

Emperor 2581

[Chapter 2581: Slash Of Carnage](#)

“Clank!” The soldiers stopped surrounding the fort and focused on Li Qiye instead.

The shiny spear tips aimed straight at him. There was no doubt that this was the most elite force in Stone Harmony. They were battle-hardened and personally trained by Yang Tingyu.

“Master, will he be alright?” A disciple inside the fort became worried and asked Wu Youzheng.

“Don’t meddle since that might annoy the young noble.” Youzheng shook his head, thinking that the eccentric masters didn’t like others interfering with their business. He could finally breathe easy now since Li Qiye was here. Their sect was saved.

“It’s about to start.” The spectators said softly.

A soft voice sounded: “Can Li Qiye stop the Blacksteel Elites? They’re definitely unstoppable in our system.”

“Even if he can, Yang Tingyu is waiting to make his move on the side. He’ll be killed once Tingyu uses his imperial moves. He’s the only one with them here.”

“Those imperial arts are indeed unbeatable.” A few have witnessed the moves with their own eyes and became intimidated. They saw him suppressing Wu Youzheng with them, causing the guy to vomit blood.

Li Qiye chuckled at the enemies and said: “Picking the hard way instead of the easy way.”

Yang Tingyu shouted: “I’ll show you the fate of those who dare to look down on our Luo Fact-...”

Before the guy could finish, Li Qiye casually swung his sword as if he was playing with fallen leaves.

“Go-” Yingjian shouted before coming to a halt.

“Pluff!” Several thousand heads started to fly up in the air at the same time from a single sword sweep.

Their eyes were wide open as they watch the pillars of blood gush out of their neck, resulting in a rain of blood. They tried to scream after seeing their falling body but no sound could come out.

“Rumble!” Several thousand corpses fell on their back, resulting in an amazing scene almost like a blossoming lotus flower.

Blood flowed and came together through the gaps, heading for lower elevation just like rivers.

The astounded crowd couldn’t believe this scene. Just a second ago, these soldiers were in their prime state, ready to deliver the fatal blow.

Alas, just one casual cut from Li Qiye decapitated them before they could react.

Blacksteel was considered the strongest legion in Stone Harmony but it has become history after today. A single slash has annihilated an entire force.

“Ugh...” The pale Lin Yixue couldn’t help but vomit everything, even the bile in her stomach. Her legs felt weak so she nearly dropped to the ground.

As a cultivator, she has seen murders before but nothing to this extent - one raised sword and thousands of heads fell down.

Many spectators started vomiting as well. The soldiers in the fort were scared out of their mind and felt strength leaving their body.

A tiny place like Stone Harmony has never experienced such a grand carnage before.

“That’s horrifying...” One frightened soul murmured.

This would traumatize the crowd for the rest of their lives. Earlier, some were chastising Li Qiye for being arrogant but they shut their mouth now.

“Why do people never believe me?” Li Qiye blew away the blood on his sword and returned it to the sheath held by Yixue: “I always tell the truth. If I say blood will flow like rivers, it will.”

The crowd staggered backward, shuddering at his sight. He looked like a god of death to them now, one horrifying beyond imagination.

“Do you believe me now?” He looked at Tang Tingyu.

The guy composed himself and felt an overwhelming dread. Li Qiye’s gaze made him stumble backward.

“Make your move, I’m not a bully.” Li Qiye stood there with both hands behind his back.

The crowd was utterly convinced by Li Qiye, no longer thinking that he was too arrogant. They wondered if the number one expert of Stone Harmony could actually take him on.

“You think you’re unbeatable? No, my master is a True Emperor, capable of plucking the stars and stomping the sun.” Yang Tingyu coldly said.

He couldn’t be any more blatant - that Li Qiye was strong but his master was even stronger and could take him down.

The crowd took a deep breath. One person recalled his identity: “Right, he’s still the disciple of an emperor.”

They stared at Li Qiye instead. The emperor was one thing, but he also had a behemoth in the Mu Clan behind him.

Though Tingyu was only a disciple in name, he was still the emperor’s disciple. The emperor himself had acknowledged this.

These beings rarely took in disciples, so they wouldn’t ignore the murder of one. If Li Qiye were to kill Tingyu, the emperor would definitely get involved.

This person was strong, but how was he compared to Puresword True Emperor?

“Start.” Li Qiye demanded.

Tingyu didn't expect for his threat to not work. Bringing up Puresword True Emperor wasn't enough to scare his opponent.

"Fine, to the death today!" He gritted his teeth and no longer gave a damn.

He really had no other choice since he couldn't escape. Fighting was the only option.

"Boom!" He raised both hands to the air as flames engulfed his body. A majestic aura shot upward.

"Screech!" A totem in the form of a fire phoenix appeared behind him. It soared to the sky with a blazing trail.

This particular creature emitted the aura of a True Emperor.

### [Chapter 2582: Massacre](#)

The fire phoenix ravaged the sky with its flame. An imperial aura and divine glow emerged magnificently.

"A technique from an imperial art." A spectator roared.

"Can he win now?" An older cultivator also became shocked.

This was the only imperial technique in Stone Harmony.

The decline of the system heralded the end for many sects. Amazing techniques and weapons disappeared from the world as a result.

Later on, it had a single imperial law left in the possession of its strongest sect - Luo Faction.

However, few could actually cultivate it successfully. Yang Tingyu was one of them, also the youngest to have accomplished this.

This art allowed him to defeat many foes. That's why he earned the title of being number one in Stone Harmony.

Yang Tingyu was a Grand True God but in terms of raw internal power, he was inferior to Wu Youzheng.

Alas, Youzheng didn't have an imperial art so he lost immediately the moment Tingyu used his.

"Screech!" The phoenix flapped its wings and sent out waves of fire.

"Go!" Yang Tingyu roared and issued endless flame as well. He and the phoenix became one before flying straight for Li Qiye.

His flame incinerated the world - boiling the ocean and burning the sun and moon. This annihilative force wanted to completely swallow Li Qiye.

The domineering scene left people speechless. They believed that his art was unbeatable and could burn any master to ashes regardless of how powerful they were.

"Watch it!" Yixue was shaken and quickly warned him.

However, Li Qiye didn't bat an eye and simply raised his foot before stomping down.

“Boom!” Despite the surging flame filling the sky and his wondrous momentum, Tingyu was still suppressed by the stomp all the same as if he was an ant. His abilities and methods were rendered ineffective.

“Screech!” The phoenix wanted to soar again so its flame became even more radiant and hot. This was its final struggle.

Unfortunately, even a real phoenix wouldn’t be able to escape his stomp, let alone one made out of fire.

He slightly increased the strength and the phoenix instantly turned into smoke. The great bird was no different than a tiny spark of fire, so easily extinguished.

At the same time, Yang Tingyu’s chest was crushed while issuing horrific cracking noises. He naturally spat out blood.

“Ah!” He screamed in agony.

Time seemed to be frozen; everyone’s mouth was open big enough to fit in a goose egg.

An imperial art was peerless in the mind of these disciples - the very best of merit laws. In the past, whenever Yang Tingyu resorted to this art, it meant assured victory. However, this all changed today. His art was nullified completely and he was just as weak as anyone else below Li Qiye’s foot.

The crowd couldn’t utter a single word after seeing this. No one else in the system could have withstood this move since it was the strongest merit law utilized by the strongest master of their system.

Li Qiye’s murderous slash was already frightening enough, displaying his brutality in full. Now his stomp has crushed this imperial law. This took away the hope of the spectators and crushed the system’s pride into ashes just like that phoenix earlier.

The members of Stone Harmony felt unprecedented despair - a feeling of powerlessness.

They looked up at Li Qiye’s average frame and saw a giant wearing the sky and stomping on the earth. They were nothing in comparison so they dropped to the ground, becoming empty-headed.

Just think about it, even the strongest merit law was nothing to him. Their own merit laws and dao became even more insignificant in comparison. What was the point of cultivating then? They couldn’t rise above being an ant.

The brutal slash earlier was already traumatizing but this stomp would wake them up in the middle of the night for years to come.

The entire city became quiet. The spectators didn’t dare to breathe loudly. Alas, some couldn’t help but tremble.

“Told you but you didn’t listen.” Li Qiye looked at him and said: “Some people won’t cry till they see the coffins.”

“Kill me then! I’m a bitch if I let out even a little groan!” Tingyu yelled.

He was indeed courageous and didn’t bother begging for mercy after losing.

“No, killing you won’t increase my infamy. I’ll let you walk away with your life.” Li Qiye smiled.

This naturally shocked the crowd. Some thought that he was joking.

Li Qiye raised his foot and kicked Tingyu to the side.

The man was bloodied and stared at Li Qiye in disbelief. He was ready to die but didn’t expect to be spared.

“Do you know why I’m not killing you?” Li Qiye glanced at him and said: “Since you’re Puresword True Emperor’s disciple, go tell him that Fiercest, the person who killed his little brother, is right here waiting for him. I’m too lazy to go to the Mu Clan so this will save me a trip. Tell them to all come with their neck ready for decapitation.”

Tingyu and the rest became horrified. This was a blatant and domineering challenge to both an invincible emperor and the monstrous Mu Clan.

### [Chapter 2583: Escape](#)

Stone Harmony was a downtrodden place but people here have still heard of the title Puresword along with the Mu Clan.

In their eyes, the emperor was an untouchable existence above the firmament - completely invincible.

As for the Mu, they have been famous for generations and dominated Imperial, virtually peerless. It could easily destroy any sect, regardless of the system they’re in.

But now, Li Qiye declared his intention of taking down these two beings without thinking twice. This was domineering beyond words.

In the past, people would laugh at him for being arrogant but now, they have seen his power. That’s why they were shaking with fear for this was a being above their station.

Yang Tingyu became pale before this monster. Only an emperor or an Eternal could stop him.

“Fine, I will send your message.” Tingyu gritted his teeth and left without lingering around.

Li Qiye chuckled and returned to his ruins, not bothering to check on Stoneclearing Sect.

“Unbelievable...” Some sat on the ground while the more cowardly has already peed in their pants.

“Since when does our city have such a monstrous person?” They felt as if there was a primordial beast slumber in the ruins now. It would smash someone to a pulp if bothered.

They glanced at each other, not knowing when Li Qiye came to Mingluo.

“Is he a supreme genius from our system?” One youth fantasized.

A senior immediately chastised him with a slap to the back of the head: “Are you still sleeping? Our withered system can’t produce this level of genius, not even if we exchange every bit of resources.”

“Yes, our system can’t handle someone like that.” The rest smiled wryly.

Meanwhile, the disciples from Stoneclearing finally calmed down. A few that were paralyzed on the ground finally got up: "It's finally over, we're saved."

They should be excited right now after the utter defeat of Luo Faction and Yang Tingyu, but this wasn't the case.

Only fear remained even after Li Qiye was long gone. Even their teeth were still chattering. If they were to catch the tiniest glimpse of him right now, they would immediately get on their knees, lacking the courage to even look at him.

This being was too supreme and oppressive.

Lin Yixue took a while before calming down as well. She returned to Wu Youzheng's side.

"Your effort has borne fruit since you managed to invite the young noble to save the sect." Youzheng heaved a sigh of relief to see that she was fine.

She smiled back, still a bit discombobulated from current events. Just a few days ago, she was rather impolite towards Li Qiye, even going as far as threatening to teach him a lesson.

She was full of confidence about beating him up if he continued to spread the rumors.

But now, she realized that she was only a sheep prancing in front of a primordial beast. It could easily consume her and she wouldn't satiate its appetite in the slightest.

She found herself to be very ignorant and amusing back then, no different from a clown. Li Qiye was very merciful by not flicking her to death.

Moreover, he even saved Stoneclearing - displaying his benevolence and generosity.

She contemplated the immensity of the outside world. These supreme beings were too far away and how impossible it was to catch up.

"Xue'er." Youzheng raised his voice, bringing her back from her reflection.

"Master." She looked at him.

"Gather your things because we need to leave now." Youzheng told her.

"We're still leaving, Master?" She looked a bit confused.

"Yes, we can't stay here even if that disaster doesn't come." Youzheng stared towards the horizon.

"Why?" Yixue didn't understand.

"It won't be long before the great army of the Mu comes here, personally led by the True Emperor. They won't let anyone challenge their authority." He gently sighed: "Our city will turn into a battlefield then. Just one little exchange and it might become ashes. No, even the entire system might suffer this fate."

He became dejected but there was nothing else he could do. What he needed to focus on was an evacuation for both his disciples and the regular citizens.

She quietly nodded and gathered her stuff. As they were leaving, she couldn't help staring towards the ruins.

From now on, she might not be able to meet that man again since they were from two different worlds. In the end, she sighed and followed her seniors out of Mingluo City.

After this battle, people in Mingluo avoided the ruins as much as they could. They stay far away from the entrance even if they needed to pass by it.

Luo Faction fell in one night. The black legion consisted of their elites, acting as the pillars and the strongest fighting force. Losing it was a great blow.

Yang Tingyu's departure left them in a chaotic state - like a snake without its head. Many disciples thought that Li Qiye was coming for them as well so they started to flee during the night.

Because of this, no one interfered with the evacuation effort from Stoneclearing. Due to Youzheng's reputation, many inhabitants agreed to follow him.

They knew that a disaster was approaching so they gathered their stuff to leave the city.

Of course, some chose to stay since the city was their home. They needed it to survive or at least wanted to protect it. It was better to die here than some other places.

Some cultivators were running as well, albeit in fewer numbers compared to the mortals.

"Why are you in such a hurry? A disaster might not come, but even if it does, we can still run then." Others disagreed.

"Nonsense, putting that disastrous rumor aside, the Mu is coming too. When that army comes, it's over for Mingluo." A runner snorted.

All in all, it didn't take long before the city had less than one-half of its original population. It became quieter than before.

"It's over for Mingluo." A few older cultivators knew about the potential complications but chose not to leave.

"Why aren't you running away then?" Someone asked them.

"Where to?" One old man among the group responded: "Not just this city but all of Stone Harmony will be affected by the great battle when the Mu army gets here. Since we'll die anyway, we might as well stick around and catch a glimpse of a battle at the imperial level. That's not a bad way to go."

His peers found this to be a reasonable take.

#### [Chapter 2584: The Surging Storm](#)

As people evacuated from the city came a period of quietness. From the start, everyone assumed that this would last for a while but the liveliness has returned on the second day.

"Rumble!" A portal appeared after a spatial fluctuation right above the city.

The sky darkened due to a great ship leaving the portal. Next, multiple people jumped off the ship.

“What’s going on?” This surprised the city inhabitants.

“Outsiders, experts from another system.” An old expert murmured.

“The army of the Mu?” Spectators took a deep breath.

Fortunately, it wasn’t the army of the Mu, contrary to everyone’s expectation.

These experts took a look around Mingluo after landing down. They were civilized and didn’t chase away the people here.

After an inspection, they left and took camp in the ruins outside the city limits.

“Where are they from?” This question naturally popped up.

“How rare, such a powerful system visiting us, is something big really happening?” The older experts were still afraid.

Stone Harmony rarely had visitors now, and for personal reasons. Big groups seldom entered this system since it was inferior to a third-rate sect.

The withering world didn’t produce any precious herb and material so the rest of Imperial had zero interest in it.

Even the merchants wouldn’t come here since the poor members of this system couldn’t afford to buy anything. Not to mention making a profit, they would only be throwing away the money invested into the traveling fees.

Thus, this powerful group brought about a wave of astonishment and curiosity.

This was simply the beginning. A while after this group, one could hear buzzing noise again above the sky.

Multiple portals emerged and out came various groups - legions, sect expedition, or a party of three to five...

There were around 100,000 or so outsiders arriving in just a short time, perhaps even out-numbering the city inhabitants.

These experts came from the big systems and have disrupted the short-lived tranquility on top of scaring the natives.

Normally, these natives knew each other very well but now, the streets were filled with strangers powerful enough to destroy the city in a rage. Fear was the correct reaction.

It wasn’t all bad though. The inns were instantly filled and businesses had a great time because of the outsiders’ generosity.

Some big sects even chose to pay a handsome sum so that the native sects would give up their place.

Of course, it was all relative. What considered to be sky-high payment to the natives wasn’t much in the grand scheme of things.



This influx of experts from all over the world didn't end. More and more continued to come to Mingluo City.

"I don't get it, is a heavenly treasure appearing?" Anxiety remained for the natives.

In their mind, their system was a place where even the birds didn't want to shit. The outsiders had nothing but contempt for Stone Harmony. Coming to this system would only dirty their shoes, akin to city people visiting a pigsty out in the village for the first time. But now, it was as if a gold mine has been found here.

Thus, many native cultivators thought that a great treasury must have appeared in their city.

"Well, maybe, we do have a lot of ancestors. Remember when our system reigned the world. Numerous treasures have gathered here." Someone quietly said.

In fact, many shared this thought. There had to be a reason why these outsiders choose to come here. Because of this, a few hopeful natives actually began digging in their own house or familiar areas to test their luck.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye ignored the rowdiness outside. He continued to meditate, as still as a statue.

Some outsiders entered his ruins as well but they only took a look before leaving without caring about Li Qiye. In their eyes, he was only a normal cultivator not worthy of their attention.

He simply smiled and shook his head at them: "So greedy like a snake wanting to swallow an elephant. They won't even know how they'll die when the time comes. The more people, the more prey for it to fill its stomach."

He naturally knew why they were coming. The news of White Orchid has attracted the attention of numerous systems. The powerful ones have guessed a thing or two so they hurriedly made their way here.

Stone Harmony was too weak to stop invaders so they could come to Mingluo without facing any opposition. They could do whatever they wanted in this weak system and would leave after the party. It didn't matter if the entire place would turn to ashes or not.

Li Qiye didn't care enough about these outsiders as long as they don't provoke him. They would be courting death otherwise.

Today, two people returned to see Li Qiye.

"Why are you two here? I told you to run as far away as possible." Li Qiye opened his eyes to look at the two kneeling on the ground.

They were no other than Wu Youzheng and Lin Yixue.

"We couldn't thank you on that day so here we are to show our gratitude." The two respectfully bowed.

Li Qiye accepted and waved his sleeve: "Stand up."

The two obeyed and got up. Li Qiye left right after saving their sect so they never got the chance to thank him until now.

“I’m sure you two didn’t come here just to bow.” Li Qiye looked at them.

Youzheng smiled wryly and told the truth: “This place is still our home. Our legacy is here, so I’m just back to take a look.”

After taking everyone to a safe location, he couldn’t abandon Mingluo due to the history here. He returned in order to protect it because he was old and didn’t have much longer to live anyway. At the very least, he wouldn’t feel any regret by dying in this manner.

Thus, after preparing everything, he decided to return. Lin Yixue also wouldn’t take no for an answer. He had no choice but to take the stubborn girl back as well.

### [Chapter 2585: Staying Behind](#)

“Let the past be the past. The ancestral legacy can’t be defended. As long as you’re capable, rebuilding is always a possibility and not a bad choice.” Li Qiye advised.

Youzheng smiled awkwardly: “Young Noble, please don’t laugh, but we have no abilities to speak of and can’t replicate the task of our ancestors. I’m only wishing for enough luck that our estate will survive the disaster.”

He sighed and continued with a bitter smile: “I won’t live for much longer now and will return to the soil. While I still have some breaths remaining, I might as well try my best for future descendants and die without regrets. Plus, dying at home is all I can ask for.”

More often than not, it was a luxury for a displaced man to die and be buried in their homeland.

Li Qiye didn’t respond.

“But this child is so stubborn. The more I say no, the more she wants to return, only to die...” Youzheng looked over at Yixue and helplessly said.

“Master.” She stared at the ground instead: “This is my home too, I want to stay... I’m not afraid of death if it’s here.”

“Silly girl, you are still young with numerous opportunities in the future.” Youzheng shook his head.

The girl remained quiet. She was someone who would never change her mind after making a decision.

“Mingluo City is no longer yours.” Li Qiye said flatly: “Forget about defending your inheritance because if people want to take it, they can annihilate you with a single finger.”

Youzheng knew that Li Qiye was telling the truth so he had no response.

In fact, he was startled earlier, thinking that he came to the wrong place. Mingluo has become so lively all of a sudden with numerous members of the big systems.

These experts consisted of True Gods at the very least with no lack of Ascenders. He felt his scalp tingling as a result.

It wasn’t hard for them to take over his sect. Those powerful Ascenders could kill him with ease.

“Stay here for now instead of suiciding outside.” Li Qiye commanded.

The two had a surprised expression, not expecting him to actually take them in. After all, he has already shown enough mercy by saving their sect earlier. They were nothing but strangers.

“Thank you, Young Noble.” The two bowed again. Yixue was especially ecstatic and stole glances at him, albeit with reservation.

Just being able to stay in the city was more than enough for her despite the rains and winds in this place. Of course, they decided to build a tiny wooden house instead, a temporary abode for the three.

Having a roof didn’t matter to Li Qiye. If he wanted to, he could have modified the terrain to establish a great palace.

Yixue was happy to have this wooden house and did a perfect job cleaning the place. She even decorated it with some flowers to make it presentable.

“Young Noble, why are these great powers here?” Youzheng asked inside the house, unable to restrain his curiosity.

He found Li Qiye rather easy to get along with despite his brutality in battle.

“Are the rumors about treasures true?” He heard these rumors while coming back and even saw cultivators excavating in his sect’s territory.

“Do you think there is a hidden treasure grove here?” Li Qiye smiled.

“Well...” Youzheng contemplated before answering: “Even if the city had any, it would have been taken away generations ago.”

Stone Harmony has been declining for a long time. Cultivators in the past have excavated this entire place. Anything worthwhile had been taken long ago; nothing is left for them.

This was a reason why the top merit laws and weapons of Stone Harmony all disappeared. When the big sects wanted to leave this system, they either took these items along or auctioned them away.

The only thing left behind for future generations was the withered land.

“A few things aren’t that easy to take away.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Hmm? The dao source?” Youzheng knew more than others because he was a top expert in this place.

“We still have a dao source?” Yixue was surprised since she thought that it had disappeared long ago.

“Yes.” Youzheng nodded and said seriously: “The dao source is still here, we just don’t know where it is. I and several True Gods have discussed this matter before. If there’s no dao source, the system would have crumbled long ago to Myriad Lineage yet it is still here. This shows that the dao source is still around. It’s a shame we can’t find it.”

“It’s not the dao source, just heavily related.” Li Qiye nodded.

“Are you here for this thing too, Young Noble?” Youzheng blurted before rephrasing: “No, you’re here for the evil thing underground.”

Li Qiye had talked about chasing an evil entity here so it was disrespectful implying that he was here for treasures.

"It's no secret, I am indeed here for both." Li Qiye said.

Youzheng smiled wryly with an awkward expression.

"Is it a supreme treasure?" Yixue stole a glance at him.

"Depends, it could also cause a disaster. That's why your system declined in just one night despite having an intact dao source." Li Qiye replied.

"The evil thing is here for it too?" Youzheng was shaken: "No, that can't be. It was probably here a long time ago and was probably the cause of our decline. Now it's back again for this thing?"

He had researched this before so he immediately understood after receiving some hints from Li Qiye.

"That's one way to put it." Li Qiye nodded.

Youzheng continued: "Will you be able to eliminate it, Young Noble?"

"It'll be a problem if I can't, not only to Stone Harmony but the rest of Imperial. A big problem." Li Qiye said.

"It's that scary?" Youzheng felt a chill.

"It doesn't belong to this world." Li Qiye spoke while staring towards the horizon.

"But if, if you can get rid of it, doesn't that mean... that our dao source will be restored?" Youzheng suddenly realized something and became ecstatic inside. This was great news for their system.

"Yes, your system will soar again with majestic grand dao returning, a new breath of life and great prosperity." Li Qiye stated.

"Really!" The elated old man got on the ground: "Young Noble, if you take care of this evil thing, you'll be the greatest benefactor in the history of Stone Harmony. The system will worship you for ages to come."

"Don't be so quick to thank me. If this doesn't go well, just one wrong move will turn your system to ashes." Li Qiye sat in his chair and said.

Youzheng felt as if someone had just poured cold water on his head. Nevertheless, he remained spirited while still bowing: "But at least there is hope. Stone Harmony can't escape destruction while going down this path anyway."

"You are very optimistic." Li Qiye chuckled.

#### [Chapter 2586: Hidden Gold Grotto](#)

The influx of cultivators to Stone Harmony continued on a daily basis. The number of outsiders now far exceeded the natives.

The arriving sects were more powerful and famous than the previous, such as Hundred-leaf School, Soaring Dragon System, Dancing Crane Sect, Agility System...

These renowned powers made the atmosphere quite tense, resulting in minor skirmishes.

Despite the sea of newcomers, they still ignored Li Qiye's ruins for now and didn't come to bother him.

Alas, his peace didn't last long. On this day, a deafening explosion resounded.

A gigantic gate opened in the sky allowing a great warship to slowly fly out. Its size was unbelievable and had the shape of a weaving shuttle with two wings by the back.

It looked just like a city. Behind it came smaller warships acting as protectors.

This sky unit was monstrous, capable of destroying any sect or kingdom.

Moreover, it had more than just one large warship. Several more came out later, also accompanied by several smaller types.

"Hidden Gold Grotto's armada!" Everyone looked up at the incoming warships. An expert naturally recognized them.

"Hidden Gold Grotto is coming too?" These experts trembled.

This was one of the strongest lineages in Imperial, only weaker than the three behemoths. It has been ruling Left Bank System for generations now. Its power left others in shambles.

A total of ten warships emerged and took up a special formation with dozens of smaller ones scattered about. This was enough firepower to take down any foe.

"The ten Vajras of Hidden Gold..." One ancestor's expression soured: "Why is the whole armada here? Do they want to destroy all of Stone Harmony?"

The crowd naturally became frightened by the warships in the sky.

This sect was quite famous along with their ancestors. It had ten Vajras and four Esteemed Monarchs that have dominated in the past.

The Vajras came personally with their strongest warships - quite a terrifying spectacle. Some even thought that if all of the ships fired at once, it could penetrate and destroy the entire system right away.

"What do they want?" Fear permeated the atmosphere.

"Maybe they want everything here and will challenge the rest?" One ancestor wondered.

"Whoosh." A smaller ship slowly descended into Mingluo City amidst the chaos.

It flew straight for the ruins and hovered above. It opened up and shuttles came out. They looked like thirty-foot-high pillars pinning on the ground. The top cracked and shot out a ray of light. These rays of light came together and seemed to be creating a boundary.

This process continued for a bit with more shuttles being released. They shot out the rays and eventually encompassed the entire ruins.

Li Qiye was naturally inside this boundary.

“What are they doing?” People asked about the intent and the connecting rays.

“They’re establishing their territory. Everyone needs to stay out or face the consequence.” Someone who knew this sect’s style answered.

“Isn’t that too overbearing? They’re taking up such a large area.” A cultivator couldn’t help but protest.

“Overbearing?” An older expert sneered: “You haven’t seen them being overbearing yet. They’re not afraid of anyone outside of the three behemoths. Look, they’re about to take action and chase all the spectators out.”

“Buzz.” The small ship above the ruins opened its door and disciples leaped out.

“Everyone, leave this place at once. It is under Hidden Gold’s jurisdiction. Stay without permission and face the consequences.” These disciples began chasing people away.

Heavensound Ruins was very large. Outside of the spectators, many were strolling around but they were pushed out now.

A few were annoyed and protested: “This isn’t your Left Bank System, so how can you monopolize the place?”

One disciple from Hidden Gold pointed his spear and sneered: “So? What are you going to do about it?”

The cultivator wanted to retort but his friend immediately pulled him out of the ruins.

“Calm down, nothing good will come by fighting Hidden Gold, it’s suicidal.” The friend said: “They have always been imperious like this.”

At this time, the disciples of Hidden Gold have arrived right outside of Li Qiye’s wooden house.

“Young Noble, people are coming to chase us out.” Youzheng was frightened to see the group and rushed back inside.

He saw the great warships in the sky. Since he has never left Stone Harmony, this was his first time witnessing something so amazing, a real legion of a strong system.

Just one small ship alone could destroy all of Mingluo and every other sect in the system.

“Let them come.” Li Qiye calmly sat there.

The group got in front of the house. Loud banging came before Youzheng could come out to talk.

The house was blown flying by the group, the same with the items and furniture inside.

“What are you doing?!” Yixue became angry since she spent a lot of time decorating this house. This was their home after returning so she didn’t take it well. Of course, she was slightly afraid as well.

The captain of the group glared at the group and threatened: “This place is under the watch of Hidden Gold now. Scram or face the consequences.”

Youzheng looked at Li Qiye. He wasn’t bold enough to antagonize this powerful sect by himself.

## [Chapter 2587: Flat Meat Bun](#)

Li Qiye slowly turned towards the captain and said: "And if we refuse?"

"No?" The captain's eyes turned fierce with murderous intent. He raised his voice: "Capture the girl, kill the men!"

Hidden Gold Grotto was indeed tyrannical, ready to kill after one word of disagreement, not allowing the other party to explain.

"That brat is going to get it, he's suicidal for going against Hidden Gold." The cultivators who left the ruins shook their head.

"Haha, I like cute girls like you the most. Men, kill the other two." One member smiled deviously and pulled up his sleeves before reaching for Lin Yixue.

"Young Noble!" She was frightened and hid behind Li Qiye right away.

"Brat, die!" A different member snorted and swung his sword for Li Qiye's head.

"Pluff!" Heads started flying. Every member of the group got decapitated outside of the captain. Their blood gushed everywhere.

It was a pitiful and confusing way to go. They didn't know how Li Qiye did it at all before dying with their eyes wide open.

"Brat, you...." The captain staggered backward.

He couldn't finish his sentence before Li Qiye held him by the throat. No one saw how Li Qiye's exact movements.

"Tell me, what's the consequences of not leaving?" Li Qiye asked with disdain.

"You..." The captain couldn't speak or breathe.

"The consequence is your death and the extermination of your nine clans!" A cold voice answered instead.

The small ship's door opened again with an old man standing there.

"General Chi... save me..." The captain did his best to shout.

"Thump! Thump! Thump!" Another group led by the old man landed. He glared coldly at Li Qiye.

"That's Vanguard Chi Jiu. A murderous brute." Numerous spectators recognized him.

"Junior, release him or you'll suffer a fate worse than death." Chi Jiu coldly said.

"Release him? Okay." Li Qiye chuckled and released his grip.

"Poof!" The captain violently exploded into a mist of blood without the chance to scream.

Chi Jiu's expression became extremely unsightly after Li Qiye killed his subordinate before everyone.

"Kill him." He ordered with bloodthirst.

“Rumble!” The other group attacked at the same time with their explosive treasures.

“More ants.” Li Qiye didn’t bat an eye and flicked one finger.

“Boom!” All of the treasures instantly crumbled. The rest of the members turned into blood before they knew what was going on.

“!” Chi Jiu didn’t expect this ordinary-looking man to be so powerful.

He quickly returned to the ship. With a buzzing noise, the ship lit up and shot out a pulsing current.

It started hitting the ground below the ship before moving towards Li Qiye while leaving a deep trail. This pulse was terrifying, seemingly capable of piercing through everything.

“It’s over for the brat, these warships are famous for being powerful.” The cultivators outside concluded.

“Pop!” His body didn’t explode contrary to everyone’s expectations. The pulse struck him but couldn’t hurt a single hair of his.

Li Qiye chuckled and spread then closed his palm.

“Crack!” This little gesture resulted in the warship being deformed and crushed.

“Ah!” Screams came from inside. Chi Jiu wanted to escape but couldn’t so he was mangled within.

Blood seeped out of the cracks and finally, only a ball of metals was left of the ship. The guy has also turned into a meat paste.

The spectators were naturally stunned. They stared at Li Qiye in a daze.

“Who is this guy? Fierce people really do like to talk with their fists instead of their mouth.” Someone said with admiration.

“I can’t believe it.” An older expert blurted out: “Straight annihilation after a single disagreement, even more ferocious than Hidden Gold Grotto. He crushed that warship without using any technique, what a monster.”

“I haven’t seen this type in a long time, to actually go against the grotto?” Another admirer said.

“He can be fierce all he wants but nothing good will come out of this for him.” One expert commented.

“Buzz.” The warships in the sky lit up again. A total of ten smaller ones broke up from the formation and flew towards Li Qiye while being ablaze.

“They want revenge.” This attracted the spectators and many inside the city. Everyone started watching.

“Have a taste of the grotto’s revenge. So many fierce masters treated others with disdain until they faced the wrath of the grotto. They then learned the meaning of the word, obedience.” A master said.

“Who is he? Does he not know the infamy of Hidden Gold? They go as far as exterminating the nine clans of those who oppose them.” One ancestor became startled.



“Boom! Boom! Boom!” The radiant ships shot out pulsing currents straight for Li Qiye. Numerous holes were added to the ruins.

Finally, the full firepower of the ships concentrated on him. These pulses together looked extremely bright and were scorching hot. The sun paled in comparison as the ground started to sizzle.

“Damn, even an Ascender can’t handle these pulses.” Many became afraid.

However, these pulses amounted to nothing.

“Impossible!” The captains on the ships were shocked. These pulses could kill gods but not this man.

“That tickles.” Li Qiye said then clapped his hands at the air, seemingly wanting to kill a mosquito.

“Bam!” A terrifying event happened. The small ships attacking him were pushed together and completely flattened, taking the shape of a plate.

Calling them small was only a relative term compared to the ten primary ones. They were actually bigger than a mansion; real monsters in the eyes of regular people.

Tiny drops of blood dripped out onto the ground from the gaps of the metal plates. The plates eventually dropped and rolled on the ground for a bit before stopping completely. The pulverized fleshy bits of the men inside stuck to the metal hulls, creating a flat meat bun.

Jaws dropped to the ground. No one expected that he could take care of these ships with a single clap. That’s an intimidating way to kill.

#### [Chapter 2588: Indiscriminate Bombing](#)

The destruction of these world-renowned warships left everyone in a daze. Even the smaller type was fashioned with extremely precious divine metals. Eternals or even True Emperors personally cast them.

The creation process was arduous and meticulous. Each of these ships has been blessed by the aforementioned powerful beings before. They contained extraordinary power, similar to an imperial or Eternal weapon.

These ships have participated in many famous expeditions across Imperial and earned numerous merits. They were the harbingers of doom for one sect after another.

This group only suffered minor losses in the past. Thus, losing one or two ships was a big deal but today, Li Qiye destroyed a dozen or so already.

“Who is this guy?” Many ancestors were at a loss for words after seeing this.

Li Qiye was too unfamiliar with this crowd. People had no idea about his identity.

“I heard he called himself Fiercest or Li Qiye, but who knows where he’s from.” An outsider heard news about Li Qiye from the natives here.

“Fiercest?” This was their first time hearing this title too, almost like a newcomer.

“He’s a new genius?” Someone said: “That’s incredible, the future generation will surpass us in time. First, there’s Jade-break True Emperor and Puresword True Emperor, now there’s Fiercest too.”

“Buzz.” The armada suddenly turned directions, aiming all of their cannons straight at Li Qiye to deliver a fatal blow.

Perhaps there were more than two hundred ships here and too many cannons to count. The crowd naturally became afraid.

“Full firepower.” One person whispered: “They have used it once together and crippled a system. It never recovered afterward.”

“That’s too much. Do they want to sink Mingluo City?” Older experts became startled.

“We better get far away because a real fight will end with the city being penetrated completely.” One experienced master yelled before rushing out of the city.

In fact, chaos ensued right after the cannons aimed at Li Qiye. A horde started leaving the city, afraid of the consequences.

“State your name. Hidden Gold Grotto does not kill nameless juniors.” A general appeared on top of one ship and shouted at Li Qiye.

“Never heard of Hidden Gold Grotto.” Li Qiye stood there and leisurely responded.

This general slightly grimaced while the crowd exchanged glances.

“This brat is so haughty, talking like that to the grotto?” One spectator said.

Who hasn’t heard of Hidden Grotto in Imperial Lineage? In fact, people would shudder after hearing its name because of its domineering style.

“So you want it the hard way, huh?” The general’s eyes turned cold as he threatened: “I don’t care what your background is, don’t blame anyone for dying today since you’re asking for it.”

“Do your worst while you still have a chance.” Li Qiye waved his sleeve dismissively.

“Move up, full power, don’t leave a bone behind!” The general commanded with murderous intent.

“Buzz.” The smaller ships left the formation and went to the front, acting as a wall.

They loudly moved around and formed their own battle array before becoming bright. The wings in the back began to line up so these ships seemed to be connected.

“Buzz.” Space trembled as a result of the successful connection.

When everyone took in the whole picture, they found that the ships have surrounded Li Qiye. They looked like a golden net trapping Li Qiye’s area. Their lights continued to spread until a golden sphere emerged around him.

He was at the very center so there was no blind spot at all for the cannons. They have locked on completely and would open fire the moment he shows any opening, completely burying him with barrages.

“It’s starting.” A spectator murmured while looking at the ships. Around one hundred or so were surrounding him.

“Buzz.” At the same time, the ten great ships emitted a blinding light.

“The ten monarchs are joining too?” Someone gasped at this sight.

“That’s enough to cripple a system, isn’t this too much for a junior?” One expert became surprised.

“Fire!” An order resounded. All the small ships fired at once.

“Boom! Boom!” The entire city quaked as a result while shots drowned out the sky.

The citizens lay down on the ground, paled. This was the most terrifying display of firepower they have ever seen. It looked like a raging inferno from hell pouring down on the city.

“Rumble!” Continuous detonations hurt the eardrums. These flames coming from more than one thousand cannons directly engulfed Li Qiye.

The space around him began to crack and melt. That’s why everyone could feel the searing temperature and become parched.

The city itself seemed to be melting; the inhabitants had a hard time withstanding the increasing heatwave.

“Is he dead? An Eternal might not be able to withstand that firepower.” One person murmured while looking at the ocean of flames.

“He’s fine?!” A master could see through the barrages and shout in astonishment.

“Really?!” Everyone became startled and focused their gaze towards the center.

### [Chapter 2589: Untouched](#)

Li Qiye didn’t flinch once while inside the sphere of fire due to a protective glow nullifying every single shot. Barrages continued to no avail, only managing to destroy the area around him.

In fact, people got the feeling that this was a rebirth via fire. The firepower not only failed to hurt him but also seemed to be increasing his strength by refining his constitution.

“That’s unreal.” Everyone became stunned.

“Who the hell is this guy? How can he stop this massive attack so easily?” Even the ancestors were astounded.

“Fire!” The barrage stopped for a second before another command was heard.

The small ships lit up in a blinding manner again and maximized their output. In this split second, all of them shot out a materialized ray with enough force to cut through time and space. These rays tore the area asunder while surging towards Li Qiye as the common target.

There was a lack of explosions and fire versus the previous barrage. However, these rays were far more terrifying.

Each ship has gathered all of its energy onto its respective beam, allowing the ray to sever anything. Powerful weapons and tough metals weren’t enough as a defensive measure.

“Buzz.” Temperature crazily surged like 100,000 concentrated suns. Because of this, everything started to melt.

The dao laws, worldly forces, and spatio-temporal affinities weren’t spared either. Everything became blurred, whether it be the blue azure or the earth below.

“That’s terrifying.” The horrified crowd was startled, thinking that they were next.

“I don’t think he can survive this time around because that ray is unreal. Eternals going all out still can’t stop it.” One expert stated.

One ancestor activated his heavenly gaze for a better look before shouting in horror: “Oh Lord!”

“What? His body is incinerated, even the true fate is done for?” Many came over to ask, thinking that the sight of Li Qiye’s death was too gruesome.

“He’s perfectly fine, it’s so strange.” The ancestor took a deep breath and said.

Other ancestors who were True Gods also opened their gazes. Sure enough, Li Qiye stood in the hottest area in a leisurely manner. Though these rays could burn and meld everything, they didn’t do a damn thing to him outside of lighting him up.

One could see a light emanating from him to stop the fast-shooting rays. These ancestors naturally became scared.

“Is this brat still human? So young yet possesses such a terrifying power already.” One of them shuddered.

“How does he compare to Jade-break and Puresword True Emperor?” Someone couldn’t help but ask.

“I don’t think they’re comparable.” An old True God shook his head: “The emperors are battle-hardened with brilliant talents and power among the young generation, but this so-called Fiercest is already amazing, being able to do this much.”

“How boring.” Li Qiye yawned while being struck by these rays: “Using the dao to control machines is a good method, but it is not being masterly done here, far inferior compared to the machine race.”

He smiled: “Okay, don’t block my view anymore, scrap metals.” With that, he slowly raised both hands.

“Buzz.” The melted space seemed to be torn asunder like the chaotic opening of a new world. Next came the light of dawn to signal the start of all things below the blue sky.

The hundred ships or so suddenly lost control and floated up and down. Gravity and weight have been affected.

“Not good!” The generals realized that they couldn’t control their ships.

Li Qiye circled his hands and the area turned into a gigantic maelstrom. One could actually hear splashing sounds like the ups-and-downs in an ocean.

“Rumble!” The ships naturally spun with the vortex at an increasing pace. Finally, they became part of this maelstrom, quite a majestic scene.

“Boom! Boom!” After this formational shift, the cannons on the smaller ships suddenly aimed towards the ten big ones and began firing at full force.

The big ships were caught unprepared and trembled from the attacks. Some hulls were directly penetrated.

They immediately retaliated with their own cannons. With just one barrage, more than ten small ships were destroyed.

“We’re on the same side! We’re on the same side!” The disciples and generals on the surviving smaller ships shouted in horror, unlike their fallen brothers who couldn’t even scream in time.

“Buzz.” The ten main ships exuded a blinding light that eventually culminated in the form of a barrier.

Deafening explosions resounded as a result. The barrier effectively nullified the continuous barrage from the smaller ships.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” Though the smaller ships went all out against the ten main ones, the barrier was simply too strong. Of course, it was shaking back and forth along with the area.

Meanwhile, the crowd was in awe at how Li Qiye managed to seize control of the smaller ships.

One ancestor took a deep breath and said: “Absolute control over space. Once he starts doing that, everyone within that domain will have to follow his whim.”

“Go now!” Li Qiye chuckled and pushed his hands forward.

“Boom!” The rest of the smaller ships condensed in the vortex and flew forward like a massive continent, aiming for the bigger ones.

### [Chapter 2590: Destruction](#)

The incoming ships heading for the ten main ones shocked the crowd. They were just killing their own allies.

“Boom!” These small ships gathered together and resembled a massive continent of steel carrying an unstoppable momentum.

It had great speed just like a meteor with enough force to destroy the world.

“Not good!” The generals and disciples on these ships yelled out but they could do naught but watch.

“Rumble!” The worst part was that these ships were still firing while surging for the main ones. Moreover, the firepower only increased as if they have added more ammunition.

The barrier of the great ships became unstable, on the verge of collapsing. It surely wouldn’t be able to stop the incoming fleet.

“Fire!” The ten main ships had no choice but to give this order and fired in unison.

“Boom!” The firepower of these ten ships was more than ten times stronger versus the smaller ones. Thus, the shots decimated space. The entire area shook back and forth like the end of days.

“We’re on the same side!” The troops on the smaller ships saw this and became aghast.

One small ship after another exploded. It didn’t take long before more than half of the fleet was destroyed. The soldiers there turned to ashes.

These main ships had no other choice. Collision was imminent if they didn’t do so. Not only would the barrier break down, but these smaller ships would also smash into them as well.

The only thing they could do was destroy as much as possible in order to conserve strength. Any damage to these main ships would reduce their might considerably.

“Boom!” in the end, the rest of the small ships smashed into the barrier.

“Boom!” The barrier completely crumbled, the same with the ships.

The remnants pieces flew and scattered everywhere among the sea of fire.

The only thing could be heard right now was the unceasing burning. The crowd was speechless with their eyes wide open, mouth agape.

Li Qiye patted his hands and critiqued: “So useless, can’t even make it to the main ships before becoming scrap metals.”

The smaller fleet was done for. More than one hundred has completely been destroyed. The vicinity of Mingluo was filled with debris for thousands of miles, still burning.

Just imagine the magnificent devastation - there were enough of them to cover the airspace above Mingluo.

The natives here have never seen anything so shocking before so they became frightened. In fact, even the ancestors from the great powers in Imperial felt the same way. They didn’t expect this fleet to be defeated so swiftly.

“That’s one way to declare war against Hidden Gold Grotto...” One expert exclaimed.

“Declare war? You mean wanting to fight to the death. Those guardian warships were one-third of Hidden Gold Grotto’s fighting force and now they’re gone. It’s not just a slap, this is an irreconcilable feud.” One ancestor said with a serious expression.

“Right, it’ll be a feud to the death.” The experts in Imperial realized that mediation wasn’t possible.

This was still a great loss for the prosperous sect. It would be a miracle if they were to drop this issue.

“Who is he? Why is he so merciless and domineering? He’s pretty similar to Jade-break True Emperor.” One expert recalled.

“Jade-break True Emperor wasn’t this cruel either. The emperor was murderous and prone to committing massacres but still didn’t have such a hot temperament, fighting so quickly after one disagreement.” Another one stated.

“Jade-break True Emperor was really something back then, breaking into the Mu Clan and made that clan howl with anguish and agony, pushing towards the verge of destruction. In the end, they made

many concessions or the emperor would have kept going.” One knowledgeable ancestor said: “So we have another one just like the emperor right now. It’s amazing how the next generation will always improve. Old men like us will need to retire eventually. Now that I think about it, the title Fiercest is actually very fitting.”

Others glanced at each other. Defeating a fleet in one breath? That’s more than domineering enough. Someone like him was perfect for the word Fiercest.

“How strange, how come I’ve never heard of this Li Qiye before? It’s as if he appeared out of nowhere, maybe he’s from a big clan?” Someone murmured.

Everyone became curious about his background. How could such a powerful being be unknown before?

Keep in mind that in Imperial, the capable youths are very powerful, such as Jade-break or Puresword True Emperor. Even the masters from the previous generation felt suffocated by these two and became overshadowed.

“Maybe he’s from the lower world.” An ancient ancestor spoke with a solemn expression.

“Lower world? You mean Myriad?” A response came with wide eyes and disbelief: “How could Myriad have such a powerful man? So young too.”

“Nothing is impossible. It’s not like all of Myriad are weak; numerous masters have come from there. Some were enough to be remembered for the ages, even surpassing those from Imperial.” The ancient ancestor said.

“There should have been some commotion if he came from Myriad, right? People should have noticed.” A clan member said.

“Not necessarily, older lineages down there have secret passageways. After all, many of them were originally from our world or even Immortal. They still have some resources left.” The ancestor replied.

“Maybe, or maybe he’s just a secretly groomed genius from a system in our world. There are plenty of hidden dragons and crouching tigers here.” Someone didn’t want to accept that a being from Myriad could be stronger than their own.

This wasn’t surprising at all. Imperial has always been proud - referring to Myriad as a lower world. They considered the people there as inferior.

“It doesn’t matter since this is still going to be a big deal. Hidden Gold will go all out to destroy him, or they’ll lose all face.” Another jumped in.

“Yes, they have been wanting to be among the top three and doing a great job at it. However, being trampled by someone now will kill their dreams, so they have no choice but to deal with Li Qiye. They want everyone in Imperial to know that their position is unshakable and that no one can challenge them since they possess enough power to be a behemoth.” An expert analyzed Hidden Gold’s intent.

Many nodded in agreement after hearing this.