

Emperor 2641

[Chapter 2641: Soulcall Drum](#)

The group quickly glanced at each other and made up their mind.

“Excuse us then for initiating this battle to the death.” Puresword True Emperor’s eyes became stern with murderous intent.

As an emperor, this eruption of power was quite impressive and overwhelming, seemingly unstoppable.

“Clank!” He summoned a snow-white sword and slowly raised it vertically in front of his chest with the firmest grip.

He became one with it; all of his power, dao, and techniques fused within.

The shiny sword pulsed with circular halos, seemingly cast from a million stars in the sky. It encompassed an incalculable weight and vastness, akin to an entire galaxy.

The central spine of the blade contained the sword dao of the emperor, looking resplendent with numerous powerful runes twisting together and then refined into form. [1]

The sword used the stars to form the blade and the dao to form the spine, resulting in an extraordinary weapon.

Everyone could feel that one slash could tear the world apart and slay the gods when used by the emperor. Of course, it still had cataclysmic and suppressive affinities in the hands of a novice.

It represented the supreme will of an emperor and his intent to kill. He clearly had crafted this weapon himself.

This combination looked unbeatable and successfully intimidated the crowd.

“No weaklings have ever become a True Emperor.” One older expert felt respect.

They realized that Puresword True Emperor was mighty indeed, exceeding everyone’s expectations.

In recent days, he has been overshadowed because his enemy, Fiercest, was just too strong and took away all of his radiance.

“Buzz.” A light from outer space descended onto the Tree Observer, signaling the opening of a world.

“Rustle!” An Adamantine Tree of unimaginable size appeared right behind him, blotting out everything behind it. This world’s sole reason for existence was to gestate this tree.

One leaf rustling already created quite a wave. When all of them rustled, it became an ocean of tsunami of winds with continuous waves - an ocean of green as far as the eye can see above Stone Harmony.

“Boom!” The tiny Tree Observer grew to the size of a great mountain with trees all over his body, looking just like a treant.

Moreover, his muscles increased in size as well. His arms looked like two dragons brimming with power. Just one flip could turn the earth over.

“Wow...” The spectators were startled. Not only did he get a size increase, but his power also soared. His body was filled with endless might.

“That’s a Tree Observer for you.” An ancestor said: “He’s the only person in Famed Bamboo who can borrow the power of the Adamantine Tree despite being so far away. This enraged state allows him to be the system’s guardian deity.”

Famed Bamboo had an ancestral tree that has been around for ages. It contained massive power and its roots have infiltrated every inch of that system. A Tree Observer was able to borrow a portion of this force regardless of the distance between the two.

Keep in mind that this particular Tree Observer was already strong in his own right. This fusion took him to the next level, perhaps comparable to the deer merchant.

“Boom!” A loud drum was heard. The Four Esteemed King summoned a drum and mallet out of nowhere. The first bang suppressed the worldly dao and laws right away.

Everyone felt something banging their heart violently and robbing their breath away.

“What... is that treasure?” This danger made some turn pale.

“Soulcall Drum!” An ancestor stared at the Esteemed King and said: “So the world thinks there are four kings but that’s not the case. The title is actually referring to the four treasures of Hidden Grotto.”

“Back then, when the four ‘kings’ fought Gu Yifei, it was only the grotto lord using the four treasures to do so. People simply misunderstood.” A knowledgeable expert shook his head and said.

This drum was one of the four treasures with the ability to assault the mind and soul, rendering foes helpless.

One suddenly heard the cry of a deer. Everyone looked over and saw a pair of antlers growing on the head of the deer merchant.

They were large with multiple branching sections, almost like two small trees. Despite just coming out, they didn’t look young at all. Even the tips have hardened and looked quite tough.

In fact, they looked more like dragon horns instead of deer antlers due to their impressive power, more than enough to pierce through everything.

“How strange...” The crowd was astonished because the white-haired old man looked very bizarre with these antlers.

“Is the merchant actually a deer demon?” A young cultivator asked.

“Do you know the meaning behind the character ‘deer’ in his title?” His senior looked at the youth and asked.

“It is an auspicious symbol for longevity.” The youth answered.

“No.” The senior elaborated: “That’s only when the subject is a regular deer. But when a deer becomes a demon, this is no longer the case. So how does a regular deer reach this next stage? Excessive sexuality.

That's why many deer demons rely on the dual cultivation and are looked down upon as being depraved."

"I agree with that, but the merchant was a blood deer." Another ancestor jumped in.

"What's the difference?" The experts nearby didn't know.

"A blood deer during the initial stage is more precious than the other deer species." The ancestor's eyes became serious: "But once it becomes a demon... haha, do you guys know what it does to stay alive?"

"What, spill it already." Another said.

"Blood, human blood." The ancestor revealed: "The more it drinks, the longer it can stay alive. And though longevity comes greater powers and abilities. An inch of that antler means one hundred years, so look at how much blood he had consumed for it to be this large."

"...!" The crowd became horrified.

All eyes turned towards the great antlers. Though no one actually had an exact measurement, it was at least nine feet long. Everyone shuddered at the cruel realization.

[Chapter 2642: Darkness Comes](#)

Nausea struck as the spectators stared at the antlers. They also got goosebumps all over.

The merchant looked like an accomplished sage. He has always been famous as a top Eternal on top of living the longest in Imperial.

Many viewed him as a senior deserving of respect. Who would have thought that there were so much blood and depravity in his past?

"No wonder why the Trade Alliance didn't mind refining those lives. This is a normal matter to him, it might not be his first time either." A few experts shuddered after seeing this.

One ancestor chuckled: "A person's life is limited, same for cultivators and powerful Eternals. When someone lives beyond the limit, hehe, they must have some secrets hidden from others in the form of extreme methods."

Many nodded in agreement since death was inevitable even for the strongest beings.

One needed to bury themselves for hibernation but the deer merchant didn't do so all the time. He probably had several sessions but he also spent too much time in the open. There was no avoiding the flow of his life. It was obvious that he had employed certain methods to live for this long.

At this time, the emperor had a sword slash at the ready; the Tree Observer was gigantic in form; the Esteemed King had one treasure activated; the deer merchant showed off his antler. The four have prepared enough to attack.

They clearly have come up with a good plan. At their level, they just needed a short time to do so.

Meanwhile, Jade-break True Emperor continued to observe, curious about how Li Qiye would deal with this situation. If she were in his shoes, she would definitely lose one against four.

“Looks like you four have carefully thought about it.” Li Qiye remained nonchalant after seeing the preparation of the enemies.

“Time to see what you can do, Sir.” The merchant remained courteous like a venerable senior. The ignorant would be tricked by his demeanor.

“Okay, I will end all of you. Maybe you will see my awesome method the split second before death.” Li Qiye smiled.

The crowd didn’t know what to do. These four were virtually the strongest team in Imperial Lineage yet Li Qiye still had so much confidence in killing them. The four found it astonishing as well.

“Boom!” A loud explosion made the world tremble with debris flying everywhere.

“It’s starting at last!” Everyone turned towards the battlefield, thinking that the battle was beginning.

“No, not from there, underground!” People noticed that the five haven’t attacked yet.

“Boom!” Another deafening blast occurred and the ground shook again.

Mud finally went flying with a gigantic tentacle suddenly thrusting out. It looked like an octopus’ tentacle but was completely black, seemingly coming from the deeps below.

Everyone was caught off guard with its appearance.

“Ah!” It suddenly reached inside the city and wrapped around someone, pulling the person up.

The sucker on the tentacle began draining this person, leaving nothing behind but a dried corpse in the blink of an eye.

This happened too quickly and before people could reach, it threw the corpse down and attacked Mingluo City again.

“No!” The natives were scared out of their mind and started running for their lives.

“Die.” Li Qiye suddenly emerged inside the city.

“Pop!” He flicked his finger and turned the tentacle into a bloody mist with a dark shade.

“Rumble!” More explosions detonated right after this. The entire city was on the verge of collapsing. It was as if Li Qiye’s attack has enraged a very powerful being underground. That’s why it began to rampage down there.

“What is that?!” Cultivators saw the cracks on the ground and became startled. They flew up in the sky while looking at the fissures in horror.

“Up you go!” Li Qiye roared and made explosions of his own.

An incredible scene appeared before the crowd; they saw the city being lifted up by Li Qiye from the crowd, inch by inch.

“Rumble!” Finally, the speed increased and Mingluo was now floating among the clouds.

“So cool!” Someone exclaimed in astonishment.

“Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!” Black rays suddenly pierced through the ground and aimed for Li Qiye. They were as fast as lightning so they looked like numerous black lightning bolts.

Upon closer inspection, they turned out to be the black tentacles coming for him like a flood - wishing to destroy both Li Qiye and the city.

“Watch out!” Another spectator shouted.

Li Qiye’s eyes turned cold and summoned a bronze sword.

“Clank!” He swung it forward.

This sword had massive weight and created a zone of primordial chaos with the slash, easily severing the incoming tentacles. These severed pieces started falling to the ground.

Boom!” This was only met with more thick tentacles flying out from the depths and blotting out the sky.

“What the hell are these things?” People were confused.

An endless amount of tentacles drilled out of the ground, squirming and twisting in the air. This was quite a frightening scene.

Li Qiye retaliated by stomping down, creating one massive pit after another. Thousands of miles of crumbled, resulting in a great abyss.

[Chapter 2643: Dark Abomination](#)

One couldn’t see the bottom of this pitch-black abyss. Perhaps it didn’t have one at all.

The tentacles came from there as if there was a terrible existence below. Its reach extended to the entire system. The ground beneath has been wrapped and overtaken by its countless tentacles.

“So what is this thing?” The horrified crowd wondered.

Just one black tentacle alone was enough to crush a mountain, due to their immense size.

“Boom!” The tentacles attacked again, turning into another flood of darkness.

There were far more tentacles than previously, making the last attack seems like a stream of tentacle versus this tsunami.

Everyone felt as if the sky was being drowned out by an ocean of darkness. Something even more terrible accompanied this attack.

“Sizzle...” The tentacles were burning up space and turning this affinity into powder, leaving the void behind in its wake.

“My lord...” The spectators screamed in horror.

Puresword True Emperor and his allies exchanged glances while watching the dark beast attacking Li Qiye. They were more than happy to watch on the sidelines, perhaps waiting for the right time to join.

“You court death.” Li Qiye raised his palm, creating a massive image of a hand in the sky.

It was larger than anything else; he had the entire universe in his grasp. Galaxies above paled in comparison.

The tentacles got crushed by this palm into a single lump of flesh. This flesh still emitted a burning darkness, wanting to incinerate his gigantic palm. However, the palm exuded sacred light to nullify any damage.

The lump of flesh looked like a gigantic pillar growing from the abyss, still continuing to build up.

“Up!” Li Qiye roared and forcefully pulled up in order to see the creature below.

“Rumble!” The ground was being destroyed right away. A monstrous creature was being dragged out by him.

Its body was illogically huge, smashing and destroying the ground beneath.

“Boom!” Miles and miles of land were extracted as the body of the creature came into plain view.

“Look at that!” People became slack-jawed after seeing the monster.

It looked like an octopus with millions of tentacles on top of being black from top to bottom.

This dark octopus looked like a planet floating in the sky due to its sheer size.

It had a pair of big and round eyes with a dark glow akin to two black holes - capable of devouring everything.

When people saw its eyes, they felt their souls leaving their body and started falling to the ground.

“Don’t look at the eyes!” Ancestors warned their groups.

“You can’t afford to provoke me! I will still destroy your true source if it comes, let alone a worm like you!” Li Qiye bellowed with a voice full of divinity. Every existence wanted to prostrate after hearing him.

He swung the creature around before throwing it away.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” One star got smashed after another and instantly exploded. It looked like fireworks in space.

Multiple galaxies were damaged as a result. Li Qiye didn’t let up and continued to smash this creature to pieces in space.

“So domineering...” The crowd took a deep breath after seeing this. The dark octopus couldn’t put up a fight at all.

“This brat is a monster...” The deer merchant’s expression darkened. The octopus was on the same level as him, at the very least. However, despite crazily struggling, it still failed to do anything and could only be tortured to death.

The other members of the alliance became afraid. Li Qiye in this furious state was an unstoppable storm.

“Shouldn’t have messed with me!” Li Qiye laughed and started wringing the tentacles in his grasp.

“Boom!” The gigantic tentacles got pulverized as a result despite their toughness. Smaller bits of flesh rained down from the sky.

“Zzzz!” The dark octopus cried from the pain and tried to swing its large body at Li Qiye.

Alas, he easily stomped down on this planet-sized octopus. Resistance was futile. It could only watch more tentacles being crushed to a pulp.

“I can’t believe how brutal Fiercest is. I bet he can kill a true dragon with his bare hands.” One spectator shuddered.

The dark octopus made a grand entrance, surely scaring the crowd with its might. But now, it was nothing more than an insignificant ant.

People realized that going against Li Qiye would only end in miserable and helpless death.

“Boom!” The octopus made one last attempt by spewing out a black fog.

It has been gestating this miasma for millions and millions of years so its power was immense. The miasma engulfed the nearby space and destroyed numerous stars.

[Chapter 2644: Destruction](#)

Stars fell from the sky due to the corrosive miasma like dumplings into a boiling pot. They eventually disappeared into the horizon while leaving trails of smoke and fire.

The miasma swallowed Li Qiye. The spatial-temporal space around him turned into dust and scattered, leaving behind a terrible black hole.

The crowd became afraid. One guy blurted out: “That’s super dangerous, will Fiercest be able to handle it?”

The dark octopus’ miasma came without warning and caught everyone off guard, instantly taking down Li Qiye.

The deer merchant’s group celebrated innately. Nothing could be better than this miasma managing to injure Li Qiye.

They wanted these two to kill each other since that would save them a lot of trouble.

“Pop!” The world gently trembled as rays showed up in the darkness and expanded rapidly.

“Buzz.” The miasma turned into ashes and scattered away.

Li Qiye appeared once more with a sacred glow. The rays emanating from him looked like crystals without any imperfection.

This type of holy light could wash away any darkness and illuminate every nook and corner of the world.

“What else can you do?” Li Qiye laughed before tearing into the monster’s actual body, ripping it out piece by piece.

It bellowed pitifully while trying to squirm its way out of his grasp. In fact, its shaking was powerful enough to destroy the spatial fabric nearby, breaking it like glass.

This was proven to be futile since it couldn't escape. Being torn apart by Li Qiye seemed to be its ultimate fate.

The crowd became horrified by the ripping noises. The monster was as big as a planet so it had plenty of flesh and blood to go. Its black blood poured down like the rain.

"Ooo..." Its miserable scream echoed across the realms. Everyone got cold sweat from hearing this.

The more cowardly couldn't help but puke after seeing the scene of carnage. Such a powerful monster was so helpless before Li Qiye.

There were myths and folklores about heroes who tear dragons apart with their bare hands. This seemed to be similar.

The poor monster screamed and wailed, not expecting to meet such a hellish foe. It had killed numerous experts in the past including Eternals and True Emperors. How could this guy take it down so easily?

The greater the dismemberment, the more blood rained down in an endless manner.

With its head being torn apart, people could see a large black stone - bigger than a round table. It was as shiny as jade with mysterious flowing runes. The stone seemingly contained supreme texts.

"Boom!" One could hear thunderous explosions from the black bolts surging around the stone.

"That stone must be at the overlord level." One Eternal shouted.

All eyes were fixated on it right away with greed.

"This is the mother stone of all the black stones? The greatest of them all?" One expert said.

"This is an ultimate treasure, truly priceless." One ancestor started swallowing his saliva.

Just a while ago, the stones from the zombie corpses sold for a sky-high price due to their effects.

Remember, these stones were only the size of a finger with a faint luster.

This particular one from this monster was as large as a table and shiny with magical runes. The black bolts around it clearly indicated its level. Even a fool could see this.

That's why people started exchanging glances and became overwhelmed with greed. The deer merchant and the other three felt the same way. Remember, the Trade Federation didn't mind human sacrifices to get more stones.

Before their very eyes was a priceless one right now. How could they not be tempted? Old Eternals like them wanted nothing more than life prolongment.

"Boom! Boom!" The black bolts around the gem suddenly came together to form a maelstrom.

"Zzz! Zzz!" Suddenly, multiple whooshes could be heard as more black bolts appeared.

"Ah!!!" Screams also accompanied the surging bolts.

In the near vicinity, these black bolts escaped from the body of some spectators by penetrating through the chest, leaving behind a trail of blood.

“Whoosh!” All the bolts gathered at the maelstrom created earlier.

“What is happening?!” Those next to the victims were horrified and became pale.

“It’s the black stones from the corpses. They all used it before. Only the ones who used the stones would have black lightning bolts inside them.” One keen observer loudly stated.

This created a furor with people started backing away.

[Chapter 2645: Lightning Flood](#)

“They all used the stones from the corpses before!” People caught on.

“Damn, the black stones were bait!” One ancestor regained his wits and said: “It’s that black octopus doing this! It released the corpses so people would consume the stones!”

He then took out his black stone and threw it away.

It didn’t take long before people realized that the monster was using cultivators to gestate the black stones. Those with the black stones on them felt worse and started throwing them away, no longer caring about the previous exorbitant purchase price.

Fishing required bait. In order to increase their power and life, numerous experts chose to eat these stones. They were dead now from the lightning bolts breaking out of their chest.

“Buzz.” The maelstrom absorbed these black bolts and became resplendent - same with the black gem.

“Boom!” Something seemed to have exploded in this instant. The entire world shook as a result.

The black stone spewed out endless black lightning bolts towards Li Qiye in an unstoppable manner. It looked majestic and never-ending like an apocalyptic flood - capable of destroying everything in this world. Time and space, the grand dao, and the myriad laws would become poor victims.

There was no escaping or avoiding its onslaught so it instantly struck Li Qiye.

“Boom!” It smashed into his sacred light, resulting in a deafening blast.

“Rumble!” The light transformed into a boundless flame to stop the incoming waves of lightning.

This became a contest between fire and lightning. The dark light didn’t relent and continued to send more bolts to extinguish Li Qiye’s flame.

Moreover, the tiny particles from the bolts seemed to have a magnetic force. They attached themselves to the flame whenever possible and began drilling their way through his defense.

On one side was an ultimate beam of lightning and on the other, Li Qiye had a massive flame barrier. The latter wouldn’t fall despite the continuous barrages.

This stalemate continued since the bolts had no way of breaking down this line of defense in a short time.

Puresword True Emperor, Venerable Deer Merchant, Four Esteemed King, and the Tree Observer exchanged glances.

They have been tempted by this wonderful opportunity - Li Qiye being occupied with the lightning waves.

He was certainly at a disadvantage against any attack, utterly vulnerable. A third party could grievously injure or even kill him.

That's why the group didn't want to let this chance go by or the future would be quite grim for them later.

Li Qiye has shown his might so they have lost their confidence in beating him together.

"Clank!" The emperor's sword hymned. Its ray shot to the sky and unleashed magnificent energy.

This naturally attracted everyone's attention.

"Over there!" Some cultivators gasped after seeing the massive energy building up and the surging imperial aura.

Even a fool knew what the group wanted to do and could see why this was a necessary move.

"Forgive me, Fellow Daoist!" The emperor roared and unleashed a slash.

"Clank!" A million swords appeared in the air and issued their hymns. They rotated continuously to form a supreme world of swords.

"A sword domain!" A spectator shouted. This domain with unlimited blades could annihilate all existences.

"Die!" Strangely enough, the Four Esteemed King attacked even faster than the emperor.

"Bump! Bump! Boom!" He crazily smashed his drum and unleashed enough sound waves to drown the world. They headed straight for Li Qiye like a tsunami.

One star broke after another by the impressive attack.

"Boom!" The area around Li Qiye crumbled by the force before a direct hit.

"Clank!" At the same time, the sword domain instantly appeared above him. All the swords stopped rotating and pointed straight at him, ready to end this powerful foe.

"It's time!" The Tree Observer and the deer merchant worked together.

The majestic force from the observer instantly channeled into the merchant's antlers.

The latter then pierced through the sword domain and the sound waves to penetrate Li Qiye's chest with his sharp antlers.

"How shameless." Jade-break True Emperor's expression soured as she took a step forward.

However, an invisible hand held her by the shoulder. An ancient voice sounded behind her: “Don’t worry, his power far exceeded your imagination so he doesn’t require your assistance. Just watch the show.”

There was no one behind her. It seemed that the speaker wasn’t actually here.

She hesitated for a moment before taking a deep breath and deciding to believe this person.

[Chapter 2646: Temporal Reversal](#)

The four instantly made their move with incredible speed to the astonishment of the crowd.

It looked as if all four attacked at the same time but this wasn’t the case.

In the beginning, the emperor was the first initiator but the Four Esteemed King’s sound wave started the attack. Next came the emperor’s sword domain at virtually the exact period.

Finally, the Tree Observer and the deer merchant worked together. The observer channeled his majestic energy into the old man’s antlers for an imperceptible thrust aiming at Li Qiye’s chest.

In fact, all of this happened within a single blink of an eye. However, at their level, plenty could be accomplished within a blink.

The sound wave, sword domain, and the antlers were coming at the same time. This was actually impressive teamwork.

The first two were fatal attacks but they didn’t think this was enough to kill Li Qiye. The actual purpose was to hide the deer merchant’s technique.

They purposely utilized two moves that were obvious and explosive with enough force to scare anyone. However, the antler thrust was the exact opposite - fast and silent.

People would only notice the sword domain and the sound wave. They didn’t care too much about the incoming antlers.

However, this thrust was actually the real ace card with enough sharpness and speed to pierce Li Qiye’s chest.

“Look!” The powerful Eternals here could sense the danger coming from the antlers. They felt as if it was their own heart being penetrated just by watching.

It was already too late once they sensed the danger.

“Pluff!” The thrust managed to pierce Li Qiye’s heart, time and space, grand dao, and even physical confinements of heaven and earth.

Blood began to drip from the antlers after the successful connection. The crowd looked down at their own chest, overwhelmed by the illusion of being victims when this wasn’t the case.

“Damn!” One cultivator cried out. This illusion seemed so real and horrifying.

They then focused their gaze on Li Qiye with their mouth agape. Time seemed to be coming to a halt.

The sound wave and sword domain instantly struck him, wishing to crush him to a pulp.

“It’s over for Li Qiye-” One commenter believed.

Time seemed to be extending infinitely. Whenever these commenters would speak, their words stretched forever. It would take a lifetime to finish their sentences.

“It’s horrifying-” No one was spared from this temporal phenomenon while watching Li Qiye’s chest being pierced. They thought that it was over for Li Qiye.

In actuality, these experts didn’t realize that there was something wrong. They were still stuck in this stretched timeline.

As for Jade-break True Emperor, she immediately realized that something was wrong. Someone seemed to be controlling time as if it was an insignificant entity completely under their control.

“Buzz.” The unaware crowd finally felt something at this second - someone pushing time forward just a bit.

While the dark bolts were holding Li Qiye in place and contesting against the omnipresent flame, Li Qiye’s chest has been pierced by the antlers.

However, a second Li Qiye suddenly split from the original one and quickly turned back.

“Boom!” The flow of time started with Li Qiye punching the king, sending him flying with a crushed jaw with blood gushing everywhere. People then heard the sound of bone breaking a while afterward.

Time froze again with the king’s defeat; this process looked like one page of a picture book.

Then came the next page starting with Li Qiye delivering a vertical stomp against Puresword True Emperor. The latter smashed into the ground, staining it with blood. His body fragmented all over the place. “Boom! Boom! Boom!” The sounds came afterward just like before.

“Boom!” The third page ensued with another kick from Li Qiye against the Tree Observer. His gigantic body was cut off by the waist before being sent flying by another kick, slamming into a massive star. More loud bangings ensued after the image.

Next was the fourth page. Li Qiye had a firm grip on the pair of antlers and lifted the deer merchant up then slammed him multiple times onto the stars. Each time ended with blood splashing all over the sky.

Each slam was another page turning and this happened very quickly. People saw the small details of the deer merchant being mangled and eviscerated.

“Buzz.” The spectators were naturally shocked by these terrifying images. Time started flowing again in the area after a buzzing noise.

“Oooo!” They then heard the miserable scream of the dark creature. Ink-like blood started spraying everywhere as the planetary creature finally got torn into two pieces by Li Qiye.

This signaled the end for it - being slowly tortured to death. He then threw it down on the ground.

The world became silent. The deer merchant, emperor, sword domain, sound waves, antlers? Nowhere to be found.

The only thing left was a mess - the bloodied emperor laying on the ground, his body in shambles. The king was blown far away with his chin completely shattered. The Tree Observer was cut in half by a single leg sweep, and the deer merchant was utterly smashed.

[Chapter 2647: Domination](#)

Everyone felt as if they were in a dream. The mighty attacks such as the sword domain and antler thrust seemingly never happened. Were they only illusions?

Confusion was understandable since they saw the antlers penetrating Li Qiye's chest. It made them fall into a strange yet palpable mood but now, this didn't seem to be the case. A second Li Qiye was nowhere to be found either.

There was only one of him and his four defeated enemies.

"He has control over time. A temporal reversal..." Jade-break True Emperor took a deep breath, astounded.

She realized that the actions earlier weren't illusions. There was only one possibility - Li Qiye being able to control time. He extended it infinitely earlier.

A split second was completely trivial in the grand scheme of things, but this split second was stretched out by Li Qiye allowing him to change and control all of the events. He became the master of that minuscule period.

With that, the impossible became possible - limitless possibilities. It could have been the antlers penetrating his chest or complete domination from him - all up to a single whim of his.

"You're only half right." The ancient voice behind her spoke: "It is indeed time reversal. He was able to return to the past or the future of that split second, whenever in that timeline. But that isn't because he has control over time. He doesn't seem to have a temporal art, it's just that he was too fast, virtually exceeding everything, nothing in this world can be faster. Because of that, his speed overwhelms time itself. That's why in that split second, he could do whatever he wanted unopposed. Regardless of the opponents' might, they were only ants compared to him."

The voice became particularly solemn at this point.

The emperor composed herself after hearing this. Though that split second was immensely short, it was enough to push anyone to death and completely control their fate.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that Li Qiye became a supreme overlord capable of creation within that ephemeral moment.

She understood the gap between the two of them. He could easily kill her the moment she was stuck within that time-space of his. Six palaces meant nothing.

Of course, no one else here got a better understanding than the ancestor behind the emperor. They couldn't see through the profundities behind this exchange.

Nevertheless, they were still shaken by the aftermath.

“I can’t ... believe it...” Even the Eternals felt their legs going weak. The shabbier experts trembled and couldn’t get up from the ground.

Puresword True Emperor, Venerable Deer Merchant, Tree Observer, and Four Esteemed King represented the apex of Imperial Lineage.

Alas, they were crippled within a split second. Li Qiye’s cultivation was unreal.

“How boring. Where’s the Everlasting? When are you going to play so that I can have a real warm-up?” Li Qiye yawned and said.

Everyone felt suffocated after hearing this statement. They knew who he was referring to - Solar Daoist.

Li Qiye had looked down on this daoist a while ago but many felt that he was too arrogant for doing so. He was certainly strong but not to the level of looking down on an Everlasting.

This fight earlier might have shifted everyone’s opinion. It felt natural and even understandable for him to look down on the daoist now.

An Everlasting was a terrifying existence, perhaps the number one master in Imperial. But Li Qiye was now qualified to show disdain to this existence. How could one accurately describe Li Qiye’s monstrous abilities with just words?

Li Qiye became a divine mountain with no peak in sight pressing down on everyone’s heart. As long as Li Qiye was around, he would dominate everyone else. No one would ever be able to surpass him. They could only see him by looking up.

Plenty has considered themselves to be unbeatable and mighty. They have been proven wrong by Li Qiye today. This disparity was truly soul-crushing. A lifetime of effort wasn’t enough to catch up, only a waste of time.

The crowd became deflated balloons while staring at Li Qiye.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” Debris started flying as figures rushed back to the sky.

The four emerged again. Though they were beaten and crippled earlier, they still managed to stay alive.

They healed their wounds and restored their vitality in order to face Li Qiye once more. Each of them had thoughts of fleeing but they knew that this was impossible under Li Qiye’s watch.

Moreover, they were famous characters. Whether it be their own reputation or their sect’s prestige, they couldn’t actually run away.

Otherwise, they would die anyway but their sects and descendants would also fall into damnation.

Thus, their only choice was to fight to the death, if this could even be considered a choice.

They were pale while facing Li Qiye. Fear has bloomed in their mind.

Though they knew there were stronger characters around, that knowledge wasn't enough to shake their dao heart in the past and even served as motivation. Alas, all four were shaken now. This fear was a terrible thing since it would lead to a heart devil - a dangerous taboo for cultivators at their level.

The four glanced at each other and took a deep breath to stop this fear from spreading. Only by fighting to the very end would they be able to overcome this emotion.

Leaving this place alive but not taking care of this mental weakness would leave behind a permanent problem.

Li Qiye looked at them and said: "Looks like the four of you still got some untapped potential. Okay, I'm giving you one more chance right now. Just one more move to kill you all then I can go home. Do your best to win some face back."

[Chapter 2648: Purecloud Sword](#)

The atmosphere was uniquely oppressive to the spectators.

Puresword True Emperor was one of the greatest geniuses in Imperial. He represented the hope of this world, gradually rising like a sun. His power left no room for doubts.

The deer merchant was even more impressive as the strongest and oldest of the four. He could be considered one of the top three existences in this world. Just one stomp of his could make everything tremble.

Four Esteemed King and the Tree Observer were top Eternals as well. One would find it difficult to find others on the same level as them.

All in all, randomly picking any of these four and one would have a supreme existence respected by the experts of Imperial.

But now, the four tried to deliver a fatal blow when Li Qiye was left defenseless yet still failed. All were blown flying away, nearly on the verge of death.

This truly shook the crowd to the core. These great experts were utterly defeated by Li Qiye despite having all the advantages. The spectators present felt their clothes drenching with sweat.

Li Qiye's unbeatable style has become an eternal shadow in everyone's mind. From now on, on the subject of the strongest in Imperial, everyone would think of the brutal Fiercest instead of Solar Daoist who has become an Everlasting.

Everyone had no choice but to live under his shadow. There was no surpassing him regardless of how hard they try - truly a hopeless situation.

Their eyes had nothing but fear and respect now when gazing at Fiercest, this invincible and supreme being.

The four combatants felt the same way with a sliver of fear taking roots in their dao heart, one of the scariest phenomena.

When cultivators reached a certain level, few things could actually affect their dao heart, let alone giving birth to a heart devil. People like the True Emperor were even more resilient with tough mental fortitude.

Alas, they have been afflicted and tried their best to calm down by taking a deep breath.

“We have to risk it all.” The emperor said with determination.

Leaving today without defeating or killing Li Qiye meant forever living under his shadow. They had to fight for their reputation, their sect’s prestige, and to destroy this heart devil in their mind right now.

“To the death!” The emperor’s eyes became fiercely bright. This light pierced through the ages with an imperial aura.

A declaration like this coming from an emperor was resounding and powerful, stirring all the listeners.

This earned him respect from some members of the crowd, even those who didn’t like him in the past. An emperor ready to die for the sake of pride was worthy of respect.

“Indeed, because you all won’t be leaving alive today, I’m afraid.” Li Qiye chuckled, one-upping the emperor’s heroism with a domineering statement.

The emperor didn’t bother retorting. Everyone could see how strong Li Qiye was and the huge gap between the two sides.

The only thing they could do right now was to use their strongest force to defeat Li Qiye and once again proving their worth. Mere words were meaningless before this mighty opponent.

“Clank!” A sword hymn echoed across the realms.

The emperor slowly unsheathed a sword, not the same one used earlier. It wasn’t emitting an imperial aura either.

During the unsheathing process, the clouds seemed to be blotting out the sky. Everything became a faint blue. Once the blade was out completely, it was as if the grand dao and laws were covered up entirely.

Despite the ethereal and blurry nature of everything else, one could still see this sword due to its brightness.

It seemed to be made from the accumulation of auspicious clouds. It glowed like the evening and was surrounded by red clouds.

“Buzz.” Strands of ancestral powers swept through the world once he had it firmly in his grasp. This force blew away all the clouds and blurriness earlier.

“An ancestral weapon!” People identified its origin right away.

“Purecloud sword!” One ancestor blurted out in astonishment: “The sword of Progenitor Mu Yun, it was always with him.” [1]

“The progenitor spent tremendous efforts to craft this invincible sword. It accompanied him through numerous battlefields and had put down several True Emperors.” One Eternal revealed.

Progenitor Mu Yun was the founder of the Mu Clan, a being at the immortal-progenitor level. Since the start of time, few progenitors used their actual names for their titles. They usually picked a dao title, unlike Progenitor Mu Yun.

He had plenty of titles in the past; experts of his era gave him more impressive titles. In the end, he kept his actual name and people stuck with it. His other titles became forgotten with time.

As for the particular sword, it wasn't only an ancestral weapon but also served as his personal weapon, never leaving his side.

This invincible sword was now in the hand of Puresword True Emperor.

[Chapter 2649: A True Emperor's Advantage](#)

An inherited ancestral weapon wasn't considered that big of a deal. After all, Imperial Lineage still had several systems with these treasures.

However, everyone felt that this particular inheritance was special after seeing the emperor and the sword.

He seemed to be fusing with the sword and becoming one. Because of this, the emperor himself emitted the aura of a progenitor.

"Buzz." This special strands of energy emanated from him, albeit relatively weak. Nevertheless, he still looked like a progenitor.

"Incredible, the ancestral weapon accepted him as a master. He can unleash the strongest move from the sword now." Many Eternals were impressed at this perfect fusion.

This sword was unique in that Progenitor Mu Yun spent great effort to craft it on top of taking it everywhere. Remember, its previous master was a supreme existence.

Thus, even though it was passed on from one generation to another, the descendants still had a hard time controlling it. Not everyone was qualified to do so, and even if they could, it wouldn't accept the user as a master. This weakened its true potential.

However, Puresword True Emperor was accepted by the sword, only further proving his value.

"Rumble!" Loud detonations interrupted the musing crowd.

The sky vault was split apart and one could see a visual phenomenon of a boundless system.

It had an oceanic level of dao energy. Inside were bright and holy lights illuminating the ages. Great mountains existed everywhere, tall enough to pierce the sky. Billions and billions of beings were prostrating and worshipping in reverence...

"The Mu System!" Many recognized this majestic place right away.

It was an immortal-level system that fell into Imperial World. Later on, the clan rose again so it became one of the three behemoths.

It contained the efforts of numerous descendants after the progenitor. True Emperors and Everlastings blessed this land, so its true power was unfathomable. One should never underestimate this great power.

“Why is it appearing here?” The crowd exchanged glances of confusion.

Everyone knew that it was incalculably far from Stone Harmony System, multiple galaxies apart.

“It’s only a visual phenomenon, not the actual system.” One Eternal gently shook his head: “The emperor is controlling the power of his system, wanting to borrow it for his own use.”

“How can he do so when the Mu is so far away from this place?” Many youths were skeptical.

It was one thing for him to do so on his own dao land, but this distance was questionable.

“That’s why a True Emperor is special.” The Eternal looked very envious while staring at Puresword: “For them, a system is never far away. They could feel the strength of their land regardless of where they are. That’s why this distance doesn’t matter, they can still borrow the system’s power.”

Any member of a system could attempt to do so if they have cultivated the right merit laws. They became attuned to the forces within the dao land.

Because of this, powerful members could borrow this power and increase their battle potential. Usually, this was only effective when they were on their own territory. To do so on someone else’s system was nearly impossible.

People usually call this having home advantage. This could make all the difference between two otherwise evenly matched cultivators.

However, one couldn’t borrow this power after leaving their system, not even Eternals. This wasn’t the case for True Emperors. Just as this Eternal said, they would be able to tap into this source wherever they are.

This was a big reason True Emperors had more advantages than an Eternals. When they had evenly matched personal cultivation, an emperor would win.

“He can really do that?” The youths couldn’t believe it.

“Pretty much, but of course, the amount will be somewhat affected.” The Eternal said while staring at the system above the emperor.

“Boom!” Endless divinity poured out of the system in the form of a blinding radiance, completely covering the emperor.

Everyone could sense the power from the system channeling into his body despite the massive distance between them. The resources accumulated over the ages from the Mu finally showed off its heaven-defying potential.

“Boom!” The strands of light oozing from him tore apart the primordial chaos, bringing the area around him back to the origin.

“Clank!” His sword also became dazzling and as white as snow. Its progenitorial rays could cut anything apart.

The supreme laws of the emperors shot up to the sky like reversed waterfalls. He had transformed into an ultimate progenitor in just a split second.

“What a transformation!” The crowd cried out in astonishment.

“That’s the power of a system.” An old master took a deep breath: “He has understood the profundities of his system and even has control over its dao source. Everything from that system is empowering him right now.”

“Yes, his battle potential has risen by several levels.” One frightened spectator agreed.

[Chapter 2650: Combination Attack](#)

The emperor’s sword technique rose to the sky and assumed an unbeatable position. Its hymn echoed across the nine firmaments.

He became the master of heaven and earth, the ruler of the universe and all else within. Everything other than him and his sword became insignificant.

“Boom!” The tyrannical aura of a progenitor poured out, rendering him peerless.

He had the style and bearing of a progenitor now with enough power to destroy a world then create a new one.

“That’s the might of a progenitor...” Many shuddered after sensing this and felt a primal fear. This was instinctive when seeing a supreme existence, a showing of respect. Some got on their knees, more than willing to be bathed by the progenitorial aura.

“So strong, he might be on the same level as the deer merchant, maybe even stronger.” An Eternal said with envy. Only a True Emperor could enter this explosive state.

“A bit interesting, but you alone are still too weak. All come now.” Li Qiye reacted nonchalantly.

Everyone felt as if there was an invisible hand gripping them by the throat - ‘still too weak’?

It seemed as if he didn’t even care for progenitors. This statement accentuated his domineering legends even more.

“We’ll assist you, Virtuous Nephew.” The rest knew that defeating Li Qiye was extremely difficult. The emperor alone wouldn’t be able to do so.

They had no choice but to infuse their own energy into him.

The merchant transformed into a blood deer - his true form. It was red from top to bottom almost like a resplendent ruby carved into this shape - truly beautiful.

One could see the precious blood flowing through its flesh. Each drop of blood was shiny, seemingly able to bring people back from the brink of death.

“A blood deer reaching the dao; a very precious creature in and of itself. Each part of its body is immensely valuable, let alone one so powerful.” People salivated while looking at the merchant.

This was a perfect creature for pill refinement. Of course, people could only think this; no one would dare to carry it out.

The blood deer shouted before jumping into the air and creating a spatial ripple. It then melted along with the myriad laws, just like snowflakes meeting the first sun of spring.

“Boom!” The emperor’s vitality and power surged to the next level.

The emperor who was shrouded in a progenitorial aura earlier suddenly had a surge of bloody glow around him. He was already bright before this, but now, it seemed as if he had eaten an extremely old ginseng root. His vitality rose at an insane level; his expression became ten times more spirited, seemingly high.

Everyone felt as if there was an endless grove of blood inside that continuously feeds him power. Numerous dragons were howling within.

A bright, bloody seal appeared on his forehead. At the same time, his eyes turned red and resembled two rubies.

“Blood transfusion...” Even Eternals gasped at this sight: “The deer merchant is truly going all out, going as far as directly letting the emperor borrow his true blood, fusing it into the emperor’s body.”

In other words, the merchant was using his precious true blood as nutrients for the emperor.

Just think about it - the true blood of a being at his level was incomparably valuable. Just one drop alone could grant great benefits.

The emperor seemed to have taken several hundred bottles worth of immortal pills. He was brimming with power.

The merchant must have paid a great price in order to perform this blood transfusion. This compounded with his old age must have truly negative effects. Nevertheless, he still made this choice.

“Allow me to aid you too, Virtuous Nephew.” The Four Esteemed King shouted. His four treasures suddenly melted.

The golden robe on his body liquified. Buzzes could be heard as another scary change happened.

The emperor’s flesh started to melt before being rebuilt. His new form was one of golden brilliance.

Each inch of him seemed to be cast from gold and would certainly feel that way to the touch.

He turned into a golden statue, tough and impossible to break.

It didn’t stop there. Three divine halos took form around him in layers, serving as impenetrable barriers.

“The treasure souls are entering him!” One Eternal murmured: “The king isn’t holding back either, he’s imprinting his treasures’ soul onto the emperor. This is everything he got!”

The three halos and the golden body were actually the four souls of the king’s treasures.

Rumor has it he used them to protect his own true fate. With this, even if he exploded into ashes, his true fate would still be unharmed.

People believed that in order to kill him, one must destroy these four treasure souls. However, they were virtually invulnerable. Thus, many considered him to be unkillable; even those capable of annihilating his body.

These souls were his life, his everything, yet he still channeled them into the emperor. This served as a perfect line of defense. No armor or regalia could match them.

“I will give you everything I can!” The Tree Observer joined in.

“Boom!” A colossal Adamantine Tree emerged and took roots inside the emperor.

A pulsing green glow was added along with a flood-like power influx coming from Famed Bamboo System. The fusion granted him an endless life force.

He started making a move as well by rapidly absorbing the resources and strength of his own system, pushing it to the limit.