Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo sat down by the riverbank.

"It has almost been half a day; why haven't we seen anyone else yet? There isn't a single soul here," Zhuo Nuo asked Chen Hao curiously.

Chen Hao felt strange about the situation too.

"It is quite odd indeed. Perhaps we might be at a rather secluded location?"Chen Hao could not help but ponder over it.

Boom!

Just as he finished his sentence, a waterspout shot out from the river into the sky.

A green dragon leaped out from the river and flew right into the sky. The dragon opened its mouth and let out a roar toward Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo, reverberating through its surroundings.

Zhou Nuo's eyes widened immediately. The both of them had never expected a green dragon to exist in this river.

The green dragon launched an attack at Chen Hao and Zhuo Nuo immediately, hurtling toward them at a high speed.

"Watch out!" Chen Hao shouted.

As soon as he shouted, both Chen Hao and Zhuo Nuo leaped up to a higher ground simultaneously.

Fortunately, they reacted fast enough to dodge the green dragon's attack. However, there was now a pit where they were standing at moments ago, which showcased just how powerful the dragon's impact was. If it had managed to strike them, their bones would have shattered into pieces.

"I thought that we were only battling against other humans? Why would a dragon appear all of a sudden?" Zhou Nuo asked in utter disbelief.

Chen Hao felt that this must've been another challenge for them in the Illusion Realm. There might even be something mystical to it.

"Zhou Nuo, hide yourself first! I will deal with the dragon!"

After reminding Zhou Nuo, Chen Hao summoned the Sword Soul in his body. The Sword Soul turned into an actual sword in Chen Hao's hand before he dashed recklessly toward the green dragon.

The dragon got even more excited when it saw Chen Hao dashing toward him, and began slithering toward him as well.

"Universal Slash!"

Within a second, Chen Hao bellowed loudly before slashing the dragon. A red-colored beam of Sword Energy illuminated the sky, piercing right through the green dragon in a blink of an eye.

Roar!

The green dragon looked up to the sky and let out a final roar. Its eyes turned grey before falling from the sky directly into the river.

After Chen Hao had slain the green dragon, two glowing objects emerged on the river surface.

Chen Hao quickly went over to have a look

after noticing the objects.

As he went to have a closer look, the glowing light diminished. A Dragon Jade Amulet and a dragon egg appeared before Chen Hao's eyes instead.

Chen Hao swiftly picked up both of the items before returning to Zhou Nuo's side.

Zhou Nuo and Chen Hao were very surprised and curious when they saw these two items. After all, they did not expect to receive such rewards after slaying the green dragon. Evidently, the Illusion Realm was a mysterious place.

Later on, Chen Hao placed the dragon egg in his backpack while keeping the Emerald Dragon Jade Amulet in his pocket.

Chen Hao did not know what their uses were yet, but he intended to have a closer inspection on the two objects after the challenge ended. Nonetheless, Chen Hao knew that these items were extremely valuable, and was sure that they had some sort of special use or secret to it.

"Chen Hao, what do you call the skill you used back there? It was amazing!" asked

Zhou Nuo. She lifted her head and looked at Chen Hao with inquisitive eyes.

The Sword Energy that Chen Hao unleashed earlier was so powerful that it had shocked Zhou Nuo, who was watching everything happen from the side.

"I don't know either! I blurted it out all of a sudden!" explained Chen Hao. He was also very confused and shrugged his shoulders.

Unbeknownst to Chen Hao, the skill was actually summoned by the Sword Soul itself.

Soon, the two of them packed their things up before heading to another direction away from the river.

After walking for about ten minutes, Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo heard the tumult of a fierce fight.

Zhou Nuo glanced toward Chen Hao immediately and said, "Chen Hao, it seems like there is an intense fight ahead of us. Let's quickly go and check it out!"

Upon hearing Zhou Nuo's proposition,

Chen Hao agreed.

As they stumbled across a fight like this, there might be a chance for them to get away with something. Since no one was aware of the danger behind them, Chen Hao and Zhuo Nuo decided to take advantage of the situation.

The two of them quickly rushed forward and hid behind a boulder, scanning the woods in front of them.

In the woods, a teenager dressed in white had been surrounded by a few people wearing black robes.

The shoulders of the teenager were stained red with blood from his injuries. Despite that, he was still able to withstand the attacks of those four people in robes.

Nevertheless, Chen Hao knew that the teenager's efforts would be futile if he continued to defend himself; he would eventually be killed by the four men in black robes.

Yet, why were four people hunting down one person? There must be an explanation to that.

"Chen Hao, it seems like the four of them are bullying that guy. Should we help him out?" Zhou Nuo asked Chen Hao. She felt slightly furious after witnessing the scene.

It was a virtue to help those who were in need.

In the woods, one of the people in a black robe taunted the teenager in white just then. "Hmph! Lin Zilan, stop resisting! Just let us take away your god stone!" The person snorted sarcastically.

"Huh! You want my god stone? Don't even think about it!" Lin Zilan refuted, smirking coldly.

"Fine! Go to hell then!" yelled the person in the black robe. He signaled the other three people surrounding him, and all of them dashed toward Lin Zilan, attacking the teenager at once.

Just as Lin Zilan was about to be struck, a ray of golden light came lashing through from the side, immediately knocking the four people in black robes backward.

Swoosh!

Two shadows landed rapidly, shielding Lin Zilan from the front.

"The four of you are bullying one person.

Do you even consider yourselves as men?"

Chen Hao grunted in disdain after taking a glance at the four men in black robes.

The four men exchanged glances amongst themselves; they had not expected anyone to barge in all of a sudden.

"Young lad, mind your own business!
Otherwise, we will kill you too!" warned
their leader, who was staring at Chen Hao
furiously.

"Oh, really? Well then, I must intervene in this matter today!" Chen Hao laughed disdainfully as a cold, killing intent flashed across his eyes.

As soon as Chen Hao finished speaking, he swiftly tossed two sheets of Mystique Talismans which he had on him.

The talismans turned into ashes mid-air. In an instant, a ball of blazing flame engulfed two of the men in black robes, burning them alive.

"What?" The other two men dressed in black robes were shocked by the sight of it.

"You are a Talisman Master!" the leader yelled in disbelief; terror was written all over his face, for he did not expect to encounter a Talisman Master here.

As soon as he finished talking, the other two people in black robes jumped to their feet, preparing to flee the scene.

Of course, Chen Hao would not give them the opportunity to leave.

"You're thinking of leaving? That's impossible!"

Chen Hao smiled disdainfully as he watched them attempting to escape. In a flash, he tossed out another two sheets of Mystique Talismans.

This time, vines emerged from both of their bodies at the same time, binding them tightly together. They dropped to the ground in front of Chen Hao, Zhou Nuo and Lin Zilan.

"It is my pleasure to be able to take away

your god stones!" said Chen Hao casually, staring at the both of them coldly.

With a swipe of his sword, Chen Hao killed the both of them as soon as he finished talking, showing no mercy at all. After all, one had to be ruthless when facing an enemy; if not, it would just be the other way around.



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After killing the four men, Chen Hao took away their god stones. In an instant, he had successfully collected all five god stones.

He then looked at Lin Zilan, who was standing behind him. "Are you okay?"

Lin Zilan shook his head slightly. "I'm fine, thank you for saving me. My name is Lin Zilan!" He thanked both Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo earnestly before introducing himself in brief.

Zhou Nuo was surprised when she heard his introduction.

"You are Lin Zilan, the second eldest son of the Lin Family from the Border Realm?" Zhou Nuo asked while staring at Lin Zilan in surprise.

Lin Zilan glanced at Zhou Nuo. He did not expect her to recognize him. "And you are?" Lin Zilan asked curiously.

"I'm Zhou Nuo from the Zhou Family. I didn't expect to meet the second eldest son of the Lin Family here. It's really a pleasure!" Zhou Nuo smiled at Lin Zilan while introducing herself.

The Lin Family were one of the strongest among all cultivators in the Border Realm. Moreover, there were many expert cultivators within the Lin Family. Some of them had even reached the stage of True God.

Hence, it was rather humiliating for the second eldest son of the Lin Family to be cornered and attacked by a bunch of people here.

"Hehe, you're too kind, Miss Zhou! I'm just a useless piece of junk abandoned by the Lin Family!" Lin Zilan sighed while smiling bitterly.

Although Lin Zilan was the second eldest son of Lin Family, his cultivation level was very low. At the moment, he was only a Ninth Tier King of Kings, and could not even reach the stage of Immortality. As a result, he was branded by members of Lin Family as the 'useless young master' and was long deserted by his family.

"Your cultivation base has temporarily stopped at the Ninth Tier of the King of Kings. For some strange reason, you can't surpass that stage." Chen Hao instantly noticed the peculiarity in the teenager's

body. He kept his eyes on him as he spoke to Lin Zilan.

"You're very observant. Indeed, I don't know why my body is acting like this. It is preventing me from reaching the stage of Immortality. There's some kind of strange energy in my body that keeps blocking my Energy Centre, preventing me from exceeding my current stage!" Lin Zilan nodded at Chen Hao while he explained.

"With that being said, it's not absolutely hopeless to improve your current condition. You just need to make use of some special methods!" Chen Hao explained to Lin Zilan once more.

Lin Zilan stared at him with a surprised and happy look on his face when he heard Chen Hao's response.

He did not expect such a reply from Chen Hao. It also meant that Chen Hao must know of ways to help him.

"How may I address you?" Lin Zilan asked immediately.

"I'm Chen Hao!" Chen Hao replied without hesitation.

"Chen Hao, if you really know a way to help me, I, Lin Zilan, will do whatever I can to help and serve you wholeheartedly!" Lin Zilan said to Chen Hao excitedly. There was not a trace of arrogance as a young master of the Lin Family.

Noticing Lin Zilan's earnestness, Chen Hao thought that Lin Zilan was not a bad person. Therefore, he decided to help the teenager.

"You're too courteous, Young Master Lin. However, we should collect the five god stones and leave the Illusion Realm first before continuing our discussion!" Chen Hao did not explain the method straightaway, but reminded Lin Zilan and Zhou Nuo of what they had to do first.

Currently, Chen Hao managed to collect all five god stones. Zhou Nuo still needed three more god stones, whereas Lin Zilan had none. This meant that the trio needed to collect another eight god stones by defeating another eight people.

"You're right, Chen Hao!" Lin Zilan agreed.

Following that, Lin Zilan briefly cleaned his injuries and bandaged himself up before

continuing his journey with Chen Hao and Zhou Nuo.

The trio were rather lucky in their following journey; the people they encountered after that were mostly easy targets.

Soon, the trio successfully collected the remaining eight god stones.

After all the stones were collected, the three of them rushed to the exit and left the Illusion Realm after verifying their respective god stones.

When they returned to reality again, the trio had an additional badge with them. The badge was an important credential to enter the Celestial Continent; people without a badge were not allowed to enter the continent.

Without any further delay, the three of them quickly entered the passageway with their badges.

Chen Hao, Zhou Nuo, and Lin Zilan successfully teleported to the Celestial Continent through a ray of white light.

Once they arrived at their destination, the

three of them were mesmerized by the breathtaking view before them; the Celestial Continent was full of many huge lands floating in the sky.

"Oh, aren't you Young Master Lin?"

The trio heard a sharp, hostile sneer from their backs the moment they arrived.

They turned around to look for the source of the voice.

A young man in a dark green robe marched toward them.

"Bai Lie!" Lin Zilan frowned slightly as he muttered the young man's name.

The young man's name was Bai Lie. He was the eldest son of the Bai Family from the Border Realm, and his powers were at the First Tier Soul Cultivation of Immortality.

"I can't believe that even the useless Young Master Lin can actually enter the Celestial Continent! I suppose that someone must've helped you get in!" Bai Lie sneered at Lin Zilan while glancing curiously at Chen Hao, who stood at the side.

The meaning in his words was as clear as day; he was insulting Lin Zilan for getting into the Celestial Continent with the help of others.

As he finished speaking, Bai Lie laughed loudly while walking off to the front, completely ignoring the three of them.

"Hmph! I've always heard that Young Master Bai was a witty person with a glib tongue; it looks like I've finally experienced it myself today!" Zhou Nuo glared at Bai Lie's back and snarled coldly in a disdainful tone.

Naturally, Zhou Nuo had heard of Bai Lie before, but she had never made any contact with him previously. As for Chen Hao, he could not be bothered by someone like Bai Lie. To him, the most important thing at the moment was to find a place to stay.

It was not long before Chen Hao, Zhou Nuo, and Lin Zilan arrived at a hotel. However, it was only after they entered the hotel when they realized that they had no valid currency on themselves. Being in the

Celestial Continent, they had to use the currency here. Naturally, the currency from the Border Realm and Earth were invalid. What was more, they could not exchange their own money for Celestial Continent currency. Thus, the trio had to think of a way to make some money here.

The Celestial Continent used gold coins as their form of currency during every business transaction.

The only place where they could get gold coins in the fastest way possible was through the most well-known auction hall in the Celestial Continent—the Golden Auction Center.

Everyone who entered the Celestial Continent would need to sell or auction off some of their own valuable items or objects they had in order to earn some quick gold coins.

Chen Hao and the other two soon learned about this piece of information, and rushed to the Golden Auction Center immediately.

When they arrived at Golden Auction Center, the whole place was very crowded

with lots of people from the Border Realm. They were gathered around the inside and outside of the place.

With a simple glance, one could easily distinguish between people from the Border Realm, and people from the Celestial Continent. Besides, people from Celestial Continent harbored some sort of dislike and antagonism toward the people originating from the Border Realm.



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