

Chaotic 641

Chapter 641: Fighting With the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger (One)

Laughing, the Saint Ruler answered, "The Qinhuang Kingdom barely has any time to look after itself. How could it spend extra time trying to reach here? Jian Chen, if you were hoping to look to the Qinhuang Kingdom for support, then you should give up now and obediently hand over the tungsten alloy. I won't make things troublesome for you, but if you don't comply, then you'll know the consequences." Unless he was forced to, the Saint Ruler didn't want to kill Jian Chen in front of everyone. It was true that Jian Chen, as a Heaven Saint Master, was as weak as an ant to him, but he was still an Imperial Protector of the Qinhuang Kingdom. Even a Saint Ruler would hesitate to kill one of them so quickly.

A troubled feeling tugged at Jian Chen's mind. It was a guess earlier that a worrisome matter had suddenly appeared for the Qinhuang Kingdom. With the Saint Ruler confirming this guess of his, Jian Chen was still left unsure just what type of difficulties the Qinhuang Kingdom was facing.

"I'll have to go see what's happening with the Qinhuang Kingdom when I've the time." Jian Chen thought to himself. The Qinhuang Kingdom had helped him so much already, so he wouldn't feel right doing nothing when there was trouble to be had.

Now wasn't the time to be thinking about such a problem. Resuming the topic at hand, Jian Chen glowered dangerously at the Saint Ruler with an angry light in his eyes, "Saint Ruler, you don't have the right to speak to me like this anymore." At the last word, a layer of wind surrounded Jian Chen's body and brought him into the air to stand equal to him. There was such a strong intent to battle that it filled the entire area, seemingly freezing it.

Yet, the Saint Ruler continued to look at him with the same look of contempt as before. Jian Chen was nothing more than a mere Heaven Saint Master in his eyes. A person like that was as weak as an ant that could be swatted with the wave of his hand.

"Jian Chen, do you truly wish this old man to take action!?" The Saint Ruler questioned with a voice like ice. His patience was reaching its breaking point.

Thus, the space between Jian Chen and the Saint Ruler became a battlefield.

Observing the matters from afar, the dozen Heaven Saint Masters, Ming Dong, and the others all looked grim. They were worried about Jian Chen since they all knew that a Heaven Saint Master wasn't comparable to a Saint Ruler.

"Why hasn't the Imperial Protectors of the Qinhuang Kingdom come yet? Are they really as busy as that Saint Ruler said, unable to help? If they don't come, then brother is in danger!" Bi Lian anxiously spoke. Everyone thought that Jian Chen had already notified the Qinhuang Kingdom, requesting them to send their Imperial Protectors since he had been extremely calm before. However, seeing Jian Chen in battle against a Saint Ruler without a single Imperial Protector appearing was something that made them all extremely worried and anxious.

“How impulsive Jian Chen is. The Imperial Protectors aren’t even here and he’s already angered the Saint Ruler. We don’t have anyone that could fight one of those here.” Dugu Feng muttered with furrowed eyebrows.

Nubis couldn’t help but laugh out loud when he heard both Bi Lian and Dugu Feng. “Sorry to disappoint, but the Imperial Protectors you were expecting won’t be coming.”

“What? They won’t be coming? Then how’ll we be holding off the Saint Ruler then?” Ming Dong started.

Casting his eyes to the airborne Jian Chen, Nubis replied, “Hasn’t someone already started? That Saint Ruler will take care of the enemy.”

“What are you on about? Jian Chen is only a Heaven Saint Master. How could he fight a Saint Ruler?” Jian Chen questioned.

“I’ll report to my ancestor, he should have the strength to deal with this Saint Ruler.” Huang Luan words and tone were panicked.

“Boom!”

Just as everyone was furiously discussing with one another on how to deal with this situation, the sound of a heavy explosion caused everyone to look back. The entire area shook from the shockwave of the blast, obscuring almost everything but Jian Chen and the Saint Ruler in battle.

“Saint Ruler, I still very clearly remember the hand you bestowed on me. Allow me to return the favor to you today.” Jian Chen boomed. Chaotic Force covered his entire body so that its power defended him from the attacks of the Saint Ruler.

The Saint Ruler was slightly taken aback. He was having a hard time believing what he was seeing. “But how is this possible? Have you already made the breakthrough to become a Saint Ruler?” In the earlier exchange, the Saint Ruler had finally been made aware of Jian Chen’s power. It was something that was greater than what a Heaven Saint Master was capable of.

“This aggressive behavior of your sect, allow me to force you all to return with shame and disgrace!” Jian Chen barked out loud. Using the Illusionary Flash, his body flew toward the Saint Ruler like lightning. One of his fists pulsed with Chaotic Force as it slammed toward the chest of his foe. The space trailing the path his fist traveled started to warp.

Chapter 642: Fighting With the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger (Two)

The Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger looked especially serious when he observed the power in Jian Chen’s fist. He could tell that the energy that surrounded his fist was by no means weaker than what a Saint Ruler was capable of.

“Impossible! In the short period of time since our last meeting, Jian Chen has already become a Saint Ruler? Even if his talent is unprecedented in all of history, he shouldn’t be able to become a Saint Ruler at such a young age! What has he done to gain this power?” The Saint Ruler was stuck in a tumultuous situation and was unable to remain calm. With Jian Chen becoming a Saint Ruler in a single leap, his heart was about to give out from the shock.

“No. He can’t be a Saint Ruler. He’s still using the power of the world to fly.” Noticing the fault in his earlier thoughts, the Saint Ruler realized that Jian Chen wasn’t a Saint Ruler. However, there was no more time to think about this matter since Jian Chen’s fearsome punch was about to make contact with his chest.

He knew that the strength in Jian Chen’s fist wasn’t weak by any means. Therefore, the Saint Ruler immediately brought forth his Saint Force from his body to surround his own right hand. With such a tremendous amount of Saint Force gathered, the light, that was reflected into his surroundings, looked as if it was warping space. From this, it could be seen just how much power was contained in the Saint Ruler’s fist.

His strength was noticeably a few notches higher than Jiede Tai’s strength.

“Bang!”

The fists smashed against one another with a thunderous explosion. The space around the impact zone trembled as a tremendous shockwave rippled out with the force of an erupting volcano. Like a devastating storm ravaging the area, the environment around Jian Chen and the Saint Ruler was immediately torn apart without mercy. Right at the epicenter, several cracks could be seen in the space there, slowly starting to heal over itself.

The two fighters were obscured by the fallout of their strikes, so none of the spectators could see just what was happening inside. All they could feel was the earth beneath them violently tremble, threatening to split apart as pieces of stone tumbled down from the valley cliffs. When they fell to the ground, a loud echo rang throughout the valley.

To the group, it was unknown just when Jiede Tai had gotten up from his seat, but his elderly figure could be seen towering in front of everyone else with both of his hands out in front of him. Just barely, a transparent barrier could be seen protecting Ming Dong and the rest of the group from the fallout.

Long before the battle, Jian Chen commanded Jiede Tai to protect the group’s safety at all costs. Thus, Jiede Tai had to give up his dignity as a Saint Ruler to personally protect the mere Earth Saint Masters, and even the ones who weren’t that, with his own hands.

No longer was there any ground to stand on under the group’s feet. With the fallout utterly destroying the place, only the table they had placed there was left unharmed due to the barrier. If not for this barrier, the group would have fallen down.

Whether it was the Heaven Saint Masters of the Flame Mercenaries or the Sect of Dragon and Tiger, both sides found themselves knocked for a loop, and some of them temporarily lost the ability to take flight. Frightened, both sides retreated even farther away to avoid a repeat. This energy was completely different than when two Heaven Tier Battle Skill collided, trying to withstand it would be foolhardy for even them.

Forming another barrier between his hands, Jiede Tai enveloped the group and lifted them to a nearby mountain peak several kilometers away.

Dugu Feng and Ming Dong’s eyes were glued to the sight of the barrier, and both thunderstruck in the face.

“This — this is a barrier! You-you’re a Saint Ruler!” Ming Dong’s eyes grew as wide as copper plates when he cried out in alarm. Even Dugu Feng had let out an uncharacteristically loud shout. The two of them were now staring at Jiede Tai with a new sense of fear and respect.

Jiede Tai’s eyes swept to look at Ming Dong for a brief moment, but he did not answer him. Instead, he turned his head back to look at the battle far away.

Having seen Ming Dong’s expression, Nubis let out a derisive snort in disdain from aside Jiede Tai, “A Saint Ruler and nothing more. What is there to be amazed about?”

Ming Dong hadn’t even heard the off-handed remark of Nubis since his entire being was focused on the existence that Jiede Tai was. This was an entity that could fight against the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger.

“Senior, please go save Jian Chen. The Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger is a senior figure that has been a Saint Ruler for many years. Jian Chen isn’t an opponent for him. Only you can fight that Saint Ruler!” Ming Dong frantically urged. Jian Chen was a Heaven Saint Master to Ming Dong, and was therefore a powerless individual in front of a Saint Ruler. With the few months that they were apart, Ming Dong didn’t dare believe that Jian Chen would be capable of making a breakthrough to become a Saint Ruler. No matter how much he was concerned for him, Jian Chen was already in the middle of a battle with the Saint Ruler. That previous shockwave, which left a void in the area and destroyed the landscape, had already left Ming Dong completely unaware of what was happening, so naturally he believed that Jian Chen was in mortal danger.

“Senior, please save my brother!” Tearing up, Bi Lian’s heart had long since leaped to her throat. It was a fact to her that her brother was strong, but a being as terrifying as a Saint Ruler was not a person that she thought Jian Chen could fight against.

“Senior...”

With the revelation of Jiede Tai’s strength, everyone began to beg and implore him, clutching at the straws to life. The concern they felt for Jian Chen had already reached a breaking point. They didn’t believe Jian Chen had the strength to fight a Saint Ruler. The initial burst of energy had traumatized them senseless. They feared that the might of the Saint Ruler had already left Jian Chen in perilous straits.

Originally, Jiede Tai didn’t wish to bother with them, but then remembering that these anxious people were all close friends with Jian Chen, he relented. “Worry not. The Saint Ruler might be one that has reached the Fourth Heavenly Layer, but Jian Chen will be more than enough to take care of him.”

His words stunned the entire group of people there. Jian Chen was capable of fighting a Saint Ruler at the Fourth Heavenly Layer? That was something everyone didn’t expect to hear.

“Boom!” There was almost no time given for them to think when yet another explosion rocked the battlefield. Ripples of energy flew across the sky, reshaping the earth around them. Such power was capable of terraforming the earth, mountain peaks within a few kilometers distance crumbled apart.

All that could be seen was the Saint Ruler making a retreat with a grim expression on his face. His right arm gave a slight tremble as it drooped down powerlessly. The second time he had collided with Jian

Chen, Jian Chen had enforced his fist with Chaotic Force to boost its destructive force. If not for the Saint Ruler's strength at the Fourth Heavenly Layer, it would have been very likely that his right arm would have shattered apart.

"O' great Saint Ruler from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger. Where has your superior attitude gone now? Did you not say you'd make me die a violent death? Then why have you not injured me yet? Is it because you can't deal with a junior like me?" Jian Chen mocked the Saint Ruler. Using the Illusionary Flash, he disappeared and reappeared right in front of the Saint Ruler with a fist ready to strike him down with the appropriate force.

Growing ashen in the face, the Saint Ruler felt an unbearable amount of shame and humiliation wash over him. There was no way out of this embarrassing situation with how Jian Chen spoke.

Indignation flooded the Saint Ruler's eyes and Saint Force gathered in his right arm shortly afterward, restoring his right arm back to its original state. A fiery-red machete materialized in his right hand before it came arcing toward Jian Chen's head. As it traveled through the air, the machete left behind a fiery crack through the world space.

In the short two exchanges he had with Jian Chen, the Saint Ruler had somehow been forced by Jian Chen to use the Saint Weapon he hadn't used in a very long time!

Unflinchingly, Jian Chen slammed his fist against the Saint Weapon.

When fist met Saint Weapon, the fist repelled the Saint Weapon while sustaining a bone deep cut. As soon as the cut appeared, blood came spraying out.

Barely any time past, however, before the blood clotted. Even the wound itself had seemingly regenerated in no time at all without a trace or scar to be seen.

"Im--impossible!" Even though he saw the wound himself, the Saint Ruler didn't dare believe his eyes.

He had used his very own personal Saint Weapon, but it did nothing but leave an inconsequential wound on Jian Chen's fist! Not only that, it even healed as soon as it was inflicted — the Saint Ruler was left with nothing but the utmost shock.

"Impossible! Simply impossible!" The Saint Ruler repeated to himself. Unwilling to accept the scene in front of him, the Saint Ruler borrowed the powers of space to teleport to Jian Chen's front to deliver a swift chop into him. This one stroke was further enhanced with the powers of space to allow it to travel even faster than before. Even Jian Chen wouldn't be left with enough time to respond. After all, this was a move that could only be accomplished by understanding the profound mysteries of the world.

The trajectory of the blade charged for Jian Chen's waist and successfully drew some blood. The might behind this stroke was powerful, but it failed to bisect Jian Chen in two as the Saint Ruler expected, but at the very least, it had left Jian Chen with a serious wound. Furthermore, it allowed him to inject his Qi into Jian Chen's innards to try and destroy him from the insides.

But before he could try to do so, the Chaotic Force inside of Jian Chen's body instantly devoured the Qi.

"Jiede Tai, Nubis, fight with me!" Jian Chen commanded. With the three of them united, the Saint Ruler from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger would be completely outclassed. Jiede Tai was someone that couldn't

even injure Jian Chen, let alone the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger. To begin with, Jian Chen wasn't even someone who could step in the same realm as they. The mysteries of the world were not something to be belittled.

He had a decent understanding of the Illusionary Flash, but not anything that could contend with a Saint Ruler.

From far away, Jiede Tai and Nubis immediately flew forward to stand against the Saint Ruler from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger together.

"You two are Saint Rulers!" Even though he had reached the Fourth Heavenly Layer himself, going against two other Saint Rulers was no easy task. To have a two versus one fight like this would put him at a disadvantage by forcing him on the defensive.

A battle between the four would be extremely intense. The heavens would fall and the earth would shatter. The sun and moon themselves wouldn't be able to cast any light once these four began to battle. Even a thousand of kilometers away, strong individual were able to feel the slight tremors of the battle.

Naturally, the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger soon found himself backed against a wall. It took only a short moment for the four to inflict a serious wound and dash away the previously heroic look on the Saint Ruler's face.

"Today we behead a saint! You'll rest here forever!" Jian Chen laughed as he brought a Chaotic Force filled fist into the back of the Saint Ruler, causing him to spit out a mouthful of blood. The offensive might of this fist was far stronger than what the Saint Ruler could handle.

"Hahaha, beheading a saint... very well! Today, we'll behead a Saint Ruler!" Nubis laughed out loud before clawing at the Saint Ruler's chest. He stripped away part of the man's chest, causing the man to scream out loud in pain.

Chapter 643: Escaping After Being Beaten

"Hahaha, beheading a saint....very well! Today, we'll behead a Saint Ruler!" Nubis laughed out loud before clawing at the Saint Ruler's chest and stripping away part of his chest to cause the man to scream out loud in pain.

"Beheading a saint? You've not the ability!" The Saint Ruler spat malevolently. Disappearing from the three's line of sight, the Saint Ruler then reappeared a hundred meters away by using the powers of space.

His figure now was a haphazard one. His hair was a mess, his face was pale from blood loss, and his previously white robes were torn and dyed red from his blood. No longer was he the same elegant figure from before the battle.

Utilizing the Illusionary Flash, Jian Chen caught up to the Saint Ruler and began to attack him again so as to avoid giving the Saint Ruler any time to breathe. Nubis and Jiede Tai soon afterwards caught up to surround the Saint Ruler.

Vehemently, the Saint Ruler glowered at Jian Chen. "Jian Chen, I'll remember this day." He spat between gritted teeth.

"There'll be a day in the future that I'll return this twofold onto you!" Without further ado, the Saint Ruler disappeared into thin air to escape from the area, disappearing from sight and leaving behind the Heaven Saint Masters.

Having seen the Saint Ruler run away, Jian Chen let out a sigh of regret. "He's escaped, what a shame. Today was a great chance to kill him!"

Staring off into the direction in which the Saint Ruler ran, Nubis spoke, "How could a Saint Ruler be that easy to be killed? Unless in front of an indomitable might, a Saint Ruler can escape without a worry. His strength was of the Fourth Heavenly Layer, a tier higher than both Jiede Tai and I. If his comprehension of the mysteries of the world is far better, there would be no way for us to chase up to him."

Jian Chen looked to Nubis. As a Golden-Striped Silver Snake, Nubis' fighting strength was unbelievable. Those of the same rank of it wouldn't be able to fight Nubis, and even those of a rank higher than Nubis would find themselves at a stalemate. Furthermore, as a Golden-Striped Silver Snake, Nubis had access to a venom that was known as one of the three strongest on the continent.

Throughout the entire battle, Nubis hadn't bothered to use his venom and still managed to injure the Saint Ruler. In fact, Nubis had only shown a mediocre amount of his strength so that he would be seen as equal to Jiede Tai in strength. But it was because of this deception that Jian Chen felt rather unhappy, but he didn't say anything about it.

"A Saint Ruler is hard to kill. If they wished to run, then it'll be hard to give chase to one that can leap a thousand kilometers if they wished. Without a tracing seal of some sort, they'd be able to escape from the normal range of detection. But even then this way of running requires a hefty price." Jiede Tai spoke in agreement with Nubis.

Narrowing his eyes, Jian Chen asked, "Then how would we kill him?"

For a while, the two of them were quite. It was Jiede Tai that spoke up first, however. "To kill a Fourth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler requires one of the two conditions. The first is to have a Saint Tier Battle Skill. The second is to be a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler at the very least. With a Saint Ruler of that might, a Fourth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler has no means of escape."

"Then killing a Saint Ruler isn't as easy as I thought." Jian Chen muttered under his breath. According to this knowledge, killing a Saint Ruler wouldn't be as easy as he thought.

From far away, the ten Heaven Saint Masters saw that their Saint Ruler had ran away in defeat. Turning pale in fright, each one of them immediately made a hasty retreat away from the area as well.

Noticing their movements, a sharp glint entered Jian Chen's eye. "Since you're here, leaving now won't be as easy as you think!" Swinging his palm, a tremendous amount of energy flew towards the Heaven Saint Master and locked the space around them. Then, the energy slammed into several of them without further ado.

"Boom!" When the energy slammed into them, several of the Heaven Saint Masters were killed instantaneously and fell back down to the ground as a result. For the Sixth Cycle Heaven Saint Master

sectmaster Kris, the Fifth Cycle Heaven Saint Master vice-sectmaster and another elder, they were able to escape death with serious wounds. But flight was still capable for them.

“We’re going!” Kris let out a raspy cry as he wielded the wind element in the world to encircle his body and hasten his speed out of the area with the other two.

Jian Chen didn’t bother to give chase or kill them all. With the power he had now, he felt disinclined to try to attack them again.

“Let’s head back now!” Jian Chen spoke. With the two Saint Rulers, Jian Chen returned to where Ming Dong and the rest were on the mountain.

“Jian Chen, don’t tell me you’ve made a breakthrough into the Saint Ruler realm in the few months you were away?”

“Brother, you’re hurt--are you okay?!”

The simultaneous voices of Ming Dong and seven other voices called out at once in great concern and relief. As it were, Jian Chen’s strength caused a great deal of conflicting emotions in them.

Not too far away, the several Heaven Saint Masters of the Flame Mercenaries stared at the young Jian Chen with a strange expression. He was far younger than they were, but the battle between him and the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger had left them in amazement.

In the short times they didn’t see each other, Jian Chen had managed to step onto the realms of the Saint Rulers. This was the realm that many of them saw as the ultimate finish line, the realm that they all coveted. But Jian Chen had somehow managed to arrive there with barely any trouble at all.

For a while, each one of them could barely hide their jealous admiration. Some of them were even a little envious, but still respected him.

The distance between a Heaven Saint Master and a Saint Ruler was separated by the river as wide as the cosmic river. As he was now, Jian Chen was a figure that Heaven Saint Masters should respect.

But what they didn’t know was that Jian Chen was still a Heaven Saint Master and not an actual Saint Ruler.

After this one battle, the strengths of Jian Chen, Jiede Tai, and Nubis were shown to the entirety of the Flame Mercenaries. With three Saint Rulers presiding over them, the status of the Flame Mercenaries would flourish even more. Even the problem that arised with the leak of the tungsten alloy deposit would be completely suppressed by this.

They personally saw Jian Chen, Jiede Tai, and Nubis beat a Saint Ruler into retreating. Then, they saw Jian Chen personally kill nearly ten Heaven Saint Masters with a single strike. From what they witnessed today, they all knew that the Flame Mercenaries had what it took to be able to overlook the entire continent.

With Jian Chen’s revealed skill, they couldn’t even possibly imagine just what height his strength would reach in just a small amount of time.

Having successfully beaten back the Sect of Dragon and Tiger, the Flame Mercenaries returned to the palace.

Within the palace, each of the highest ranking members of the Flame Mercenaries were gathered for a conference.

“Since the tungsten alloy is revealed, we’ll have no need to hide it anymore. Start mining it without the secrecy so we can mine them all out as swiftly as we can. We can avoid another unforeseen accident this way.” Jian Chen spoke seriously. Although the Flame Mercenaries now had the strength to equal even the Shi family, tungsten alloy was far too valuable to be left alone on the continent. With such a tremendous deposit, he was worried that another force as strong as the Sect of Dragon and Tiger would show up.

“We’ve already starting the mining process, but progress is very slow due to the density and amount of ores. Even now, we’ve gone a slow way and only managed a small amount. We’ve even employed the finest artisans to construct the best tungsten armor to be made for our Flame Mercenaries to use however.” You Yue reported.

Nodding his head in satisfaction, Jian Chen spoke, “With how large the deposit is, it’d be best if we get more people to work on it. This is a matter that shouldn’t be delayed.”

As Jian Chen was conducting the meeting over the tungsten alloy, news of what had transpired between the Sect of Dragon and Tiger and the Flame Mercenaries flowed across the continent like wildfire. The energy that had been blasted away from the area could be felt by Heaven Saint Masters within a certain proximity, and each one of them were shocked by the sensation.

A battle between Saint Rulers was not often seen on the continent. That was due to the fact that most Saint Rulers were hermits that barely ventured out, let alone fought.

News like this had caught the eye of the strongest in other areas. Many Heaven Saint Masters had even gathered around the battlefield in interest and inquired the members of the Flame Mercenaries of what happened in great detail.

With them making their inquiries, they’ve quickly learned that the leader of the Flame Mercenaries had reached the Saint Ruler realm and had also two other Saint Rulers acting with him in the group. The outsiders had been astounded by that and how strong the Flame Mercenaries were in general.

Thousands of kilometers away within a deep cave, the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger sat within it with blood pooling around his body. With the help of a continuous supply of Sixth Class Radiant Spirit Pills, his wounds were already healed to a substantial degree.

“Jian Chen, the Flame Mercenaries, I’ll make you regret this day. Just you wait. Don’t think that having three Saint Rulers makes you invincible. There’ll be a day where this old man will repay this humiliation tenfold! Forget about the tungsten alloy!” The elder spoke ominously.

Chapter 644: Gathering Helpers

It took seven days for the Saint Ruler from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger to fully recuperate and heal from all the wounds he had sustained. Now that he could leave the cave, the Saint Ruler immediately

blurred away into the world. Harmonizing with space itself, he traveled countless of kilometers within an extremely fast pace.

Half a day later, the Saint Ruler reappeared at the depths of a particular mountain range after traveling for so long.

The depths to this mountain range was a forbidden area for humans to step in, but there was a manor that not many people knew about in here. Even during the day, not a single human could be seen, or any sound at all for that matter, but the ground was kept nice and clean somehow.

Descending down to the ground, the Saint Ruler floated in front of the gates to the manor, "The Sect of Dragon and Tiger has come to pay a visit to the Four Harmonies Manor!" His voice was soft, but the magic in the air had allowed his words to be spoken loud enough for the entire manor to hear it.

The Four Harmonies Manor wasn't something that many people on the continent knew. It was a place that a single hermit sect had once sealed off so that they could cultivate in peace without having need to go out. For thousands of years, they had never once interfered with the outside world. It was only when they sought out disciples that they would venture out to find someone suitable with their teachings and help prolong their sect's lifetime.

But other than that, the existence of this manor was something that only a few select clans and sects knew about. The Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger was one of these few.

"A friend has come! What a pleasant surprise. Situ Qing, it's been a few hundred years since your last visit, come on in! Let us sit down and have a nice talk." A calm but elderly voice called out from within the manor.

Letting out a laugh, the Saint Ruler flew inside before coming to a stop at the very center of the halls. Right in front of the hall gates, a middle-aged man wearing black robes could be seen already waiting for him.

"Senior, our teacher is waiting inside for you, please go in!" The middle-aged man spoke to the Saint Ruler reverently.

This middle-aged man was only a Heaven Saint Master in strength and was thus not someone the Saint Ruler could bother to care for. Not even giving him a glance, he strode on in.

The halls were of rather ordinary decoration. The wooden walls looked as if they had already managed to weather through countless years of wear and tear to look more like the walls to a peasant farmer's home. At the very center of the room was an old-fashioned circular table with a sackcloth wearing elder there sipping a cup of tea. The fragrant aroma from the tea spread throughout the room and had a relaxing effect to it. As it appeared, this tea was a treasured item in this place.

Walking straight into the room, the Saint Ruler sat down right in front of the other elder unceremoniously and stared at the tea-drinking elder. "Even after so many years since our last meeting, you're still living a life of pleasure it seems."

"I've lived my entire life like so. Uncontaminated by the outside world, and unpolluted by its dust. To live the life I've wanted, I've separated from the disputes of human society to attain the enlightenment of my heart." The elder laughed.

Staring at the elder, the Saint Ruler let out one final sigh, "I've can't see through you anymore. Your strength has beaten mine."

"Break away from your mind and body and become detached from yourself. Free yourself from the fetters and chains of the world. Situ Qing, its been a hundred years now, and your strength is still where it was from then. Perhaps you should make your sect seclude itself completely from the outside world. Don't bother with the outside world. Don't worry for who lives or who dies. Don't care for who wins or who loses. None of that matters. In your current state, what use is there to be in the secular world?" The sackclothed man spoke slowly.

The Saint Ruler did not answer him for a while. "We can talk about that latter. Ge Qiu, I actually came here for a request to ask of you."

Draining the rest of his tea in a single gulp, the elder placed the now empty cup back onto the table. "I know. I can see that you've been injured recently. You must have come across trouble in the outside world."

The Saint Ruler nodded his head with a dangerous light entering his eyes from the memories. "Ge Qiu, I hope that you'll be able to lend me an arm. My enemy is far too terrifying to let live. If given too much time, then I will surely die in the future."

"Alas!" The elder sighed. "Situ Qing, you have too many complaints in your heart. To continue on like this would not be beneficial to you. Resolve the issue as best as you can, there is no point in a situation where only one can live."

Shaking his head, the Saint Ruler replied, "Impossible. My enemy is merciless and has a heart that only knows revenge. Our grievances are far too deep now to simply waive. Between him and I, only one can live."

"And to try and resolve an issue with someone of the younger generation is another problem." He continued with gritted teeth. "It is unsure if he'd even accept or not, but to even try to do so would be a great slap to my face."

"Situ Qing, you know me. No matter how deep our friendship goes, I will not help you kill another." The elder sighed.

"I know that, Ge Qiu. I won't ask for you to help me kill. The enemy has three Saint Rulers in total with them being at the Third Heavenly Layer at the very strongest. I wish for you to help me stop two of them." Situ Qing pleaded.

The elder hesitated. Debating about it for a while, he finally replied, "Very well, Situ Qing. For the sake of our friendship, I'll have help you this very once. But this will be a private matter between us two and not with the Four Harmonies Manor. I will not help you kill anyone."

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After discussing the matter with the elder, Situ Qing and he left the Four Harmonies Manor together. Traveling in a certain direction for an hour, the two of them finally arrived at a hidden cave.

It was brightly lit within the cave thanks to the torches. With how they danced and flickered to illuminate the interior of the cave, a single blue-robed elder could be seen seated on top of a giant boulder in the center. Almost as if stuck within a deep meditative stance, the elder did not look as if he noticed the two newcomers.

Not a footstep could be heard from Situ Qing as he walked into the cave. Looking at the elder, he spoke, "Bi Hai, it's been thirty years. How's your recovery going now?"

"I've been fully healed since twenty years ago. Situ Qing, say it, why have you come for me?" The elder spoke calmly from his seat.

"Bi Hai, I've come here today with a request for you to help me with today." Situ Qing spoke.

"You saved my life thirty years ago. Whatever it is that you need my help with, I owe you that at the very least. What do you wish for me to help you with this time?" The elder opened his eyes to look at Situ Qing.

Situ Qing hesitated for a moment. To have this blue-robed elder owe him a favor was not a very easy thing to do. He was in fact wondering if using this favor to deal with Jian Chen was worth it or not.

"Pah, Jian Chen's talent is far too terrifying. He must be dealt with at once so that he won't be given time to grow in the future." Resolved, Situ Qing gritted his teeth and spoke, "Bi Hai, I'll have to use this favor to have you help me deal with a person."

"What is their strength, and when do we strike!" The elder spoke.

"A junior that you should be able to kill with ease. The sooner we strike, the better. In fact, it'd be best if we go now." Situ Qing spoke.

"If that's how it is, then that's how it will be." The elder opened his eyes completely to rise up into the air without a sound.

"Bi Hai, after this matter is over, why not come to my Sect of Dragon and Tiger." Situ Qing asked expectantly.

But the elder shook his head expressionlessly, "My enemy is far too strong. Even I am helpless to fight them. Are you not afraid that your Sect of Dragon and Tiger would be destroyed as a result of having me join?"

Situ Qing blanched without another word. Despite being very willing to invite an expert such as him to join his sect, the enemies of Bi Hai frightened even him.

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Jian Chen, Nubis, and Jiede Tai spent the following days overseeing the Flame Mercenaries while prepared to defend themselves from a counterattack from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger. Their enemy was without a doubt a powerful foe and added to the pressure of mining the tungsten alloy.

With three Saint Rulers protecting them, the entire Flame Mercenaries had been motivated to unprecedented levels. Their war banners flew in the air above where the tungsten alloy was while the

very best artisans they could find and employ worked the ore to the best of their abilities everyday. Each end of the day, the ore they managed to harvest had been enough to make anyone that saw it envious.

Chapter 645: Manufacturing Radiant Spirit Pills

In the blink of an eye, three days passed by since the Saint Ruler was defeated. Life in the kingdom grew peaceful, but with the fact that three Saint Rulers were ruling over the Flame Mercenaries caused a wave of smaller mercenary groups and members to come ask to join the Flame Mercenaries in hopes of gaining the status of being one of them.

Jian Chen and the entire group went through a series of secret discussion before finally deciding that they would take in the best members into the group to supplement their strength.

The Flame Mercenaries of today was not the same as the ones from before.

The additions to the Flame Mercenaries had naturally gave no small amount of joy to the ones already in there. To them, the more that joined the Flame Mercenaries, the more honor that would be brought to them and the more resplendent they would be to the rest of the continent. Those that were not able to join the Flame Mercenaries had been disheartened, but they didn't give up on the hope just yet. If anything, they felt all the more motivated to go back and focus on their cultivation even more so that they could meet the standards in the future.

Day after day, the Flame Mercenaries swelled up in size. As if travelling to see a famous landmarks, a multitude of Earth Saint Masters came forward to join the Flame Mercenaries. There were even three Heaven Saint Masters that came for that same reason. In a short burst of time, the Flame Mercenaries increased in numbers and power once more.

The entire reason behind this exponential growth was due to the fact that there were three Saint Rulers acting as the ones in charge for the Flame Mercenaries. Individuals like these were a symbol of the utmost might that were practically unrivalled in strength. While not completely invincible, they may as well be in the eyes of the average mercenary.

By noon, Jian Chen was seated within a luxurious room that once used to be the bedroom of the old king of the Heavenly Eagle Kingdom. Out of the entire palace, this was the most luxurious room.

Within the room, Jian Chen was currently discussing some of his experiences on cultivation with Bi Lian. For the sake of guiding her onto the path of cultivation, he wanted to make sure that there would be barely any deviations or side paths as possible.

"A report for the captain! Alchemist He Yun asks for an audience!" At that moment, a guard appeared right outside the room to speak respectfully to Jian Chen.

"Allow him entry!" Jian Chen spoke at once.

"Yes, captain!" The guard immediately retreated out of the room to bring the alchemist in.

A thin and sallow He Yun came walking into the room. Compared to his initial appearance, He Yun was practically an entirely different person. In order to accomplish the task set for him by Jian Chen, He Yun worked without rest. So by the time he had managed to refine the ten thousand year old into a successful product, he was on the brink of fainting.

“Report for the captain! Despite what the heavens might have had in store for me, I’ve successfully procured two pills from the essence of the Geofruit!” He Yun bowed down to Jian Chen while speaking as respectfully as he could. In his hands was a single wooden box that was presented for Jian Chen to take.

Opening up the wooden box, Jian Chen could see two small bottles resting inside. Gingerly taking one of the bottles and uncorking it, a fragrant aroma immediately wafted into the room and dulled the senses of everyone in it.

Basked in the powerful but docile power of the pill, Jian Chen nodded his head in satisfaction. “Master He Yun, you’ve worked hard these past two days. For your assistance, I will be sure to treat you well. What might it be that you desire, I, Jian Chen, will do my best to reward you.”

He Yun hesitated to speak for a moment before bowing, “Captain, I’ve no other request but that my family would be able to live here in peace.”

Laughing, Jian Chen replied, “How could such a small request be enough to reward you for your efforts? Master He Yun, I’ve already prepared a set of rules for the Flame Mercenaries. As mercenaries that often have to fight and risk their lives on a daily basis, injuries are unavoidable. I wish to establish an alchemy hall where pills can be manufactured to specifically treat the Flame Mercenaries. Master He Yun, would you be interested in the spot as the hallmaster? From today onwards, the entire alchemy hall will be yours to govern.”

Upon listening to Jian Chen, He Yun had a joyous look to his face, “If the captain sees this one that highly, then I, He Yun, will work to my dying breath to serve the Flame Mercenaries.” He Yun spoke. He knew that the Flame Mercenaries were strong, and if he were to become an alchemical hallmaster, it would bring all the more glory to his own family. He had not been expecting this outcome, but it had been to his liking.

“Master He Yun, on your way back, please assemble all of the alchemists you know. From today onwards, the alchemy hall will be yours to govern. As long as the Flame Mercenaries have enough pills to recover with, then the business of the hall will be up to you order as you will.” Jian Chen spoke.

“As the captain decrees!” He Yun spoke respectfully.

As Jian Chen prepared to dismiss the alchemist, a sudden thought struck his mind. “Master He Yun, what might you know about the alchemical procedure of procuring Radiant Spirit pills?”

“Captain.” He Yun hesitated. “While Radiant Spirit pills aren’t hard to make, it requires the assistance of a Radiant Saint Master to create even a small amount. Does the captain wish to create some?”

“Correct. That was the meaning I had in mind. Master He Yun, what exactly is required to make one of these?” Jian Chen asked. When it came to the miraculous effects of these pills, Jian Chen was all too experienced with them. He had once wanted to try and make them himself, but because no alchemist or procedure was found, he hadn’t been able to fulfill the hope he had till now.

“Captain, a Radiant Spirit pill isn’t hard to make. It’s rather simple and only needs a few simple ingredients to make. But a Radiant Saint Master must infuse their Radiant Saint Force into it and then sealed so that it doesn’t escape.”

“But to infuse Radiant Saint Force into a pill is the same as having a person stick their finger into stone. It isn’t easy to do, and not many Radiant Saint Masters can do so. Thus, Radiant Spirit pills aren’t easy to make in large quantities.”

“Master He Yun, when you return, procure several Radiant Spirit pills for me. I will go find a person that’ll be able to do this task.” Jian Chen spoke.

Chapter 646: Class 3 Spirit Pills

“Yes, captain! I’ll make haste to procure a Radiant Spirit pill shell upon my return!” He Yun replied before leaving the chamber.

After He Yun left, Jian Chen and Bi Lian were the only two who remained in the brilliant room.

Jian Chen’s eyes rested upon the wooden box on the table with unhidden glee apparent on his face. With these pills, Bi Lian would undergo a transformation that would give her a talent for cultivation. With this pill, she would face no bad obstacles in her path.

“Lian’er, hurry up and eat it. From now on, you won’t ever need to worry about your strength being behind.” Jian Chen handed the bottle to her.

The aroma coming from the bottle had been enough to send Bi Lian into a tizzy. This pill was made from a ten-thousand-year-old heavenly resource. She hadn’t ever seen of a thousand year old heavenly resource before, let alone a ten-thousand-year-old one.

She was once upon a time the golden daughter of the Yun family. A thousand-year-old heavenly resource would have been an undeniably precious treasure for her family back then, but be given something a thousand times more precious than that, she felt conflicted. At the same time, she was touched that such an item was given to her. Such consideration like this filled her entire body with warmth.

“Brother, thank you. Aside from my mother, you are the only one that treats me so well in this world!” Bi Lian blinked away her tears. She could barely hold back the droplets flowing from her eyes.

Jian Chen laughed and wiped away some of her tears with his hand. “Silly girl, you’re my little cousin. By all rights, I should be treating you well. Now, let’s have you take this pill first and talk later. Who knows how much time it’ll take for you to completely absorb it all.” Jian Chen spoke before putting the pill into her mouth.

As soon as the pill passed through her throat and into her stomach, a warm but docile energy began to spill forth from the pill and flow throughout her body.

Subconsciously closing her eyes, Bi Lian tried her best to use the meditation techniques Jian Chen had taught to her to help guide the energy through her body. At the same time, Jian Chen closed his eyes as well to use his will to assist Bi Lian in her attempt to convert the energy into her own.

The Geofruit was a ten-thousand-year-old heavenly resource. The Spiritual Qi in it was far more potent than anyone could possibly imagine. To have the Spiritual Qi split into two pills only showed just how much energy there was in total. It would take several dozen days for a normal person to absorb the

energy, but with the help of Jian Chen, Bi Lian would only need half a day to absorb the energy within the pill.

With the completion of the absorption, Bi Lian's body would undergo a complete transformation from an average body to a body completely suited for cultivation. Her aptitude for cultivation would skyrocket to a level comparable to Dugu Feng or Huang Luan at the very least.

A ten-thousand-year-old heavenly resource could alter the human body. It was an item that could make a Saint Ruler drool at the mouth, and its miraculous effects made thousand-year-old heavenly resource insignificant.

Not only was her body altered, Bi Lian's strength also skyrocketed exponentially. In just this half day alone, she went from someone who hadn't even condensed her Saint Weapon to a being that surpassed the limitations to breakthrough to become a Saint Master. All that was left was a single step more to become a Great Saint Master.

Indeed, a ten-thousand-year old heavenly resource was life-altering. Its effects on a person were miraculous, but to use them to only alter someone's body was a simple matter. Even the mighty Qinhuang Kingdom would be loathed to use it due to the difficulty of obtaining a heavenly resource. In short, it was an absolute waste to use it on a normal person, and not a single person would be willing to go through such a waste.

"Brother, I've become a Saint Master now! How unbelievable is this? In just half a day, my strength has gone from barely a Saint to a Saint Master!" Exuberant with just how much strength was coursing through her body, Bi Lian never thought that she would wield such power before.

The power of a Peak Saint Master was more than enough for Bi Lian!

Even Jian Chen himself felt happy to see the smile on Bi Lian's face. "Lian'er, hurry up and familiarize yourself with your new strength as fast as possible."

Thanks to the ten-thousand-year-old heavenly resource, she would experience no problems with her growth. If anything, her foundation in cultivation was set in stone now.

Afterward, Jian Chen gave a few more personal notes of how he would often circulate his strength to familiarize himself before leaving her in peace. She would have to stay in the room herself for better results. Although she was a Saint Master now, she became one far too fast. Thus, her Saint Force almost felt foreign rather than being as easy to operate as her arm. Time was needed to familiarize herself.

As soon as he walked out of the room, Jian Chen could see that the day was already getting dark. Realizing that an entire day had passed by, Jian Chen could sense that the night patrol were already making their rounds nearby. As the elites of the Flame Mercenaries, each one of these patrolmen were of exceptional strength.

The alchemist He Yun came scurrying over at this precise moment with a small box clutched to his chest. Fatigued, he said to Jian Chen, "Captain, your subordinate has managed to procure a batch of Radiant Spirit pill shells as you ordered. They are all within this box." He presented the box to Jian Chen.

Accepting the box offered to him, Jian Chen could see that there were several small palm-sized bottles all arranged nicely in it. Plenty of brown pills could be seen through the glass exterior of the bottles, but these pills looked rather unsimilar to the snow-white Radiant Spirit pills that Jian Chen was used to.

“Master He Yun, you said that Radiant Saint Force needed to be infused inside in order for these to be called Radiant Spirit pills, correct?” Jian Chen asked again.

“Correct. As long as Radiant Saint Force is infused, then the shell will seal in the Radiant Saint Force without a drop of it leaking.” He Yun answered.

“Master He Yun, you’ve worked hard. Go and take a proper rest for now.” Jian Chen dismissed He Yun before taking the box of pill shells to his own personal chambers. Instructing the maids and guards to not have anyone bother him, Jian Chen locked himself in his own room.

As it were, the room had gone through a complete rehaul in decoration. While plenty of things remained from the past, just as many things had been added to the room such as a nice and fluffy bed.

Jian Chen’s bedroom was the bedroom that the king of the past Heavenly Eagle kingdom once owned. The old decorations and furniture that the king had once enjoyed were all gone. With Jian Chen being the new owner, there was no way You Yue and Bi Lian let that room possess lingering memories of its past owners.

On the bed was a completely white, fluffy, small tiger sleeping comfortably. In the past two days, it had managed to consume twenty-something thousand-year-old heavenly resources, and was in the midst of absorbing their energy.

Taking the small box to the middle of the bed, Jian Chen took out one of the bottles and cracked it open to take out several empty pill shells.

A series of slightly gray-brown pills tumbled out, but Jian Chen levitated them, keeping them from falling onto the ground, with his mind power.

These pills were thumb-sized. There was around thirty pills total.

Jian Chen found it extremely difficult to calm himself as he looked over each pill with his eyes. Whether or not these pills would become Radiant Spirit pills were completely reliant on the upcoming moment.

Jian Chen was no stranger to the precious nature of the Radiant Spirit pills. If they were said to be life-saving miracle drug, that saying would not be an exaggeration. If a person were to sustain serious injuries, that person could consume a Radiant spirit pill to aid in their recovery. It couldn’t completely heal their wounds in one go, but it could at the very least temporarily stabilize their conditions and prevent their body from further decay. If there were enough Radiant Spirit pills, they could even bring back a man on the brink of death to a healthy state. Their uses and effects were unquestionable to anyone.

However, the pills were rare in numbers and expensive in price. Radiant Spirit pills became extremely rare objects on the continent because of the wide-scale hoarding of what remained. Only a few top-class experts and households would possess them, but even they only owned a few.

The main reason why Jian Chen wanted to manufacture Radiant Spirit pills was because of his close friends and family. Should he make enough for them all, he wouldn't have to live each day concerned for their well-being should they come across an enemy. If something were to happen to them while he was away, the Radiant Spirit pills could at least prevent the worse from happening.

Refocusing on his thoughts, Jian Chen exhaled to stabilize himself. Closing his eyes, he began to separate the Radiant Saint Force from the world. He moved it into the space in front of him.

As things were, Jian Chen was a Sixth Class Radiant Saint Master. This meant that he belonged to the higher echelons of Radiant Saint Masters, so with practically just his mind alone, a faint flow of milky-white light started to converge in front of his chest. With time, this light grew brighter and brighter, and in no time at all, it became a rich-white sphere of light that illuminated the entire room in its warm white glow as if the room had become a world of snow.

As soon as Jian Chen was able to guide the Radiant Saint Force with his hands, he began to try to infuse the pill shells with the Radiant Saint Force. In the beginning, he came across some resistance as He Yun said before. To try and force his Radiant Saint Force inside was like stabbing a hole into a stone using the finger. The average person wouldn't be capable of that. This was the most difficult part of making a Radiant Spirit pill, and was also the most limiting stage in the process.

However, even this difficulty barely posed a challenge to him. He was a Sixth Class Radiant Saint Master with his powerful mind ability. Therefore, he was able to successfully infuse the pill shells with the Radiant Saint Force.

Jian Chen managed to fill the shells completely with an unending flow of Radiant Saint Force. The previously gray-colored shells began to turn milky-white before finally becoming as white as snow.

When the shells became completely white, it meant the pills had reached the utmost capacity of what they could contain. No matter how much Jian Chen tried, he couldn't add anymore Radiant Saint Force to them. The shell would only keep what it could contain while leaking out the surplus.

Ceasing his attempts, Jian Chen broke off control and allowed the concentrated Radiant Saint Force to dissipate into the air. Very quickly, the snowy-white room turned back to its normal dusky atmosphere.

With another thought, Jian Chen levitated the thirty Radiant Spirit pills into his hands. He admired his own handiwork with a satisfied smile, and knew that he had succeeded.

However, when he sensed just how much Radiant Saint Force was in them, his eyebrows furrowed together. "These have to be Class 3 Radiant Spirit pills, they're very lacking in efficacy. What a shame that these pill shells limit how much Radiant Saint Force can be contained in them. Otherwise, I would have made even better pills."

Chapter 647: The Theory Behind Pillmaking

Jian Chen was not too pleased with only making Class 3 Radiant Spirit Pills.

"I wonder what allows more Radiant Saint Force to be infused into the pills. Could the pill shells themselves be the limiting factor?" Jian Chen thought.

Storing the Radiant Spirit Pills he made into his Space Ring, Jian Chen exited his chambers. A soldier then led him to where He Yun was resting.

As the new hallmaster for alchemy, He Yun had a fair amount of status within the Flame Mercenaries now. Hence, He Yun had been given his own residential area within the palace.

It came as a large surprise to see that the high and mighty Saint Ruler of the Flame Mercenaries came to personally seek him out. Despite being an alchemist, which garnished him a decent amount of respect within the kingdom, even he would have to bend the knee and bow to a Heaven Saint Master, let alone a Saint Ruler that stood on top of even Heaven Saint Masters.

“There’s no need for work, master He Yun. I came here to ask several questions. Let us sit down and talk.” Jian Chen smiled kindly as he sat down at a nearby table.

“The captain only needs to ask for He Yun, and He Yun would come running as swiftly as possible! How could I dare have the captain come see me?” Overwhelmed by Jian Chen’s kindness, he hurried to form a reply. Sitting down in the seat opposite of Jian Chen, He Yun grew nervous. He was in the presence of a Saint Ruler, and even if that Saint Ruler was many years his junior, He Yun was still extremely flustered.

On the Tian Yuan Continent, power dictated everything.

“Master He Yun, I came here this time to inquire about several aspects with the Radiant Spirit Pills. If I may, what are the highest level pills I could make with the pill shells you made for me.” Jian Chen asked.

“Captain, the pill shells I gave you were made using ordinary ingredients, so I think that the pill shells I made can only be Class 3 Radiant Spirit Pills at the very highest. The ingredients act as a limiter, sealing enough Radiant Saint Force to be classified as a Class 3 Radiant Spirit Pill. If one wishes to craft even higher-classed pills, then one must use even rarer ingredients to construct the shells.”

“Master He Yun, would you be able to help me craft higher-class pill shells then? I am in need of Radiant Spirit Pills no less than the sixth class.” Constructing Radiant Spirit Pills corresponded with the level of the Radiant Saint Master. Following that logic, Jian Chen would be able to craft Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pills since he was a Sixth Class Radiant Saint Master.

Thinking hard about the task, He Yun responded, “Captain, I have the ability to make the shells for Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pills, but the ingredients are far too precious. The pills require ingredients at least a thousand years old. While not heavenly resources, they are still ingredients of expensive prices.”

“Master He Yun, make a list of whatever ingredients you need and I will have people collect them at once.”

Shortly afterward, a small list was made with the ingredients required to make a Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pill. With the list in hand, Jian Chen left He Yun to his own devices. He commanded people to gather the ingredients on the list as quickly as possible.

With Jian Chen personally commandeering the request, the ones who were called to serve were quick to return with the items. Only a single day was required for the ingredients to be gathered. The thousand-year-old ingredients, usually expensive in price, were found in the depths of a nearby mountain. Thus, they had been harvested swiftly.

With all the ingredients at hand, the newly recovered He Yun was sent straight back to his workshop to undergo the alchemical process. This time, it took two whole days for a hundred Radiant Spirit Pill shells to be made and given to Jian Chen.

Jian Chen wasted no time at all when the pill shells were given to him. Closing himself off in his room, he began to undergo the process of infusing Radiant Saint Force into them.

Crafting Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pills was far more difficult than crafting Class 3 Radiant Spirit Pills. Jian Chen was only able to craft three Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pills while taking the same amount of time it took to craft thirty Class 3 Radiant Spirit pills. Since they were far more sturdy in shell, infusing Radiant Saint Force into them was far harder than their lower-grade counterparts. Jian Chen could only make three at his current skill level.

Half a day was spent by the time three Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pills were made. These pills were about a thumb in size and glowed with a milky-white light. Jian Chen levitated the pills in front of himself with a smile on his face.

The reason why he was crafting these Radiant Spirit Pills were for his friends and family. While he was a Radiant Saint Master, he couldn't always accompany them during their journeys. Should an unexpected danger befall them, a Radiant Spirit Pill could save their life in his place, so making some would take plenty of weight off his shoulders.

"Crafting three Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pills took up a fifth of my mental strength. Following that number, I should be able to craft fifteen pills before my energy is expended." Jian Chen thought to himself. Looking at the nearby dozens of shell pieces, he muttered, "Three is not enough. I need to craft even more of them." Having said that, Jian Chen floated another three pill shells. He then started to gather the Radiant Saint Force in the world, trying to infuse it with the pill shells once more.

The next few days were relatively calm. Absolutely nothing happened, and the Flame Mercenaries were able to continue with their mining without a hitch. Everyday was a new harvest of tungsten alloy, and the amount they had in store was accumulating at an inconceivable rate.

The vein that was being mined became a heavily guarded area by the Flame Mercenaries. Practically every force they commanded stood there as silent watchers to prevent anything from happening.

Just as Jian Chen started on the third day of crafting the Class 6 Radiant Spirit Pills, an overwhelming might immediately flooded the area with its pressure. The clouds and wind in the sky immediately grew turbulent, and the overflowing energy in the world started to act up as well.

"Little Jian Chen, come out and accept your death!" An elderly voice boomed across the sky. Reverberating for kilometers around, the powerful voice had been loud enough to make the walls of the palace shake violently while some people felt their eardrums pop. Clapping their hands to their ears, the ones affected the most let out a wailing sound from pain.

Chapter 648: A Powerful Enemy

"Little Jian Chen, come out and accept your death!" An elderly voice boomed across the sky. Reverberating for kilometers around, the powerful voice had been loud enough to make the walls of

the palace shake violently while some people felt their eardrums pop. Clapping their hands to their ears, the ones affected the most let out a wailing sound from pain.

Jian Chen's eyes flew open instantly. He had been in the midst of infusing some pill shells with Radiant Saint Force. With just a thought, the gathered Radiant Saint Force flashed once before dissipating into the air.

"You've finally arrived and with friends!" Jian Chen muttered to himself. The urge to kill began to radiate from his eyes. He stored the three unfinished Radiant Saint Force into the bottles before he flashed away out of the palace.

Jian Chen looked very mysterious as he flew through the air with the wind element wrapped around his body, making it glow cyan.

As Jian Chen flew through the palace and up into the air, the aura leaking from him was majestic and ready for battle.

At the same time, another two bursts of energies made themselves known from the palace. The sudden occurrence of both led to the space around the palace to freeze up. With so many Saint Rulers gathered here, their auras were already clashing against one another with such pressure that everyone down below found it hard to breathe. Their hearts were trying their best to keep beating, but their lungs seemed refuse to work, not letting them breathe.

The graceful white-robe wearing Jiede Tai and the proud gold-robe wearing Nubis flew out shortly after. They turned into beams of light as they followed Jian Chen into the sky.

Several seconds barely passed before Jian Chen, Nubis, and Jiede Tai were assembled several thousand meters in the air. Shoulder to shoulder, each one of them icily observed their opponents.

Right in front of them were three expressionless men. Of the three, one of them was the Saint Ruler of the Sect of Dragon and Tiger. The other two looked as if they were past their seventies, but their eyes were filled with an abstruse light reminiscent of the stars in the night sky.

Of these two, one of them wore a blue robe and had white hair that looked as if it had never experienced any grooming before. The elderly man's disheveled appearance made him look as though he was a beggar. His hands were crossed against his chest and his eyes seemed to be gauging the three figures in front of him.

The other wore robes made from what appeared to be sackcloth. Unlike his companion, his face was peaceful-looking. No killing intent could be detected from him, but there was a sharp aura that could be felt in its place. With these two factors, he resembled a being who would stand alone outside the secular world, but his eyes were by no means extraordinary. Combined with his simple clothes, this elder looked more like an elder enjoying a life of peasantry out in the mountains.

Jian Chen's expressions hardened as he took in the three Saint Rulers. Three was a number that was more than enough to make him feel a great deal of pressure. It had been hard enough to completely subdue one Saint Ruler with three. By adding another two Saint Rulers with even more power to the mix, the situation would undoubtedly be worse off for him.

Peals of laughter erupted from the Saint Ruler from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger when he saw Jian Chen's hardened face. Snarling, he said, "Jian Chen, I've said it that day ago. The humiliation I've suffered will undoubtedly be returned tenfold to you. Today will be your deathday!"

"Do you really think you will be able to kill me?" Jian Chen asked emotionlessly. With his Chaotic Body and its ultimate defenses, he was sure that the Saint Ruler would be hardpressed to kill him.

"Jian Chen, the situation doesn't look good. I can't make out the strength of the other two. That means they're at the very least stronger than the one from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger." Jiede Tai grimly confided with Jian Chen.

Even Nubis clenched his fists so that the joints in his almost woman-like fingers popped one after another. "Jian Chen, this will not be easy. Their strengths are far too strong; that blue-robed elder is a Saint Ruler of the Fifth Heavenly Layer and the white-robed one is even stronger at the Sixth Heavenly Layer." Nubis' strength was at the same level as Jiede Tai, but as a Golden-Striped Silver Snake, he possessed something that was magical. He was able to clearly divine the strength of the two Saint Rulers.

Blanching from shock, Jian Chen looked at the two other Saint Rulers. He hadn't thought that the ones that the Sect of Dragon and Tiger would invite would be that strong.

Now knowing the strength of his enemies, Jian Chen was no longer as confident as before. The gap between the two sides was just far too big to be made up for by any other means. A single Saint Ruler at the Fifth Heavenly Layer could easily dispatch of Nubis and Jiede Tai by himself. With a Sixth Heavenly Layer and a Fourth Heavenly Layer against him, Jian Chen would be powerless.

Hiding his right hand behind him, Jian Chen retrieved a jade stone from his Space Ring and crushed it without making a sound.

"Jian Chen, what do we do? We're no match for them!" Jiede Tai spoke in concern.

"How unexpected to come across such experts as soon as I step into the human world!" Nubis snarled. "There are many hidden dragons and tigers in this world it seems. Jian Chen, I'll fight the Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler. The other two will be up to you two."

"Is that in your power?" Jian Chen asked in concern. The gaps between each Saint Ruler's Heavenly Layer were extremely large. Death would be inevitable for the Third Heavenly Layer Nubis to fight against the Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler.

"Aside from me, neither of you would be a match for him. I am a magical beast, don't forget that. My strength isn't comparable to a human of the same level, even more so as a beast from antiquity!" Nubis spoke.

"Since that's the case, I should take care of that one. Your defenses are strong, but you are no Saint Ruler. You've no comprehension of the world mysteries, meaning that you do not possess the ability to fight him."

"Let me handle the Saint Ruler from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger then." Jian Chen spoke. The Chaotic Force in his dantian began to ripple across his entire body to maximize his defenses to their utmost limits.

On the other side, the Saint Ruler Situ Qing was also planning something similar, killing Jian Chen. “Ge Qiu, please stop the other two for me. Bi Hai, come help me kill Jian Chen.”

Bi Hai’s eyebrows knit together, “He’s using the elements in the world to fly. That means he isn’t even a Saint Ruler. To use the two of us against one, isn’t that using a bit too much for far too little?”

“Bi Hai, don’t underestimate him. This brat has a talent that outshines anyone else in history. Even you’ll be amazed. We must fight him together and kill him. If not, then he’ll cause no end of trouble for us.” The Saint Ruler spoke before charging at Jian Chen with Ge Qiu and Bi Hai not too far behind.

“Hiss!” Out of nowhere, the soul-piercing hiss of a snake could be heard as Nubis’ entire body turned golden. The next second, his entire body transformed into that of a snake about half a meter thick. His transformation made him into a beast that inferior magical beasts could not compare to. Even the length of his body was shockingly long at what seemed to be ten thousand meters. By the way he was coiled up in the air, his entire body looked as if it could wrap around the entire world. There was also a duality of golden and silver colors flashing on its body. This was the regal Golden-Striped Silver Snake at its mightiest.

No more precautions could be made for a Saint Ruler of the Sixth Heavenly Layer, so Nubis had to show his true power all at once.

His sudden transformation had left the three opposing Saint Rulers utterly speechless. For a good while, nothing could be said or done as they stared at the giant snake coiled in the sky.

“He was a magical beast!” Situ Qing gasped.

“Golden-Striped Silver Snakes are beasts that have lived since long ago. Their poisons are unequalled!” Ge Qiu cried out as well. His eyes narrowed ever so slightly, and even his previously amicable expression gained a tint of steel to it. A Class 7 Golden-Striped Silver Snake had a poison that could threaten the life of even a Saint Ruler.

The blue-robed Bi Hai stared at Nubis with a grim light in his eyes, “Did it come out of Cross Mountain?”

However, Nubis had already sprung into motion. His body trembled slightly with enough force to shake the world around him as a golden light emanated from his body. Then, with blinding speed, Nubis flew toward Ge Qiu to trap him inside his coil.

“I shall handle this old one. The other two are up to you two!” A coarse hiss sounded through the air. When Nubis transformed, even his voice had changed. Now, it was indistinguishable whether Nubis was a male or female.

Chapter 649: Gathering Experts From Every Direction (One)

With Nubis fighting to stall the strongest of the three enemies, Jiede Tai flew charged at Bi Hai to challenge him to a battle.

Originally, Bi Hai had planned on fighting Jian Chen with Situ Qing, but he had no other choice but to give up on that idea because of Jiede Tai’s assault.

And so Situ Qing was left to battle Jian Chen by himself. Since he knew just how strong Jian Chen was, Situ Qing decided to use his entire strength from the get-go. Bringing out his Saint Weapon at once, he

charged at Jian Chen and swung at him again and again. With each swing, a crack appeared in the air. Every swing he made surpassed what the world could handle.

Every single portion of Jian Chen's body was covered by Chaotic Force, pushing his defenses to their limits. Thanks to his clothing, the gray glow from the energy was concealed underneath. Using the Illusionary Flash, Jian Chen was almost able to teleport place to place like a ghost to fight the Saint Ruler.

"Jian Chen, you'll die today for sure!" Situ Qing laughed as his blade blazed red with fire. The intense flames shooting off from his blade evaporated the very air around it, bringing the temperature to a sweltering height.

There was a crimson flash of light as the Saint Ruler's blade became one with the world as it traveled for Jian Chen's neck.

Thanks to Situ Qing's understanding of the mysteries of space, Jian Chen was unable to dodge his strike with his non-existent understanding of space. Since he was unable to dodge, the blade immediately zoomed in to make contact with his body.

"Ha!" Eyes glowing bright, Jian Chen urged even more Chaotic Force from his dantian before infusing them into his fist to slam into the incoming blade.

If he couldn't dodge, then he'd just have to fight head-on!

The Chaotic Body was his greatest advantage against a Saint Ruler!

"Bang!" Both of Jian Chen's fists made contact with Situ Qing's weapon, causing an immediate whiplash of energy to break out and quake the area around them. Jian Chen had not come out unscathed. A terrifying wound on his hands appeared where the blade had cut halfway through them.

The Saint Ruler's stroke had been used the utmost power, so Jian Chen's fingers were mangled almost to the point of no return.

The immense pain from the damage inflicted to his fingers caused Jian Chen to wince violently, but his hands began to regenerate at an accelerated speed because of the Chaotic Body. In just a moment's time, a third of the wounds had healed up and the bones themselves had started to fuse together.

A powerful boost had been granted to Jian Chen following the synthesis of the Chaotic Force and Body. This boost was an obscenely powerful regenerative force. With how fast he could regenerate and heal his wounds, he was practically untouchable to the world.

"Jian Chen, let's see how long you can last!" Situ Qing hatefully spat. Unsurprised that Jian Chen could handle his attack, Situ Qing struck out again with his Saint Weapon.

On the other side, the immensity that was Nubis' body coiled around the entire area where the poorly-dressed Ge Qiu was, leaving everyone else unable to see what was happening inside.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

One after another, a series of muffled blows exploded from within, reminiscent to the sound of a beating heart. Following these blows, Nubis' entire body seemed to give a violent shake.

“Ta!” As if lightning went off within Nubis’ body, another burst of sound could be heard. The shock wave from that blast rippled past and out around Nubis’ body, cracking the ground beneath. The golden prison that was Nubis’ body suddenly spanned across the sky like a long golden rope or a ribbon with a shiny luster.

As soon as the prison was beaten away, a gray wisp of poisonous smog was exposed to the world. Almost like how a dragon would move, the smog billowed in every direction, mixing the air with its poisonous miasma. Soon enough, the air was dangerous to breathe in while the radius of the miasma continued to increase.

The poison of the Golden-Striped Silver Snake was extremely potent. Even Jiede Tai, Bi Hai, and Situ Qing, who were fighting far away from Nubis, felt light-headed after breathing in the noxious fumes. Only Jian Chen remained unaffected.

“The poison of a Golden-Striped Silver Snake is as strong as the legends say.” The blue-robed elder said, using a serious voice. Each of the three fighters immediately stopped breathing and consciously avoided the area where the poison had assimilated into the air.

Many of the people in the city below had already breathed in the miasma by accident. Those people promptly fainted from its effects. The previously clamorous city down below instantaneously became as still as a ghost city. The streets were filled with people who had fainted from the poison, and only those who had reached the Earth Saint Master realm managed to withstand the poison to some degree. Even then, their bodies swayed slightly where they stood, looking as if they would fall in any second.

Bi Lian and You Yue were the only ones that were not yet Earth Saint Masters within the palace, and thus had promptly fainted on the floor. Only a hundred Earth Saint Masters were in the palace. Each and every single one of them tightly clenching their noses. From what they knew so far, the poison would only affect them if they breathed it in.

Tie Ta was the only exception to this scene. He was the only one that stood there with a vacant stare at the skybound battle up above. It seemed as if the poison assimilating through the air was completely harmless to him.

“Idiot! What are you so dazed about, there’s poison in the air — hurry up, cover your face!” Ming Dong urged him. An antidote appeared in his mouth before he ate it, but it served no use.

Taking a deep whiff of the air, Tie Ta gave a questioning mutter, “Is there really poison? I don’t feel anything though?” But just to be safe, he clenched his nose shut like the others.

In the sky, Nubis was still in his snake form. He extended his jaws and began to take in a huge breath of air. Quickly, the poison that was in the area began to fly toward Nubis’ mouth, and in no time at all, all of the poison was completely gone from the area.

With the poison gone, Ge Qiu could be seen again in clear sight. His eyes were closed shut and his face was a lot more ashen than before. The poison had affected him heavily, and a black wisp of smog could be seen spiralling up from his body.

“It’s no wonder you’re called an ancient beast from the past with a poison like this. Your reputation isn’t an empty one, I can bear witness to that.” Ge Qiu’s eyes opened to reveal completely white eyes devoid of any poison.

A crimson light danced across Nubis’ eyes as he glared at Ge Qiu. His jaws opened wide to hiss out, “Old one, the poison from the great Nubis cannot be so easily neutralized. The great Nubis might not be able to kill you, but let’s see if you’ll be able to do anything else with me here.” With the final word being hissed out, Nubis and Ge Qiu began to fight with one another again. A smog of poison continued to obscure their battle.

Jiede Tai had been fighting the blue-robed elder quite passionately as well. The two of them continued to strike at one another with powerful blows that felt as if they could split apart the world. Since he was up against a Saint Ruler two Heavenly Layers stronger than he was, Jiede Tai couldn’t afford to hold back. He struck with all that he had whenever possible.

On the other hand, his opponent was fighting with the utmost ease as if there was no pressure at all. Each Heavenly Layer that separated a Saint Ruler from another was extremely massive. A deficit like that couldn’t be made up easily, unless one was an ancient beast like Nubis.

The battle between Jian Chen and Situ Qing had been especially bitter for Jian Chen. Each blow from Situ Qing was infused with the powers of space so that Jian Chen was left unable to dodge it. After such an extensive battle, Jian Chen had sustained many many injuries and his clothes were stained with his blood, but despite the bad state he was in, his fighting prowess hadn’t weakened in the slightest. If anything, the battle had served to empower him and make him fight even harder.

The indomitable force that was Jian Chen astounded even Situ Qing. Trying to kill Jian Chen was as hard as killing a cockroach and a hundred times harder than killing a dragonfly, but Situ Qing was still sure that he could kill him.

“Bi Hai, stop wasting your time with him and lend me a hand here! We need to kill Jian Chen!” Situ Qing implored Bi Hai. He desperately wanted to kill Jian Chen today and would need the Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler to help him.

The blue-robed elder nodded his head after hearing Situ Qing’s request. While he was battling Jiede Tai, he had been taking careful notes of the fight between Jian Chen and Situ Qing, so even he was extremely shocked by Jian Chen’s fortitude.

Without any more misgivings, the blue-robed elder launched an all-out attack against Jiede Tai. Thanks to the large difference in strength between the two, only a few more exchanges were needed before Jiede Tai was dealt a devastating blow to the chest, sending him flying to the ground below.

Without Jiede Tai to stop him, the blue-robed elder didn’t hesitate. He immediately speed toward Jian Chen. The power of the world began to congregate in his hands as he delivered a palm strike to Jian Chen’s chest.

Even Jian Chen felt himself grow grim at the powerful energy in that palm. He could sense that the power in his attack was several times stronger than the attacks of Situ Qing. It was very possible that his Chaotic Body would be unable to withstand it.

“Brother Jian Chen, I, Huang Tianba have come to help you!” At that moment, a loud but elderly voice boomed from the far horizon. During the next second, a white figure sped over to them at an incredible speed.

Chapter 650: Gathering Experts From Every Direction (Two)

At the most crucial moment, the patriarch of the Huang family came speeding forward. A wave of energy washed over the entire area with so much pressure it seemed to freeze the entire place.

The fist of the blue-robed elder stopped just barely an inch away from Jian Chen’s chest. Turning his head, the elder looked at the incoming person with narrowed eyes.

“Blast it all! I didn’t think that Jian Chen would have such a powerful amount of assistance!” Situ Qing wailed bitterly. The incoming person had an aura that terrified even him; this person was stronger than he was!

“This person is equal to me in strength as a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler. Situ Qing, it seems like you’ll have to deal with Jian Chen yourself.” The blue-robed elder spoke expressionlessly.

Situ Qing gave a slight nod of his head. He knew that this newcomer was a strong one that only Bi Hai could handle.

“I thought that Ge Qiu would be able to handle the other two while Bi Hai and I would be able to fight and kill Jian Chen together. I didn’t expect one of them to be the ancient Golden-Striped Silver Snake, able to fight one on one with Ge Qiu. This brat, if I knew he had such powerful help, then I would have asked even more experts to come. I very much doubt the Shi family would decline even the tungsten alloy deposit if offered.” The Saint Ruler thought bitterly to himself. With the addition of a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler into the fight, it would be very hard to kill Jian Chen now.

As if one with space, the patriarch of the Huang family sped toward the fight with impeccable speed. When he first spoke, he had been extremely far away from Jian Chen, but by the time he finished speaking, he was already to where Jian Chen was before moving to strike the blue-robed elder.

Becoming wary of him, Bi Hai lashed out with a palm strike filled with the world’s power to greet him.

“Bang!”

When the two palms struck each other, it was as if an explosion was made between them. Following the ear-deafening explosion, a wave of energy billowed out, wreaking havoc wherever it spread.

Huang Tianba and the blue-robed elder were equally matched in strength. Almost as if they were pillars that held up the heavens themselves, the two men stood dignified in the air. Even though the energy from their strike originated in between them, neither of them moved a single inch from their spots.

Soon after, the berserk fallout of energy faded away and Huang Tianba stood protectively in front of Jian Chen like a stone stele. Now that there was a gap between them and the enemy, Huang Tianba turned around to look at Jian Chen. As soon as he saw his blood-stained figure, Huang Tianba’s face immediately grew dark. “Brother Jian Chen, are you alright!” He asked in concern.

Jian Chen nodded his head with a dry smile, “It was fortunate that senior came hurrying over. Any later and I’m sure this junior would’ve been in trouble.”

“As long as you’re fine, that’s good, brother Jian Chen. Hurry up and heal from your wound. Let me deal with this!” Huang Tianba announced before turning his head to look at the fight between Nubis and the poorly-dressed elder. In truth, he was shocked at the sight, and even though he couldn’t exactly tell who the two were, their might was unquestionable. However, what really shocked Huang Tianba was the fact that Jian Chen had been able to find such help.

Far away, Nubis and Ge Qiu were still fiercely battling with each other. Although their battle had started in the air, one of the two would sometimes knock the other down toward the ground, and as soon as they were on the ground, the fight would progress for some time before flying back up into the air. Furthermore, the longer they fought, the farther away they moved away from the others. Their fight was so fierce that whenever they exchanged attacks, the sky would echo with a devastating boom and crumble the nearest mountain into pieces.

A ceasefire temporarily happened following Huang Tianba’s entrance, allowing both fighters a moment of reprieve. Staring at each other in silence, both fighters waited for the other to make a move.

Earlier in the fight, Ge Qiu managed to knock Jiede Tai back to the ground. Given the interruption in the fighting, Jiede Tai was given enough time to make it back up to Jian Chen, but his face was pale and traces of blood could be seen at the corner of his lips. Clearly the attack he sustained from Ge Qiu had not been a light one.

“Huang Tianba, Saint Ruler of the Huang family, I didn’t think I’d see even you here today. It’s been five hundred years since our last meeting. How unexpected to see that you were able to reach the Fifth Heavenly Layer.” Situ Qing laughed coldly in apparent greeting to his acquaintance.

Leveling a cold glare at the Saint Ruler from the Sect of Dragon and Tiger, Huang Tianba said, “Situ Qing, I advise you to cease your actions against brother Jian Chen and offer up your apologies. End your grievances at once or you’ll not live to regret it.”

Situ Qing’s eyes flashed with a cold light, “Huang Tianba, you speak a little too soon. The days that Jian Chen will live are numbered. Do you think you’d be able to change that by yourself?”

“And according to what I know, your Huang family isn’t in good straits either. Your feuds aren’t easy to neglect, so I should be advising you to back away from this fight or else you will earn another strong foe for your Huang family!”

“Hahahaha!” Huang Tianba laughed out loud as if mocking Situ Qing, “Situ Qing, if you were to say these words to me before, I would perhaps be intimidated, but today, your words and these friends of yours hold no threat to my Huang family! If they dare approach, I cannot guarantee that they’ll be able to return home alive.”

“Is that right? Huang Tianba, it’s been a scant few years since we last met, but you’ve seemed to have become senile since then if you’d ignore even my Hongfu clan. Allow me to experience just what capabilities you have to back up what you say.”

The voice of an elder suddenly rang out after Huang Tianba with a powerful volume that reverberated across the sky.

Just ten kilometers away, two black-robed figures suddenly appeared out of nowhere, flying to where Jian Chen was.

The sudden arrival of this speaker caused Huang Tianba to falter slightly. His face grew dark before he whirled around to look at the two black-robed elders, "What brought you two here?"

"The two of us just only arrived here two days ago. At first we planned on watching the show from the sidelines, but when you came running here, Huang Tianba, with your arrogant words, neither of us could let it stand. Let us three fight then, and see if you have the power to ignore even our Hongfu clan." One of the two elders laughed. Promptly snapping a jade stone in half he threw the pieces into the air so that the turbulent winds could carry them away.