

Emperor 4181

Chapter 4181: Void Dragon

“Boom!” The crystal layers crumbled and a large gap could be seen.

“Clank!” Chen Cangsheng didn’t hold back as his sword energy became magnificent and unstoppable, inches away from piercing through her.

“Void Step!” Her master shouted during this crucial moment.

The princess regained her composure and followed his order. Spatial ripples appeared around her as she performed a movement technique, shifting with extreme speed to the side and gaining the positional advantage.

“Boom!” Cangsheng’s attack pierced through the ground and left behind a large crater. Dust and debris flew everywhere.

“Void Dragon!” The ancestor immediately gave her another pointer.

The princess formed a draconic mudra, gaining control over space and the grand dao. Her wheel artifact spun and gathered space into her palms.

“Die!” She then unleashed the mudra. Dragon roars could be heard as the space around her turned into massive dragons lunging towards her opponent.

“Bring it!” Cangsheng was not afraid in the slightest. He leaped forward with rampaging sword rays and continuous hymns. The technique pulled the momentum of various affinities and combined them together.

“Rumble!” The area shook violently from the exchange.

“Floating Terra!” Void Ancestor commanded as Cangsheng was busy dealing with the draconic attack.

The princess chanted a mantra and created dragons out of the ground beneath Cangsheng, ordering them to attack.

He became pincered by these dragons and reacted by swinging downward, increasing the radius of his sword energies.

“Boom!” He was half a beat late. One earth dragon struck him and sent him flying while vomiting blood.

Void Ancestor was clearly experienced in battle. His guidance allowed the princess to turn the tides.

Cangsheng was seriously wounded after the blow and required a few seconds to regain his balance.

“Void Containment!” The ancestor didn’t want to give him time to rest.

The princess seemed to have a pair of wings with the help of her master. Her eyes flashed brightly like two light wheels. She formed mudras while chanting.

The Void Child Wheel forced the air above Cangsheng to turn into colossal mountains. They dropped straight for him.

He became aghast and raised his sword to block.

“Idiot, stop swinging your sword wildly!” A cold voice echoed: “One Against All!”

Chen Cangsheng, who was lost in the heat of battle, immediately changed his style. His rampaging battle intent gathered together onto the sword. He became less crazy and focused on this single attack. It successfully pierced through the princess’ containment and soared for her throat.

“Nothing But Void!” The ancestor was surprised at this development.

She split into a thousand images hiding in the void. It became difficult to find the real her.

“Heaven and Earth Battlefield!” The cold voice guided Cangsheng again.

A middle-aged man appeared on the scene; he was none other than Tie Jian.

“Clank!” Cangsheng couldn’t see Tie Jian since he was preoccupied with fighting. However, he couldn’t help but listen.

This technique turned everything into swords and battle intents. Swords started raining down and destroyed the princess’ images.

“Void Cauldron!” Void Ancestor roared.

The frightened princess became ablaze. The wheel returned to her side and refined space, fusing it with her flames into the shape of a defensive cauldron.

“Heavenbreak!” Tie Jian shouted again.

“You’re going down!” Cangsheng’s morale was at an all-time high. He leaped upward and entered a state of battle zen. The resulting slash was massive, capable of separating everything into two halves.

“Boom!” It struck the cauldron and robbed the world of its light for a split second. The resulting sparks and embers illuminated the area again.

The cauldron was cut down and the princess fell from the sky, smashing into the ground and creating a deep pit. The battle was over with her defeat.

Cangsheng floated in the air and was ecstatic. He wasn’t happy about defeating the princess but rather, the sensation of using the sword dao effectively.

He had studied his sect’s sword dao for a long time but was never able to be so comfortable with the techniques and variations. The same dao today were more effective. The sequences and flow between his attacks were immaculate; his power and vitality also harmonized.

This was his first time performing them in this order but he had no problem at all. His master never taught him this.

He gained a new perspective and a deeper understanding of sword fundamentals in just a few moves.

He calmed down and dispersed his battle state then bowed towards Tie Jian: “I have learned a lot from your guidance, Senior.”

Tie Jian accepted the bow and didn't say anything.

Meanwhile, Cangsheng was perplexed, wondering who Tie Jian was. The guy was too familiar with their sect's merit laws and techniques. No, "familiar" wasn't enough to describe his mastery; "perfection" would be more apt.

His master couldn't have done a better job at teaching him during that battle. Alas, he should be able to recognize the guy as a member of the sect.

He had a good knowledge of all the ancestors, even the reclusive ones. This wasn't the case right now.

"Who may you be?" Void Ancestor gazed at Tie Jian.

Chapter 4182: Courting Death

Void Ancestor felt as if something had just struck his chest. He roared and entered a defensive stance, being shrouded by a radiance.

"Even Earthraiser Vajra wouldn't dare to say this about Daoist Sword Ground." Tie Jian suddenly calmed down and said.

Void Ancestor and the members of Nine-wheel became frightened because Tie Jian was just too strong. Just his glare alone was suppressive, meaning that his cultivation was at least one full realm above them.

Earthraiser Vajra was their stronger ancestor, a member of the Five Overlords. Few dared to call out his title in a casual manner. Most would refer to him as "senior" and show nothing but reverence. Tie Jian, on the other hand, spoke as if they were on the same level.

Void Ancestor thought about the possibilities. Those daring to talk about the Five Overlords like this could be counted with one's fingers. Unfortunately, he didn't have an answer for Tie Jian's identity.

Chen Cangsheng shared the same difficulty. He knew that Tie Jian was somehow related to his sect. However, the only match should be their strongest ancestor - War God. Alas, he was certain that Tie Jian was not War God.

"Boom!" Debris flew everywhere as the princess got out of the pit. She looked to be in a sorry state with her dress torn and bloodied in multiple places. She suffered internal injuries as well, no longer appearing as beautiful and noble as before.

"Allow me to announce the victor of this fight, Chen Cangsheng." Li Qiye calmly said.

"Shut up!" The embarrassed princess angrily bellowed.

Losing to Chen Cangsheng was humiliating for someone as prideful and conceited as her. Though he was a member of the Ten Sword Prodigies, she previously believed that only the top-ranking members such as Abyss Scion could be her match. After all, she has access to the Void Wheel - a secret from a heavenly scripture.

Today, he defeated her using the sword dao of Just-once Dao Lord, not the War God Sword Dao.

Therefore, she had the upper hand in merit law yet she still lost. This was adding insult to injury. Now, Li Qiye poured salt on her wounds by announcing the victor.

“Can’t accept a loss?” Li Qiye smiled.

“Li, shut your mouth if you want to live a little longer. Our sect can end your dog life whenever we want!” She gritted her teeth.

“Your comment just now has guaranteed your demise.” Li Qiye smiled instead of becoming angry.

“You’re the one courting death!” She immediately attacked due to her agitated state.

“Buzz.” She manipulated space and the wheel artifact appeared in front of Li Qiye.

“Ugh...” Unfortunately, it stopped spinning right before decapitating him. Somehow, Li Qiye managed to grab her throat and immobilize her. She couldn’t channel her energy and vitality to control the wheel any longer.

Her eyes were wide open in disbelief, unable to see how Li Qiye managed to evade her attack and went on the counteroffensive.

“Stop!” Void Ancestor roared after seeing his beloved disciple captured.

Li Qiye ignored him and smirked at the princess: “I spared you once yet you’re still foolish enough to court death. No one can save you today.”

“If, if-if you dare to touch a hair of mine, Nine-wheel Citadel will exterminate your clan!” She turned red and had trouble speaking.

“I like it when people say that, it makes me feel like I actually have a clan. Unfortunately for you, I’m always the one doing the extermination.” Li Qiye said then added strength to his fingers.

“Crack!” Her neck bones started breaking.

“Mas-master, save me!” She no longer possessed the same courage as before and pissed her pants.

“Brat, release her!” Void Ancestor created countless wheels flying towards Li Qiye.

“Clank!” A slash made the nine firmaments tremble. Tie Jian easily destroyed the incoming wheels.

Void Ancestor rapidly retreated but blood still spilled from his chest. It wasn’t fatal but his bones became visible.

“Don’t interfere with our young noble’s business.” Tie Jian uttered coldly.

“Crack!” The princess’ neck broke completely. Her eyes rolled around before uttering one last cry.

He loosened his grip and released her corpse: “It’s astonishing how blind confidence kills.”

The princess never expected to be killed in this manner. She was aware of his numerous methods and that she alone stood no chance. She thought that her sect’s prestige would be enough to deter him from killing her. Unfortunately, her assessment was proven to be incorrect.

“You!” Void Ancestor and the other experts glared at Li Qiye. This was a blatant declaration of war.

Li Qiye chuckled and waved at them.

“Leave, don’t overestimate yourself.” Tie Jian told them.

“Very well, we will not forget the transgression today. We will have our retribution one day.” Void Ancestor gritted his teeth and stomped on the ground before picking up her corpse.

He naturally wanted to avenge his fallen disciple. However, Tie Jian was just too strong. Nonetheless, there were other ancestors from their sect tagging along this trip. It wouldn’t be too late to try a different time.

Chen Cangsheng smiled wryly after seeing this. He was one of the first to know Li Qiye; his first impression was that this guy was rather easy to get along with. Alas, after the action started, Li Qiye wasn’t one to show mercy. This was truly frightening.

He then remembered something else and got on his knees: “Your disciple, Chen Cangsheng, greets you, Ancestor.”

The previous bow was to show his appreciation for Tie Jian’s guidance. This time was to show respect as a junior.

“Ling Jian has done a terrible job at teaching you, hindering your progress.” Tie Jian said flatly.

Ling Jian was Cangsheng’s master and one of the Six Sect Masters.

“It is all due to my lack of intelligence, unable to learn more than ten percent of what Master had taught me.” Chen Cangsheng hurriedly defended his master.

“Don’t defend him.” Tie Jian said, basically admitting that he was a member of Daoist Sword Ground by continuing the conversation.

“Hmm...” Snowcloud Princess has been quietly watching to the side. Her love for learning resulted in her possessing more knowledge than the majority of last-gen cultivators.

A light flashed in her head as she thought of someone.

Chapter 4183: Tie Jian ’s Identity

Chen Cangsheng bowed again and said: “Your foolish disciple’s learning is insufficient, please correct my mistakes, Ancestor.”

“You’re more wily than you appear, wanting to climb up my branch.” Tie Jian assessed.

“I have to work hard to compensate for my limited abilities, Ancestor.” He rubbed his palms together and smiled wryly.

The princess chuckled after seeing his appearance, thinking that the guy was far smarter than Illusory Princess and the others.

“True, the Ten Sword Prodigies have both smart and foolish members.” Li Qiye smilingly joked.

Cangsheng couldn’t retort and kept on smiling. Of course, he was one of the smart ones, wanting to take advantage of this rare opportunity.

Though he didn't know who this senior was, he still knew that being taught by the man would be better than a century of meditation.

"Fate brought us together." Tie Jian said, clearly liking the boy: "There is a bright path right in front of you if you wish to learn."

"Please teach me, Ancestor." Chen Cangsheng became ecstatic and bowed again.

"I won't display my slight skill before an expert." Tie Jian shook his head and actually smiled for once.

"Huh..." Cangsheng was confused since Tie Jian was clearly an invincible master.

"No need to look far because Mount Tai is right before you." Tie Jian explained: "The young noble's attainment is beyond the reach of normal people like us. It is a lifetime of benefits being taught by him." He pointed at Li Qiye.

Cangsheng didn't quite disagree. There was no doubt that Li Qiye was an inscrutable existence. However, in terms of cultivation, the guy wasn't keeping up...

Nonetheless, he reacted quickly enough by bowing towards Li Qiye: "I am a blind frog unable to see Mount Tai and your greatness, Young Noble. Please forgive me."

Meanwhile, the princess became emotional as well. She already had a good idea of Li Qiye's true ability but to hear confirmation from Tie Jian's mouth? That struck way harder.

"You sure know how to take advantage of the flow." Li Qiye shook his head while smiling at Tie Jian.

"The kid has potential but unfortunately, my meager ability can't produce anyone decent. I'm sure you'll be able to make something out of him." The latter smiled back.

It became obvious for Chen Cangsheng about the power dynamic at play here.

"Young Noble, I would truly appreciate any pointer from you." Cangsheng grasped onto this rare opportunity.

Li Qiye smilingly spoke to the youth: "Daoist Sword Ground is a lineage with three dao lords and deep historical roots. Your sect's foundation is not lacking, the same for treasures and merit laws. Whatever I teach might not be that effective here."

Cangsheng was surprised but he still agreed with the assessment. The thing he was missing had to do with his personal cultivation.

"He's lacking comprehension." Tie Jian elaborated.

"Indeed." Li Qiye smiled: "But everyone has a different style of learning. Some shine at the very start while others require trials and tribulations, or merely time..."

"Please go on, Young Noble." Cangsheng asked.

"As Tie Jian said, fate brought us together." Li Qiye concluded: "I shall grant you a fortune, what you get from it is up to you."

"Thank you, Young Noble." The ecstatic youth bowed again.

With that, Li Qiye approached the cliff and placed his palm on the hard surface. Strands of dao light poured into the cliff, seemingly alive.

They flowed along the craggy lines until the entire cliff was covered by Li Qiye's dao light. The two entities combined together and created a continuously-morphing diagram - the image of the sun and moon, the rotation of the five elements and the yin and yang...

Chen Cangsheng and the princess had a hard time keeping up. Tie Jian, on the other hand, paid full attention.

Li Qiye started pulling his hand back. "Creak..." There seemed to be multiple layers beneath the cliff's exterior. They started pulling out and looked like puzzle pieces.

He started shifting the individual pieces with a blinding speed until he obtained the desired result.

"Is this still a sword grave?" Cangsheng didn't expect how complex it would be.

At first, he noticed that there was something strange about this place. He didn't have time to check due to Wavesplitter.

In reality, even without Wavesplitter and Illusory Princess' involvement, he still wouldn't have learned anything. This applied to the erudite Snowcloud Princess as well.

"Back to its original shape." Tie Jian understood what was going on.

"Crack!" The final form of the cliff had a dao platform protruding outward from the edge like a tree.

"This is the grave?" Cangsheng asked.

"Keep on watching." Li Qiye smiled.

On the other side of the cemetery, the Dragon Palace has been flying and attracting everyone's attention.

Cultivators followed right behind, hoping for it to land.

"Boom!" The palace suddenly stopped.

"Is it landing?" The crowd became ecstatic.

Suddenly, another blast came along and the palace became resplendent. It turned around and flew towards Li Qiye's direction.

"Keep up!" One expert shouted.

"It has to be landing soon!" An ancestor speculated.

"Maybe." His friend, a high elder, replied: "This is rather unexpected, there must be a reason."

"Either way, this is our chance to enter." The ancestor said.

“Easier said than done, but at least once it lands, we’ll actually have a fighting chance even if it is only one out of a million.” Another replied.

Chapter 4184: How To Enter?

“Boom!” The earth spun as the flying palace slammed into a cliff. The existing platform was a perfect match for the shape of the palace, serving as its foundation.

The entire thing looked like they were meant for each other, that this was their original form.

“The Dra-dragon palace!” Chen Cangsheng and Snowcloud Princess were astounded.

Though she was ready to see something amazing from Li Qiye, she didn’t expect it to be the eighth grave. She smiled wryly, thinking that it was impressive indeed.

“Over there!” Others have caught up at this point. They focused on the palace and didn’t notice Li Qiye’s group.

“It finally landed!” The news of its descent exploded across the zone. People rushed over right away due to the potential fortune in there after the landing.

“This is our best chance to enter.” The surroundings became packed with cultivators.

“I’ve been told that the divine dragon sword might be in there.” All were eager to give this a shot.

“Creak...” A creaking noise akin to a gate opening could be heard. In reality, it was the gigantic dragon coiling around the palace, not a gate.

Of course, this wasn’t a living dragon. It was made from unknown materials and supreme laws, resulting in it looking animated and alive. Its draconic aura oozed out in torrential waves.

The palace was made from gold and jade, looking magnificent and expensive. This was the case for the dragon as well. It’s just that ordinary gold couldn’t create something this magnificent. It slowly coiled around the palace as if it was on patrol.

“Can we actually go in?” One cultivator was afraid of the dragon.

“Might as well try.” A last-gen cultivator shouted and leaped forward like a thunderous crane, leaving a bright trail behind on his path.

“Raa!” Once he got close enough, the dragon roared and released its destructive draconic aura.

“Bam!” He was pushed back by the aura and smashed onto the ground, nearly pulverized from the ordeal. No one knew if he was still alive or not.

“It’s so strong...” Others gasped after seeing this.

“My turn!” One was undeterred and summoned a treasure pouring endless lava against the gigantic dragon.

The dragon easily took down the lava wave with one claw. The attacker didn’t get away either and was struck by the attack. He was reduced to a meat paste after screaming once.

“How the hell do we get past that dragon?” The spectators wondered.

“I don’t think anyone can beat it one-on-one.” One member speculated.

“Raa!” The dragon suddenly opened its mouth and bit something in the air during this moment of hesitation.

“Ahh!” A cultivator in stealth screamed. Space fluctuated a bit before he was swallowed by the dragon.

It turned out that a powerful cultivator wanted to try to sneak past the dragon. Unfortunately, it didn’t work out for him.

“We need to rush and attack together, distract it and some will be able to get in.” An ancestor had this idea.

Those nearby agreed and started forming groups for this purpose. This force included several hundred cultivators. They spread out and surrounded the palace.

“Go!” They exchanged glances and the leader gave the command.

All leaped up while summoning their treasures. Loud explosions ensued - pagodas, bright cauldrons, celestial words, mighty staffs...

The dragon suffered attacks from all directions. Colorful lights and flames engulfed the sky. Myriad laws danced like wild serpents.

They hoped to distract the dragon with these attacks and stop it from reacting to their intrusion.

“Raa!” The dragon roared and performed a full tail-whip.

The treasures struck by its tail exploded instantly. This resulted in something akin to fireworks at night. The attackers weren’t fortunate enough to escape regardless of their location.

The tail carried a meteoric force, sending cultivators flying into the ground and peaks. The weaker cultivators were reduced to nothing but blood. The stronger ones suffered grievous injuries, on the verge of death...

Several hundred cultivators went down just like that - a testament to the dragon’s power.

“This is impossible, it doesn’t matter how many divine swords are in there, we can’t get in.” Experts began to give up.

“Has anyone been in there before?” One youth asked.

“Yes, there has been one, at least to my knowledge.” An old ancestor pondered for a bit before answering.

“Who is it?” Listeners became attentive.

The ancestor elaborated: “Sure, there might have been others, but I personally know that one person has gone in there via brute force - Dao Sanqian.”

“Dao Sanqian!” Others were moved after hearing this thunderous name, ancestors included.

This name had more clout than even the Five Overlords.

"I'm not surprised at all, he's invincible." One expert murmured.

Others shared the same sentiment and didn't question the validity of this claim.

"Did he take the dragon sword with him?" The youth asked again.

"Rumor has it that he obtained a draconic painting from there, nothing about a divine dragon sword though or the effects of the painting." The old ancestor shook his head.

"How are we going to replicate this feat? We're nothing compared to him." One clan master smiled wryly.

Chapter 4185: Nine-sun Sword Saint

People could only stare at the palace attached to the cliff. Attacking and entering were impossible even though they were awfully tempted by the legendary swords inside.

"Is there really no way?" Conversations sparked.

Someone suggested for everyone to team up: "We need to work together to defeat this dragon first, then everyone can get inside. Afterward, we'll rely on our own abilities for the prizes inside."

"That's not fair. People might throw away their lives for only a few to obtain the divine swords? The majority will be sacrificial pawns." Someone else said.

"Since when is fairness a thing? If that's the case, then everyone can become dao lords." A big shot disagreed.

"I don't think it's a bad idea." Another expert said: "I'm more so afraid of people holding back, only wanting to take advantage of the situation."

"Can't do this, can't do that, then why the hell are we even here? Might as well stay home with the wife and kids." Someone else snorted.

Everyone had their own thoughts and agenda. Thus, no decision was made.

"Sect Master Shi, do you have an opinion on this matter?" A clan master asked Shi Yingxue.

Her presence was a sight for sore eyes. She was both attractive and dignified. Her innate elegance stopped others from having dirty thoughts.

She was the sect master of Armament, one of the Six Kings. Her power and status couldn't be questioned.

Therefore, people quieted down and waited for her guidance. They needed a leader to launch an offense on this dragon palace. She became a top candidate.

"I'm just here to watch." She smiled and said: "I'm sure the sword saint will have a better idea."

"Rumble!" The moment she finished, people heard loud explosions and rays coming from a carriage in the distance. It looked like a sun was approaching.

“Nine-sun Sword Saint!” Others finally noticed.

A middle-aged man came out of the carriage. He had golden hair and looked quite gallant and spirited, clearly a heartthrob during his youth. He resembled a sun god with an innate divinity.

“I didn’t know the saint was so handsome.” Others were surprised and charmed by his external appearance. Many felt jealous as well.

There were plenty of younger and good-looking prodigies present. Alas, none of them matched up to him, whether it be their aura or style. Some female cultivators fell in love at first sight.

“He was the world’s most handsome during his prime.” A last-gen cultivator laughed.

“Yes, both he and Terra Sword Saint are up there.” An elder agreed.

“Nine-sun Sword Saint is way more handsome.” Someone who had seen Terra Sword Saint back at Cloud Dream Lake said: “No one can compare to him right now.”

Age was not a problem when one was as good-looking as Nine-sun Sword Saint.

“Terra Sword Saint is not inferior, just different.” A big shot commented.

Both saints were the leader of their respective groups and were well-respected by the community.

Terra Sword Saint’s charm was more subdued while Nine-sun Sword Saint was dazzling like his title. Though they were listed as equals, Terra Sword Saint was actually far older.

Since both were famous, many often compared the two. They didn’t have much to go with because the saints normally kept a low profile and didn’t show off.

Nine-sun Sword Saint looked around; his sharp eyes were chilling. The crowd was intimidated since his reputation preceded him.

He gazed at the dragon palace in silence. Meanwhile, everyone else waited with bated breath. It became abundantly clear that they viewed him as a leader and would obey his commands.

“Sect Master Shi, do you have anything in mind?” He withdrew his gaze and asked Shi Yingxue.

“You think too highly of me, Sword Saint. I am no match for this palace but if you need my assistance, I will try my best.” She shook her head.

“Right, the two of us can’t break it down.” The sword saint said: “If you are interested, we can invite the Flame Valley Lord and Brother Terra as well.”

The crowd became excited and impatient right away. If these other masters were to come, then they would be a force to be reckoned with. The probability of success became far higher.

Of course, only cultivators such as Nine-sun Sword Saint and Shi Yingxue had the status to make this request.

“Hmm, the eighth grave is tempting indeed.” Shi Yingxue sentimentally said.

There were enough rewards here to warrant the risk.

“Make way, make way.” A man demanded the crowd to make a path. Sure enough, they actually listened.

“It’s Li Qiye.” Others were surprised to see him.

The entire world knew of his name by now, whether it be his reputation as the world’s richest or as a miracle-creator.

“The sorcerer is here.” One expert whispered.

“He wants the divine dragon sword too?” An old cultivator who was familiar with Li Qiye became surprised.

“I actually think he can do it.” A big shot chuckled after seeing him.

“Is he that amazing?” An unaware junior asked: “The sword saint himself said he couldn’t do it alone, isn’t Li Qiye just a new rich? He can recruit more Heavenly Sovereigns but is that enough?”

“Money is not omnipotent but Li Qiye is. There is no predicting him.” The big shot responded.

Nonetheless, the majority still doubted Li Qiye’s ability to break this palace down.

“This will be fun with him here, we got a good show waiting for us.” A spectator didn’t care about this at all. She just knew that this would be entertaining.

“Young Noble, you wish to enter the dragon palace?” Shi Yingxue came over and asked Li Qiye.

“I’m not interested in it.” Li Qiye smiled and tapped on Chen Cangsheng’s shoulder: “But this brat isn’t bad, I’m here to give him a fortune.”

Shi Yingxue understood that Chen Cangsheng was lucky enough to get into Li Qiye’s good graces.

Chapter 4186: Just Like That?

Cultivators exchanged looks of surprise after hearing Li Qiye’s answer. They were waiting for him to do something miraculous about this palace.

However, he only wanted to bring Chen Cangsheng in and not himself?

“Does he think the dragon palace is his house? That he can bring people in and out whenever?” A youth remained skeptical.

“I actually believe that he can enter but to let someone else in? The difficulty is far higher.” An expert replied.

“I believe him and his otherworldly sorcery.” Another was absolutely confident in Li Qiye.

“How is he going to do it? The money fall method?” One ancestor commented.

“That is possible, he has absolute mastery over that technique, as long as he has enough, he’ll be able to smash his way in.” An ancient king said: “After all, it is said that the power of this technique is only limited by money.”

“How much will he need? 30,000 dao lord jades? In my opinion, the lowest is 3,000,000. The highest should be 30,000,000. Honestly, who the hell knows? Maybe 300,000,000.” One speculator said.

“300,000,000 dao lord jades? Only the behemoths can afford this sum after using up their treasury.” A sacred lord took a deep breath.

“The question is, is it worth it to enter the palace? In this case, he’s letting someone else in. There are better uses for this amount such as establishing a large sect.” One more quietly said.

No one could argue with this. Though they knew that Li Qiye was immensely rich and could afford this sum, they thought that it wasn’t worth it to bring someone else into the palace. Moreover, he could just buy a dao lord weapon outright with it.

In fact, not to mention an outsider, a sect still wouldn’t spend this amount just to gain entry to the palace for its own disciple.

Nine-sun Sword Saint was curious as well, wanting to see how Li Qiye would take the youth inside. He knew that given his power, it would be impossible to rely on brute force.

The only way was to wait for more powerful allies and work together. In his opinion, Li Qiye’s success, in this case, would be nothing short of a miracle.

He had heard of Li Qiye’s exploits before so he actually took this seriously. After thinking it through, he couldn’t come up with anything outside of a direct confrontation.

Alas, Li Qiye didn’t seem to be preparing for an attack. The guy looked as if this was no big deal to him - as simple as opening a door. The mystique only added to his anticipation.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye didn’t care for their comments. He smiled and asked Chen Cangsheng: “Are you ready?”

“I am, Young Noble.” Cangsheng took a deep breath and nodded solemnly.

Li Qiye then sauntered towards the palace with Cangsheng right behind him.

All eyes were on the duo, wanting to see what Li Qiye would do to solve this difficult problem. Shi Yingxue and Snowcloud Princess felt the same way.

They have witnessed Li Qiye’s devilish style before and had considerable confidence in him. Nonetheless, they couldn’t imagine how he would bypass the great dragon.

“Creak...” The coiling dragon stopped and stared at Li Qiye, letting out a soft cry instead of a roar.

“Okay, I’m starting.” Li Qiye smirked and told Cangsheng.

“Yes, Young Noble, I...” Cangsheng was nervous at first but decided to go through with it.

He couldn’t finish before finding himself spinning in the air. Li Qiye had grabbed his ankle and lifted him up.

“Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!” Li Qiye spun him repeatedly as if he was a windmill. The rotation speed continuously increased until people couldn’t see him anymore, only a whirlwind.

"I'm, I'm gonna puke!" Cangsheng's voice was barely audible due to the rotational speed.

People exchanged glances - how was this going to help him get into the dragon palace?

"Whoosh!" Li Qiye finally let go and Cangsheng shot forward like a meteor.

"Bam!" He perfectly flew by the dragon and slammed onto the gate of the palace, pushing the doors open and making it through.

"Ugh..." Listeners could hear him puking inside and imagine his pale state.

"Creak..." The gate closed again.

Everyone became frozen, including Nine-sun Sword Saint. They had thought of various methods but this was not one of them.

They believed that money fall was the most likely candidate. Li Qiye could have also come up with other plans. Alas, throwing Cangsheng straight in there was not on their mind.

"How the hell did he do that?" Cultivators accepted this impossible reality since they witnessed it in person.

"Sorcery is not enough to describe this brat's ability." One expert shook his head.

"I've seen plenty of strange things in my life, but this is a first. My horizon has broadened." Nine-sun Sword Saint couldn't help but praise.

Chapter 4187: Incorrect

"Maybe this is the right way to enter?" One expert's eyes flashed brightly.

"Yes, just need to toss people in instead of attacking." Another thought that this was possible.

"If that's the case, then anyone can enter. No way." An older elder found this illogical.

"Li Qiye just did it though. He threw Chen Cangsheng inside." A youth replied.

It was tough to refute this because it unraveled before their eyes. Chen Cangsheng suffered zero damage outside of minor discomfort.

"Why don't we give it a shot?" A last-gen expert became impatient.

No one wanted to give up the chance of entering the palace due to the amazing fortunes waiting inside.

"Let me try first. Toss me in." Another young one asked his senior.

"Right, try now before it's too late." Others couldn't wait and wanted to be the early birds.

This was especially true for those from humble beginnings. Entering the palace might be their opportunity to change their fate. They would become famous with great authority and ample resources. As the saying goes - riches and honor don't come easily.

"Are you ready?" The senior asked the junior.

"I am, throw me in!" The youth immediately answered.

“Go!” Some experts and elders began grabbing their juniors and disciples’ ankle.

They copied Li Qiye and started the spinning process. Some youths couldn’t help but puke as a result.

“Now!” One expert finally let go.

“Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!” Numerous youths flew towards the gate.

“This has to work!” One senior prayed while watching the shooting stars.

‘Raa!’ The dragon roared and clawed the incoming youths.

“Ahh!” The victims were reduced to bloody mists from the attack.

“What? Why didn’t that work?” The seniors found this astonishing since they copied Li Qiye exactly.

“Wrong path? Does it have to go above the dragon’s head? That might be the evasive method.” One elder pondered.

“Again.” He called for another junior to give it a shot.

Others followed suit again. Several more juniors were spun around like windmills.

“Go!” They flew above the dragon, wanting to follow Cangsheng’s trajectory.

“Raa!” The dragon clawed upward again and annihilated the juniors.

“Still no? What is the issue here?” The elder wondered.

“We should try something else.” The elder thought carefully about the process and wanted to do more experiments.

“Come here.” He told a junior nearby.

Unfortunately, the junior was scared out of his mind. Other youths staggered backward, wanting to run away.

“Master, I, I don’t need any fortune, I’m perfectly content just hanging around and serving you.” One disciple turned pale and started running.

A moment ago, numerous youths wanted to try but after the second failed attempt, they lost all of their courage and confidence.

After all, being alive was better than any divine sword.

“Can’t defeat the dragon palace that easily.” Nine-sun Sword Saint was disappointed in their foolishness.

“I’m sure you didn’t need to fling him in, Young Noble.” Shi Yingxue smiled at Li Qiye.

Snowcloud Princess agreed. Li Qiye just wanted to mess with Chen Cangsheng. He could have protected the guy and granted him safe passage. Alas, others actually took him seriously.

Li Qiye chuckled and stared at her: “Do you want to go in? It’s not a bad area.”

"I appreciate your kindness, Young Noble, but I have already gotten enough. Plus, I might not gain anything given my lacking aptitude. It would only be a waste of your effort." She glanced at the palace and made up her mind.

"How wise." Li Qiye smiled since she managed to resist the temptation of the eighth grave.

Suddenly, splashing noises could be heard all over the outer regions of the burial zone. People looked up and saw numerous tsunamis surging on the horizon. This applied to all regions, whether it be Sword River or Sword Abyss all the way to Sword Grave...

It was as if the dam of the firmaments had broken down. The result was this monstrous event.

"Shit, the flood is here!" Most were scared out of their mind, especially the inexperienced youths.

"Run!" They immediately ran to get away from the flood.

Unfortunately, the water came too quickly and engulfed the entire zone in the blink of an eye.

Everyone was submerged in the water. However, they found it surprising that they weren't drowning or carried away by the strong current. The water didn't affect them at all and they could move like normal.

They then saw aquatic creatures swimming around them. These things were ancient and unrecognizable. Even the knowledgeable cultivators had no idea about them.

Some were enormous and intimidating. If they were to open their jaws, they would be able to swallow and devour everyone nearby.

Chapter 4188: Second Grave

The water drowned the entire zone yet cultivators were completely unaffected. The entire phase felt like an illusion.

The aquatic creatures consisted of gigantic swordfish, ferocious flood dragons, and many others... Spectators were captivated by this magical scene.

"Look, it's a divine sword!" Someone noticed a fish clenching a divine sword between its jaws. This had an auspicious affinity with pulsing rays. Other deepsea creatures gave way after seeing it.

Incredible phenomena occurred everywhere. Another saw a sword ray darting through with lightning speed. A different area had a school of thunderfish following a divine sword.

"Boom!" In a marine trench was an explosive radiance. The rays spread out like a fan opening, completely stopping any creature from getting close. Being struck by them meant certain death.

Above the surface, deafening blasts created tidal waves. Numerous suns could be seen rising above. Each gestated a solar sword. Having all nine meant possessing incredible power.

In short, spectators saw wondrous things everywhere in the ocean and started fantasizing about the possibilities.

Some reached out for the divine swords but failed to grab anything. Suddenly, the water receded just as fast as it came. The zone became dry and normal just like before.

“What the heck, it’s all gone.” People looked around and saw no signs of the water. It was as if nothing had happened.

“Can someone tell me what is going on?” One youth looked around in confusion.

“That was the second grave, Sword Ocean.” An expert explained.

“The mysterious second grave appeared this time, unlike the previous occurrences. How strange.” An ancestor responded.

“Is this a sign for something?” Another murmured.

“Boom!” Another phenomenon occurred right away. The sky started shaking as another ray tore apart the spatial fabrics and left behind an indelible scar.

Its speed was monstrous and its devastation made it look like there was a monster crossing through.

“A peerless divine sword?” A big shot noticed that it was heading for the deepest region.

The long scar resembled a river of time. However, its flow was a million times faster than the actual temporal flow. This was a truly magnificent spectacle.

“Do you know what it is?” A cultivator asked the group.

“Not quite sure, it should be a divine sword.” The ancestor among them couldn’t see clearly.

“Yes, it was a sword but it didn’t look like something from the cemetery. Where did it come from?” A mighty ancestor from an ancient dynasty had a solemn expression.

“Sword Burial Zone is the domain of swords yet one dares to be so haughty here? It must be terrifyingly strong.” The third ancestor added.

It didn’t take long before everyone talked about this issue.

“Got a fun show.” Li Qiye glanced at it and smiled.

“Boom!” A force suddenly swept through the area and suppressed all existence.

The weaker cultivators got down on their knees, unable to get up. It felt as if mountains were pushing down on their shoulders and breaking their spine.

“So strong!” Many were in awe and became frozen.

They saw a figure crossing through the region and making it to the depths of the zone right away.

“Who is it?!” Everything happened too quickly. The figure made it through the river and entered the cauldron in the blink of an eye. Others felt insignificant like insects before this incredible being.

“It has to be one of the Five Overlords.” An ancestor took a deep breath.

“Are you sure?!” Those nearby were astounded.

“Who is it?” This became the next question since no one got a good look at the new cultivator.

“Just what is going on this time? Why are they here too?” An ancient king wondered.

The five overlords rarely appeared in Sword Continent. The appearance of the Sword Burial Zone wasn't necessarily enough to force them to come out.

After all, dao lord-level weapons couldn't tempt them since their sect had several. They wouldn't waste their lifespan for this goal.

Thus, this meant that something above this grade was happening here at the burial zone.

News finally came and answered their question.

“The second grave made it to Sword Cauldron!” Everyone heard about this right away.

“The ocean? I thought it was limited to the outer regions.” A youth became puzzled.

“The second grave is the most mysterious and elusive of them all. Though it has a high chance of being in the cemetery, it can emerge deeper inside too.”

“At least it is only at the cauldron. We have a better chance of making it inside now. If it shows up in Sword World instead, then there's no chance regardless of the water making it easier or not.” A big shot became happy.

“Indeed, this is a good thing. Sword World is just too prohibitive for anyone outside of dao lords or characters like the Five Overlords.” An ancient ancestor said.

The battle just now was a contest between Void Ancestor and Tie Jian. The former clearly lost.

Void Ancestor knew most of the current masters but drew a blank on Tie Jian.

“My name is not worth mentioning.” Tie Jian said.

Void Ancestor snorted and said: “Daoist Sword Ground is world-renowned, I didn't know it has hidden rats for members.”

Tie Jian narrowed his eyes after hearing the insult. The sword energy within made everyone shudder.

Chapter 4189: Sword Cauldron

“Let's go to the cauldron, we might be able to get something.” Quite a few began leaving the cemetery for Sword Cauldron.

“It's the second grave, I'm sure whatever swords there will be amazing.” One expert said along the way.

Prior to this, the cauldron was not a popular destination due to the dangers looming there. However, the ocean had appeared and engulfed the area. This made the place even safer than Sword Grave.

Nine-sun Sword Saint felt the same urgency. He bid goodbye before leaving. However, his goal was not the cauldron but rather, the sword ray earlier.

“We’re leaving too.” Li Qiye smiled and headed for Sword Cauldron.

“I hope you don’t mind if I tag along, Young Noble.” Shi Yingxue followed Li Qiye and walked alongside Snowcloud Princess.

In terms of status, Shi Yingxue was a senior to the princess. However, she didn’t seem to mind right now.

Once they made it to the border, they saw a massive line of people waiting.

The cauldron was the fourth domain, far more sinister than the first three. There was a distinct difference as well.

Divine swords and fortunes were scattered across the first three domains. This wasn’t the case in this world filled with red.

Majestic terrains such as mountain ranges remained. However, there was no life left due to the presence of a scorching liquid.

It resembled lava or molten metal but was neither. On the surface was an ashen layer, looking a bit like rust or solidified blood with a faint stench.

Whatever this liquid was, it didn’t follow the mold. Normally, water would flow from high to low elevation. None of this applied here. The flow was chaotic and illogical. For example, water flowed from the base of a cliff to the top. Another crossed mountains and hills as if wanting to find a way out of this area. Thus, all of these different currents seemed to be alive and sentient.

Some believed that this place was used to refine thousands and thousands of divine swords, hence its name. The lava-like water was unknown metals being reduced to a liquid state. As for the layer of ash, it could have been the countless sacrifices. Their blood, flesh, and lives were used to create the divine swords.

Perhaps the dead was the reason behind the seemingly-sentient water. They tried to escape the cauldron just like lost specters.

The first-time visitors shuddered after seeing it.

“This looks like a refinement hell.” A youth said.

There was nothing dangerous in sight but just the atmosphere alone intimidated spectators. They seemed to be hearing wails coming from the red liquid, lamenting about their undeserved fate.

“Who knows.” An expert smiled wryly. They all experienced this same feeling during their first visit.

This was one of the reasons why people avoided this place. There were no divine swords available on top of the traumatic experience. Of course, the ocean made this trip different from the rest.

“Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!” Gigantic swords suddenly flew out of the red liquid. They were clear and transparent, being made from water and all with an ocean smell. They didn’t evaporate despite coming in contact with the red liquid.

“These are sword boats from Sword Ocean. This is how we get in.” A senior told his disciples.

People began boarding the boats. Some chose to be alone while others formed teams.

Due to the limited number of boats versus cultivators, pushing and fighting were inevitable.

A few weren't careful enough and accidentally fell into the cauldron. They screamed in pain while sinking, seemingly being dragged down by invisible hands.

Normally, drowning and being trapped were impossible for cultivators given their power. This wasn't the case here. The victims disappeared completely into the red liquid. Spectators became more careful after seeing this.

Those riding the sword boats were granted safe passage across the red liquid. Alas, the wait for the boats was quite long.

A few experts lost their patience and summoned their defensive treasures, wanting to follow the boats.

"Poof!" One of them flew in the air but was immediately taken down by an inferno appearing out of nowhere. Both he and his treasures were reduced to ashes.

Another made it farther. The moment she flew above a gorge, something flashed from below. It resembled a long tongue and coiled around her, pulling her downward. Her screams came subsequently.

One more was killed by a red beam piercing through his forehead as he attempted to fly past a mountain. He instantly died without uttering a sound; his corpse fell backward into the liquid. The source of the red beam was unknown since there was nothing on the mountain.

"I'm not going anymore, screw this!" Those who wanted to skip the boats quickly changed their mind and retreated.

"Hmph, try this when you're a dao lord. Even the Five Overlords wouldn't dare to be so adventurous here." An ancestor shook his head: "This place is only second in terms of danger to Sword World. Only death awaits those who overestimate themselves!"

Chapter 4190: Sword Ocean

More sword boats emerged at the border and Li Qiye's group jumped on one, letting it take them towards the ocean.

No one tried to stop them because Li Qiye was known as a monster by this point. Moreover, the two women accompanying him were capable as well.

Plus, those who were qualified to even think about it would have a much easier time taking the other boats. There was no need to mess with Li Qiye.

At the start, the riders were nervous about traveling through the dangerous cauldron. Anything unexpected could result in a terrible death.

Strangely enough, nothing ever happened to those on the sword boats. The dangers viewed them as non-existent.

After a while on the road, they finally heaved a sigh of relief, realizing how safe it was.

“Splash!” Once they made it far into the cauldron, they heard splashing waves and saw something astonishing.

The ocean water was going from low to high towards the sky, looking like thousands of galloping horses. This was an unprecedented sight for them. It came without warning or a source too. The waves just started rising for no discernible reason.

“So weird.” Many were slack-jawed at this sight.

Massive oceans up in the sky weren’t uncommon in their world. However, there were still patterns and orders adhering to common sense. This wasn’t the case here.

The waves eventually took them to Sword Ocean that was waiting above. The sword boats became one with the water here and disappeared from sight after granting them safe passage.

The visitors then realize why everyone wanted to drop everything and come to the second grave.

While standing at the naturally-formed sea wall, they saw an ocean with no end in sight. The breezes were quite comfortable and made them forget about the dangers here.

Sword Cauldron earlier was a hell on earth. On the other hand, this seemed like a paradise.

There were no divine swords in sight, unlike the previous domains. Of course, it wasn’t empty either. There were islands and large battleships; alas, they were smashed and broken.

This ocean was quite deep yet one sunken ship still had half of its hull showing on the surface. It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that it was a kingdom all by itself.

It has been ravaged by time after suffering untold devastation from a great battle. Some of its peers had snapped in half, others were pierced through or slashed down...

This was clearly an expedition fleet that came with a purpose. Who knows if they had fulfilled their goal?

The islands nearby didn’t fare any better and had a similar fate to the ships. People started wondering about the two sides.

The fleet possessed an unimaginable power. Using the character “behemoth” to describe a sect of this level was insufficient.

“What is this place?” A spectator asked: “Was there a kingdom in the sky with inhabitants?”

This might be the case once since the area didn’t look like a land of death. Maybe a terrible war eventually took this kingdom down.

“It could just be a battlefield from the olden age.” A last-gen expert speculated: “Maybe dao lords or even ancient emperors led an expedition here. From the look of it, the entire fleet went down.”

“Either way, the battle here must have been devastating and tore everything asunder.” An ancestor commented.

“We need to get going! We’re already late since the big sects have entered this ocean long ago. They might already have the immortal sword.” A high elder realized something and stopped looking around.

He then summoned a shuttle and brought his disciples into the ocean.

“He’s right, we can’t linger around.” The others did the same using various flying treasures. The more powerful cultivators flew themselves.

On the other hand, Li Qiye was in no hurry. While strolling on the water, he closed his eyes, took a deep breath, and enjoyed the sea breezes.

A while later, he scooped up a handful of water then let it seep through his fingers. He smiled and said: “Right here.”

“You two, go take a look around, maybe you’ll find something good.” He then wiped his hands and told his companions.

“And you, Young Noble?” Snowcloud Princess asked.

“I have somewhere to go.” He gazed towards the distance.

The two didn’t pry and started riding the waves away.