

Emperor 4611

### Chapter 4611: Ancient Race

“What does the dao lord have to do with this race?” Jian Ming had to ask.

“Rumor has it his ancestors are from the depths of the ocean and possess an ancient bloodline. The records are unclear and the dao lord had never commented on this before.” The daoist responded.

“I see.” Jian Ming looked around and said: “Well, so was this place an independent continent surrounded by the ocean at one point?”

“There are some ominous rumors about this place too.” Ye Tingrong joined in.

“What kind of rumors?” Jian Ming’s curiosity was piqued.

“Ghosts and such.” She tilted her head, pondered, and then answered.

“Impossible, they don’t exist.” Jian Ming felt creeped out and looked around again.

“They’re just rumors, no one has seen these so-called ghosts before but there have been strange activities.” She said.

“What do you mean by that?” Jian Ming’s fear intensified.

“Occasionally, there will be ominous flashes and ghastly sounds. Then people also saw a few visual phenomena of numerous ships setting sails among the waves. The first-hand accounts aren’t numerous enough to be completely trustworthy.” She elaborated.

“Mmm...” Jian Ming pondered.

“Our sect investigated this place several times but didn’t find anything.” She added.

“Doesn’t have to be ghosts, it can just be the presence of a treasure.” The daoist shook his head.

“True.” Jian Ming clapped once in agreement: “It can be an emerging treasure or some un auspicious things were buried here. They can be the source of the visual phenomena and flashes.”

“It’s definitely plausible.” Paramount Scion continued: “Similar rumors are there for the other ruins as well. Countless cultivators have come seeking these treasures but none found anything. This included ancestors from my sect.” He didn’t hide the sect’s matters from the group.

“Well, if there are still hidden treasures here somehow, we’ll be rich after excavating them.” Jian Ming became excited and glanced over at Li Qiye and Xiao Xuan.

The others did the same. Li Qiye and Xiao Xuan had something to do here. It was unlikely for them to be here for an adventure, meaning that it might be a treasure they were after.

“I don’t know if there are treasures or not.” Li Qiye smiled and shrugged: “However, there are certainly remnant marks depicting an unknown history to the current world.”

“An unknown history...” Paramount Scion murmured and gazed at the ruins, becoming rather sentimental.

“The highest level of prosperity reduced to mere rubble.” Li Qiye spoke emotionlessly: “Forgotten, as well. Perhaps not all of them should be.”

A sentimental air took over the group. Just the mere size of the ruins alone painted a magnificent scene of the lineage during its golden age.

Perhaps this was the center of the continent - a place for the rulers of Eight Desolaces. Unfortunately, its dynasties and invincible masters have been forgotten by the mass.

In this split second, the group suddenly felt something flashing in their mind.

“Everlasting life and immortality.” The daoist was the oldest among them so he was the first to speak up: “No wonder why all the top masters in history sought immortality. This is the only way to be eternal, everything else is merely ephemeral like the passing clouds and dispersing smokes.”

The others exchanged glances and ruminated. Just think about it, even an era was nothing compared to the river of time.

Whether it be a person or a lineage, even the most riveting tales, all would be forgotten in due time. The ruins in front of them were a perfect example.

With this in mind, one would understand the obsessive search for everlasting life and immortality - a state comparable to the river of time. Of course, this was far beyond their station right now, not something they could grasp.

Jian Ming glanced over at Xiao Xuan since she had some attainments with regard to this topic. She was an ancient being who managed to return to the present time.

“Is she searching for a lineage?” Jian Ming murmured to himself: “This can’t be a coincidence.”

He believed that her hibernation and rebirth were all part of a plan. A single master or a mighty sect couldn’t have done so. It required an eternal kingdom with endless resources.

“Over here.” Xiao Xuan suddenly felt something else and led the group in another direction.

They traveled to the other side of the ruins. It had no semblance of its original appearance and was overwhelmed by nature.

“It is here, I’m sure of it.” She said before falling into a state of zen, seemingly recalling the past.

“Clean it up.” Li Qiye ordered and the group immediately obeyed. Both Paramount Scion and Ye Tingrong didn’t care about their noble status and carried out the heavy labor.

### **Chapter 4612: Ancient Ruins**

Once the overgrowths were cleaned up, an ancient dao platform appeared before everyone.

It was flat on the ground and expanded outward, looking like the base of a gigantic palace. It was initially made with pave stones but many have been lost or damaged at this point.

“Click! Click! Click!” Li Qiye sat down and gently tapped on one of the stones. The sounds seemed to be coming from the past.

The others also carefully observed the dao platform. They noticed that the stones varied in size. When they tried to pick one up, the stone was as heavy as a block of gold. Runes were noticeable; they weren't carved but already existed at the very start.

They were surprised because they have never seen these runes before, let alone ones formed by nature. It had a terra affinity, one that should exist deep underground.

"How strange, I've never seen anything like it." The daoist concluded.

"It came from the depth of the ocean and never saw the sun before. Extremely rare but unfortunately, not very useful for most." Li Qiye said.

"So only useful for that special race." Paramount Scion understood the implication.

Li Qiye didn't answer and stared at the dao platform to say: "This is indeed a historical record of their race. Alas, there might be myriad of dao but none can last forever."

The group has gotten a better perspective on the ephemerality of life after this encounter.

"It's right here." Xiao Xuan regained her wits and said.

"The thing is buried here? Are we digging it out now?" Jian Ming's eyes instantly lit up.

Everyone became excited since it pertained an ancient race. Few had the privilege of experiencing a forgotten part of history. Moreover, something left behind by this ancient race should be unfathomable.

Jian Ming knew that due to the circumstances of Xiao Xuan's return, any memory making it through the process must be extremely significant. The treasure should have a proportional value.

Xiao Xuan didn't waste time and walked to the center of the dao platform. She tilted her head and rested her chin on her hand, seemingly a bit confused.

Her fingers and hands started moving instinctively - slowly and deliberately as well while forming mudras and controlling runes. She started chanting an ancient language not from the present time.

She herself didn't know that she was doing this. It seemed to be automatic the moment she set foot on the dao platform. There was no need for her to think.

"Buzz." A timeworn radiance pulsed around her. Its source seemed to be a forgotten part from the river of time.

Virtually imperceptible rays shined the ground and started taking up roots, starting a resonance. The ground lit up as well and released its own rays to illuminate the stones.

This made it possible for the runes to leave the surface of the stones. They floated up in the air and received Xiao Xuan's light.

Her light and the runes combined together and became one. A seeding process started in the air. The group felt as if massive trees were about to manifest into reality.

"Pop!" A force suddenly overwhelmed them and created violent quakes. Something from the ground wanted to come out.

“It’s coming!” The daoist shouted.

The soil and dirt beneath the dao platform loosened while the group watched with bated breath.

“Boom!” Finally, the thing finally drilled upward and showed itself.

They saw that it was a large rectangular boulder almost resembling a house with a single room. The entire thing was black like onyx, clearly hard and unbreakable.

There were also strange runes but this time around, they were carved and not naturally formed. In the center was a particularly large rune in the form of a maelstrom. It seemed capable of sucking everything in the world inside.

Xiao Xuan waved her hand and her floating runes immediately flew toward the boulder. Instead of injuring the boulder, they were instantly absorbed.

A supreme chapter was opened as a result and those nearby heard the hymns. It wasn’t long but had a comforting effect, similar to listening to an old and happy fairytale.

The carved runes also resonated and lit up, especially the maelstrom-shaped one.

“Are we supposed to lift this boulder up and study it?” Jian Ming asked, unable to notice anything.

“This is it.” Xiao Xuan told Li Qiye.

“I don’t think we can carry it, it seems to have taken roots underground.” Jian Ming said.

“Of course we aren’t carrying it back. Go take a look.” Li Qiye smiled and nodded at Xiao Xuan.

She took a deep breath and felt rather tense. After all, she didn’t know what awaited her in this place.

“Buzz.” The moment she got closer, her body suddenly turned into countless particles.

While the group felt astounded by this development, the maelstrom came back to life and rotated with great speed. It sucked into the particles that used to be Xiao Xuan.

“Buzz.” Once all the particles were taken in, the boulder became less bright than before, albeit still glowing slightly.

### **Chapter 4613: Jian Ming’s Thoughts**

“Can we enter as well?” Jian Ming couldn’t help but ask.

“Feel free to try.” Li Qiye smiled.

Jian Ming came over to her spot earlier and copied her actions - forming a mudra while chanting before finishing with a shout: “Open!”

No reaction came from the boulder; the runes didn’t light up all the way.

“We’ll see about that!” Jian Ming repeated the same thing and shouted louder this time: “Open!”

He eventually gave up and it was the daoist’s turn. He came and knocked on it several times then paid particular attention to the embedded runes. Eventually, he shook his head and concluded: “Don’t waste

your time, you can't solve these ancient runes. They work together to form an extremely complicated dao chapter."

"It is unique indeed." Paramount Scion sighed and said. Since he came from a great power, he had seen plenty of strange treasures before. This particular boulder was particularly intriguing. It made people want to carry it back home for further research.

"Even if you can understand the runes, you still won't be able to enter." Li Qiye elaborated: "This is a dao door specifically created for a single person. You need to be from this race and have the right bloodline. Otherwise, it is impossible to forcefully enter."

"So it was created for the lady?" Jian Ming murmured and gave up.

"Pretty much." Li Qiye said: "It is to leave behind a legacy for future descendants, it is an obsession of wanting to leave a mark."

"Where does it lead to?" Jian Ming asked. Xiao Xuan obviously didn't enter the boulder. It must have been a teleportation device.

"Only Xiao Xuan knows." Li Qiye said: "Perhaps a large-scale domain or dimension. The legacy of a mighty race won't be so simple."

"Sigh, why didn't she take me along? I could have carried some trunks for her, she can't carry all of them by herself." Jian Ming lamented.

"Your dirty hands won't be able to help themselves." The daoist laughed with disdain.

"Swindler, don't think everyone is as wretched as yourself." Jian Ming retorted: "I am a member of an orthodox clan and would never do something that lowly. I have more sense than that."

The daoist answered with a doubtful sneer.

"Let's go take a look around." Li Qiye smiled and suggested.

"We're not waiting for the lady?" Jian Ming became surprised.

"I'm afraid she won't be coming out any time soon. It's fine." Li Qiye said.

"How about we visit my sect?" Ye Tingrong took this opportunity to invite Li Qiye.

He glanced at her and the daoist immediately whispered: "Young Noble, should we go? We might as well try to propose for the brat while we're there."

"Not this crap again!" Jian Ming's ears were sharp enough to hear.

Li Qiye stared at him and rubbed his chin: "Not a bad idea, I can help you two get together."

Jian Ming turned red again, the same with Ye Tingrong. Nonetheless, the latter remained relatively composed.

"It'll be successful for sure with you involved, Young Noble." Paramount Scion said.

"Didn't your sect propose too?" Jian Ming glared at him.

“That’s the will of the ancestors, not mine, and as you already know, we’re not the only ones either.” Paramount Scion said.

“So you’re just a side actor.” Jian Ming said.

“Of course, Three Thousand Dao has plenty of geniuses, the same for True Immortal and its vassals.” The scion smiled naturally.

“Those geniuses aren’t worth mentioning.” The daoist smiled: “They will have to stand aside before the young noble. The real question is whether Miss Ye is interested in our brat.”

“Swindler, didn’t I already make myself clear?! We’re being very insensitive toward Miss Ye right now.” Jian Ming shouted.

“I do not mind a proposal from the young noble on your behalf. After all, I won’t be the one deciding.” She calmly said.

“Miss Ye, you know what I meant, I don’t want you to feel offended.” Jian Ming smiled awkwardly.

“Very well, we’re going to Diamond Gate.” Li Qiye had nothing else to do.

As they were on their way, the daoist whispered to Jian Ming: “Brat, if this goes well, then your trip will be something else. Your ancestors will laugh happily after seeing you bringing a beauty back and will forgive you for your past transgressions.”

“My ass, the two families haven’t even exchanged the introductory letters yet.” Jian Ming glared at him.

“We’re talking about introductory letters now? Looks like you are really interested in her then.” The daoist whispered back.

“You’ve been spewing a lot of shit. Watch it or I’ll knock your dog head off.” Jian Ming knocked on the daoist’s head.

The daoist laughed and started running away. This left Jian Ming standing there in embarrassment and explained himself: “The swindler doesn’t know when to shut up, I just taught him a lesson, that’s all.”

“Dao Brother, as I’ve said, I do not mind a proposal from you at all.” Tingrong smiled.

“I...I...” Jian Ming stammered, unable to say anything. This was a stark contrast to his usual self, having no qualms spitting out venomous words.

Li Qiye chuckled after seeing this. Memories of the past returned regarding the young geniuses. They grew up to be mighty characters and desired by everyone.

Unfortunately, no one remembered their romantic tales anymore. Li Qiye might be one of the few exceptions.

He sighed sentimentally about his own matters. Alas, this gorgeous world and its magnificent women couldn’t keep him from walking forward.

**Chapter 4614: Golden Gate**

Golden Gate possessed its own mountain range in Sky's Demise and a fair bit of land. Despite its relatively recent founding, it was still quite strong and stood out among the sects here.

It didn't only specialize in the fist dao and had other top merit laws as well. This was because he derived other laws from those found in Golden City. Since he was a genius there, he had access to many of them. He chose the path of derivation instead of passing down the original merit laws out of respect.

Keep in mind that the original ones included arts from ancient emperors, dao lords, and even those from older periods. They served as the basic foundation for the first emperor to start his sect. Moreover, his fist dao was dominating enough.

Flourishing scenes were common sights across the mountain range. The main peak was particularly bright due to the presence of a radiant palace.

This peak was also known as Golden Peak or Fist Peak. It resembled a fist sticking out of the ground - a contrast to the fist swinging downward in Worldbreaker.

The golden palace was made from gold, hence its dazzling reflection to all directions. It made it obvious for visitors to know that they were in the right place.

Rumor has it that when the construction was finished, members from Golden City came to offer their congratulations. Of course, this couldn't be verified.

Nonetheless, Golden Gate truly displayed the word "golden". It was the most common theme in the architecture seen here.

Some criticized them for using gold this often, saying that it was ostentatious and inelegant. The sect itself believed that they were simply connected to this character due to their history.

Therefore, gold was used as decorations and building bricks. Not all members of Golden Gate were in love with gold.

On top of the arched gate was a plaque with the characters "Golden Gate". The calligraphy was both expertly and powerful. Each stroke made people imagine a punch.

"Quite grand." Jian Ming couldn't help but comment.

"I heard that Golden God Fist made this plaque." Paramount Scion said.

Though he didn't let the emperor join his sect, he still gave his descendant a present during the latter's sect foundation. At the very least, they seemed to still have a relationship.

The gate was naturally packed. This wasn't due to a celebration or anything but due to the influx of suitors from the mighty sects and ancient clans.

The majority was here to find more information about the emperor or the treasure. All in all, Golden Gate would appear to be flourishing due to all the guests.

In reality, the members of the sect - especially the experts and ancestors - were awfully nervous. They knew that malice existed beneath the friendly guise.

Once this thin veil was lifted and for the sake of the treasure, these great powers could go as far as massacring all of them and excavating every inch of their home.

This meant that all of these suitors were potential enemies who could unsheathe their blade at any moment. Danger existed everywhere for Golden Gate right now, hence the permeating fear.

Whispers and conversations ignited the moment people saw Ye Tingrong and Li Qiye's group. Remember, Ye Tingrong was the chosen bride this time.

Golden Gate and its members haven't revealed their stance yet on this issue. Therefore, it seemed strange for her to be in public with another group.

"Who are they?" A member of a big sect asked.

"It's Li Qiye, he's a big shot." Another whispered.

"A big shot? What is his background?" Many youths didn't know who he was.

"A very famous genius who is on the rise." Someone from Southern Desolace said: "I believe he is deeply related to Lion's Roar and even killed Five-sun King's father at Dragon Sect."

"He killed Five-sun King's father?!" The crowd couldn't believe it.

One of them gasped and said: "Is he tired of living? There is no way Five-sun King would ever let this go."

"He has Lion's Roar as the backer. Even the priestess of Ancestral Divine Temple publicly supported him." Someone who was present at Yin Yang Crossing said.

"Damn..." Everyone was shocked to hear this.

Lion's Roar was a behemoth while Ancestral Divine Temple was a feared existence as well. Having them as backers meant that he could threaten all of Eight Desolaces.

"Seems like he can challenge the geniuses of True Immortal and Three Thousand Dao then." Another brought this up.

"You're right." The one from the Yin Yang event nodded: "This is indeed the case, he killed Six-winged Emissary who is the disciple of True Immortal Sect Master several days ago at Yin Yang Crossing. Since the priestess from Ancestral Divine Temple had his back, True Immortal Sect Master couldn't do anything about it."

"That's unbelievable." One youth took a deep breath.

"Is he here for the marriage proposal too?" A clan member asked.

"Maybe Golden Gate agreed already." A spectator who saw Li Qiye together with Ye Tingrong suggested.

It was understandable for those nearby to guess Li Qiye's goal, considering that Ye Tingrong was with him. They went as far as thinking that they had agreed to it.

"Is this really happening?" This possibility became the main topic near the entrance.



“There will be strong opposition.” A young expert snorted.

“Right, what about the other powers? Especially True Immortal and Three Thousand Dao. They won’t accept a refusal so easily.” Another from an old sect nodded in agreement.

Everyone understood that Golden Gate was riding a tiger and getting down was difficult. Accepting one meant humiliating the others.

“True, they won’t let it end so easily.” They were also aware of the behemoths’ true intention - the treasure.

“Don’t forget, Li Qiye has Dragon’s Roar and Ancestral Divine Temple. He’s close with Dragon too.” A big shot said.

### **Chapter 4615: Chicken**

Gossips started with Ye Tingrong’s return with Li Qiye. They speculated that she might want an engagement with him.

He alone wouldn’t be a big deal. The power of one couldn’t match the behemoths but they heard about his involvement with Lion’s Roar and Ancestral Divine Temple. This would give him enough power to contend against his enemies.

“Miss Ye, you’re finally back.” A happy voice came as a man walked quickly over. He was radiant and shrouded in divine flames.

“Voidburn Godchild.” Many recognized him right away.

“Looks like his Highness is here for the engagement as well.” Another stated.

“Voidburn Pavilion is not competitive. Not to mention the behemoths, it can’t compare to the Sima or Eight-hundred Li Court.” An expert shook his head.

“His backer is Divine Dragon Valley, maybe he’s their representative.” A clan member murmured.

“We meet again, Godchild.” Ye Tingrong politely nodded. Golden Gate didn’t wish to offend anyone right now due to its precarious situation.

Voidburn was glad to see her. His sect wanted this engagement and he himself fancied her. In this case, he represented Divine Dragon Valley.

First, she was beautiful and elegant. He fell in love at first sight. In the case of success with the marriage, he might be able to gain good things from the fist emperor. The absolute best case scenario would be to obtain the peerless treasure. That would grant their sect an alliance with Divine Dragon Valley for eras to come.

Therefore, he came with ambition and aspiration. Although he knew his chance was rather low, he still desired a favorable outcome and hoped for a miracle. What if she were to like and wish to marry him?

“Our elder is drinking tea with Senior Mad Fist.” Voidburn stared intensely at her, seemingly wanting to engrave her face into his heart.

Mad Fist was the current clan master of Golden Gate and Ye Tingrong's grandfather.

"Thank you for letting me know. Enjoy your time here at our sect and if you need anything, just let our members know." She said.

Her polite yet distant response made it difficult. As a godchild, he was always pampered back in his sect. The female disciples there loved him so he didn't know how to flirt.

He glanced at Li Qiye's group and said: "Who might they be?"

He had met them back in Yin Yang Crossing but didn't know who they were.

"Young Noble Li and his friends." Ye Tingrong introduced them.

He slightly frowned and said: "I see, a bunch of nobodies like you wants to propose too?"

He wanted to show off his cool side and power in front of her, hence his antagonizing comment. This time around, his sect had powerful masters here. Plus, Li Qiye wouldn't dare to cause trouble here."

"Do I hear a chicken running its mouth? Looks like it doesn't know what the hell it's saying since its butt is on fire." Jian Ming answered instead of Li Qiye.

"Who are you calling a chicken?!" Voidburn's expression soured.

Some in the crowd started laughing. One of them said: "Sounds about right, he is a fire chicken."

Voidburn Godchild was a demon - his true form was a fire cloud fowl.

"Who is laughing?!" He glared at the crowd but some didn't stop laughing.

Though he was relatively famous and strong, everyone here came from great powers. They weren't afraid of him. Only the behemoths could make them back off.

Voidchild's embarrassment turned into anger. He glared at Jian Ming and threatened: "Brat, you must be tired of living."

"The brat is annoying indeed but he has a higher chance of winning the engagement than you. Stand aside, little chicken." The daoist added.

"Stop it." Jian Ming glared at the daoist.

Voidburn focused his enmity toward Jian Ming after learning that he was a suitor as well. The members from the behemoths were one thing but he had no problem dealing with Jian Ming.

"Who the hell do you think you are?" Voidburn said with disdain: "Just a member of a declining clan, take a look in the mirror first and know your place!"

Jian Ming had thick skin regarding himself but didn't appreciate anyone talking down on his clan.

"Little chicken, I hope you can back your words up!" He turned red and shouted back.

"Haha, he's angry now." The daoist laughed. Jian Ming seemed to be more tempestuous and easily flustered when it came to Ye Tingrong.

“You will fight me? Bring it.” Voidburn sneered.

“Very well.” Jian Ming’s eyes flashed with murderous intent.

“He’s getting serious now.” The daoist could tell.

“Gentlemen, why don’t we all take one step back?” Ye Tingrong said, not wanting trouble near her sect.

“Miss Ye, please don’t stop me. I will teach this ignorant loser a lesson.” Voidburn declared.

“That’s my line, little chicken.” Jian Ming stepped forward.

“A lesson is too lenient, kill him.” Li Qiye ordered.

Everyone exchanged glances. Paramount Scion smiled while Ye Tingrong let out a sigh.

“The death sentence is given.” The daoist said.

“Our young noble has called for your death.” Jian Ming confidently pointed at Voidchild and said: “Your time to be arrogant is over.”

#### **Chapter 4616: Puppets**

“Loser, this will not end until I kill you.” Voidchild’s eyes released intimidating eyes, seemingly capable of turning Jian Ming into a sieve.

“Poof!” His flames intensified. This was a type of dao flame capable of melting any metals with a single touch. Strangely enough, it gave off an impression of being unbearably cold.

This was due to his murderous intent, making those standing nearby feel as if they were stuck in an ice pit. His hatred for Jian Ming was as obvious as can be.

“We got ourselves a show.” Both members of Golden Gate and visitors were ready to watch this exciting development. They wanted more chaos to potentially take advantage of the situation.

After all, they were here for several days now and nothing happened. Maybe this could serve as a catalyst. It didn’t take long before the place was packed with cultivators.

The atmosphere became heated since the two combatants had nothing but vitriol for each other.

“Who’ll win?” People started speculating.

“Probably Voidburn Godchild.” An old man said: “Voidburn can’t compare to the behemoths but its progenitor was still the first disciple of Eight-step Dragon Dao Lord. He had access to top arts on top of creating the Fire Dragon Mantra, something comparable to dao lord merit laws.”

“True, they have considerable resources and history, albeit not on the same level as Divine Dragon Valley.” Someone from the west nodded in agreement: “This godchild has abilities from his race on top of cultivating the Fire Dragon Mantra.”

“We’ll see about that. This kid from the Jian is not bad at all. He hangs out with some ruffians but also top masters. The latter must be indicative of his ability.” Someone who recognized Jian Ming said.

“That’s not all.” Another with more knowledge of Jian Ming’s clan said: “His clan is ancient and has earned the favor of a supreme existence. They cannot be underestimated.”

“Just watch, I still believe Voidburn Godchild has the upper hand.” One more said: “A fire cloud fowl is extremely fierce, not to mention his top arts and numerous treasures.”

“We’ll find out soon enough.” The others said.

“Loser, come meet your maker!” Voidburn Godchild roared.

“I’m waiting, chicken!” Jian Ming didn’t relent; his eyes pulsed brightly. He seemed to be turning into a different person, not leisurely and carefree like before.

After all, he was from a great clan. His true aura and brilliance finally revealed themselves once he became serious.

“Oh, not too bad.” The daoist got a new perspective on Jian Ming and praised: “How manly, not a hoodlum anymore.”

“Seems like I’m just a frog under the well.” Paramount Scion said after seeing Jian Ming’s heaven-devouring momentum.

Most remembered him as a foul-mouthed bastard. Now, he showed everyone a different side.

Ye Tingrong was surprised and stared at him in amazement.

“A pillar of the Jian won’t be a useless idiot.” Li Qiye wasn’t surprised at all.

“Boom!” Voidburn Godchild’s vitality erupted along with chaos true energy. Dao halos also appeared amidst his flames.

“Seven-dao Heavenly Sovereign!” His cultivation level became apparent to the crowd.

“Rumble!” His flames soared to the sky, eagle to incinerate the stars.

“Such powerful cloud flames.” A fire-affinity expert was surprised.

“Poof!” Jian Ming summoned four spheres. They fell to the ground and created a dust storm.

Once the dust settled, four gigantic puppets appeared before the crowd. Each had long and big runes intertwining everywhere. Their materials were also strange, looking like both stone and wood yet were neither.

“Die! Cloud Flame Incineration!” Voidburn Godchild grabbed some flames and formed a mudra.

The flames turned into a firebird. It spread its wings and released a torrent of power toward Jian Ming. Everything standing in its way was reduced to ashes.

Cultivators nearby immediately retreated in order to not be burnt to a crisp.

“Go.” Jian Ming was undeterred and ordered his four puppets to attack.

One of them leaped upward, leaving a massive pair of prints on the ground.

“Raa!” It roared like a primal beast and released boundless purple lights. They came together to form a shield.

“Boom!” The sky started shaking violently. Deafening blasts assaulted the listeners.

Both the firebird and the puppet didn’t relent for a single moment, continuing to release their power.

However, the other three puppets joined the fight and surrounded the firebird. The latter screeched and flapped its wings, taking its offense to the next level. Alas, this wasn’t enough to stop the puppets.

“Bam!” Two of them grabbed the bird’s wings while the third pulled its tail.

### **Chapter 4617: Fire Dragon Mantra**

“Raa!” The three puppets then tore the firebird apart to the astonishment of the crowd. They didn’t expect the puppets to be so strong.

“What the hell are they?” A spectator became startled. These puppets weren’t afraid of fire at all on top of being physically capable.

“Must be something from the ancient age.” An ancestor saw the clues and said: “Runes are embedded in the puppet via an inscrutable method. Whoever created them must have been insanely strong.”

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” Voidburn Godchild staggered backward after his firebird was destroyed.

He thought that Jian Ming was only a nobody, not competitive at all. It shouldn’t be difficult for a godchild of Voidburn like him to take the brat down.

He would be able to show his abilities in front of Ye Tingrong. Perhaps she would have a more favorable opinion of him as a result.

Unfortunately, the battle didn’t go as planned since he lost the first exchange in a humiliating manner.

“Good!” The daoist wasn’t stingy with his praises: “Brat, beat him up!”

“I’ll do more than beat him up, he’s dead.” Jian Ming declared in an imperious manner.

After all, he was a member of a truly prominent clan and possessed a noble bloodline. His talent and comprehension weren’t inferior to any young successor. Alas, his attitude and unsavory conduct made people think of him as a shady merchant.

“Chicken, is this all you got?” He laughed and said: “Weren’t you awfully confident earlier? Looks like you’re all bark and no bite, haha!” Jian Ming’s foul mouth went back to work once more.

Voidburn’s face turned red as he trembled with rage. Geniuses like him weren’t used to this treatment.

“He deserves it.” A listener whispered after seeing his enraged appearance.

“Ignorant fool, I shall cut you to pieces even if it’s the last thing I do.” Voidburn gritted his teeth.

“Wow, I’m so scared.” Jian Ming sarcastically said while patting his chest: “Unfortunately, the last thing you’ll do is die in this battle.”

“Die!” Voidburn Godchild’s seven halos slowly floated upward and spewed out runic flames.

“Fire Dragon Mantra!” Voidburn’s roar echoed across Golden Gate.

“Boom!” Heat waves the size of a tsunami manifested into reality. Time and space turned into ashes as a result.

“Raa!” A draconic and primal aura engulfed the battlefield even before the appearance of the beast.

In the next second, a large fire dragon appeared with its claws at the ready. Everyone felt their mouth being parched from the high temperature. It coiled in the air and painted everything with a red shade. The sky vault was on the verge of melting.

“Fire Dragon Mantra, a technique comparable to dao lord merit law.” People were impressed to see this technique created by Skyfire True Dragon, the first disciple of Eight-step Dragon Dao Lord.

“Dragon Trample!” Voidburn controlled the grand dao and channeled his chaos true energy to control the dragon.

The sky turned dark as the dragon leaped downward with enough momentum to rend the earth. Worst of all, the claws also wielded all-melting flames.

The four puppets couldn’t stop the technique known as Dragon Temple and were sent flying. When the claws reached the ground, they left behind deep prints with lava oozing out.

“Puppet Formation.” Jian Ming released his vitality and his runes entered the four puppets.

“Boom!” The puppets exploded and all of their runes drilled into the ground.

In the next second, an overgrowth of runes rushed out of the ground and intertwined together with incredible speed to form dao strings.

Countless strings wrapped tightly around the fire dragon, making it look like a preserved corpse.

“Burn!” Voidburn Godchild roared. The dragon’s flame intensified and became hotter but this wasn’t enough to burn the runic dao strings.

The eruption of runes never stopped. “Boom!” Eventually, the runes formed a puppet even larger than the fire dragon.

“Boom!” It then pulled the dragon down from the sky before astonished eyes. The dragon smashed into the ground, leaving a deep pit.

“Ugh...” Voidburn Godchild became seriously injured and vomited a mouthful of blood.

“It’s so strong!” A spectator shouted.

“Well done.” The daoist praised.

“This puppet is incredible.” Paramount Scion added.

“So it turns out that Fellow Daoist Jian has always been hiding his power.” Ye Tingrong gained a new perspective on Jian Ming.

“Haha, this brat has more ace cards up his sleeves but he’s never serious.” The daoist laughed.

She heard this and stared carefully at Jian Ming. It seemed that he was just as strong as any successor around his age. Alas, he chose to do unsavory stuff such as mingling with ruffians and being a merchant instead.

### **Chapter 4618: Stonedragon Whip**

“Boom!” The fire dragon flew out from the pit, still looking full of vim and vigor. The smash didn’t do significant damage.

“Raa!” It looked furious and spat out flames, clearly feeling humiliated after being pulled to the ground.

“Clank!” Voidburn Godchild’s seven halos became blindingly bright and their runes became activated. They looked like seven suns floating upward.

The runes connected together to form divine chains as large as mountain ranges that circle around the seven halos. The runic chains exuded scorching flames and let out dragon roars. It seemed as if each halo now had one fire dragon protecting it.

The draconic aura made it seem as if thousands of dragons were about to fly out. This astounded the spectators since it could reduce weaker cultivators to ashes.

“Hmm, he lives up to his fame.” One genius from another sect praised.

Though the guy was arrogant and unreasonable, he did have the strength to back it up.

“Draconic Sky Watchers!” Voidburn’s hands formed a mudra. He resembled a fire god at this point, pulsing with flames from top to bottom.

A supreme formation appeared above the fire dragons and released an unstoppable inferno onto the world.

“This move is rather strong.” The majority of the spectators didn’t expect this.

“Boom!” The main fire dragon grew larger at an incredible rate.

“Activate!” Jian Ming reacted by channeling his own power. More runes came out of the ground and entered the puppet. It started growing larger and larger.

“This is a size competition?” Spectators exchanged glances since the two entities were crowding up the sky.

“You’re finished!” Voidburn roared and commanded the fire dragon.

The creature’s front claws slashed at the puppet’s head. It was as if five sharp mountain ranges were crashing down. This made people worry for Golden Gate.

The claw pushed the puppet’s head downward and caused a violent quake. Its lower half was pushed into the ground.

People then heard a creaking noise as if its head was about to be crushed by the claws.

“Go!” Jian Ming channeled more power and increased the puppet’s growth. It became as large as the dragon and grabbed the claws pushing down on its head.

“Rumble!” The fight became even and the two creatures didn’t hold back. Large chasms appeared on the ground.

A while ago, many believed that Jian Ming was clearly inferior. Now, it appeared that they have misjudged his ability.

“This is a top technique from the Fire Dragon Mantra yet it is still being stopped. The brat is quite capable.” An elder concluded.

Voidburn thought that this move would be enough to eradicate the puppet. Alas, this didn’t work so he took out a long whip.

The appearance of the whip boiled the heaven and earth. It was abnormally large and crimson - made by tendons twisted together.

“Stonedragon Whip!” A high elder recognized the weapon.

“A weapon left behind by Skyfire True Dragon.” Many big shots recognized its origin.

Rumor has it that this progenitor entered an area ravaged by volcanoes and killed an adult stonedragon. He used its tendons and the flames at the heart of a volcano to create this draconic whip.

He whipped it forward and struck the fire dragon. The two suddenly became one. The dragon made of fire seemed to gain a physical body afterward.

This was no longer a dragon created by merit law but rather, an entity with a draconic bloodline - a divine beast.

“Raa!” Its power erupted, capable of flipping mountains over and filling up oceans.

The sudden boost of power was too much for the puppet. Its head was immediately crushed and the rest of the body was reduced to pieces. This made Jian Ming stagger backward and vomit blood.

“Brat!” The daoist shouted.

“Are you alright?” Ye Tingrong worried and asked.

“I’m fine, still alive.” He wiped the blood off his lips.

“Fire Dragon Mantra and that whip are a perfect combination. Few youths can stop it.” An ancestor concluded.

### **Chapter 4619: Dragon Diagram of Destruction**

The whip combined with the Fire Dragon Mantra impressed the crowd with its power.

Voidburn couldn’t compare to the five conquerors but the attack just now nearly justified his arrogance and pride.

“Geniuses from the great powers are always capable.” Someone who disliked him commented and recognized his ability.

“Hmm, can the brat do anything about it?” Another thought that Jian Ming was going to die for sure.



“Voidburn didn’t go all out from the start. The battle seems over now.” One clan member added.

The sentiment shifted from an even fight to Jian Ming being dead for sure after just one technique.

Voidburn became complacent and opened his ears wide to listen to the praises. He thought that he was finally able to show Ye Tingrong his power. It was time for him to finish Jian Ming.

“Brat, I shall desecrate your corpse, this is what you get for running your mouth!” He loudly threatened.

“Godchild, make him unable to ever speak again!” One clan member who hated Jian Ming shouted.

“Right, off with his tongue!” Another had a cruel smile.

By this point, Jian Ming has stabilized his inner energy and glared at Voidburn Godchild, looking like a true descendant of a prestigious clan.

“You think too highly of yourself, I will show you my true ability now.” Jian Ming declared.

“Boom!” He released enough vitality and energy to create a floating expanse.

“This brat is this strong?” A big shot became startled.

“He was hiding his power.” A master from an old sect found this surprising.

“Raa!” A rather quiet draconic cry could be heard. Despite its humble volume, it made listeners go weak and want to submit.

Even the gigantic fire dragon trembled after hearing it.

“This is...” Not to mention the young cultivators, even veterans were caught unaware by this special cry.

At first, the empowered fire dragon felt so real and made them think that an actual dragon was here. Now, it paled in comparison to whatever made this recent sound.

If say, the fire dragon’s roar was authentic, then the sound just now was the roar of the king of dragons. All other draconic creatures would have to become subservient and afraid.

“Is this a true dragon bloodline...” Paramount Scion took a deep breath, shocked.

“It is exceedingly noble.” Ye Tingrong’s expression changed.

This was certainly not a draconic bloodline. Nonetheless, the dragon’s cry in his vitality implied the nobility in his bloodline.

“Clank!” The cry was still audible while a divine sword slowly floated up above his head. It had an ancient style with many scars, clearly from the olden days.

The atmosphere turned cold, no longer affected by the fire dragon. Murderous energy permeated from the sword’s deathly aura and made people shudder.

Jian Ming turned into a god of death, looking emotionless and prone to massacring. This tangible energy of death gathered into the form of a true dragon. The faint image of the dragon represented a cataclysm - the end of all things.

“What the hell is this?” Crowd members became confused.

This murderous aura didn’t seem to be made from energy or divinity. It felt natural as part of the cultivation process, meaning that the merit law was meant for murder.

“This brat hides stuff so well.” The daoist said: “It’s a good thing I didn’t drive him crazy recently...”

“Hmm, this resembles the sword art from an ancient sacred ground, murderous and emotionless.” Paramount Scion analyzed the aura.

Many were doing the same thing, hoping to realize the origin of the technique.

“Dragon Diagram of Destruction!” Each word he shouted stabbed the heart.

“Clank!” The true dragon roared again and the expanse of energy turned into an ocean of blood.

“Fire Dragon Bulwark!” Voidburn Godchild no longer held back after seeing this. His vitality turned into flames.

The gigantic dragon breathed in the affinities around it and created a boundless wall, seemingly impregnable. Everyone looked up and saw the wall splitting the region in half.

“This is the strongest defense of that mantra.” An ancestor said.

“Boom!” The first technique of the murderous move came slashing down and rendered the wall ineffective.

The front half instantly crumbled in a magnificent spectacle akin to the end of a heavenly kingdom. Voidburn gritted his teeth while blood gushed out of his mouth. His full focus on defense wasn’t enough to stop the slash.

“He’s going to die.” An ancestor understood that Voidburn had nothing left.

“Don’t be afraid, Godchild!” A shout came from Golden Peak during this crucial moment. An old man sent out true flames from his forehead despite being immensely far away. “Skyburn Divine Flame!” Its target was Voidburn, not the slash.

### **Chapter 4620: Mighty Slash**

“Boom!” The flame empowered Voidburn instead of hurting him. The fiery aura around him became entirely different since it had a golden glow now. It seemed to be melted gold; how could a flame seem so tangible and heavy?

The damaged wall became tougher and gained a golden layer. Each brick seemingly weighed millions of pounds. His defense became numerous times tougher as a result and managed to stop the slash.

“He did it!” A spectator shouted.

The slash was terrifying and could only be stopped by a few youths from this generation. Nonetheless, Voidburn was able to do so after receiving help. Now, the tides have turned once more.

“What is this? The kid can’t win and now the adults want to play too?” Li Qiye smiled and raised one hand.

“Buzz.” Tiny spirit-like runes appeared on his fingertip. He waved his hand, commanding them to enter Jian Ming’s body.

“Boom!” Jian Ming’s draconic aura intensified during this awakening process.

His ancient bloodline woke up and turned him into a dragon. His blood turned into draconic blood, causing the spectators to feel a suffocating pressure.

“Bam!” The slash suddenly exerted its strongest potential and became unstoppable.

The golden wall could no longer stop it despite the previous empowerment. The entire thing crumbled as a result

“You dare?!” The ancestor who wanted to save Voidburn was still one step late.

“No!!!” Voidburn turned to flee as fast as possible but it was too late.

Blood splashed from his decapitated corpse. His eyes were wide open in disbelief as it fell down next to the body. He never expected to die to a nobody before. He had such a bright future ahead...

The atmosphere became somber as everyone gazed at the falling corpse.

“He won...” Ye Tingrong couldn’t regain her wits. Due to her previous impression of Jian Ming, she didn’t think that he would be so strong. If she had to pick someone to be the winner, it would have been Voidburn.

Jian Ming’s slash was simply shocking. Moreover, his personality completely changed from a swindler to a god of death. The inviolable and merciless nature of the latter left a deep impression on her.

“I don’t think he’s weaker than any successor of the great powers.” Someone calmed down and said.

The majority looked down on him a while ago but he has proven himself to them with that ultimate slash. It seemed comparable to any dao lord technique. In fact, even the Fire Dragon Mantra was easily defeated.

“You’re dead, Junior!” The ancestor who helped Voidburn Godchild earlier finally arrived on the scene. He was furious after seeing the corpse.

“The first elder of Voidburn.” Many recognized him and whispered.

He was obviously furious. They came for a marriage proposal yet the potential groom was now dead.

“Can’t even accept defeat gracefully?” Jian Ming instantly retreated behind Li Qiye and laughed: “It was a fair fight, he lost because he lacked skill. If this is how your sect is going to act after losing, crawl back to your nest like good turtles lest you want to humiliate yourself again.”

He reverted back to his regular style right after the battle, no longer the god of death.

“A life for a life.” The first elder coldly uttered. He couldn’t come back to the sect right now without extracting retribution first.

If a member of the behemoths were to say this, the crowd would be silent. This wasn’t the case right now.

“Just accept defeat, it was a fair duel.” One expert shouted.

Others could see that before outside interference, Jian Ming would have won. Later on, two different seniors empowered them so this turned out to be fair as well.

“Elder, they’re right. No need to dwell over an honorable death in battle.” Someone else spoke up.

Everyone looked over and saw a youth in white. His robe fluttered to the wind - a scene from an elegant painting.

“Jadedragon Monarch of Divine Dragon!” A spectator bellowed.

Jadedragon Monarch, the junior brother of Tian Feng. Everyone knew about the marriage alliance between Voidburn and Divine Dragon Valley.

Normally, these two sects were always in the same boat. Now, Jadedragon Monarch should help the first elder avenge Voidburn Godchild by taking down Jian Ming’s group. The actual development was rather unexpected.

“The monarch knows right from wrong.” A few crowd members gave him a thumbs-up for being so reasonable.