

## Chaotic 711

### Chapter 711: Family Transformation (One)

In the conference hall of the Flame Mercenaries, Tianmu Ling and the old woman were politely escorted to their seats. As for Bi Lian and You Yue, they received the guests enthusiastically.

Tianmu Ling sipped some tea elegantly and shot a glance at You Yue and Bi Lian, the two girls who were even prettier than her. She said softly, "I'm Tianmu Ling. Who are you two? And what relationship do you have with brother Jian Chen?"

"Hello sister Tianmu Ling. I'm Bi Lian. Jian Chen's my elder brother. This is sister You Yue, my brother's fiancée." Bi Lian said with a slight smile.

"Fiancée?" Tianmu Ling muttered quietly. She stared out You Yue with some astonishment and smiled, "Who would have thought the seemingly cold brother Jian Chen has a fiancée. Really surprised me. But sister You Yue's manners are refined and possesses an alluring appearance. Only exceedingly beautiful women like you suit brother Jian Chen."

You Yue's pretty face became flushed and she said with a smile, "Young lady Tianmu Ling must be exaggerating. Compared to young lady Tianmu Ling, You Yue is far below."

Tianmu Ling giggled, "Anyway, where has brother Jian Chen gone to? I've specially come today representing the Tianmu clan to look for brother Jian Chen."

"Young lady Tianmu Ling, we must apologize. A few days ago, my brother had matters to attend to so he went to the Qinhuang Kingdom. We don't know when he'll return." Bi Lian said apologetically.

An expression of disappointment appeared on Tianmu Ling's face. She sighed softly, "Looks like I've really come at the wrong time."

"Young lady Tianmu Ling, why don't you and this senior stay here for a few days? Jian Chen should return very soon."

Tianmu Ling stretched before looking at the silent old woman beside her. She said, "Grandma Wang, why don't we stay here for a few days and wait for Jian Chen to come back?"

The old woman stared at Tianmu Ling affectionately and said with a smile, "As long as Ling'er wants to. Grandma will listen to you." As soon as she finished speaking, a gleam of light suddenly flashed across her eyes. She slowly raised her head to look at the distance. At this moment, there was a weird light to her eyes, as if she could see through the structure and directly observe what was going on outside.

Soon afterwards, a great pressure suddenly erupted. It swept through the entire palace, causing those who were slightly weaker to feel as if their bodies were being crushed at by a boulder. Not only did they become extremely solemn, they even struggled to breath.

Bi Lian and You Yue were also affected in the conference hall. Their complexions suddenly paled and their legs became powerless. They struggled to stand and almost fell down.

The old woman on the seat sneered. She gently tapped the dragon-headed cane on the ground, and suddenly, the great pressure immediately vanished.

“Is the captain of the Flame Mercenaries, Jian Chen here? Hurry up and come out.” An old voice reverberated from the sky. It was like an explosion, extremely deafening and it spread throughout the entire city. Everyone in the city heard it.

In the sky above the Flame Mercenaries headquarters, five figures had already appeared at some time. They stood erect in the sky like gods that had descended.

“Who is being so impudent outside!” A cold snort resounded from the palace where the Flame Mercenaries were. Short afterwards, three great presences erupted from the palace simultaneously. Bi Hai, Jiede Tai and Nubis flew out from the palace at the same time, stopping one hundred meters away from the five. They suppressed the great presence given off by the five people.

“Who would’ve thought the Flame Mercenaries would have three Saint Rulers. A little surprising.” Of the five elderly men, one of them stared at the three people in disdain.

Bi Hai observed the five people rather solemnly. He could feel the strength of the five people. Three were Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers, while the other two were in the Sixth Heavenly Layer. Such a powerful lineup definitely was not something the three of them could deal with.

“Who are you? Why are you looking for my great-grandson?” Bi Hai asked with a deep voice. The expression he currently displayed was not nice.

The five people swept across the Bi Hai and the other two. They did not find Jian Chen with them so one of the people said rather impatiently, “Hurry up and tell Jian Chen to come out. We’re looking for him for some matters.”

“My great-grandson is not here. If you’re looking for him, perhaps you’ve made the trip in vain.” Bi Hai said with a deep voice. The five people did not come with good intentions, so he knew they were not friends but foe.

The five elderly men became slightly gloomy. One of them said huskily, “What, not here? Where’s he gone? Hurry up and tell us.” The person’s tone was imperative and did not seem tolerant to any resistance, as if he was directly ordering Bi Hai and the other two.

Nubis was unable to maintain his composure. As a beast of antiquity, the pride within him did not allow anyone to speak in such a way to him. Under the situation in which his dignity was challenged, he would not feel any fear even if the opponents were Sixth Heavenly Cycle Saint Rulers.

“You old bastard, who do you think you are? You better be careful with your tone, otherwise don’t blame me, the great Nubis, for being impolite.” Nubis stared coldly at the old man who had spoken out.

The old man was slightly stunned. He had never imagined that Nubis, a mere Third Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler, would speak to him like that. He had lived for so long yet he had never encountered such a situation.

However, the old man’s complexion quickly became ugly. He stared at Nubis with great shock and killing intent rose up without any restraint. He said coldly, “You’re looking to die!” As soon as he finished speaking, the old man appeared in front of Nubis with a great speed. His right hand formed a claw, swinging at Nubis’s neck with lightning speed.

The old man who had attacked was a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler. Facing against him, Nubis did not have any fear at all. Opening his mouth, Nubis spat out a mouthful of strong, poisonous gas. It immediately enveloped the old man and at the same time, Nubis's right hand went to receive the claw with great energy and without any fear.

Rumble! The moment the two hands collided, there was a muffled rumble akin to thunder. Both of them stood unmoving like a mountain, with nobody backing down slightly.

However, the old man's expression suddenly changed shortly afterwards. He immediately pulled back, escaping from the area of poisonous gas. He stared at Nubis in shock and cried out, "What is this poison?! It's so strong that it can even harm me!" Shortly afterwards, the old man seemed to think of something. He was greatly surprised, "You... you... you're not a human, you're a magical beast."

Behind him, Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler gently sniffed at the air that was somewhat polluted by the poison. After thinking a little, he said slowly, "This is the venom of a Silver Striped Golden Snake, a beast of antiquity. He's actually a Silver Striped Golden Snake."

"Hehe, I heard that Silver Striped Golden Snakes possess great strength. They can easily defeat those stronger than it despite being weaker. Looks like it really is true, actually able to block the attack from a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler while being a Third Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler. Not bad, not bad, not bad at all. It's just that, I wonder if you can resist against two Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers working together?" Another Sixth Heaven Layer Saint Ruler laughed coldly.

"Looks like we'll get another Class 7 Monster Core today."

#### Chapter 712: Family Transformation (Two)

One of the Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers said to the other one, "Situ you old coot, Silver Striped Golden Snakes have a crazy combat ability. Also, their venom is renowned on the Tian Yuan Continent, so they're not easy to handle. In my opinion, we should fight together and kill this snake as soon as possible, just in case he runs away."

The old man who was referred to as an old coot stared at Nubis as if he had just discovered a great treasure. There was unconcealed greed in his eyes and he laughed weirdly, "The every part of the body from a beast of antiquities is treasure. Since the five of us have met one today, we can't let him go. Mateng you damned devil, let's go by your suggestion. Let's fight together and finish off this Silver Striped Golden Snake in the easiest and fastest way, and take his monster core and body."

Old man Mateng rubbed his hands. They were about to obtain another Class 7 monster core, so he felt unconcealed excitement. Saint Force gathered in his right hand and quickly formed a two-meter-long sickle. He turned around and said to the other three Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers, "They're Jian Chen's companions, and one of them seem to be Jian Chen's senior, so you can't let any of them go. We'll let you handle the other two. If you catch them, we can use them as hostages to threaten Jian Chen with them. That way, we can finish the mission even easier."

"Don't worry second brother, leave the two to us." An old man within the remaining three Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler smiled coldly.

Every single word of their conversation was heard by Bi Hai and the other two. It caused them to become extremely serious. With their strength, they could not face up against the five at all.

Nubis's expression also became filled with seriousness. Although it was said that Silver Striped Golden Snakes possessed great battle ability, he could only handle one Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler with his strength of the Third Heavenly Layer. If two Saint Rulers of the Sixth Heavenly Layer were to move against him at the same time, he would definitely struggle to hold them at bay, unable to fight back at all.

"You dare to become enemies with our Flame Mercenaries? Perhaps you don't know that the grand elder of Mercenary City is supporting us Flame Mercenaries from behind?" Jiede Tai yelled deeply. He attempted to use the grand elder's name to deter the five people.

However, the five people clearly did not know anything about the Flame Mercenaries' situation and did not believe what Jiede Tai said at all. Old man Situ stared at Jiede Tai in ridicule and said, "Who do you think the grand elder of Mercenary City is? Why would he have any connections with your insignificant mercenary group? Do you really think I'm as easy to trick as a three year old? Hmph, Mateng, let's do it. We'll get the monster core from the Silver Striped Golden Snake first." As soon as he finished speaking, old man Situ took the initiative to rush at Nubis with his Saint Weapon, while old man Mateng who was also in the Sixth Heavenly Layer followed behind. They were going to fight Nubis together at the same time.

As for the other three Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers, they did not lag behind. They rushed at Jiede Tai and Bi Hai at the same time. Two of them faced off against Bi Hai who was also in the Fifth Heavenly Layer, while the other person faced off against Jiede Tai who was only in the Third Heavenly Layer.

The great battle between the eight Saint Rulers ensued in the air above the palace. When two people clashed, there would be a rumbling akin to thunder with powerful energy ripples, carrying the force of destruction in all directions. The palace and entire city below were also affected by the ripples, causing countless structures to collapse and countless cracks to appear on the roads. The countless merchants and mercenaries within the city felt like it was the end of the world, all fleeing crazily towards the distance while protecting their heads with their hands to avoid the ripples of battle. However, even though many did that, people were still crushed by the surrounding collapsing structure. The entire city became a mess in an instant.

In the sky, as the difference in strength between the opponents was just too great, the weakest, Jiede Tai, was injured by his opponent just from a few rounds of battle. He spat out blood as he fell from the sky, unable to battle anymore. Bi Hai was also suppressed by the two old men at a similar level to him, falling into a disadvantage, only able to defend but not attack. Nubis was the same, greatly suppressed by his two Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler opponents.

Hiss! Suddenly, a hiss that seemed to be capable of ripping apart souls erupted from Nubis's mouth. Nubis quickly turned into his body as a magical beast. A huge, golden snake of several dozen kilometers in length hung in the sky, battling intensely against two Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers.

Transforming into a magical beast, Nubis's ability in battle greatly increased. Just with his body as a beast of antiquity and the renowned venom, he could actually be able to fight two Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers to a stalemate temporarily.

However, as the two Saint Rulers used all their strength without holding anything back, Nubis became suppressed once again, only able to defend and not counterattack.

In the end, Bi Hai was unable to persist against the overwhelming numbers. Not long after, he was injured by his opponent, falling out of the sky after spitting blood. He landed heavily on the ground, creating two great ditches.

As for Nubis, the great snake he had transformed into was also beaten until he spat up blood, flying far off into the distance.

Old man Situ floated in the air as he gazed coldly at the three that were heavily injured. He said with an evil smile, "Capture them as hostages. I just don't believe that Jian Chen won't come. Mateng, let's go and get the Silver Striped Golden Snake's monster core."

Immediately, two Saint Rulers flew towards Bi Hai and Jiede Tai. As for old man Situ and Mateng, they continued to fly towards Nubis.

"Hmph, with this old woman here, how can you be so brash?"

Just at this moment, an old voice reverberated in the area. Shortly afterwards, a presence even greater than the five people appeared, before an old woman with a dragon-headed cane appeared soundlessly in the air. She just happened to block the two Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers.

Feeling the great presence given off by the old woman, the expressions of the two old men suddenly changed greatly. One of them immediately called out with a deep voice, "Who are you?"

The old woman stared at old man Situ and Mateng with a forceful gaze and the corner of her lips curled into a sneer of disdain. She did not answer their question, and instead raised the dragon-headed cane. She tapped it gently at the two people and invisible World Force immediately shot out, rushing at the two people.

The two Saint Rulers knew that the old woman was powerful and did not dare to be complacent even in the slightest. They also swung out with the Saint Weapons in their hands, with invisible World Force.

The World Force clashed mid-air. It did not give off any sound or any violent energy ripples, just that the space there began to shake and tremble violently, before being ripped open, revealing a black hole the size of a head. Within the black hole, starlight glimmered vaguely.

The old woman stood there unmoving, while the expressions of the Saint Rulers that faced up against her changed greatly. Their throats produced a deep, muffled sound with great difficulty, before backing down.

However, before they could contain the situation within their bodies, the old woman originally in front of them appeared behind them without any warning. The dragon-headed cane in her hand fused with the space and with a gentle-looking swing, it struck the backs of the two old men with lightning speed.

Sputter! The two old men who were Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers became extremely weak in that moment with blood spraying from their mouths. Their complexions paled in an instant, before looking at the old woman in shock.

"Crap, this bloody woman's at least the Eighth Heavenly Layer." Old man Situ exclaimed.

## Chapter 713: Family Transformation (Three)

Old man Mateng's expression became extremely serious, no longer as calm as before. He exclaimed, "This old woman is just too strong, even if we work together, we're not her opponent. Retreat!" Old man Mateng could not wipe away the blood from his mouth in time and immediately backed off.

The sudden change in the situation caused the other Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers to be greatly surprised. The two old men who were rushing towards Bi Hai and Jiede Tai also stopped in their tracks and shortly afterwards, all three of them convened mid-air. If the old woman were to move against them, they may not have possessed the strength to be her opponent together, but they could at least block a blow or two.

After the two Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers quickly backed off, they fused with the surrounding space and used Spatial Force to quickly retreat. As for the three Fifth Heaven Layer old man, their expressions were very solemn, staring extremely cautiously at the old woman with the dragon-headed cane.

"Who are you? What relationship do you have with the Flame Mercenaries?" Old man Situ stared deeply at the old woman as he asked her, in attempt to learn the woman's identity. His complexion was rather pale.

The old woman was hunchbacked, but she had a pair of eyes brimming with vigor. She said, "The five of you don't even have the qualifications to hear this old woman's identity. As for my relationship with these mercenaries, it has nothing to do with you. If you're sensible, hurry up and leave, otherwise, don't blame this old woman for being impolite."

Old man Situ and Mateng's expressions became rather ugly. They looked at each other, before old man Situ spoke, "Even though the opponent is strong, we aren't weak. If we all work together, I don't believe we won't be able to handle this old woman."

"Yeah, if we want to finish the mission quickly and easily, we can only defeat this old woman, and then control this place to threaten Jian Chen. As long as we have the Flame Mercenaries as a bargaining chip, Jian Chen'll obediently hand over what we want." Old man Mateng sneered.

"Alright, I agree with that suggestion. Let's work together and fight it out with her." The thoughts of the five people reached one conclusion very soon. Afterwards, they all rushed at the old woman. They did not hold back at all, using all that they could to battle the old woman.

Jiede Tai and Bi Hai stood pale-faced on the ground. They looked up together, but they both were greatly relieved inside. Although they did not know when the old woman had come, they were familiar with the person. They knew that she was a powerful Eighth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler, and behind her stood a terrifyingly powerful ancient clan.

Nubis also turned back into a human, floating mid-air. He stared at the battle in the distance in front of him and also felt extremely fortunate, "Luckily the expert from the Tianmu clan is here. Otherwise, really wouldn't know what outcome we'd be facing."

The old woman was already embroiled in an intense fight high up in the air with the five powerful Saint Rulers. They had already fought their way up to an altitude of a dozen or so kilometers from the initial

thousand meters. Their battle was devastating, to a point where even the sun or moon would struggle to shine. In the azure sky, pitch-black cracks in space would appear from time to time.

As the old woman fought against the five Saint Rulers, not only did she battle skillfully and at ease, she also gained the upper-hand, tightly suppressing all five of them.

The battle did not last for very long, only for around ten minutes. Old man Situ and the other four Saint Rulers were all injured by the old woman, spitting out blood as they fell from the sky. They were all heavily-wounded.

The five people were completely shocked. The strength of the old woman had greatly exceeded what they had believed. Originally, they believed that if they worked together, they could triumph over the old woman, but not only did they fail to defeat her, they could not even touch the woman. Instead, the outcome was that they were all heavily injured.

“That old woman’s strength must be at the peak of the Eighth Heavenly Layer, or maybe even in the Ninth Heavenly Layer. God dammit, why do the Flame Mercenaries have such an expert protecting it!?” One of the Fifth Heavenly Layer old man could not help it and cursed aloud.

Old man Situ regained control over his descent mid-air and shot a fierce glance at the old woman. Afterwards, he gnashed his teeth, “Let’s go!” As soon as he finished speaking, old man Situ immediately fled into the distance.

Soon afterwards, old man Mateng and the other three Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler regained control over their descent and chased after old man Situ with their heavily-injured bodies. They fled into the distance, disappearing into the horizon with the blink of an eye.

The old woman slowly descended from the air. Just as her feet touched the ground, the alluring Tianmu Ling arrived next to her and asked with concern, “Grandma Wang, are you okay?”

The old woman’s cold expression completely vanished in that moment. She stared at Tianmu Ling gently and said with a benevolent smile, “Stupid girl, how would anything happen to grandma Wang for fighting them? It’s not like you don’t know grandma Wang’s strength.”

“Ling’er is just caring for grandma!” Tianmu Ling smiled sweetly as she grabbed the old woman’s arm and pouted.

Seeing how Tianmu Ling acted, the old woman could not help but chuckle gently. Tianmu Ling was her most beloved granddaughter after all, someone she loved very dearly.

“Thank you senior for helping out.” Bi Hai and Jiede Tai glided over hurried from the distance. At the same time, they clasped their hands and thanked the old woman. They knew very well that if the old woman did not help out today, the outcome of the situation would have been unimaginable. Not to mention that fact that they would be taken as hostages, even Bi Lian and the others would be in grave danger.

The old woman looked over Bi Hai and Jiede Tai in an ordinary fashion and said, “Never thought that there’d be people who would come looking for trouble with the Flame Mercenaries. They don’t know about Jian Chen’s relationship with the grand elder. Though, just what has this kid done to cause so

many experts to come looking for trouble? Whatever, you should quickly go heal. With me guarding here, you don't have to worry about safety."

Bi Hai and Jiede Tai thanked her once again before directly leaving to recover. Afterwards, Bi Lian and You Yue hurried out of the conference hall, thanking the old woman without any signs of stopping.

"You two silly girls don't need to be so polite. This time, I've come to find Jian Chen to discuss some things. I've saved you this time, so you can just count it as Jian Chen owing me a favor. He'll have to return this favor." The old woman revealed a profound smile.

This time, it caused a great disturbance, unable to be concealed at all. Very soon, the news that the Flame Mercenaries were attacked by five Saint Rulers spread very quickly, causing a great commotion.

#### Chapter 714: Loss of Parents (One)

The news of the Flame Mercenaries encountering powerful enemies created a great commotion, spreading everywhere in a radius of several thousand kilometers in an extremely short time. As long as it was within the area, basically countless people could be heard discussing it at any given time.

Even a few hermit clans learnt about what had happened to the Flame Mercenaries. They were all extremely curious, unsure of exactly who had plucked up such courage to actually dare to provoke the Flame Mercenaries, which were supported by the grand elder of the Flame Mercenaries.

At that moment, it had already become a mess within the Flame Mercenaries. Although the five powerful Saint Rulers had been repelled, they had still brought an irremediable loss to the Flame Mercenaries. Not only was the entire city and palace greatly destroyed, becoming essentially ruins, there were also countless people who were heavily injured. Those who were weaker in strength had even lost their lives in the incident.

Although everything had settled down, there was still a great pile of things to do for the aftermath. At this moment, You Yue and Bi Lian displayed their leadership, immediately calling on the higher-ranking members of the Flame Mercenaries to begin tidying up the aftermath. Commands constantly flew out the mouths of the two.

At the same time, in a dense mountain several kilometers away from the Flame Mercenaries, there was a bonfire slowly burning within a dark cave. The bright flames flickered about like the joyful dance of a disobedient child, causing the entire cave to flicker between dark and light.

If one were to borrow the dim light from the flames, one could see clearly that there were currently five elderly people who sat cross-legged with pale faces by the walls of the cave. They were like old monks who were meditating, sitting without moving at all.

The five old men were old man Situ and the other four who had escaped from the old woman.

After consuming Radiant Spirit Pills, the five of them spent half a day before finally recovering from their injuries. They opened their eyes slowly at the same time and exhaled deeply, slowly expelling a turbid air from their bodies.

"God dammit, just when we were going to succeed, that happens. Who thought that the Flame Mercenaries actually hid such a powerful old woman? She made us fail even though we were so close."

A Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler gnashed his teeth as he clenched his fists so tightly that they made a sound.

According to their plan, as long as they controlled the Flame Mercenaries and those close with Jian Chen, they could threaten Jian Chen with it and get him to hand up what they wanted. With that, they could complete the mission from the Gilligan clan king very easily and obtain the other two Class 7 Monster Cores. They just did not think that such a sudden change would happen in the end, that there was actually an old woman who was stronger than the five of them combined in the Flame Mercenaries.

“These Flame Mercenaries really have exceeded what I expected in strength. Since they have an old woman who is at least in the Eighth Heavenly Layer protecting them, the original plan definitely won’t work. Looks like we have to return to the drawing board.” Old man Situ said as he pondered.

“When we first came here, we did not understand the entire situation, and we also know nothing about Jian Chen identity. I think we should go and investigate things about Jian Chen. It’ll be good if we understand him more, as it’ll help us determine what we should do next.” Old man Mateng suggested.

“You’re right. I feel that we should investigate some more about Jian Chen before thinking of other ideas to deal with him and get him to give us what we want.” A Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler said.

“Sure, though we shouldn’t delay it. Let’s move out right now and all go off to investigate about Jian Chen. We’ll gather in this cave again after a day.” Old man Situ said.

Soon after, the five people all left the cave, flying off in a direction they chose themselves. They all disappeared in the blink of an eye.

Time passed quickly. A day later, the five elderly men all returned to the cave at the same time.

“Everyone, I wonder if you’ve found anything useful?” Old man Situ seemed to be the backbone of the group so he asked first.

“I’ve found some useful information. The captain of the Flame Mercenaries, Jian Chen, actually has another important identity, and that’s the fourth young master, Changyang Xiangtian, of the Changyang clan. Also, he’s a new Imperial Protector of the Qinhuang Kingdom.

“Also, Jian Chen’s a great genius. It’s only been less than fifty years since he first started cultivating, and he’s become a Saint Ruler. His talent really is unprecedented in history and probably unmatched in the future. I think that there’s probably some great treasure on him, which is why he can improve at such a great rate.”

“This Jian Chen probably inherited the legacy of some peerless expert. Otherwise, it’s really hard to explain his speed in cultivation.”

The people explained what they had found in a few sentences and the topic of the conversation slowly digressed from Jian Chen’s identity to the treasures he possessed. However, as soon as they began talking about treasures, gleams of light flickered within the eyes of all five of them, all filled with greed.

Old man Situ coughed lightly and said, “Our top priority is to find Jian Chen. Let’s avoid the topic of treasures for now. As soon as we find Jian Chen, everything will be easily resolved. Not only can we finish the mission, everything he possesses will become ours.”

“Yeah, let’s first find Jian Chen. The Changyang Manor is Jian Chen’s home. Since Jian Chen’s not at the Flame Mercenaries, he must be at the Changyang Manor. Let’s go there immediately, as fast as we can, just in case Jian Chen hears the news and flees.” Old man Mateng immediately stood up. He was unable to wait anymore, as if he feared that Jian Chen would escape.

“Let’s go to the Changyang Manor right now!”

The five Saint Ruler did not hesitate at all. They immediately departed from the cave and travelled towards Gesun Kingdom with their greatest speed. Even the weakest of the five was in the Fifth Heavily Layer, so as they travelled at their top speed through the use of Spatial Force, it could be considered extremely fast. They arrived in Gesun Kingdom in just six hours, even though it was several thousand kilometers away from the Flame Mercenaries.

In Lore City of the Gesun Kingdom, the Changyang clan had already indisputably become the greatest clan in the kingdom without dispute. They was an existence that could dwarf the royal family and was respected by all ordinary people. Even in a radius of several thousand kilometers, there were no other great clans that could rival the Changyang clan.

This was because in the Changyang clan, there was a dazzlingly lustrous and brilliant legend—Changyang Xiangtian!

The fourth young master of the Changyang clan was the captain of the Flame Mercenaries, Jian Chen. This was no longer a secret, because no matter if it was the fourth young master of the Changyang clan or the captain of the Flame Mercenaries, they both possessed overly-great statuses. The fame was so great that there was basically no one who did not know about him in a radius of several thousand kilometers, receiving the attention of countless people. As a result, there would also be many more people who would ask about Jian Chen who was like a character from a legend, thus allowing his name to be spread even further. Also, after Jian Chen had truly become powerful, he did not purposefully conceal his identity. As a result, his true identity was found out very quickly by those who cared.

As the fact that the captain of the Flame Mercenaries, Jian Chen, was the fourth young master of the Changyang clan spread, the clan’s status also shot up at an unbelievable pace. It was as influential as the noon sun, as dazzling as the sun that shone in the sky. No one could waver the clan’s position.

#### Chapter 715: Loss of Parents (Two)

Within the Changyang Manor at Lore City, Bi Yuntian was currently talking casually with the three other aunts, giggling from time to time. They were all very happy from the conversation. The topic always seemed to be about Jian Chen. The three aunts had tones brimming with unconcealed admiration, along with some envy. They all secretly despised the fact that they could not have such an outstanding son like Jian Chen.

Listening to the three aunts talk about her son, Bi Yuntian smiled so much that she was no longer able to keep her mouth closed. She took great pride in her son’s outstanding talent and also because of her son, her status rose greatly within the Changyang clan. Even the elders of the Changyang clan would treat Bi Yuntian with a respectful tone.

Meanwhile in the conference hall of the Changyang Manor, Changyang Ba was currently conversing with the head of a certain large clan within the Gesun Kingdom.

“Brother Changyang Ba, how do you think about this suggestion? Although the esteemed young master Changyang Xiangtian is engaged with princess Ge Lan, it’s not rare for men to have three or four wives on the Tian Yuan Continent. I am willing to have my second daughter, Kadi Qiuli, marry young master Changyang Xiantian and become a concubine of his.” The clan head said. His tone was gentle and modest, with some intention of request hidden within.

Changyang Ba chuckled and said, “Patriarch Kadi, I’m extremely sorry. Xiang’er’s already become an adult. We, as parents, are unable to make decisions all by ourselves on matters that would affect the rest of his life. It’s best if you discuss it with him after Xiang’er returns.

“Then I will be troubling brother Changyang Ba to say a few words of praise before the esteemed young master. Although my second daughter Kadi Qiuli is not as outstanding as princess Ge Lan, she is a great beauty that outshines the moon. She’s publically renowned as the second beauty of the Gesun Kingdom.” Patriarch Kadi said proudly.

Changyang Ba nodded with a smile, “Definitely, definitely!”

Just at this moment, a great pressure descended grandly from outside. It enveloped the entire Changyang Manor. Feeling the pressure, everyone within the manor felt like a great boulder was placed on their chest, struggling to breathe.

The sudden change caused everyone within the manor to be great surprised. However, before they could understand what was going on, a voice resounded from outside. It was old, but it was full of vigor.

“Where is Jian Chen?! Hurry up and come out!”

Above the Changyang Manor, five elderly men who seemed to be in their seventies had appeared out of nowhere. They floated at a hundred meter altitude, looking down from above.

All the people within the Changyang clan endured the great pressure as they walked out of the buildings with great difficulty. They all raised their heads and looked at the five old men in the sky with anxiety and doubt. This was because they knew the five old men had come with ill-intentions, but they just could not think of who was willing to openly offend the Changyang clan.

Changyang Ba, Bi Yuntian and the older people all huddled in a square in front of a building. They stared at the five old men in the sky solemnly. After a while, Changyang Ba spoke out, “Who are the five seniors? Just why are the seniors looking for Xiang’er?”

As soon as Changyang Ba spoke out, the gazes of the five elderly men all gathered on him. Shortly afterwards, old man Situ waved his hand gently and Changyang Ba quickly flew into the air, as if his body was enveloped by an invisible force.

“Patriarch!” All the guards and the elder people cried out. They were extremely worried for Changyang Ba’s safety, afraid that something would happen to him.

“Release the patriarch!” Just at this moment, someone yelled out from the crowd. A azure figure quickly soared into the air, attempting to save Changyang Ba.

Seeing the azure figure shooting up from below, one of the Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers could not help but sneer in ridicule, "Hmph, such recklessness!" Soon after, he waved his hand gently. A powerful, invisible force immediately shot violently towards the azure figure, landing firmly on the person's chest.

"Blargh!" The azure figure spat out a mouthful of blood which turned into mist, falling from the sky. Afterwards, he fell down from above powerlessly, striking the ground heavily.

"Uncle Chang!"

"Head housekeeper!"

All the people of the Changyang clan cried out. They were all struck by fear and trepidation. Uncle Chang was a powerful Heaven Saint Master, yet he was actually struck down so easily by the five old men in the sky. It caused everyone to be drowned in disbelief.

Seeing how housekeeper Chang was injured with just a single blow, the tightly-bound Changyang Ba paled greatly from shock. He looked at the five old men, his gaze filled with stupefaction. The strength of the old man who had just struck out caused him to feel waves of terror. This was because Changyang Ba knew very well that with housekeeper Chang's strength, even Sixth Cycle Heaven Saint Masters would struggle to injure him so easily. As for the old man who had just struck out, it was just a casual wave of his hand.

Shortly afterwards, Changyang Ba seemed to think of something. Two words were choked out of his mouth with great difficulty, "Saint Ruler!"

Old man Situ stared at Changyang Ba with a sneer, "Not bad, not bad at all. You know quite some things to be able to guess our strength. You must be the patriarch of the Changyang clan, as well as Jian Chen's father. Tell me where Jian Chen is."

"Patriarch Changyang, as long as you obediently answer our question, we will not harm you. After all, not only does killing you fail to give us any benefits, it'll increase our sins, allowing Celestial Decay to occur sooner." Old man Mateng chuckled coldly. With Jian Chen's father in their control, he did not believe that they would fail to find Jian Chen.

Changyang Ba already understood that the five old men were Jian Chen's enemies. He said without any extra thought, "Seniors, perhaps you will be disappointed. Xiang'er likes to travel and has left the manor for many days already. Even I, his father, have no idea where he is currently."

"Looks like you don't want to tell us." Old man Situ's expression became overcast. He extended a hand and held Changyang Ba by the neck as he sneered, "I, Situ Jian, do not want to kill you, so don't make me do it. I'll give you another chance. Tell me where Jian Chen is. Otherwise, I can only snap your neck."

Changyang Ba was a courageous man. He did not fear death. Not only did old man Situ's threat fail to create any useful effect, it aggravated Changyang Ba's courage. He said, "If you want to kill me, then kill me. Even if I know where Xiang'er is, I definitely won't tell you."

Old man Situ's gaze suddenly became a glare. Shortly afterwards, he looked down and said, "If you want your patriarch to live, obediently tell us where Jian Chen is. Otherwise, don't blame me for being merciless."

## Chapter 716: Loss of Parents (Three)

The entire Changyang clan fell into a deathly silence. All the people stared at the five elderly men in the sky with fear and hatred, but no one was willing to announce Jian Chen's whereabouts.

Just at this moment, three great presences flew over from outside city. They arrived before the five people very soon. They were Qin Wuming, Qin Wujian and Qin Wutian.

"Seniors, please release the patriarch. You must not harm the patriarch. Jian Chen is an Imperial Protector of our Qinhuang Kingdom. If Imperial Protector Jian has some misunderstandings with seniors, we hope that everyone can sit down and talk over it, and not fall out just because of some small things." Qin Wutian said with his hand clasped. From the presence given off by the five elderly men, he already knew that they were Saint Rulers. They were a powerful force that even the Qinhuang Kingdom needed to be cautious about and could not be underestimated, so Qin Wutian's tone was extremely polite.

"Hmph, what do you think a mere Qinhuang Kingdom can do?" The corner of old man Mateng's lips curled up from a sliver of disdain. He looked at the three people coldly and said with a deep voice, "It's best if you don't intervene here. Otherwise, even if you are people of the Qinhuang Kingdom, we won't be polite. Go back to where you came from." Old man Mateng swung his hand and a great amount of energy of the world immediately rushed at the three people. They could not resist against it at all, and was directly pushed far away by the energy of the world.

Old man Situ's wrinkled hand held onto Changyang Ba's throat tightly, causing Changyang Ba to become unable to speak. He glanced down coldly again and sneered, "You've all kept your mouth rather tight. Since you don't want to speak, don't blame me for being merciless." Old man Situ suddenly tightened his grasp and with a crack, Changyang Ba's neck was directly snapped by him.

Shortly afterwards, old man Situ let go of Changyang Ba. His body immediately fell from the sky like a broken kite.

"Patriarch!"

"Husband!"

Cries erupted from the Changyang Manor. All the people were aggrieved and enraged. A few Earth Saint Master immediately leapt up and carefully caught Changyang Ba's body. However, his neck was already broken, so he had already passed away. After all, Changyang Ba still had not become a Heaven Saint Master, so his neck and heart were all fatal weaknesses.

"Patriarch!" After learning Changyang Ba's situation, all the people of the manor cried out in grief and rage again. Many of the elders looked at the five old men in the sky with bloodshot eyes.

"This is only an example. Tell us where Jian Chen is or tell him to come out. Otherwise, this will be the outcome for all of you." Old man Situ sneered.

"Even if we die, we will never tell you the whereabouts of the fourth young master. If you have the ability, kill us all. The fourth young master will avenge us one day." A loyal head guard roared out in rage, as if he did not fear death.

“Looking to die!” Old man Situ’s gaze become cold. With the point of a finger, a swift gale shot out from the tips of his fingers like a lightning bolt. It landed between the eyebrows of the head guard, piercing through his head. The head guard immediately collapsed on the ground, with red and white liquids flowing from the hole.

The scene deeply shocked the guards of the Changyang clan. All of them stared at the five elderly men in terror. They could not help but take a few steps back.

Within them, not everyone was loyal to the Changyang clan, unwilling to give up their lives at any moment and place for the flame. Immediately, a few who feared death fled towards the outside with great speed. They wanted to leave, to avoid the disaster.

“Don’t think any of you can leave without telling us Jian Chen’s whereabouts.” A Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler sneered in the sky. Shortly afterwards, a transparent barrier appeared silently with a thought of his. It completely enveloped the Changyang Manor, trapping everyone inside.

Changyang Ba lay on the ground with his eyes tightly closed, unmoving. Bi Yuntian, Yu Fengyan, Ling Long and Bai Yushuang gathered around him. They were all extremely pained and grieved to the extreme.

Old man Situ’s glance landed on the four women. The corners of his lips curled into a sneer and shortly afterwards, he swung his hand gently. An invisible force immediately tightly binded the four women, before dragging them into the air with great speeds.

“Speak, where is Jian Chen? Otherwise, don’t think any of you can live.” Old man Situ sneered. In order to find Jian Chen, he had already decided to start a massacre. Although it was said that Saint Rulers would suffer Celestial Decay sooner from committing overly great sins, that was only when they killed countless people.

After all, a fight between Saint Ruler would cause too great of a commotion. If two Saint Rulers were to go full out in a packed city, they could easily destroy the entire city. As for the millions or even tens of million citizens of the city, they definitely would not be able to survive. Only under situations like that would Celestial Decay occur. However, if it was just killed several dozen or several hundreds of people, there was no problem at all.

Old man Situ stared colded at the four women. He sneered, “Tell me the whereabouts of Jian Chen. Otherwise, don’t think any of you can live.”

“I’m Xiang’er’s mother. If you want to kill, kill me. The others have nothing to do with it. Don’t bring innocent people into this.” Bi Yuntian stared at old man Situ. There was no fear within her eyes at all.

Hearing that, old man Situ’s interest was piqued, “You’re Jian Chen’s mother? Good, very good, if I kill Jian Chen’s mother and father, I don’t believe he’ll fail to appear.” Killing intent rose up in old man Situ’s eyes. He did not show any compassion towards the woman. As he clenched his wrinkled hand, it broke Bi Yuntian’s neck.

“Fourth sister!”

“Fourth madam!”

Cries erupted from the surroundings once again. Many of the older people and loyal guards wept in pain, while the other three women also became sorrowful.

"You're next." Old man Situ did not give the people any time to recover. He stared coldly at the three remaining women and said, "I'll give you one last chance. Tell us Jian Chen's whereabouts, or you'll have the same outcome as Jian Chen's mother and father."

"If you want to kill, then do it. Keep dreaming about getting Xiangtian's whereabouts from me. Even if I, Yu Fengyan, die, I will not tell you." Jian Chen's second aunt stared hatefully at old man Situ as she gnashed her teeth. She already hated old man Situ to the core.

"Very well, then you will be the third one to die." Old man Situ's expression became overcast as he grabbed Yu Fengyan by the neck with his wrinkled hand.

However, just when he was about to snap Yu Fengyan's neck, there was a sudden change in the situation. The space before him suddenly ripped open and a red flash shot out of the crack, shooting towards the centre of old man Situ's eyebrows.

#### Chapter 717: Four Protectors of the Bloodsword Sect

Even though the change occurred extremely suddenly and without any prior signs, old man Situ was a Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler, so his reaction speed was extremely fast. He immediately released Yu Fengyan before flying back by one hundred meters in a flash.

The speed of the red light was also extremely fast. It seemed to exceed the speed of lightning, following old man Situ closely as he retreated one hundred meters, directly piercing at the center of old man Situ's eyebrows.

A gleam of light flashed across old man Situ's eyes. With a sneer, the space before him immediately froze in attempt to forcefully lock the red flash mid-air.

The red light seemed extremely small, but it carried great power. Not only did the space frozen by old man Situ fail to hinder the red light in any way, it was shattered by the energy from the red light, before continuing towards the center of old man Situ's eyebrows.

However, a dark staff had already appeared in old man Situ's hands in this very moment. Grasping it with two hands, the staff immediately began to radiate with a dark light after an explosive shout. It was thrust at the red light with great speed.

Ding! With a clear sound, the dark staff and the red light collided. The red light was immediately knocked away.

Old man Situ trembled slightly and could not help but take three steps back. His expression was solemn.

The transparent barrier that enveloped the Changyang Manor suddenly broke. Shortly afterwards, a middle-aged man in blood-red, long robes appeared out of nowhere one hundred meters away. He casually extended both hands to catch the red light. At that moment, the red light that had attacked old man Situ could be clearly seen; it was actually a conical awl, around four thirds of a meter long and a finger thick.

The middle-aged man floated mid-air like a demon god. His long, red hair moved in the windless sky, floating about. He was expressionless and stared at the five old men coldly. A harsh light flickered in his eyes and killing intent radiated from them without any intention of concealing. As for the long awl in his hand, it seemed to be dyed blood red, giving off a demonic red glow.

The five old men no longer paid any more attention to the people of the Changyang clan. They all glared at the red-robed man. Someone had actually appeared to meddle with what they were doing at such an important time, which caused the five of them to become extremely angry.

“Sir, who are you? Why do you meddle with what we are doing?” Old man Mateng shouted with a deep voice. His eyes also began to flicker with killing intent. Although the man in red robes possessed similar strength as him, it did not cause old man Mateng any fear, because they had five people while he was just by himself. They had an advantage in numbers.

“The five of you are working with the Gilligan clan, doing things that betray the human race. We have come under the sect master’s orders to capture— and— kill!” The man said expressionlessly. His tone was extremely cold and carried no emotions. When he got to the last three words, he said it with great pauses.

As the three words ‘capture and kill’ came out of the man’s mouth, a powerful killing intent suddenly erupted from him, rushing at the five people with a great presence, like a roaring wave. Before the powerful killing intent, the surrounding space seemed to become viscous.

It was clear that the man had reached a high degree of proficiency in controlling killing intent. Even though he gave off monstrous killing intent, the killing intent only tightly enveloped the five old men. It did not spread any further and did not affect the people down below at all.

The five old men all became solemn. The strength of the killing intent from the man had caused them to tremble with fear.

This was because it was pure killing intent accumulated from slaughtering countless lives, vastly different from the killing intent that originated from the heart. At this moment, they were flooded with disbelief from feeling such powerful and pure killing intent from a Saint Ruler. This was because what Saint Ruler worried most about was massacres. Otherwise, once they committed such a great sin, they would suffer Celestial Decay and lose their lives.

However, what made them even more shocked was what the man had said. He actually knew about the relationship between the five of them and the Gilligan clan. The matter was a big deal because once it got out, the five of them would become the public enemies of the Tian Yuan Continent.

“Not good, this person actually knows about our relationship with the Gilligan clan. This is extremely bad.” Behind old man Mateng, a Fifth Heavenly Layer said with a soft voice.

“There’s only one person. Let’s move together. We have to kill him as soon as possible and not let him get away.” Old man Situ quickly made a decision. The staff in his hand immediately rushed towards the man with a great force.

“Do it together!” Old man Mateng exclaimed with a deep voice and also materialized his Saint Weapon, rushing at the man.

The man remained expressionless. Shortly afterwards, he actually disappeared suddenly, vanishing into thin air. In the next moment, a weird red glow appeared before old man Situ. It shot towards the centre of old man Situ's eyebrows with lightning speed. As it approached old man Situ, it actually began to form many afterimages. From one to two, two to four and four to eight, it transformed into a group of densely-packed afterimages, surrounding old man Situ. Every afterimage contained the presence of a great energy, as if it possessed great offensive power. It was impossible to distinguish between the real and the fake.

Old man Situ shouted out loud, and vast, darkness-attributed Saint Force surged wildly from his body to protect his entire body. At the same time, the staff in his hands was coated with a layer of invisible World Force. Old man Situ swung the staff countless times, keeping the balls of red light at bay.

Just when old man Situ began to tire from handling the balls of red light, the space before him ripped open. Another ball of red light slipped out from the crack, shooting towards the centre of old man Situ's eyebrows with extreme speed.

This time, old man Situ was unable to react at all. The ball of red light arrived before his forehead in the blink of an eye. At that crucial moment, old man Situ's head was jerked to one side, avoiding it dangerously. However, a shallow, bloody mark had already appeared on his face.

He came within an inch of having a hole punched through his brain and an outcome of having his soul wiped out.

Old man Situ's expression became extremely dark. The opponent was also a Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler, yet the way the person fought had already reached a level of perfection. It was extremely weird and almost impossible to guard against. He had almost died because of it.

"Be careful everyone, this person's attack is very weird." Old man Situ broadcasted with a deep voice to alert everyone.

The man appeared on the other side of old man Situ and the red ball of light that had left a bloody mark on old man Situ's face returned to his hand. It transformed into a long awl. However, the man began to move once again not long after. With a single movement, he transformed into many afterimages as he rushed at the five old men. He directly thrust the blood-red awl in his hand towards old man Situ.

Old man Situ had already raised his vigilance to the limit. He moved along with his four companions, all moving towards the man from different directions. The terrifying power from the Saint Weapon shook up the surrounding space to prevent the man from disappearing again.

A bitter smile of mockery formed from the man's lips. He ignored the attacks from the four other people, locking tightly onto old man Situ.

However, just at this moment, a change to the situation occurred. Three balls of red light appeared strangely behind the three Fifth Heavenly Layer old men and passed through their backs with speed as swift as a lightning bolt. Afterwards, the three balls of red light immediately gathered together, rushing towards old man Mateng with great speed.

When the three Fifth Heavenly Layer old men were struck by the red light, they all vomited blood. They were swamped with disbelief. With their strength, they could not feel anything unusual behind them.

The attack of the red balls of light seemed to appear out of nowhere. If they had not seen it with their eyes, they would struggle to believe it even existed.

As the balls of red light passed through them, a strand of Baleful Yin Force actually remained in their bodies. It constantly ate away at their vitality within their bodies, forcing the three of them to give up on their attacks and immediately use Saint Force to purge the Baleful Yin Force from their bodies.

On the other side, old man Situ and the man fought. The three balls of red light kept Mateng busy. The balls of light were extremely fast, leaving behind several wounds on old man Mateng's body with a few flashes. Also, there were strands of Baleful Yin Force left behind in the wounds, constantly eating away at his injuries.

"This is Baleful Yin Force!" With a change in old man Mateng's expression, he immediately back off away from the three balls of red light.

However, the three balls of light did not pursue him. They hung in the air, unmoving, and shortly afterwards, three other people in long, blood-red robes appeared beside the balls of light. They reached and grabbed the red balls of light unhurriedly. At this moment, the three balls of light could be seen clearly. They were actually all sharp, conical awls of finger-thickness. They were completely the same.

Seeing how three other blood-robed men had appeared, old man Situ who was currently entangled with the first man immediately felt gloomy. He immediately struck out powerfully, knocking the man away, before quickly retreating and reconvening with old man Mateng and the three others.

The four middle-aged men in long, blood-red robes did not pursue the five old men in battle. Instead, they stood in a row mid-air, holding onto the same blood-red awl in their hands. They stared at the five old men without any expression.

The five old men stared at the four blood-robed men with ugly expression. When they saw the appearances of the four blood-robed men, a sliver of shock immediately appeared within their eyes. This was because not only were the attires and weapons of the four people the same, even their appearances were the same, without any differences whatsoever.

"Who are you?" Old man Situ yelled out with a deep voice again. He felt extremely curious about the identities of the four people.

This time, the person who had appeared first did not remain silent. He said indifferently, "We are the four protectors of the Bloodsword Sect!"

"What! The Bloodsword Sect!?" The expressions of the five old men changed greatly. They exclaimed out of surprise, "Disappeared a thousand years ago, one of the three great assassination organisations, that Bloodsword Sect?"

#### Chapter 718: The Welling of Sorrow

Not only did the five elderly men know about the Bloodsword Sect, they also knew just how powerful the Bloodsword Sect was. It scared the five of them very much.

“Not good, they’re actually from the Bloodsword Sect! Let’s go!” Old man Mateng exclaimed without any further thought. Before he had even finished speaking, he began to flee into the distance at a great speed.

“Let’s go!” Old man Situ yelled loudly and also began to flee. The remained three Fifth Heavenly Layer old men naturally did not dare to stay for any longer, fleeing into the distance almost simultaneously with old man Situ.

“The sect master has orders to capture and kill the five of them. Pursue them!” The man who had appeared first of the four said coldly. Afterwards, they all turned into streaks of red light simultaneously to pursue the five men, disappearing into the distance in the blink of an eye.

Although the appearance of the four protectors from the Bloodsword Sect had saved the Changyang clan, those in the Changyang clan did not feel a sense of joy from surviving the disaster. Instead, they were all heavy-hearted. The entire Changyang Manor was flooded by a dense feeling of sorrow.

The guards within the Changyang clan were frightened to death by what had happened. Immediately, some guards stumbled towards the outside of the manor with trembling legs, each with pale faces.

Afterwards, more and more guards who feared death and did not want to be drawn into the matter all chose to leave. Most of them were guards who were hired by the Changyang clan with a lot of money. They worked at the Changyang clan, but they were not hell-bent on the job. If it were ordinary people, they would charge up without fearing death and massacre bravely, but the people the Changyan clan had provoked were Saint Rulers. Also, it was not just one Saint Ruler, but five. They felt burdened by a great pressure, and with the death of Jian Chen’s parents, Changyang Ba and Bi Yuntian, they all believed the Changyang clan was utterly doomed this time.

Although there was still the fourth young master who possessed a strength that could rival the Saint Rulers, they all believe that the odds really were against the fourth young master this time.

The high-ranking members of the Changyang clan sensed the departure of the guards, but they did not stop any of them, allowing them to leave.

Not long after, many of the guards, servants and followers of the Changyang clan had left. Only around four hundred royal guards stayed behind, as well as a few mercenaries and followers who were born and raised within the clan.

The parents of the followers were all old members of the Changyang clan. Even some of their ancestors had always worked in the Changyang Manor, so they were extremely loyal.

“Fourth sister, fourth sister, nothing must happen to you. Wake up, wake up.” Jian Chen’s second aunt, Yu Fengyan, leaned on Bi Yuntian’s corpse wailing. She constantly shook her body.

In the surroundings, the older people of the Changyang clan remained silent. They all displayed a deep feeling of grief. Today, what happened definitely was an extremely heavy blow to the Changyang clan

The news of the Changyang clan disaster spread in all directions like wild fire. Very soon, it had covered a radius of several thousand kilometers, causing all those who heard it to be greatly astounded.

Whilst everything was unfolding, Jian Chen was having a merry time with the third prince, Qin Ji, in the Qinhuang Kingdom. They sat at a large, round table which was full of people, with around a dozen or so. However, other than Jian Chen and Qin Ji, the others were all female. They were all princesses of the Qinhuang Kingdom or young ladies of great clans. All of them were extremely pretty, and even some of them seemed to be able to cause fish to drown just from their appearance. They were all famed beauties within the Qinhuang Kingdom.

The beauties had come for an obvious reason, perhaps because of the orders from elder members of their clans, or perhaps they just wanted to come themselves.

Beside Jian Chen, the two princesses, Qin Shuang and Qin Yubing, sat close to Jian Chen. They smelt like orchids and constantly helped Jian Chen to wine and food. Their gazes at Jian Chen were filled with admiration and infatuation.

“Haha, brother Jian Chen, I, Qin Ji, have lived at the Drifting Clouds Palace for thirty years, yet it’s never been as lively as it is today. All these beauties and young ladies of great clans have gathered in my Drifting Clouds Palace. It’s a great honor for my humble abode.” Qin Ji chugged down a cup of good wine and laughed in a carefree manner which had originated from his joy. Although Jian Chen was already a Saint Ruler both in name and reality, he still remembered Qin Ji as a brother, even though his status was greatly different from before. It moved Qin Ji greatly.

His brother, Jian Chen, was an Imperial Protector of the kingdom. With a relationship like that, Qin Ji would be full of confidence even when he spoke to his own father, the king. Qin Ji could even feel that his father now treated him very differently, and even the eminent dukes and ministers who held great power treated him much more courteously than before.

Jian Chen’s face carried a warm smile. He was a person who viewed friendship with great importance. Even though he did not have many sworn brothers, Qin Ji was one of them, so no matter how much he changed, he would never forget their relationship.

After clinking glasses with Qin Ji, Jian Chen wanted to down the entire cup of good wine. However, just when the cup touched his lips, Jian Chen suddenly shook violently. A lot of the wine was split, dirtying his clothes.

The two princesses sitting next to Jian Chen immediately pulled out their silk, fragrant handkerchiefs that had accompanied them for great times to gently wipe at the wine on Jian Chen’s clothes. They said gently, “Young master Jian Chen, you should slow down. Look, the wine’s been splashed onto your clothes.”

Jian Chen did not pay any attention to the two princess’s voice. He slowly put down the cup and grasped his chest with his hand. His complexion began to change and his expression slowly became solemn.

Feeling the change in Jian Chen, Qin Ji immediately showed an expression of concern and asked, “Brother Jian Chen, what’s wrong?”

Jian Chen did not reply. His eyebrows were tightly furrowed and his hand remained tightly pressed on his chest. This was because he suddenly felt a weird pain in his heart and at the same time, his calm and immovable state of mind suddenly began to waver. He became perturbed and felt a great sense of unease and agitation flood his soul from deep within.

“What’s happening, just what’s happening? What has happened?” Jian Chen mumbled to himself at a loss. He had never encountered such a situation, even when he faced against insurmountable foes or incoming dangers. He had never felt such a feeling before.

“Brother Jian Chen, just what’s happening to you?” Qin Ji placed down his glass of wine and stared at Jian Chen in confusion.

“I don’t know. Why do I suddenly feel uneasy?” Jian Chen slowly stood up from his seat and paced around the palace. His eyebrows were tightly furrowed. He had no idea just what had happened.

Around the table, all the famed beauties looked at each other. They did not know just what had happened to Jian Chen.

Suddenly, a gleam of light flashed across Jian Chen’s eyes. His expression immediately became grim and thought, “Perhaps something has happened at home?” Thinking up to there, Jian Chen’s uneasiness became even stronger, causing him to change greatly in expression. A great wave of terror flooded his heart.

The terror was not a type of fear brought on by undefeatable enemies, but a fear that extremely terrible things had happened.

“Brother Qin Ji, I must depart immediately. I will be bidding farewell first!” Jian Chen could not stay for any longer. He immediately bid farewell to Qin Ji, before apologising to the famed beauties around the table. Afterwards, he hurried out of the Drifting Clouds Palace, rushing over to where the Space Gate was in the royal palace.

Qin Ji did not urge Jian Chen to stay. He stood in the Drifting Clouds Palace and watched as Jian Chen departed into the distance. His expression was full of doubt and shortly afterwards, he muttered to himself, “Perhaps something’s happened to Jian Chen’s home?”

Jian Chen’s departure was very hurried. He did not even bid farewell to the king or the four Imperial Protectors and instead directly got people to activate the Space Gate using his identity as an Imperial Protector. He passed through the gate and left the Qinhuang Kingdom.

As there was a destination set up for Space Gates outside Lore City in the Gesun Kingdom, Jian Chen directly arrived outside the city.

When Jian Chen arrived outside the city, he arrived right in the centre of the camp of the Eastern Deity Swords. There were soldiers clad in silver armor patrolling everywhere.

The opening of the Space Gate alerted the soldiers of the Eastern Deity Swords. Immediately, several people saw Jian Chen exit the Space Gate, but they seemed to know who Jian Chen was. After seeing him clearly, they all dropped to one knee and exclaimed, “We greet the Imperial Protector.”

In the blink of an eye, everyone in the surroundings knelt on one knee.

Jian Chen did not have the time to pay any attention to the soldiers. He immediately shot into the sky, flying towards Lore City.

Jian Chen descended from the sky in the Changyang Manor. The moment his feet touched the ground, Jian Chen seemed to have been petrified, standing there blankly and dumbstruck. In front of him, there

was a ring of people composed of the elderly people and guards who had not left. As for the centre of the ring, Bi Yuntian and Changyang Ba lay there, eyes closed and pale faced.

All the remaining people of the Changyang clan gathered there. None of them spoke, feeling great remorse within their hearts. The entire Changyang clan was enveloped by a great feeling of grief.

It was less than two hours since the tragedy had occurred.

Jian Chen stared blankly in the direction of the people. Although the centre of the crowd was covered up by the surrounding people, he seemed to be able to see through the obstruction and clearly observe what was inside.

Chapter 719: Sorrow

“Mother! Father!” After a long while, two painful cries came from Jian Chen. Jian Chen slowly walked towards the group of people with trembling feet.

“It’s the fourth young master’s voice. The fourth young master has returned!”

“The fourth young master is back!”

The guards that gathered together discovered Jian Chen who had appeared at a moment unbeknownst to them. They all cried out, but their voices were not filled joy like before, but rather grief and sorrow.

A pathway immediately formed in front of Jian Chen. He walked forwards with shaking steps before finally arriving in front of Bi Yuntian and Changyang Ba. Seeing parents on the ground, a deep feeling of sorrow filled Jian Chen’s soul.

“Mother! Father!” Jian Chen cried out sorrowfully. He wanted to cry his heart out. His eyes became blood-shot and blood-red tears welled up in his eyes, slowly flowing down his face. With his current strength, he naturally could feel that his parents were already dead. Even with the high grade Radiant Spirit Pills he possessed, he was unable to revive the two.

“Fourth young master, I am sorry. This old servant was useless, unable to properly protect the patriarch and the madam.” Uncle Chang arrived beside Jian Chen with his shaking body. His face was pale and filled with self-blame.

Jian Chen did not say anything. He stared lifelessly at his parent’s bodies while the tears of blood constantly flowed from his eyes. A while later, Jian Chen’s lifeless eyes finally regained some light and closely afterwards, his gaze was aghast. He asked with a deep voice, “Just what has happened? Who has killed by parents?” Jian Chen’s voice was not loud, but it was icy-cold. Even the surrounding temperature abruptly plummeted with what he said, becoming chilly.

The surrounding guards and elderly people immediately felt a cold intent envelope their bodies, causing them to shiver without any control. At that current moment, although Jian Chen did not give off any presence, he was like a death god to the surrounding people, unbelievably terrifying.

“Fourth young master, before, a few Saint Rulers came to our Changyang Manor and said that they were looking for you. The patriarch and the fourth madam were killed by them.” Uncle Chang said sorrowfully, his tone gloomy.

Jian Chen tightly clenched his fists and a great killing intent erupted from his body. It seemed to cause the surrounding space to become sticky.

Just at that moment, Jian Chen suddenly raised his head and looked into the distance. He saw four blood-red figures heading over and around the four people, there was a powerful but concealed killing intent, orbiting slowly around the four of them. It was Baleful Yin Force, condensed using a special method after killing countless lifeforms.

Jian Chen immediately felt that the four people were Saint Rulers and jumped to the conclusion that they were the people who murdered his parents. His eyes became filled with the gleam of vengeance and his gaze became horrifying.

The chaotic neidan with Jian Chen's dantian began to tremble violently. Strands of Chaotic Force flowed unrelentingly from the chaotic neidan, surging violently through Jian Chen's body like wild horses. It filled every corner of Jian Chen's body and at the same time, a rocketing presence exploded from Jian Chen. It surged into the sky, accompanied by powerful killing intent. It seemed to form a dark cloud in the sky.

"Argh!" Jian Chen gave out a long roar into the sky. His hair began to move even though there was no wind, dancing about madly. The Dragon Slaying Sword immediately appeared in his right hand, giving off a dark, beautiful glow.

Suddenly, Jian Chen surged into the sky. He shot towards the four red figures in the distance like a lightning bolt, wielding the Dragon Slaying Sword.

Seeing Jian Chen charge like a mad man at them, the four blood-red figures came to a screeching stop. They floated mid-air, each with furrowed eyebrows.

"Pay for my parent's life!" Jian Chen roared at the sky and swung the Dragon Slaying Sword at the four people. A powerful sword Qi shot out of the sword, flying towards the four people carrying a presence of destruction with it. Wherever the sword Qi passed by, it caused the space to crack, creating long, thin, pitch-black cracks that would repair in the blink of an eye.

"What is this power? Such strength." One of the red-clothed men exclaimed in surprise. Shortly afterwards, a long, blood-colored awl appeared in his hand. At the same time, a similar awl appeared in the hands of the other three people. They thrust out their awls simultaneously, which rushed at the sword Qi from Jian Chen with powerful Baleful Yin Force.

Boom! A loud sound of collision was created as the sword Qi came together with the four red awls. A powerful ripple of energy transformed into a violent wind, wreaking havoc in the surrounding.

The sword Qi was immediately dispersed by the four awls. However, the Baleful Yin Force surrounding the awls also grew much dimmer, before flying back into the four people's hands simultaneously.

Jian Chen understood how strong the four people were, but he did not feel the slightest fear. He stared icily at the four people and a powerful and pure sword Qi erupted from his body. Within it, there was a dense killing intent.

"Stop, fourth young master, stop!" At this moment, an old and feeble voice sounded from below. The pale-faced uncle Chang used the energy of the world as he flew from the Changyang Manor in a

tottering fashion. He had suffered a blow from a Saint Ruler. Even though it was just a casual strike, his injury was very heavy. After just flying a little, the world energy that allowed his levitate quickly disappeared and he began to fall from the sky.

The coldness in Jian Chen's eyes quickly decreased slightly. Seeing uncle Chang fall from the sky, Jian Chen's expression suddenly changed and images of his childhood immediately floated through his head. Shortly afterwards, he ignored the four red-clothed men, fusing with the surrounding space to approach and catch uncle Chang.

A mouthful of blood sprayed from uncle Chang's mouth, which dyed his old face blood-red. With a slight thought, a few Radiant Spirit Pills immediately flew out from Jian Chen's Space Ring, entering uncle Chang's mouth.

With the Radiant Spirit Pills, uncle Chang's condition stopped worsening and slowly regained stability. He looked at Jian Chen with a dull gaze and said powerlessly, "Fourth young master, it's not them, it's not them who killed the patriarch and the fourth madam. If it were not for their sudden appearance which chased away the murderers, perhaps our Changyang clan will no longer have anyone alive."

Hearing that, Jian Chen raised his head and looked at the four red-clothed men. The icy-cold killing intent in his eyes slowly dispersed, and even the presence he gave off was slowly withdrawn. Without a single word, he carried uncle Chang's body into the manor.

At dusk, a lot of people had already gathered outside the manor. All the respected patriarchs within Lore City had all gone to the manor to express sympathy, and even some people of great clans of neighboring cities had come. However, all of them were kept outside. Under the fourth young master's orders, the entire manor was in a lock-down, refusing to receive any guests.

#### Chapter 720: Determination

Now that the patriarch of the Changyang clan had passed away, Jian Chen had basically become the head of the clan. Even the older members of the clan agreed to it. Under Jian Chen's command, the Changyang Manor had gone into lock-down, refusing to receive any guests. They locked all of the people from the great clans who had come to express sympathy outside, which caused the manor to be surrounded with people. Before the main entrance, it was so jam-packed that even water would struggle to flow through the crowd.

Even though it was like that, those who were locked out did not dare to be resentful. Not to mention the fact that the genius of the clan was in there, the Changyang clan had encountered such a great disaster today, so even if they behaved unusually, or even radically, it was understandable.

Within the Changyang Manor in a large room, it was currently full with people. Basically all the old people and members of the clan had gathered there. Before everyone was a luxurious bed, where Bi Yuntian and Changyang Ba currently lay.

Jian Chen sat blankly beside the bed. His dull eyes stared at his dead parents and he seemed to be petrified, unable to move at all.

Behind Jian Chen, the sheet-white faces of Jian Chen's first and third aunt were covered with tears. They stood there silently and sorrowfully, while Jian Chen's second aunt had already cried to the point where her eyes had become red and swollen.

On the side, Changyang Hu sat in a wheelchair, staring calmly at the two people on the bed. Changyang Hu was the only person who remained calm about Changyang Ba and Bi Yuntian's death. However, the emotions in his eyes varied constantly; sometimes stricken with grief, sometimes sorrowful, sometimes lost, sometimes melancholy, sometimes dull and sometimes calm. Almost all the emotions of people flashed across Changyang Hu's eyes. At that moment, no one knew what Changyang Hu was thinking.

Even though the large and luxurious room was filled with people, it was unusually silent. The atmosphere was extremely heavy.

The news about the deaths of the Changyang clan patriarch and Changyang Xiangtian's mother continued to spread further. On the second day, the king of Gesun Kingdom had arrived at the manor with commander of the imperial guards, Bi Dao, under the accompaniment of a Heaven Saint Master.

Two hours later, the principal of Kargath Academy, Khafir, had also come to the Changyang clan. Afterwards, basically all the respected people within the Gesun Kingdom had gathered in Lore City. What happened with the Changyang clan created a very great commotion. The people had come to confirm the reality of the news, as well as to express sympathy.

However, those people were all denied entry without any exceptions. They were unable to enter the clan, while only the king and principal who close ties with the clan were allowed in.

"Sister, brother will definitely avenge you. No matter how strong the opponent is, as long as brother is alive, brother will definitely avenge you." Looking at Bi Yuntian who lay on the bed, Bi Dao's expression became extremely sorrowful. His fists were already clenched, his unsharp nails actually deeply piercing into his palms, which caused his two hands to bleed. Meanwhile, the sliver of a recollection appeared in the depths of his eyes. He could not help but think about the moment when he had fled with his sister over twenty years ago.

In that moment, Bi Dao had already secretly made the decision. In the future, he would spend all his efforts in raising his strength!

In the blink of an eye, another day passed. On that day, You Yue, Bi Lian, Jiede Tai, Nubis, Bi Hai and Huang Luan had all come to the Changyang clan from the faraway Flame Mercenaries, along with Tianmu Ling from the Tianmu clan and the Eighth Heavenly Layer Saint King old woman.

"The old woman swept her gaze across the manor. She seemed to be able to see through the walls, observing everything clearly within the manor. She sighed gently in her heart and thought, "Just who did this Jian Chen offend to actually have several Saint Rulers to move against his parents and do such despicable things? Sigh, this time, Ling'er didn't hold back and even got the old man to help guard the Flame Mercenaries. Looks like Jian Chen's status in Ling'er's heart is greater than normal. However, my Tianmu clan has helped Jian Chen greatly this time, and I don't think Jian Chen'll forget. The matter about the tungsten alloy mine should be easier to handle now."

The old man thought of by the old woman was Tianmu Ling's grandpa Jun. He was a powerful Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler, and was an old couple with Tianmu Ling's grandma Wang.

After understanding the situation with Bi Yuntian and Changyang Ba, Bi Lian and You Yue became extremely sad, especially Bi Lian. She became so stricken with grief that she fainted. As for Bi Hai, the founder of the Bi family, he struggled to suppress his rage and declared on the spot that he would personally tear the five murders to pieces. After all, Bi Yuntian was one of the few descendants of the Bi family. Her departure caused great sorrow to Bi Hai.

The Changyang clan did not hold a glorious funeral for Changyang Ba and Bi Yuntian. The older members constantly brought it up, but they were all shot down by Jian Chen. They all felt extremely helpless.

Jian Chen stayed within the room for three days and only then did his state of mind recover from the rage and sorrow from before, returning to calmness. Three days later, most of the people had already left the room with only a few remaining.

Jian Chen finally moved from the posture he had held for three days. He walked up to the bed step by step, and gently pulled up the blankets for his parents. He said softly, "Mother, father, I will definitely revive you." Jian Chen's gaze suddenly became resolute. He knew that not only did powerful Radiant Saint Masters possess the power of regrowing limbs, they would even revive the dead.

Hearing what Jian Chen said, the perplexed gaze of Changyang Hu quickly disappeared. It was replaced by peace, without any sorrow or any joy. It did not even seem to carry any signs of emotion, becoming terrifyingly calm.

"Brother, it'll be all up to you for father and fourth aunt." Changyang Hu said softly to Jian Chen.

Jian Chen stared deeply into his brother's eyes. He nodded and said, "Brother, don't worry. I swear that I'll revive mother and father." In that moment, Jian Chen's decision to go to the Holy Empire to break through Class 6 became even more resolute.

Jian Chen comforted the grieving Bi Lian slightly, before leaving the room. When he arrived in the guest room, he immediately met Tianmu Ling and the old woman. However Jian Chen just was not in the mood to discuss with them at that moment. He left the room after just some small conversation, going outside to catch some fresh air.

Outside, Jian Chen's gaze suddenly gathered and landed on the four middle-aged men in blood-red clothes close by. The four men currently stood beside each other with their eyes closed and arms crossed. Although they stood ordinarily there, they seemed to carry the presence of the world, as if they were fused with the world.

The guards of the Changyang clan all knew how powerful the four men were, so even though the Changyang Manor was in lockdown, they did not dare to chase away the four men. During that time, some of clan elders even went up courteously to thank them, but the four men were very cold. They did not pay any attention to the elders expressing gratitude, not even opening their eyes.

Jian Chen stared and observed the four red-clothed men. From the identical appearances of the four people, he could already roughly guess that if the four had not undergone any manipulation in appearance, there were definitely rarely-seen quadruplets.

Chen did not know the identity of the four men. However, they had saved the Changyang clan when it was in trouble and helped the Changyang clan avoid a tragedy, which made Jian Chen feel grateful.

Just when Jian Chen went up to thank the four of them, they suddenly opened their eyes and looked at Jian Chen simultaneously. There were no emotions in their eyes at all, only coldness and indifference.

“Jian Chen, the four of us have waited until now is because the sect master has sent you a message. The Gilligan clan king has already sent several powerful humans against you, and he wants you to be more careful.”

Jian Chen heard a cold and indifferent voice. This was the voice transmission that only Saint Rulers could use. As soon as the message reached the end, the four men seemed to have a spiritual connection, turning into streaks of red light and rushing into the sky. They disappeared into the horizon in the blink of an eye.

Jian Chen’s expression became serious. He gazed deeply at the horizon where the four men had disappeared. The light within his eyes flickered, while his complexion fluctuated.

“Just who are those four people? Who is the sect master they speak of, and why do they know that the Gilligan clan king wants to deal with me? Perhaps they already know about the Winged Tiger God?” Jian Chen constantly thought about those questions, before having images of the Mercenary City grand elder Tian Jian and the mysterious uncle Xiu flash through his mind. However, he remained unsure.

As for uncle Xiu, Jian Chen had already thought that he was a Saint Ruler before, because he possessed the abilities of Saint Rulers. However, after becoming a Saint Ruler, this notion began to waver, because Jian Chen had always been guessing at uncle Xiu’s strength. Jian Chen had never been sure whether uncle Xiu was a Saint Ruler or something above a Saint Ruler.

Uncle Xiu always brought an unfathomable but extremely ordinary feeling to Jian Chen.