

Emperor 3091

[Chapter 3091: Zither Empress](#)

A figure descended along with the tunes - one peerless woman holding a zither, looking as transcending as can be.

She looked ethereal and illusory with her appearance shrouded as if she was hiding in the river of time. People couldn't help wanting to take a look.

Despite the vagueness of it all, she still overshadowed all the girls in this world. Even someone as gorgeous as Holyfrost Emperor paled in comparison, mainly due to the woman's ultimate temperament and aura.

She seemed to have come out of a painting as if she wasn't a real existence, only a legend.

"Zither Empress..." The bull murmured.

"Is it really her?" Supreme and the others exchanged glances, shocked.

Fire Ancestor was mysterious enough for future generations. However, his tales and legends still passed down, especially his expedition. There were records of these historical events. Many wise sages of the past have met him as well.

This wasn't the case for Zither Empress. It was as if she came to this world alone and left in the same manner, not leaving behind a system, her legacy, or descendant.

Someone like her appeared briefly on the river of time before disappearing. Thus, her origin, skills, lineage, and everything else were a blur.

The proof of her existence came from the ancient scrolls of a few dao systems. Of course, nothing in detail. Nonetheless, this enigmatic progenitor's existence remained a contentious debate.

Now, this legend was proven to be true.

"It's that zither again." Holyfrost saw the zither coming by to stop the soul summoning process a while ago back on the ship.

A few ancestors activated their heavenly gaze but couldn't see through the empress at all.

"Just a dao avatar." Li Qiye revealed while looking at her.

"A dao avatar?" The group became surprised before stealing glances over at the trio and Fire Ancestor.

Everyone here was dead. What about her? Was she dead too?

This question lingered in their head but none gave them an answer.

"Whatever happened in the past might have involved even more progenitors?" One ancestor wondered.

So far, there have been Phenom, Sword Saint, Skysplitter, Divine Moon, and Zither Empress.

This made the group shudder. They realized that the scale of this event was massive. Many progenitors being involved meant that many of them might have died, evident by the group seen here.

Thus, their own progenitors might either be dead or worse, becoming a fallen one like Fire Ancestor.

Progenitors were considered supreme in their own systems. This seemed rather obvious.

However, what if their progenitors did something to break this image and reputation? How could their descendants handle this?

“What about all the other progenitors that have entered the expanse?” Supreme asked.

For millions of years, virtually all progenitors have gone there. None ever returned.

What did they experience there? The same fate as the ones here? This made the group very pessimistic.

They were actually thinking that it might be best for some of the progenitors to die. At the very least, they wouldn't become someone like Fire Ancestor.

The worse thing was, these possibilities were actually quite plausible.

“Empress, your dao avatar is depleted. You can't stop me.” Fire Ancestor said.

“Fire Ancestor, you are dead and should stop.” The empress' voice seemed harmonious with nature.

“Dead but my obsession lives on for an eternity.” Fire Ancestor said: “Never give up doing what must be done, that's the dao heart all cultivators should have.”

“A single erroneous thought leads to a mile of mistakes.” The empress continued: “The karma here has been settled, you can't change it.”

“I will still do what I must and leave the outcome to the heaven.” Fire Ancestor replied.

“Nothing will come of it even if you succeed. You're only an evil thought that won't disperse, no longer the real you.” She said. “There is still a chance if I can get it!” His eyes turned towards the sealed palace.

This made the spectators look over as well. They didn't know what was hidden in there but it was precious enough to make Fire Ancestor and the other progenitors risk everything.

“The teachers didn't leave that thing for you or me. It is meant for the Three Immortals and its inhabitants.” The empress shook her head.

“Its very presence will cause trouble for Three Immortals.” He asserted.

“Those with wisdom see different things.” She disagreed: “I will cross your evil intent over to the other side today. As you have said, it is time for this to end and for everyone to return to the earth. This isn't our era anymore.”

“You can't take me down.” He said: “Our dao are different. My darkness is eternal, not even the light can do anything about it. I am me now, not someone else.”

She fell into silence. Meanwhile, the group started pondering.

They could see that Fire Ancestor wasn't the same as before. His power wasn't his own; it came from a mysterious source of darkness and allowed his flame to be indestructible.

This was one of the reasons why the trio couldn't take him on.

They were dead and relied on their true blood for empowerment. Once this source of power was gone, they would be no different from ordinary corpses.

On the other hand, Fire Ancestor could always recover even after being utterly defeated, provided that he wasn't turned to dust in full. He could live for as long as the evil flame was around.

This was also why he grew stronger versus his first appearance during the ceremony. The evil flame grew stronger with time and added more dark power to him.

The only way to take him down was to annihilate him and the evil flame in one move, leaving nothing left.

"True." She finally admitted: "I can't cross you over as I am now, but someone else can."

"Who?" He asked.

"This Fellow Daoist over there." Her eyes fell upon Li Qiye.

Fire Ancestor's eyes flashed brightly and looked over at Li Qiye. His expression changed after recognizing the guy.

The trio of progenitors also stared at Li Qiye, the same with his own group.

All eyes were on him now.

[Chapter 3092: Discussion](#)

"Don't look at me like that, everyone, I'm shy." Li Qiye chuckled and said.

His allies nearly burst out in laughter because of the contrast between the joke and the solemn atmosphere. Jing'er standing behind Qingxuan gave Li Qiye the side-eye.

Meanwhile, the progenitors weren't laughing.

Fire Ancestor had seen Li Qiye's power before. The trio started staring intensely at him with bright flashes in their eyes, wanting to see his depth.

"I didn't wish to get involved in the matter of the old generation since an eighteen-year-old teen like me don't know enough about the world, too inexperienced for my own good. Acting cavalier might result in throwing my life away." Li Qiye ignored their invasive stare and said: "Your feud has lasted for millions of years and it continues even after death. What if I join in and all of you will start haunting me later?"

Zither Empress and her peers grimaced after hearing this. They had the urge to kick the guy flying for being so audacious.

Li Qiye paused for a bit before smiling again: "However, I think that the thing in this palace should be kept by the living? As for your feud, do as you please."

The progenitors became more intense after hearing about his intention. Fire Ancestor clearly wouldn't let him have this, perhaps the same for the other side. After all, they have lost their lives just to protect it. Why would they let a stranger have it?

“Fellow Daoist, you wish to implicate yourself into this mess?” Fire Ancestor said. Addressing Li Qiye as “Fellow Daoist” meant that he recognized the guy’s power.

Li Qiye shrugged in response: “Nothing like that, I’m just a passerby so I don’t care about killing the darkness or ridding Three Immortals of traitors or whatever. That’s your master’s job because he’s responsible for his disciple’s lackings. And yes, your master is not doing great in this matter, not taking you down completely.”

“Master naturally has his reasons with his boundless wisdom. The criticism is unwarranted.” Fire Ancestor said. He was still as respectful as before despite falling into the darkness.

“Interesting.” Li Qiye smiled: “He destroyed you yet you still don’t hate him. Quite rare.”

Supreme and the others took a deep breath after hearing this shocking news.

First, leaving aside the identity of this master, just the fact that this person destroyed Fire Ancestor, a member of the Decemvirate, was shocking enough.

Even this group of progenitors here couldn’t take him down, albeit partly due to the unfavorable circumstances.

However, his master still managed to destroy him. This person’s power must be at an unfathomable level.

Fire Ancestor didn’t respond to Li Qiye’s taunt.

“Everyone says, pity the love of parents in this world. I would add masters to this line as well.” Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: “He didn’t kill you completely back then and didn’t take care of these messes, perhaps he still held some optimistic delusions about you in his heart.”

“I do not dare to speculate on Master’s wishes. However, our dao and choices are different, no right or wrong here.” Fire Ancestor responded.

“No right or wrong? You chose the wrong path and didn’t repent! You’re nothing more than a scourge to all living beings.” Zither Empress interjected.

“Perhaps you’re right.” Fire Ancestor calmly said: “In case of success, I would have been the savior of Three Immortals. There are no eggs beneath a broken nest, my method is simply different. On that day, all worlds would have been destroyed but our Three Immortals will still stand.”

“You chose to fall.” She said: “Calamities have always been around yet Three Immortals remain standing after so many epochs. Master has been watching and guarding.”

“I’m afraid you lack information here.” Fire Ancestor said: “The darkness descent is beyond your imagination, no one and no world will survive. Not a single soul can do a thing about it.”

Supreme and the others became afraid. It sounded like Fire Ancestor was trying to intimidate them but there was no need for him to do so.

He has experienced so many things in life. How could he be so pessimistic about facing the future back then? Just who did he meet? It seemed so hopeless if Fire Ancestor himself felt powerless.

“Enough talking.” The empress shook her head and turned towards Li Qiye: “Fellow Daoist, please lend us a hand. All living beings will owe you a debt.”

“That’s too much.” Li Qiye chuckled: “I don’t care for such flowery words. However, it seems like the old geezers will owe me even more, I suppose it’s fine to take care of this little problem for them then extract double.”

Sword Saint and his allies heaved a sigh of relief after hearing this.

“Fellow Daoist, I might not be able to stop you even if I were alive. However, killing me won’t do anything. I’m eternal as long as the spark survives. I’ll just be reborn one day.” Fire Ancestor wasn’t afraid in the slightest.

This influx of information naturally startled the listeners.

“True.” Li Qiye nodded: “You’re no longer you, no longer a simple obsession. This power is from the darkness but that’s fine. I don’t have to destroy you myself, someone else can do it.”

“Clank, clank.” He then took out a long iron chain.

It didn’t look special at first sight outside of having a crimson hue. However, upon closer inspection, one would find that it was made from millions of tiny laws weaving together. They were refining the most precious immortal metals. Their value was incalculable.

Fire Ancestor staggered backward after seeing the chain, akin to a traveler spotting a venomous serpent.

The spectators naturally saw his trepidation. How could this great progenitor fear this crimson chain?

Just what was this treasure?

“I’m sure you’re familiar with this thing.” Li Qiye smiled.

It was taken from Great Desolate Heavenly Prison, chained around a skeleton. Its prisoner used the greatest true fire to burn it before to no avail.

“Master’s kindness is as immense as a mountain.” Fire Ancestor eventually said.

“So you knew how to open this chain?” Li Qiye said.

“Just the dao heart, but unfortunately, that’s too difficult.” Fire Ancestor sighed.

“Haha, I do feel bad for the old geezer, going through so much effort and clinging onto a sliver of hope.” Li Qiye shook his head.

“It’s a shame that our paths are different.” Fire Ancestor paused for a bit before nodding with a respectful expression.

Only the dao heart can unlock this iron chain. The two of them knew exactly what was going on here.

[Chapter 3093: Phoenix Imprisoned](#)

“Clank.” Li Qiye slightly moved the iron chain.

Fire Ancestor had a complicated expression because the iron chain carried special significance to him.

"I'm no longer me, that thing is useless now." He eventually said.

"Really now?" Li Qiye smiled and calmly said: "You're indeed no longer the Fire Ancestor back then, no longer the hot-blooded youth. However, there is still a part of you in there, otherwise, that guy hidden in Uncrossable Expanse would be standing here instead of you. The replacement hasn't taken place so you're still in there." He then pointed at his heart.

Fire Ancestor didn't say anything; his eyes still fixated on the iron chain. Meanwhile, everyone watched with bated breath and could see the special connection between the chain and Fire Ancestor.

"Ok, let me cross you over so that the old geezer will owe me one." Li Qiye moved the chain again and said.

"We'll see if you can do that." Fire Ancestor remained calm, seemingly accepting the situation or whatever his fate may be.

"I'm not the one doing it, it's the old geezer." Li Qiye smiled.

"All the same. I'll be able to rest if you can do it." Fire Ancestor said.

"Poof!" The flame inside Phoenix Cauldron surged again to the sky.

Just one spark was enough to destroy a system. It seemed to be the true fire of the mythical beast, capable of incinerating everything and more.

"Screech!" A phoenix slowly emerged and filled the world with its scorching heat, nearly melting the area in the process.

The spectators retreated far away because this heat was still too much for them. True Emperors still couldn't withstand it.

"Clank." Li Qiye threw the chain straight at Fire Ancestor with lightning-fast speed.

It seemed to have its own life the moment it left his hands, no longer needing his control. The chain itself was attacking Fire Ancestor now.

The millions of laws contained the most profound dao and represented an unquestionable supreme will, once awakened.

"Screech!" The phoenix sent out an all-burning flame. Even the laws of heaven and earth here instantly melted before its frightening power.

"Clank!" However, one end of the iron chain instantly coiled around the phoenix and the other end, Fire Ancestor.

"Screech!" The phoenix tried to fly up again but couldn't move at all. The iron chain's seal caused its flame to shrink. The temperature gradually decreased.

It pulled Fire Ancestor and the phoenix closer, tying them up together.

"Activate!" Fire Ancestor roared and released an evil flame filled with dark power. A dark expanse appeared on his chest.

The evil flame alone was blinding enough with unbearable heat. However, this dark expanse added even more force to both him and his flame.

“Clank!” The chain was stretched to its limit by this explosion of power, on the verge of breaking at any moment.

“Boom!” This attempt from Fire Ancestor was apocalyptic, to say the least. The shock waves emanating from it could flatten the entire world.

The already crimson chain became as red as can be from the heat, nearly turning into molten metal.

The spectators felt their heart hanging on a thread after seeing this.

“Will the chain break?” Holyfrost worriedly said.

What item could handle Fire Ancestor’s evil flame? Even the toughest immortal metal would eventually turn into liquid. It was only a matter of time.

“Don’t worry, he would have melted it long ago if he could.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Clank!” The laws on the chain became bright. Its brilliance looked like a current consisting of a million stars.

This starry light contained an ancient and peerless force belonging to Three Immortals - virtually unstoppable.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” The burning chain immediately tightened, nearly dismembering the ancestor.

His power surge instantly subsided, same with the flame engulfing the sky. This looked like a bonfire running out of firewood.

“Clank!” The chain continued to constrict both the ancestor and his power.

The spectators couldn’t believe it and became speechless at the chain’s effectiveness.

Fire Ancestor was strong enough to take on four progenitors at the same time. However, he couldn’t do a thing against this chain. Just who created this amazing artifact?

“Poof!” The evil flame on the ancestor struggled several times to rise again but eventually extinguished fully.

“Boom!” Next, his phoenix armor shattered from the pressure, revealing his body.

It wasn’t made out of flesh and blood but rather flowing fiery dao runes. It looked like some evil flame was still left in him. This form of his resembled a massive volcano - always ready to erupt.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” The two ends of the iron chain suddenly pinned onto the stone steps in front of the palace. It then dragged Fire Ancestor over as if he was a prisoner.

“What is it doing?” The spectators wondered.

[Chapter 3094: Fire Ancestor’s Ending](#)

“Clank!” The iron chain tightly wrapped around Fire Ancestor with the two ends pinned on the stone steps.

Struggling was futile. This chain seemed to be specifically crafted for the sake of imprisoning him.

“Buzz.” The palace suddenly had waves of light emanating from it. They illuminated the sky vault and made the structure look majestic.

A figure appeared within the light, not large in size but impressive enough to suppress the firmaments and all existences.

He sat there, seemingly for an eternity already. His existence brought endless possibilities as if he was the creator of the world and its laws.

The pulse around him made him look like a true immortal belonging only in the legends. After all, only an immortal could have everlasting life.

Even the progenitors present lowered their head. This figure has yet to exert his dominating aura and suppression but everyone could still sense an immense disparity - something akin to an ant looking up to an elephant and feeling inadequate.

The young ones here suddenly felt an illusion that they were seeing a true immortal, at least from their perspective. This impression has been imprinted in their mind forever.

“Zzz...” Fire Ancestor started burning. Ancient runes emerged from the crevices of his being and imprinted themselves into each inch of his flesh.

This was a bizarre scene since his form was actually made from evil flame already.

“Ah!” He couldn’t help screaming to the horror of the crowd. A being of this level should have indomitable willpower.

He has experienced numerous pains before and probably never screamed until now.

“Pop!” As the runes imprinted themselves on him without showing any mercy, cracks started appearing on his flesh.

“Poof!” The flame around him started to change color, from an evil to a purer color.

Meanwhile, the figure continued to sit there while illuminating the ancestor. This seemed to be a purification process.

“Pop!” From the cracks came strands of light looking like they originated from the primordial chaos, coming from the start of time.

“Noo!” Fire Ancestor bellowed. The appearance of this light caused his evil flame to pull back.

His flame no longer had an evil affinity. It became purer with a golden hue just like the one seen during the rebirth of a phoenix.

Yes, this phoenix flame used to be his original power. It began to grow stronger and larger.

“That’s the real him.” Sword Saint quietly said after seeing the return of the phoenix flame.

The power of darkness was being banished from his being. The evil flame eventually dissipated, leaving behind only the golden flame.

“Ahh!” The completion of this process made the phoenix flame soar towards the horizon.

A wondrous phoenix emerged with supreme dao runes on its back. Each rune was derived from the ultimate dao. It looked capable of shouldering the myriad dao. This bird itself was a series of apex merit laws.

When the phoenix spread its wings, one could see the old form of Fire Ancestor returning. He looked impeccable with a flawless temperament.

This was the true Fire Ancestor, a brilliant talent rare across the ages who possessed matchless charisma.

The others were amazed to see his original form. It was an honor to see a member of the Decemvirate. It’s a shame that he eventually faltered to the darkness.

“Pop!” His body crumbled to pieces and the ancient runes left his body.

They contained the power of a phoenix; each looked like a spark that could melt the earth. This was a primal source of the fire affinity.

They eventually gathered together and flowed towards the figure above the palace. The figure raised his hand and took all the runes into his sleeve. They seemed to be very happy like little birds returning to their nest.

The entire event happened smoothly and in tune with the rhythm of heaven and earth.

The fragments of Fire Ancestor’s body eventually turned into particles and seeped into the earth.

“Buzz.” The light from the palace also disappeared, the same with the figure.

Everything returned to normal as if nothing had happened.

The spectators were naturally awestruck and curious, especially about the figure that had taken Fire Ancestor’s runes away.

They were also curious about this being’s identity, thinking that this might be his master.

Just who could train someone to become a member of the Decemvirate? Plus, according to Fire Ancestor himself, his master was far stronger than him.

[Chapter 3095: A Rock](#)

Fire Ancestor no longer existed. His final marks in this world have also been erased.

The other progenitors had a complicated expression, especially Divine Moon Progenitor.

Fire Ancestor used to be a great man worthy of respect. Divine Moon even fought together with him.

Who would have thought that they would eventually become enemies, turning their blade on each other?

They have been fighting for many years even after death. Their obsession and grudges remained. Today, Fire Ancestor was finally gone and they didn't know what to think.

Sword Saint and the saber ancestor sighed and sat back down on their stone chair.

The ancestor embraced his saber again and Sword Saint put down his sword on top of the table. The two of them resumed their original position and looked like two statues.

"How lamentable." Divine Moon Progenitor said before disappearing as well to an unknown location. His obsession was still free to move wherever.

"Zhang." Empress Zither plucked the strings once before also disappearing from sight. Only the zither remained floating in the air.

With the disappearance of her dao avatar, the zither broke through space and went its own way. Who knows where it was going? Perhaps to look for its master.

The empress remained an unsolvable puzzle. No one here knew whether she was dead or alive.

The snowy peak seemed peaceful again as the cold breezes returned. Coldness and tranquility made a perfect pair. This place seemed perfect for those looking for reclusion.

Supreme and the others stared at the two progenitors, becoming very sentimental.

These two obsessions would always stay here in order to defend Three Immortals. This was truly worthy of respect.

A while later, the group tidied up their outfit, some took off their hats. All then bowed towards the two progenitors.

"Haha, now we can take that treasure, right?" The bull's indecent laughter suddenly broke the dignified atmosphere.

Li Qiye chuckled and walked to the front of the palace, looking at its entrance.

"Here I come!" The bull pushed the gates with its large hooves. Unfortunately, nothing moved.

Remember, it had enough force to push mountains out of the way.

"Shit, it's sealed." It cursed.

"Obviously." Li Qiye gave it a look of disdain: "It wouldn't be here right now if anyone can just waltz in."

"Haha, the key is right here." The bull's eyes lit up as it stared at the chest held by Jing'er.

It was hidden in the boulder that fell on Sky Pass back then - clearly carrying special significance.

"This treasure was found by you, Dao Brother, so you should be the one to open this door and take the item. You're the only one who can keep it safe as well; the rest of us can't." Hui Qingxuan smiled at Li Qiye and said. She couldn't be clearer with her intention of handing the item inside over to him.

He smiled and opened the chest, taking out two scrolls inside before astonished eyes.

He had already placed one scroll on each of the doors before anyone could react. The scrolls had ancient characters possessing majestic divinity.

They looked like two grand dao hanging on the doors with immense weight. Others would never be able to move them. Now, the physical doors gave the impression of being a peerless portal.

Of course, some were also surprised to see the two scrolls. Everyone assumed that the chest would contain an incredible treasure.

They took a closer look at the scrolls and eventually realized that they were truly precious. The two scrolls represented two supreme grand dao, more profound than any dao they have seen before.

They tried their best to memorize the runes in order to research them after returning home. It was impossible to understand anything in a short period.

“Creak.” The doors automatically opened.

Li Qiye smiled and walked inside. The rest followed right behind after regaining their wits.

The main hall wasn’t large and had perfect lighting with warm sun rays. This made it a very comfortable place to be.

There existed a table with one rock inside, nothing else to the disappointment of the ancestors.

They thought that they would see some immortal artifacts inside, not a single rock.

On the other hand, Li Qiye has been fixated on this rock the moment he got in here, the same with the bull and Hui Qingxuan.

The rock was only the size of an adult fist with a white color and the texture of crystallized salt. It exuded a muddled glow due to the presence of a milky liquid inside.

All in all, pedestrians on a street wouldn’t give this rock a second glance. It just looked too common.

The group thought about it again and felt that this rock should be a big deal. They carefully inspected it and thought that there should be something special.

Sure enough, the crystallized shell seemed to be a barrier capable of containing an entire world. The liquid inside should be all the essences necessary, enough to give birth and strength to all creations and laws.

The muddled light seemed to be the beginning of all things. It was necessary to be the beginning mark of history. Without this light, there would be no river of time.

“So what is it?” The ancestors became more and more intrigued by this rock.

They realized that this was an immortal rock above all else. It’s just that they couldn’t understand it yet.

“Hmm, I think this looks like a fake? The world can’t have something like this.” The bull murmured.

“You’ve seen the real thing, Master?” Liu Yanbai was naturally lost.

“If I did, I wouldn’t be saying that it looks like a fake right now.” The bull laughed and said.

[Chapter 3096: Ominous Signs](#)

The rock has been left here for so long, for who knows how many millions of years?

The most important question was the age of the rock, not how long it has been here.

One would think that it has been here before the formation of Three Immortals, before the creation of the world, and even before the appearance of all things.

“I feel that this rock is older than our world.” One ancestor murmured after carefully looking at it.

Others shared the same fascinating thought. If this rock was indeed this old, it should contain an unreal energy inside.

Its identity remained a mystery to the ones here but they still knew that it was special in some ways.

“Boom!” Suddenly, all of Sky Ruins quaked and interrupted their speculation.

The spatial fabrics here seemingly became overfilled and started twisting and expanding.

Ten million miles of space expanded in a short time, perhaps even more.

“Rumble!” Explosions accompanied this spatial expansion. It felt as if there was a massive beast awaking. Just one turn of its massive frame could destroy space.

Ascension Pond exuded boundless light and fog into the air during the explosions. The area became filled with an ancient aura. Just one strand was enough to crush the firmament or kill emperors and Everlasting.

“Shit, something bad is happening!” Many were scared out of their mind.

“We need to run now, Ascension Pond is about to explode!” Another shouted.

Numerous cultivators were hanging around Sky Ruins and saw the sudden development. They no longer dared to stick around and immediately ran.

Unfortunately, some weren't strong enough and became frozen from the pressure stemming from Ascension Pond. They couldn't get up at all.

“Boom!” The thunderous detonation actually spread to Immortal Lineage.

It was as if a supreme being was awakening in Ascension Pond with enough power to suppress everything. Many realized that they were nothing more than ants despite their cultivation level.

“Something is coming out?” One invincible master's expression changed as he took a deep breath.

“This is terrible.” Another peerless ancestor gazed sternly at Sky Ruins.

Meanwhile, the people back in the palace heard rustles. Some roof tiles were falling down.

Though the palace was in a different dimension, it was still affected by this invincible power.

“What power is this?” The ancestors inside became afraid.

“An ancient monster is coming back?” Supreme Emperor took a deep breath, aghast.

The bull instantly turned back and exuded two rays from its round eyes. Its expression became serious right away: "Ascension Pond. The overlord there is up and salivating for this thing." It then turned towards the rock.

Ascension Pond was extremely mysterious and dangerous. Even someone like Desolate Saint returned empty-handed or perhaps even suffered some setbacks. Who could stop this power from obtaining the rock?

"Hahaha, Sir, I'll leave you with the responsibility of defending this divine rock." The bull laughed before running away with its disciple.

"Get the hell outta there already!" It crossed through numerous dimensions and its voice echoed back.

Supreme and the others regained their wits and started running too.

"Be careful, Dao Brother." Hui Qingxuan cautioned Li Qiye before disappearing from sight.

Running away without fighting was normally a shameful choice for cultivators. However, because a powerful senior like the bull ran away so shamelessly, these juniors could afford to run as well. Their expression wasn't that awkward and embarrassed when running for their lives. This was especially true for the older ancestors.

Li Qiye chuckled and grabbed the rock after seeing this.

Meanwhile, the bull moved with lightning speed out of Sky Ruins. The rest eventually caught up with it.

The moment they got out, the invincible power erupted like the water surging through a broken dam.

They looked back and saw the fog of Ascension Pond covering all of Sky Ruins.

One could faintly see the light emitted from the pond, similar to a lighthouse guiding the way.

Unfortunately, it didn't give the same calming presence as a lighthouse would. People actually feared the light since it resembled a beast opening its eyes. This light was nothing more than the flash of its eyes.

The fog surrounding Sky Ruins seemed eager to swallow the entire place whole. Just one inhale from this beast was enough to devour all of Three Immortals.

The powerful spectators became petrified while thinking about the potential outcome. Whatever this thing was, it was strong enough to massacre their entire worlds.

"What kind of monster is this?" One ancestor stared at the fog. No one had an answer to this question.

"Boom!" The fog suddenly gathered together into a monstrous palm of incalculable size, surely large enough to crush Immortal Lineage in one blow. Fortunately, it wasn't aiming at Three Immortals right now.

"Rumble!" The fingers were closing down, resulting in earthquakes in Immortal Lineage. Its sheer size made even the slightest movement capable of affecting the spatial fabrics.

"What is it doing?" The horrified spectators wondered as the palm surrounded the meteor.

Supreme and the others exchanged glances, aware of its goal - clearly wanting the rock inside the palace.

“Will, will His Excellency be alright?” One ancestor became worried.

[Chapter 3097: Can You Handle This?](#)

The world-grasping palm could render everything to powder with a slight clench. This applied to all of Immortal Lineage.

Supreme Emperor’s group who had just witnessed a fight between progenitors shuddered at this sight. They thought that a progenitor might not be able to escape that palm unscathed.

The power there was beyond their imagination and instilled despair into them. As emperors and Everlastings, they stood at the top of Immortal Lineage. Alas, the palm showed them otherwise. Just one touch from it would make them scatter away with the wind.

Thus, the entire party became worried about Li Qiye with the exception of one being - the bull.

“You all should be worrying about Ascension Pond, hehe...” The bull shrugged and had a gloating smile.

“Boom!” No one could see the situation inside the palm but they felt that the large meteor was in pieces now.

Suffocation struck them with the closing of the palm, thinking that they were victims just like the meteor. They wanted to scream but no sound would come out of their wide-open mouth.

The world became soundless; voices were robbed and courage was taken away.

After the palm closed, Li Qiye found himself standing in the deepest reaches of Ascension Pond.

The pond water engulfed him in a special manner. He didn’t perform any art to avoid water but the water wasn’t making him wet at all.

In front of him was a crystal dao platform. Those who have been here before knew that it was used as an altar.

One just needed to offer their most precious thing in order to make a successful trade here at the altar.

Li Qiye looked at the shiny altar freed from imperfection and smiled, seemingly amused.

“Want to rob me? Quite bold.” He said.

The pond didn’t answer as if he was the only one here.

“Aren’t you the greatest trader?” Li Qiye leisurely said: “Very well, if you can handle my most precious thing, I will give you the rock. If you can’t, I’ll be stating my conditions.”

The crystal altar didn’t answer. However, its light slightly flickered akin to a passing shooting star in the night sky.

Li Qiye placed his palm on the altar. “Buzz.” His chest exuded a faint glow.

As time passed, this glow intensified and became increasingly brighter.

Space trembled as a result. His light seemed to be opening a new era.

After reaching a certain level, space and time became frozen. Everything has been sealed by him.

“Boom!” A majestic force erupted from his chest as a floating heart emerged. All of Immortal Lineage could feel this.

It looked like a resplendent world. No creature could keep their eyes open here, gods or not.

The heart shrouded in radiance had a beat in harmony with heaven and earth. Each beat could break through all barriers in existence while opening a new world.

This was a primordial beat, a song from the start of time, a rhythm leading to true immortality...

Everyone outside of Sky Ruins saw a shocking scene. A sparkling beam soared towards the sky, piercing through all in its path including the massive palm.

“Crack!” The palm instantly crumbled into pieces and the beam disappeared.

Jaws dropped to the ground because this palm should have been untouchable. However, this bright beam managed to piece through it in no time at all.

The inhabitants of Immortal Lineage didn’t know who destroyed the great palm, only Supreme’s group was privy to this information. This told them that Li Qiye was far more monstrous than that palm.

“Crack!” A hair-thin crack appeared on the crystal altar. It was virtually impossible to see but yes, there was indeed a crack.

“Still can’t handle it.” Li Qiye smiled and shook his head.

Earlier, Li Qiye placed his peerless and unbeatable dao heart on the altar. Ascension Pond was a place where one could offer their most precious item for whatever else they wanted.

Alas, the pond had nothing worthy to trade for this dao heart, resulting in a clear defeat.

Everyone would be shocked if they were to find out about this.

“Okay, time to talk now?” Li Qiye said.

“Buzz.” The light of the altar gathered together like the stars and turned into a cosmic maelstrom.

Li Qiye showed zero hesitation and walked into this maelstrom. Once he could see again, he found himself in a mysterious dimension.

Wondrous lights flashed in this dimension along with divine images... The place seemed illusory and dreamlike, causing people to think that they were in a dream.

Li Qiye took a quick look around and nonchalantly said: “Not a bad place for hiding. Of course, it’s probably not a good feeling being a cowardly turtle hiding in its shell.”

[Chapter 3098: One More Person](#)

“Hmph!” A scowl frightened the heaven and earth along with the celestials for it was filled with might. The souls of emperors and gods would still scatter away after hearing this scowl. Alas, it had no effect on Li Qiye.

“Buzz.” The stars gathered with haste and formed an ethereal face in the sky. It looked so surreal; one would forget about this face right away, akin to waking up in a dream. They would remember that they have dreamt about something, just nothing in detail.

“Everything starts with the heart devil, desires, and resentment.” Li Qiye smiled after seeing the face.

“What is your heart devil?” A voice came from the depth of this space, almost sounding like a lamentation.

The voice echoed in one’s mind instead of being heard through the ears, akin to speaking to oneself. This discomforting phenomenon could frighten a weak-willed individual.

“My heart devil? It is me since one thought is enough to become a devil.” Li Qiye smiled, not minding the voice in his head.

“That’s not what I’m talking about.” The voice answered.

“No, it’s the same thing. Once I go crazy, even I get scared of myself, so I’m my own heart devil.” Li Qiye responded.

The voice seemingly pondered the comment, or perhaps, it didn’t disagree with this logic.

However, since Li Qiye was his own heart devil, he wasn’t afraid of turning into anything nor cared about other temptations and desires.

“So can we talk now?” Li Qiye smiled.

The existence in this plane didn’t respond. He wanted the rock but didn’t expect to provoke someone like Li Qiye.

The guy exceeded his expectation. He hasn’t seen a being of this level for a very long time now.

“There are only a few things I can offer.” The existence eventually answered.

“I disagree with that.” Li Qiye smirked in response: “Let me ask you first, what is your ranking among the thirty-six?”

“There is always a vaster sky and a greater man. The immensity of the grand dao is beyond your imagination. Sure, your dao heart is unmatched in history but loftier existences are around, even more unfathomable.” The existence took some time before speaking again in a serious manner. It didn’t sound like an excuse.

Just imagine, this was a being capable of beating an immortal-level progenitor. His words needed to be taken seriously.

“How are they compared to the villainous heaven?” Li Qiye remained calm.

“Comparable.” The voice revealed.

“Hmm? Interesting.” Li Qiye slightly raised his brows.

“What’s outside is truly unfathomable, you have achieved a lot but it is only the beginning.” The voice continued.

“No, it’s still within expectation, just a little exciting and worthy of anticipation because if this is it, it’ll be boring and lonely, to say the least.” Li Qiye chuckled.

It’s lonely at the top, or so they say. In Li Qiye’s mind, his enemy was himself and this could get quite lonely without suitable opponents.

“What do you want?” The voice got to the point.

“Not much.” Li Qiye said: “This place isn’t bad so I want to borrow it to refine some weapons, maybe have a little chat about some interesting matters, that’s all.”

“There’s nothing interesting about this world, only blood and tears.” The voice said.

“That’s fine too, it’s not a bad topic. After all, I’m not a merciful saint and don’t mind talking about bloody stuff.” Li Qiye smiled.

“What’s your pursuit?” The voice asked.

“Your pursuit is that thing, hence stuck in hibernation here for years.” Li Qiye didn’t answer his question.

“We’re not on the same path.” The voice replied.

“That’s the only reason? Not because the spoils aren’t evenly distributed?” Li Qiye implicatively smirked.

“Hmph.” The being let out another intimidating scowl, clearly filled with dissatisfaction about Li Qiye’s comment.

Li Qiye ignored the scowl.

“Don’t assume everyone is as despicable as you.” The voice insulted.

“I’m certainly no gentleman but do you dare claim that you have never had a similar thought during that period? I know that none of you play nice.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“I wouldn’t be waiting all this time then, in that case.” The voice clearly disliked Li Qiye judging by its tone. Nevertheless, it still answered.

“Not necessarily, a fat fish is better than a skinny one and this requires feeding and patience. The latter isn’t enough to even be an appetizer.” Li Qiye said: “I’m sure that things like this have happened before, and you yourself harbored this idea once.”

The existence didn’t respond this time.

“That’s why as long as people can think of it, it can be done and is probably done before.” Li Qiye smiled: “The only person worth trusting in this world is the villainous heaven.”

“The villainous heaven? How is it different from us?” The existence coldly uttered. [1]

“Looks like you all are very unhappy with the villainous heaven.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“Our actions are all the same.” The voice said.

“You don’t think there’s a difference between eating a fish and killing a fish? Sure, this isn’t a perfect analogy but it’s suitable here.” Li Qiye said.

“All the same, both the purposes and actions.” The voice coldly uttered.

“I see, looks like you have some grudges against the villainous heaven. Probably suffered a bit to it, right?” Li Qiye taunted.

“Hmph.” The voice scowled once more.

Li Qiye’s smile grew thicker. After a while, he became serious and said: “Okay, let’s not talk about the villainous heaven, that’s old stuff. What about the person you have been looking for?”

“No idea.” The existence didn’t entertain the new conversation.

“Afraid, huh? What about the being in Uncrossable Expanse in comparison?” Li Qiye’s eyes narrowed.

“Just a child.” The voice decisively said without needing to think, clearly have a good idea beforehand.

“Interesting answer, so that’s an apex existence.” Li Qiye laughed and said.

“The apex, the one and only. The same applies to you, not on the same level.” The voice said.

“I see. It’s because there are no immortals right now.” Li Qiye didn’t become angry after being insulted.

“It would be over if there are immortals.” The voice responded.

“I would still test my might against them. Of course, if they actually exist, they wouldn’t allow for fake ones like you to be around.” Li Qiye seriously responded.

“The likes of you can’t understand what a true immortal is anyway.” The voice said.

“Really now? I’m definitely interested in a meeting.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Unknown whereabouts.” The voice gave an abrupt answer.

[Chapter 3099: Continent From Uncrossable Expanse](#)

Immortal Lineage trembled in fear after finding out about the battle where Li Qiye annihilated Metalkin War God’s and his legions.

So many experts kept their mouth shut afterward, no daring to comment on Fiercest. Of course, they were doing it with their friends and sect members in secret.

Everyone learned that a third progenitor has come out. This era would become a prosperous one.

“Will this be a time similar to Gao Yang’s?” An expert wondered.

Gao Yang’s generation was considered to be one of the most brilliant in history. Talents came out in waves and eventually became emperors and Everlastings.

Due to this wonderful period, Gao Yang was elevated to a new height. Some considered him to be not only a member of the Decemvirate but also among the top three.

Now, the current generation had Luminous Master, Orchid Sage, and Fiercest.

“A trinity of powers. Yes, this generation will be prosperous but also quite bloody.” One ancestor murmured.

Common wisdom dictated that a mountain can't have two tigers. War was inevitable between these progenitors.

“That's only if the sides are balanced. War will definitely come and so many systems will be dragged into this mess. Their people will let out cries of anguish. But, if there's a clear winner, we'll have peace.” An Everlasting sighed.

A war between progenitors would be dreadfully destructive. Millions of casualties would be the best-case scenario. Destruction of systems might be the worst.

This had happened before in Immortal Lineage. It was one thing when they exercised restraint. Otherwise, war would rage between many systems.

“Yes, just like Gao Yang back then.” An ancestor added.

Everyone heard the story of Gao Yang's sudden appearance. He became invincible after becoming a progenitor and directly defeated another progenitor of that same generation - Cloudcrossing Progenitor.

Gao Yang was just too brilliant and powerful. With the defeat of Cloudcrossing Progenitor came the end of the progenitorial war.

“There can only be one Gao Yang.” A different ancestor shook his head and smiled wryly.

Most agreed with this so they thought that the incoming conflict between the progenitors would last for a while.

“Maybe Fiercest can match Gao Yang.” An expert had this opinion.

“You're underestimating Gao Yang too much.” Another cultivator aware of the history behind this disagreed: “Gao Yang was insane. He went into any forbidden grounds and swept through anyone. That generation far exceeded ours and he still dominated all the same. Fiercest is not on the same level.”

Of course, no one would argue for them being evenly matched. Nonetheless, some started analyzing Fiercest's strength.

“From what we've seen, Fiercest is the strongest, probably thirty-percent stronger than Orchid Sage.” One ancestor said.

“That's within the realm of possibilities. How about versus Luminous Master?” Many agreed with this point.

“Luminous Master should be stronger because Fiercest is the latest to make his debut. He probably doesn't have as strong of a foundation because Luminous Master has reached this level a while ago.” One ancestor said.

“I'm not so sure about that. Fiercest has been unstoppable and I haven't seen him use a weapon yet. In my opinion, he has yet to go all-out. His real strength is probably beyond our imagination, that's why

Orchid Sage is so respectful towards him." An Everlasting had a bolder conjecture while tilting his head in contemplation.

Thus, after numerous discussions, some believed Fiercest was strongest while others put their money on Luminous Master.

The latter definitely had an advantage for reaching this level first. He had more time to accumulate resources and enlightenment versus the other two.

"Rumble!" Not long after the recent shocking events, explosions came from Uncrossable Expanse again as if a monster was leaving the ocean. This naturally attracted everyone's attention.

"Boom!" Everyone saw a massive wave forming in Uncrossable Expanse.

The formation of this wave was due to a moving continent piercing through space. It seemed to have crushed numerous dimensions deeper in the expanse and instantly got out.

"Rumble!" Space trembled continuously, unable to withstand the weight of this new landmass.

"Another thing is coming out of there." Everyone started clamoring in Immortal Lineage.

"What now?" Some naturally became afraid.

First was the meteor, then the ships filled with reanimated undead. Now, a continent?

What was it bringing to Immortal Lineage, hope or despair?

Loud rumbles accompanied this continent wherever it went because of its immense weight.

"It's massive." People gasped at this sight.

It didn't look too fast to the naked eyes but it was naturally traveling at an insane speed.

"Is it going to hit Sky Pass?" An expert became worried.

Sky Pass might not be able to withstand the impact. Even if it could, heavy damages were inevitable.

Fortunately, this continent also only skirted by Sky Pass - a daunting spectacle without any real danger.

The soldiers in Sky Pass heaved a sigh of relief since they weren't ready for the impact. The cultivators in Immortal Lineage felt the same way. The destruction of the frontier meant the other systems were next.

"What's on that continent?" This question popped up as the continent flew towards Sky Ruins.

Curiosity still got the best of them. Some decided to give chase.

"No, don't do it. Have you forgotten about the dead creatures on the ships?" Many were worried.

Alas, a few ancestors confident in their abilities still wanted to climb up there to take a closer look.

Fortunately, they got up there and didn't meet anything dangerous.

They saw magnificent waterfalls and rivers with numerous tributaries, verdant mountains, and blue clouds...

This was akin to entering an entirely new system since they were met by a pristine and majestic atmosphere.

“An excavated land?” One ancestor became impressed by the scenery ahead.

Systems were refined by progenitors. Many chose to bring a piece of landmass down from space in order to use it as the base of their system.

[Chapter 3100: Luminous Master Is Here?](#)

A continent from the expanse devoid of danger? This naturally attracted many cultivators.

It didn't take long before they ran there in waves and found pristine nature waiting for them - a paradise with surging rivers, verdant peaks, and endless plains of green...

Not a single native could be seen. The newcomers realized that this was an un-excavated land. No one else has been here before.

“So what is this place?” The experts wondered.

Ordinary cultivators didn't think too much of this event but the ancestors and Everlastings worried about the significance of this continent.

It wouldn't just float out the mysterious Uncrossable Expanse for no reason. This was exactly the same case as the expedition ship. However, they just haven't figured out the reason yet.

“Maybe that vast ocean has many unexplored continents?” One ancestor murmured: “I'm thinking that some progenitors saw these paradises and decided to stop there.”

Many ancestors agreed with this statement. Their progenitors might have started new factions there.

“There's good stuff here.” Other explorers found things while the ancestors were chatting.

“What is it?” An expert asked right away.

“Traverse Ancestor found an incredible spring on top of an eighty-foot peak. Its water is so sweet and can open all the veins and muscles. He himself confirmed that it is comparable to some types of sacred dew.” This news came along and it wasn't the only one.

“An elder from Beerider found a golden pearl under a lake capable of purifying evil.”

“Cloud Creek Schoolmaster found a really rare three-jade mushroom in a cave.”

“A vagabond dug out a violet-lotus grass on the plain, it's incredible as a longevity medicine.”

News like this came from all over the place. Those who came have benefited from the trip.

The news traveled back to Immortal Lineage and attracted more cultivators.

Sure enough, as more people came, more great items were found - treasure trees, spirit medicines, mystical rocks...

They were no different than a swarm of locust, instantly stripping the land of anything valuable. After all, there was no danger here.

This made everyone excited and they traveled a long way to the floating continent for the treasure hunt.

“Heaven must be blessing us.” One of them excitedly said: “Yes, this is a gift to Immortal Lineage, a treasure land from Uncrossable Expanse.”

Of course, the ancestors present definitely disagreed with this comment. They believed that there was another reason for its coming.

“Rumble!” Numerous bronze carriages loudly crossed through the horizon and interrupted the enthusiastic treasure hunters.

They came with lightning speed and landed on the continent, startling everyone in the process.

The number was too few to be considered an army. However, this group had the toughness of a great wall, suffocating all spectators. They felt as if they had been surrounded and left with no escape path.

“Luminous Master’s troops.” Everyone shuddered after recognizing them.

“Luminous Master is coming?” Someone saw a familiar face in this group - Flying Sword Marvel.

The master didn’t have an entire legion like Metalkin War God. However, his cavalry was still unstoppable and earned the prestige of being one of the strongest groups in Immortal Lineage.

After all, how could a cavalry taught by a progenitor be weak?

Their appearance took everyone by surprise because Luminous Master rarely showed himself after becoming an imperial-level progenitor, the same with his cavalry.

Rumor has it that he has been spending his time learning the dao while his cavalry acted as his protectors in order to avoid any needless complication.

“So is he coming?” One person whispered.

Meanwhile, the crowd made a path for the cavalry to get through. Even ancestors didn’t stand in the way.

No one in Immortal Lineage would be dumb enough to hinder Luminous Master’s path. Who would want to provoke a progenitor and his great system - Immortal Bronze Mountain?

The cavalry didn’t stop and continued forward. They obviously had a clear goal from the start.

“What are they doing?” This piqued everyone’s curiosity.

A few experts decided to follow behind the cavalry in order to find an answer.

However, they soon noticed that the cavalry has sealed off the area of their destination. No one was allowed to get close. They had no choice but to leave, annoyed. It would be foolish to take even half a step inside and invite the wrath of a progenitor.

“Creak...” A horse carriage appeared on the horizon, made from wood without unnecessary adornment. The curtain was hanging down so no one could see the person inside.

Only ten guards accompanied the carriage but they were all powerful True Gods. Each capable of ruling over an entire domain. They looked like mighty pillars supporting the carriage.

“True Emperor Bachi.” Some noticed the leading vanguard - a man wearing a hemp rope with an unrestrained expression. However, his actions and movements were brimming with power and momentum. [1]

He hid his aura and presence in order to keep a low profile. Nonetheless, this wasn’t enough to hide his brilliance from the spectators.

“That’s Luminous Master’s disciple, so is he in the carriage then?” This question popped up.

Bachi True Emperor was a reclusive man personally taught by Luminous Master. Some believed that he had ten palaces.

Who else in the world but Luminous Master would be worthy of this emperor’s protection?

The person in the carriage remained low-key as well; their aura hidden. Yet, this didn’t stop the crowd from bowing to show their respect.