

“What secret?” asked Chen Pingan.

“I don’t know the earliest details, but what I do know is that the Chen Family owned a precious item called the Sun Totem, an heirloom with the ability to foretell the future. It also contains various cultivation techniques within it, thus making it a treasure among all treasures!” explained Gu Yuehong. “Chen Diancang might have known something via the Sun Totem, which was why he then disappeared unexpectedly from our sight. I had gathered many families of Inner Energy practitioners to hunt him down, but all attempts failed in the end. However, after 20 years had passed, a new Chen Family suddenly appeared out of the blue, controlling the whole economy by owning half the Earth’s assets!”

She then continued with a mocking expression, “At the time, many of us suspected Chen Diancang to be the person behind the founding of this new Chen Family, but he went missing when we wanted to investigate him. We knew the Chen Family was headed by Chen Jindong back then, but we knew nothing about Chen Jindong’s father. Oh, and of course, I must mention to you that Chen Diancang

wasn't your father's real name at that time. His real name was Chen Long!"

Then, she added, "Chen Diancang is indeed a clever one. Had the Gu Family not met the King of Nine Doors later, we would still be fooled by him, especially since he was so talented at making up stories. There are many secrets about Chen Hao, of which Chen Diancang must have known a few. Of course, there would only be a handful of people who know what exactly the secrets are, but we're not one of them."

Chen Pingan frowned; her words seemed to explain everything, especially some details that he had never mentioned to Chen Hao. While he was spying on Chen Hao, he noticed a mysterious man, who had also been spying on Chen Hao for an unknown period of time. He had not found out who the man was until a random opportunity came when Chen Pingan accidentally exposed his whereabouts, so he decided to fight the mysterious man and stripped the man of the veil that was covering his face.

Although the man covered his face immediately, Chen Pingan was able to recognize his eyes and his expression at a

glance, and he was thunderstruck. "Dad!"

*How could this man in black be Chen Diancang, my father? Have I made a mistake? I must have made a mistake!* Chen Pingan seriously doubted himself.

He was very sure of his father's fighting skills when he was younger, not to mention he had achieved a high cultivation base after having escaped from the Border Realm, yet his father's abilities had greatly surpassed him. How could this be possible?

With these questions unsolved, Chen Pingan continued to conceal his identity while investigating in secret whether his father had been kind or hostile toward Chen Hao. He had the suspicion because he had discovered earlier that his father had sedated Chen Hao multiple times. For this reason, he stayed undercover beside Chen Hao and examined Chen Hao's body, only to find out that there weren't any changes.

Perhaps that was the reason Chen Pingan hid from Fang Jiannan the fact that his face wasn't disfigured. He could not fathom his father's intentions until the

tragedy that happened at the Holy Water Ritual, where many people were killed, except for his father, who was missing. It was only then that Chen Pingan felt he might have realized something, but he was baffled at the same time. Why would his father be so cruel? Why was he doing all this?

“So, what do you think? Has my story enlightened you on Chen Diancang, your father’s real character? Judging from your expression, I suppose you must have noticed something odd before this. Am I right? Hahaha!” said Gu Yuehong as she burst out laughing.

“I did notice something odd, but I really couldn’t fathom the reason behind your schemes. What are you people aiming for by killing so many innocent people with this giant scheme? Why must their lives be manipulated in the hands of yours?” shouted an extremely indignant Chen Pingan, for he himself was one of the people being sacrificed in this giant scheme. Then, he added, “Besides, you just said that you don’t quite understand the secrets about Chen Hao, but I’ve heard a different story from Goddess Ziyān—you people knew very well that Hao is the

reincarnation of a great god!”

Gu Yuehong shook her head. “Both Luo Ziyang and the King of Nine Doors had indeed claimed that Chen Hao is the reincarnation of a great god, yet this is nothing but a rumor that had been circulating in the Border Realm. The King of Nine Doors had personally told me that this rumor had tempted many, yet even he couldn’t be sure if it’s true. The only fact we’re sure of is that Chen Hao possesses a fearsome force, which would enable anyone who owned it to move freely between the Three Realms. Many in the Border Realm called it the Essence of Nine Cycles and made up an interesting story for it.”

Then, she continued, “The secrets about Chen Hao, on the other hand, was unknown, but Chen Diancang had possibly found out the secrets and taken actions, which was why many forces had turned against the Chen Family in recent years. He knows there’s no way he could deal with so many forces alone, so he hid himself all those years and showed up only now!”

“I got it now! My father had mentioned it

once—the Sun Totem had foretold that the Chen Family would meet its doom. Was he referring to this incident?” said Chen Pingan in revelation.

“You’re right. The Chen Family is destined to meet its doom, for it must pay the price sooner or later, and the price will be huge!” said Gu Yuehong. “Of course, Chen Diancang, the sly old fox knew this very well. Being circumspect and farsighted as he is, he built not one, but two Chen Families to divert people’s attention by having lots of children with different women! Haven’t you asked yourself why you have never met your uncles or heard about your grandpa despite your family being described as a legendary one with many branches? You’ve never even met your mother, have you? The Chen Family has many branches, but most of them are adopted by Chen Diancang, and your branch is his sole direct descendant.”

Chen Pingan was dumbstruck at Gu Yuehong’s words. *Two Chen Families? And she’s right—I’ve never met my mother nor heard about her, but is there another Chen Family in this world? This is much more terrifying!* “How could there be two Chen Families?” asked Chen Pingan in disbelief.

“Yes, there are two Chen Families indeed. We only discovered this second Chen Family a few years ago. Chen Diancang was clever enough to have diverted our attention. While everyone was having their eyes fixed on Chen Hao and his Chen Family, the other Chen Family had grown so much that it had put the Gu Family in peril. Had the King of Nine Doors not interfered, the Gu Family might have already been long gone,” said Gu Yuehong with a trace of lingering fear on her face. “Therefore, we must get our hands on Chen Hao too—as well as all the secrets about him—and destroy Chen Diancang’s plan. That’s because we have a distinct feeling that we would lose the ability to protect ourselves if things were to continue developing the same way...”

She then continued, “We had even suspected that Chen Diancang had gotten ahead of everyone else and succeeded in communicating with the forces in the Border Realm!”

## Chapter 733 Two Chen Families



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“Where is the other Chen Family?” asked Chen Pingan. “Also, what are the forces you’re talking about?” As he had expected, the truth was far more complicated than it seemed.

“We have no idea where the other Chen Family is. All I know is that the Gu Family would have vanished without help from the King of Nine Doors, since that Chen Family is powerful beyond your imagination,” said Gu Yuehong before she looked at Chen Pingan. “As for those forces—who do you think is at the top of the world?”

“I know nothing about that, but I’m sure the so-called Mystique Clans are definitely not one of them!” said Chen Pingan. “That’s because there are still many skilled masters in the world. I was honored to have seen a few of them, and they are much more powerful than the people from the Mystique Clans like you, let alone those families of practitioners of special bloodlines. You people from the Mystique Clans are simply next to nothing to them, and yet all of you called yourselves the top families—which is ridiculous!”

“Well, you’re half-right about that, though your words alone would spell your death

multiple times. We are indeed the top family in this area, but if you widen your view to the whole world, you'll realize that the real order is kept in the hands of a number of forces. They're formidable as you said, but the Gu Family was untouchable under the shelter of the King of Nine Doors' soul. Now that Chen Hao has unleashed the King of Nine Doors' soul energy, which resulted in the King of Nine Doors' powers being greatly increased, we will have the ability to establish another force and compete with them, for we also have the help of the Great Ancestor of the Gu Family!" said Gu Yuehong. She took a deep breath and continued in an icy tone, "But now, Chen Hao had shattered our Great Ancestor's soul before it could recover, so he must pay the price for this!"

"Do the forces include the other Chen Family as well?" asked Chen Pingan.

"Yes, certainly. These men are the ones pulling the strings and they are responsible for the deaths of the innocent lives you mentioned, so you should be putting the blame on them instead!" said Gu Yuehong. Then, she continued with delight, "Of course, the situation might

improve a lot when the Gu Family gets its hands on Chen Hao and becomes the ruling family in the future!”

“Excuse me for being blunt, but you are no match for the current Hao with your abilities. Aren’t you people from the Gu Family scared at all?” asked Chen Pingan while looking at Gu Yuehong with sympathy.

“Ha! Are you trying to scare me? Chen Hao indeed possesses some mysterious power and a powerful soul—which he used to shatter our Grand Ancestor’s soul—but he’s not even close to being a match for me. Besides, have a look at this,” said Gu Yuehong as she took out an item that looked like a round bead. She sneered, “This is a formation made especially for Chen Hao, from which it would be impossible for him to escape. Since I guess some of the rumors don’t apply to him anymore, this formation shall be a great help to me.”

“What rumors are you talking about?” asked Chen Pingan with a frown.

“It’s the Spirit Flower, a one-of-a-kind spiritual item born from the Earth that

specializes in suppressing Chen Hao's vital energy. I've been using it to fight against him, but now that Chen Hao seized the Ghost Flower, I'm afraid the Spirit Flower won't work on him any longer," explained Gu Yuehong.

"Very well then. I hope the Gu Family doesn't regret everything you people have done." Chen Pingan nodded.

Irritated by his words, some members of the Gu Family said, "Madam Gu, this man is belittling the Gu Family repeatedly. Let us beat him up and teach him a lesson!"

"Do as you wish then, as long as you don't kill him," said Gu Yuehong with a slight nod to show her approval.

She was indeed enraged by Chen Pingan, who was not fearful of the Gu Family at all even in such a situation. In that case, she might as well teach him some lessons.

A member of the Gu Family came forward at her words, preparing to strike. Suddenly, an intense light beam shot him, which caused his arm to explode with such a force that sent him flying away to his death.

“What?” The scene shocked all the Gu Family members, who looked around in horror.

Gu Yuehong’s eyelids were twitching violently as she saw the scene. “Who is it?” she bellowed.

*Slap!*

Just then, a loud smack landed directly on her face. Unable to dodge the sudden attack, Gu Yuehong took the hard slap to the face.

She looked around frantically before another loud slap landed on her face; the slap was so forceful that it made her dizzy and her teeth got knocked out instantly.

“Who is it?” she yelled furiously.

All the Gu Family members looked around frantically as well, while an indescribable fear swept over everyone at the square.

*Snap!*

Then, the rope binding Chen Pingan snapped, and he landed slowly on the ground while Chen Hao descended slowly

to the top of the man-made hill in the middle of the square.

“Chen Hao!” Gu Yuehong stared at Chen Hao in surprise, her eyes reddened with anger and shock. *How could this be possible? How could I be overpowered by Chen Hao?* Gu Yuehong was in utter disbelief.

“I heard you’ve been waiting for me, Gu Yuehong. Now I’m here!” said Chen Hao.

“So you’re stronger now, Chen Hao? I see, so that explains how fearsome your powers truly are!” said Gu Yuehong, whose anger turned into a sneer.

“Hao, be careful of the bead in her hand. That’s a formation!” shouted Chen Pingan.

Meanwhile, Gu Yuehong had begun casting the formation. As soon as Chen Pingan spoke, she immediately hurled the formation in her hand at Chen Hao while bellowing, “Chen Hao, surrender to us now!”

The bead expanded infinitely as soon as it was up in the air, while Gu Yuehong’s face contorted into a hideous expression that

was mixed with a look of vicious excitement.

However, the bloodthirsty expression on her face soon froze when she saw the expanding formation shrunk in an instant before it was wiped out completely by a passing beam of light!

“What?” Gu Yuehong felt chills running down her spine.

Chen Hao moved in a flash and appeared before Gu Yuehong. Staring at her stunned expression, he couldn't help but frown and put on a smirk as he mocked, “What's that thing just now? Is it used for killing anyone? Or is it just a toy for a three-year-old kid?” He sounded like he was asking Gu Yuehong out of genuine curiosity. Then he continued, “I'm so disappointed.”

“W-What are you disappointed about?” Gu Yuehong staggered a step back helplessly, intimidated by Chen Hao before her, who gave her a feeling of unspeakable horror.

“I'm disappointed because I had expected to be greeted with an impressive scene since you've set up such an elaborate trap for me. So here I come, but all you did was

hurl such a little toy at me. To be honest, I had some inkling of an expectation when you shouted confidently at me to surrender,” said Chen Hao. “I had expected you to show me something solid, yet you showed me nothing but this!”

“D-Don’t you think so highly of yourself!” Gu Yuehong’s face turned red with rage upon hearing Chen Hao’s insult, though she had not expected Chen Hao to be so powerful. She then continued in a determined tone, “Let me tell you—it’s true that your power has grown tremendously, but that doesn’t change the fact that you are near your death. Now that I’m in your hands, kill me if you want to!”

She purposely threw him a red herring by telling him that he was near his death so that she could gather her wits to fight against Chen Hao later.

However, little did she expect Chen Hao to flick his finger and shoot a dense beam of light that crushed her heart instantly!

She flew backward while spewing out blood from her mouth.

With her face covered in blood, her eyes



widened in horror and disbelief.

She had expected Chen Hao to ask her why he was nearing his death right after she threw him the red herring so that she could hold him until the King of Nine Doors arrived. Both of them would then be able to capture Chen Hao alive, but never did she expect Chen Hao to attack without any hesitation!

As her life was leaving her body, Gu Yuehong suddenly felt she had died a wrongful death; had she known it beforehand, she would have attacked Chen Hao directly without talking so much!

After a short while, Gu Yuehong was dead for good.

“What?” The Gu Family members shuddered immediately and knelt down with a thud.

“Please spare us, Young Master Chen! We have nothing to do with this. We’ve done nothing other than obeying this old hag’s orders. Oh, and we have something important to tell you, Young Master Chen!”

They knelt down and begged for mercy;

## Chapter 734 Chen Hao is Disappointed

some of them even offered to tell Chen Hao something important in a flash of wit, thinking that it would ward off their imminent death. A true man should know when to lie low or to stand tall, so they thought that they should try to first survive the ordeal at hand before seeking the opportunity to retaliate on Chen Hao later.

However...

"I'm not listening, so all of you must die," replied Chen Hao flatly.



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