wang Yufeng to a spot twenty kilometers away from the reported mountain ridge. He then stared off into the distance at the series of buildings that sprung up from the ridge. "Wang Yufeng, you stay here. I will be fighting a Saint Ruler. Taking you there would only serve to hurt you."

At the mention that Jian Chen was about to start trouble with a Saint Ruler, Wang Yufeng's heart began to beat frantically. It was with great concern that he said, "Jian Chen, your opponent is a man who became a Saint Ruler many years ago. Furthermore, this is his domain. If you're going in there alone, you must be careful."

"Relax. I'll be fine, but you must make sure to hide yourself away. Don't let the men of the Jiede clan catch you. There might not be any magical beasts around here, but make sure that you don't get caught by one nonetheless. Hide yourself now." Jian Chen instructed before flying into the air to reach the Jiede clan.

Chapter 624: Challenging the Jiede Clan

There was a place in the backmost courtyards of the Jiede clan that the majority of people were forbidden from entering. This forbidden place was what many of the clan members considered to be a type of holy ground. Practically everyone bowed reverently in the direction of these grounds when standing near them.

The patriarch of the Jiede clan would often shut himself off from the world in this forbidden place to focus on his cultivation. He was the sole Saint Ruler of the Jiede clan and was the sole reason for the Jiede clan's status as a hermit clan.

Within a flower garden in the forbidden zone, all sorts of flowers were blooming in a stunning fashion. A rich aroma wafted through the air, and a large rabble of butterflies could be seen flapping their wings gently as they traveled through the air, giving this deathly-quiet area a vibrant feeling of life.

At the very center of the flower garden was a wooden house. This wooden house clearly looked as if it had stood for a very long time. The wood was ancient, but despite that, it remained standing with signs of damage from the passage of time. It had clearly been worn down to the point where it looked as if it would collapse. Like an elderly man that seemed destined to fall at any moment, this house looked as if it was about to collapse on itself with a single totter.

Within the house, the patriarch of the Jiede clan sat at a wooden table in the center of the room. His eyebrows were furrowed together as if deep in thought, and his face was covered with a look of worry.

Ever since his escape from Mercenary City, the man had been living in unease without a day of solace. When he had first realized what was happening in Mercenary City, he had been deeply influenced by it. Jian Chen was able to do as he pleased in Mercenary City without restraint, and for the life of him, the patriarch could not understand why.

As a two thousand year old Saint Ruler, patriarch Jiede knew a lot about the world. Even the barrier of Mercenary City was known to him to several degrees, and he knew that its capabilities were something that a Heaven Saint Master could never hope to match.

Jian Chen had violated the laws of Mercenary City, but he had not been punished. In the eyes of an outsider, Jian Chen had clearly some sort of connection with the power holders of the city, but patriarch Jiede didn't truly believe in that.

He knew that the barrier of the city had gained sentient life which had given rise to the rumors of the spirit of the barrier. It had already been countless of years since its birth, and the status it wielded in Mercenary City was something practically no one could ever touch aside from the founder of the city himself, Mo Tianyun. Not a single person could command the spirit of the barrier, not even the grand elder.

Patriarch Jiede was completely convinced that the reason why Jian Chen had escaped punishment had nothing to do with having a relationship with the power holders of Mercenary City. The elder was puzzled by the method Jian Chen used to escape punishment.

He was more worried about Jian Chen's talents and the fact that he could not locate the Duanyun sword than the method Jian Chen used to escape punishment.

Patriarch Jiede was more than aware that Jian Chen was skilled enough to reach the realm of a Saint Ruler soon. With such a powerful entity as an enemy, the patriarch knew that it would lead to nothing good. However, the undeniable importance of the patriarch's Ruler Armament meant he was extremely unwilling to forget about it.

Not only was the Ruler Armament a treasure to the Jiede clan as their symbol of power, it was also passed down from generation to generation from the previous patriarch. It held meaning beyond all else and would be a great boon to him when he attempted to crossover to become a Saint King.

A Saint Ruler at the Ninth Heavenly Layer would be able to fuse with a Ruler Armament, and in the case that one was successful in doing so, that Saint Ruler's chances of making the breakthrough to becoming a Saint King would skyrocket.

"I absolutely cannot return to Mercenary City, but if Jian Chen spends the rest of his life in Mercenary City without leaving, what good will that be? With time, even he'll become a Saint Ruler, and when the time comes, he definitely won't be easy to deal with. It seems I have no other choice. Even if I cannot take back the Ruler Armament, I cannot allow Jian Chen to live any longer. Otherwise, he'll bring doom and destruction to the Jiede clan." The patriarch muttered to himself.

Suddenly, a tremendous power from outside suddenly made itself known to him. Sensing this provoking aura, the patriarch sat upright. "What power! Who might that be?" He wondered aloud to himself before flying outside to greet the invader of his territory.

Just a hundred meters above the Jiede clan, the white-robed Jian Chen hovered in place, icily looking down below him. His eyes were intimidating, and his aura was not concealed at all. It was there for the entirety of the Jiede clan to notice and tremble under.

Suddenly, ten different figures came flying up to greet him. One by one, they surrounded Jian Chen in a tight ring with unfavorable expressions.

Roar! Roar! Roar! Roar!

Four heaven-shaking roars could be heard as four different magical beasts came flying forward from different directions. Shortly afterward, the entire forest seemed to shake as the silent Class 6 Magical Beast protectors sensed the abnormality in the area and came to greet Jian Chen.

These Class 6 Magical Beasts were not similar to the ones born in the wild lands of Cross Mountains. They were born and bred from the careful and painstaking energy of the Jiede clan. As a result, the friendship between magical beast and humans had reached a skintight relationship. Over these years, these Class 6 Magical Beasts had spent their entire lives protecting the clan silently against any invader or mercenary that dared to draw too close.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Following three separate muffled explosions, four large magical beasts made their way into Jian Chen's line of sight. Jumping from the mountain range, the magical beasts were like miniature mountains themselves. With each step they took, the earth beneath them shook.

They were pitch black in color and stood on two legs exactly like how a human stood. The only exception was that their heights were roughly thirty meters tall, a height far taller than a human.

"Boom!" Another muffled explosion reverberated across the sky as the four Class 6 Magical Beasts positioned themselves two hundred meters away from Jian Chen. They stood in the cardinal directions, surrounding Jian Chen yet again.

“Hemophilic Apes!” Jian Chen recognized the four Class 6 Magical Beasts, feeling slightly surprised. Hemophilic Apes were a type of magical beasts that had particularly bloodthirsty and violent tendencies. They were, as a result, extremely hard to tame, but the Jiede clan had somehow managed to perfectly tame four of them as protectors. To Jian Chen, this feat was by no means a minor one.

“Sire, who might you be!? State your name and reason for coming!” An elder intimidatingly barked at Jian Chen. There had been no kind edge to his voice since Jian Chen had purposely intruded upon the Jiede clan with such a powerful aura that was obviously intended to provoke the experts of the clan.

Folding his arms against his chest, Jian Chen stared at the several Heaven Saint Masters around him with a smile. “I’m the one you’ve been looking for, Jian Chen. I came today to visit your Jiede clan.”

“What? You’re Jian Chen?”

“So you’re Jian Chen...”

“You have the guts to come knocking on our door to seek your death...”

As soon as they learned who he was, everyone felt surprised. Shortly after their surprised, they all laughed as a tremendous spike of killing intent suddenly erupted from their bodies.

“Roar!”

Sensing the hostility in their owners, the four Hemophilic Apes immediately identified Jian Chen as an enemy. One by one, they let out a roar that shook the heavens as a bloodthirsty light entered their fist-sized pupils.

The tiger cub on Jian Chen’s shoulder was none too pleased at the four Class 6 Magical Beasts aggressive behavior. Standing up, the cub let loose a mighty roar toward the four apes. Although the cub was extremely proud, it was still a Class 4 Magical Beast in strength. It was not yet mature enough to deal with four Class 6 Magical Beasts. Thus, the action of the tiger cub had not been an attempt to fight the four beasts but to completely infuriate them.

As expected, the four apes let out a furious howl before charging at Jian Chen with great cumbersome steps.

Not only did the Jiede clan do nothing to stop the four Hemophilic Apes, they took several steps away to give them space to fight.

They knew of Jian Chen’s strength and how he had been able to best four Heaven Saint Master’s Heaven Tier Battle Skills before killing the four. His strength was not something that they could easily overlook, so they wanted the four apes to test his strength first.

As if coordinating with one another, the four apes charged at Jian Chen before leaping into the air. Their mountainous bodies were like great big cranes as they took flight, making their way a hundred meters into the air where Jian Chen was.

Staring at the four Hemophilic Apes in disdain as they charged at him, Jian Chen smiled cruelly. With a flip of his hand, a condensed blob of Chaotic Force encompassed it before he moved to slap them down.

Chapter 625: Showdown with a Saint Ruler (One)

The amount of power that Jian Chen held in his hand rippled across the entire mountainous area as if it were a heavy weight. With speed as fast as lightning but no thunder to accompany it, the area beneath the strike started to look even more cramped than before. Then, it seemed as if the entire area had frozen in time.

The four Hemophilic Apes had only gotten within fifty meters of Jian Chen before they were frozen in place. They had only been thirty meters in the air, but even their gigantic bodies were rooted firmly in place.

“Boom!” Following their inability to move, a fierce amount of energy ruthlessly smashed into the bodies of the four apes, causing the Class 6 Magical Beasts to crash back down to the ground as fast as they came up. As they fell, blood was pouring from not only their mouths, but also their eyes, ears, noses, and even pores.

Smashing against the ground with a terrible rumbling sound, the four Hemophilic Apes landed so roughly that the entire area shook several times as fissures started to form. Even the mountain ridge started to collapse.

A ten meter deep hole now spanned a perimeter of several hundred meters. In the center, four separate craters could be seen from where the four Hemophilic Apes had landed. Yet, there was no movement from within the crater. Whether they were still alive or not was a complete mystery.

The men from the Jiede clan felt their jaws drop at the unbelievable sight in front of them. As if a storm was being waged in their minds, they were deeply affected by the sight. Jian Chen’s strength was something that left them all speechless.

It had only taken a single palm to defeat four Class 6 Magical Beasts to such a degree. Was this really the strength of a Heaven Saint Master?

Against these four Hemophilic Apes, even a Sixth Cycle Heaven Saint Master would be unable to defeat them soundly without a Heaven Tier Battle Skill. This was the difference in natural strength between humanity and magical beast. However, Jian Chen only needed a single palm strike to defeat them — what kind of power was that?

Slowly taking back his hand, Jian Chen stared at the four Hemophilic Apes. “These four Class 6 Magical Beasts are quite strong since they survived even after receiving this palm strike of mine. They’re stronger than the Heaven Saint Masters of the Heiyun clan at the very least.”

“A-ar-are you... are you really Jian Chen?” After a long while, one of the elders finally inquired with a stare of disbelief. He didn’t dare believe that the youth that had become the King of Mercenaries was so unbelievably strong. Each and every participant of the Gathering of the Mercenaries was under the age of fifty, so a youth with that much strength was simply far too much.

“Isn’t... isn’t this the strength of a Saint Ruler?” A woman despondently asked.

“There’s no possible way Jian Chen should have a strength like that. Who are you?” Another man skeptically inquired. They had never seen Jian Chen before and were thus not sure of what he looked like.

Giving a cold smile, Jian Chen was about to open his mouth to say something when something out of the corner of his eyes caught his attention, causing him to look there.

The space in the direction he was looking at was starting to distort to reveal a white-robed elder with long hair and a scholarly aura. This was the patriarch of the Jiede clan and the sole remaining Saint Ruler.

“We pay our respects to the patriarch!” The ten Heaven Saint Masters immediately bowed out of respect to him.

The patriarch ignored the bowing members of his clan in favor of observing Jian Chen. When he recognized his face, the patriarch immediately froze in disbelief. The person that he wanted to capture at all costs had actually taken the initiative to come to him! This revelation was startling to say the least.

The expression on the patriarch’s face hardened as he said, “Jian Chen, it really is you!”

“Correct, it is I. Today, I’ve come to pay a visit to your clan.” Jian Chen smiled as he cupped his hands in mock salute. He exuded the air of a regal prince, and if anyone else were to look at the two, they would have assumed that Jian Chen was a good friend of the patriarch.

Letting out a cold snort, the patriarch ignored Jian Chen’s actions. He swept his eyes down to the four deep craters and then back to Jian Chen with a solemn expression. “Jian Chen, did you do this?”

“What other person is there here but me?” Jian Chen smiled.

“Impossible!” The patriarch barked with narrowed eyes. Glaring at him, the patriarch said, “Jian Chen, it has only been a few months at most since we last met. How did you become so strong so quickly? Did you make the breakthrough from a Heaven Saint Master to a Saint Ruler?” In his final few words, the patriarch grew more and more emotional; by the end, he was no longer as calm as before.

“In this world of extraordinary things, there is no such thing as an impossibility, but there is something I can tell you at the very least. I am still a Heaven Saint Master.” Jian Chen replied. He was indeed the same rank as before, but he had gained the fighting prowess of a Saint Ruler when he had attained the Minor Achievement of the Chaotic Body. He had not yet comprehended the profound mysteries of the world, and thus, could not be considered a Saint Ruler.

The patriarch let loose a sigh of relief at those words. The sudden thought from before had been causing his heart to skip a beat in fright.

A youth not even fifty years old becoming a Saint Ruler was far too terrifying of a thought to exist in this world.

A cold smile couldn’t help but appear on Jian Chen’s face when he saw the expression of the patriarch. “Don’t you wish to take back the Ruler Armament of your clan? Since I’m here, why don’t you try and get it back?”

Instantly, the patriarch regained his calm demeanor in order to make a quick observation to see if there were any hidden experts around. He very much doubted the fact that Jian Chen would travel here alone — such an action was akin to delivering oneself to death in a sense. But, even after a series of scans, the patriarch came up with nothing. There was nobody hidden nearby.

With the sudden calm on the patriarch's face, Jian Chen let loose a snicker to himself. "If you're not going to make a move, allow me to make the first move. Take my palm then." Another burst of Chaotic Force appeared in Jian Chen's palm before he flew forward to slap the patriarch. A tremendous amount of energy appeared, distorting and applying pressure to the space around them. The patriarch immediately felt his body be locked in place.

Having received this prison of energy around him, the patriarch immediately felt shock register on his face. He had not thought that Jian Chen would become so strong in such a short amount of time.

Despite his shock, the patriarch was not slow to respond. With a loud shout, his own energy came bursting from his body, shattering the frigid space around him. The space regained its natural state as the energies clashed and equalized.

The patriarch's figure flickered, and he looked as if he was blending with the world itself. With this ability to control space itself, he was able to instantaneously travel a hundred meters to where Jian Chen was.

Jian Chen let loose his slap. The burst of Chaotic Force that accompanied the slap continued forward with reckless abandon before finally smashing into the side of a mountain.

"Boom!" A fierce explosion rang through the air as the mountain was reduced to fragments that flew off in every direction. The mountain itself had been reduced to absolutely nothing.

"Impossible! You've... you've become a Saint Ruler!" The patriarch cried out involuntarily — this blow had caused his heart to stop beating for a brief moment. The power that had been contained in Jian Chen's hand was something only a Saint Ruler would be capable of.

The ten Heaven Saint Masters of the Jiede clan were startled as well. Many of them started to pale. A Saint Ruler at such a youthful age was far too shocking.

"Retreat!" One of the elders cried out before every single one of them scattered into every direction possible. A battle between Saint Rulers was not something any Heaven Saint Master could get involved with. If they drew close, they would only be caught in the crossfire.

Jian Chen didn't speak a word and instead sent another Chaotic Force infused palm strike toward the patriarch.

Sensing the tremendous power coming at him, the patriarch did not choose to dodge. Instead, he boomed out, "Jian Chen, you may have stepped into the realm of a Saint Ruler, but you are only at the first layer and nothing more! I'll show you just how big of a difference there is from the First Heavenly Layer and the Fourth Heavenly Layer!" An endless amount of energy began to seep from the patriarch's body, causing the space around him to quiver. With a brandish of his hand, he sent energy flying toward Jian Chen's strike. As the attack traveled through the air, the space around it started to warp and twist in on itself.

"Boom!" The two bundles of energy collided in mid-air against each other, causing yet another explosion. The sound of the explosion was ear-piercing, and even the highest point of the heavens would be able to hear the crackling sound from it. For a brief moment, everyone nearby lost their ability

to hear. The remaining dregs of energy that sloughed off from the blast spiraled into the surrounding area, and a decent few kilometers of forest below had been obliterated.

A translucent barrier appeared during the blast to protect the manor of the Jiede clan. The barrier shivered for a brief moment when the turbulent energy struck it, but it managed to resist the blow with some difficulty.

Chapter 626: Showdown with a Saint Ruler (Two)

The tremendous clash of energy persisted for a while before finally starting to ebb away. At a glance, one could see that the previously untouched mountain ridges protecting the Jiede clan had been reduced to a complete mess. Not a single part of the range resembled the pristineness it had exuded before.

A battle between Saint Rulers was far more powerful and devastating than a battle between Heaven Saint Masters.

Jian Chen and the patriarch of the Jiede clan floated several hundred meters away from one another. In this one battle between them, they were equally matched, neither held an advantage over the other.

The patriarch revealed a cross look on his face. Jian Chen's strength was completely unexpected and far beyond his imagination. It left a sour taste in his mouth. A Saint Ruler of several hundred years was being forced down by the newly crossed over Saint Ruler, Jian Chen. From the exchange they just had, Jian Chen's strength wasn't unmanageable.

"But how did he cultivate so fast? It was only a few months at most, but his strength has increased by leaps and bounds to the point where his strength is comparable to mine. His talent is far too terrifying. If he can accomplish so much at his young age, I'd imagine that it'd only take him another hundred years to become a Saint King." The patriarch quietly muttered to himself. Already, he was starting to see Jian Chen in an entirely different light.

Back in Mercenary City, Jian Chen had only been a junior with decent skill to him. Thus, Jian Chen was someone that could be disregarded like an ant, but after several months, this ant had suddenly swelled up to a tremendous size. It could pose trouble even for him, and that was something that did not sit well with him.

Jian Chen's growth was far too fast. It was so fast that the entire continent would be stunned by it.

A hundred meters away, Jian Chen stared down the patriarch with a calm face. His eyes were intimidating, and his body released a tremendous aura that shot into the air with an impressive amount of energy. At the moment, he looked like some sort of war god that towered over everyone else with indomitable strength. To be even more specific, he was like some sort of undefeatable god of the sword that was ready to split the world with his powerful sword Qi.

Suddenly, a gray-colored energy began to float around Jian Chen's body. This was an incoming surge of Chaotic Force, gathering wisp by wisp in his hand. Soon enough, his palm was twinkling with a gray-colored light. With such a large amount of energy gathered, the space around it started to twist and distort once more.

When the patriarch sensed the amount of energy gathering in Jian Chen's palm, he grew serious as well. As a Saint Ruler, he was able to sense that the energy in Jian Chan's hand was far stronger than his own Saint Force. This realization was extremely troubling and he was left no time to hesitate. With both arms moving into action, his palms moved in front of his chest to accumulate an extremely mystical power that attracted the profound mysteries of the world. As his hands moved, the space surrounding him started to flow like water. It was like some sort of mysterious power was accelerating the flow of time.

At this sight, the ten Heaven Saint Masters that were watching knew that the two combatants were charging up their attacks. Without even needing to be told, they immediately grabbed the people hiding behind the manor's barrier and fled as far as possible. They could not guarantee that the barrier would be able to hold up against both Jian Chen and their patriarch's attack.

Several seconds passed before Jian Chen took the first move. With his palm thrusting forward, the Chaotic Force that had accumulated in his palm came flying out like a stream of water. Carrying a tremendous power, the Chaotic Force traveled toward the patriarch.

"Ha!" At the same time, the patriarch let out a deep grunt. His palms shot out as fast as lightning, letting loose the mysterious energy he had been accumulating. This energy contained the profound mysteries of the world. It could not be seen nor felt by those who did not comprehend it. It was something that fused with the world and space itself, mysteriously and indescribably.

When the two energies collided in the air, the expected explosion from the collision of these two energies, strangely, did not happen. There was no fallout from the energies washing over the surrounding area either. Instead, the space where they collided gave a mighty shudder and shake as the energies tore it apart. A single meter long fissure appeared in the sky, but was quickly patched back up by the world. At the very center of the collision was a single black hole, but unlike any normal black hole, there was an extremely faint light from a star that could be seen inside.

Jian Chen's Chaotic Force was stuck in a deadlock with the patriarch's profound mysteries of the world, in a constant struggle to win over the other. Eventually, both powers tried to cancel each other out as their energies began to fade. Within several seconds, Jian Chen's Chaotic Force ended up the winner of the exchange while the profound mysteries of the world had been completely used up. The remaining Chaotic Force had not been slowed in the slightest. It continued to fly toward the patriarch.

"What is this energy? How is it so powerful!?" The patriarch cried out in astonishment. Pushing out with his palms again, he forced out even more Saint Force from his body to try and counteract the slightly weaker Chaotic Force.

"Master, you can't keep going on like this. Your usage of Chaotic Force is far too much; also, the true might of it is not being displayed. It is only with the Chaotic Body that the Chaotic Force can show its true might." Ziying's voice explained in Jian Chen's mind.

Jian Chen's heart skipped a beat after hearing this. He immediately gave up the idea of using the Chaotic Force as a projectile against his enemy. At a thought, the wind elements in the world gathered around him, surrounding Jian Chen with an azure light. Jian Chen flew straight for the patriarch.

"Master, the Chaotic Force should be distributed throughout the body to show off the might of the Chaotic Body." Qingsuo instructed with a singsong voice in Jian Chen's mind. They were extremely

knowledgeable about the Chaotic Force unlike Jian Chen, who had only just made contact with it. He was a complete stranger to this powerful energy, and required the two sword spirits to guide him on how to use it.

Chapter 627: Showdown with a Saint Ruler (Three)

Jian Chen didn't hesitate in his actions after listening to the sword spirits. Like an obedient schoolchild, he immediately swallowed some of the Chaotic Force from his dantian and spread it throughout his body. With the fusion of the two, Jian Chen immediately felt the strength of his body elevate to a higher level in terms of defensive might.

Once the Chaotic Force had spread through his body, Jian Chen didn't even feel the Chaotic Force dissipate. It continued to maintain that same level of strength throughout his body without being used at all. The following moments after he had used the Chaotic Force to strengthen himself, Jian Chen felt his entire body continue to operate at an extremely boosted level.

During that moment, Jian Chen drew closer to the patriarch. His palm became a fist filled with Chaotic Force meant to punch the patriarch. As the fist traveled, the surrounding space around it violently trembled.

Jian Chen wasn't adept in close combat fighting with his own body, but Jian Chen didn't worry about any threats because the powerful Chaotic Force had been joined with the Chaotic Body.

The patriarch was startled at Jian Chen's choice of attack, but then a small smile appeared on his face as he said, "Jian Chen, this old man has a considerably strong body. Allow me to teach you a good lesson with it." Without delay, the patriarch's right hand formed a claw shape as it filled with Saint Force. That hand flew toward Jian Chen's neck while his left hand moved to block Jian Chen's punch.

The patriarch of the Jiede clan was without a doubt a Saint Ruler. He was one who had peered into the abyss that was the profound mysteries of the world and understood the secrets to space. A fist of his contained the powers of space, and was extremely fast as a result. It moved so quickly that Jian Chen had no time to dodge the attack. Thus, the man grabbed Jian Chen by his throat.

Jian Chen felt startled to see the hand reach his throat. Although the Chaotic Force was still spread throughout his body and boosted it to an unbelievable level, Jian Chen was fighting a Saint Ruler either way. He wasn't even sure of how strong he was with his body as it was right now. He was unsure whether or not he could survive the Saint Ruler's strike to his throat.

The Saint Ruler easily grasped onto Jian Chen's weakpoint! This made the patriarch feel extremely joyful, and with a twinkle of killing intent in his eyes, he laughed. "Jian Chen, you may have stepped into the realm of Saint Rulers, but you've clearly not understood the mystery that is space! Allow this old man to send you to your death!" With the final word, the patriarch squeezed his right hand, trying to snap Jian Chen's neck.

After the patriarch clenched his hand, he came to the startling realization that what he was holding was not flesh and blood; it was something many times harder than steel and stone!

The look of joy on the patriarch's face slipped away with the realization. Staring at Jian Chen in shock, he asked through his befuddlement, "How!? How did your throat become this tough?"

By now, Jian Chen's body was completely filled with Chaotic Force and boasted a defensive might that was startling. Even a Saint Ruler wouldn't be able to leave a scratch no matter how hard he tried. One wouldn't even be able to snap Jian Chen's neck. Jian Chen was filled with an endless amount of joy while he calmed himself down.

At the same time, Jian Chen's right palm made contact with the patriarch's palm. With a sharp "crack!," the bones in the patriarch's right arm fractured.

Letting out a deep grunt in pain, the patriarch watched as his right arm lifelessly drooped down to his side.

Jian Chen also grunted as the Chaotic Force in his right arm cycled. Jian Chen punched at the patriarch's chest, but the space around his fist froze up, allowing his punch to travel even faster.

After experiencing Jian Chen's punch once, the patriarch was now painfully aware of how strong his fist was. Unwilling to allow himself to be used as a punching bag, the patriarch's body flickered into non-existence. By borrowing the power of space, he was able to retreat several meters away where the frozen space Jian Chen had created did not affect him.

"Bang!" The fist of Jian Chen impacted against the sky, letting loose a muffled explosion while space became heavily distorted.

Jian Chen did not hesitate to let out a loud hiss after his punch missed. He charged straight for the patriarch, who was still several meters away, as his fighting intent rapidly increased.

The patriarch's face hardened when he felt the amount of power in Jian Chen swell up. Swiftly turning around, he borrowed the power of space once more to retreat several hundred meters away. Once there, he began to condense his Saint Force into his right hand. In a second, a sword made of fire appeared in it. The flames that flickered off the blade were so intense that they seemed to burn the very space around them.

"And now, this old man won't be holding back any longer. Let this old man have some good fun." The patriarch spat. After these several exchanges, he knew that this was no time to hold back; otherwise, there would be no way to counter this upstart of a youngster.

Chapter 628: Subjugation (One)

The patriarch of the Jiede clan was one with the space around him. In his current state of harmony, he was free to travel almost instantaneously toward Jian Chen. His Saint Weapon resplendently shined as it flew at Jian Chen. Following the path of the blade, a fissure about two meters wide was torn asunder.

Even Jian Chen felt slightly intimidated by the might of this sword swing. He knew that his Chaotic Body had been strong enough to endure a throat-crushing experience, but this time he was facing the edge of an extremely sharp weapon. Compared to a claw, a sword was far more intimidating. Jian Chen had no guarantees that he would be able to handle survive this attack as easily as the strike before.

The power that came from a Saint Ruler when they used their Saint Weapon was not insignificant. Unwilling to take the sword head-on, Jian Chen decided to evade by dodging to the side.

However, he was still a Heaven Saint Master. It was true that he had the battle strength of a Saint Ruler, but Jian Chen had not been blessed with an iota of comprehension of the profound mysteries of the world. This one sword swing of the patriarch was imbued with the powers of space itself. Jian Chen was left with no bargaining power as he tried to dodge the sword. In the end, Jian Chen was struck in the chest by the flaming sword.

However, the sword did not pierce his body as expected. When the moment came for the Saint Weapon to make contact with Jian Chen's chest, the forward momentum of the sword came to a grinding halt, and moved no further. Despite its unbelievably sharp point and the power behind it, it was only capable of cutting through a shallow layer of skin, drawing a dot of blood.

Patriarch Jiede's irises dilated to practically a needle's circumference as he gasped in shock at the small point of damage on Jian Chen's chest. He couldn't believe it; while he didn't put his entire might into this one swing, it was still roughly eighty percent of his raw might. This energy could destroy the world around him if directed, yet Jian Chen was still floating in front of him practically unharmed. Such a sight was far too much for him to accept.

Jian Chen looked down at the mosquito-bite-like injury on his chest, and an extremely wide smile graced his face. A Saint Ruler had used his Saint Weapon, yet it was ineffective! This only went to show just how strong the Chaotic Body was. Now, Jian Chen was no longer afraid of the patriarch.

"Master, Ziyang and Qingsuo haven't yet recovered our strength so the Origin energy is not yet comparable to the Chaotic Force. During this battle, please use the Chaotic Force in your body instead. Your Chaotic Body and Chaotic Force are only at a rudimentary level, a level so rudimentary that it cannot even be considered as the Chaotic Body or Chaotic Force, but it should pose no threat when fighting a Saint Ruler of this world." Ziyang spoke in Jian Chen's mind.

Jian Chen immediately gave up the notion of using the Origin energy of the sword spirits to fight. The Chaotic Force within his body began to surge and bubble like the water in a river. A moment later, it had covered his entire body before Jian Chen rushed to fight the patriarch.

He wasn't skilled in close combat fighting, but there wasn't a suitable weapon available that he could use. He couldn't even use the Origin energy. The circumstances were pushing him to use his fists.

The patriarch easily dodged Jian Chen's fist and moved behind him. He brandished his Saint Weapon and swung it with all his might to strike Jian Chen down.

Like lightning, the Saint Weapon arched into Jian Chen's back, but the attack only served to cut away his robes, revealing his unblemished skin. Shortly afterward, a small white line appeared where the blade had cut him. Blood could be seen dripping from the white line. With his white skin as contrast, the blood was very eye-catching.

The patriarch could only stare in mute shock at the wound on Jian Chen's back as his skin regenerated back to its original state as if it had been completely unharmed in the first place. The patriarch had used his entire strength to cut down Jian Chen, but the end result was a slight paper-cut-like wound that instantaneously healed itself.

"Im—impo—impossible!" The patriarch stuttered. He was completely dumbfounded by this result where only an insignificant wound had been inflicted.

“Mrrrr...” The tiger cub hiding on Jian Chen’s shoulder had been affected by the tremendous aura of the Saint Ruler, causing it to let out a small, frantic cry. It clung to Jian Chen’s neck with both its paws. The cub seemed like it was about to collapse.

Feeling the slight burn that traveled up his spine, a malevolent glint appeared on Jian Chen’s face. Moving the tiger cub from his shoulder to under his left arm, Jian Chen moved to punch the patriarch.

In fierce battle between Jian Chen and the patriarch, both combatants were using their entire strength. Each attack they threw out was capable of destroying the world around them. When their attack impacted against something, a tremendous sound resonated and great winds erupted. One after another, fissures appeared in the space around them. They sucked in the light of the world, revealing twilight in the holes. By now, the forest around them was a desolate place.

The battle in the sky continued for a very long time without stop. Soon enough, the manor of the Jiede clan had been utterly wiped out and leveled with only remnants of the place to be seen scattered about. The members of the clan had long since evacuated the place with the help of the ten Heaven Saint Masters. They were in a safe area several dozen kilometers away.

Jian Chen felt very sullen about the current progress of the battle. It had been dragging on for so long, but he was never able to make contact with even the robes of the patriarch. Each time he tried, the patriarch of the Jiede clan would escape.

On the inverse, he didn’t even know just how many blows the patriarch had landed on him. The Jiede patriarch’s strikes had not been a threat to him because of the immensity of the Chaotic Force. The wounds Jian Chen sustained only took a small moment to heal without leaving a mark.

Although Jian Chen possessed the strength of a Saint Ruler, he was still a Heaven Saint Master that hadn’t comprehended the profound mysteries of the world. Without that comprehension, he could only defend against a Saint Ruler. There was no way he could land a finishing blow or even manage to seriously injure one.

Unless the Saint Ruler gave up on using space to evade, Jian Chen had no other choice but to continue!

Hovering a thousand meters in the sky, the patriarch stared at Jian Chen, “Jian Chen, after this long fight, you and I are getting nowhere. Why don’t we stop here; fighting any longer would only be a meaningless waste of time.” After battling for so long, the patriarch knew he couldn’t harm his opponent even though held the advantage over Jian Chen. Even if he went all out, Jian Chen would only experience scratches.

Jian Chen came to a stop in the sky as well. A slight tint of azure light wrapped his body as if he was gathering the energy of the world to make him fly. It was unlike the patriarch’s ability to fly without using the elements at all.

“Patriarch Jiede, I am unable to harm you, but the future Jian Chen will definitely remember this grudge. He will visit once more and ensure that a disastrous payment will be taken from your clan.” Jian Chen emotionlessly replied. He had been extremely angry and sullen at the beginning of the fight, and had lost all his fear earlier. Jian Chen was now trying to intimidate the patriarch since he couldn’t harm him

Chapter 629: Subjugation (Two)

The patriarch had an ugly look on his face while he listened to Jian Chen. He knew that Jian Chen wasn't joking, and with the talent Jian Chen possessed, he would only skyrocket in strength from here on out. If the patriarch waited any longer, it would only be a matter of time before Jian Chen would become a threat that he couldn't handle.

However, the patriarch had no way of dealing with Jian Chen even now.

As the patriarch floated in midair, the twinkle in his eyes flickered unsteadily as if he was arguing with himself internally. Several moments passed before the patriarch finally made up his mind. He grit his teeth to say, "Jian Chen, it's better to let sleeping dogs lie rather than wake them. You were the one who started this affair. We only wished to take back what you stole from us, and while my Jiede clan was a little excessive in some fronts, you've completely destroyed my Jiede clan's home. The home that we have stayed hidden in for thousands of years has been reduced to nothing. We can no longer live here; therefore, we should wipe away the debt. From today on, our two sides should give up this war."

"Your words are cheap!" Jian Chen snorted. "If you said this to me before, I would have considered those words seriously, but your Jiede clan is no longer an object of worry to me. Don't even try to delude yourself into thinking I won't chase you down!"

A dark light crossed over the patriarch's face as he said in a low voice, "Jian Chen, I cannot do a thing to you, but you cannot do a thing to me either. If you won't consider your own well-being, why not consider the well-being of those by your side? The Jiede clan may be a hermit clan that rarely meets with the outside world, but we still have many methods of finding out where you live and who is closest to you."

"You dare!" Jian Chen immediately spat out with a terrifying glare. His eyes were like two sharp swords as he stared at the patriarch in fury, "If you dare, then I'll kill off all your clansmen." A furious killing intent flooded the air from Jian Chen's body as he sent out his presence to find out where the members of the Jiede clan were hiding. Since he now had strength equal in might to a Saint Ruler, a Heaven Saint Master was like an ant to him.

Jian Chen's reaction startled the patriarch. He consequently scolded himself for his folly. He was filled with regret now. If only he had known that such a statement would only infuriate Jian Chen, he would not have said it to begin with. If Jian Chen were to strike his clansmen, then the patriarch himself would have no way of stopping him. The Chaotic Force of Jian Chen was far too tyrannical, and even he was afraid of meeting it face-to-face.

"Stay your hand! There is still room for negotiations!" The patriarch cried out. Moving with the powers of space, the patriarch moved to stop Jian Chen from advancing ahead.

Jian Chen eyes were filled with anger as he swung his Chaotic Force infused right hand at the patriarch, who was blocking the path in front of him.

However, the patriarch dodged Jian Chen's hand with ease. Flickering to just another hundred meters away from him, the patriarch shot a beam of sword Qi at Jian Chen in an attempt to hinder his forward progress.

Jian Chen completely ignored the fact that he could dodge. He struck at the beam with his fist.

“Boom!” When the fist met the sword Qi, a loud explosion could be heard as a gale of leftover energy swept about and distorting the space of the world.

Jian Chen continued forward with only a small injury on his right hand. Some blood could be seen trickling from it, but it healed up within a few seconds as if nothing had happened.

“Jian Chen, as long as you let my Jiede clan go, I, Jiede Tai, will lend my aid to you for any three tasks!” The patriarch swore. As far as he was concerned, the clan was far more important than anything else. As long as the clan survived, the patriarch would not feel bad about his actions.

Upon hearing this, the killing intent Jian Chen was leaking began to die down a bit as he stared at the patriarch with a thoughtful look. “No, if you really wish me to cease my pursuit of killing your clan, there is only one method.”

“What method!?” The patriarch asked.

“Submit to me!” Jian Chen smiled. If the patriarch really was willing to submit to him, then he would have no need to bother with this situation.

“Don’t even think about it!” The patriarch immediately lost all color in his face as anger flooded forth. He was a Saint Ruler. An entity that stood on top of almost everyone else. How could he possibly submit to someone of the younger generation?

A frosty look appeared on Jian Chen’s face, “If that’s how it is, our negotiations are finished.”

“Jian Chen, let us settle our matters a different way then.” The patriarch tried his best to quell his anger. Pretending to be the solemn one, the patriarch was currently trying his best to ensure that his clan didn’t die. He was reluctant to be the angry one of the two.

Shaking his head without hesitation, Jian Chen answered, “There is only this method. Aside from that, nothing else can be considered.” He paused for a moment. “Submitting to me may be a little off putting to someone like you, but it isn’t too embarrassing either. I was able to reach this realm of strength at such a young age. If I am given even more time, I’ll definitely step into the Saint King realm and even the legendary Saint Emperor realm.”

At the mention of Saint Emperor, the patriarch’s body violently trembled. He looked at Jian Chen in disbelief. However, when he considered just how young Jian Chen was and how strong he was, the patriarch began to have second thoughts.

The amount of people that reached the legendary zenith that was the Saint Emperor realm could be counted on one hand. It was not as if no one did, but the most important fact was that of all the people that had done so, their potential had not been as outstanding as Jian Chen’s. It was extremely likely that Jian Chen would one day become a Saint Emperor.

At this thought, the tension in the patriarch’s heart began to dissipate.

Jian Chen saw through the thoughts that the patriarch was thinking, and moved to capitalize on the moment. “Looking at the long term benefits, submitting to me would not be a bad plan. The benefits outweigh the detriments and will help elevate your clan’s status. From a hermit clan, you may very well

become a clan that will survive from antiquity to the future. When I become a Saint Emperor, you may very well have a good chance of becoming a Saint King with my assistance.”

The heart of the patriarch skipped a beat at those words, but with a level mind, he asked, “Just what proof do you have that you are sure you will become a high and mighty Saint Emperor?”

“Because I am only twenty-three years old!” Jian Chen laughed.

Chapter 630: The Transformation of Little Fatty (One)

“What!? You’re only twenty-three!?” The patriarch exclaimed. While he knew that Jian Chen was young, he didn’t think that Jian Chen would be that young.

A Saint Ruler by the age of twenty-three was an unprecedented situation for the history of the continent. Before Jian Chen, not a single person had become a Saint Ruler by that age. Talent like this was like a beacon of light to all else; he was a man who stood beyond all else with no equal even in the future.

The patriarch’s mind furiously raced as he tried to think. When he remembered how Jian Chen had been able to fight him and the deceased patriarch Shi without fear of receiving punishment, he immediately let out a startled cry, “Are you perhaps the reincarnation of the continent’s strongest, Mo Tianyun?” As far as the patriarch knew, only Mo Tianyun, the strongest person throughout the history of the continent, possessed talent as terrifying as Jian Chen’s. Even though concise history had only been formulated after his existence.

Now it was Jian Chen’s turn to look astonished. He had no idea that the patriarch would actually make the assumption that he was the reincarnation of the continent’s strongest person, Mo Tianyun, after finding out his true age.

“So have you considered it? Submit to me, work for me, and I shall wipe away the debt of the Jiede clan. The potential benefits your clan may receive in the future are unlimited. If this isn’t ideal, there is only one other way to continue this discussion.” Jian Chen evaded the question with a smile.

Still unsure, the patriarch continued to float in the air with a conflicted expression on his face. He was clearly trying to make a decision. He knew that he would be degraded to the position of that of a slave if he submitted to Jian Chen. No longer would he be able to move as he pleased.

A high and mighty Saint Ruler of the previous generation working like an ox while the next generation worked as the rider. Such a decision was unbelievably difficult to make no matter how resplendent the next generation’s genius was.

For a good while, the patriarch hesitated. In the end, he decided he had no other choice but to compromise with Jian Chen for the sake of his clan’s survival. It was with a grieved expression that he said, “Jian Chen, you win. My Jiede clan will formally submit to you.” Even as he spoke, the patriarch looked as if he had aged years and years in an instant, like his life was being sucked out of him.

A victorious smile appeared on Jian Chen’s face as he rejoiced within his heart. He knew that from today on, he would have a Saint Ruler at his beck and call. Not only was that plentiful source of strength, it also served as a deterrent.

“You swear on your blood?” Jian Chen smiled.

The patriarch bit his lips hard enough to draw blood and spat it out. Quickly, he drew a mysterious but grotesque pattern with his blood in the air before it flew to Jian Chen.

This blood oath was something that the patriarch had created using the three energies of his body and life. The owner of the blood oath was equivalent to the owner of his very life. Now that he had given the blood oath to Jian Chen, it also meant that his life was in Jian Chen’s hands.

“I hope that you will be a man of your words and won’t renege on it.” The patriarch grimly spoke.

Taking the floating blood seal in front of him, Jian Chen placed it in between his eyebrows. He allowed it to disappear into his head and into his mindspace.

The sword spirits slowly surrounded the blood seal, that the patriarch created, in his mindspace. From how they surrounded it, it seemed as if the sword spirits were treating the blood oath as if it were a prisoner.

“Master, don’t worry about this!” Jian Chen heard Ziyang say to him.

Sighing in relief, Jian Chen watched the blood oath disappear into the sea of Chaotic Force. His mindspace was a dangerous place to allow things in. If he wasn’t careful, the patriarch’s blood oath could do something to him.

After he accepted the blood oath, Jian Chen felt as if there was some sort of subtle connection between him and the patriarch. It allowed him to sense which direction the patriarch was and where the patriarch was in the general area. Jian Chen was also able to feel that if he destroyed the blood oath, the patriarch of the Jiede clan would die on the spot.

Knowing that he had the capability of controlling the life of a Saint Ruler filled with joy. This was undoubtedly a great windfall.

“Ah, since we are family now, how might I call you?” Jian Chen smiled at the patriarch. The earlier killing intent he had been releasing was nowhere to be seen.

“Jiede Tai!” The patriarch emotionlessly stated.

Unperturbed by the patriarch’s attitude, Jian Chen continued to smile, “Then I’ll be calling you that from now on. You may leave now to handle your clan. Meet me in Mercenary City half a month from now and we’ll leave together.”

Jiede Tai nodded his head without a word, but his heart was undoubtedly feeling very gloomy.

Jian Chen gave Jiede Tai several tasks to do. He then left the area after changing his clothes. Thirty kilometers away he found the hiding Wang Yufeng, who was behind a giant stone. Jian Chen then flew away with him in tow.