Emperor 3921

Chapter 3921: Entering Black Tides Again

The prostrating audience got up but kept their head lowered. The members of the holy ground were too excited after the battle.

In the beginning, many thought that Li Qiye's choice was too reckless. At this point, they thought that he was omnipotent.

Recently, Buddha Supreme has not shown himself so the holy ground lost confidence. Numerous whispered about his potential demise.

At the same time, Vajra grew stronger while Sacred Mountain's influence weakened. Now, Li Qiye's invincible style to save the holy ground reminded everyone of Sacred Mountain's might again. It was still the leading authority of the holy ground.

As for the outsiders, they watched Li Qiye with respect in their eyes. At first, the ancestors from these powers thought that Li Qiye wasn't worthy of this role, whether it be his cultivation or prestige.

Of course, none would be singing this tune any longer. They were completely won over by him.

"The young master is incredible." Yang Ling was elated as well, not knowing what else to say.

The old servant who has traveled across the world couldn't believe it either. He was someone who had fought against Black Tides before. The dangers here required the top masters to give everything they got. But now, it seemed that Li Qiye was more frightening than anything else.

As for the quiet Fan Bai, she was still astounded but refrained from commenting.

Li Qiye only smiled at the girl and said: "Let's go."

"Okay, but where are we going?" Yang Ling didn't expect this. The crowd hasn't gotten a chance to breathe yet after the destruction of the monsters. This seemed too early.

"Deeper into Black Tides, time to end this." Li Qiye stared at the horizon and responded.

"Oh?" She also followed the direction of his gaze. Her heart skipped a beat due to the terrible tales about that area.

"You guys can stay here. I'm only going to finish some mundane matters." He told them.

"Young Master, I would like to follow and serve you if you don't mind." The old man immediately spoke.

He also gazed in the same direction, becoming quite excited. He couldn't help touching his saber's hilt.

Last time he went there was without a tidal recession. Unfortunately, he didn't make it to his destination. He knew better than to risk his life and decided to flee.

Now, the lack of water made this easier but most importantly, a peerless existence was by his side. Thus, he wanted to see what waited in Black Tides - the dreadful entity that has haunted the world for eras. This was one of his wishes.

"Young Master, I want to tag along too, please?" Yang Ling begged.

She knew that she had no chance of getting anywhere in Black Tides. If she couldn't tag along with Li Qiye this time, that would be the end of it.

"Come then." Li Qiye started walking while the group followed him.

Yang Ling was both nervous and excited. Fan Bai remained calm because she didn't know much about Black Tides. Plus, she was willing to follow Li Qiye wherever he went regardless of the danger.

"The Sacred Lord is entering Black Tides again?" The spectators watched the group.

They thought that this would be the time for a grand celebration. The lord of the holy ground has shown his supremacy. An announcement to the rest of the world should be next to let everyone hear about his exploits.

"He wants to push forward while having the advantage?" Another disciple said.

"He wishes to change the tides of history with the next battle?" One ancestor murmured.

"One man alone trying to stop the eternal chaos. Hmm, is it possible?" A big shot took a deep breath.

In fact, his evaluation of Li Qiye couldn't be any higher. The problem was - Black Tides has haunted the world for millions and millions of years. There was something terrifying deeper in there.

Numerous wise sages and top masters have planned expeditions against this place yet it remained standing. Nonetheless, they were successful in the sense that it was calmer now compared to how it used to be during the Chaotic Era.

Now, did Li Qiye wish to fight and destroy Black Tides? Many worried about him.

"This isn't the right time." A sacred ancestor said: "The present holy ground requires his leadership."

This was obvious due to the waning influence of Sacred Mountain. He needed to show everyone that they were untouchable again.

On the other hand, those with their own plans thought that it would be perfect for Li Qiye to die in Black Tides. The decline of Sacred Mountain would actually accelerate.

"Sacred Lord, we are willing to follow you and be of service." A group of ancestors came over and respectfully asked.

"Our court will follow your commands in this battle against Black Tides." A sacred ancestor vowed loyalty.

"It's nothing, I'm only going to take a look, don't bother me." Li Qiye waved his hand in refusal.

Though these big shots wanted to help Li Qiye, there was nothing they could do after being refused.

Many experts from the holy ground followed along in order to see him off. They actually reached the edge of Black Tides' inner region.

They then knew that it was time to leave. They bowed towards him and said: "Please take care, Sacred Lord."

Chapter 3922: Black Tides' Depths

Just the mentioning of Black Tides alone instilled fear into the listeners. Cultivators never dared to venture to this place. Powerful sovereigns took the risk and never returned.

As for the depths of this region? Only top dao lords and invincible supremes bothered trying.

The area certainly became safer during a tidal recession. Nonetheless, this inner region was still extremely dangerous. After all, dao lords could meet their end there and most people weren't suicidal.

Yang Ling's group followed Li Qiye towards this perilous destination. Once there, they were greeted by relentless heatwaves.

When looking from a distance, the place resembled a marsh. It's just that instead of being waterlogged, it was lava-logged.

In a sense, the entire place looked like a sunken continent. If one were to look down from above, a great power must have devastated the area.

Gorges and deep ditches could be found everywhere. Being careless would mean falling into one of them right away, akin to being swallowed by a monster. Normally, powerful big shots capable of reaching this area had total freedom in their movement - able to fly and travel underground. Their body was as light as a feather, allowing them to easily float on anything.

Unfortunately, there was just something about the holes and mud here. They served as quagmires, always pulling down the uninvited travelers. Brilliant movement techniques were useless in this place. This was similar to the phenomenon seen in the abyss.

Some deaths weren't accidental either. Yang Ling's group saw an expert just walking by a cave and a gust of wind pulled him inside. He struggled and roared but it was useless.

"Ah!" Something seemed to be in that cave and sent him to meet his maker.

The flowing lava was special as well, as red as molten metal but lacking the same viscosity. It flowed quickly just like regular water.

Strangely enough, the heat stemming from the lava was rather pleasant, similar to sitting in a hot spring during the harsh winter. One would actually think about jumping in there.

Of course, doing so meant certain demise because the lava would turn them into ashes right away.

Along the way, the group saw an adventurer confident in his cultivation. He thought that since his body could withstand samadhi flames, this lava shouldn't be a problem either.

"Ahh!" The guy screamed once before being reduced to ashes after jumping into the lava for a shortcut.

Another adventurer saw a bright light in the middle of a gully. He became excited about this potential treasure and yelled: "A treasure is emerging over here!"

He and his friends ran over, only to hear a buzzing noise. This light swept through them like a net and turned them into dispersing particles. Nothing was left of them in the next second. No one would have a clue that they have died here.

All in all, the reaper was potentially hiding in every nook and cranny here. Only the supremes and dao lords could avoid the danger. The mass lacked the ability to return alive.

Yang Ling and Fan Bai could see that this place was ominous. There seemed to be eyes in the shadow watching their every step. Thus, they stuck as close to Li Qiye as possible. Even the mighty old servant became tense, grabbing the hilt of his saber and always ready to perform a quick draw.

"What a different world, not as moving as when the water is still around though." The old man commented.

"What is it like before a tidal recession?" Yang Ling became curious.

"Words aren't sufficient to describe the terror but if I have to put it, imagine millions of devils rampaging and destroying the world. As for the gods, they howl in grief while being stuck in hell. The strongest cultivators were still at risk of being torn to pieces..." The old servant smiled wryly. A glint of anxiety flashed deep in his eyes since he couldn't forget what he had seen here.

The two girls could imagine how terrible the place used to be after listening to him.

Fortunately, Li Qiye led them through this arduous journey without any issue. Their path was surprisingly uneventful. The hidden monsters in the caves and abysses didn't dare to bother Li Qiye.

The eyes hidden in the darkness would run away into a darker dimension. The gaping jaws were no longer open. All wanted to hide their presence... These hidden entities seemed aware of Li Qiye and didn't want to be exposed to him.

Therefore, the so-called most dangerous region in West King was nothing more than Li Qiye's garden. He and the group sauntered towards their goal.

Yang Ling and Fan Bai didn't notice the imperceptible changes. They simply felt safe while walking behind him.

As for the old servant, he clearly sensed these entities running away out of fear.

Chapter 3923: World Of Skeletal Creatures

Li Qiye eventually stopped before a rather normal-looking cave devoid of danger. It was only wide enough for several people to jump down at the same time, pitch-black with no bottom in sight.

A heavenly gaze wouldn't spot anything either, resulting in an uneasy feeling. Because of this endless property, one would think that by jumping down, they would enter a new world.

This darkness would also bite back on those daring to stare at it for too long. It gave the impression of not allowing anyone to return after jumping down.

"What's down there?" Yang Ling also attempted to use her heavenly gaze and didn't see anything.

The old man had a terrible feeling about the cave. Intuition told him that if he were to jump down, he would never return alive. His grip on the saber hilt tightened as he tensed up.

"This is the place, very well hidden." Li Qiye glanced below and said.

"We, we're going down there?" Yang Ling was slightly afraid. Nonetheless, she thought that it would be okay with Li Qiye around. The only problem was not wanting to be a nuisance to him.

"No longer want to see a magical world?" Li Qiye smirked at the group.

"I'm not afraid as long as you're around, Young Master." Yang Ling hesitated for a moment before answering.

"Go down then." Li Qiye smiled and jumped first.

Fan Bai followed him blindly without thinking twice. As for Yang Ling, fear of the unknown struck her but she eventually mustered enough courage to take a step forward.

The old servant was the last one to jump in. He readied his saber in order to deal with any potential complication.

As the group fell down, the only thing they heard was heavy wind noises. The drop was lasting for what seems to be an eternity. Yang Ling would be screaming right now if Li Qiye wasn't close by.

After a long while, they finally touched the ground and heard something cracking beneath their feet.

Darkness still blinded them. They activated their heavenly gaze and found this place to be virtually infinite in size. It seemed larger than all of Eight Desolaces.

They only saw faint outlines - something like a mountain range ahead. The rest was a blur.

"Crack!" They felt something moving beneath their feet.

"Something's awakening?" Yang Ling became alarmed.

"Watch carefully, it'll be quite a spectacle." Li Qiye smiled.

Due to the creepy nature of this place, his answer frightened her even more. She thought that nothing good would be here.

"Pop! Pop! Pop!" They heard quiet pops, similar to something opening their eyes.

Red lights suddenly appeared in this dark world, just bright enough to slowly illuminate the area. Once enough of them manifested, the group could see again.

"Ahh!" Yang Ling screamed right away.

Fan Bai turned pale as well, speechless.

"Skeletal monsters." The old man took a deep breath and said, still shaken despite his experience.

What they saw were skeletal creatures as far as the eye can see in this infinite world. There seemed to be nothing but bones here.

A while ago, the two hordes attacking Black Cliff were populous enough. But now, the disparity was immense.

"We've fallen into their lair!" Yang Ling shouted.

The waves of invaders they saw first could destroy Buddha Holy Ground. As for the army here? It might be enough to take down Eight Desolaces.

These creatures were awakening - evident by the red flame in their skull. Li Qiye's group came uninvited to their world.

Gigantic skeletons began walking over. The four looked as small as ants. This was enough to frighten anyone.

"Young Master..." Yang Ling tugged Li Qiye's sleeve.

"Click, clack, click, clack..." The awakened ones approached the group.

They didn't roar aggressively and attack like the waves on the surface. Nonetheless, the group was still intimidated.

"They're coming, Young Master." Yang Ling spoke again.

The old man was ready to fight to the very end. However, he knew that it would be futile with his power alone.

"Still a bit left, let's give it to them." Li Qiye took out the bottle containing the ashes. There wasn't much left.

He removed the cork and blew ashes in all four directions.

"Zzz-" The skeletons hit by the ashes immediately turned to ashes. This opened a wide space for the group.

Alas, though thousands of them were cleared out in the blink of an eye, Li Qiye was running out of ashes. This was akin to pouring a cup of water on a burning wooden house.

The endless horde didn't stop moving. They didn't need to do anything either. Just them squeezing together would be enough to make meat paste out of Li Qiye's group.

"What should we do, Young Master?" Yang Ling noticed that they didn't have any ashes left.

Chapter 3924: Seeing The Wooden Nest Again

The ground shook and shadows engulfed the group. Yang Ling became as pale as can be, feeling as insignificant as a speck of dust.

Li Qiye looked up at the sky and let out a penetrating roar for a long while. However, he didn't do anything else afterward and simply stood there.

"Boom!" One giant has made it here and raised its foot for a stomp. The sky turned dark above them before an immense pressure pressed down from above.

"It's here!" Yang Ling bellowed. Alas, Li Qiye still didn't do anything so she closed her eyes.

The old man was ready while staring at the incoming foot. However, he patiently waited for Li Qiye.

"Boom!" As the two girls thought that they were finished, something massive flew over and slammed the giant.

"Boom!" It cut the giant into two halves and the massive frame fell down like a collapsing building. Bones scattered on the ground.

They looked up and saw something looking like a colossal warship. They had never seen something like this before.

"Up we go." Li Qiye ordered and leaped up in the air. The rest followed and landed on this unknown entity.

Once the two girls got up, they realized that it wasn't a monster or a battleship. It turned out to be a wooden nest of unimaginable size - large enough to swallow the stars in the galaxy.

It was made from an assembly of countless branches. The two girls have never seen this type of wood before - dried and black, looking tougher than any metal.

The affinity of chaos engulfed the nest, always pouring down visible strands that look like heavenly waterfalls.

"Boom! Boom! "Several skeletal giants approached and started smashing the nest.

Explosions shattered the spatial fabrics even though they were only swinging their hands. Regular cultivators would be blown to smithereens in the blink of an eye.

"Go!" Li Qiye ignored them and commanded.

The nest instantly broke through the barricade. Its chaos energy turned into a violent maelstrom and propelled it forward in an unstoppable and domineering manner.

Every monster along the way was sent flying and pulverized regardless of its size and power.

This world was packed with skeletons, more than enough to deter the strongest characters. However, they couldn't stop the nest in the slightest. It left a wake of destruction behind its path.

The group couldn't believe it. This was even more shocking than the previous battles to them. After calming down, they started taking a careful look at the gargantuan nest.

It resembled an independent world or an ark that could take everything else with it. They saw an ancient wooden pavilion pulsing with chaos energy. It seemed to be the center of the nest.

Despite not exuding any divinity, other existences didn't dare to get close without prostrating. It wouldn't be surprising to see ultimate secrets and archaic artifacts within.

The group felt a mysterious power from there not allowing any intruder to approach. It would suppress them right away.

"What is that building?" Yang Ling stared solemnly at it.

"A remnant of the past." Li Qiye glanced at it; his expression softened.

He came here once with different companions. So many years have passed by this point. Certain things remained while others were long gone.

"Its creator must be a magnificent character." The old man became sentimental. Only a truly terrifying being would be able to create this wooden nest and supreme pavilion.

Li Qiye didn't answer; his mind seemed to be wandering somewhere else. The gentle breezes of past memories including smiles and cries comforted his cold heart.

"I wonder what's in there." Fan Bai was curious since she felt something special there. Alas, she couldn't bypass the suppressive pressure.

Not to mention the two girls, even the old man couldn't get close. He also felt the same way as Fan Bai but didn't have a clear idea.

"They no longer exist, it is impossible to pursue things that have passed." Li Qiye lacked interest.

The group found this answer puzzling but didn't dare to ask for elaboration.

"Even if those treasures are unobtainable, just sitting there to comprehend the dao will save tens of thousands of years." The old man said.

He saw the pulsing chaos strands from the pavilion. Being able to meditate inside would be an earthshattering fortune.

Chapter 3925: Lord Of The Dark Star

The nest continued its rampage against the skeletal creatures. Its speed was matchless as well, able to travel through ten million miles in the blink of an eye.

Though the creatures re-assembled themselves after being crushed, they had no chance of keeping up. Eventually, the nest left everything in the dust.

Yang Ling's group heaved a sigh of relief once they got away from the horde. They thought that only dao lords would have managed to escape the hellish containment earlier.

The nest reached the end of this world and entered a boundless void. Its speed suddenly became a thousand times faster.

While the group thought they were away from any potential danger, they suddenly felt a terrible power looming over them, rendering them breathless akin to having billions of boulders placed on their shoulders.

They struggled to look ahead and became shocked. The nest has finally stopped and floated in the air.

They then saw a dark star, far larger than other celestial bodies. Eight Desolaces looked considerably smaller as well. Flames engulfed the star, capable of sucking in and obliterating all existences.

It had enough power to treat planets like specks of dust, easily incinerating and turning them into ashes. Time and space were melted around it. Due to a lack of these physical affinities, the core of the star wasn't restrained by distance and the flow of time.

The nest was far away enough yet the suppressive power was still unbearable. The group activated their heavenly gaze for closer observation.

They saw the star seemingly being made from numerous smaller continents pressed together with no discernible pattern. Or perhaps that it used to be one whole piece but something else started separating them.

Lava flowed on the surface and headed for the core in the center. The liquid closer to the core was different - far redder and similar to blood. This creeped out the group.

Once their heavenly gaze reached its limit, they could faintly see something like a coffin in the core. Alas, they couldn't see the content inside, only flashes - it could be a living person or a corpse.

It took a while for them to calm down enough to think about the situation. They didn't know why Li Qiye brought them here.

"What... is that thing?" Yang Ling spoke softly.

The old man gestured for her to be quiet because he could sense something different in the air. Li Qiye's expression indicated that this was a serious moment.

"Wait here." Li Qiye ordered before flying towards the dark star. [1]

She was worried to see him fly towards that horrifying star but couldn't open her mouth. The others felt the same way and clenched their fists.

He stopped once he got close enough, completely impervious to the dark flames. The might of the star didn't affect him in the slightest.

"Boom!" The flames gathered together to shoot a straight beam at the intruders.

The nest retaliated by exuding chaos energy to form a defensive barrier. Meanwhile, Li Qiye didn't move at all. The higher concentration of flame was still ineffective against him, always three inches away from reaching him.

The old man started thinking. Was Li Qiye's power stopping the flame or was it too afraid to actually attack him?

"Looks like you're recovered quite a bit." Li Qiye smiled and spoke to the coffin at the core: "The hibernation is working, I see that you have found the door."

"Hmph!" A thunderous scowl detonated.

The old man felt a sound wave piercing his body. His innate defense couldn't stop it at all. Fortunately, the nest's chaos energy took most of the brunt.

Li Qiye's shadow suddenly became large enough to encompass the nest itself, stopping the sound wave from damaging his allies.

Nonetheless, the old man's palms became sweaty. Just one scowl from this being was so terrifying?

"Still won't submit?" Li Qiye smiled and calmly stated: "With my return, the myriad dao and all worlds are all under my grasp."

The nonchalant comment expressed his total authority and dominion. Both powerful dao lords and deities would need to prostrate before him.

The being inside the coffin didn't retort this rather haughty declaration from Li Qiye, implicitly agreeing.

He knew the significance of Li Qiye's return and the reason for the visit.

"You surely know what you're doing." Li Qiye spoke.

A brief silence ensued. The being in the coffin eventually responded: "You're here to judge me?" The enigmatic voice was ancient and seemingly originating from the nine layers of shell.

Yang Ling and the others had a hard time listening to the piercing words.

"No, that's the villainous heaven's job, not mine. I'd rather be more direct and just reduce you to pieces instead of wasting my time." Li Qiye shook his head.

"Boom!" The flames around the star exploded in an apocalyptic manner. Li Qiye finally angered the unknown being.

Alas, the flames still stopped three inches before Li Qiye despite its violent eruption.

Li Qiye stood there, not batting an eye.

Chapter 3926: The Dark Star Master's Decision

The being in the coffin might not want to actually attack Li Qiye with the flames. To do so meant a declaration of war and he understood the consequences.

"You have two choices, either hand the item over or I will take it from your corpse. Pick." Li Qiye said flatly, not leaving any room for negotiation.

His allies thought that he was more direct and overbearing than any previous encounter. The fact that his opponent was mighty didn't matter.

He said something that dao lords wouldn't dare to in such a trivial manner. The being in the dark star needed to heed his threat.

"I have many of those things." The ancient voice spoke again.

"You know what I'm referring to so don't waste my time. I'm in the mood to talk right now but this might change and you'll have to be in that coffin forever." Li Qiye chuckled.

The being fell into contemplation. He naturally didn't want to hand it over since it was too important to him. It allowed him to see hope and the door. Unfortunately, he must make a choice right now - either to obediently hand it over or to go all out against Li Qiye in a gamble.

"Creak..." Eventually, a cosmic shift occurred. Space seemed to be sweeping down and flattening everything.

The creaks made the group uncomfortable despite being shielded by chaos energy and Li Qiye's shadow. It felt as if the heaviest thing in existence was pressing down on them. Of course, they knew full well that without the protections, they would be meat pastes right now.

The lid of the coffin slowly moved enough to leave a tiny gap. "Boom!" The aura rushing out was insane and destructive.

The old man shuddered. Someone like him would have gotten down on his knees from the pressure.

He thought he had a good idea of ultimate power before. Now, he realized that he was just a frog under the well. True power far exceeded his imagination. The dao lords had nothing on this being.

"I... I..." Yang Ling couldn't speak at all.

The old man, on the other hand, focused on Li Qiye and respectfully said: "The young master is even stronger and scarier."

Li Qiye stood still, completely unaffected. This aura could crush the firmaments but failed to move him an inch. It seemed that he could easily take it down if he wanted to.

"Take it." The ancient voice spoke as a box flew out of the gap.

The being chose to obediently hand the item over instead of escalating the issue with Li Qiye. It would be foolish to challenge Li Qiye in this epoch.

He and other top existences witnessed their neighbor being crucified, tortured for millions of years until death. This level of torment was unbearable. That's why acquiescing was the right choice.

Opportunities could always resurface in the future. He chose embarrassment for this era in order to live many more. He had already endured and toiled for so long, no need to throw all of that away because of pride.

"Those who live this long are never stupid." Li Qiye caught the box and smiled.

The being didn't reply, still feeling frustrated and helpless after being threatened.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye's allies heaved a sigh of relief since no battle would occur. They thought how incredible it was for this monstrous being to yield to their young master. Therefore, the real monster here was their young master. Others, regardless of their power, needed to lower their head before him.

"Boom!" Suddenly, the dark star suddenly opened. It was as if this being opened his mouth in order to devour the world.

"Poof!" Red flames scattered across this endless world started shooting towards the star.

The crowd knew what they were right away - these flames powered the skeletal creatures earlier, serving as their soul. Without the flames, the creatures were useless husks and bones.

The flames granted them power and allowed them to terrorize Black Tides and Black Wood.

Though they didn't see what was going on inside the coffin, they imagined the being swallowing all the flames.

Back in the starting area, the hordes of creatures crumbled and became mere bones once more. In reality, these bones only withstood the test of time due to the fire's empowerment. With it gone, the mountains of bones slowly turned into dust again.

The group then understood that this being was the mastermind behind the unceasing invasions in history.

"Boom!" As they were still occupied with thoughts, the dark star suddenly pierced through space and disappeared from sight, heading for an unknown destination. Who knows if it would ever appear again?

Chapter 3927: Ancient Ming's Possession

Li Qiye returned to the wooden nest after the dark star's departure. The others finally relaxed with the pressure gone. The aura from that being suffocated them earlier.

"Young Master, was, was he the master of Black Tides?" Yang Ling spoke softly, still intimidated by that being's power.

"No, Black Tides has no master." Li Qiye casually responded.

"So in history, multiple dao lords underwent expeditions against Black Tides. What was their goal?" She continued since the public didn't have access to this information.

"Uncertainties." Li Qiye said.

"Uncertainties of dao search." The old man's eyes narrowed since he knew a little about this matter.

"There are many uncertainties and Black Tides is one of them. The curtain will drop eventually." Li Qiye added.

The old man contemplated. He had the chance to look at existences at the dao realm before and understood some of the reasons.

On the other hand, the two girls couldn't follow the conversation.

Li Qiye turned his focus towards the box, gently rubbing it. It was old and had spots everywhere, looking quite damaged. It resembled an heirloom item that has been around for too long, being dropped on the ground every once in a while.

Of course, the damages had nothing to do with it being dropped. They stemmed from a terrible suppression.

The group became curious about the thing inside the box. It had to be something magnificent in order to be worth their young master's time and effort.

Moreover, that being inside the coffin reluctantly handed it over. It should be priceless and peerless.

"Young Master, may I ask what is inside?" Yang Ling asked.

"Longevity Loop." Li Qiye glanced at her and responded. [1]

"Longevity Loop?" The group has never heard of it before, not even the old servant.

He thought that this precious artifact should be well known yet there were no legends regarding it.

Of course, if it wasn't for Li Qiye, they wouldn't have found out about this dark star hidden in Black Tides and the origin of the skeletal creatures. Thus, certain things were clearly above their station.

Li Qiye opened the box and out came a lustrous glow. Time came to a halt as a result. Everything affected by this light became infinitely slow.

The group saw tiny particles barely moving as a result while being bathed by the light. This light seemed to be a pathway towards a different timeline and era.

They didn't get to see the item, only its light. Nonetheless, they were still lost in awe.

Li Qiye took a quick look before closing the box and said: "Longevity Loop, a wondrous creation. Unfortunately, it is of no use to me."

Few in Eight Desolaces knew of this item, the same could be said about those from the Nine World Epoch. Only characters similar to Li Qiye were privy to its existence.

The loop first belonged to the Ancient Ming but it wasn't created by them. It granted immense benefits to their race.

Their Immortal Emperors and lords were extremely hard to kill because they possessed the loop.

Later on, the Dark Crow successfully used the Immortal Emperor Slaughtering Formation to suppress the loop and crucified its master. Many eras later, the seal of the Ancient Ming was finally erased by the suppression.

Li Qiye then fought above the firmaments and died. Some of his treasures became lost and forgotten with his death. The being inside the dark star somehow obtained the loop.

Others might have been unaware of the loop's effect but this eternal being had lived long enough to know. It helped him see the way, allowing him to recover.

It was of paramount importance. He wouldn't let anyone else touch this treasure and a fight to the death would ensue.

Alas, Li Qiye was a different story. It had nothing to do with Li Qiye being the original owner of the loop. The problem was - Li Qiye was simply terrifying in this generation and he didn't want to die. His neighbor had been killed by Li Qiye; following the same path would be stupidity.

The loop returned to Li Qiye once more after so many years. However, it was no longer useful to him.

The only thing it gave him was resurfacing memories of the bloody war. The Ancient Ming era was arduous. Numerous heroes and brothers died but their sacrifice heralded prosperity to the nine worlds.

Now, the Ancient Ming was no longer around, the same with the nine worlds. This epoch named Eight Desolaces was so familiar yet not.

He became sentimental while gently rubbing the box. After experiencing the torture of time, he could understand why so many lords and top existences fell to the darkness.

They have lived for too long and everything became foreign to them. The world was no longer "theirs", so scruples became unnecessary. The only thing that mattered became their own survival, hence their eventual decision.

"I.. am still me." He murmured.

He didn't belong to this world, or any other for that matter. This would apply to the future epochs as well. But as long as his dao heart remained the same, so would he as a person.

Li Qiye, the Dark Crow, didn't soar for anyone or anything. He simply wanted to fly even higher so he must continue flapping his wings. Keeping this mindset allowed him to endure the torment of time without succumbing. Stopping was not an option.

Chapter 3928: Immortal Weapon's Emergence

Not long after the group entered the depths, immortal radiance appeared once more.

At first, it was faint enough to be unnoticeable. It looked just like little spirits playing around. Later on, more spirits appeared as if it was a party. Something seemed to be attracting the individual lights.

Cultivators eventually took note of this, not because of the visible light but rather, their weapons reacted.

The first to do so were the strongest weapons. For example - top masters bringing dao lord weapons in secrecy.

They noticed their weapons shaking violently. These beings have been hiding in the shadows. Were they here to fight against the horde or did they have some other goals? No one could answer this question but them.

They became shocked at this sight. What kind of omen was this? Was it auspicious or ominous?

Normally, when a dao lord weapon vibrated, it was a warning for its master that powerful enemies were coming. In this case, none could be seen.

Next, weapons at the sovereign level vibrate as well. The big shots became startled.

"What's happening?" One of them blurted out.

Lower-level weapons vibrated next, even the ones stored in treasuries. Cultivators became startled.

"Clank! Clank! Clank!" The loud sounds could be heard from the Biandu Clan. They had the most members on top of the largest treasury in this region.

The sounds became louder as the shaking turned violent. The owners gradually lost control of their weapons; the things seemed to be wanting to fly away.

Those with dao lord weapons were horrified. They tried sealing the weapons for stabilization. This proved to be futile because the weapons were just too strong.

Losing these weapons would be unacceptable since they would become sinners of their sects.

During this strange phenomenon, the air started twisting deep in Righteous Sect, akin to a giant sitting up.

"The immortal weapon has shown up." A whisper as gentle as a soft breeze could be heard by everyone.

The big shots from Righteous were shocked to hear this voice, becoming frozen.

"The supreme!" One of them regained his wits and shouted.

This news spread like wildfire across the realms.

"Righteous Supreme is still alive!" People were shocked to hear it.

He was one of the two supremes in the south. However, he was actually many years older than Buddha Supreme. The latter has only been around for one generation.

He was already famous before Buddha Supreme made his mark. After Eight Stallion Dao Lord's generation, he hasn't shown up for a while so there were rumors of his death from old age.

Many didn't believe it, especially the members of Righteous. Nonetheless, the rumors continued to spread.

Today, they were proven wrong since his voice was heard once more.

However, for the big shots, the second piece of information was more interesting - the emergence of an immortal weapon.

"The legend is true, Black Tides really has an immortal weapon." One big shot couldn't stay calm.

This legend was only known by the powerful and older cultivators - Black Tides had a weapon far stronger than dao lord weapons. In a direct confrontation, dao lord weapons would crumble right away.

This seemed rather impossible for many because dao lord weapons were considered to be the strongest.

Because of this particular legend, a few thought that it was the reason for the continuous expeditions against Black Tides.

Alas, numerous dao lords and top masters have entered that place but none came across it.

Creaking noises came from the Biandu's ancestral ground. Chaos energy and an ancient aura emerged, permeating every corner of the land with a mercury-like density.

Those in Black Wood Cliff felt it right away even though the clan was under a defensive barrier.

A similar sensation to the appearance of Righteous Supreme occurred. The cliff shook from the pressure of a being sitting up.

"Who is that?!" People from all over the world haven't left Black Wood just yet. They found this astonishing.

"What kind of invincible being is waking up in there?" A big shot shouted.

Today, the Biandu performed a grand ceremony to greet its sacred ancestor.

"A sacred ancestor from the Biandu? Who?" Others found this confusing because they assumed that the paragon was the strongest living ancestor of this clan.

"Black Tides Saint!" This title came from a member of the Biandu.

The young and the weak had no impression of this title. However, the older cultivators were shaken to hear it.

"One of the eight saints from back then!" They gasped in response.

"The eight saints and nine sovereigns, right?" Most had a hard time remembering these figures.

"The famous characters during the prime of Buddha and Righteous?" Someone else became emotional.

"That's the one." A big shot answered.

The two powers during their golden age had a group of top geniuses who swept through Eight Desolaces, virtually uncontested.

They then decided to work together against the eight kingdoms to the east. The coalition defeated the eastern armies repeatedly. It seemed like a one-sided war.

Chapter 3929: Black Tides Saint

"The saint is still alive? I heard rumors about him being dead long ago." Someone from the last generation said.

The eight saints and nine sovereigns led the coalition army against the east. They enjoyed numerous victories until the eastern forces were pushed to the edge.

Finally, the Ancient Empress appeared and defeated all of them alone, routing the coalition army.

Black Tides Saint was a survivor of this battle, suffering grievous injuries and never appearing again. This was the reason why most thought that he had succumbed to the injuries in the clan.

The regular disciples of the clan never saw him afterward. In fact, even the current elders had no idea that he was still alive. Only the ancestors had access to this secret.

The clan became spirited after seeing his appearance. It meant that their foundation was still deep.

On the contrary, outsiders shuddered in fear. This was someone who had fought against the Ancient Empress and lived to tell the tale - a truly incredible achievement.

"Who in the holy ground can stop him right now?" Someone murmured.

The first character that people thought of was Buddha Supreme. Alas, there were rumors of his early demise as well.

In a sense, this meant that the Biandu's power has increased by one level, potentially being above Vajra Dynasty or even Sacred Mountain.

"The Sacred Lord is here with us now." One expert disagreed.

The crowd was impressed with their new lord and his miraculous deeds. However, he was still too young compared to the saint who had lived for eras. Of course, no one would dare to say this out loud.

"Boom!" A loud explosion interrupted the crowd's rumination. The immortal light has finished gathering and tore apart the sky vault.

The ray wasn't that large but it seemingly pierced through the walls of Eight Desolaces and opened a gateway to the immortal world.

Chaos energy poured down like waterfalls along with dao runes. Visual phenomena merged right away. The strands of energy emanating from this weapon could cut through dao laws and dominate the myriad eras.

Other weapons resonated loudly and became silent - a sign of their submission. Cultivators trembled emotionally by this mighty display.

It seemed that even powerful supremes and sovereigns could be killed by a single strand of energy from this weapon. This made people break out in cold sweat.

"It's unbeatable..." A big shot's knees buckled.

The main ray only dissected the sky for a split second. "Buzz." A different force materialized and suppressed the ray, forcing it to disperse.

"It's here!" Big shots started heading towards the source of the ray right away.

"Go!" They no longer cared about the dangers in Black Tides.

In fact, even the top masters who have been hiding their identity dropped their stealth technique in order to increase their speed. The famous weapon was more important than anything else.

"Boom!" Violet energy surged like a rainbow, connecting one end of Black Tides to the source of the ray.

Spectators saw an old man with surging vitality and power. An ocean of blood containing runes and lightning followed him in a dreadful manner.

"Eight-tribulation Blood King!" Someone shouted.

"He's fast!" Others were impressed by his speed and noticed that he came from Black Wood, not Divine Ghost Division.

One of the four grandmasters and the leader of Divine Ghost was here in person!

"Everyone's losing their cool." A top master said softly after seeing this.

They knew that their peers have been here from the start, just choosing to keep a low profile for a multitude of reasons. However, the appearance of this immortal weapon agitated them enough to force them out.

Another loud explosion detonated as the main gate of the Biandu's opened. A powerful legion marched towards Black Tides. Its leader was their paragon. The clan had ample knowledge about the ocean and this legendary weapon, not wanting to fall behind.

"Let the sect know about this!" Ancestors commanded their juniors to go back and send reinforcement.

They knew that a bloody battle was inevitable since everyone coveted this weapon.

Black Tides became lively again. This time, more people rushed forward in higher numbers than the previous treasure hunt.

A while ago, the hidden big shots weren't tempted by regular treasures so they continued hiding. Now, this was no longer the time to hold back.

"Rumble!" Another legion blotted out the sky. One hundred thousand soldiers wearing black armor looked like a tsunami of steel.

"War Camp!" Others took note of them.

"Vajra is going all out." Someone commented.

"This isn't a personal matter any longer. More sects will send their full force." One ancestor had a solemn expression.

By this point, most realized the gravity of the situation. Being alone was too disadvantageous. Winning required utilizing the full power of a kingdom or a sect.

War Camp was the strongest legion of Vajra, serving as an important pillar for many generations now. Although a legion wasn't that effective against a top master, if it had some effective ace cards such as deadly formations, it could be very helpful during crucial moments.

Chapter 3930: Immortal Weapon

The arrival of Vajra's main legion surprised everyone. In the tsunami of steel, they saw a carriage moving rather slowly compared to the others.

However, it became part of the cavalry and didn't hinder their movement. It wasn't gaudy, seemingly made from a single piece of metal.

It was heavily guarded, not even a gap could be seen. It looked out of place and gave off an impression of being impregnable. The door to the carriage was shut and no one could see who was inside.

Because of how strange it looked, numerous experts noticed it.

"Who's inside that carriage?" Someone whispered.

"It should be the guardian of Vajra. In that dynasty, only Archaic Sun King and the guardian can mobilize all of War Camp." Another answered.

Others agreed with this because the guardian was a likely candidate to pursue the immortal weapon. Moreover, the Archaic Sun King was lazy and useless. He wouldn't come to a remote and dangerous place like Black Tides, deeming it too risky.

Plus, another grandmaster was here already. It wouldn't be surprising for one more to come.

"Tell me more about this guardian." An expert from Righteous asked a member of the holy ground.

The latter had no answer. In fact, the officials in the court and the royal family might not be able to answer this question.

Everyone knew that the guardian was one of the four grandmasters and had a pivotal position in Vajra. That's the limit of their knowledge.

"I was in the vicinity once but didn't actually meet the guardian." An official shook his head and smiled wryly.

"Rumble!" It didn't take long before more legions arrived at Black tides.

The other kingdoms and sects from the various divisions have arrived. Even powers from Righteous Sect came running.

Thousands and thousands of cultivators poured into Black Tides, creating a scene of excitement greater than before. Even big shots who haven't shown up for eras came to join the fun.

"Someone found it!" This news erupted across the region.

"Really? Where?" Those who were busy searching stopped right away.

"Go, don't fall behind!" Everyone headed for the actual location of the immortal weapon. It looked like tsunamis converging towards a single point.

The weapon wasn't inside the depths of Black Tides, only the core of the fringe region. This meant that it was relatively safe for everyone to come.

The ancestors were the first to arrive. The place became packed with layers of people, making it difficult to reach the weapon at the center.

This central area had flowing lava and hot air. No one cared about the high temperature right now since their eyes were fixated on the air.

A floating mountain had appeared out of nowhere, red from top to bottom. It was devoid of life; it seemed that everything had been killed.

Pinned on top of the peak was a weapon, or what's left of one. It looked like a saber due to the remaining handle. However, the blade must have been partly broken. This hilt had rust spots everywhere despite being so wondrous. The test of time must have gone on forever.

White rays occasionally flashed from it, enough to pierce through the realms and cut down the hand of an immortal.

Even the top sovereigns present shuddered after seeing the rays. They knew that they would be killed in the blink of an eye.

This broken weapon was being sealed by thick iron chains. The chains extended around the mountain and reached deep underground. They also had a serious rust issue, making it difficult to tell the original material.

Nonetheless, the crowd could imagine an eternal existence throwing down his supreme dao laws to seal this weapon underground. Today, it has emerged before the world once more.

Initially, the mountain and the weapon garnered everyone's attention. However, as they looked downward, they became shocked as well.

Blood and bones filled the area, and it was recent as well. The corpses still had blood flowing out from a single wound - a hole in the chest area. All of them clearly died to a single move.

Some of them were famous characters - ancestors and high elders. A few were reclusive Heavenly Sovereigns too.

That's why the crowd only watched. The victims didn't kill themselves competing for the weapon; it took them down instead.

The strongest characters remained apprehensive. Eight-tribulation Blood King floated in the air, engulfed in a violet energy. Everyone thought that he could soar for the weapon at any moment.

The cavalry from Vajra wasn't far away. The carriage in the center remained quiet.

Everyone also stayed away from a group of clouds and mists. No one could see how many people were in there, only that the banners were from Righteous Sect. It had to be someone of high status as well.

"That has to be Righteous Supreme." People speculated about the powerful pressure coming from there.

He was one of the strongest characters in the south right now. His presence definitely intimidated the crowd.

Of course, they kept a distance to show respect as well due to his contributions to humanity.

Though numerous cultivators were present, all of them watched with bated breath instead of taking risks.