

## Chaotic 971

### Chapter 971: Resisting the Protector Clans (One)

Jian Chen snickered at Bi Yifei's attempt to scare him off, "Bi Yifei, even if all ten protector clans gather here today, they won't be able to take my life. Die." Jian Chen sped up toward Bi Yifei, traversing the distance between the two of them in the blink of an eye. The Emperor Armament stabbed toward him like a black bolt of lightning.

Bi Yifei was already heavily injured and could no longer function as well as before. Sensing the force of Jian Chen's strike, his heart immediately sank. However, he could not afford to move his arms slowly. A huge sword immediately appeared in his hand, and he placed it before himself to block the incoming strike.

Jian Chen's weapon directly struck the huge sword before Bi Yifei. With the screeching of metal, the terrifying force knocked Bi Yifei backward once again. He immediately vomited blood a few more times. This time, he became even paler, without a shred of blood left in his face.

Although Bi Yifei was also a Saint King, he was not Jian Chen's opponent with his current strength as Jian Chen could display the power of a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King with the Emperor Armament.

"God dammit, how did Jian Chen's strength reach such a terrifying level in such a short amount of time? I don't even have the power to put up a fight." Bi Yifei was astounded inside. His gaze toward Jian Chen was filled with fear.

Jian Chen grasped the Emperor Armament tightly in his right hand as icy killing intent flickered in his eyes. With a slight movement of his body, he turned into a blur as he continued his pursuit of Bi Yifei.

Bi Yifei reacted with a change in expression once again. From the two clashes, Jian Chen's strength already had him terrified, where a thought of utter defeat had sprouted in his mind. He immediately lost all interest in the battle when he saw Jian Chen chase up once again. He was prepared to rip open a Space Gate and leave.

At this very moment, the space several kilometers away began to tremble and a Space Gate quickly formed. Immediately, a tremendous presence surged from within.

With the appearance of the Space Gate, Bi Yifei became delighted. He gave up on his plan to flee and called out, "Ling Yuanzi, Jian Chen has returned and the Winged Tiger God is on his shoulder. If you don't come over immediately, he'll flee."

"The person who should be fleeing would be you, not me. Just a mere Ling Yuanzi is not enough to scare me off," Jian Chen said icily. He paid no attention to the Space Gate as he stared tightly at Bi Yifei. As he approached him, he stabbed out with the Emperor Armament with no hesitation.

Jian Chen's strike seemed to surpass the limitations of time and space, arriving before Bi Yifei in an instant.

Bi Yifei's pupils narrowed to the size of pins. He could clearly see the dark sword expanding rapidly as it made its way toward him, while the shade of death now covered his head like a cloud.

Madness appeared in Bi Yifei's eyes as he poured everything he had into blocking with his Saint Weapon. However, he had been struck by two heavy blows already, so his strength had decreased drastically. When the Saint Weapon was struck by the Emperor Armament, it was knocked away by the powerful force while the Emperor Armament continued onward with no reduction in force. It arrived before Bi Yifei's forehead.

At this very moment, a white-robed, ruddy old man emerged from the Space Gate. He was a great elder of the Yiyuan sect, Ling Yuanzi.

Ling Yuanzi saw that Bi Yifei was in danger as soon as he emerged from the Space Gate. His complexion immediately changed and he cried out, "Stop!"

However, Jian Chen turned a deaf ear to his words. The Emperor Armament stabbed mercilessly into Bi Yifei's forehead.

Shwt!

The Emperor Armament impaled Bi Yifei's head. His soul seemed so weak before the might of the Emperor Armament, unable to even withstand a single blow. His soul was directly wiped out.

Bi Yifei's eyes became dull as life receded from them quickly. He was no longer able to remain in the air, falling down in the same posture he had, standing upright.

"Bi Yifei!" Ling Yuanzi produced a miserable cry. He had become utterly enraged when he saw this, immediately flying toward Bi Yifei's corpse in an attempt to catch it.

A cold light flickered through Jian Chen's eyes. With a jolt, the sword in his hand stabbed toward Ling Yuanzi out of nowhere. This strike was not Jian Chen's full strength, but it contained the might of a Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint King.

Ling Yuanzi bellowed and his Saint Weapon immediately materialized. He too swung out, producing a blade Qi.

Jian Chen's sword Qi collided with the blade Qi and produced a deafening boom. The blade Qi was dispersed immediately, reduced to dense World Force that dissipated into the surroundings while Jian Chen's sword Qi weakened slightly as well. However, it continued toward Ling Yuanzi like a bolt of lightning.

Ling Yuanzi's eyes narrowed and he became quite stern. The curved blade in his hand erupted with light and his arm jolted. It immediately multiplied into two other blades and three blade Qi shot out at the same time. It flew toward the black sword Qi in a triangular fashion.

Boom! Ling Yuanzi's two attacks finally dispersed Jian Chen's sword Qi. Ling Yuanzi no longer paid any attention to Bi Yifei's corpse after being struck with that attack. Instead, he immediately began to glare at Jian Chen in mid-air. He was extremely grim.

"That's an Emperor Armament. Jian Chen, I never thought you'd obtain an Emperor Armament from your trip to the sea realm." Ling Yuanzi recognized that it was an Emperor Armament with a single glance and he immediately revealed an ugly expression.

As a great elder of a protector clan, Ling Yuanzi was knowledgeable. It was not the first time he had seen an Emperor Armament, so he was naturally very familiar with the might of one.

“Ling Yuanzi, when you pursued me all those years ago, I almost died in your hands. I shall be taking revenge for that today and slay you with the Emperor Armament. That will be your outcome,” Jian Chen said coldly.

Ling Yuanzi quickly glanced past the white tiger on Jian Chen’s shoulder. “Jian Chen, do you really think that you can contend with the protector clans with just an Emperor Armament? You are just too naive. You are indeed stronger than me right now, but not only will you fail to kill me today, you’ll have to obediently give my Yiyuan sect the Winged Tiger God,” as he said that, a piece of jade had already appeared silently in Ling Yuanzi’s hands. He immediately crushed it, notifying the other great elders of the sect.

Jian Chen immediately noticed Ling Yuanzi’s minute movement and a sliver of cold light flashed through his eyes. He yelled, “Ling Yuanzi, since you’re calling for reinforcements, I’ll just kill you before they come!”

Jian Chen charged toward Ling Yuanzi with the Emperor Armament in hand. It shone with a blinding dark light as an aura of destruction filled the surroundings. Tremendous ripples of energy shook the area around them, causing the space to distort into a blurry mess.

This time, Jian Chen struck out as hard as he could. He did not hold back at all, completely displaying his strength equal to a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King. He wanted to end the battle quickly; he planned to kill Ling Yuanzi before he could resist.

Ling Yuanzi’s expression finally changed when he sensed the might from Jian Chen. Given that he felt pressured from Jian Chen before, he now found Jian Chen to be utterly chilling.

“This is impossible. How can his strength become so terrifying in just a few years? Even with the Emperor Armament, he couldn’t have become this powerful. Just how does he cultivate?” Shock overwhelmed Ling Yuanzi as he became rather pale.

Jian Chen’s long hair and clothes danced in the wind. Everywhere he passed seemed to become pitch-black because of the Chaotic Force. He used the Illusory Flash, traversing several kilometers in an instant to arrive before Ling Yuanzi. Wielding the sword in one hand, he stabbed toward Ling Yuanzi with a lightning speed.

The strike was ordinary, yet it made Ling Yuanzi feel like he could not avoid it at all. It was like no matter where he dodged, the strike would still arrive and that the only way out was to forcefully break through it.

A gleam of light exploded in Ling Yuanzi’s eyes as extremely powerful energy surged out wildly from his body. In that instant, a set of awe-inspiring armor had condensed on his body. At the same time, his curved blade pointed toward the sky. The wind and clouds in the sky immediately began to change and a great pressure descended on the region. It locked tightly onto Jian Chen.

“Blade Formation of the Wind and Clouds!” Ling Yuanzi bellowed. Suddenly, his blade disappeared into the void, as if it had become one with the surroundings.

The wind and clouds in the sky seemed to be driven by some force, beginning to fuse together and condense into curved blades that gathered before Ling Yuanzi. In the blink of an eye, a dense wall of curved blades had gathered before him and every single one was of the same size. It seemed illusory yet tangible, completely condensed from air and clouds. They all radiated with powerful ripples of energy.

“Go!” Ling Yuanzi extended a finger toward Jian Chen. Immediately, the curved blades shot toward Jian Chen, surrounding and enveloping him as it constantly rotated. It formed something like a grinder as it constantly chopped at Jian Chen.

At the same time, the wind and clouds above Ling Yuanzi churned and an even larger blade was condensed. It was a thousand meters long and several dozen meters wide, extending directly into the sky. It radiated with a powerful force, causing the sky to tremble.

“Jian Chen, prepare to die.” Ling Yuanzi’s lips curled into a sneer and with a thought, the huge blade above him began to fall as it chopped toward Jian Chen. The space below was shattered with its descent, reduced to a patch of darkness and void.

The huge blade fell extremely fast, arriving above Jian Chen in the blink of an eye. Ling Yuanzi already bore the smile of victory. He seemed to have already seen the moment where Jian Chen passed away.

At this moment, Jian Chen’s icy voice rang out, “Ling Yuanzi, the power of your battle skill is impressive, but it’s a pity that it’s only a pseudo-Saint Tier Battle Skill and is not the real deal.” A destructive energy began to radiate from the center of the blades as the voice rang out and a black light flashed. The formation was immediately broken through, reduced to a wild tempest and wisps of water vapor.

Jian Chen emerged unharmed in the air, remaining calm and composed. He stared nonchalantly at the huge blade and pointed his Emperor Armament to the sky. All his power had completely erupted forth as a huge sword Qi shot out from the Emperor Armament. It surged into the air like an enraged dragon.

Boom!

A deafening sound rang out as the two forces collided. The wild residual energy destroyed the surroundings, causing the space to collapse and mountains to fall. The entire world seemed to quake violently.

The huge blade was broken through and gradually dispersed into the surroundings, while Ling Yuanzi’s joyful expression vanished as well. His face was now sunken.

Chapter 972: Resisting the Protector Clans (Two)

“Jian Chen, I never thought you would become so powerful after just a few short years,” growled Ling Yuanzi as he panicked inside. He looked forward to when the people from his sect would arrive.

Jian Chen said nothing and continued his threatening charge toward Ling Yuanzi with the Emperor Armament in hand. His glare was filled with dense killing intent.

Ling Yuanzi became extremely grim as he watched Jian Chen charge toward him. The current Jian Chen was definitely enough to threaten his life. If the people from the Yiyuan sect still failed to arrive, it would be almost certain death if he continued his one-on-one fight with Jian Chen.

Ling Yuanzi gritted his teeth as if he had finally made up his mind to do something. He said hoarsely, "Jian Chen, I'll spare you for today. When we meet next time, you will be begging for mercy." With that, he swung his hand and directly cut open a region of space. He formed a Space Gate with his powers as a Saint King, planning to flee.

"Don't you dare run, Ling Yuanzi!" Jian Chen bellowed. With a swing of his Emperor Armament, a great sword Qi shot toward the Space Gate.

The black sword Qi split the air. Wherever it passed by, a pitch-black crack in space would appear as well as. The sword Qi quickly flew toward Ling Yuanzi's Space Gate.

Boom! The sword Qi struck the Space Gate and violent residual energy shook up the surroundings. The space in a radius of five meters had completely collapsed, turning into a pitch-black region. The Space Gate was also greatly affected by the shaken space, directly collapsing and chopping off Ling Yuanzi's path of escape.

Ling Yuanzi was pale-white. He was a great elder of a grand protector clan, yet he had to flee before a member of the younger generation. That was humiliating enough, and now his Space Gate had even been destroyed by the opponent, severing any chances for him to escape. His face currently burned with humiliation.

Not only was he forced to flee by a younger person, he had even lost his ability to run before them. He found this to be utterly terrifying.

Killing intent burned within Ling Yuanzi as he stared coldly at Jian Chen. Determination flashed through his eyes and he bellowed, "Jian Chen, if my pseudo-Saint Tier Battle Skill can't kill you, then taste my real battle skill!" He was left without any choice. All he could do was go in for a deathmatch now.

He had been completely frightened by Jian Chen's strength. His understanding of Jian Chen was extremely limited and he had no idea that Jian Chen's comprehension of the mysteries of the world remained at the Seventh Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler. If he had chosen to run using speed, Jian Chen would not have been able to catch up at all.

An extremely great energy emerged from Ling Yuanzi, causing his clothes and hair to flutter despite the absence of wind. Suddenly, a tremendous pressure descended grandly onto the surroundings, turning the region in a radius of several dozen kilometers into a blur. The pressure seemed to have frozen the area.

The pressure descended layer by layer from the sky, wrapping around Jian Chen like chains. It seemed to want to immobilize him.

Jian Chen bellowed and the chaotic neidan in his dantian began to produce strands of Chaotic Force that filled every corner of his body. He pushed the Chaotic Body to its utmost limits, before suddenly jolting. He broke through the pressure's immobilization, causing the space around him to tremble violently.

As soon as he broke free, a tremendous ripple of energy appeared before him. A huge finger had appeared out of nowhere in front of Ling Yuanzi.

The finger was completely condensed out of energy. It was five meters long and half a meter thick. It radiated with a terrifying pressure, shaking up the surrounding space to the point that it distorted and became blurry.

Jian Chen finally became rather stern. Ling Yuanzi had completely charged up his Saint Tier Battle Skill. With his strength as a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King, it possessed the might of a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King. This was enough to threaten Jian Chen.

“Jian Chen, I refuse to believe that you can take my battle skill head on and come out unharmed. Die!” Ling Yuanzi called out before suddenly pointing at Jian Chen.

Immediately, the huge finger ripped a hole in space and shot toward Jian Chen with a devastating pressure.

Jian Chen sucked in a deep breath and charged forward instead of retreating. He fearlessly charged up to the giant finger on his own initiative and his Emperor Armament began to expand. In the blink of an eye, it became ten meters long and he stabbed out toward the giant finger.

Boom!

The Emperor Armament collided with the giant finger with a violent boom. The terrifyingly powerful ripples of energy directly ripped through space, reducing the region into darkness. Even the sun in the sky dulled.

Jian Chen began to retreat rapidly under the violent energy, shooting backward uncontrollably. However, the giant finger had yet to dissipate before him, continuing toward Jian Chen with no reduction in speed. However, it had already shrunk by a tenth.

Jian Chen bellowed out once again and the giant Emperor Armament in his hand swept through the sky as a beautiful dark streak, striking the giant finger heavily once again.

With another boom, the giant finger shrunk by another tenth from Jian Chen’s attack. The violent energy knocked back Jian Chen again, causing him to speed up as he flew backward. His clothes were reduced to shreds, revealing the golden silkmail underneath.

The giant finger possessed the power of a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King. It was equal to Jian Chen’s strength, or maybe even weaker a little. Despite this, it was still a Saint Tier Battle Skill in the end. It was no ordinary attack, so unless the disparity between the two was drastic, it could not be nullified so easily.

Jian Chen bellowed out several times, striking out ten more times with all his force before finally dissipating the Saint Tier Battle Skill into energy that surged in the surroundings. He remained uninjured as he had the Chaotic Body, but he was in a messy shape.

“Y- y- you actually blocked by Saint Tier Battle Skill perfectly. H- h- how is that possible?” Ling Yuanzi was stunned as he stared at Jian Chen from afar. He was dumbstruck, while the shock he experienced had already reached its utmost limits.

He knew exactly how powerful his Saint Tier Battle Skill was. Even when a Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint King faced up against it, they would receive some wounds, or even be heavily injured. Meanwhile, Jian

Chen's personal strength was nowhere near the Seventh Heavenly Layer. However, Jian Chen was still able to nullify his attack easily just through the use of the Emperor Armament and sustained no injuries. This was unbelievable.

"Ling Yuanzi, even your Saint Tier Battle Skill cannot injure me. I'd like to see what else you have up your sleeve now," Jian Chen laughed wildly. Using the Illusory Flash, he charged toward Ling Yuanzi as a blur and began fighting him up close.

Ling Yuanzi gritted his teeth as he endured, hoping that he could last just a little longer until the reinforcements arrived. However, the difference in their strength was just too great, so he was injured after just a few bouts. His ribs were crushed by a kick from Jian Chen, while his entire chest caved in. His organs had all ruptured, and the wound on his neck was even worse. Half his neck was severed; if he did not dodge in time, he would have probably been decapitated.

A Space Gate suddenly appeared high up in the sky as Ling Yuanzi was in the middle of danger. Immediately, several tremendous presences emerged. The reinforcements from the Yiyuan sect had arrived.

Ling Yuanzi became delighted. He no longer paid attention to any dignity he should have been preserving and cried out for help, "Yi Yangzi, save me!" Ling Yuanzi's miserable voice passed through the Space Gate clearly, causing it to condense even faster.

Jian Chen's heart sank slightly. He knew that he did not have much time left to kill Ling Yuanzi, so he immediately struck out as fast as he could. The sword cut through the air, targeting the center of Ling Yuanzi's eyebrows.

Ling Yuanzi immediately used his curved blade to block. Although he managed to repel Jian Chen's life-threatening blow, it worsened his injuries, causing him to constantly vomit blood.

Jian Chen's gaze became icy-cold. Without any hesitation, a second strike followed. The attack broke through the limitations of space and stabbed toward the center of Ling Yuanzi's eyebrows once again.

Ling Yuanzi's pupils narrowed to the size of needles. Unwillingness to give in flickered through his eyes. He was unable to block this lightning-speed strike.

At this moment, the Space Gate stabilized. A white-robed, ruddy old man stepped out in front. His expression changed immediately as soon as he stepped out as he saw Ling Yuanzi in the middle of danger. He called out, "Stop!" He extended a finger and a force tore through the air. It broke through the limitations of space and descended upon Jian Chen in an instant, viciously knocking away the Emperor Armament that stabbed toward Ling Yuanzi.

The Emperor Armament was knocked away as soon as it came into contact with Ling Yuanzi's skin. The force from the tiny movement contained unbelievable power, jolting Jian Chen's arm to the point that it became numb.

Jian Chen was shocked. He knew the person that had just come possessed strength he could not contend against, but he felt no fear. He stabbed out once again with the Emperor Armament in an attempt to kill off Ling Yuanzi.

“How dare you!” Yi Yangzi became furious. He swung his sleeves and the wind began to blow violently. A whirlwind that connected the sky and the ground suddenly formed, whistling toward Jian Chen with an earth-piercing sound.

Jian Chen’s Emperor Armament had already stabbed through Ling Yuanzi’s forehead. The whirlwind arrived just as part of the sword had entered. The high-speed wind was like sharp blades, constantly chopping at Jian Chen’s body. It caused Jian Chen to feel pain all over and white marks appeared all over him.

The violent wind had also pulled his body backward, preventing the Emperor Armament from stabbing any further into Ling Yuanzi’s head. Instead, it was slowly drawn out, failing to impale Ling Yuanzi’s soul. Jian Chen was unable to kill him off completely.

However, Ling Yuanzi had still suffered unimaginable injuries. He shrieked out uncontrollably and the top of his head suddenly exploded. A dull soul flew out from within, quickly streaking toward the furious Yi Yangzi.

Ling Yuanzi had actually abandoned his body and fled in soul form.

As soon as he fled his body, his head exploded loudly. Slivers of black energy that radiated with a destructive aura leaked out from his head, reducing it to pieces.

Jian Chen found it harder and harder to regain his stability under the wild whirlwind. When he saw Ling Yuanzi’s soul flee, he immediately panicked and swung his sword. He produced a powerful sword Qi that ripped through the air, shooting toward Ling Yuanzi’s soul.

Blood drained from Yi Yangzi’s face as killing intent flickered in his eyes. He grabbed at the empty space with his left hand, containing the region of space and grasping Ling Yuanzi’s soul. At the same time, he formed a palm with his right hand and struck toward Jian Chen.

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Yi Yangzi’s palm strike immediately caused the space before him to collapse. A half a meter wide palm immediately condensed, shooting toward Jian Chen as a blur.

Jian Chen was extremely stern. A vast pressure had already tightly locked onto him. It did not come from Yi Yangzi, but the casual strike was from him.

Jian Chen actually felt the notion of utter defeat flash through his head when he faced up against this palm strike completely condensed from energy. It was as if he could not avoid it no matter where he dodged or hid.

Jian Chen’s heart shivered and he grabbed the Emperor Armament with both of his hands. He raised the weapon high up and swung out several times as hard as he could in that moment. Several powerful sword Qi shot through the sky, shooting toward Yi Yangzi’s palm strike in a row.

Yi Yangzi’s attack contained an unimaginable power. When the sword Qi collided with the palm, they all dispersed while the palm continued at the same speed toward Jian Chen. However, it did become weaker after bursting through all the sword Qi.

Bang! The palm condensed from energy struck Jian Chen mercilessly. The palm broke through his Chaotic Body immediately, and even the golden silkmail failed to block anything. His chest caved in deeply and all his ribs all shattered.

Jian Chen sputtered and blood leaked from the corner of his lips. He flew backward, only stopping after traveling several kilometers.

Jian Chen was shocked. Yi Yangzi was far more powerful than he had ever imagined. Just a casual palm strike of his was still so powerful, even after being weakened by the sword Qi. Jian Chen felt utterly astounded.

At this moment, the remaining great elders of the Yiyuan sect emerged with a group of Saint Rulers from the Space Gate. They were all surprised when they saw Yi Yangzi holding Ling Yuanzi's soul, but fury soon replaced their surprise. They all glared viciously at Jian Chen.

"Ling Yuanzi was injured by you. Who are you? Are you sick of living? How dare you injure a great elder of our protector Yiyuan sect!" The leading great elder yelled furiously at Jian Chen. Dignity filled his voice.

"H- h- he's the Jian Chen we have been searching for. He has returned with the Winged Tiger God," said Ling Yuanzi's soul. Its voice was extremely weak.

"What! He's Jian Chen!?" All of them were shocked by Ling Yuanzi's words. They all looked toward Jian Chen in disbelief.

"How is this possible? Jian Chen is clearly just a Saint Ruler, but the person before us is a Saint King. He can't be Jian Chen. Ling Yuanzi, have you mixed him up with another person?" A great elder asked in disbelief. He refused to believe that there would be someone who could reach Saint King from the Third Heavenly Layer of Saint Ruler in just a few years.

"It's him. It can't be wrong. It was he who cast God's Descent all those years ago and heavily wounded my soul. Even if I were reduced to ashes, I can still recognize him. Look, that little beast on his shoulder is the Winged Tiger God," said Ling Yuanzi.

All of them focused their attention on the white tiger on Jian Chen's shoulder. The white tiger remained standing there with balance as it stared back at them with its bright eyes. Its fur had been messed up by the violent ripples of residual energy but it was unharmed.

Jian Chen silently circulated the Chaotic Force in his body. The deviant-level recovery rate of the Chaotic Body came into play beautifully at this moment, allowing the wounds on his chest to heal quickly. The shattered bones began to regrow quickly. Jian Chen could not help but smile coldly when he noticed that everyone was looking at the white tiger.

A while later, a gleam of light flashed through Yi Yuanzi's eyes. He had finally confirmed the white tiger's identity and his eyes began to burn with greed. "I can feel a vague pressure from it. It really is the Winged Tiger God. It can't be wrong."

All the experts from the Yiyuan sect became ecstatic when they heard this. They all looked toward the white tiger avariciously, as if it was not a magical beast but a priceless treasure.

“Fantastic. I never thought it would be us who would see the Winged Tiger God first. The Winged Tiger God now belongs to our Yiyuan sect. Jian Chen, you may have an Emperor Armament, but you’re not our opponent. Hand over the Winged Tiger God obediently. Don’t force us to move against you,” a great elder laughed aloud, as if the Winged Tiger God already belonged to their group.

A disdainful expression appeared on Jian Chen’s face. He pointed his Emperor Armament toward the great elder who spoke and said provocatively, “If you want the Winged Tiger God, come get it. But you probably aren’t capable enough to do that.”

“You arrogant brat!” The great elder erupted in rage and charged up to challenge Jian Chen to a battle. However, he was stopped by Yi Yangzi.

Yi Yangzi slowly stepped forward as he gazed at Jian Chen calmly. “Ling Fengzi, you’re not his opponent. The matters regarding the Winged Tiger God are too important, so we need to take it before the other protector clans arrive. We can’t waste too much time. Let me do it.” Yi Yangzi took a step forward as soon as he finished speaking and the space below his feet rippled. He suddenly disappeared; when he reappeared, he was over ten kilometers away from Jian Chen. He extended his arm toward the white tiger on Jian Chen’s shoulder.

A sneer formed on Jian Chen’s lips and the Octoterra Divine Hall immediately appeared before him. It blocked Yi Yangzi’s hand.

The sudden appearance of the divine hall surprised Yi Yangzi and his hand forcefully stopped in mid-air. Surprise flashed through his eyes as he cried out with a deep voice, “That’s a Saint Emperor’s divine hall. I never thought that you’d also obtain a divine hall on top of your Emperor Armament.”

Not only did the sudden appearance of the divine hall surprise Yi Yangzi, it also shocked the other great elders and experts from the Yiyuan sect very much.

Jian Chen paid no attention to their surprise and made the Octoterra Divine Hall expand suddenly under the control of his mind. It reached a length of three thousand meters in that very moment, hanging in the sky like a dark cloud.

Jian Chen entered the divine hall with the white tiger and a loud voice boomed from the hall, “People of the Yiyuan sect, I’d like to see how you take the Winged Tiger God from me today. Bring it on, all of you. I’ll take you all on at the same time.” Jian Chen sounded extremely arrogant. It was an open provocation to the Yiyuan sect’s pride.

Yi Yangzi became pale and roared, “Jian Chen, don’t think you can look down on others just because you have a divine hall! Do you really think that I can’t do anything to you? Piss off!” A tremendous energy surged from his body and a three-hundred-meter wide palm condensed before him. It struck the divine hall heavily.

**Boom!**

The divine hall immediately began to shake violently but regained its stability very quickly. Yi Yangzi’s grand attack had failed to damage the divine hall at all.

The Octoterra Divine Hall flew over Yi Yangzi’s head at this very moment and directly began to descend. The giant divine hall fell quickly, wanting to squash Yi Yangzi underneath.

Yi Yangzi became enraged after realizing what Jian Chen intended. He could dodge, but his arrogance and pride as one of the strongest experts on the Tian Yuan Continent could not bear the thought of running.

Yi Yangzi roared at the sky as energy surged around him. The space distorted and warped, while the energy of the world and the World Force in a radius of five thousand kilometers began to gather unceasingly. In the end, it formed a three-hundred-meter wide palm that struck the bottom of the divine hall. He tried to knock away the divine hall with force alone.

However, even the hall elders of the Serpent God Hall could do nothing to the Octoterra Divine Hall. Although Yi Yangzi was on par with a hall elder, he was only one person. As such, how could he stop the divine hall from descending? He was directly squashed downward, forced closer and closer to the ground.

The other great elders saw this from afar and their faces all darkened. One of them called out immediately, "Let's go help Yi Yangzi!"

The great elders and Saint Rulers did not hesitate any more, quickly flying under the divine hall. They wanted to stop the divine hall with their combined power.

However, they still failed even though everyone was working together. The divine hall continued downward with no reduction in speed, but this time with a big group of people underneath it. In the end, the divine hall smashed into the ground heavily.

Boom!

The earth began to quake violently as thick cracks covered the surrounding mountains. A huge ditch formed at the location the divine hall had smashed into, while the divine hall itself had completely embedded itself deeply in the ground.

The divine hall forced all the experts from the Yiyuan sect into the ground, including the great elders.

The ground several kilometers away suddenly erupted and all the people emerged. They had tunneled their way out. However, they were currently dirty and in a horrible shape, covered in soil.

Although they did not sustain any horrible injuries, they were humiliated. This was even worse than killing them.

All the people of the Yiyuan sect felt humiliated when they were forced into such a horrible shape by a junior, as they were one of the great protector clans of the continent.

To them, this would be a permanent stain on their dignity.

"Jian Chen!" Yi Yangzi was no longer able to remain calm as he roared out. His voice was filled with rage and killing intent. At that moment, his anger had reached the utmost limit.

"Ptui ptui ptui! Jian Chen, I, Ling Fengzi, will be taking your life today no matter what. Argh!" Ling Fengzi spat out the pieces of grass in his mouth as he roared furiously at Jian Chen. His eyes were completely bloodshot.

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With a rumble, the Octoterra Divine Hall slowly rose up from the ground, taking to the air once again. Jian Chen's voice rang out thunderously, booming through the surroundings.

"If you want to kill me, come! I'd like to see exactly who can kill me today."

Jian Chen was unwilling to let up. With the divine hall protecting him, he had no reason to be cautious around the protector clans. He continued to use the divine hall to squash them into the earth like before.

All of them became utterly pale as they trembled in rage. They were so angry that they became silent. They were respected and worshipped by all the people on the continent. In all these years, they had never been bullied into such a horrible position.

Yi Yangzi struggled to remain calm as he roared out, "Jian Chen, don't think you're the only one with a Saint Emperor's divine hall. Great elders, let's bring out the divine hall," as he spoke, Yi Yangzi swung his hand and a spatial crack immediately appeared. It formed a Space Gate to a part of the Yiyuan sect. Soon afterward, a suction force appeared from his hand and a palm-sized divine hall that sat on an altar immediately flew out.

It landed on Yi Yangzi's hand and quickly expanded, reaching a length of three thousand meters in the blink of an eye. Yi Yangzi then flew into it and began piloting it furiously, smashing it toward Jian Chen's divine hall.

The other great elders all cut open space and formed Space Gates as well, directly disappearing through them and returning to the protector clan. They were not as strong as Yi Yangzi, so they were unable to retrieve the divine hall like Yi Yangzi. As such, they could only go back personally.

Due to some rules in the protector clans, they could not become the masters of the divine halls like Jian Chen. Instead, the divine halls were enshrined in the protector clan and not carried with them. They could only be taken out during times of need, and were controlled using a secret technique.

Boom!

Yi Yangzi used his divine hall to collide violently with the Octoterra Divine Hall; it immediately produced a deafening boom. The terrifying energy ripples visibly expanded in all directions, causing the mountains below to collapse. Many rocks were reduced to dust.

Although divine halls did not possess much external offensive powers, they still contained the power of Saint Emperors. The collision of two divine halls in mid-air was akin to the clash of two Saint Emperors. Just the sound was enough to kill Heaven Saint Masters, ripping their souls to shreds.

Fortunately, the battleground had already moved several hundred kilometers. If it had occurred in the sky above Flame City, merely the sound waves from the collision would have been enough to kill off the entire city.

The two halls remained completely fine after colliding, but the powerful force knocked both of them backward.

Both sides were serious. As soon as the divine halls stabilized, they collided with one another viciously once again. It caused the earth to shake and countless mountains to collapse.

Very quickly, the other great elders returned from the Yiyuan sect with divine halls as well. They controlled one each, so there was a total of five including Yi Yangzi's. They struck Jian Chen's Octoterra Divine Hall threateningly to vent their anger.

"Argh!" Jian Chen produced a long wail. He was not afraid at all, controlling his divine hall to charge toward the other five halls with great force.

Currently, the conflict between Jian Chen and the Yiyuan sect had already been reduced to the collisions between divine halls. Although no one succeeded at injuring anyone, the battle was clearly still very intense.

The sound from the six divine halls grew even vaster. Terrifying sound waves wreaked havoc in the surroundings, to the point where even the space was ripped open. The mountains below collapsed one after another, while even the energy of the world was greatly affected. It began to churn violently.

The great disturbance from the constant collisions of the six divine halls had alerted all the peak-level experts on the continent.

Tian Jian sat with his eyes closed in mid-air within an unknown space. This space was part of a divine hall in Mercenary City. His eyebrows had become rather white.

Opposite of him sat the black-robed Ming Dong and the burly, bare-chested Tie Ta. They had always received the personal guidance of Tian Jian in the past few years, so they had powered up at a divine rate. A heavy aura currently filled their surroundings.

Suddenly, Tian Jian snapped open his eyes and a gleam of light flashed through them. He looked toward the void far away. His eyes seemed to be able to pierce through it, able to see far away.

"It's actually a conflict between six divine halls. Five of them belong to the Yiyuan sect of the protector clans, so who's controlling the other one? He actually dares to take the Yiyuan sect on as enemies," murmured Tian Jian. He disappeared with a movement.

A grey-haired old man had his feet in the mud of an empty little valley at the outskirts of the Cross Mountains. He constantly swung his hoe as he plowed the ground.

Suddenly, the old man's ordinary eyes sharpened. He stared into the distance with interest and had even stopped his plowing.

"What powerful residual ripples of battle. Just who is fighting? Have the experts of the Beast God Continent come again?" the old farmer murmured. He closed his eyes and used a secret technique to observe what was going on there. Only after a while did he sigh emotionally and say, "So it's someone fighting the Yiyuan sect with a divine hall. I wonder who is the controller of that divine hall. Their bravery is admirable to provoke one of the ten protector clans, but this has nothing to do with me. I've stepped back from matters regarding the continent long ago and will no longer interfere with anything. As long as the experts of the Beast God Continent don't come invading and Little Fatty's life remains unthreatened, I couldn't care less even if the sky fell on me."

The old farmer paused when he reached this point. A sliver of shock flashed through his eyes as he said, "Weird. Why do I feel a familiar presence from that divine hall? I- it seems to be related to the cultivation method of my Bloodsword sect. Just who is controlling the divine hall?"

The old farmer frowned slightly. He lowered his head in thought and mumbled to himself, "No, I gotta go have a look." He swung his hoe and it ripped open a Space Gate. Then, he traveled through it with his feet bare and the hoe on his shoulder.

In another region of space, a large water mirror hung in the air, displaying the battle between the six divine halls. Below it lay an evil-looking, middle-aged, white-robed man who lay on a patch of grass as he looked on with interest. He seemed to be watching something fascinating.

"I didn't think that Jian Chen would become so great after disappearing for just a few years. It's quite unbelievable. Now that Jian Chen has the divine hall protecting him, I'd like to see just how the protector clans take the Winged Tiger God from him."

"Hehe, to think that the protector clans would devote so much energy into fighting for the Winged Tiger God. They used so many methods in an attempt to find Jian Chen and take the Winged Tiger God, but now Jian Chen has returned himself with the Winged Tiger God by his side. I wonder what their expressions would be like when they discover that they can't forcefully take the tiger away from Jian Chen. I really do look forward to that moment. I must see it for myself when the protector clans are forced to give in."

The man laughed evilly.

At this very moment, an extremely attractive woman who seemed to be in her twenties slowly walked over from afar. She sighed and said, "Husband, I seem to be pregnant. Why don't you spend more time with me?" The woman grumbled.

The man waved his hand and the mirror immediately shattered. He stood up and laughed toward the woman. "Hahaha, this path lord's eighty-eighth child will finally be born."

On the misty Dragon Island, the Lustastron Pit continued to glimmer with starlight like before. It seemed to be filled with stars, making it extremely enchanting.

At this moment, the calm space at the bottom of the pit began to tremble slightly. Two figures gradually appeared as their outlines became more distinct.

It was a middle-aged man who seemed to be in his forties and an old man who seemed to be in his seventies. They were the Golden Divine Dragon Rui Jin and the mutated Divine Alligator Hei Yu that had separated from Jian Chen all those years ago.

After disappearing for close to a decade, nothing had happened to the two of them. They remained as usual with their clothes neat and without any injuries. The only difference was that they currently seemed just like ordinary people. They seemed extremely simple.

Rui Jin glanced around and mumbled, "We're finally back. We need to go find Jian Chen. We can't let anything happen to him, or I'll never be able to see my clansmen ever again."

Hei Yu nodded his head and replied, "Jian Chen is a human from the Tian Yuan Continent, so he should be there. Let's go."

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Jian Chen continued to clash with the five divine halls as he controlled his own. They were locked in a battle where neither side wanted to give in.

The surrounding space ripped open silently as they fought, forming over ten Space Gates. Experts poured out unceasingly, and every single one of them was a Saint King. In just a few seconds, several dozen Saint Kings had gathered at this location.

In that moment, all the other protector clans had finally gathered once again. The grand elder of Mercenary City, Tian Jian and the sect master of the Bloodsword sect, Houston, had also come.

As soon as they emerged from the Space Gates, they focused their attention on the six divine halls that collided violently in mid-air. Their faces were filled with surprise.

Houston, who carried a hoe on his shoulders, did not even look at the five divine halls from the Yiyuan sect. Instead, he stared unblinkingly at Jian Chen's divine hall. His face became mixed and excited at the same time, revealing a lot of suspicions as well. He thought, "It's not wrong. It can't be wrong. That divine hall really is connected to the cultivation method of my sect. I sense a sliver of energy of the same source from it. But divine halls are created by the powers of Saint Emperors. No Saint Emperor has ever appeared in my sect, so just who is the person controlling this divine hall? And just where does this divine hall come from? Who created it?"

#### Chapter 975: Resisting the Protector Clans (Five)

Jian Chen and the several great elders of the Yiyuan sect naturally noticed the arrival of the other protector clans as they fought intensely, but they did not stop. Jian Chen controlled the Octoterra Divine Hall by himself, fighting against the five other divine halls. He collided with the other divine halls without fear, becoming more courageous as the battle progressed.

The collisions between the six divine halls alerted many Saint Kings. After the protector clans arrived, Space Gate formed in mid-air one after another and Saint Kings of various ages emerged. They were all the ancestors of ancient clans, as well as some great hermits. Among them were Changyang Zu Yunxiao who stayed at the Changyang clan of Lore City.

They looked toward the six divine halls as soon as they arrived. They all tried to guess exactly who was controlling the lone divine hall. They wanted to learn exactly who was brave enough to openly provoke a protector clan and take the Yiyuan sect on as their enemy.

The five great elders had fought against Jian Chen's divine hall with their own for a very long time, but they could do nothing to him. In the end, they could no longer endure it so someone called out, "Everyone, the Winged Tiger God is within that divine hall. Please assist us in breaking through it and taking the Winged Tiger God!"

The great elder's words surprised all the surrounding people. They all looked toward the Octoterra Divine Hall in disbelief.

"Ling Tianzi, are you sure? Is the Winged Tiger God really inside?" Tian Jian asked with a deep voice. Uneasiness flooded his eyes.

“Impossible. Isn’t the Winged Tiger God with Jian Chen, and hasn’t he gone to the sea realm? If so, the Winged Tiger God would naturally be in the sea realm. Why has it ended up in that divine hall? Ling Tianzi, don’t try messing with us.”

“Yiyuan sect, are you trying to use this fake news to tempt us into helping you just because you can’t beat your enemy?”

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The great elder’s words caused a great disturbance among the people. All the people from the protector clans and Mercenary City asked with doubt. No one was able to stay out of this if it was related to the Winged Tiger God.

Houston and the other Saint Kings remained silent. Although the Winged Tiger God tempted many of them, they knew quite well that this was not a matter that they could interfere with at all. They could only watch from the side and see what fascinating things happened.

“Everyone, I, Yi Jinzi, can guarantee that Ling Tianzi is telling the truth. The Winged Tiger God is indeed within that divine hall, and its controller is Jian Chen who fled to the sea realm with the Winged Tiger God all those years ago. He has even beaten our great elder, Ling Yuanzi, to the point where only his soul is left,” another great elder called out from a divine hall.

“What! The controller is Jian Chen?” All the people from the protector clans called out. They were filled with disbelief.

A golden gleam of light exploded in Tian Jian’s eyes. He stared at the divine hall in interest; he was stunned.

Houston stood with an ordinary hoe on his shoulders, but his deep old eyes also shone as he stared unblinkingly at the Octoterra Divine Hall. He too was filled with disbelief.

All the Saint Kings from the ancient clans were shocked. Jian Chen’s name was like a thunderclap to their ears in the past few years. They just never thought that Jian Chen—who was clearly a Saint Ruler—would be controlling a divine hall as he fought against the people of the Yiyuan sect. He had even made them become helpless against him. These Saint Kings were utterly overwhelmed with disbelief.

Other than shock, the members of the protector Changyang clan were delighted. Changyang Zu Yunxiao and Changyang Zu Xiao were affected in particular as they became ecstatic.

This was due to the fact that Jian Chen was not only a member of their Changyang clan, but also a person of their Zu faction.

“Jian Chen has actually returned, and he has become so strong. Fantastic, this is truly fantastic. I’ll immediately go bring Kong’er,” Changyang Zu Yunxiao said with a trembling voice. After that, he immediately left through a Space Gate.

“Never did I think that the great Yiyuan sect of the protector clans would have a moment where they need to call for help when they’re face up against a junior. I’ve finally seen it today.” Jian Chen’s voice emerged from the divine hall. He was making fun of them.

“Jian Chen, you’re too cocky. Do you really think that we’re helpless against you just because you’re hiding in a divine hall?” Yi Yuanzi said furiously. Jian Chen’s open provocation had completely humiliated them.

Tian Jian and Houston immediately became joyful when they heard Jian Chen’s familiar voice. All their doubt for Jian Chen were gone regardless of how they had felt earlier.

“I never thought he’d really return and return so quickly. This really has greatly exceeded anything I had expected,” Tian Jian smiled happily as he thought.

“You’ve returned perfectly. You still need to take back what was taken away from you before. Jian Chen, your accomplishments have far exceeded my anticipations. But you are still too rash as a young person. A divine hall is not enough to deal with a protector clan,” Houston also thought.

In that moment, all seven other protector clans stood up and formed a loose encirclement around Jian Chen besides the protector Changyang clan and the Pure Heart Pavilion.

Jian Chen’s clash with the Yiyuan sect had finally stopped and the great elders all emerged from their divine halls. They all stared coldly at the Octoterra Divine Hall as they remained pale-faced from their fury.

Jian Chen let his divine hall remain floating in the air as he emerged on the very top. He looked around like nonchalantly at the protector clans that encircled him, but he showed no fear. The cat-sized tiger stood with its chest up on Jian Chen’s shoulder as it stared coldly at the people of the protector clans. A naturally condescending aura radiated from it, possessing some of its prestige as a beast god.

Although the white tiger was still young and not completely mature, it was extremely intelligent. It knew that the surrounding people were bad.

“Look, everyone. That’s the Winged Tiger God.” As soon as the white tiger revealed itself out in the open, it garnered the attention of everyone. Immediately, everyone looked away from Jian Chen and focused their gazes on it, even the protector clans. Greed leaked from their eyes.

Jian Chen could not help but sneer when he saw how everyone behaved, “The Winged Tiger God is on me. If you want it, come take it,” as he said that, a tremendous aura began to radiate from him. It caused the surrounding space to tremble and blur, shocking everybody.

This was because the presence had reached the Third Heavenly Layer of Saint King.

“How is this possible? When he was on the Tian Yuan Continent, he was clearly just a Third Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler. How did he become a Saint King?”

“His strength has risen to such a level in a short decade. T- t- this...”

Everyone was astounded, including the ten protector clans. Only the Yiyuan sect was able to remain composed as they had witness Jian Chen’s strength earlier.

In that moment, Jian Chen drew the Emperor Armament from his Space Ring. Immediately, the expressions of many Saint Kings changed once again as a terrifying energy radiated from the Emperor Armament. It was at the level of the Seventh Heavenly Layer.

The Seventh Heavenly Layer of Saint King was much stronger than many of the Saint Kings present. There were only a few people left who could overpower Jian Chen.

Jian Chen displayed his full strength. He could not hold back at all before the ten protector clans. Today, he wanted to let everyone know that he could resist the protector clans. This was not solely because of the Octoterra Divine Hall, but that he had his own strength as well.

The current him was no longer the Saint Ruler who could be undermined by all Saint Kings like ten years ago.

Everyone sucked in a breath and many people's hearts began to thump involuntarily. Jian Chen's current strength was already enough to make many of them tremble.

Tian Jian and Houston became stunned. Both of them stared at Jian Chen with their tongues tied as their hearts churned.

The two of them were the first ones to meet Jian Chen. Back then, when Jian Chen was just a mere Earth Saint Master, they already knew him. As such, they understood Jian Chen's growth very well. It was just that they could not connect it to this high-spirited person who dared to challenge the ten protector clans to the puny little Earth Saint Master from all those years ago.

All the members of the protector clans looked at one another. Back then, the reason they wanted to take the Winged Tiger God was because they completely undermined him as a Saint Ruler. Now that Jian Chen's strength had skyrocketed and reached an unbelievable level, their opinions of him underwent great changes as well.

Just with his strength alone, Jian Chen was enough for the protector clans to treat with importance. In addition, he now possessed a divine hall as well, which made it even harder to deal with him.

Even if you ignored these factors, Jian Chen's status was extremely special as he was a member of the Changyang protector clan.

The people looked at each other as they hesitated. None of them wanted to miss such an easy opportunity to take the Winged Tiger God, so they fell into a dilemma.

The great elders from the Yangji sect hesitated as well. Jian Chen had crushed a branch that they had established outside many years ago. They originally wanted to use this as an excuse for taking the Winged Tiger God, but they now hesitated after witnessing Jian Chen's strength. They were uncertain whether they should continue on the matter and ask Jian Chen for an explanation.

Meanwhile, the Yiyuan sect did not let Jian Chen off so easily. A great elder yelled out, "Jian Chen, you injured our great elder Ling Yuanzi. You need to give us an explanation for that."

"Ling Yuanzi heavily injured me in the ocean back then, almost causing me to die. I came to kill him in revenge. It's an universally-accepted principle," Jian Chen retorted without showing any weakness, before glaring at the surrounding people. He said furiously, "My Flame City was taken and the Flame Mercenaries were chased out! Do you dare to say that you protector clans had nothing to do with it?"

Chapter 976: Jian Chen's Treatment

“Ling Yuanzi heavily injured me in the ocean back then, almost causing me to die. I came to kill him in revenge. It’s an universally-accepted principle,” Jian Chen retorted without showing any weakness, before glaring at the surrounding people. He said furiously, “My Flame City was taken and the Flame Mercenaries were chased out! Do you dare to say that you protector clans had nothing to do with it?”

“Jian Chen, there are rules among us protector clans. We cannot develop any large organizations on the continent. As a member of a protector clan, you will naturally need to follow this rule. The size of your Flame Mercenaries exceeded the limits and they possessed a city made from tungsten alloy. Naturally, they were disbanded,” a great elder of a protector clan said with a deep voice.

A sliver of mixed emotions appeared in Jian Chen’s eyes when he heard these words, but it vanished very quickly. He said coldly, “That’s a bunch of lies. I am born in Lore City of the Gesun Kingdom. I have no ties with any protector clan, much less being a member of one.”

Great elder Changyang Zu Xiao of the protector Changyang clan stood forward and stared at Jian Chen. His face was extremely mixed as he said with an almost trembling voice, “Jian Chen, you’re a part of the protector Changyang clan. The founder of Lore City Changyang clan was my great grandson, Changyang Zu Yunkong. You’re a descendent of Yunkong, thus a great grandson of mine as well. The blood of the protector Changyang clan runs in your veins.”

Jian Chen remained as usual. Just as he was about to retort, a Space Gate suddenly appeared next to him and Changyang Zu Yunxiao emerged. A great group of people followed behind him. Changyang Zu Yeyun, Changyang Zu Yunkong, Bi Hai, Jiede Tai, Chang Wuji, You Yue, Bi Lian, Yu Fengyan, and everyone else had come.

“Look, is he Changyang Xiangtian?” Changyang Zu Yunkong said to this group of people. His voice was filled with emotion. He had specially gone back to the Changyang clan and brought back this group of people, so that they could recognize Jian Chen. This was just in case the Jian Chen before them was fake.

“Brother...”

“Xiangtian...”

“Young master...”

“Jian Chen...”

When the group saw Jian Chen, they immediately became emotional. Uncle Chang, Yu Fengyan, Bi Lian, and You Yue were moved to tears.

“Good, good, good. It’s good that you’ve returned, it’s good that you’ve returned,” Bi Hai said with his deep voice. He was also extremely emotional.

The middle-aged beauty Changyang Zu Yeyun stared at Jian Chen in astoundment as she sighed emotionally. “Is he the clansmen who saved Kong’er? Why is he so powerful? His presence gives me a suffocating feeling. Is he not a Saint Ruler? No, impossible. His age...”

Changyang Zu Xiao sighed gently when he heard that. He said, “The current Jian Chen is no longer the Jian Chen you knew before. He’s a Saint King now and with his Emperor Armament, he can fight against

Seventh Heavenly Layer Saint Kings. There aren't many people left on the continent that can suppress him."

Changyang Zu Yunxiao, Changyang Zu Yeyun, and Changyang Zu Yunkong all became stunned when they heard this. Their shock reached its utmost limit.

A while later, Changyang Zu Yunkong could not help but laugh from the bottom of his heart, "I'm more than satisfied with my life to be able to have such an outstanding descendent. Great grandson, you are now an awe-inspiring supreme expert. You can do whatever you like. Our protector Changyang clan will be supporting you from behind."

Jian Chen's killing intent immediately began to reduce rapidly when members of his family appeared before him. He too became extremely emotional, but he knew that this was not the time to reminisce the old days. As such, he forcefully suppressed his feelings.

"Jian Chen, sorry. I did not live up to your expectations and failed to protect Flame City. Flame City has been taken away by someone else," You Yue called out as tears ran down her cheeks. She blamed herself for everything.

Jian Chen's heart was pained when he saw You Yue's haggard face. Jian Chen always felt ashamed with himself over You Yue. He just owed her too much.

"Yue'er, I already know about the matters of Flame City. It's not your fault. Don't worry. I will take everything stolen from me back with nothing missing," Jian Chen comforted, before looking at Changyang Zu Yunkong, "Great grandfather, are you really treating the Changyang clan as one of your own after how they treated you all those years ago? Has the seal in your head been removed?"

Changyang Zu Yunkong's face darkened when he heard that and he immediately stopped talking.

Meanwhile, the expressions of the great elders of the Changyang clan became a little unnatural.

Changyang Zu Xiao sighed gently and said, "Although Kong'er made some mistakes all those years ago and the clan expelled him, the blood of the Changyang clan still flows in his veins. This is an undebatable fact, and the clan has already taken back Kong'er."

"Let's not talk about this for now. I want to take back Flame City today and revive the Flame Mercenaries. Will the Changyang clan be preventing me from doing so?" Jian Chen glared at the group of people from the protector Changyang clan as he stood high on top of the divine hall.

The great elders frowned slightly. They looked at each other and all became troubled. With Jian Chen's current strength, they no longer had the right to forcefully order him to do things.

Jian Chen sneered after seeing their reactions. Then, he gazed past the other nine protector clans. After looking away, he said, "Today, I will be taking back Flame City and reviving the Flame Mercenaries. Stand out, whoever wants to stop me," Jian Chen spoke sharply. He did not respect the protector clans at all, as he had no good impression toward them.

If it were not for Tian Jian's help all those years ago, he probably would not have been able to make it out of the continent and arrive at the sea realm. He would have fallen into the hands of the protector clans instead. He would not be faced with death, but the white tiger would definitely be taken from his

side. Meanwhile, the matters of Flame City and the Flame Mercenaries were directly related to the protector clans.

Jian Chen was quite resentful toward them.

“Hmph, you arrogant brat. Jian Chen, do you really think you can look down on us protector clans now that you have a damned divine hall? You cannot impinge on our dignity. Breaking your divine hall is nothing difficult,” called out Ling Fengzi of the Yiyuan sect.

“Jian Chen, the rules between us protector clans has existed for thousands of years. No one can break it. You are now a member of a protector clan, so you must respect this rule. You cannot take back Flame City,” said the pavilion master of the Pure Heart Pavilion, Wu Chenzi.

“Jian Chen, if you take back Flame City today, you will be challenging the authority of us ten clans. You will become the enemies of all of us,” said a former school master of the Heaven’s Incense school.

“Jian Chen, if you insist on this, you will be dealt with by all ten protector clans according to the rules. Even the protector Changyang clan that stands behind you will be dragged in.”

“If you weren’t a member of a protector clan, we would not interfere with anything.”

...

All the people from the nine other protector clans spoke out. They all opposed Jian Chen’s wish to take back Flame City and did not want him to expand his forces. They spoke extremely sternly, leaving no room for any bargaining.

Jian Chen’s face began to sink. He slowly turned toward the great elders of the Changyang clan and said nonchalantly, “You now have two choices. The first choice is to fend off the protector clans with me and take back the Flame City that belongs to me. The second choice would be that I, Jian Chen, will break free from your Changyang clan and have no more ties with you anymore.”

The great elders reacted with a change in expression and Changyang Qing Yun called out immediately, “Jian Chen, the blood of the Changyang clan runs in your veins. You can’t just break off the tie just because you want to. You must not interfere with the matters of Flame City anymore. That is the rule between us protector clans.”

“You have no authority to order me to do anything. I don’t care who is going to be standing in my way today. I will be taking back Flame City,” yelled Jian Chen.

“You...” Changyang Qing Yun became furious.

The other protector clans all looked at each other. The situation seemed rather delicate. Given that Jian Chen was a member of the protector Changyang clan, he could use the clan to successfully keep the Winged Tiger God and shut them up. However, the situation at hand seemed to exceed their expectations. Jian Chen’s relationship with the Changyang clan did not seem as harmonious as they had imagined.

A light flickered in the eyes of Yi Yangzi as he hesitated. A while later, he seemed to make up his mind. His eyes stopped wavering and sneered, “Jian Chen, don’t you even think about taking back Flame City today. I’d like to see how you will contend with us without your divine hall. I’ll break it right now. Great

elders of the Yiyuan sect, I now command you all to produce the Emperor Armament together and break through that divine hall in revenge for Ling Yuanzi.”

The expressions of the great elders all changed. Yi Jinzi cried out with a deep voice, “What? Use the Emperor Armament?”

“Yi Yangzi, are you certain about using the Emperor Armament? The power of the Emperor Armament is just too great. We will all suffer a heavy backlash,” Ling Tianzi also called out. He became stern.

Yi Yangzi’s face darkened as he called out angrily, “If we don’t, then how do we break through his divine hall and avenge Ling Yuanzi?”

The great elders all hesitated slightly before they gritted their teeth, ready to rip open a Space Gate to retrieve the Emperor Armament.

A gleam of light flashed through Jian Chen’s eyes when he heard them talk. He thought, “The divine hall cannot be broken through unless there’s a Saint Emperor, while the Emperor Armament of the Yiyuan sect can break through mine. Also, they said that if they use it with their strength, they will be hit with a powerful backlash. What is this Emperor Armament, to be so terrifying? Can they use attacks on par with Saint Emperors if they use their Emperor Armament?” Jian Chen’s heart shivered before making up his mind, “I can’t let them bring the Emperor Armament.”

“Please wait!” A voice suddenly rang out just as Jian Chen planned on doing something. The white-clothed Tian Jian slowly descended.

Tian Jian’s actions immediately attracted everyone’s attention. They all looked toward him as an expert from a protector clan said, “Tian Jian, does your Mercenary City plan on interfering with this matter?”

Tian Jian paid no heed to that person and said to the people of the Yiyuan sect, “Your Emperor Armament is forged from the full strength and essence of several dozen Saint Emperors. It cannot be used against people of the same race. You cannot use your Emperor Armament.”

Yi Yangzi’s face sank as he clasped his hands toward Tian Jian. “Grand elder, this is the matter of us protector clans. I hope your Mercenary City does not interfere.”

Tian Jian said, “The power of the Emperor Armament is too powerful. It can destroy whole regions of land and wipe out any life on them, so you can’t use it casually. I naturally would have nothing to say if you were to use it against invading foreigners, but I definitely will not let you use the Emperor Armament for some small matters against a junior.”

“Tian Jian, why must you stop what we’re doing?” Yi Yangzi growled.

“If you still insist on using it, my Mercenary City will devote their full strength into preventing you for the continent,” Tian Jian said forcefully. He was completely stern and did not seem like he was joking at all.

Chapter 977: The Path Lord of Carnal Desires Appears

“Your Mercenary City is sticking its nose into too many matters.” Yi Yangzi was furious, while his complexion was horrible. He was helpless against Jian Chen if he did not use the Emperor Armament to crush Jian Chen’s divine hall.

“The existence of my Mercenary City is also to protect the peace of the Tian Yuan Continent,” Tian Jian said.

The great elders of the Yiyuan sect all revealed ugly expressions after being stopped from using the Emperor Armament. They definitely did not doubt that Mercenary City had the power to stop them. Although Mercenary City did not have a history as lengthy as the protector clans, it was founded by the strongest human expert, Mo Tianyun. No one knew what else Mo Tianyun had left behind in Mercenary City.

The experts from the other protector clans looked at one another. Undoubtedly, they could not use their Emperor Armaments now that Mercenary City had interfered. But if they did not use the Emperor Armament, it would be very difficult to break through the divine hall, even if the experts from all the protector clans worked together. This was because a qualitative difference existed between Saint Emperor and Saint King. They were experts of two completely different levels of cultivation. Saint Kings used the Saint Force within them and World Force, while Saint Emperors could completely overpower World Force.

All the people from the protector clans became stunned at the situation. No one had any ideas in this moment. Although they also possessed divine halls, divine halls were not weapons and were extremely tough. They could not injure Jian Chen if he sheltered himself in the Octoterra Divine Hall no matter how many divine halls they used themselves.

“Hahaha, wonderful! Utterly wonderful! I never thought that the ten protector clans would also have a moment where they can only give in, forced into such a situation by a junior,” an odd laughter resounded in the surroundings at this very moment. An evil-looking middle-aged man had appeared up above from nowhere.

The man did not come through a Space Gate. Instead, he had hidden himself there for quite some time but no one present had realized.

“Path lord of carnal desires, it’s actually you.”

All their expressions changed and became rather ugly when they saw this man.

“Hahaha, correct. It is indeed I, the path lord. Surely I haven’t frightened anyone with my sudden appearance,” said the path lord as he laughed gently.

“There’s nothing to do with you here, path lord. Why’ve you come?” an expert said coldly. The path lord of carnal desire’s sudden appearance was unwelcomed.

“Hmph, I can go wherever I want to go. Since when were you in charge of where I went? You still don’t have the authority,” sneered the path lord of carnal desires. Afterward, he looked toward Jian Chen and smiled, “Jian Chen, you are impressive, much stronger than I was back then. I really do admire you for being courageous enough to go against the protector clans. I remember, back when I had your level of strength, I snuck into the Heaven’s Incense school to peep at the current school master showering. Though I had only peeped a few times before being chased all over the continent by the most powerful person in the school. He chased me for ten whole years before finally being satisfied. I was nowhere like you, opposing the protector clans all by yourself and making them helpless against you.”

“Path lord, do you not know shame?” A woman who seemed to be roughly thirty years of age stared at the path lord of carnal desires furiously. She was among the experts of the Heaven’s Incense school. Her gaze made it seem like she was tempted to flay him alive.

“Sister Yun Xiang, it has been two thousand years since we last met. You’ve already become a great elder of the Heaven’s Incense school, but I’ve seen every part of you whether I was supposed to see it or not. Why don’t you join me and become my eighty-ninth wife?” The path lord of carnal desires smiled evilly.

The woman became pale-white as her chest heaved heavily. Her beautiful eyes burned with rage.

Jian Chen could not help but become curious as he stood on top of the divine hall. He wondered exactly who this path lord of carnal desires was. He actually dared to make fun of a Saint King from the Heaven’s Incense school, and even view the school’s experts as nothing.

“Be careful, this path lord of carnal desires is a Saint Emperor. He’s the only Saint Emperor on the continent of this day, and he’s enough to break through your divine hall.” Tian Jian’s voice appeared in Jian Chen’s ears, immediately throwing him into shock. Jian Chen’s gaze toward the path lord became filled with fear.

The path lord smiled evilly and took a single step forward. He arrived on top of the Octoterra Divine Hall and before Jian Chen in that very instant. He said, “Jian Chen, you have an enmity with the people of the Yiyuan sect. Ling Yuanzi wanted to kill you all those years ago, so he cannot be forgiven so easily. Although you destroyed his body, his soul remains. With what the protector clans are capable of, it won’t take long before Ling Yuanzi fully recovers. You can’t steal his soul back at all with your current strength, so why don’t we make a deal? I will teach the Yiyuan sect a lesson for you and give you Ling Yuanzi’s soul. After that, you give me the Winged Tiger God. How about that?”

Jian Chen’s heart sank when he heard that the path lord of carnal desires had also come for the white tiger. Jian Chen said, “Path lord of carnal desires, you’re already a Saint Emperor now. Why must you fight over the Winged Tiger God?”

The path lord smiled evilly and replied, “I naturally have my own intentions for wanting the Winged Tiger God. You don’t need to care too much about them. Jian Chen, are you going to agree to the deal or not? Your divine hall isn’t very tough before me.”

“Path lord, I will not be handing the white tiger over to anyone, unless it decides to follow them itself,” Jian Chen said with determination.

The path lord remained calm and said, “If that’s the case, I’ll force the Winged Tiger God to follow me on its own accord.” He then raised his hand and an extremely tremendous energy quickly gathered. This was the power of Saint Emperors, enough to make Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Kings pale.

“Stop!” A loud voice boomed at this very moment, causing the surrounding space to tremble. Shortly afterward, a Space Gate suddenly appeared and two ordinary-looking people emerged. It was Rui Jin and Hei Yu.

Jian Chen stared at the two of them in disbelief. They had separated in the Lunastron Pit previously, and Jian Chen thought he would never see the two of them ever again. He never thought they would actually

appear on the Tian Yuan Continent completely unharmed. This surprised Jian Chen but also filled him with joy.

After all, the two of them had helped Jian Chen on Dragon Island. Particularly Rui Jin, who had collected a large amount of Dragon's Saliva. Jian Chen had always felt grateful toward the two of them.

The path lord looked toward the two of them and a gleam of light immediately flashed through his eyes. He said, "It's actually two magical beasts at Great Perfection of Saint King. You two are looking for your deaths by coming here."

Rui Jin and Hei Yu both looked toward the path lord of carnal desires and they became stern. Rui Jin growled, "A human Saint Emperor."

"Seniors Rui Jin and Senior Hei Yu, please leave immediately. The path lord of carnal desires is a Saint Emperor. You're not his opponent," Jian Chen panicked as he yelled toward the two of them.

Rui Jin and Hei Yu's seriousness disappeared when they heard that, now replaced with a sneer. They said, "So what if he's a Saint Emperor? Today, we will try the strength of a Saint Emperor."

#### Chapter 978: Fighting a Saint Emperor

Rui Jian and Hei Yu were both Saint Kings at Great Perfection, so a difference in abilities existed when compared to a Saint Emperor. However, they both seemed very confident.

Their words shocked everyone present, regardless of the Saint Kings from ancient clans or the great elders of protector clans. They all looked toward Rui Jin and Hei Yu weirdly, as if they were looking at a pair of idiots.

Although they were powerful, they were still limited to being Saint Kings. They did not have the abilities to resist before a Saint Emperor.

A Saint Emperor was an expert at a completely different level of cultivation and not something Saint Kings could go up against. Not to mention, the path lord of carnal desires had reached Saint Emperor many years ago. He was so strong that even the tiger emperor of the Beast God Continent, Lankyros, failed to match up to him.

Rui Jin and Hei Yu stunned the path lord of carnal desires as well. He looked at the two of them in disbelief and asked to confirm, "What did you say? You two want to fight me?"

Rui Jin and Hei Yu glanced at each other and they seemed to mutually understand one another. Immediately, two tremendous presences began to radiate from them, spreading mightily to a radius of several dozen kilometers.

The Great Perfection of Saint King was a level of cultivation beyond the Ninth Heavenly Layer. It drew infinitesimally close to Saint Emperor and was stronger than the Ninth Heavenly Layer. Their presences immediately brought on a tremendous pressure to the relatively weaker Saint Kings present.

The path lord of carnal desires shook his head in disappointment. "If this is all the strength you have, you have no right to fight with me. It'll be very difficult for you to leave today as well, as I only need to twitch a finger and you two will have your souls wiped out."

Rui Jin became furious when the path lord said that. He was a Golden Divine Dragon, the emperor of the dragons, so naturally he was prideful. How could he endure the insults from the path lord of carnal desires?

“Sacred Dragon’s Armor!” Rui Jian called out and a mysterious yet powerful energy immediately began to radiate from him. Soon afterward, a dazzling streak of golden light shot out from his body, encasing him entirely. A suit of awe-inspiring armor now covered Rui Jin through the dense golden light.

The expression of the path lord of carnal desires finally changed when he saw Rui Jian’s armor. He cried out involuntarily. “T- this- i- impossible...”

“Sacred Dragon’s Spear!” Rui Jian called out once again. He raised both his arms into the air and a silvery-white, seven-meter long spear suddenly appeared in his hands. It shone brightly with a silvery-white light, dyeing the entire area snow-white.

An unbelievably tremendous energy flooded the region with the spear’s appearance. It did not rip through the space, but instead froze it. In that moment, time and air seemed to stop.

The expressions of all the Saint Kings changed too. They all stared at the spear in shock, as they all shivered from the pressure it emitted.

“W- what is this weapon? I- it’s so powerful, even more terrifying than our Emperor Armament forged by several dozen Saint Emperors,” a great elder of a protector clan said with a trembling voice.

“Magical beast experts don’t usually use weapons, so why does he have such a terrifying weapon? Is it an Emperor Armament forged by several dozen Saint Emperors as well?” Yi Yangzi said with a deep voice. He was in shock.

The path lord of carnal desires could no longer remain calm. He stared at the spear above Rui Jin’s head in disbelief and called out involuntarily, “Origin energy, it’s actually origin energy. I actually sense origin energy. How is this possible? Even in the ancient times, there were no weapons that possessed origin energy.”

With another tremendous wave of energy, a suit of azure-colored armor appeared on Hei Yu, while a silver-white machete materialized in his hand. It radiated with a pressure no less terrifying than the Sacred Dragon’s Spear.

A black-clothed, middle-aged man suddenly stood up on the ninth-eighth floor of the Beast God Hall. A wild aura immediately began to radiate from him.

“Origin energy. It’s the presence of origin energy. Origin energy has actually appeared on the Tian Yuan Continent...”

The sage-like peng emperor, Cangqiong, stood up on the ninety-seventh floor. He looked in the direction of the Tian Yuan Continent in interest as he said hoarsely, “It’s the presence of origin energy...”

Tiger emperor Lankyros stopped cultivating on the ninety-sixth floor and suddenly stood up. He cried out, “Origin energy, it’s origin energy. How can origin energy exist on the Tian Yuan Continent?”

The expression of the path lord of carnal desires changed once more. He stared at Hei Yu in disbelief and cried out in surprise, "It's origin energy again. How can this be possible? Where did you get these weapons with origin energy? Such powerful weapons have never appeared in all of history."

Rui Jin growled sternly, "Human Saint Emperor, I didn't think that you'd still be quite knowledgeable enough to know the existence of origin energy. You're right. For all of history, such powerful weapons have never appeared, but they have appeared now. Do the two of us have the power to fight you now?"

The path lord of carnal desires struggled to stay calm. "Tell me, where did you get these weapons? Do you know a place where origin energy exists?" Some desperation lingered in the path lord's voice. This was because origin energy was crucial for breaking through Saint Emperor. Origin energy had ceased to exist in the world long ago, which was why there had only been four people in total that had managed to surpass Saint Emperor. Once upon a time, there were countless experts at the peak of Saint Emperor who would lose all hopes for further breakthroughs. Their only choice was to watch helplessly as their ten-millenia lives ended and they became bones.

"Human Saint Emperor, why should we tell you this? Are you going to fight with us or not?" Rui Jin growled.

The path lord of carnal desires sucked in a deep breath and slowly calmed himself down. He looked toward Rui Jin as his eyes burned with greed. "If you tell me where origin energy is present, I am willing to help you do anything." All the Saint Kings present immediately became astounded after hearing this.

"You better give up on that thought, human Saint Emperor. Origin energy has disappeared long ago from this world. We will defeat you with our weapons in hand now," said Rui Jin straightforwardly. The path lord's words did not tempt him.

The path lord of carnal desires stared fixedly at the two of them as a gleam of light flickered in his eyes. Only after a while did he speak out once again, "The weapons you possess are indeed very powerful and contain origin energy, but you cannot control them at all with your current strengths. If you think you can use them to fight against me, you're deluding yourselves. I'll show you the power of a Saint Emperor right now. Fight with me in outer space." With that, the path lord of carnal desires shot up into the air.

Rui Jin and Hei Yu did not want to fall behind so they tailed him closely into outer space.

The Octoterra Divine Hall landed in Jian Chen's hand as the size of a fist. He too soared into the air as he carried the divine hall in his left hand and the Emperor Armament in his right.

The Saint Kings from the protector clans and ancient clans all followed afterward. None of them wanted to miss such a fascinating show as they all wanted to know if two Saint Kings at Great Perfection could defeat the path lord of carnal desires with two powerful weapons.

Changyang Zu Yunxiao sent uncle Chang and the others back to the Changyang clan in Lore City before following them up.

Jian Chen flew higher and higher, while the ground beneath him slowly turned into a huge planet. This was the first time he had flown so high.

As their altitude rapidly increased, the air became thinner and thinner, enough to suffocate normal people. However, it could not affect the Saint Kings at all.

Jian Chen felt weightless after leaving the atmosphere of the planet. He lost his ability to determine direction, as there was no concept of direction in this icy-cold outer space. It even became difficult to distinguish between up and down.

Jian Chen floated in a region of space as he stared fixedly at Rui Jin and Hei Yu. The Saint Kings from the other clans gathered around him. They all took up their own space as they looked toward Rui Jin and the two others.

Suddenly, a white light illuminated the dark space. Rui Jin and Hei Yu's weapons both began to shine with a powerful white light, turning the region into a snowy-white world. Terrifying energy began to surge, distorting the space around them.

Rui Jin and Hei Yu struck out together at the path lord of carnal desires. As they stabbed out, the space around them quickly froze, expanding toward the path lord. The two weapons radiated with a terrifying pressure, making it suffocating for all the Saint Kings present.

The path lord remained as he would usually as a terrifying energy quaked through his body. It forcefully stopped the freezing space before him. Then, he grabbed at the empty region with a hand. Vast energy condensed in his hand; the power was so great that it exceeded the limitations of the space there, causing it to collapse. It did not mend while the energy was there.

"People have seven emotions and six desires, and I used that as my path, creating the Palms of Emotions and Desires. There are sixteen moves in total, divided into seven moves of emotions and the six moves of desires. The fusion of the seven emotions gives the Palm of Severance, while the fusion of the six desires gives the Palm of Desireless. The final move is a fusion of all seven emotions and six desires, the Palm of Desireless Severance," murmured the path lord of carnal desires. Afterward, he slowly pushed out with his hand and spat out, "This is the first palm strike, the Palm of Greed!"

The terrifying energy quickly shot toward Rui Jin and Hei Yu, before striking their weapons in the end. An explosion occurred immediately.

The path lord's palm strike was not purely an energy attack. An invisible intent viciously struck the souls of Rui Jin and Hei Yu after the explosion, resulting in an immediate change in their expressions. Their clear gazes instantly became clouded.

The path lord's palm strike triggered the greed from the bottom of their hearts, disturbing their mental state.

#### Chapter 979: Gathering of the Three Saint Emperors

A slip in the mental state during a battle was a life-threatening danger, especially in battles between experts. A single attack could determine the outcome, so being distracted for even a split moment could result in death.

The greed buried deeply within Rui Jin and Hei Yu was triggered by the path lord of carnal desire's attack. It affected them both, almost making them slip and lose themselves in the extremely tough greed that surged up.

Rui Jin and Hei Yu immediately stabilized their mental states, forcibly suppressing the greed. They recovered very quickly.

“Your greed is not very strong, which was why you could recover so quickly. It definitely would not be so easy for someone who’s especially greedy,” said the path lord of carnal desires. Afterward, he struck out a second time, “This is the Palm of Lust!”

The cultivation of the path lord of carnal desires’ focused on attacks that injured the soul. His attacks were able to affect it directly. It would give rise to various desires and urges hidden in people’s hearts, catching them off guard.

Struck with the Palm of Lust, the expressions of both Rui Jin and Hei Yu changed. Countless matters of lust floated through their heads with many obscene images sandwiched between. It affected their souls, making it difficult for them to remain composed.

With their level of cultivation, they no longer lingered very much on carnal desires and emotions. As such, they were not affected very much by the desires and emotions alone. However, the path lord of carnal desires could intensify it by countless times. Let alone Saint Kings at Great Perfection, even Saint Emperors could be affected.

“Human Saint Emperor, no wonder you’re the path lord of carnal desires. You can control the seven emotions and six desires of people. Attacks like these are rarely seen, even in the ancient times. Unless you can completely purify your mind and become emotionless as well as desireless, anyone that faces up against you will be affected. They’ll all be drowned in emotions,” Rui Jin growled.

The path lord smiled evilly. “You two indeed have the power to fight Saint Emperors with just your origin energy weapons and armor—one for attacking and one for defending. However, it’s a pity. You can’t even touch me before being defeated. Eat my third palm strike, the Palm of Dread.”

As the path lord of carnal desires gently pushed out with his hand, the tremendous energy that gathered in his palm surged out like a flood toward Rui Jin and Hei Yu.

“Human Saint Emperor, don’t think that you’re already victorious just because you can control the seven emotions and six desires. Watch as we resist your attacks,” called out Hei Yu. A translucent pearl suddenly appeared above him, encasing his body with a glimmering light.

At the same time, the exact same pearl appeared above Rui Jin, encasing him with a similar light. Afterward, he stabbed out with his spear.

The Sacred Dragon’s Spear and Hei Yu’s machete collided with the path lord of carnal desires’ attack, immediately producing a boom. The attacks were cancelled out and when the soul attack from the palm strike approached Rui Jin and Hei Yu, it was immediately blocked by the light from the pearl.

This time, the path lord of carnal desires failed to affect them in any way.

The path lord’s expression changed slightly as he stared at the two of them in surprise. He said, “How is that possible? What treasure do you have that can block my soul attacks?”

“It’s fine even if I tell you. This is a defensive treasure that specializes in blocking attacks to the soul. I’d like to see how you affect us with your palm strike now, human Saint Emperor,” Hei Yu could not help but laugh out. Then, he charged toward the path lord as he swung his machete.

The path lord's face became icy. Hei Yu's attack with the origin energy machete was powerful enough to injure Saint Emperors, so he did not dare to ignore it at all. He immediately blocked and growled, "You two have quite a few treasures on you. You actually possess a treasure that can block my soul attacks as well, though I wonder how tough they are. Can they block my Palm of Severance from the fusion of the seven desires, my Palm of Desireless from the fusion of the six desires and my final attack, the Palm of Desireless Severance?"

"Then try it. I'd like to see how your attacks break through our defensive treasures." This time, the speaker was Rui Jin. He was confident.

The path lord of carnal desires sneered, "The Palm of Desireless Severance is the most powerful move among the seven emotions and six desires, it far exceeds your imaginations. Back when I fought the tiger emperor from the Beast God Continent, I did not even need to use the Palm of Desireless Severance. Just the Palm of Severance was enough to heavily injure him. Just imagine the power of the Palm of Desireless Severance then. Now, allow me to break through your defensive treasures with that."

He was about to strike out as he spoke, but his eyes suddenly narrowed and he turned toward one side.

Three Space Gates ripped open at the same time in the direction that the path lord looked. Two middle-aged men and a ruddy old man emerged. They were the three Saint Emperors of the Beast God Continent.

The pressure of Saint Emperors immediately began to radiate from them with their appearance, causing the expressions of the Saint Kings who watched from afar to change. They had only seen Lankyros before, but they naturally knew the identities of the other two Saint Emperors.

The path lord of carnal desires gazed past the three of them and became rather stern. He said, "I didn't think that the three Saint Emperors of the Beast God Continent would all come."

Jian Chen's expression immediately changed when he heard they were the three Saint Emperors of the Beast God Continent. He immediately entered the Octoterra Divine Hall and pulled out the saint artifact, before throwing wordlessly throwing the white tiger inside. Afterward, he exited the divine hall once again. Hiding in the divine hall was useless before Saint Emperors.

The three Saint Emperors all looked toward Rui Jin and Hei Yu's armor and weapons. A gleam of light erupted in their eyes and they all cried out, "It really is origin energy..."

"You two are magical beasts as well. Where did you obtain these weapons and armor that possess origin energy? Did you find a place with origin energy?" Lankyros asked Rui Jin and Hei Yu. He was a little overwhelmed with excitement.

Rui Jin and Hei Yu looked at each other, and Hei Yu spoke out, "Origin energy has ceased to exist in this world long ago."

"Then where do your weapons and armor come from? Why does origin energy exist within them?" A heavy voice boomed out. The ruler of the Beast God Continent spoke out, his voice also bearing some excitement.

"The Sacred Dragon's Armor and the Sacred Dragon's Spear are consecrated items of the Dragon clan, so they naturally came from my clan," said Rui Jin.

“What! The Sacred Dragon’s Armor and the Sacred Dragon’s Spear!” The three Saint Emperors were all shocked as they stared fixedly at the armor and weapon on Rui Jin. After a while, they finally confirmed that they were indeed the Sacred Dragon’s Armor and Spear and they all became astonished.

“It really is the Sacred Dragon’s Armor and Spear from the ancient Dragon clan. But didn’t they disappear with the Dragon clan? Why are they suddenly on you now? And the armor and spear were never this strong in the past, let alone possessing origin energy. Where did you obtain these two items?” Kaiser growled as he stared fixedly at Rui Jin.

Rui Jin became slightly angered and said coldly, “I have no need to tell you this. Be careful with your tone, you have no right to speak to me like that.”

“Presumptuous!” Kaiser fell into a rage as tremendous killing intent radiated from him.

“The one who’s presumptuous is you!” Rui Jin bellowed, before producing a dragon roar. In the blink of an eye, he became a three-hundred-meter long Golden Divine Dragon, radiating with a tremendous aura of dragons.

“My species are the kings of the Dragon clan. Do you not know the rules of the Dragon clan for being impolite toward me as an impure-blooded mutated earthwyrms?”

The hierarchy of the Dragon clan was very strict, as they placed a lot of attention on bloodlines. The Golden Divine Dragons were publicly-acknowledged as the kings of the clan. They needed to be treated courteously and listened to by all members of the clan, regardless of age or strength. As a king, Rui Jin was naturally prideful. Especially to people of the same clan, his status stood out even more. His prestige as a dragon king would not wane before a Saint Emperor, let alone a mutated earthwyrms with an impure bloodline.

Rui Jin revealed his true form, shocking everyone present except for Jian Chen and the three Saint Emperors from the Beast God Continent. No one had thought that a member of the Dragon clan would still exist, let alone a Golden Divine Dragon.

The three Saint Emperors from the Beast God Continent remained calm, as if they knew Rui Jin’s original form long ago.

A sneer formed on Kaiser’s lips as he said, “You must be the Golden Divine Dragon that escaped from the space within the saint artifact at the Radiant Saint Master Union? Correct, you are indeed a king of the Dragon clan, but it is no longer the ancient times. The Dragon clan no longer exists, so its rules no longer applies.”

Rui Jin’s expression immediately became extremely ugly when he heard that.

At this moment, Kaiser’s face suddenly changed and he called out, “The Winged Tiger God. This is the presence of the Winged Tiger God. I actually sense a sliver of the Winged Tiger God’s presence. It’s nearby.” Kaiser sniffed and followed the remaining smell in the air. His eyes locked onto Jian Chen and glare at him. Kaiser growled, “The presence of the Winged Tiger God is on you. Is it with you?”

Lankyros also looked toward Jian Chen. He had seen an image of Jian Chen before, so he recognized him immediately. He cried out, “He’s Jian Chen. I didn’t think he had already returned from the sea realm.”

“Jian Chen, hand over the Winged Tiger God.” Kaiser’s face darkened. He took a single step and arrived before Jian Chen instantly.

#### Chapter 980: Clash of the Powerful

“Jian Chen, hand over the Winged Tiger God.” Kaiser’s face darkened. He took a single step and arrived before Jian Chen instantly.

“Jian Chen, you avoided our pursuit by hiding in the sea realm all those years ago. I’d like to see where you run now that you’re on the Tian Yuan Continent.” Lankyros also stepped out and arrived before Jian Chen. He glared at Jian Chen as he radiated with a powerful aura. He was like a huge mountain that stood before Jian Chen, making Jian Chen feel like his body was sinking. Jian Chen immediately began to circulate his Chaotic Force, pushing the Chaotic Body to the utmost limit to resist Lankyros’ pressure.

A gleam of light immediately flickered through Lankyros’ eyes when he saw how Jian Chen was able to resist his pressure without even flinching. He said coldly, “Your strength is much greater than rumored, but killing you is still as easy as cake. Jian Chen, hand over the Winged Tiger God and I’ll spare your life. If you don’t, there can only be death.”

“I’d like to see who’ll harm him.” Rui Jin arrived before Jian Chen with a flash after returning to his human form. He glared at Lankyros and Kaiser as he wielded the Sacred Dragon’s Spear.

Hei Yu had also arrived beside Rui Jin. He faced the two Saint Emperors without showing any weakness.

Lankyros’ face began to sink. He growled, “Are you sick of living? Daring to block what I am doing?”

“The Winged Tiger God is the god of the magical beasts. Since when did you have the right to interfere with its freedom? Unless the Winged Tiger God is willing itself, no one has the right to make it do what it doesn’t like,” growled Rui Jin.

“It’s exactly because it’s the god of us magical beasts that we need to bring the Winged Tiger God back, so we can provide even greater space and conditions for its growth. The Winged Tiger God should be living on our Beast God Continent. It should not be in the hands of you humans. Moreover, the Winged Tiger God is still growing. It’s simple-minded. If it gets raised wrongly by you humans, it would be a loss for us magical beasts,” said Lankyros.

“The Winged Tiger God may be young, but it’s still a beast god after all. How can it be led off in the wrong direction so easily? Anyway, don’t you dare take it from Jian Chen today,” Rui Jin did not let up as he pushed back at Lankyros with words. He protected Jian Chen.

Jian Chen immediately became filled with doubt upon seeing how Rui Jin and Hei Yi were actually willing to offend two Saint Emperors to protect him. Their relationship did not seem to be anywhere near this level.

Lankyros and Kaiser’s expression became ugly after they heard Rui Jin’s words. Killing intent immediately appeared in Kaiser’s eyes as he stared coldly at Rui Jin, “Golden Divine Dragon, do you really think that I’m afraid of killing you since you’re a king of the Dragon clan? Don’t blame me for not treating you as a clansman if you don’t move.”

Rui Jin immediately became furious when he was threatened by a mutant earthwyrms. He called out, "I have the sacred artifact of the Dragon clan, the Sacred Dragon's Armor, protecting me. Do you really think that you, a mere earthwyrms, can harm me?"

Kaiser looked at Rui Jin's armor as his eyes flickered in thought. He then said, "Tiger emperor, keep the two of them busy. I'll take Jian Chen."

The tiger emperor sneered, "Don't worry, leave the two of them to me." After that, he charged toward Rui Jin and Hei Yu, embroiling in a great battle with the two of them. He kept them busy.

Kaiser no longer hesitated now that Rui Jin and Hei Yu no longer blocked him. He directly extended a hand toward Jian Chen.

"This palm strike is the Palm of Joy!"

At this moment, a gentle voice rang out. The path lord of carnal desires suddenly lashed out, directly striking Kaiser with an attack.

Kaiser's eyes turned icy and he immediately stopped his movements toward Jian Chen. He punched out madly and collided with the path lord's palm strike in mid-air.

Boom!

The collision between the two attacks directly caused the surrounding space to collapse, shattering it into countless pieces. Terrifying residual energy swept out wildly, catapulting the helpless Jian Chen far, far away. Immediately, a violent agony filled his head. His Chaotic Body had almost been injured.

The path lord of carnal desires shot back quickly, stopping several kilometers away. He did not pale, but he was grim. Kaiser stood like a mountain unmoved, though his presence became rather unstable. His face twitched constantly, as if he wanted to smile, but he forcefully kept it in.

Kaiser returned to normal very quickly as he stared coldly at the path lord. He growled, "You sure are worthy of your name, the path lord of carnal desires who created the path of emotions and desires. You really do have some strength. It may be able to affect me a little, but that's all it can do."

"Is that so?" The path lord of carnal desires smiled evilly, "The tiger emperor was heavily injured by my seven palms of emotions back then. I'll make you try them today. Let's see if the most powerful person from the Beast God Continent can come out unscathed. This is the second palm strike, the Palm of Rage!"

Clashing a second time, the path lord's palm strike made his expression change once again. The ruler of the Beast God Continent was extremely easily enraged. As such, not only did the attack easily trigger the fury hidden within Kaiser, it quickly expanded to the point where it almost lost control.

However, Kaiser was still a Saint Emperor in the end. He forcefully repressed his emotions very quickly and returned to his previous state. On the other hand, the path lord retreated several kilometers once again.

"The third palm strike..."

"The fourth palm strike..."

The path lord of carnal desires struck out seven times. Each palm strike contained different emotions, triggering all seven emotions within Kaiser. Although it failed to injure him, he ended up in a horrible shape from the mental shock.

The path lord retreated several dozen kilometers after the seven palm strikes. He was stern.

“Path lord, I have already experienced your seven palms of emotions. However, I wonder if you can endure a few punches from me?” Kaiser yelled out. His presence had become even messier now as all of his emotions had been set off. Although they were forcefully suppressed, they still created a mess in his mind, especially when directly opposite emotions appeared at the same time. It made him feel like his mind was going to break.

“Fusion of the seven emotions, Palm of Severance!” said the path lord of carnal desires softly, before pushing out gently.

“Watch as I break your Palm of Severance! Beast King Punch!” Kaiser roared angrily and a punch that contained indescribable laws of the world went up to meet the Palm of Severance.

Kaiser’s punch was much more powerful this time than before. The path lord of carnal desires was thrown back several dozen kilometers before finally coming to a stop. A sliver of paleness immediately appeared on his face.

As the path lord shot backward, Kaiser’s expression changed greatly as well. He produced a painful grunt. He was not injured by the force of the palm strike, but was instead affected by the Palm of Severance.

The Palm of Severance was different from the attacks of the seven emotions before. The seven palm strikes earlier would intensify the seven emotions of a person, while the Palm of Severance would sever the emotions.

Struck by the attack, Kaiser felt like something extremely important had been forcefully yanked from his soul. His soul felt empty, and also experienced a sharp pain at the same time.

The emotions rampant in Kaiser due to the seven attacks from the path lord had been forcefully severed by the Palm of Severance. It was like forcefully digging out all the organs in Kaiser’s body, only leaving behind a shell.

The seven palm strikes earlier had magnified the seven emotions endlessly, essentially planting the seven emotions as seeds in the Kaiser’s mind. Then, it germinated, taking up all of his thoughts. Afterward, the path lord used the Palm of Severance to sever the emotions, succeeding in injuring his opponent’s soul.

The Palm of Severance was not truly severing the emotions of the opponent, but a special way to injure the opponent’s soul.

The Palm of Severance could be used on its own, but if it the seven attacks were used beforehand and triggered the emotions of the opponent, its strength would be multiplied by forcefully removing those emotions.

Kaiser was truly worthy of being a Saint Emperor as he recovered very quickly. However, he was unable to mend the damage to his soul. He stared at the path lord with a sunken face. "Your Palm of Severance really has broadened my horizons, but it has failed to injure me heavily. My soul has only sustained light injuries, while my Beast King Punch has made you suddenly suffer quite heavy internal injuries. You're not my opponent."

"I still have the Palm of Desireless after the Palm of Severance, and then the Palm of Desireless Severance. It's still too early to discuss who wins," said the path lord.

The light in Kaiser's eyes flickered as he growled, "Looks like the Tian Yuan Continent insists on keeping the Winged Tiger God. Are you not afraid of a full-blown war between the two continents?"

"I only do what I want to do. Go discuss the safety of the continent with the ten protector clans and Mercenary City. However, you intruded on my Tian Yuan Continent today. I don't really care about the safety of the continent, but I am still a human Saint Emperor. How can I just watch you foreigners act as you wish on the territory of humans? Now, please leave the continent immediately," said the path lord of carnal desires. He also understood that if he wanted the Winged Tiger God, he needed to keep it on the Tian Yuan Continent first. He would have no chance at all once it ended up on the Beast God Continent.

Kaiser sneered, "Path lord, you are indeed capable of keeping me busy temporarily, but don't forget that my Beast God Continent has three Saint Emperors." Kaiser then looked toward Cangqiong and said, "Peng emperor, keep the human Saint Emperor busy. I'll go rescue the Winged Tiger God. It cannot remain in the hands of the humans no matter what."

Cangqiong looked back at Kaiser and said, "I only came with intentions for the origin energy. Unless the Winged Tiger God is willing himself, I will definitely not be taking it back forcefully, because this is an offence of disrespect toward the beast god."