

Sword God 3361

Chapter 3361: Swearing Fealty

Jian Chen stared coldly at the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King and said, "Ceremonial Bell, you seem to have forgotten something. You came to the Peace region and you begged me. You wanted my protection. I didn't invite you to come here. You have served me diligently over the years and made great contributions to the Peace region, but that's all a part of your responsibility. They're all things you had an obligation to do."

"If you couldn't even handle that, or you wanted compensation for that, what's the point of keeping you around?"

"Not to mention the fact that you even want me to make you a ruler. Hmph, Ceremonial Bell, you're far too complacent, aren't you? Aren't you aware of this, even in the slightest?"

Towards the end, Jian Chen spoke harsher and harsher.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King turned pale-white. His heart trembled as he said in a hurry, "Please calm down, sir. It's my mistake, it's my mistake. I've misspoken. I don't have any of those fantasies either. Please forgive me for this time. Please give me an opportunity to fix my errors."

Jian Chen's expression did not change. His gaze was still just as cold. "Ceremonial Bell, if you don't want to stay in the Peace region, you're welcome to leave whenever you want to. I definitely won't stop you. However, if you want to remain here, you better recognise your standing."

"This ends here. Don't mention it again. You can go." Jian Chen waved his hand. After bowing politely, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King backed away carefully.

Soon after the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King had left, Bai Yueye of the White Emperor clan entered carefully. She was nervous, taking small, hesitant steps with her head lowered, even afraid to breathe too loudly. She bowed politely towards Jian Chen. "Greetings from junior Bai Yueye, sir!"

As soon as he saw Bai Yueye, Jian Chen could not help but smile. His gaze softened as well. When he first arrived in the Wood Spirits World, the person he had the most contact with was her. Not only was this girl kind-hearted, but she had also taken great care of him back then in Death Valley. Jian Chen had a very good impression of her.

After becoming a ruler, he had also nurtured Bai Yueye, so her strength had changed in an overwhelming fashion compared to the past.

"Yueye, haven't I told you already? I don't care about these trifling gestures of courtesy. You can just call me by my name." Jian Chen smiled.

"H-how would I dare to do something like that?" Bai Yueye was overwhelmed with fear. Calling a ruler directly by their name was something she could not imagine as such an insignificant figure.

Jian Chen did not haggle over this with Bai Yueye. Instead, he waved his hand. An ancestral imprint immediately drifted over to Bai Yueye as he directly gifted her one of them.

“Sir, w-what is this?” Gazing at the ancestral imprint hovering before her, Bai Yueye’s eyes narrowed. She became both surprised and uncertain.

“It’s an ancestral imprint. For you.”

Afterwards, Jian Chen called over Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing, giving them an ancestral imprint each.

Xia Jianming was obviously no exception either, also obtaining an ancestral imprint from Jian Chen.

He still had over a hundred ancestral imprints on him. These ancestral imprints no longer served much purpose to him, so he would obviously use them to nurture the people around him.

Immediately, the Divine Palace of Peace gained several Wood Spirits with ancestral imprints.

Of course, while they possessed ancestral imprints, they still could not be regarded as heavenly kings. If they wanted to become a heavenly king, they had to reach the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime while possessing an ancestral imprint.

Both were critical.

However, after obtaining an ancestral imprint, both their battle prowess and regeneration had increased. They now possessed the ability to challenge those at higher cultivations than them.

In the blink of an eye, half a month had already passed. During this time, many Primordial realm experts visited the Peace region, not just reputed experts from the nine imperial cities of the Peace region, but also people from the Grand Heaven Domain and the Jade Centre Domain.

The strength of these people varied, but most of them were Eighth or Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes. They expressed good will towards Jian Chen either openly or secretly, sincerely expressing their fealty in hopes that they could be nurtured as one of the rulers.

Many of them thought that this was simply absurd. Rulers could not be raised just because he said he wanted to.

However, they had been stuck at this point for countless years. As long as there was the tiniest of hope, they would not let it slip by.

If they became rulers, they would rise up, their statuses changing dramatically. Very few people could resist such a great temptation.

But without any exception, all of these people were mercilessly turned down by Jian Chen. He waited for the Jade Heaven Ruler to get back to him.

Finally, after another few days, the Jade Heaven Ruler arrived in the Divine Palace of Peace and passed a list of seven names that she had carefully chosen to Jian Chen.

“I’ve combed through all the Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes in the Wood Spirits World. These seven people are those who I believe are the most trustworthy and reliable. Of course, nothing is certain. After all, people change with circumstances. I can’t guarantee you how they’ll change in the future,” the Jade Heaven Ruler said sternly.

Jian Chen nodded. He obviously understood that. Then he picked up the list and browsed through it before passing it to Xia Jianming. "Xia Jianming, tell the seven of them to gather in the Divine Palace of Peace immediately."

"Yes, master!" Xia Jianming rushed off with the list.

Seeing how unhesitatingly Jian Chen decided on these seven people, the Jade Heaven Ruler was very worried. "You're taking far too great a risk. This is basically an extraordinary gamble. If you devote a tremendous amount of resources into nurturing them and they refuse to obey you, your entire investment will be lost."

"I understand your worries, but if I want to open the stone door, I have no other choice. Moreover, since your Wood Spirits race is a part of the Spiritsages, this is equivalent to helping out the Spiritsages," said Jian Chen. Given his relationship with the Wind Venerable and Shen Jian, he did not mind nurturing a few Chaotic Primes for the Spiritsages.

"You're in such a hurry to enter the stone door because of the injuries to your legs?" said the Jade Heaven Ruler gently as she glanced at Jian Chen's legs, which remained crossed the entire time.

"That's correct!" Jian Chen did not deny that.

"I will help you with everything that I have." The Jade Heaven Ruler left after leaving that behind.

Before long, seven Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes appeared in the Divine Palace of Peace.

These seven people came from various places in the Wood Spirits World. Some were lofty heavenly kings, some were the Heaven Fighting Ruler and the Jade Heaven Ruler's subordinates, and others were ancestors of peak organisations that dominated a region of their own.

At this moment, they all stood politely before Jian Chen. They were both excited and suspicious.

Clearly, they had already realised a few things from being invited here.

"Sir, do you really have a way for us to reach the realm of rulers?" The speaker was a heavenly king, the Mayhemless Heavenly King!

Two of the nine were heavenly kings. They happened to be the Mayhemless Heavenly King and the Deadwood Heavenly King!

Jian Chen sat on his throne and gazed down on the seven of them. He said calmly, "I'm bold enough to call the seven of you over, so I obviously have the confidence. However, I do have one condition, which is once you become rulers, you must all listen to me before I leave the Wood Spirits World."

"Leave the Wood Spirits World? Sir, I-I struggle to understand what you are saying," the Deadwood Heavenly King said in utter confusion.

The six other Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes were just as puzzled.

"The Wood Spirits World is just a small place. There's an even vaster world outside the Wood Spirits World, so I will be leaving here sooner or later. Don't ask too much about this. There are certain things

that you'll find out about sooner or later. I only want to know whether you accept my condition or not," said Jian Chen.

The seven Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes looked at one another in response.

The Wood Spirits World was just a small place?

There was an even vaster world outside?

They felt extremely shocked by those words.

But in the end, they still caved in to the temptation of becoming a ruler. After a moment of deliberation, they all made their decisions.

"I agree. As long as I can become a ruler, your word is my bidding from now onwards in the Wood Spirits World."

"I also agree."

"If I can become a ruler, I will obey every word of yours."

Chapter 3362: Bestowing Imprints

Just like that, the seven that the Jade Heaven Ruler had chosen after careful selection all agreed to Jian Chen's condition.

If they became rulers, then they would do Jian Chen's bidding as long as they remained in the Wood Spirits World. If they left the Wood Spirits World, that would no longer hold.

If they could not become rulers, then no matter how many resources they used up, they did not have to obey any order from Jian Chen.

"Peace Ruler, may I ask when you plan on letting us make the formal push to the realm of rulers?" At this moment, an old man below asked eagerly. His face was filled with anticipation and excitement.

He was the ancestor of a peak sect from the Grand Heaven Domain. He was not a heavenly king, but he was still an influential figure in the Grand Heaven Domain.

"Right now!" Jian Chen said. Afterwards, with a wave of his hand, the power of space immediately surged forth, enveloping the seven Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes in the hall.

Power of laws so strong that they could not resist descended upon the seven peak experts from various places. In the next moment, their vision blurred; they had already left the Divine Palace of Peace, appearing in a remote mountain range several million kilometres away.

Jagged peaks stood within the mountain range, rising up from the ground and jutting into the sky precipitously.

Jian Chen scanned around before fixing his gaze on the largest mountain nearby. Afterwards, with a gentle swing of his finger, a spatial blade shot out and immediately bisected the towering mountain, turning it into a platform three thousand metres across.

He hovered in the air, floating ten metres above the ground. He gazed at the seven Primordial realm experts in the distance indifferently and said, "You will cultivate here until you become rulers."

In the distance, the seven rulers exchanged glances before arriving in front of Jian Chen at the same time. Their eyes burned with fervency and anticipation.

There was also a hint of curiosity. They wondered how the Peace Ruler was going to turn them into rulers.

At this moment, a tremendous presence of life suddenly appeared with the aura of the ways. It was very profound.

A total of twenty-one ancestral imprints hovered before Jian Chen, shining with dazzling light.

"Those are ancestral imprints. There are actually so many of them."

Gazing at the twenty-one ancestral imprints, the seven experts were all stunned. They were all tongue-tied with their eyes wide open.

The Mayhemless Heavenly King and the Deadwood Heavenly King were left speechless too. They were also filled with disbelief.

The sight before them had completely upheaved their imaginations. Since when did ancestral imprints become so worthless that they appeared twenty-one at a time?

"Three ancestral imprints each. Not only will they increase your battle prowess, but they'll also be of some assistance when you comprehend the laws." With a thought, the twenty-seven ancestral imprints were immediately split into seven portions, arriving before the seven of them. "What are you waiting for? Refine them!"

Gazing at the three ancestral imprints before each of them, the seven Primordial realm experts felt anything but calm. Even the Mayhemless Heavenly King and Deadwood Heavenly King who already possessed ancestral imprints surged with emotion inside.

Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes were known as heavenly kings if they possessed an ancestral imprint.

Despite the passage of all these years, the entire Wood Spirits World only had nine heavenly kings, and they each only possessed one ancestral imprint.

Yet right now, the Peace Ruler had given them each three ancestral imprints so casually, so how could they remain calm?

Three ancestral imprints was already far more than what the nine heavenly kings each possessed in the past.

"I will never forget the ruler's kindness. In the future, whether we become rulers or not, we'll never let you down." After a moment of silence, the seven experts all bowed together before immediately refining the three ancestral imprints.

At that moment, the Wood Spirits World had gained another five heavenly kings!

Of course, just relying on ancestral imprints was not enough for them to reach Chaotic Prime. After all, while the ancestral imprints assisted them with comprehension, this assistance was extremely limited.

Otherwise, the nine heavenly kings who had obtained their ancestral imprints so many years ago would not still be stuck at the Ninth Heavenly Layer.

Afterwards, Jian Chen opened the space in his soul and took out a few leaves of third grade God Tier Comprehension Tea. "Xia Jianming, brew the tea!"

Jian Chen did not hold back in order to nurture seven Chaotic Primes as quickly as possible and enter the stone door.

Xia Jianming immediately took out a tea set and began brewing Comprehension Tea with the Xuanhuang spiritual fluid Jian Chen had provided. As he brewed the tea, he looked at the seven experts with great envy.

"Xia Jianming, you don't need to be envious of them. You've followed me for so long, so I obviously won't mistreat you. However, it's not the time yet," said Jian Chen.

"You've already given me plenty, master. I would never ask for more," Xia Jianming immediately answered politely. He did not dare to overstep the boundaries.

Very soon, the Comprehension Tea was made. Then it was distributed evenly between the seven experts. When they ingested the Comprehension Tea, they immediately began to shine brightly, rushing up into the air. The laws manifested and enveloped the seven of them.

Immediately, the seven of them were all submerged in a state of comprehension.

At the same time, the Blood Slaughter Ruler sat on his throne with a sunken face in the Divine Hall of Scarlet Blood, listening to his subordinate's report.

"Sir, the Peace Ruler has already begun strengthening the seven experts he chose, but because he's personally watching over them, our scouts can't get too close. They only sensed the presence from the depths of the mountain grow stronger and stronger," a high-ranking member responsible for gathering intel said politely.

"Sir, we can ignore this. It's absolutely impossible for the Peace Ruler to nurture Chaotic Primes..." Another high-ranking member immediately said from below the throne, snorting in contempt towards Jian Chen's attempt to nurture rulers.

"If the realm of Chaotic Primes could be reached that easily, the nine heavenly kings would not have been stuck at the Ninth Heavenly Layers for all these years. The Peace Ruler is out of his mind."

"Sir, we don't have to worry about the Peace region at all. The Peace Ruler definitely won't succeed."

Many high-ranking members of the Divine Palace of Scarlet Blood gathered there, all voicing their opinions.

However, no matter what they said, the Blood Slaughter Ruler's face remained as sunken as before, as he immediately thought of the seven ancestral imprints that the Jade Heaven Ruler had suddenly gained.

Thinking up to there, the Blood Slaughter Ruler became even more uneasy. Suddenly, he stood up and said to the people below, "Watch over the Scarlet Blood Domain. I'll personally go to the Peace region and investigate."

As soon as he said that, the Blood Slaughter Ruler vanished. He sped off, leaving the Scarlet Blood Domain in just a few flashes before concealing his presence and directly entering the Peace region.

Right when he entered the Peace region, Jian Chen slowly opened his eyes in the mountain range where the seven experts carried out their breakthroughs. He glanced in the direction of the Scarlet Blood Domain very casually as a streak of cold light flashed through his eyes.

Chapter 3363: Death of a Ruler

In the mountain range, the seven experts all began comprehending the laws after drinking the Comprehension Tea. Jian Chen did not go out of his way to cover for them, so their presences rushed into the air. They were enveloped in the power of laws as their energy constantly leaked out, forming powerful pressures that engulfed the entire mountain range.

None of them were Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes that had recently broken through. Instead, they had remained at their current cultivation for countless years, such that their foundations were extremely firm. They were only a step away from Chaotic Prime.

This was the breakthrough of a major realm after all. Without Jian Chen's assistance, none of them knew whether they had any hopes of reaching Chaotic Prime.

That was because the breakthrough of each major realm was not simply a matter of talent but opportunity and fortune as well.

That was not something that could be made up for with time alone.

Now that they received the assistance of Jian Chen's Comprehension Tea, these seven ancient existences that had remained at their current cultivations for countless years immediately saw the hope of reaching Chaotic Prime.

Nearby, the Blood Slaughter Ruler used the Divine Armour of Heavenflight and hid in the space there with his presence completely erased. He hid so well that even Jian Chen could not detect him with the senses of his soul.

He carefully observed the seven Infinite Primes amidst their breakthroughs from afar. His face was sunken. *"They're actually all submerged in comprehending the laws. Does Jian Chen really have a way for them to become rulers? What exactly did he obtain from the maze?"* As soon as he considered what Jian Chen could have found in the maze, the Blood Slaughter Ruler became filled with envy.

"Dammit. With my current strength, I can't defeat Heaven Fighting, Jade Heaven, and Jian Chen while they work together, but they're not capable of killing me either. However, if seven new rulers appear and I'm up against ten people, I... I might be done for good." As soon as he thought up to there, the Blood Slaughter Ruler became uneasy. Just the thought of ten rulers was terrifying, let alone the fact that two of them would be experts like Jade Heaven and Jian Chen.

If he were up against ten rulers at the same time, he did not have any hopes at all.

"I definitely can't let the seven of them become rulers or that'll be the end of me." The Blood Slaughter Ruler's eyes shone with chilling killing intent. He rapidly made up his mind before making his way behind the seven people amidst their breakthrough using the Divine Armour of Heavenflight, thrusting out with his god artifact sword without any mercy.

"I can't assassinate Jian Chen, so I'll ruin his plan and stop him from nurturing new rulers," the Blood Slaughter Ruler thought. His thrust immediately turned into seven attacks, targeting the heads of the seven people at the same time.

In a single instant, seven strands of sword Qi had already reached the back of the seven experts' heads.

Faced with the Blood Slaughter Ruler's sneak attack, the seven experts engrossed in comprehension completely failed to sense it.

However, right when the Blood Slaughter Ruler's sword was about to plunge into their heads, the surroundings suddenly fell silent. The space that spanned the entire mountain range completely froze.

The wind stopped coursing.

Time seemed to come to an absolute stop too.

Everything in the world stopped growing at that instant.

When the Blood Slaughter Ruler's seven strands of sword Qi were only an inch away from the heads of the seven experts, they came to a forceful halt, having been restrained there by the frozen space, unable to advance any further.

The seven attacks were not all that were frozen. The Blood Slaughter Ruler was restrained as well.

He had already been exposed from space. He was equipped in the Divine Armour of Heavenflight, frozen in the posture of striking out with his sword as if he had been hit with a stunning curse.

"His Laws of Space can actually trap me. How is this possible!?" The Blood Slaughter Ruler was shocked. His heart churned.

Jian Chen turned towards the Blood Slaughter Ruler and sighed gently. "Blood Slaughter, you've struggled for so long. It's time to put this to an end." As he said that, Jian Chen arrived before the Blood Slaughter Ruler in a flash. He extended his hand and pressed down on the Blood Slaughter Ruler's head gently.

Immediately, the powerful forces of space surged forth, colliding violently with the Divine Armour of Heavenflight.

Bang! With a thump, the Blood Slaughter Ruler shot off like a broken kite. He coughed up blood uncontrollably while his eyes were bloodshot. Even his head that was protected by the Divine Armour of Heavenflight had cracked at that moment.

He let out a miserable cry. He felt an overwhelming headache as if his entire head was about to explode.

Just a casual strike from Jian Chen had heavily injured his soul through the Divine Armour of Heavenflight.

But in the next moment, a layer of resplendent light rose up around the Blood Slaughter Ruler as the eight ancestral imprints appeared. They began to heal his wounds.

These ancestral imprints essentially bestowed him with an undying body.

With a flash in space, a slender figure arrived from the distance. It was the Jade Heaven Ruler.

The Jade Heaven Ruler's gaze locked onto the Blood Slaughter Ruler. She made no attempt to hide her killing intent. Right when she was about to strike, Jian Chen's voice ran out.

"You still can't kill him yet. Let me do it instead."

The Jade Heaven Ruler's eyes narrowed and turned towards Jian Chen. She beamed with joy. "Your soul has already completely recovered?"

"I'm still a bit off, but killing him is a piece of cake." Jian Chen appeared before the Blood Slaughter Ruler again as he said that, swinging his hand towards him gently.

Under the attack, the space where the Blood Slaughter Ruler dwelled seemed to be placed under tremendous pressure. The entire space suddenly squashed together, making him rapidly shrink under the compression. His body under the Divine Armour of Heavenflight constantly produced the sounds of bone creaking, having been shattered forcefully.

The Blood Slaughter Ruler's eyes bulged. The terrifying pressure from the space around him almost seemed to squeeze his eyes out of their sockets.

At that moment, he was under unimaginably terrifying pressure, like it was trying to turn him into a ball.

"Impossible, this is impossible. How can you suddenly become so powerful!?" The Blood Slaughter Ruler roared out furiously, more shocked than he had ever felt. At that moment, Jian Chen seemed far too terrifying. He could completely overwhelm him with the Laws of Space alone.

At this moment, the Blood Slaughter Ruler finally realised that he was actually so weak that he could not even fight back against Jian Chen.

Nearby, the Jade Heaven Ruler narrowed her eyes, having been frightened by the strength that Jian Chen demonstrated too.

"Argh!" Suddenly, the Blood Slaughter Ruler let out a howl. The energy in his body erupted like a tsunami, forcefully pushing back the compressed space inch by inch. He immediately used a God Tier Battle Skill.

Immediately, the tremendous might of the world filled the surroundings as the Blood Slaughter Ruler completed his God Tier Battle Skill instantly. A huge, thick trunk condensed from jade-green light hovered over his head, radiating with tremendous pressure. It directly hurtled towards Jian Chen with the aura of the laws of the world.

"Be careful, this is the Summoning of the Ancestral Tree. It's the strongest God Tier Battle Skill passed down through our Wood Spirits World," the Jade Heaven Ruler warned carefully.

“A futile effort!” Jian Chen was unfazed. This time, he did not directly disrupt the Blood Slaughter Ruler’s God Tier Battle Skill with the Ultimate Way of the Sword. Instead, he pointed towards the sky gently.

His gesture seemed to be able to shake the entire world. The sky within a million kilometres of him caved in, turning to darkness. All they could sense was a terrifying spatial storm rampaging overhead.

The Blood Slaughter Ruler’s God Tier Battle Skill’s presence grew weaker and weaker under the dark sky. In merely five seconds, the might of the world behind the God Tier Battle Skill completely dissipated with nothing remaining.

“Y-you can actually stop my God Tier Battle Skill so easily?” The Blood Slaughter Ruler was quite frightened by the dissipation of the God Tier Battle Skill. In two measly centuries, Jian Chen’s strength had already climbed to a height that he could only look up to. He was unable to accept that.

Jian Chen said nothing. He swung his hand and a spatial blade shot out with a flash, landing on the Blood Slaughter Ruler.

Boom! The Blood Slaughter Ruler was launched far away. Even though he was protected by the Divine Armour of Heavenflight, the tremendous force still heavily wounded him.

However, he soon used this force to turn around and flee into the distance without any hesitation at all.

Thunk! However, as soon as he turned around, another spatial blade landed on him. The Blood Slaughter Ruler was sent back from thirty thousand metres away, flying towards Jian Chen uncontrollably as he coughed up pieces of his organs.

The attacks from Jian Chen’s Laws of Space were simply too powerful. Every attack could heavily injure him. Even though he had the ancestral imprints healing him, his rate of regeneration could not keep up with his rate of injury.

In the blink of an eye, the Blood Slaughter Ruler stopped before Jian Chen once more. As he gazed at the levitating Jian Chen, the Blood Slaughter Ruler finally demonstrated fear in his eyes.

“Jian Chen, I will never oppose you again. Let’s all get along well. How’s that?” The Blood Slaughter Ruler endured his refusal to accept this and his sense of shame as he said that reluctantly. With such a tremendous difference in strength, he had no other choice but to bow down.

Jian Chen stared at the Blood Slaughter Ruler. His eyes were filled with coldness and mercilessness. He shook his head gently. “No. If you don’t die, I won’t be able to find peace.”

The Blood Slaughter Ruler’s face twisted viciously. He ground his teeth. “Jian Chen, I admit that you’re very powerful, so powerful that even I’m not your opponent. However, I’m protected by the Divine Armour of Heavenflight and have ancestral imprints to heal me. No matter how powerful you are, you can’t kill me.”

“You would be wrong about that. You’ve underestimated me and overestimated yourself. Killing you isn’t actually difficult!” Jian Chen sneered. As soon as he said that, he formed seals with his fingers. As he moved between seals, the space before him suddenly twisted. An illusionary sword immediately condensed.

The sword was completely condensed from the Laws of Space, containing countless wonders of the world and startling might.

With the appearance of the spatial sword, both the Jade Heaven Ruler and the Blood Slaughter Ruler narrowed their eyes.

Both of them sensed an intense threat. They did not have any doubts that this unassuming sword contained enough might to move the world.

However, that was not all. Shortly following the first sword's appearance, a second, third, and fourth sword soon appeared.

They appeared one after another, all extremely powerful, giving off a pressure enough to make the Jade Heaven Ruler and Blood Slaughter Ruler pale.

In the end, a total of eight spatial swords appeared before Jian Chen, locking onto the Blood Slaughter Ruler.

The Blood Slaughter Ruler immediately turned pale. He ignited his soul and vital energies without any hesitation, using a fleeing secret technique. He turned into a streak of light and shot off into the distance.

At the same time, the swords that Jian Chen had condensed using the Laws of Space shot out too, crossing tens of million kilometres instantly with unbelievable speed and directly catching up with the Blood Slaughter Ruler.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Rumbles immediately rang out in the distance. The eight spatial swords struck the Blood Slaughter Ruler one after another. The terrifying power was enough to violently twist space, severely interfering with the structure of the surroundings.

A bloody rain began to fall in the sky. Even though the eight spatial swords were unable to destroy the Divine Armour of Heavenflight, the great force behind them all passed into the Blood Slaughter Ruler's body, completely turning him to dust. Blood fell from the sky.

His soul was not spared either, completely obliterated in the spatial storm, ending his life for good.

The attacks he received at that moment were far too violent, well beyond the limits of the ancestral imprints. As a result, even with his eight ancestral imprints, he was unable to avoid death.

With that, the Blood Slaughter Ruler completely perished, vanishing from the Wood Spirits World. The Divine Armour of Heavenflight on him entered free fall and struck the ground.

Chapter 3364: The Seven Rulers

Before the Divine Armour of Heavenflight hit the ground, Jian Chen appeared silently and grabbed it.

He stared at the Divine Armour of Heavenflight and studied it for a while. He was gradually surprised and could not help but become solemn. Only after further, lengthy confirmation did he think in praise,

“This divine armour is definitely not just a regular high quality god artifact. Its quality is even above the Neptunean Divine Palace.”

“Its past owner must have been a Ninth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. Unfortunately, the divine armour has also gone through some intense battle, such that it’s severely damaged now. Repairing it is an almost-impossible challenge.”

“Otherwise, with the divine armour’s unique function and the mask from the Illusionary Daemon race, it would truly be flawless. After going into hiding, I should be able to avoid detection from even Ninth Heavenly Layer Grand Primes, even though it won’t be enough to fool sovereigns.”

Jian Chen felt some pity. Of course, he was aware that even if this armour was truly repaired, it would still pale somewhat in comparison to the mask from the Illusionary Daemon race.

After all, the mask from the Illusionary Daemon race did not require any energy to use. In other words, anyone could use it, regardless of cultivation.

The Divine Armour of Heavenflight was different. As a high quality god artifact, it exhausted energy at an astonishing rate. Without sufficient strength, it was completely impossible to use it.

Even the Blood Slaughter Ruler with his cultivation could only use it for short moments at a time.

Stowing the Divine Armour of Heavenflight away, Jian Chen returned to the top of the bisected mountain. He was completely unfazed by the Blood Slaughter Ruler’s death.

The Blood Slaughter Ruler was a paramount existence in the Wood Spirits World, but he was nothing in Jian Chen’s eyes.

“I never thought the Blood Slaughter Ruler would just perish like this. Sigh.”

The Heaven Fighting Ruler had already arrived, standing beside the Jade Heaven Ruler. He stared at where the Blood Slaughter Ruler had died and lamented over his death.

Soon, he turned towards Jian Chen. He felt both fear and respect.

Jian Chen’s strength earned his fear. Even an existence as powerful as the Blood Slaughter Ruler had been slain effortlessly by him.

If he decided to go on a rampage in the Wood Spirits World with such strength, truly no one could stop him in the current Wood Spirits World.

He happened to possess enough strength to dominate the world, yet he did not abuse it. That was what earned him the Heaven Fighting Ruler’s respect.

“He actually killed the Blood Slaughter Ruler effortlessly.” The Jade Heaven Ruler was also astounded inside. She had once always held doubts over Jian Chen’s actual strength. She did not believe Jian Chen could actually kill the Blood Slaughter Ruler so easily.

When she personally witnessed the Blood Slaughter Ruler’s death, she finally understood Jian Chen’s strength and capabilities.

At this moment, the Heaven Fighting Ruler arrived before Jian Chen. He smiled kindly and cupped his fist. "Fellow Jian Chen, the Scarlet Blood Domain is yours from now onwards. I hope the three domains can work together to the benefit of each other and remain on good terms forever."

The Heaven Fighting Ruler clearly said that without much confidence, as the difference in strength between the three rulers was growing wider and wider. Just the Jade Heaven Ruler with her twelve ancestral imprints was enough to stifle his breath.

After all, times had changed. Without the Blood Slaughter Ruler's threat, their alliance of the past no longer existed. It no longer held any meaning.

Jian Chen shook his head. "You and Jade Heaven can manage the Scarlet Blood Domain. I have no interest nor desire to expand my territory."

"We'll leave the Scarlet Blood Domain alone for now. After all, the Wood Spirits World will gain seven new rulers soon. The situation will change once again. You can leave the Scarlet Blood Domain until then," said the Jade Heaven Ruler in suggestion.

The three of them expressed a simple opinion over the territory of the Scarlet Blood Domain before all taking their leave.

Jian Chen remained where he was, carefully watching over the seven experts' breakthroughs and keeping an eye out for them personally.

The death of the Blood Slaughter Ruler spread through the Wood Spirits World very quickly, immediately leading to a great uproar. Countless Wood Spirits were left dumbfounded. They struggled to believe the news.

Who knew how many years it had been since a ruler perished. The Peace region, Grand Heaven Domain, and Jade Centre Domain were all shocked, unable to recover from the sudden news.

As for the Scarlet Blood Domain, they were obviously the one that was most heavily affected. All of the ancestors of peak sects in the Scarlet Blood Domain emerged from secluded cultivation, recalling all of their experts like they were facing a powerful enemy's onslaught.

All of the experts under the Blood Slaughter Ruler's command gathered in the Divine Palace of Scarlet Blood. Their faces were all sunken, and the atmosphere was extremely oppressive.

They were all aware that the Blood Slaughter Ruler's death would definitely have a wide-reaching effect on the Wood Spirits World, and the most affected party would obviously be the Scarlet Blood Domain previously under the Blood Slaughter Ruler's rule.

They were also aware that they were no longer in charge of the Scarlet Blood Domain's fate.

.....

...

Jian Chen was completely unconcerned with the situation of the Wood Spirits World. During this time, he remained in the depths of the remote mountain range, focusing on the breakthrough of these seven people.

He had even gradually begun to forget about the Peace region. His primary objective for becoming the lord of the Peace region was to gather the resources of the Peace region to heal.

Now that his soul was virtually completely healed, the Peace region no longer possessed any value in his eyes.

The flow of time never stopped. In the blink of an eye, Jian Chen had already watched over the mountain for five years. During those five years, he devoted a large number of resources into the seven experts, brewing Comprehension Tea again and again. The total amount of God Tier Comprehension Tea Leaves he had used up surpassed fifty.

Unfortunately, the seven experts did not overcome the final barrier.

Increasing their strength in the Wood Spirits World seemed to be much more difficult than the Saints' World. Even with Comprehension Tea, going from the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime to Chaotic Prime still was not easy.

"They actually still haven't broken through. I refuse to believe I can't let the seven of you reach Chaotic Prime with the resources in my possession." Jian Chen made up his mind and directly took out five leaves of sixth grade God Tier Comprehension Tea.

After drinking the tea brewed from those leaves, the Mayhemless Heavenly King finally reached Chaotic Prime.

Immediately, a tremendous presence radiated from him, filling the surroundings and sweeping out into the world.

Jian Chen immediately enveloped the Mayhemless Heavenly King with the Laws of Space, isolating all of his presence just in case he affected the six others.

Three days later, the Mayhemless Heavenly King completed his breakthrough. He arrived before Jian Chen in a flash and bowed deeply. His face was filled with respect from the bottom of his heart.

After the Mayhemless Heavenly King, a second ruler was born after another seven days. The Deadwood Heavenly King completed his breakthrough too, reaching Chaotic Prime.

"Deadwood thanks the ruler for his generosity." The Deadwood Heavenly King was extremely grateful, also bowing deeply towards Jian Chen.

With the first round of sixth grade God Tier Comprehension Tea, only the Mayhemless Heavenly King and Deadwood Heavenly King completed their breakthroughs. The five others were still stuck at the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime.

However, in order to assemble nine Wood Spirits Chaotic Primes, Jian Chen did not hold back. With a flip of his hand, a few sixth grade God Tier Comprehension Tea Leaves appeared once again. After brewing the tea, he split it between the five of them.

Under Jian Chen's full, unconditional support, the five remaining Wood Spirits experts finally all broke through to Chaotic Prime a month later.

Chaotic Prime also meant they were now rulers!

At that moment, the Wood Spirits had gained another seven rulers in such a short span of time!

“I’ve finally assembled nine Chaotic Primes that are also Wood Spirits.” Jian Chen smiled victoriously as he gazed at the seven Chaotic Primes that stood straight before him.

With the seven Chaotic Primes before him and the Jade Heaven Ruler and Heaven Fighting Ruler, he had finally fulfilled the conditions for entering the stone door.

Even though it had cost him a tremendous amount of Comprehension Tea, everything was worth it to him as long as he could enter the stone door.

Chapter 3365: Opening the Stone Door

“It really is difficult to believe that you actually made the seven of them reach Chaotic Prime successfully in such a short amount of time.”

The Jade Heaven Ruler and Heaven Fighting Ruler both appeared. As they gazed at the seven experts radiating with the presence of Chaotic Primes, they were both astounded.

It was difficult to become a ruler. That was a publicly-known truth in the Wood Spirits World. Otherwise, there would not be only three rulers after all these years.

Yet Jian Chen had actually created seven rulers in under a decade, which was truly unbelievable.

“It’s all because they’ve remained at the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime for so long, such that both their accumulated comprehension and foundations are deep enough. They were all at the peak of their current realm of cultivation, only a step away from Chaotic Prime. Otherwise, getting them to break through would not have been easy. It might have even been impossible.”

“And despite that, nurturing the seven of them almost pushed me to my limits. If there was another one or two more, I probably would have been powerless too.” Jian Chen smiled wryly. As soon as he thought of all the Comprehension Tea he had used on the seven of them, he felt pained.

That was because he almost had no Comprehension Tea left in his possession. He had already used up most of the high quality ones, while the remaining were all low quality.

“Heaven Fighting Ruler, Jade Heaven Ruler, I must ask you to help me out now and open the stone door.” Jian Chen cupped his fist towards the Jade Heaven Ruler and Heaven Fighting Ruler.

“It’s a mere trifle, so it’s obviously no problem. I’m more than happy to help.” The Heaven Fighting Ruler chuckled and agreed extremely happily. Clearly, he had also heard about the stone door from the Jade Heaven Ruler.

“When do you plan on entering it?” The Jade Heaven Ruler stared straight at Jian Chen.

“Right now!” Jian Chen took out a divine hall and said to the seven people who had just broken through, “You can stay in this divine hall and familiarise yourself with your current cultivation next. When I need you, I’ll let you out.”

The seven experts who had just reached Chaotic Prime did not have any objections. They all entered Jian Chen’s divine hall.

Afterwards, Jian Chen turned towards Jade Heaven and Heaven Fighting. "You should go back and make some preparations. I'll go search for the spatial passageway. Once I find it, I'll contact you immediately."

Afterwards, the Heaven Fighting Ruler and Jade Heaven Ruler both left, while Jian Chen continued scouring the Peace region for the spatial teleportation passageway that could let them into the maze.

The spatial teleportation passageway appeared randomly without remaining in the same place for too long at a time. As a matter of fact, there were even small periods of time when it vanished completely.

As a result, luck played a certain role in finding the spatial teleportation passageway. The time required to find it each time was not fixed.

This time, it took Jian Chen a total of fifteen years before finally finding the passageway in a mountain range that he had searched who knew how many times already.

He immediately contacted the Heaven Fighting Ruler and Jade Heaven Ruler before sending the two of them into the divine hall as well and vanishing into the spatial teleportation passageway.

Very soon, the familiar scenery appeared around Jian Chen again. As far as he could see, there was an enormous passageway where the walls, floor, and ceiling all shone with green light, filled with a surging vitality.

The senses of everyone's souls were suppressed here, unable to expand beyond their bodies. They could only observe this world with the naked eye.

Jian Chen did not stop. The Laws of Space rippled around him. After gaining his bearings, he vanished instantly, venturing deeper and deeper into the corridor of the maze.

Even though he had already entered this place twice before, Jian Chen felt like he still had not explored every corner. There was still a relatively large area he had not set foot in.

As for the path he had memorised, that was only limited to a small region centred around the stone door.

Entering the maze this time, his objective was completely different from the last two times. He sped through the maze rapidly, constantly venturing deeper in search of a path he was familiar with.

Along the way, he encountered many lingering wills, as well as some ancestral imprints, but he did not stop at all. He directly teleported past them with the Laws of Space without wasting any time.

He no longer needed ancestral imprints and he only had a century with each entry, so he had to find the stone door within this time limit.

As Jian Chen moved rapidly, he used less than a decade before finding a path that he had memorised.

With a familiar path found, everything that followed next became much simpler. Jian Chen took fewer and fewer wrong turns. Finally, after a few more months, he returned to the stone door.

Standing inside the nine formations outside the stone door, he took out the divine hall and let out everyone.

As soon as the nine Chaotic Primes appeared, they studied the surroundings. The Jade Heaven Ruler and Heaven Fighting Ruler were no exceptions. All of them were deeply curious.

“Only Chaotic Primes of the Wood Spirits race can activate these nine formations. Stand there and unleash your energy,” Jian Chen said to the nine people.

They did not hesitate. They each found a formation and unleashed their energy at the same time.

Immediately, the formations under their feet shone with blinding light. All of the formations seemed to spring alive. Countless glyphs circulated rapidly.

In the end, the energy from the nine formations joined together, forming a colossal green column of light that struck the giant stone door before them.

The green column of energy seemed to be a key. When it struck the stone door, the door immediately rumbled and opened slowly.

Immediately, an ancient and desolate presence rushed out. It seemed as if it had faced the test of time, filled with a sense of mustiness and staleness.

Who knew how long it had been since the stone door was last opened.

“It’s finally open.” Gazing at the stone door that opened slowly, Jian Chen smiled gently. He had paid quite a price for this, exhausting a large number of heavenly resources. Now, he had finally obtained what he wanted.

But in the next moment, Jian Chen quivered. An extremely dense presence of life surged out from the stone door, brushing past him like a gentle breeze.

Bathing in this presence of life, Jian Chen felt refreshed, like his soul had been elevated and even his body had been renewed. Even his limbs and bones felt like they had been cleansed.

At that moment, he even felt rather floaty, like he had entered the clouds. It was an indescribable sense of comfort.

On top of that, he could sense his soul seemingly grow slightly. The Chaotic Body also began to show signs of recovery. Even the curse suppressed in his legs seemed to weaken a bit.

The level that this presence of life was on was far too great, completely surpassing the ancestral imprints.

It was not just him. Even the nine Chaotic Primes all shut their eyes subconsciously. They were completely engrossed in the presence of life, leaving them intoxicated.

Suddenly, a tremendous presence spread out. The Heaven Fighting Ruler who had remained stuck at the First Heavenly Layer of Chaotic Prime for all these years actually pierced the thin film at that moment, stepping into the realm of the Second Heavenly Layer.

“This is the sovereign god artifact, the Source of life.” Jian Chen’s soul shook. He was extremely excited. Just the presence of life it gave off possessed such wondrous effects, so it immediately reminded him of the Wood Spirits’ sovereign god artifact.

The presence of life that gushed out from there definitely originated from the sovereign god artifact!

Chapter 3366: Laws of Life

Jian Chen slowly drifted through the stone door excitedly.

The Heaven Fighting Ruler was still breaking through, but he did not wait for him. Instead, he left behind a spatial barrier to protect the Heaven Fighting Ruler and entered the stone door alone.

The seven newly-broken-through Chaotic Primes and the Jade Heaven Ruler followed closely behind Jian Chen.

In the blink of an eye, only the Heaven Fighting Ruler remained outside the stone door.

Stepping through the stone door, they seemed to enter an entirely different space. Their field of vision opened up and brightened.

All they saw was an idyllic world. A lush carpet of green covered the ground with birds twittering in the air. The entire world was filled with vitality, teeming with life and activity.

Whether it were the birds in the air or the venomous insects and vicious beasts lurking within the sea-like green, they were all extremely puny, ordinary existence.

They hunted one another, eating the weak to fill their bellies, before breeding through various methods.

In this place, who knew how many lives were lost with each day and who knew how many lives were created too.

They lived and died like this, following the cycle, on and on...

It was as if this brand-new world manifested the truth of the world in the simplest manner possible.

Jian Chen shut his eyes and stood where he was. With his powerful senses, he could clearly detect how the surroundings changed even without using the senses of his soul, but he immediately shuddered inside when he sensed the laws here under the special environment.

"This is the truth of life!" Jian Chen's heart shook. He could sense that behind the deaths and even births of every life here, there was a paramount truth.

This was a law, a way, an undeniable truth.

If this occurred in the outside world, it would seem ordinary with nothing special. The strong preying on the weak had always been a pattern of nature.

However, if he observed it through this world, it was vastly different. It became very easy to comprehend the laws of the world.

Suddenly, Jian Chen became extremely calm. He remained in a seated posture with his eyes shut, hovering in the air. His mind had already merged with the world, unable to help himself as he became engrossed in the comprehension of the Laws of life.

At that moment, he gained an entirely new understanding towards life. As this understanding deepened, it upheaved his previous beliefs regarding life.

Just as Jian Chen was engrossed in comprehending the Laws of Life, a faint layer of green light appeared around him. He seemed to have made contact with the ways of life, achieving resonance with the laws. A thin strand of the Laws of Life appeared in the world, like a bridge that connected heaven and hell, joining Jian Chen with the Laws of Life.

As he comprehended the Laws of Life, his Chaotic Body changed in subtle ways too. Energy filled with life appeared in his body, filling every cell in his body with vitality.

Of course, the energy of life was extremely puny. It was no different from an ant to an elephant when compared to his Chaotic Body.

However, after gaining this energy of life, the regeneration of his Chaotic Body seemed to increase slightly.

Only after three whole days did Jian Chen open his eyes again. At that moment, he had comprehended one additional law.

The Laws of Life.

Of course, he had only just made contact with the Laws of Life. His current comprehension was still very low, equivalent to recently reaching Godhood.

"The Laws of Life are tremendously helpful for healing." The moment he opened his eyes, Jian Chen immediately sensed the changes in his body. His eyes immediately twinkled.

His Chaotic Body had always regenerated very quickly. If he had the Laws of Life as well, that was basically overkill.

"But my comprehension of the Laws of Life is still very low right now. Given my current level, it won't have a particularly obvious effect on my Chaotic Body. If my Laws of Life ever reach the same height as the Chaotic Body, then that'll be when it really shines," Jian Chen thought before turning towards the others.

When he looked over, the seven new Chaotic Primes and the Jade Heaven Ruler opened their eyes as well. Their eyes all shone brightly, clearly having comprehended something from those three days.

"Hahaha, I've finally caught up with you. I'm not late, am I?" The Heaven Fighting Ruler's voice ran out. He had not managed to withdraw all of his presence yet. Having just broken through, he was in a hurry to catch up to them, so he did not have the time to consolidate his cultivation.

Afterwards, they continued onwards, but what they saw along the way left them very disappointed, as all the plants and creatures in this world were ordinary. They were the most basic of lifeforms. There was not even a single heavenly resource here.

Very soon, they arrived at the centre of this world. From afar, they discovered a small hill covered with grass and a wooden hut standing there quietly.

The wooden hut was extremely small. It was square and only three metres wide.

A series of figures faced the wooden hut at the bottom of the hill, maintaining kneeling positions as if they were petrified. They did not move at all.

Every single figure gave off a tremendous presence. There were so many of them that they reached into the hundreds.

And the closer to the front, the more terrifying their presences were. The invisible pressure was extremely startling, even leaving Jian Chen shocked.

“T-t-they’re actually all our predecessors...”

The Jade Heaven Ruler and the Heaven Fighting Ruler could not help but tremble when they saw the familiar figures at the end. Their expressions changed rapidly.

“Ancestor, it’s actually the ancestor of our Yongxi clan. Ancestor, we’ve searched for you for countless years. We never thought... we never thought you’d actually be here...” Among the seven rulers, the ancestor of a peak clan suddenly became emotional and arrived behind one of the figures immediately.

However, as soon as he made contact, the figure turned to dust and dissipated in the wind.

That left everyone present stunned.

“Don’t ever touch them. They perished a long time ago. Their bodies have eroded away, and they’ll disperse from the slightest touch,” Jian Chen said sternly.

He could tell with a single glance that these people were Chaotic Primes at the very least when they were still alive.

After reaching such a cultivation, even a droplet of blood could remain intact for millions or even tens of millions years.

Yet, their entire bodies had directly been eroded away by time, which was far too rare.

The expert from the Yongxi clan was stunned. He gazed at his ancestor who had turned to dust sorrowfully.

At this moment, the Jade Heaven Ruler and the Heaven Fighting Ruler arrived behind a few figures. They gazed at the kneeling figures on the ground with extremely mixed emotion, afraid to touch them. They were even afraid to get too close to them.

“They are all seniors of our race, all supreme experts who once reigned over the Wood Spirits World, except they vanished afterwards for some reason. I never thought they’d actually all be here,” the Jade Heaven Ruler murmured with mixed emotions.

She glanced past the figures before her and discovered that all the predecessors they could recognise only knelt in the last row of people.

In front of them were even more experts. The closer to the front, the stronger they were.

Most importantly, all of these people were Wood Spirits.

Chapter 3367: Predecessors of the Wood Spirits

Jian Chen glanced past these predecessors of the Wood Spirits and discovered a strange phenomenon very quickly. All of these people knelt on the ground in an orderly manner, where nine at the very least formed a row, amounting to over a dozen rows.

The predecessors recognised by the Jade Heaven Ruler and the others all belonged to the last row.

"If each row of experts here is equivalent to an age, then the Wood Spirits have endured over a dozen ages until now." Jian Chen thought. He glanced past the Heaven Fighting Ruler, Jade Heaven Ruler, and the others. It was as clear as day. The nine of them were the representatives of this age.

Jian Chen drifted forwards. He arrived before the experts of the previous age extremely carefully. They had already perished and their bodies had eroded away, such that they would disperse as dust from the slightest touch.

However, they still retained some of the presence from when they were alive, which was mighty and tremendous.

However, Jian Chen could clearly sense that while the experts of the previous age were also Chaotic Primes, they were all much stronger than the Jade Heaven Ruler.

Among the nine of them, at least half of them were mid Chaotic Primes, which consisted of the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Heavenly Layers.

There were even two or three of them that had reached late Chaotic Prime.

In short, the experts of the previous age were far stronger than the current ones.

Suddenly, Jian Chen seemed to notice something. His eyes suddenly narrowed, and he extended his finger gently. A jade slip covered in dust burst out from the earth, landing in Jian Chen's hand gently.

Immediately, the Jade Heaven Ruler, the Heaven Fighting Ruler, and the seven other rulers' gazes gathered on Jian Chen.

Jian Chen clutched the jade slip and was about to check its contents subconsciously, but after hesitating slightly, he glanced past his nine companions and tossed the jade slip towards the Jade Heaven Ruler. "Your predecessors left this behind, so take a look at what's recorded inside."

Afterwards, Jian Chen looked away from the Jade Heaven Ruler and began studying the figure who left behind the jade slip. He muttered to himself, "Hopefully, it has some useful information."

He checked the experts of the previous age once again and discovered that only one of them had left behind a jade slip. The eight others had not left behind anything.

Including their Space Rings and the god artifacts in their possession, everything had all eroded away.

"Medium quality god artifacts are already capable of existing for eternity unless severely damaged. Otherwise, it's virtually impossible for god artifacts to erode away. This makes no sense." Jian Chen gradually furrowed his brows as his eyes shone with uncertainty.

At the same time, the Jade Heaven Ruler checked through all the details in the jade slip, and her expression immediately became extremely mixed. Shortly afterwards, the jade slip was passed between the hands of the Wood Spirits before ending up in Jian Chen's hand.

Without any hesitation, Jian Chen immediately checked the contents inside.

When he saw the information recorded inside, he fell silent. His gaze towards the experts also changed in a drastic manner.

There was not a lot of information recorded in the jade slip, but it was extremely impactful, as it contained the complete details of why the experts had passed away.

The previous age composed of nine Chaotic Primes. They did not perish due to external forces. Instead, they offered up their lives willingly to try and awaken the artifact spirit of the ancestral god artifact from its slumber.

Not only did they sacrifice their lives, but they even exhausted all the heavenly resources and god artifacts on them, as well as their vitality and energy, just in hopes of awakening the artifact spirit.

The contents of the jade slip explained how the previous age of experts had died, and it allowed Jian Chen to understand something.

The sovereign god artifact of the Wood Spirits was slumbering.

Jian Chen could not help but look towards the tiny hut on the hill at the front. All these generations of experts all knelt towards the wooden hut.

"Is the wooden hut where the artifact spirit of the sovereign god artifact dwells? Or should I say the wooden hut is where the Grand Exalt of the Wood Spirits resided?" Jian Chen thought. He could vaguely sense that they could not afford to approach the wooden hut and lethal danger lurked nearby.

Jian Chen slowly drifted forwards. Very quickly, he made his way past the previous age of experts and arrived near the experts in the second last row.

They were rulers of the Wood Spirits from two ages ago.

There were a total of ten people in this generation.

However, all ten of them had reached late Chaotic Prime!

Each generation of experts that appeared here was stronger the further back they were from.

"The Wood Spirits World is already declining with each generation. Let alone no one being able to reach Grand Prime, probably even Chaotic Primes will cease to appear in the future."

"Spirit of the ancestral artifact, when will you awaken? The Wood Spirits need you."

Jian Chen discovered another two jade slips in front of the ten experts, which recorded the sorrows and helplessness that these experts felt.

Jian Chen continued onwards and arrived before the third row from the back, seeing the information they left behind once again.

It was not in jade slips this time, but instead engraved on a green, stone plate. The stone plate was so tough that it already reached the ranks of high quality god artifacts.

Even Ninth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Primes would struggle to leave a mark on such a tough material.

“As per the ancestor’s will, we’ve offered up everything we have willingly, depleting everything and casting aside our lives, passing all of our vitality and energy to the spirit of the ancestral artifact, in hopes that the spirit of the ancestral artifact can awaken soon.”

Gazing at all these experts kneeling here, Jian Chen’s heart grew heavy. By now, how could he not know why these experts had all perished? He also understood why these god artifacts that could exist for eternity had eroded away.

Over a hundred experts of the Wood Spirits had offered up their lives willingly, offering up everything that they had, just in hopes of awakening the artifact spirit of the sovereign god artifact.

The medium and even high quality god artifacts that belonged to them had not suffered any severe damage. Instead, they had also offered themselves up in hopes of awakening the artifact spirit just like their masters.

There were over a dozen generations at the very least, a total of over a hundred Chaotic Primes, who all offered up themselves for such a goal. Just how solemn and stirring of a sight was this?

The nine experts beside Jian Chen were all sorrowful. Their hearts weighed heavily too.

They had not finished their journey yet. They continued onwards and gradually, they learnt about some matters from even further back from the information left behind by their predecessors.

“The origin energy in the Wood Spirits World is gradually declining. The laws are growing weaker too, which is all caused by the spirit of the ancestral artifact’s slumber. We must awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact.”

“Cultivation is becoming more and more difficult, while breakthroughs to higher realms are gradually turning into hopeless fantasies. This world was born because of the spirit of the ancestral artifact, but it will also perish because of the spirit of the ancestral artifact.”

“Spirit of the ancestral artifact, our race depends on you.”

“Spirit of the ancestral artifact, what can we do for you to recover?”

“In our generation, there were nine First Heavenly Layer Grand Primes, no Chaotic Primes, and no Infinite Primes.”

“Our race has already entered an abnormal phase of development. The strong grow stronger and the weak grow weaker, while cultivators in between have almost vanished altogether.”

“The spirit of the ancestral artifact was severely damaged in the past. After using a tremendous amount of power to create this world and leave behind the laws, it’s already declining with each passing day.”

.....

...

Towards the front, everyone who appeared were Grand Primes. They had all perished, their bodies corroded away, turning to dust from the slightest touch. For the sake of awakening the ancestral artifact, they sacrificed themselves.

Of course, not everyone left behind information. Along the way, they discovered three generations of experts who left no information behind at all.

When they reached an even earlier generation of experts, Jian Chen's expression suddenly changed. He saw a piece of information.

"The spirit of the ancestral artifact has entered a slumber, so this place has become a forbidden zone that can only be entered without ever leaving. The only way to leave is to awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact. So be it. If that's the case, then I'll sacrifice myself and make an offering to the spirit of the ancestral artifact and my clansmen outside."

The information left behind by that expert made Jian Chen stop. He continued to levitate in the air in a seated position as his expression changed with uncertainty.

"You can only enter without leaving? The only way to leave is to awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact?"

Chapter 3368: The First Ancestor

When they saw that piece of information, even the nine experts of the Wood Spirits suddenly felt their hearts sink. Some of their faces became rather ugly.

Clearly, they still were not prepared to offer up themselves to awaken the artifact spirit just yet.

In reality, they were completely clueless about everything in here before they entered. They did not know that several generations of seniors lay in rest here, nor did they know that the artifact spirit of the ancestral god artifact had already entered a state of slumber countless years ago.

Now, as soon as they entered here and learnt a little about the Wood Spirits' history, they were told that none of them could leave unless they awakened the spirit of the ancestral artifact.

How were they supposed to accept this?

After all, seven of them had only just become rulers. They had not even managed to bring glory to their ancestors yet and they would be trapped to death in here. How could they accept it?

"W-w-we can't leave anymore?" One of the newly-broken-through rulers turned rather pale as his lips trembled.

"Dammit, we still have our organisations outside. Are we really just going to meet our ends here before we could even make some arrangements?"

"Our race has indeed been declining with each generation. For the sake of our race, we're also willing to sacrifice our lives and offer everything to the spirit of the ancestral artifact, b-but at least let us make some arrangements before this."

"We're all critical figures to our clans. Once we die, what's going to happen to our clans?"

.....

...

After a period of silence, the seven experts who had all broken through recently began to grumble. They found this difficult to accept.

They were not afraid of dying. They were all willing to offer up themselves to awaken the ancestral artifact, but they did not want to go in such a quiet fashion.

To them, even if they were to die, they wanted their names to go down in history, to be remembered and honoured by the future generations.

“Sigh, these predecessors probably didn’t end their lives so quickly either and were actually trapped in here, forced to do that with no other choice.” The Heaven Fighting Ruler glanced past the predecessors and sighed.

Jian Chen remained silent the entire time as he studied this world. He was already certain that this world resided in the ancestral god artifact and was extremely tough. Let alone him, even Grand Primes were not capable of forcing their way out.

Then he began to recall what he saw earlier closely. He discovered that from the moment he set foot through the stone door and entered this world, the path behind him was already gone.

That was because this world and the maze where the stone door existed resided in two different spaces.

The maze would teleport them out forcefully after a century, but that would not happen here.

“Let’s continue onwards and see if any of the predecessors ahead have left anything behind.” A while later, the Jade Heaven Ruler broke the stifling atmosphere again. She spoke very softly with an extremely despondent tone.

Clearly, she had also realised that she would probably never be able to leave here again.

Awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact?

None of them were that hopeful. There were so many generations of predecessors in front of them and every generation was more powerful than them. Despite that, over a dozen generations had failed, let alone their generation.

The ten of them continued onwards. Before them were four more generations of predecessors.

Very soon, they made their way past three generations. Each generation was composed of nine people, having reached Grand Prime at the very least.

They had also left behind messages, but it was not particularly helpful.

Very soon, they arrived before the first generation of predecessors.

Of course, whether they were actually the first generation was not something they could be certain about. They just happened to be the ones standing at the very front among all these generations.

They also happened to be the ones closest to the small wooden hut on the hill.

However, the first generation of predecessors were not nine people but just one!

She was a woman, standing with her back towards everyone. As such, they could not see her face, only her back.

However, unlike the other predecessors of the Wood Spirits, she sat on the ground while the others all knelt towards the wooden hut.

Jian Chen and the nine experts of the Wood Spirits all stopped behind the woman, unable to advance any further.

Despite having perished countless years ago, the woman's presence was still extremely startling, like it shocked the heavens and rocked the world. Even Jian Chen felt shivers as he stood behind her, feeling his own insignificance.

As for the nine other experts, they all trembled, about to kneel down uncontrollably.

The presence obstructed everyone, preventing them from making it past the woman.

"This person's strength has already surpassed the Seventh Heavenly Layer of Grand Prime. She's at the Eighth Heavenly Layer at the very least, or maybe even the Ninth Heavenly Layer..." Jian Chen shuddered inside. Even in the Saints' World, experts like that were mythical existences. Every single one of them was a significant figure that ruled over an entire region of the Saints' World.

"When the Wood Spirits left the others, they should not have possessed such a powerful expert. As a result, it's extremely likely that this first ancestor's strength had increased further after separating from the others, which allowed her to reach the Eighth Heavenly Layer," Jian Chen thought. He had learnt a little about the Spiritsages' history from the Wind Venerable.

The Wood Spirits were very powerful during their prime, having a Grand Exalt. However, after the Spirits' World had shattered, all the races in the Spirits' World migrated to the Saints' World. The Wood Spirits gradually declined, growing weaker with each generation.

Suddenly, Jian Chen noticed a single sentence engraved in the ground in front of the first ancestor. Countless years had passed, which blurred the words and left many of them incomprehensible, but there were still three that could be clearly read.

"Was I wrong..."

Those three short words seemed to contain a boundless amount of information, like they were filled with far more than could be put into a message, as well as her internal conflict and pain.

For some reason, when he saw those three words, Jian Chen immediately confirmed the woman's identity.

It was extremely likely that she was the leader who led the Wood Spirits to break away from the others in the past.

In the endless history of the Wood Spirits, she could not be regarded as an ancestor. There were probably experts even more ancient than her.

However, when it came to the Wood Spirits who dwelled in the world created by the sovereign god artifact after breaking off from the Spiritsages, she was definitely the first ancestor.

“You’re finally here...” At this moment, a sigh seemed to ring through history, slowly echoing out from the space there.

Everyone immediately shivered inside when they heard the voice. They all became tense.

In the next moment, a streak of green light from the first ancestor condensed into a blurry figure. Her face was blurred, such that it was impossible to make out any facial features.

“A-are you the first ancestor?” Everyone looked over immediately in great shock.

Chapter 3368: The First Ancestor

When they saw that piece of information, even the nine experts of the Wood Spirits suddenly felt their hearts sink. Some of their faces became rather ugly.

Clearly, they still were not prepared to offer up themselves to awaken the artifact spirit just yet.

In reality, they were completely clueless about everything in here before they entered. They did not know that several generations of seniors lay in rest here, nor did they know that the artifact spirit of the ancestral god artifact had already entered a state of slumber countless years ago.

Now, as soon as they entered here and learnt a little about the Wood Spirits’ history, they were told that none of them could leave unless they awakened the spirit of the ancestral artifact.

How were they supposed to accept this?

After all, seven of them had only just become rulers. They had not even managed to bring glory to their ancestors yet and they would be trapped to death in here. How could they accept it?

“W-w-we can’t leave anymore?” One of the newly-broken-through rulers turned rather pale as his lips trembled.

“Dammit, we still have our organisations outside. Are we really just going to meet our ends here before we could even make some arrangements?”

“Our race has indeed been declining with each generation. For the sake of our race, we’re also willing to sacrifice our lives and offer everything to the spirit of the ancestral artifact, b-but at least let us make some arrangements before this.”

“We’re all critical figures to our clans. Once we die, what’s going to happen to our clans?”

.....

...

After a period of silence, the seven experts who had all broken through recently began to grumble. They found this difficult to accept.

They were not afraid of dying. They were all willing to offer up themselves to awaken the ancestral artifact, but they did not want to go in such a quiet fashion.

To them, even if they were to die, they wanted their names to go down in history, to be remembered and honoured by the future generations.

“Sigh, these predecessors probably didn’t end their lives so quickly either and were actually trapped in here, forced to do that with no other choice.” The Heaven Fighting Ruler glanced past the predecessors and sighed.

Jian Chen remained silent the entire time as he studied this world. He was already certain that this world resided in the ancestral god artifact and was extremely tough. Let alone him, even Grand Primes were not capable of forcing their way out.

Then he began to recall what he saw earlier closely. He discovered that from the moment he set foot through the stone door and entered this world, the path behind him was already gone.

That was because this world and the maze where the stone door existed resided in two different spaces.

The maze would teleport them out forcefully after a century, but that would not happen here.

“Let’s continue onwards and see if any of the predecessors ahead have left anything behind.” A while later, the Jade Heaven Ruler broke the stifling atmosphere again. She spoke very softly with an extremely despondent tone.

Clearly, she had also realised that she would probably never be able to leave here again.

Awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact?

None of them were that hopeful. There were so many generations of predecessors in front of them and every generation was more powerful than them. Despite that, over a dozen generations had failed, let alone their generation.

The ten of them continued onwards. Before them were four more generations of predecessors.

Very soon, they made their way past three generations. Each generation was composed of nine people, having reached Grand Prime at the very least.

They had also left behind messages, but it was not particularly helpful.

Very soon, they arrived before the first generation of predecessors.

Of course, whether they were actually the first generation was not something they could be certain about. They just happened to be the ones standing at the very front among all these generations.

They also happened to be the ones closest to the small wooden hut on the hill.

However, the first generation of predecessors were not nine people but just one!

She was a woman, standing with her back towards everyone. As such, they could not see her face, only her back.

However, unlike the other predecessors of the Wood Spirits, she sat on the ground while the others all knelt towards the wooden hut.

Jian Chen and the nine experts of the Wood Spirits all stopped behind the woman, unable to advance any further.

Despite having perished countless years ago, the woman's presence was still extremely startling, like it shocked the heavens and rocked the world. Even Jian Chen felt shivers as he stood behind her, feeling his own insignificance.

As for the nine other experts, they all trembled, about to kneel down uncontrollably.

The presence obstructed everyone, preventing them from making it past the woman.

"This person's strength has already surpassed the Seventh Heavenly Layer of Grand Prime. She's at the Eighth Heavenly Layer at the very least, or maybe even the Ninth Heavenly Layer..." Jian Chen shuddered inside. Even in the Saints' World, experts like that were mythical existences. Every single one of them was a significant figure that ruled over an entire region of the Saints' World.

"When the Wood Spirits left the others, they should not have possessed such a powerful expert. As a result, it's extremely likely that this first ancestor's strength had increased further after separating from the others, which allowed her to reach the Eighth Heavenly Layer," Jian Chen thought. He had learnt a little about the Spiritsages' history from the Wind Venerable.

The Wood Spirits were very powerful during their prime, having a Grand Exalt. However, after the Spirits' World had shattered, all the races in the Spirits' World migrated to the Saints' World. The Wood Spirits gradually declined, growing weaker with each generation.

Suddenly, Jian Chen noticed a single sentence engraved in the ground in front of the first ancestor. Countless years had passed, which blurred the words and left many of them incomprehensible, but there were still three that could be clearly read.

"Was I wrong..."

Those three short words seemed to contain a boundless amount of information, like they were filled with far more than could be put into a message, as well as her internal conflict and pain.

For some reason, when he saw those three words, Jian Chen immediately confirmed the woman's identity.

It was extremely likely that she was the leader who led the Wood Spirits to break away from the others in the past.

In the endless history of the Wood Spirits, she could not be regarded as an ancestor. There were probably experts even more ancient than her.

However, when it came to the Wood Spirits who dwelled in the world created by the sovereign god artifact after breaking off from the Spiritsages, she was definitely the first ancestor.

"You're finally here..." At this moment, a sigh seemed to ring through history, slowly echoing out from the space there.

Everyone immediately shivered inside when they heard the voice. They all became tense.

In the next moment, a streak of green light from the first ancestor condensed into a blurry figure. Her face was blurred, such that it was impossible to make out any facial features.

“A-are you the first ancestor?” Everyone looked over immediately in great shock.

Chapter 3370: Strength Recovery

“Ancestor...”

Gazing at where the first ancestor vanished, the nine experts of the Wood Spirits all called out mournfully. They were in grief.

Even though they had absolutely no contact with the first ancestor and had never met her, nor any particular feelings regarding her, that still was their ancestor after all, as well as the first ancestor in the Wood Spirits World.

The connection from their bloodlines forbade them from remaining calm. They felt the same grief as losing someone close.

“Ancestor, we don’t even know your name yet!” the Mayhemless Heavenly King cried out as he gazed at where the first ancestor once sat with a trembling gaze.

However, her figure was already gone from there.

The body she left behind turned into a rain of light that enveloped this region, leaving behind her remaining life energy and laws for the people of this generation.

“Quick, absorb the energy left behind by the ancestor. It can drastically increase our strength. Quick, or it’ll dissipate if we take too long.” At this moment, the Jade Heaven Ruler called out. She discarded her sorrow and immediately dismissed her thoughts, sitting down on the ground and absorbing the green rain of light as quickly as possible.

Seeing how the Jade Heaven Ruler had already taken action, the eight other rulers no longer hesitated, all dismissing their thoughts before absorbing the green rain of light as quickly as possible.

The rain of light contained a tremendous amount of life energy and fragments of laws. It was extremely helpful to them and could increase their strength rapidly.

As a result, none of them could resist the temptation to grow stronger. They basically fought over every droplet of it as they wolfed it down, afraid they would fall behind.

Jian Chen did not hold back either. He sat in the air using the Laws of Space and also began absorbing the life essence and fragments of laws.

Immediately, the sky full of green light surged towards the ten of them. They absorbed the gushing life energy and fragments of laws at an unprecedented rate.

The gathering of the light filled the area with colossal swirls with them sitting at the centre of all of it.

However, these swirls varied in size, which represented how quickly they absorbed everything. The swirl around Jian Chen was without a doubt the largest among the ten. He was on a completely different level when it came to his absorption speed.

Not only was he the strongest out of everyone present, but there was another important reason too—the Chaotic Body. The speed at which he absorbed the energy of the world could not be rivalled by cultivators of the same level.

Beneath Jian Chen was the Jade Heaven Ruler, followed by the Heaven Fighting Ruler.

As the life energy and fragments of laws were absorbed, everyone's presence began to rise steadily, including Jian Chen's. Their strength was increasing at a visible rate.

Particularly with Jian Chen, as he absorbed the life energy, as he refined the fragments of laws, he gradually became excited.

His Chaotic Body had been destroyed by the Anatta Grand Exalt in the past. Even though the Wind Venerable had managed to save him through impossible methods, his Chaotic Body had fallen by a level, going from the sixteenth layer to the fifteenth.

Even though the cracks in his soul had already been repaired and his physical injuries had healed, his Chaotic Body remained at the fifteenth layer.

Now, with the absorption of the life energy, his Chaotic Body was actually slowly growing stronger once again, gradually advancing towards the sixteenth layer.

It was not just his Chaotic Body. Even his soul was strengthening.

The life energy contained the first ancestors' vital energies.

She was an Eighth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime, or maybe even the Ninth Heavenly Layer. Even after all this time that had passed, such that very little of her life energy and fragments of laws remained, it was still at a very high quality.

As a result, although the bit of energy remaining from the first ancestor was perhaps nothing to a Grand Prime, it was definitely powerful enough to a group of juniors that were only Chaotic Primes.

As they absorbed it as quickly as they could, the life energy and fragments of laws left behind by the ancestor became thinner and thinner.

Finally, a month later, the rain of light that filled this place was completely depleted.

At this moment, a tremendous presence suddenly erupted. The Jade Heaven Ruler sat solemnly with her eyes gently closed as she shone with dazzling light. She was wrapped in the Laws of Life, turning her into something like a goddess, both beautiful and sacred. She was inviolable.

After absorbing the bestowments from the first ancestor, the Jade Heaven Ruler had formally broken through to the Third Heavenly Layer.

The Heaven Fighting Ruler and the new Chaotic Primes had only broken through recently. Their cultivation was not consolidated enough. Coupled with various reasons like insufficient life energy and fragments of ways left by the first ancestor, they did not break through again, remaining at their current cultivation.

However, they were already extremely close, or perhaps already at, the peak of their current realms.

Of course, Jian Chen was still the one who benefitted the most. He alone absorbed almost half of the life energy and fragments of laws left behind by the first ancestor.

Such tremendous life energy directly allowed his Chaotic Body to return to prime condition, the sixteenth layer.

The cracks in his soul had all healed already, while his soul had returned to that of a Fifth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime's.

That was not all. After absorbing the fragments of laws left behind by the first ancestor, his Way of the Sword also experienced evident increases. It had already reached the highest peak of the major achievement of Sword Immortal.

His Laws of the Sword were only a step away from the great completion of Sword Immortal now.

Once his Laws of the Sword broke through again, he would reach the great completion; his Chaotic Body would also reach the seventeenth layer!

Silently sensing his current situation, Jian Chen opened his eyes slowly in satisfaction. He smiled faintly.

Now, he had basically returned to his prime condition. All that remained was the Dao Union Saint's curse.

The bestowments from the first ancestor had been far too helpful to him. It drastically reduced the amount of time he needed to recover, saving him several years of arduous effort.

Jian Chen turned towards where the first ancestor previously sat and gradually became solemn. He slowly lowered his head and bowed deeply.

However, because his legs were immobilised, he bowed in a seated position, which seemed extremely strange.

"Thank you for your bestowments, ancestor!"

After Jian Chen, the other experts of the Wood Spirits all bowed towards the first ancestor's position as well, apart from the Jade Heaven Ruler who was still breaking through. They were all sorrowful. Some of them even shed tears.

The lingering will of the first ancestor had existed for all these years, just to wait for them to enter here. In the end, she vanished from the world without even leaving her name behind after bestowing them with this fortune.

Her selfless sacrifices for the Wood Spirits deeply touched them.

"We must follow the will left behind by the ancestor and awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact," an expert of the Wood Spirits said with determination.

He was from one of the peak clans of the Wood Spirits World, the ancestor of the Yongxi clan. His name was Yongxi Lantian.

"B-but how are we supposed to awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact? The first ancestor never told us how to," said a middle-aged man. He came from the Grand Heaven Domain and served as the head

caretaker of the Divine Palace of Grand Heaven. He was also the Heaven Fighting Ruler's subordinate, Jiang Zhantian.

"The first ancestor never told us the precise way. D-don't tell me the way for us to awaken the spirit of the ancestral artifact is also through sacrifice?" A ruddy old man also spoke up among the seven new rulers.

He was an independent cultivator who lived as a recluse within the mountains. He was known as the Deep Mountain Elder.