

Emperor 2621

### [Chapter 2621: Lightning Sword God](#)

The group didn't march with loud fanfare nor put on an ostentatious show. Nevertheless, the atmosphere became tense right away.

They were virtually silent walking out of the portal in an orderly manner. This style actually made them feel invincible, capable of knocking down all obstacles - cutting through the mountains and earth, slashing through the lakes and oceans.

One particular person stood out in this group. He certainly commanded the spotlight wherever he went.

He was very young and dressed in all white with a cool attitude while holding a long sword. There was no aggression, pressure, and arrogance in him.

Alas, just his presence alone made people stagger backward with fear - enough to make them tremble. In fact, his glare could cause pain like a thrust penetrating the heart or the neck- a fatal sword move. People gulped and wondered if there was a hole in their throat with blood oozing out.

"Lightning Sword God, Su Mobai!" Someone shouted.

"He rarely leaves the Mu Clan. If he's here, the emperor is definitely coming." The crowd was surprised.

"Yes, it's always with the emperor when he leaves the clan." People felt dread.

Su Mobai was Puresword True Emperor's First Disciple, also the master of Mu Chengjie who was killed by Li Qiye. Of course, Chengjie was only one of his disciples.

After hearing his name, the first reaction was thinking that he wasn't from the Mu Clan. However, he actually had great status in the clan.

He had a different last name because he wasn't born in the clan. His actual background was very humble and he had no noble bloodline to speak of.

His father was a worker on a farm, an untouchable of sorts. However, Mobai displayed incredible talents with the sword dao at a young age.

The emperor took note of this and brought him to the clan. He definitely didn't let the emperor down. Under the emperor's guidance, his cultivation soared greatly. Few youths in the clan could actually match him.

Remember, the Mu was ancient and vast with plenty of experts. This particular clan cared immensely about bloodline and background.

In spite of this, an untouchable like Mobai was able to rise through the ranks and eventually became Puresword True Emperor's First Disciple. This was indicative of his excellent talents.

Some even said that he was just as talented as the emperor.

"Lightning Sword God is peerless due to his quick draw." A youth was a big fan of Mobai instead of Puresword and Jade-break True Emperor.

“Yes, his cultivation isn’t a match for his faster, but in terms of speed, no one can compare to him. His quick draw will slit the throat before people know what’s going on.” Another youth lamented.

Mobai had plenty of fans in Imperial. The cultivators from small sects or had a humble beginning viewed him as their role model.

Though the two emperors had many admirers, they didn’t represent every cultivator, not the ones at the bottom of the social ranking.

They were born in the strongest systems and had a noble bloodline, blessed with extraordinary advantages from the very start.

Their current achievements were indeed due to their own talents and efforts. However, they were destined for greatness, not something the bottom-tiered cultivators could relate to.

This wasn’t the case for Mobai. An untouchable like him was basically an ant. Nevertheless, he managed to become one of the best cultivators in Imperial and overwhelmed his peers in the Mu Clan. People couldn’t help but praise him for this.

Ultimately, his background and achievements earned him sympathy and respect from weaker cultivators. They thought that they could become as famous and strong as him one day through sheer effort and determination.

“He chose an unconventional yet effective path. If he had only followed the footsteps of his master, then he would be shackled to that path, doomed to be inferior to his master. However, his quick draw is impeccable right now, perhaps surpassing the emperor himself.” An old expert said.

An old man who had fought against Mobai agreed: “Yes, his speed is unrivaled. True to his title, his comprehension of the sword dao is very unique, maybe not on the same level as the emperor but far above the other youths.”

Both the lowly cultivators and noble masters praised and admired Su Mobai for his current achievements.

Mobai didn’t enter Mingluo right away but decided to stay in a palace on the mound.

This mound has been blessed by Puresword True Emperor’s grand dao so it became a formation of sorts, capable of both offense and defense. This was a perfect place for an encampment.

He didn’t show himself again and without his orders, the Mu disciples didn’t dare to do anything on their own volition. Once again, this showed his high status in the clan.

Plenty of these disciples were part of noble bloodlines - descendants of emperors and even progenitors. But now, they still listened to someone with a different last name.

“Whoosh!” A green branch crossed through the sky a while later, also pinning on another mound outside of Mingluo.

“Rumble!” The branch started growing at an incredible pace.

The crowd couldn't believe it. It was only as thick as a finger earlier but now, it has turned into a sky-blotting tree.

It continued to grow with nonstop detonations. Its thick roots looked like true dragons and drilled deep into the ground while roaring, fortifying the tree.

It began to absorb the spirit energy and water of this area, drying the whole place out. This crazily spread until only barren land was left.

#### [Chapter 2622: Famed Bamboo's Adamantine Tree](#)

"Rumble!" The tree's ascension spelled doom for the surrounding area.

The lakes dried out and the mountains crumbled. The lush, verdant plains turned into a barren wildland.

"Famed Bamboo System is here." The crowd realized what was going on.

"What kind of method is this, it's pretty damn powerful." Someone shouted in astonishment.

"It's a tree from that system named Adamantine, possessing immense growth and stealing affinity, extracting everything from the land." An expert from the last generation said.

"All newborn trees are part of it, only acting as its nourishment in the end." An ancestor was aware of the secrets within.

Adamantine was a special breed of trees and also the name for this particular one.

Their progenitor left a seed in Famed Bamboo that eventually grew into this tree.

It was both strong and magical. For example, if one were to break a branch and leave it somewhere else. This branch would grow in an insane rate and absorb the energy and water nearby, leaving nothing left for the land.

After it became big enough, it could stay or fly back to Famed Bamboo. It would wither then and all of the absorbed energy would be taken by the mother tree.

Because of this, the original one continued to become stronger with many heaven-defying techniques. Numerous Eternals and previous emperors in this system viewed it as a guardian senior.

This was indeed the case for millions of years. The system grew under its protection. Many powerful intruders have come only to leave empty-handed before the might of the tree.

"This tree is so overbearing." An envious spectator could see the streams pouring down the sky-blotting tree. It was full of life taken from the nearby area.

"Famed Bamboo is just as famous as Hidden Gold. They don't wage war as much as the latter, but they don't play that nice either. Plenty of sects have been destroyed by them." An old expert said flatly.

One ancestor shook his head and said: "Normally, Famed Bamboo wouldn't willy-nilly use this tree. They're serious about this matter."

He paused for a bit and smiled: "There's a reason why they usually stay away from conflicts too. Just look, this tree is simply too much. If they keep on stealing the resources of the world, it is going against the heaven on top of creating enemies everywhere. They'll be courting death at that point."

"Buzz." The tree has grown to its maximum size. The branches morphed into pavilions and temples, looking quite beautiful.

The doors to the buildings opened and revealed many people inside. At the highest point was a stately hall with an impressive figure sitting inside.

It was as faint as a shadow yet people could still sense its pressure all the same.

"Who is that?" Everyone noticed this presence looming above everything else.

"I believe that's Famed Bamboo Heavenly Monarch, Sha Yucheng." An old expert murmured while looking up.

"Just one branch can travel across the world and create this amazing tree. It seems so safe too, look, the disciples from this system travel more comfortably than anyone else." One youth said with envy.

The quiet Lightning Sword God climbed up the tree and stood before the highest hall. He said: "Junior Su Mobai respectfully visits you, Heavenly Monarch."

"Come in, Virtuous Nephew. How is Brother Puresword doing?" A young yet imposing voice came from inside.

"Thank you for asking, Heavenly Monarch. My master is doing well and has come out of his cultivation. He'll be here soon." Mobai bowed before entering the hall.

"It really is the monarch." One expert nodded after seeing this.

"The monarch is Puresword True Emperor's sworn brother. I suppose the Mu and Famed Bamboo will work together for this event." Another murmured.

This made the crowd exchange glances with a strange expression on their face.

The Mu was already strong enough but adding another system on top of this? Who else could stop them?

Remember, everyone was here for the immortal stone since all Eternals coveted immortality.

"Maybe it's time to find some allies." The Eternals present became serious. This was the only way to oppose these two powers.

"Boom!" A loud blast detonated in the sky and made the world tremble. The sky suddenly turned dark.

"What is that?" Everyone looked up and saw a massive monster.

It was as big as a meteor and robbed the light from Stone Harmony due to its sheer size.

"Bam!" It smashed onto a wide-open plain inside the system.

Strangely enough, there was no major upheaval, betraying everyone's expectations. Only a deep trench was left in its path.

People finally saw its true shape - a gigantic gourd with a golden glow. It seemed to have been taken off the vine not long ago since it was still full of life.

Dao runes flowed on the surface in a profound manner, almost like a supreme melody filled with the dao.

It resembled a towering mountain with clouds blowing by the midsection. It became the tallest peak in this area.

"A treasure gourd from the sky?" People instantly knew that it was an amazing item.

"Master, a gourd has just fallen from the sky. We need to pack up and go take a look, maybe we'll get lucky." A youth thought that this was a great opportunity for an adventure.

"Lucky my ass." The master smacked him on the head before smiling: "Go over there if you're tired of living. It'll turn you into blood right away. That's Hidden Gold Grotto's Gold Gourd."

"Gold Gourd? Is it that powerful?" The disciple asked his master right away.

#### [Chapter 2623: Gold Gourd](#)

The master put on a serious expression while looking at the massive gourd. He slowly explained: "Very powerful, rumor has it that a system was destroyed by it before."

"An entire system?" His disciples shuddered in response.

A system wasn't that easy to destroy due to its dao source. This was something left behind after a progenitor proved his dao. Destroying one was extremely powerful for anyone below the progenitorial realm.

"It signals the start of war since that's the grotto's symbol. Wherever it appears, it means that the grotto wants to destroy the sect, maybe the entire system." One ancestor understood the implication.

Everyone naturally understood that Hidden Gold wasn't here for Stone Harmony System. It has declined already and wouldn't be able to withstand a single blow. Hidden Gold didn't need to use its gourd for this reason. They instantly thought about Fiercest.

This gourd obviously came for him. The destruction of their armada was a grave loss, perhaps their biggest one since their foundation.

There was no way they would let this go, no way that they would let the ten Vajras die in vain.

"I heard that only the four Esteemed Kings can use the gourd to its full potential. Looks like they're here too." An ancestor commented.

At this point in time, everyone believed that Li Qiye belonged to the highest order. Just one king wouldn't be enough to take him down. All four of them needed to be here just for a chance to kill him. Anything less would be suicidal.

“It probably has been a while since all four have appeared and worked together.” Another person joined in.

A knowledgeable Ascender said: “In recent years, people said that they are strong enough to challenge the three behemoths. Their fleets were flying all around Imperial with wanton regard for anything. However, one event changed that and they started acting with reservation, especially towards the Li Clan.”

“What does the Li have to do with this?” One listener asked curiously.

“I was told that Gu Yifei personally came to visit Hidden Gold Grotto. The four kings were all there to greet him.” The Ascender said.

This attracted everyone’s attention. Was it really only a normal visit from Gu Yifei? Did all four kings need to be there for the reception?

“They must have fought, right?” A big gossip instantly asked.

“The details eluded me, but many speculated that the four kings fought together against Gu Yifei. All in all, after this visit, Hidden Gold Grotto cooled down a bit and stopped blatantly challenging the three behemoths.”

“So the four of them still aren’t enough to take Gu Yifei on.” Another said.

“There’s no shame in losing to Gu Yifei. Everyone knows that he’s the strongest in the Li. Don’t you know that some say that he is an Everlasting?” An expert quickly revealed.

“Whether he’s an Everlasting or not is up for debate, but one thing’s for sure, he’s not only the number one in his clan, he is definitely the number one in our world. He swept through the realms in the past and no one could stop him. I think this is still the case in the present.”

Gu Yifei was once a brilliant prodigy who roamed in an unstoppable manner. Later on, he became reclusive and rarely asked about mundane matters. Even the members of his clan rarely got a chance to see him.

Another expert said: “Lucidity King reigned for three generations and never gave a damn about anyone. He visited the Mu before and looked down on the Mu Clan Master then, demanding to see the strongest ancestor of the Mu. See how arrogant he was? However, he still addressed Gu Yifei as Elder Brother.”

People nodded in agreement. Lucidity King’s legends and arrogance were known by all. He always put on an arrogant act before anyone, ranging from powerful Eternals to domineering ancestors. There was nothing he didn’t dare to do.

However, he still treated Gu Yifei with respect. This spoke volumes on Yifei’s abilities.

“The Mu is here, Famed Bamboo too, and now the four kings of Hidden Gold.” Someone quietly said: “A storm is coming, and who knows if Stone Harmony can weather this storm? This might be the end of this system.”

A world-breaking fight was inevitable, turning this land into a battlefield. Just one mishap and it might be penetrated completely or turned into ashes.

“Stone Harmony is powerless in the past but it looks like Fiercest is standing on its side now. People will need to watch out for him if they want to stir things up here.”

People realized this after watching Li Qiye saves the natives. Thus, treating Stone Harmony the same way as before was suicidal.

“Two fists can’t beat four punches. The Li will be coming too, so can Fiercest take everyone on? Maybe he’ll be the one to die by joining this mess.” One ancestor shook his head, not feeling too bullish about Fiercest.

No one denied Fiercest’s might at this point. However, it would be hard for him to leave this place alive if he takes on the entire world.

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The city remained quiet despite the arrival of these powerful forces. The natives didn’t know how strong the Mu were. Li Qiye was unbeatable in their mind.

They kept on living normally regardless of the commotion outside, believing in Li Qiye. On the other hand, experienced experts like Wu Youzheng became worried. The fate of the system rested on Li Qiye’s shoulders. If he couldn’t take them on, it would be the end for Stone Harmony.

Tonight was another serene night but this didn’t last long.

“Buzz.” Bright rays emanated from the ground in the city, brimming with divinity.

Though they weren’t especially blinding, the night made them more conspicuous. Everyone woke up and looked towards the city.

“Is the immortal stone about to come out?” Excitement rose. The ancestors from the great powers also took note of this change.

“Should we kill our way in?” A few people lost their patience.

“Sure, if you want to die. You forgot about Fiercest’s declaration?” An ancestor rolled his eyes.

Many trembled after recalling the warning, not wanting to die like the ten Vajras and five merchants.

“Just wait for the Mu and the rest to take action first. They won’t be able to wait.” Another wily ancestor said.

Sure enough, an imperial aura erupted from the Mu’s camp.

“They’re doing it.” One shouted while looking at the bright camp.

### [Chapter 2624: One Palm Strike](#)

“Buzz.” Dao runes spread around the mound like rippling waves. This imperial aura resembled an emperor marching to battle.

The ones outside the city became alert by this aura.

“So are they doing this or not?” One guy whispered.

“Not that fast.” An expert shook his head: “Puresword True Emperor hasn’t arrived yet. How the hell is this group going to face Li Qiye? Lightning Sword God alone isn’t enough to be an appetizer.”

“True, without the emperor and their strongest ancestors, attacking will be suicidal.” One ancestor nodded.

Eternals were slaughtered like pigs. Anything less would be a joke against Fiercest.

Lightning Sword God was strong indeed, but that was only relative to the young generation. He was nothing before Fiercest. Maybe his master would be a better match.

“The emperor will come, it’s only a matter of time. The Mu won’t let go of this chance.” One expert said while looking at the Mu camp.

Though the clan hasn’t done anything yet, the imperial aura engulfing the sky there showed their intent. They would definitely march into Mingluo. The question was, when?

“Fellow Daoist Li, we wish to enter the city.” On the second day of Mingluo being covered in brilliance, Lightning Sword God finally revealed his stance while embracing his sword.

“It’s happening.” This attracted everyone’s attention.

“The Mu is still giving Fiercest some face; courtesy first, fight second.” This was surprising to some people.

The Mu was one of the three behemoths and had an amazing True Emperor as their clan master right now. They were famous with few peers.

Virtually everyone needed to give them face. Under normal circumstances, most would become elated and felt honored if Lightning Sword God were to ask them before visiting their city. They would rush out to greet him.

“Scram.” However, Li Qiye answered in a direct and aggressive manner, not caring about the sword god’s status.

The crowd smiled wryly after hearing this. That’s Fiercest for you, always overbearing and unreasonable regardless of the other party.

Fiercest seemed to not care about offending anyone in Imperial Lineage. He didn’t mind going against the rest of the world.

“What a monster.” Even those who didn’t like him found some admiration: “He wants to offend all the great powers in Imperial, the only one who would dare to do so.”

Offending people was inevitable in the cultivation world. Alas, Li Qiye’s action was still unique and strangely admirable.

Lightning Sword God showed no emotion after hearing the rude response. He stood there quietly.

“Li, you’re out of line!” On the contrary, Yang Tingyu furiously shouted: “I am a member of Stone Harmony, my Luo Faction is the greatest sect in Stone Harmony and this city is ours, you’re simply taking over our place!”



“Death to all intruders.” Li Qiye didn’t bother commenting on Tingyu’s claim. His simple answer stopped all further justification.

Tingyu said all of that just to prove that he was a disciple of Stone Harmony and the master of Mingluo. On the other hand, Li Qiye was only an outsider; he didn’t have authority over the city.

Unfortunately, this failed because Li Qiye didn’t play along and stopped it right away.

He had plenty of justifications ready but nothing could come out now, leaving his mouth awkwardly open before the crowd.

“You... one day, you will be tied up to a pillar and chastised by others for taking over someone else’s system!” Tingyu furiously said.

Li Qiye didn’t respond to this. However, the Mu was in a difficult situation.

Their clan and the sword god were certainly strong but dealing with Li Qiye demanded extreme prudence. His few words weighed a thousand pounds - he would absolutely kill any intruder.

“Hmph, you are being very unreasonable!” Someone scoffed with the intensity and outbreak of a sudden thunderstorm in spring. A great divinity exploded at the top of the Adamantine Tree and poured down the world like a flood.

“That’s the heavenly monarch, Sha Yucheng.” Someone whispered.

The leader of Famed Bamboo has stated his stance, clearly standing on the side of the Mu. Of course, this wasn’t surprising since he was the emperor’s sworn brother.

“The world is full of hidden dragons and crouching tigers. Don’t think of yourself as being invincible or you will die without a burial.” His mighty Eternal aura covered the land in an effort to intimidate and warn Li Qiye.

“Is the monarch starting?” Another spectator said.

“Boom!” A palm strike suddenly emanated from the palace in the ruins of Mingluo - one as casual as someone swatting a fly.

It crushed through the void and instantly arrived on top of the great tree.

“Rumble!” The tree exuded a green light full of life. Laws appeared with boundless power. It has activated various barriers in order to stop Li Qiye’s strike.

The strike rendered them effective and crushed these laws into smithereens, causing loud explosions. More deafening destruction ensued.

“Not good!” The tree was drowned in chaos with people fleeing and shouting. Branches and leaves were scattering down. The buildings and numerous disciples also fell down along with the thick branches.

The tree became a mess with damages everywhere, no longer as majestic as before.

[Chapter 2625: Silence](#)

The scene resembled the devastation left behind by a tornado. The entire tree didn't have a single part untouched and was nearly split in half as well.

The system suffered heavy losses due to the falling buildings crashing into the ground and breaking into bits and pieces.

The casualty wasn't bad but the survivors had no home to return to now. They stared at the empty tree in a daze.

The strike silenced the top part of the tree right away. The aggressive divinity coming from the heavenly monarch earlier was nowhere to be found now.

"I can squash all of you like bugs, this is a warning. Feel free to come if you do not heed it." Li Qiye's leisure voice came from his palace.

He directly provoked everyone nearby after fully humiliating Famed Bamboo System. However, the tree had no response. The monarch himself also closed his mouth like an obedient child.

Just one strike alone nearly annihilated the Adamantine Tree. Everyone was stunned because Li Qiye's power seemed unfathomable. No one could have a good read of his true strength.

"The monarch hasn't seen Fiercest in action before or he wouldn't have made that mistake. His power isn't comparable to the five merchants yet he still dared to provoke Fiercest? He asked for this humiliation." Someone from the last generation shook his head.

Sha Yucheng was a powerful master. He was considered one of the youngest Eternals in Imperial, being only a little older than Puresword True Emperor. This meant he had great potential in the future.

However, he still couldn't match the Eternals from the previous generation, especially notorious ones like the five merchants. Thus, he obviously couldn't take on Li Qiye.

"Everything else becomes meaningless after one reaches a certain power level. Background? Backing? Bloodline? All meaningless." An ancestor had a forceful smile on his face while reflecting.

Sha Yucheng was strong on top of having the resourceful Famed Bamboo behind him. He actually didn't mind antagonizing people stronger than him because of this. His system had mighty ancestors and has never been afraid of anyone.

In an actual all-out conflict, they could handle anyone in Imperial outside of the three behemoths. But now, after witnessing the destructive strike earlier, the monarch realized that he had kicked a steel door. What they had here right now wasn't enough to oppose Fiercest.

Thus, keeping quiet was a wise move. Otherwise, all of their disciples might die here and now along with further damage to the tree.

"So domineering." The spectators smiled wryly after seeing a lack of reaction from the monarch.

"Fiercest is causing trouble everywhere." One ancestor said: "Does he really want to fight against everyone?"

“Maybe he wants the immortal stone all for himself.” Another ancestor’s eyes flashed brightly with greed.

In fact, virtually everyone came from the immortal stone. Li Qiye was just too big of a blockade.

They started hoping for the three behemoths to take action and break into Mingluo so that they could take advantage of the chaos.

Over to the Mu’s side, they were also intimidated by the attack earlier. Yang Tingyu had nothing to say. All they could do was wait for their emperor.

Even the gourd landing on the great plain earlier didn’t make a move. It looked like they weren’t in a rush to siege Mingluo.

A while later on the same day, a deer crossed through the sky ever so briefly. Nevertheless, it left hoofprints on the sky, looking just like blooming white flowers.

“What’s that?” Some didn’t know what was going on.

“Venerable Deer Merchant.” An ancestor became serious.

“Buzz.” A wooden stick flew over from the horizon and landed on a thicket outside of Mingluo.

The vegetation and trees there started growing at an unbelievable rate, tall enough to blot out the sky. The more magical part was these trees intertwining together to form houses and palaces. This bustling city had specific patterns just like a work of art.

One could hear deers playing around among the bushes and gurgling streams. A group began drinking near a stream. Some were galloping around while others were gathering little branches together to make a roost.

It didn’t take long before the area turned into a paradise filled with transcending energy. These deers became the guardian spirits of the thicket.

“That’s Venerable Deer Merchant.” Another ancestor recognized this.

“Where is he?” The juniors looked around but didn’t see Venerable Deer Merchant.

“He’s already here.” The ancestor explained: “In there. His location usually turns into a scene of paradise with spirit deers, hence his title.”

The juniors observed the thicket with deers happily playing around. One disciple murmured: “That’s very surprising. He looks like an immortal with good taste. How could such a man do something evil like sacrificing several million lives?”

These young ones were obviously unhappy with the blood sacrifice revealed a while ago.

“Shut up!” The senior immediately scolded and glared at him.

This disciple’s head shrunk down from fear and didn’t dare to say anything else.

Venerable Deer Merchant’s arrival surprised everyone. He was rumored to be the oldest being in Imperial, at least among the known Eternals.

His cultivation was great; some believed that it was on the same level as Gu Yifei. However, others claimed that he was old now with withering vitality, one level weaker than Yifei.

All in all, if one were to list the top three experts in Imperial, he would certainly be mentioned.

Moreover, he created the Trade Federation so he enjoyed great status and authority. Just one word from his could invite many Eternals and systems. Thus, though he was here alone, he represented a great force.

People immediately became more cautious in response.

### [Chapter 2626: Mysterious Youth](#)

Venerable Deer Merchant's arrival excited the crowd. They even rubbed their fists, seemingly getting ready. [1]

They patiently waited for the deer merchant to break into Mingluo and defeat Fiercest. This would grant them an opening for their own schemes.

Fiercest was something else. His take-down of the tree left them speechless and robbed them of their courage. No one dared to take half a step inside the city.

In their opinion, it was unrealistic to rely on Lightning Sword God and Famed Bamboo Heavenly Monarch.

This was no longer the case. The deer merchant's arrival gave them hope. Everyone knew about the ongoing feud between these two.

As the leader of the federation, the deer merchant would never drop this issue. A siege against the city was only a matter of time, hence the crowd's excitement and anticipation for Li Qiye's defeat.

The reality was that they had no feud against Li Qiye. Some even admired him for protecting the natives. Unfortunately, treasures were too tempting.

The city was filled with immortal pulses right now. Even the blind could see that the stone was about to come out. They couldn't just let him have it.

However, the deer merchant didn't do anything after arriving. The lustful and beautiful forest with spirit deers remained but there was no sign of him.

Of course, no one dared to enter the forest without an invitation for fear of death due to his notorious reputation.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!" A series of drumming interrupted everyone's rumination.

"Alright, someone is finally attacking the city." This was the first reaction.

However, they looked up and didn't see an army, only a gigantic imperial ship slowly approaching.

On the deck was an old drum with a middle-aged man going hard at it. The drum echoed in a mighty and oppressive manner.

The ship was luxurious beyond words, made from precious Brilliantcloud Immortal Wood and decorated with gem squares for both the floor and roof. There were antique decorations such as paintings emitting either imperial or eternal aura.

They naturally came from powerful beings but were just used as decoration right now.

There was one imperial banner on the ship. Normally, only an emperor would hang such a banner.

“Is it Puresword True Emperor?” However, someone noticed the word “Lu” on it.

People couldn’t come up with an emperor with that last name in Imperial. They knew that there were two emperors right now - Jade-break and Puresword.

The most shocking thing was the impressive blessings and augmentations on the ship - more than enough to crush the firmaments for an eternity. This seemed to be the power level of a progenitor.

“Which True Emperor is this? Probably above Jade-break and Puresword True Emperor.” The crowd was startled.

They also noticed a throne looming in the crowd. The same rule as the banner applied - emperor only.

A youth sat there, dressing on the verge of being ostentatious; his attitude full of disdain. His eyes were up in the sky as if looking at other people would dirty them.

Arrogance aside, one could see unyieldingness and ferocity in his appearance as well.

Five old men stood behind him - all incredible True Gods acting as servants. This pointed to the youth being a heaven-defying existence.

Even Jade-break and Puresword True Emperor didn’t have Eternals as servants. After all, Eternals were important and prestigious. One would need to be a progenitor to have this treatment.

Many could see that this youth wasn’t a True Emperor. His aura was ferocious indeed but it wasn’t as strong as the ones coming from the Eternals behind him. This naturally stunned the crowd.

“Is there an unstoppable Lu Clan in our world?” This question popped up.

“Who is this youth?” No one recognized the youth or knew his background.

“Boom!” The ship landed on the ruins outside the city.

“Su Mobai, Sha Yucheng, come for a drink.” The youth spoke, appearing very egotistical.

People glanced at each other since he addressed Lightning Sword God and the heavenly monarch with their real names.

Su Mobai had quite a reputation being the first disciple of Puresword True Emperor. The heavenly monarch was on the same seniority ranking as the True Emperor since they were sworn brothers. Many in Imperial assumed the role of a junior before him.

But now, this youth called them by their given names as if his status far exceeded these two.

“Brother Lu, excuse us for a lack of reception.” An awe-inspiring response came from the tree. A ray of light shot out. Next, the monarch landed on the great ship, pulsing with the glow of an Eternal. One found it hard to actually see his face.

“It is an honor to see you, Brother Lu. I regret not spending more time together during our previous meeting at the Mu.” Lightning Sword God also jumped on the ship and cupped his fist, acting appropriately to the occasion.

The crowd took a deep breath and exchanged glances, still perplexed about the youth’s identity.

The two weren’t angry at the lack of courtesy. In fact, they were so polite towards him.

“Let’s enjoy ourselves today, I have brought plenty of good wines.” The prideful youth said.

Next, he looked over towards the forest and cupped his fist: “Senior Deer Merchant, Esteemed Kings, I, Lu Weijun, greet you.”

Though this was a greeting, judging by his expression, he carried no respect for these five.

Remember, one would be hard-pressed to find an ancestor as strong as the deer merchant right now. Any junior would be full of reverence when talking to him. On the other hand, this youth remained casual as if it was no big deal.

“You’re too polite, Virtuous Nephew Lu. How is Senior Hundred-days doing?” An ancient voice came from the reclusive merchant inside the forest.

His reserved tone towards this junior shocked the crowd again, confirming the heaven-defying background of this youth named Lu Weijun.

### [Chapter 2627: Everlasting](#)

Venerable Deer Merchant’s attitude took the crowd like a storm. Who in Imperial was worthy of this polite act from him? They racked their brains and couldn’t come up with anything.

“Senior, the ancestor is doing well. He has been relaxing at home and teaching us after leaving his isolated cultivation.” Lu Weijun smiled.

His expression became smugger as he arched out his chest after bringing up his ancestor.

“Hundred-days? Last name Lu...” An old Eternal carefully pondered and finally recalled something: “It can’t be? Hundred-days Daoist?”

He was alarmed because this was a legendary character.

“Hundred-days Daoist? Who?” It was surprising to see this old Eternal acting so shocked. In fact, this title was unfamiliar to everyone.

“He’s from several generations ago.” The Eternal put on a solemn expression: “When he was around, if we were to pick the strongest person in Imperial, it wouldn’t be Gu Yifei. Hundred-days Daoist was invincible back then. The current Gu Yifei might not be his match either.”

“That strong?” This gave the crowd a jolt.

“Very, he was an Epoch Eternal back then and swept through Imperial, unmatched.” The Eternal said: “Several True Emperors working together from Nine Secrets still lost to him.”

He was from that period so he became emotional while digging through his memories.

“An Epoch Eternal from that long ago?” The crowd was amazed since not many of them were around in Imperial. Gu Yifei was one of these rare beings.

“Later on, his lifespan came to an end so he sealed himself for a final cultivation, wishing to break through the limit to reach the apex. Alas, no news came later, everyone thought that he died in this attempt. But for him to come out now? Did he come back to life?” The old Eternal elaborated.

“We have nothing but admiration for Senior Hundred-days’ achievement.” A distant voice came from the Gold Gourd.

This caught the crowd off guard. Everyone thought that it was only a treasure but it turned out that there were people inside.

“His becoming an Everlasting is wondrous, far beyond what we can do. It’s a shame we couldn’t congratulate him back then.” The voice continued.

“You’re too kind, Esteemed King, we welcome you as a guest at any time.” Lu Weizheng laughed.

“What?!” Both the normal cultivators and invincible Eternals got chills.

“Everlasting?! The daoist has become an Everlasting Eternal!” One old man acted like a cat with its tail stepped on: “He has successfully broken through the death tribulation and became an Everlasting!”

“Everlasting... an existence capable of fighting against a progenitor...” Gasps and wows could be heard.

This news shook the crowd to the core. An Everlasting was a being comparable to a progenitor. This was the apex of all True Gods, the ultimate goal.

“Since when does Imperial Lineage have an Everlasting? The last time an Everlasting left Imperial was several generations ago.” One ancestor murmured.

Imperial Lineage had no lack of brilliant Eternals in its history. However, after reaching a certain power level, they would leave for Immortal Lineage since it was far easier to become an Everlasting there.

Plus, staying behind would create a huge burden for their sects. That’s why all Everlastings in Imperial Lineage were heaven-defying for being able to stay behind.

“A real Everlasting, this position has been empty for so long in our world...” An Eternal regained his wits and said.

It didn’t take long before people found out that Lu Weijun was Hundred-days Daoist’s distant descendant. His bloodline was the same as the daoist so he was considered to be part of the orthodox branch.

As the descendant of an Everlasting and the successor of the Lu, Weijun obviously had an important and prestigious position.

People understood why the deer merchant and the four kings acted politely towards this junior. It was all due to Hundred-days Daoist. As the adage goes - one can ignore the monks but be mindful of Buddha.

Needless to say, no one would want to offend Weijun because of his ancestor.

“The number one expert of Imperial is no longer Gu Yifei, it’s the daoist again.” Someone commented.

Gu Yifei wasn’t a match for the daoist who had successfully become an Everlasting through his final cultivation attempt.

The former was undoubtedly strong but the gap between an Eternal and an Everlasting was impossible to cross. The power disparity couldn’t be overcome.

The area outside the city became lively. Everyone wanted to make connections with him.

Of course, the guy was too arrogant. Even tributes and gifts were looked down upon. Nevertheless, his ship was as busy as a marketplace with visitors coming nonstop.

Remember, befriending or making connections with an Everlasting was very important for any individual or sect. It would greatly affect their future.

“Buzz.” A boundless imperial aura rushed out of the Mu’ camp and illuminated the sky.

“Rumble!” A True Emperor has arrived, evident by the surge of majestic power.

“Puresword True Emperor is here!” Someone shouted.

All eyes turned towards the camp. Though they couldn’t see him, they knew he was there.

“An emperor is finally about to show his stuff.” Another commenter said.

Everyone knew the famous emperor since he was a brilliant genius. They couldn’t wait to see him in action.

“Who’s stronger between the emperor and Fiercest?” Someone said softly.

The crowd pondered. Fiercest came to their mind first because he was simply unfathomable even now.

However, the famous emperor wasn’t a weakling either. No one could be sure.

“Boom!” Violet radiance emitted from the gourd. This artifact seemingly wanted to suppress the firmaments.

“Are the four Esteemed Kings joining too?” People shuddered at the gourd’s destructive power.

The deer merchant’s forest also started glowing green like an endless ocean. Waves of green light drowned the world after loud explosions.

“Same with Venerable Deer Merchant.” Another became startled.

“Rumble!” The Adamantine Tree’s branches swayed back and forth, sending out a resonating force.



“Mingluo City belongs to the world, any attempt at monopoly will be swiftly met with retribution.” Lu Weijun announced, clearly aiming at Li Qiye. His stance represented the intent of Hundred-days Daoist.

Everyone stared nervously at Mingluo, waiting for Fiercest to show himself.

### [Chapter 2628: Domineering](#)

Lu Weijun was simply no match for Fiercest in terms of personal power level. The latter was simply insane and only the two emperors could have a shot against him among the young generation.

Lu Weijun would be courting death in a one-on-one fight. However, people were afraid of his backer, Hundred-days Daoist.

An Everlasting has always been a dreadful existence even during the golden age of Imperial Lineage. Few could actually match them in power.

Anyone would fear an Everlasting right now, the three behemoths included.

“Will Fiercest dare to oppose Hundred-days Daoist?” Someone said softly.

The lawless and arrogant fella has never given a damn about the experts and system in Imperial, evident by his previous butchering. So now, with the appearance of an Everlasting, people started wondering if he would still act in the same manner.

“I think he’ll do it.” One expert quietly said: “He has never been afraid of anyone since his debut. Not to mention the Trade Alliance and Hidden Gold Grotto, we can see from his words and actions that he doesn’t care about the behemoths either. So what if this daoist joins the fray? I’m sure that’s what he’s thinking.”

Many agreed with this comment. Just the reputation of the daoist alone might not be enough to scare Fiercest. All eyes turned towards him now.

“Dogs and cats may play outside the city. Take one step in and face the consequences.” A leisure voice responded from the hall.

The crowd got what they wanted. Those who were here early have experienced his overbearing style before.

“That’s Fiercest for you.” In fact, people would find it rather uncomfortable if he wasn’t acting in this manner. Lu Weijun and the daoist’s reputation weren’t enough to intimidate him.

“Ignorant fool.” Weijun was easily provoked. He shouted: “You think you’re invincible, daring to spew these outa-...”

“Yes, your father is indeed invincible.” Li Qiye interrupted him.

The youth began shaking with anger from the blatant disdain. He came from a prestigious clan and his cultivation wasn’t shabby either. This background of his demanded respect.

Now, his ancestor has become an Everlasting. His clan and himself were propelled to another level of prestige; he became the star of the show overnight.

Not to mention the young geniuses, even the famed ancestors needed to be polite or even respectful towards him.

For example, whenever he came to visit, the ancestors from the Mu would need to have an extravagant reception ready. The deer merchant and four Esteemed Kings weren't spared from this either.

Thus, whenever he spoke, everyone needed to listen attentively. No one has ever shown disrespect by interrupting him!

Fury spewed out of his eyes along with murderous intent. He would need to show Li Qiye the consequences of his transgression!

"Just a junior like you claims invincibility? Don't you know that there are plenty of hidden masters in Imperial? Numerous beings stronger than you? Countless characters that would be memorialized in history..."

"Stop the meaningless adulation. You are just praising your ancestor, that Hundred-days Daoist or whatever." Li Qiye interrupted him again.

"That's right, my ancestor is the strongest being right now, an Everlasting unmatched by all in Imperial. An arrogant junior like you is nothing before him, he could crush you without any difficulty." Weijun directly brought up his ancestor.

No one dared to refute this arrogant and unpleasant claim since they actually agreed with him. An Everlasting was indeed untouchable in Imperial right now.

"Hundred days or hundred legs, whatever, I'll hang his head on the gate if he dares to come here." Li Qiye didn't care at all.

"You!" Weijun was shocked because this was the first time he heard such a fierce retort against his ancestor.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that only suicidal people would make this type of comment towards the daoist. In fact, the daoist didn't need to do it himself. Plenty of others would kill the perpetrator to curry favor.

"I can't believe it." The crowd still took a deep breath despite knowing Li Qiye's personality.

Normally, juniors would spout unsavory comments during minor skirmishes. A supreme like the daoist wouldn't pursue these little problems.

But now, Fiercest announced his intent to decapitate the daoist then desecrate his corpse in public. This wasn't something that could be overlooked. A battle between these two was inevitable.

"The daoist can't swallow this down. Even if he won't do anything, his descendants will have to make a move or they'll lose all face." One expert said.

"Fiercest went overboard and didn't leave any space to back off once necessary." An ancestor smiled wryly: "This is an Everlasting we're talking about, a being that can hurt a progenitor. I don't think Fiercest can take him."

Of course, the ones most excited about the comment were the deer merchant and the four kings. This development was exactly what they wanted.

Weijun's face turned red and couldn't muster up a response.

"We didn't come here seeking revenge." Suddenly, a clear and powerful voice came from the mound of the Mu: "Mingluo City is my disciple's home. He came back today to help his family."

This voice had a certain order to it, sounding just like a mantra.

"Puresword True Emperor!" People instantly knew who it was right away.

"Yes, Mingluo is my home, is it a crime to return to my own home? That's too unreasonable." Yang Tingyu stepped out and snorted.

"No one is allowed to stop others from coming home." The deer merchant added.

"Only the cruelest devil would take another's home as their own. Such a person should be persecuted by the rest of the world." One of the four kings supported.

#### [Chapter 2629: Entering The City](#)

It was as clear as day that an alliance has been formed between these various powers to oppose Li Qiye.

"No one can stop me from going home!" Yang Tingyu shouted.

This was a chance for them to pressure Li Qiye. After all, Tingyu was indeed an inhabitant of Mingluo.

It seemed unreasonable for Li Qiye to stop him from returning home. Thus, he had the perfect reason - taking care of his friends and families who were still in Mingluo.

He had the moral high ground on top of being the victim while Li Qiye was the heartless oppressor.

"Boom!" Yang Tingyu marched out of the Mu's camp with an army behind him. Su Mobai acted as an escort as well.

"It's about time!" One spectator knew the Mu's intent. Everyone became excited as a result.

The immortal pulses inside the city left them restless. The stone was about to come out but Li Qiye had the entire city sealed off. How were they going to get the stone?

If this group from the Mu could actually enter the city, they would leave behind a hole in Li Qiye's defense. It would make it easier for them to sneak inside later on.

"The Mu has all the right conditions right now to go." One commenter added.

Yang Tingyu had ample reasons to return, allowing the Mu to join in. Plus, the clan also had the support of other powers. This was the perfect time to strike - a godsend opportunity.

"Boom!" The army stopped before the gate. They lined up quietly and perfectly, instilling chills into the spectators. This was a battle-hardened group, leaving no room for others to question their abilities.

The gate remained closed. Of course, it wasn't enough to stop the group from breaking in if they wanted to.

Everyone watched with bated breath, waiting for the next move from Fiercest.

"I, Yang Tingyu, grew up in Mingluo City. This place is my home, my everything, where my brothers and sisters reside along with my aging seniors. Returning home is a universal right..."Tingyu started a sorrowful speech, putting himself in the role of a victim whose home has been wrested away.

On the other hand, Li Qiye was a bully taking over someone else's home.

Of course, the natives were listening too. The majority actually looked down on him, including members of Luo Faction.

In their eyes, Li Qiye was their guardian deity, the savior of Mingluo. Where was Yang Tingyu - the number one expert of Mingluo - when disaster struck? Li Qiye, an outsider, was the one who saved them.

Plus, they felt safe under his protection. On the contrary, Yang Tingyu wanted to bring outsiders into the city - akin to bringing wolves back home. They naturally opposed his return despite not daring to protest.

"So what if you're as pitiful as you make it sound? Same thing as before, no mercy for those who dare to enter the city." Li Qiye appeared on the city wall and looked down at him: "You're nothing but an insignificant pawn. Puresword True Emperor, Esteemed Kings, Venerable Deer Merchants, whatever, all come together. I'll destroy all of you at the same time to avoid incessant jabbering."

The crowd was in awe at this blatant declaration of war and could only smile wryly.

"He's the only one worthy of the title 'Fiercest' in Imperial Lineage." One of them said.

"Fellow Daoist, if you wish to fight, I'm always ready to entertain you but that's for another day." Puresword True Emperor answered with his powerful voice: "Today, I'm not here to cause trouble. My disciple is homesick and wishes to return so please, open the gate so that he can be freed of this affliction."

"Scram to the edge of the world if you want to live." Li Qiye leisurely replied.

The crowd wondered why all of his responses have to be so domineering and unreasonable? He didn't show an ounce of restraint and politeness towards the True Emperor.

"You're an outsider and I'm a disciple of Mingluo! This is my home!" Yang Tingyu angrily shouted.

Li Qiye waved his sleeve in response: "How bothersome, alright, everyone will die today, starting with you."

Having said that, he casually pointed at the youth without adding any power.

Tingyu saw this and retreated with full haste. He had fought against Li Qiye before and knew just how terrifying the guy was.

Without his master around, he wouldn't dare to stand in this place and challenge Li Qiye right now. Unfortunately, though he mustered all of his efforts, the finger strike continued to head for him. Just looking at the raising finger scared Tingyu to the core.

“First Brother, save me!” He couldn’t help but cry out during this crucial moment.

A sword flashed right away. Lightning Sword God’s unsheathing speed was incredible. People could only see its flash and not his actual action.

When people could see again, they noticed the sword’s flat stopping Li Qiye’s finger. Li Qiye didn’t seem to mind the gentle parry at all.

“Clank!” The sound of unsheathing finally came. One could imagine the immense speed necessary for this phenomenon to happen.

“You’re the best, First Brother!” Yang Tingyu heaved a sigh of relief and excitedly said.

Unfortunately, the sword god himself couldn’t celebrate. He used all of his power and abilities to barely stop this casual finger strike. He had reached his limit and found himself shaking.

There seemed to be countless mountains pressing down on his blade. Just holding the hilt became a struggle.

“Li, see, plenty of people in the world are stronger than...” Yang Tingyu gloatingly added.

Li Qiye responded by adding more strength to his fingertip and the sword failed to hold.

“Pop!” Yang Tingyu turned into a mist of blood before he could finish his taunting.

#### [Chapter 2630: Always Invincible](#)

Li Qiye’s finger was still on the flat side of the blade yet Tingyu was turned into blood before having a chance to scream.

He probably never expected that death would come so swiftly for him, not allowing him the privilege of struggling.

Even his backer, Puresword True Emperor, didn’t have the chance to try and help him.

In the beginning, he dared to come here because of the emperor’s presence granting him both confidence and power.

He believed that regardless of Li Qiye’s strength, the guy wouldn’t be able to harm him under the emperor’s protection at all.

Who would have thought that destruction and death came so quickly? In the final second, he felt nothing but regret for being so suicidal.

“Boom!” Su Mobai’s sword crumbled as well into a million pieces.

The sword god was astounded at the sheer disparity between the two. He instantly retreated with lightning speed back towards the camp, realizing that only someone as strong as his master could take on Li Qiye.

“Isn’t it too late to leave now?” Li Qiye chuckled and started walking forward.

The sword god’s speed was brilliant but Li Qiye only needed one step to block his path.

“Whoosh!” The sword god instantly took action and unleashed a sharp slash. Though he didn’t have a sword, his heart certainly had one. The dao of the sword and lacerating arcs engulfed the sky.

This destructive move carried the lightning affinity, issuing loud crackles and metallic hums.

Lightning bolts in the form of swords instantly surrounded Li Qiye. The sword intent sealed the world, trapping the target.

Swordless yet even better than possessing a sword - the sword god’s most dominating move.

“No big deal.” Li Qiye didn’t bat an eye even though the lightning swords were inches away from him. The sword dao gathered into an extremely sharp edge trying to penetrate his throat.

Strangely enough, all these various sharp manifestations couldn’t continue forward. Something extremely tough blocked their path and froze them in place. Even the main thrust aiming for Li Qiye’s throat was stopped despite the sword god mustering all of his strength.

“Even your master can’t amount to anything against me.” Li Qiye chuckled.

He raised one finger again and flicked. “Boom!” The frozen time began to flow again.

The sword god’s dao crumbled in entirety into bright particles.

“Crack!” The sword god got blown flying with bones breaking and blood gushing all over.

This flick was unbelievably destructive. The youth was still being ravaged by its power. If this went on, he could turn into a pulp before smashing into the ground.

“Bam!” A palm appeared in the sky and quickly caught the youth, wanting to save him from this agony.

This palm was surrounded by imperial laws and auras. However, the sleeve covering it still got cut to a thousand scattering pieces.

Blood also gushed out - who knows if it was from the sword god or the hand?

“Puresword True Emperor!” Someone shouted.

His master clearly joined the fray during this moment between life and death.

“Kill him!” The army of the Mu roared furiously. These elites wanted to save their master. Their battle cries assaulted the sky and the stars like a tsunami.

They all thrust their spear upward in unison and accumulated into an incredible force in the shape of a dragon spear.

“Raa!” The dragon roared and raised its claws, wanting to lacerate him.

“Boom!” Li Qiye casually unleashed a palm strike, successfully crushing this draconic energy and hitting the army below.

He tore the heaven asunder with this casual blow. It was as if the entire sky vault was falling down on the army.

Once he raised his palm again, the ground has become stained with blood. The army was no longer there, replaced by flattened flesh and bits - a meat patty of sorts.

"How boring. Why do people always think they can challenge and kill me?" He yawned and said.

The world became silent. Though the emperor managed to save the sword god, he couldn't save the army so they were massacred.

Everyone held their breath. The Mu has been reigning as one of the three behemoths for a long period of time. Their position was virtually unshakable.

Now, someone has just declared an all-out war on them by destroying this particular regiment.

Few have dared to do this. Fiercest became the second after Jade-break True Emperor to attack the Mu.

"Sir, you are too cruel." The resonating voice of the emperor appeared again. Though he himself hasn't shown up, just his words alone awed the crowd.

His failure to save the army was rather humiliating. This was a slap challenging his prestige and his clan's authority.

"Indeed, no need to preach though, just be ready to accept death after coming here, regardless if you're a True Emperor or whatever daoist." Li Qiye replied, showing clear disdain towards these top beings.

The crowd quietly accepted the outrageous declaration. This was true to his style.

"Ignorant fool, today will be your last day in this world!" Lu Weijun shouted after hearing this.