

## **A Record 551**

### Chapter 551: Familiar Aura

Could it be that he perished to a sneak attack?

The reason that Han Li was speculating this was due to the wound on Mu Yan's lower abdomen.

He wasn't able to find out how Mu Yan was killed through his memories, but he could sense a great deal of resentment in the remnants of Mu Yan's soul.

All of a sudden, Han Li noticed something on a corner of Mu Yan's sleeve, and he reached out to tear the sleeve apart, revealing a small white silken handkerchief that was riddled with tiny text.

The material of the handkerchief was identical to that of his clothes, and it had been concealed very well. If it weren't for the fact that Mu Yan's sleeve was currently stained with blood, Han Li would've failed to notice the handkerchief.

After examining the handkerchief for a moment, an elated look immediately appeared on Han Li's face.

The passage of the text on the handkerchief contained none other than the Mantra Domain secret technique, and this was most likely the full version, one that was much more comprehensive and even more profound than the incomplete version that Han Li had derived from Immortal Lord Miro's lecture.

He began to pore over the passage of text, and the more he saw, the more stunned he became.

The Mantra Domain was one of the most advanced secret techniques of the True Mantra Sect, and it was said that upon achieving full mastery of the secret technique, one could speak things into existence and influence heaven and earth with their words.

Of course, at the very least, one had to be at the High Zenith Stage to even have a chance of achieving such miraculous feats, and at Han Li's current cultivation base, he could only use the Mantra Domain to unleash some illusions.

Even so, it had proven to be very useful in several past battles, and if he could use it wisely in conjunction with his time spirit domain, he was confident that it would serve him very well in future battles.

Han Li quickly read through the entire passage of text on the silken handkerchief, committing it firmly to his memory, and not a moment too soon as the final Time Dao Rune on the Mantra Treasured Axis faded almost immediately thereafter.

After a rush of dizziness, Han Li's spiritual sense quickly returned to his body.

The translucent wall of light in front of him was gradually dissipating, while he looked on with a dazed expression.

The vision had shown him what had happened in the final moments of the True Mantra Sect, while also displaying to him the power of the Time Dao Ancestor.

Even though all of these things had happened in the distant past, Han Li was still reeling from what he had seen.

Through cultivating the Spirit Refinement Technique, he had already pitted himself against the Heavenly Court, and now, his cultivation of the laws of time was eventually going to set him on a collision course with the Time Dao Ancestor.

Even a Great Encompassment Stage mighty figure like Immortal Lord Miro had stood no chance against the Time Dao Lord, how was a mere Golden Immortal like himself going to fare?

The Time Dao Lord most likely wouldn't even have to lift a finger to kill him.

A wry smile appeared on Han Li's face at this sobering thought, but there was no point in thinking excessively about such matters. Inevitably, such a day would come, but for now, he had to focus on becoming more powerful and making it out of the primordial land alive.

With that in mind, he flipped a hand over to produce a blank jade slip, then pressed it against his own forehead and recorded the Mantra Domain secret technique that he had just memorized into it.

Three more months passed by in the blink of an eye.

During this time, Nuo Qinglin had visited Han Li to apologize on several occasions, claiming that some major crises had swept through the entire Beast Race, and that there were many important tribes that were still yet to arrive, so the delivery of the maps that he had been promised was going to be delayed.

Han Li had spent this entire time reflecting on Mu Yan's cultivation insights, and even though he still wasn't able to identify the connection between the Mantra Axis Scripture, the Illusory Dawn Treasured Scripture, and the Water Divination Time Arts, he had developed a better grasp on the laws of time. Hence, this peaceful cultivation environment was perfect for him, and he decided to stay.

Inside his secret chamber, Han Li sat with his legs crossed and his eyes closed while channeling the Water Divination Time Arts.

As he began to chant an incantation, waves of rippling golden light rose up over his body, then converged in front of him to form a ball of golden light.

Another week flew by in a flash.

Han Li remained seated with his legs crossed while making a string of hand seals, and the ball of golden light in front of him had already become as radiant as a miniature sun.

All of a sudden, a golden vial emerged at the center of the ball of light.

The vial had a wide bottom that gradually tapered upward, and it had a pair of crescent-shaped handles at its opening. The vial was very blurry, but it was still giving off a profound aura, and as soon as it appeared, all of the nearby golden light instantly surged into it.

All of a sudden, the ball of golden light vanished, leaving only the blurry vial projection hovering completely still in mid-air.

Han Li opened his eyes, and as his gaze fell upon the vial projection, a hint of elation and surprise appeared on his face.

Initially, he had only been planning to cultivate the Water Divination Time Arts a little so that he could get an initial grasp on it, but to his surprise, he had managed to manifest a Clear Time Vial with ease.

According to the Water Divination Time Arts, this was supposed to have been extremely difficult, and that only someone who possessed exceptional aptitude and a certain degree of mastery over the laws of time could have any chance of manifesting a Clear Time Vial after an extensive period of cultivation.

Evidently, this was not the case for Han Li.

Was this because he had already established a foundation through his cultivation of the Mantra Axis Scripture, or was there some other factor at play?

Han Li pondered this question briefly before setting the train of thought aside to continue his cultivation.

He began to chant an incantation while making a string of hand seals, and two thick beams of golden light shot out of the palms of his hands.

There were countless golden runes flashing within the beams of light, and all of them fused into the vial projection, causing it to slowly revolve on the spot while attaining a more and more substantial form.

Some time later, the vial projection had already turned into a semi-transparent vial that appeared as if it were a physical object.

Han Li was ecstatic to see this. With that, he had completed the cultivation art's second chapter as well.

After taking a deep breath, he moved on to the third chapter.

A month later, Han Li conjured up the Clear Time Vial once again, and this time, it was a little smaller than before, and countless white star designs had appeared on its surface.

Up to this point, Han Li had mastered the cultivation art's third chapter as well.

He took a glance at the Clear Time Vial, then closed his eyes once again while making a string of hand seals, and countless specks of radiant golden light began to emerge within his body, every single one of which was giving off astonishing time law power fluctuations.

These specks of golden light surged steadily into the golden vial at Han Li's behest, and a series of tiny specks of golden light instantly began to appear within the vial.

Close to a year flew by in a flash, and at this point, the Clear Time Vial was already filled with specks of golden light, resembling a translucent bottle that was filled with golden fireflies.

Han Li sat completely still on the spot with his legs crossed, and his entire body was basked in a radiant river of golden light, with countless specks of golden light continuing to surge out from within before entering the Clear Time Vial.

The vial seemed to have reached its maximal capacity, and all of the specks of golden light instantly began to converge to form a ball.

That ball of golden light then vanished into the vial in a flash, manifesting itself as a Time Dao Rune.

At this point, there were already five other Time Dao Runes on the vial.

With the addition of this latest Time Dao Rune, the Clear Time Vial began to buzz audibly, and Han Li suddenly stopped what he was doing, upon which all of the flowing golden light around him quickly vanished.

Immediately thereafter, he rubbed his hands together, and the Clear Time Vial vanished as well.

The fourth chapter had been far more difficult to cultivate than the third one, requiring one to manifest six Time Dao Runes, but once again, it had barely posed any obstacle to Han Li at all.

He rose to his feet and exhaled as he swept a hand through the air to withdraw the restrictions around his cave abode, then made his way over to one of the windows in the outer room.

It was late at night at the moment, and there were countless bright stars in the clear sky.

Han Li took a glance up above, then made a hand seal, and his Clear Time Vial appeared on the window sill in front of him amid a flash of golden light.

The six Time Dao Runes on the vial instantly began to flash, and tiny specks of white light emerged within the moonlight that was spilling in through the window before being drawn into the opening of the vial.

Han Li gave a pleased nod upon seeing this.

However, the rate of absorption of moonlight was very slow, and at this rate, it was going to take a considerably long time to manifest a time water droplet.

Right at this moment, the sound of footsteps rang out from outside, and Jin Tong entered the cave abode while riding on Xiao Bai's back.

Her brows were tightly furrowed, indicating that she was troubled by something, and Xiao Bai could sense that she was in a bad mood, so it was making sure to walk very carefully to avoid jostling her.

"What's wrong, Jin Tong?" Han Li asked as he stowed his Clear Time Vial away.

Jin Tong opened her mouth to say something, but seemed to be rather hesitant.

"It's alright, if you have something on your mind, then tell me. I'll look out for you," Han Li assured with a smile.

"I've been feeling a very familiar aura... Well, it's not actually that familiar, it's just very similar to mine, like another me, and this aura is currently getting closer," Jin Tong revealed.

"An aura very similar to yours? Could it be..."

## Chapter 552: Uniting Against a Common Enemy

"Could it be another you?" Xiao Bai exclaimed before Han Li had a chance to reply.

"What did you just say? I think you need to have some sense beaten into you, Xiao Bai!" Jin Tong snapped as she began rolling up her sleeves.

"No, what I meant to say is, could it be another Gold Devouring Immortal?" Xiao Bai hurriedly amended with a fawning smile.

"Why would another Gold Devouring Immortal be coming here? Can you sense how powerful it is?" Han Li asked.

"It seems... to be a little more powerful than I am," Jin Tong replied in a concerned voice.

Han Li's expression remained unchanged, but internally, he was quite stunned to hear this.

At the moment, Jin Tong was already at the late-Golden Immortal Stage, so did that mean that a High Zenith Stage Gold Devouring Immortal was currently approaching them?

Xiao Bai was also very alarmed to hear this, and he urged in a trembling voice, "We have to run, Master!"

As soon as its voice trailed off, the sound of thunderous drumming rang out from outside, and the peaceful valley immediately erupted into action as countless figures rose up into the sky as streaks of light.

Han Li's brows furrowed slightly upon seeing this.

"Stay in the cave abode for now, I'll go out and take a look," he instructed, then made his way out of the cave abode.

At this moment, more and more beings for the Beast Race were flying out of the Dark Star Canyon, and they were all flying outside.

All of a sudden, a streak of light arrived from afar, then landed in front of Han Li's cave abode to reveal Nuo Qinglin.

"How has your stay been so far, Fellow Daoist Li?" Nuo Qinglin asked with a smile.

"It's been fine. Thank you for the hospitality, Chief Nuo. May I ask what's happening right now?" Han Li asked.

"We're being attacked by the Insect Race, but we already anticipated this and have set up defensive measures, so there's nothing to fear," Nuo Qinglin replied in a confident manner.

"That's good to hear. May I ask why you've come to visit me then?" Han Li asked.

"We're going to be using the restrictions within the Dark Star Canyon later to unleash a secret technique, and no one can remain in the canyon during this time, so I'll have to ask you to leave the canyon with me," Nuo Qinglin explained.

"That's not a problem. I'll go pack up my belongings, then come back out to join you," Han Li replied with a nod, then returned to his cave abode, while Nuo Qinglin continued to wait patiently outside.

After entering his cave abode, Han Li's brows furrowed slightly as he made his way into his secret chamber.



"The Insect Race is attacking, and there's a High Zenith Stage Gold Devouring Immortal among them! We need to leave right away, Master!" Xiao Bai immediately yelled in an urgent voice.

"What do you think, Jin Tong?" Han Li asked.

"I'm sure you already know what happens when two Gold Devouring Immortals encounter one another," Jin Tong said, and a hint of resolve and killing intent appeared in her eyes.

Han Li didn't say anything upon seeing this.

"While traveling through some other immortal regions with Gongshu Jiu, we ran into some Gold Devouring Immortals, and at the same cultivation base, they're far more powerful than primordial true spirits! There's no way we can overcome a High Zenith Stage Gold Devouring Immortal, so we have to run!" Xiao Bai urged.

"There's no running away from them. Gold Devouring Immortals are extremely sensitive to one another, so even if we run, it'll definitely still come after us," Jin Tong replied with a shake of her head.

Xiao Bai opened its mouth to say something else, but ultimately decided against it.

"Just as Jin Tong said, even if we leave this place, that Gold Devouring Immortal will definitely continue to pursue us, so we may as well stay here and wait for it," Han Li said.

A bitter look appeared on Xiao Bai's face upon hearing this, and it reluctantly nodded in agreement.

Han Li swept a sleeve through the air to release a burst of azure light that sucked both of them into a spirit beast pouch, then instructed, "Stay in the spirit beast pouch for now."

After that, Han Li withdrew the restrictions in the cave abode before emerging outside again.

"Sorry to keep you waiting, Chief Nuo," he said.

"Not at all, Fellow Daoist Li. Please come with me," Nuo Qinglin replied, then flew up into the sky as a streak of light, while Han Li trailed along behind him.

As they flew through the air, he suddenly turned to a certain direction in the canyon, where there was a ball of churning black qi in the distance.

The ball of black qi was situated very far away, but with Han Li's exceptional eyesight, he was able to see that there were dozens of giant stone pillars standing around it to form what appeared to be an array, which was giving off bursts of spatial power fluctuations, much like a teleportation array would.

Han Li was rather surprised to see this, but he didn't ask any questions, and Nuo Qinglin also displayed no intention of explaining anything to him.

Inside Han Li's spirit beast pouch, Jin Tong suddenly said, "Xiao Bai, you once said that you have a space within your body that's completely isolated from the outside world, right?"

"That's right, what an exceptional memory you have!" Xiao Bai confirmed in a fawning manner.

"Alright, I want you to eat me," Jin Tong said.

Xiao Bai was naturally astonished to hear this, and it immediately began shaking its head vigorously.

"You want to use the space in my body to conceal your aura? You can't do that! Living beings can't survive in my internal space, and any living being that enters will quickly be digested!"

"That may be the case for other living beings, but you won't be able to digest me! Hurry up! I'm sure I'll be fine as long as I don't stay in there for too long," Jin Tong urged.

Xiao Bai could only reluctantly oblige upon hearing this, opening its mouth to release a burst of suction force that sucked Jin Tong into its belly.

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Meanwhile, Han Li and Nuo Qinglin quickly arrived outside the Dark Star Canyon.

All of the Beast Race tribes were already prepared for this battle, so they had reacted very quickly, and all of them had emerged in full force, culminating in an army of tens of thousands.

Han Li swept his gaze over his surroundings to find that there were around 30 to 40 tribes present, and the Longneck beings were also here, but they were situated near the back.

There were also close to 1,000 giant black war chariots that were laden with Beast Race beings hovering in the sky.

These black chariots were giving off a metallic sheen, and there were also numerous glowing black patterns engraved onto their surfaces, giving them an indestructible appearance.

Ahead of all of the Beast Race beings was an even larger army of millions of demon beasts.

Somehow, the Beast Race beings had managed to arrange all of the demon beasts into several organized and uniform units that weren't chaotic in the slightest.

Han Li couldn't help but be a little surprised to see this.

"What do you think of our Beast Race army, Fellow Daoist Li?" Nuo Qinglin asked with a hint of pride in his voice.

"It certainly is a sight to behold," Han Li praised.

Nuo Qinglin burst into laughter upon hearing this, then flew up higher into the sky, while Han Li trailed along behind him.

Hovering in front of the war chariots was a black platform that was over 1,000 feet in size and shimmering with spiritual light, clearly indicating that it was a powerful treasure.

At this moment, there were around 30 to 40 Beast Race beings standing on the platform, and it seemed that they were important tribal leaders.

Nuo Qinglin descended onto the platform with Han Li, and their arrival was immediately met with a furious reaction.

"Chief Nuo Qinglin, why have you brought a human primordial hunter here?"

Han Li turned to discover that a dark-skinned man who was built like a massive black bear was the one who had spoken.

The man was at the pinnacle of the early-Golden Immortal Stage, possessing a slightly higher cultivation base than Nuo Qinglin.

Meanwhile, all of the other tribal leaders were also glowering at Han Li with animosity in their eyes.

There were over 10 Golden Immortals among them, but all of them were at the early-Golden Immortal Stage, while most of the remaining tribal leaders were at the late-True Immortal Stage.

"Don't be alarmed, everyone. This is Fellow Daoist Li Feiyu. He may be a human, but he's not a primordial hunter. Instead, he's only trying to pass through the primordial land enroute to another immortal region, and on top of that, he has assisted our Beast Race, specifically the Longneck Tribe in the past, so he's no enemy of ours," Nuo Qinglin hurriedly explained.

Nuo Yifan was also present, and she declared, "On the way back from the Longneck Tribe, we were attacked by the Insect Race, and it was only thanks to Senior Li's intervention that we were able to return safely to the Dark Star Canyon."

Taj was standing near the edge of the platform, but he made his voice loud and clear as he chimed in, "That's right. Fellow Daoist Li will forever be a friend of our Longneck Tribe."

Everyone else's expressions eased slightly upon hearing this, but they still regarded Han Li with clear distrust in their eyes.

"Don't mind them, Fellow Daoist Li. Human primordial hunters are sworn enemies of our Beast Race, so it's nothing personal against you," Nuo Qinglin said with an apologetic smile.

"I completely understand, Chief Nuo. There's no need to look out for me. My powers are very limited, but I can definitely look after myself," Han Li replied with a faint smile.

"You're far too modest, Fellow Daoist Li. If things take a turn for the worse for our Beast Race in the upcoming battle, I'll be counting on you to lend us your assistance again," Nuo Qinglin said as he cupped his fist in a salute.

All of the other tribal leaders' expressions changed drastically upon hearing this, and the burly dark-skinned man who had spoken earlier exclaimed in a furious voice, "Nuo Qinglin, we are the regal Beast Race! How could you ask for assistance from a deceitful and honorless human?!"

"Brother Ulu, do not forget that the enemy of our Beast Race is the Insect. In order to defeat them, we must recruit all possible allies and unite everyone against a common enemy. I have already spoken to our king about this, and he also approves of my decision," Nuo Qinglin said.

The dark-skinned man's temper immediately died down upon hearing mention of their king, while the other tribal chiefs fell silent as well.

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#### Chapter 553: Fierce Battle

"You're far too kind, Chief Nuo. I'm just a mere passerby in the primordial land, and I came to your territory by chance to request a map, I certainly wouldn't dare to get involved in a battle between your two races," Han Li replied with a shake of his head.

"My sincerest apologies about the map. This is the map that I've managed to compile thus far. Once the final few tribes arrive, I'll give you a complete one," Nuo Qinglin said as he summoned a white bone

shard before handing it to Han Li, who accepted the bone shard, then inspected its contents momentarily with his spiritual sense before giving a nod.

The bone shard was similar to a jade slip, and it contained a detailed map of the primordial land. There were many missing areas, but it was certainly still much better than nothing.

"Also, I'd like to offer you a little something from our Beast Race in exchange for your services. Once we force back the Insect Race, we'll be sure to issue an additional reward," Nuo Qinglin continued as he pulled out a bone ring before handing it to Han Li as well.

Han Li accepted the ring, then injected his spiritual sense into it to find that it contained roughly 5,000 Immortal Origin Stones.

Han Li weighed the bone ring on the palm of his hand for a moment, then said, "Seeing as you're being so sincere, I can offer my services just this once. However, let me make this clear in advance: I won't take any undue risks. If the enemy is too strong, then I'll prioritize my own safety."

At this point, 5,000 Immortal Origin Stones was no longer a significant sum for him, but for the Calm Dawn Tribe, this was most likely quite a huge expenditure. Most importantly, Han Li had some other intentions and was only pretending to have been roped in by this reward to further his own agenda.

The other tribal leaders were furious to hear this.

"Why call upon him, Chief Nuo? He's clearly a coward!"

"Exactly! If you're so scared for your own safety, then don't come to the primordial land!"

"Everyone, we are currently facing a formidable enemy, so let's all look at the bigger picture here. Fellow Daoist Li, proceed as you please," Nuo Qinglin said with a smile, defusing the situation.

Han Li gave Nuo Qinglin a nod, then made his way off to the side.

Nuo Qinglin asked Nuo Yifan to keep Han Li company, then began to discuss strategy with the other tribal leaders.

Now that Han Li had a chance to take a closer look at the Beast Race army, he was rather taken aback by what he saw.

There were many tribes in the Beast Race, but three tribes clearly stood out in terms of population.

One of them was a tribe of extremely muscular, bear-like beings with thick black fur all over their bodies, looking much like Ulu from earlier.

The second tribe was the Calm Dawn Tribe, and at this moment, almost all of them were riding atop winged giant lizard beasts with large blue bows slung across their backs.

The final tribe of beings were extremely similar to humans in appearance, except their skin was green, and each of them had a single green horn on their head.

The warriors from these three tribes made up close to 70% of the entire Beast Race army.

Nuo Yifan could see the intrigue in Han Li's eyes, and she explained, "Those two tribes are the Violent Bear Tribe and the Monohorn Tribe, both of which are among the eight holy tribes of our Beast Race. Chief Ulu is the chief of the Violent Bear Tribe."

"What are the eight holy tribes?" Han Li asked.

"Our Beast Race has many tribes, and the eight most powerful ones among them are referred to as the eight holy tribes. Our Calm Dawn Tribe is also one of those eight tribes. It's a pity that only three have gathered here. Otherwise, there's no way the Insect Race would've dared to attack," Nuo Yifan said in a resentful voice.

A contemplative look appeared in Han Li's eyes upon hearing this.

All of a sudden, he raised his head and cast his gaze into the distance.

A burst of thunderous rumbling rang out from that direction, and black line appeared on the distant horizon before quickly expanding in Han Li's field of view.

A vast spirit insect army had appeared where heaven and earth met, and it was even more enormous than the army of demon beasts.

Behind the spirit insect army was a massive gray cloud with tens of thousands of Insect Race beings standing atop it, and they also seemed to outnumber the Beast Race beings.

Han Li swept his gaze across the Insect Race army, and his expression remained unchanged, but he was stunned to discover that the Insect Race had close to 30 Golden Immortals, which, once again, far outnumbered that of the Beast Race.

It seemed that the Beast Race was at a disadvantage in all measures, and unless it had some special tricks up its sleeve, it was most likely going to lose this battle.

Grim looks appeared on the faces of all of the tribal leaders upon seeing this, but Nuo Qinglin then declared in a resolute voice, "Chief Ulu, Chief Marlon, Chef Sahan, let's proceed according to the original plan."

The three of them stepped forward as they were called upon, and Han Li cast his gaze toward them.

He already recognized Ulu, standing beside whom was an imposing green-skinned man with a single green horn on his forehead. He was clad in a suit of green armor, and his face and body were riddled with scars.

Nuo Yifan informed him that this man was Marlon, the chief of the Monohorn Tribe.

As for Sahan, he cut a very diminutive figure, and his entire body was concealed with a large dark red cloak, thereby hiding his features.



The three of them cupped their fists in a collective salute toward Nuo Qinglin, then descended from the platform down into the Beast Race army.

Chief Ulu swept a hand through the air, and a crimson giant rhinoceros beast appeared by his side. It was so enormous that it resembled a moving fortress, and it was giving off an extremely formidable aura.

Ulu jumped onto the rhinoceros beast's back, then summoned a giant crimson ax, and he was instantly brimming with battle intent.

The crimson rhinoceros ascended into the heavens, carrying Ulu into the sky above the Beast Race army.

"Brave warriors of the Beast Race, our sworn enemies are up ahead, while our tribesmen stand behind us! We must defend the honor of our Beast Race! It's time to fight!" Ulu roared in a thunderous voice, priming the Beast Race army for the battle to come.

"Fight! Fight! Fight!"

All of the Beast Race warriors echoed, and the earth trembled in the wake of their collective voices.

The Violent Bear, Calm Dawn, and Monohorn Tribes were charging at the forefront, while the army of demon beasts also rumbled forward with tremendous power.

As for the Insect Race army, it accelerated even further upon seeing this, but all of the Golden Immortals of the Insect Race had stopped in their tracks to face Han Li and the others from afar.

The two armies were like a pair of formidable waves that were crashing toward each other with devastating force, causing heaven and earth to tremble violently.

Han Li's eyes narrowed slightly upon seeing this.

The armies of the two races had filled his entire field of view, and the atmosphere of battle in the air was getting even him a little worked up.

Right at this moment, a resounding boom suddenly rang out from behind him, and a series of giant fireballs were launched up into the sky before hurtling toward the Insect Race army up ahead.

One giant fiery cloud after another erupted within the Insect Race army's ranks, forming a sea of crimson fire that swept up all of the nearby spirit insects before incinerating them into ashes.

Han Li turned around to find that these fireballs had come from those black war chariots, at the front of each of which was a thick cylindrical barrel that was glowing bright red.

The spirit patterns on the chariots lit up, and a thunderous boom rang out as a fireball that was over 100 feet in size shot out of each of the barrels before crashing down upon the Insect Race army.

"Those are our Beast Race's Fire God War Chariots. They're extremely powerful, but the materials required for them are quite difficult to come by, and they're also very difficult to construct. If we could construct 10,000 of these chariots, they would be enough to wipe out the Insect Race on their own," Nuo Yifan explained, and Han Li gave a slight nod in response.

Right at this moment, a series of black shadows that were roughly 1,000 feet in size rose up from the Insect Race army, then exploded into vast plumes of tiny black shadows before hurtling toward the Beast Race army at an astonishing speed.

These tiny shadows were countless strange insects that were as tiny and sleek as tiny daggers, and they seemed to be extremely sharp. novel.com

A chorus of agonized howls rang out from the Beast Race army as many Beast Race beings had holes punched into their bodies by these insects, resulting in countless casualties.

However, upon piercing through their targets, these insects would also explode and perish themselves.

"Those are Bone Needle Insects!" Nuo Yifan exclaimed with a resentful expression.

With Han Li's exceptional eyesight, he was able to see over 100 mountainous black shadows at the back of the Insect Race army. Each of them was several thousand feet in size, resembling giant silkworm cocoons, and they were constantly rising up into the air one after another.

The rate at which these cocoons were releasing Bone Needle Insects was far inferior to the rate at which fireballs were being blasted out of the Fire God War Chariots, but each cocoon contained an astonishing number of Bone Needle Insects, so there were many that managed to slip through the cracks.

This initial clash alone resulted in a huge number of casualties, but not a single warrior backed down.

The two armies were rapidly approaching each other, and at a certain distance, the Calm Dawn Tribe warriors suddenly stopped before rising up higher into the sky while raising their bows and nocking arrows.

These clearly weren't normal arrows, as evidenced by the blue patterns engraved upon them, and they were shot into the Insect Race army like rain.

Large swathes of Insect Race warriors and spirit insects were instantly shot down before falling out of the sky, and the arrows were so powerful that some of them even managed to pierce through several Insect Race beings in succession.

Not only that, but after piercing through their targets, the arrows would explode amid bursts of blue light, sending balls of blue flying spraying in all directions.

All of the Insect Race beings that came into contact with the blue flames were quickly reduced to sets of burning skeletons amid bloodcurdling howls.

The Calm Dawn Tribe warriors continued to rain down arrows relentlessly, severely ravaging the Insect Race army.

Right at this moment, an ear-piercing screech rang out, and a swarm of golden beings rose up from the Insect Race army.

These golden Insect Race beings all had wings on their backs and scythe-like arms that appeared extremely sharp, giving them the appearance of humanoid praying mantises.

Their wings were flapping rapidly, and they were able to move with extraordinary speed, pouncing at the Calm Dawn Tribe warriors as streaks of golden light.

The Calm Dawn Tribe warriors were forced to divert their attention to these humanoid praying mantises, which were instantly inundated by a volley of arrows that exploded into a sea of blue fire.

However, in the next instant, all of the humanoid praying mantises that had survived the assault flew out of the sea of fire, and even though almost all of them were carrying injuries, most of them had survived as they continued to charge onward, reaching the Calm Dawn Tribe warriors in the blink of an eye.

As a result, the Calm Dawn Tribe warriors had no choice but to put their arrows away in exchange for long blue sabers to engage in melee combat.

#### Chapter 554: The Battle is Only Just Beginning

"This is bad news..." Nuo Yifan murmured to herself as her brows furrowed slightly.

"What's wrong?" Han Li asked.

"These are warriors of the Golden Mantis Tribe, a major tribe of the Insect Race similar to the eight holy tribes of our Beast Race. They're supposed to be quite far away from here, residing near the Divine Elephant Tribe and the Falcon Wing Tribe. Similarly, the Bone Needle Insect nests are also very far away from here. On top of that, this attack is also one of a far larger scale than previous attacks," Nuo Yifan explained.

"Are you saying that this is a rather abnormal display of aggression from the Insect Race?" Han Li asked.

"That's right. While our Beast Race and the Insect Race have always been sworn enemies, most of the conflicts that take place between us are distributed throughout the land, and there's never been an attack of this scale in a single place before," Nuo Yifan replied as a concerned look appeared on her face.

"That does seem rather abnormal. It's a good thing that you've made ample preparations. Otherwise, this place would've most likely already been conquered," Han Li replied.

Right at this moment, the two armies down below finally clashed as well.

The Violent Bear Tribe beings were charging at the forefront, and a series of crimson patterns appeared over their brawny bodies, causing them to expand even further in size. The axes that they were wielding were of a similar size to their bodies, and as they were swung through the air, a series of giant crimson ax projections were unleashed.

Even with its numbers advantage, the Beast Race army was unable to oppose the Violent Bear Tribe at all, and the latter tore through the former's ranks, meeting no equal in their path.

The other Beast Race warriors rushed into the hole in the ranks of the Insect Race army torn open by the Violent Bear Tribe, and they were making rapid inroads.

Meanwhile, the bodies of the Monohorn Tribe warriors began to glow green, and a thick layer of enamel took shape, causing them to also expand drastically in size. At the same time, the horns on their heads had also thickened by roughly twofold, while a series of green patterns appeared upon them.

Beams of green light then shot forth from the horns toward the opposing Insect Race army, and these beams of light possessed tremendous penetrative power, with each one often piercing through the bodies of seven or eight Insect Race beings before finally dissipating.

The Insect Race warriors who were struck by these beams of green light were instantly rooted to the spot and immobilized, reducing them to sitting ducks for the Beast Race warriors.

Even though the Monohorn Tribe warriors weren't making as bold and violent a statement as the Violent Bear Tribe, the rate at which they were slaying enemies wasn't slower in the slightest.

The Violent Bear Tribe and Monohorn Tribe warriors formed the spearhead of the Beast Race army, rapidly plunging deep into the Insect Race army's ranks.

Right at this moment, a burst of peculiar screeching rang out from within the Insect Race army, and the Insect Race warriors in front of the Violent Bear Tribe warriors suddenly retreated like the receding tide before countless giant black ants emerged out of seemingly nowhere.

Each ant was the size of a millstone with gleaming black bodies that gave off a metallic sheen. Their tiny eyes were glowing an eerie green color, and they presented a harrowing sight to behold.

The Violent Bear Tribe warriors roared as they swung their axes through the air, unleashing a flurry of axe projections toward the giant ants.

A string of loud clangs rang out as many of the black ants were sent flying, but their bodies were extremely sturdy, and barely any of them were killed. All of the wounded giant ants instantly had their bloodlust ignited, and they began to rush forward once again.

The vast colony of black ants formed a black wave that stood in the path of the Violent Bear Tribe warriors, and even more of them were appearing on either flank.

The Violent Bear Tribe warriors were still attacking with all their might, but their speed was significantly hampered by these fearless black ants.

At the same time, the earth in front of the Monohorn Tribe warriors began to rumble and churn, and an army of earthy yellow scorpions emerged.

Each scorpion was around the same height as a grown man, and what was particularly disturbing about them was that all of them had human faces.

The penetrative power of the beams of green light being released by the Monohorn Tribe warriors was significantly reduced upon striking these human-faced scorpions, and each beam of light was only able to pierce through one scorpion before fading away.

Furthermore, the human-faced scorpions were only immobilized for an instant after being struck by the green light before continuing to charge toward the Monohorn Tribe warriors.

As a result, the progress of the Monohorn Tribe warriors was also significantly hampered.

High up in the sky, the Calm Dawn Tribe warriors were occupied by the Golden Mantis Tribe warriors, so they were unable to assist their fellow comrades.

Initially, the Beast Race army had seized all the momentum, but all of a sudden, they were put in a very awkward situation where neither advancing or retreating seemed like appealing options.

The numbers advantage of the Insect Race army was gradually beginning to manifest itself, and the momentum was rapidly shifting, much to the concern of the Beast Race tribal leaders watching the unfolding battle from the black platform in the sky.

"Inform Chief Sahan that it's time to strike," Nuo Qinglin instructed in a grim voice.

One of the Calm Dawn Tribe beings beside him immediately vanished from the spot, departing to carry out the instruction.

Before long, a red-robed figure shot out from the front lines of the Beast Race army, then raised both hands to release three balls of gray light that appeared above the Beast Race army in a flash.

Immediately thereafter, the red-robed figure began to chant an incantation, and the balls of gray light exploded violently, causing the entire battlefield to tremble violently.

Three mountainous figures abruptly plummeted out of the sky, then crashed down at the center of the Insect Race army.

Countless giant black ants and man-faced scorpions were crushed into mincemeat beneath the enormous weight of these mountainous figures, which were three gray-skinned giants that were over 10,000 feet tall.

Their upper bodies were completely bared, while their lower bodies were covered up by loincloths formed by countless pieces of beast hide stitched together. Furthermore, each of them was wielding an enormous club that they swung toward the Insect Race army.

These gray-skinned giants were downright hideous, possessing giant faces that only had features of a single huge vertical eye, as well as a completely flat and smooth nose consisting only of two nostrils.

The massive maces that they were wielding resembled giant pestles that ground down everything in their path into pulp, and countless giant black ants were crushed, upon which vast volumes of fluorescent green fluid erupted out of their bodies.

The green liquid spread over the ground, corroding everything in their path to send plumes of white smoke rising up into the air.

Following a brief moment of panic, the black ants took a moment to rearrange themselves before charging forward once again, quickly surrounding the three enormous giants.

The ants then began to climb up the bodies of the gray-skinned giants, tearing viciously into the giants' skin with their sharp mandibles while more fluorescent green fluid gushed out of the mouths, corroding the giants' bodies in conjunction with the slicing effect for their mandibles.

The gray-skinned giants were thrashing around frantically while attempting to swat the black ants away with their hands, but these things were extremely stubborn and clung on with all their might.

Right at this moment, the sound of a loud horn rang out, and a unit of warriors with human upper bodies and zebra lower bodies appeared behind the Beast Race army.

Each of them was holding a large bow crafted from vines, and they were pulling out green arrows that were around half a foot in length each before nocking them on their bows.

Their movements were eerily synchronized, and all of them raised their bows to the heavens in unison. As they drew their bowstrings, azure light began to converge from all directions, forming an azure vortex above the tip of each arrow.



The arrows were then let loose, shooting up into the sky before raining down upon the Insect Race army as an azure volley.

The gray-skinned giants were extremely sturdy, and even after being ravaged by the black ants for so long, they had only developed some red spots on their skin. As the volley of azure arrows fell upon them, they were able to remain completely unscathed, but the black ants weren't as sturdy, and they exploded one after another.

On the other side, Over 1,000 Beast Race demon beasts that were over 1,000 feet tall and clad in thick yellow exoskeletons emerged. Each of them had a pair of thick conical horns on either side of their heads, and they rushed headfirst into the Insect Race army with tremendous power.

The Insect Race was at a clear disadvantage when it came to strength and physical attributes, and with the majority of the man-faced scorpion army at the forefront crushed into mincemeat, their formation was forced back by several dozen kilometers.

However, shortly thereafter, the Vajra Spider and Gray Toad Tribe warriors rushed forward to fill the hole, clashing against the Beast Race army once again.

"It looks like your Beast Race has an advantage now, but they're eventually going to run out of steam, and the Insect Race army far outnumbers you. At this rate, you're going to be defeated," Han Li remarked.

"It's too early to say that, Senior Li. The battle is only just beginning," Nuo Yifan replied in a confident manner.

As soon as her voice trailed off, the sound of dull drumming rang out, immediately followed by some type of strange chanting that was erupting all over the battlefield.

The language being used for the incantation wasn't the language of the Beast Race, nor was it the language prevalently used throughout the immortal regions. However, it still struck Han Li as being somewhat familiar.

After listening for some time, it suddenly occurred to him what language this was.

This seems to be the language of some type of true spirit...

Han Li swept his gaze over the battlefield to find that there were several special gray-robed beings interspersed throughout the armies of the Violent Bear Tribe, and the Monohorn Tribe, and the Calm Dawn Tribe.

All of them possessed different statures, but their attire was identical, and each of them was holding a black wooden staff. At this moment, there were many Beast Race warriors dancing around them, and they were the ones chanting the incantation.

These gray-robed figures only formed a tiny part of the Beast Race army, yet their voices possessed a special penetrative quality that allowed them to be heard across the entire battlefield, and a peculiar atmosphere was beginning to arise.

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#### Chapter 555: Evenly Matched

Upon hearing the incantation from these gray-robed figures, all of the Beast Race warriors on the battlefield instantly became extremely excited, and some of them were even beginning to sing the war songs of their tribes mid-battle.

Compared with this strange incantation, the war songs of the Beast Race were more riveting and impactful, but it was the incantation that was more attention-grabbing to Han Li, and it was causing all of the blood in his body to churn in an involuntary fashion.

Han Li took a moment to regain his focus and shrug off that strange onset of emotion, and as he cast his gaze toward the battlefield again, he discovered that a layer of dark red mist was currently rising up over the Violent Bear Tribe warriors.

Crimson light emerged over the backs of all of the Violent Bear Tribe warriors, and projections of fierce beastly heads appeared within the crimson light, then bared their fangs in a menacing fashion before vanishing into their bodies in a flash.

Immediately thereafter, Han Li saw all of the eyes of the Violent Bear Tribe warriors turn bright red, while their bodies swelled several times further in size. In particular, the sharp fangs in their mouths were beginning to jut out, causing drool to flow down from the corners of their lips.

"Kill! Kill! Kill!"

A string of thunderous roars erupted out of their mouths, shaking the entire battlefield.

In that instant, the auras of all of the Violent Bear Tribe warriors had become filled with violence and bloodlust, and they resembled a pack of wild animals as they rushed at the Insect Race army in a frenzy.

On the other side, projections of beastly heads appeared on the bodies of the Monohorn Tribe warriors as well, but these projections glowed green, and each of them had a single horn on their head.

After these projections vanished into their bodies, the Monohorn Tribe warriors didn't grow any taller, nor were they filled with bloodlust like the Violent Bear Tribe warriors. Instead, bones that resembled sharp blades had come protruding out of their elbows and shoulder blades.

At the same time, eight sections of long and thin bones that resembled spider legs emerged from their backs, and each one resembled a steel spear that had been refined hundreds of times.

Additionally, all of the other Beast Race warriors had also been enhanced in different ways.

"Is this a bloodlust technique of your Beast Race?" Han Li asked.

Nuo Yifan faltered slightly upon hearing this, then shook her head as she explained, "Bloodlust technique? That's quite a fitting name, but that's not what we call it. Instead, this is our totem sacrificial technique. The grand elders of all of the tribes sacrifice their own blood essence to draw upon some of the power of the true spirits revered by all of the tribes."

Only then did Han Li realize that the gray-robed figures among the tribes were the grand elders of their respective tribes, and the projections that had appeared on the bodies of the Beast Race warriors were totem symbols of the true spirits that they revered.

"If the tribes can call upon the true spirits that they worship, then why don't they just summon the true spirits onto the battlefield?" Han Li asked with a perplexed expression. "Surely that would easily put an end to this battle."

"Aside from the eight holy tribes of our Beast Race, each tribe worships their own true spirit, but this is not a true contractual relationship. Hence, the revered true spirits only provide some protection to the territories of the tribes. As for whether they're willing to lend their power to those tribes, that depends on how close the bond between tribe and true spirit is.

Having said that, our Beast Race has always been extremely reverent to our true spirits, so they're willing to help us under the majority of circumstances. Even so, it's very rare for any true spirit to personally descend onto a battlefield," Nuo Yifan explained.

"Is this not a major crisis that warrants their presence?" Han Li asked.

"There are many limitations on true spirits that descend through sacrificial techniques. In particular, if a true spirit is called upon outside of their territory, even the enhancements they'll be able to provide to their worshippers will be lessened, and it's certainly not possible for them to descend.

Here in the Dark Star Canyon, many of the tribes are already far away from their settlements, so that makes it even more difficult to summon any true spirits," Nuo Yifan explained.

Han Li gave a contemplative nod upon hearing this, and he felt like the relationship between the Beast Race and these true spirits was rather to that between the people and the Earthly Immortals of the Black Wind Sea. Of course, in the case of the latter, the connection wasn't as close as that of the former.

Right at this moment, one of the three gray-skinned giants that was tearing through the ranks of the Insect Race army suddenly toppled forward like a crumbling mountain.

Han Li's pupils instantly contracted slightly upon seeing this.

As it turned out, the ground beneath the gray-skinned giant's feet had suddenly caved in, and a Sand Beast that was even more massive than the giant had pounced out of the earth before opening its mouth, which was lined with circles of sharp teeth, before biting down upon the gray-skinned giant.

Han Li was immediately able to identify the Sand Beast as the very same one that had attacked the ship from Primordial Origin City, the one that was infinitely approaching the High Zenith Stage.

As the gray-skinned giant toppled forward, it was as if its head were being delivered into the massive Sand Beast's mouth, and a loud crack rang out as the giant's head was bitten off in an instant, sending blood spraying in all directions.

Blood began to gush incessantly out of the giant's headless body, which was tilting to the side, but even in its dying moments, it was still swinging its club at the Sand Beast with all its might.

A resounding boom rang out, and the Sand Beast descended back into the earth in the wake of the almighty blow. Meanwhile, the headless giant tumbled to the ground, crushing thousands of giant black ants that were too slow to get out of the way.

A burst of rustling then rang out as the earth churned incessantly, and countless smaller Sand Beasts rose up from the ground to inundate the gray-skinned giant's headless body.

Several seconds later, all of the Sand Beasts vanished back into the ground, and all that remained of the gray-skinned giant was an enormous puddle of blood.

The other two gray-skinned giants had witnessed the demise of the third giant, and they smashed the oncoming wave of man-faced scorpions into pieces with their clubs, then turned around and began retreating back toward the Beast Race army.

However, right at this moment, a short and green humanoid figure that was no more than six feet in height suddenly appeared at the back of the Insect Race army.

Han Li could see that its body was rather similar to that of a human, but its face was very strange and angular, and its eyes were completely black with no white sections within them.

Furthermore, there was a pair of thin and long antennae on its head, giving it the appearance of a giant humanoid grasshopper.

A strange call erupted out of its mouth, and the sound of flapping insect wings instantly rang out from behind the Insect Race army. Immediately thereafter, a dark green cloud rose up from the ground, then began sweeping toward the Beast Race army.

"Those are Green Locust beings! How are there so many of them?" Nuo Yifan exclaimed in a stunned voice upon seeing this.

"Is there a problem?" Han Li asked as he took a glance at the dark green cloud.

"The Green Locust Tribe devours everything that they encounter, and any place that they pass over is often left completely devoid of life. Hence, even in the Insect Race, they're ostracized and denounced by all of the other tribes. They live in swamps all year round, and there aren't supposed to be many of them, but it seems like their population has increased drastically of late," Nuo Yifan replied with tightly furrowed brows.

At this point, the dark green cloud had already caught up to the remaining two gray-skinned giants.

The giants were clearly also aware of how fearsome these things were, and instead of engaging the Green Locust beings in battle, they rushed back in retreat even faster.

Even though there was a vast number of Green Locust beings, they were unable to stop the gray-skinned giants in their tracks. Instead, they would surround the giants, only for the latter to charge straight through them, and the cycle would be repeated.

However, Han Li could tell that each time the giants broke out of an encirclement, their speed would be hampered, and by his estimates, they would only be able to escape seven or eight more times before they would be completely surrounded.

As the gray-skinned giants drew closer and closer, the reinforcements from the Beast Race army also arrived.

A series of giant winged lizards rose up into the sky, then circled around momentarily in the air before opening their mouths to release bursts of scorching black smoke that instantly inundated a large swathe of Green Locust beings.

The dark green cloud was instantly set alight, following which one Green Locust being after came tumbling out of the sky.

The remaining Green Locust beings instantly swooped downward to descend onto the Beast Race army, and these ordinary Beast Race warriors clearly didn't possess comparable physical constitutions to the gray-skinned giants.

In the wake of the Green Locust beings, countless pristine white skeletons were left behind, some of which were still in the process of carrying out whatever motion they had been in the middle of right before they died.

Finally, the two gray-skinned giants managed to escape from the Green Locust beings, but their bodies were riddled with countless tiny bite wounds, presenting a harrowing sight to behold.

Their footsteps were quite heavy as they trudged back toward the Dark Star Canyon, and it seemed that they were going to take a rest before re-entering the battle.

However, what everyone had failed to notice was that a barely visible swarm of tiny crimson beetles with glowing tails like those of fireflies were flying toward the pair of giants, and they quickly wriggled their way into the tiny wounds on their bodies.

The two giants instantly stopped in their tracks and turned their gaze to the parts of their bodies that had been infiltrated by these insects, and a series of large red tumor-like growths instantly began to emerge from those wounds.

In just a few seconds, these growths had swelled to the same size as the giants' heads, and both of them were extremely alarmed to see this, but before they had a chance to do anything, the bulbous red growths exploded violently amid flashes of red light, blowing the giants into countless pieces and sending vast volumes of blood splattering down upon the entire battlefield.

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#### Chapter 556: Caught Off Guard

"Those are Blood Leeches!" Nuo Qinglin exclaimed.

A puzzled look appeared on Han Li's face upon hearing this, and Nuo Yifan explained, "These leeches are capable of entering a host's body and fusing as one with their blood, making them almost impossible to expel. On top of that, they'll devour the host's blood to form blood tumors, then self-detonate to kill their host along with themselves.

Due to how tiny and fast they are, they pose an extremely potent threat, but these leeches are very difficult to nurture, so the Insect Race shouldn't have too many of them."

Han Li nodded in response, and he was just about to say something when his expression suddenly changed drastically, and he grabbed onto Nuo Yifan before flying away from the floating platform as a streak of azure light.

Nuo Qinglin and the others faltered slightly before also doing the same, darting away in all directions.

In the next instant, the ground beneath the black platform abruptly exploded, and a gargantuan mouth erupted out into the open. The mouth belonged to none other than that giant Sand Beast from before, and it swallowed the entire platform whole in one go.

Nuo Qinglin and the majority of the tribal leaders were able to escape just in the nick of time, but several of the True Immortal Stage chiefs were not so fortunate, and they were devoured alongside the platform.

A string of bloodcurdling howls rang out from within the giant Sand Beast's mouth before quickly subsiding.

The tribes that had suddenly lost their chiefs were instantly plunged into a state of disarray, but thankfully, these tribes only comprised a very limited portion of the entire Beast Race army.



Meanwhile, Han Li and Nuo Yifan reappeared in the sky close to 20 kilometers away.

Han Li's brows were slightly furrowed, while Nuo Yifan was looking a little pale, and she hurriedly expressed her gratitude to Han Li.

After steadying themselves, Nuo Qinglin and the others were infuriated by the attack, and they immediately prepared to join forces to retaliate against the giant Sand Beast.

However, the Sand Beast paid no heed to them at all. Instead, it erupted out of the ground before pouncing at Han Li's duo at an extraordinary speed.

Han Li immediately grabbed onto Nuo Yifan upon seeing this, and at the same time, a burst of golden lightning flashed over his body, following which the two of them sped away as an arc of golden lightning.

Han Li's lightning movement technique was extraordinarily fast, and even though he was dragging along someone with him, he was still significantly faster than the giant Sand Beast.

The Sand Beast let loose an enraged roar as a flurry of countless yellow runes surged out of its body.

Immediately thereafter, it shrank down to around half its original size, but as a result, its speed was drastically enhanced as it set off in pursuit of Han Li's duo.

"Yifan!"

An urgent look appeared in Nuo Qinglin's eyes as he turned to chase after his daughter, but Ulu raised an arm to stop him as he said, "I'm sure your daughter will be fine for now with that human cultivator protecting her, Chief Nuo. For now, we have to focus on the battle at hand."

Nuo Qinglin cast his gaze downward upon hearing this, and he was alarmed to discover that several massive centipedes that were no smaller than the gray-skinned giants had appeared in the Insect Race army.

Even though they were still quite a bit smaller than the giant Sand Beast, they were still extremely eye-catching on the battlefield.

These centipedes were a bright silver color, and their legs were extremely sharp. They were charging straight into the Beast Race army while releasing toxic yellow mist incessantly out of their mouths, and any Beast Race warrior that came into contact with this yellow mist instantly began to rapidly decompose.

Some of the weaker ones among them were even reduced to puddles of toxic blood that continued to corrode the ground beneath them.

With the giant centipedes leading the way, the Insect Race army had seized the momentum, and it was eagerly pressing its advantage.

The Beast Race warriors were defending with their lives, but they were still being steadily forced back.

Nuo Qinglin quickly sent a male Calm Dawn being with a scar on his face after Han Li, then joined all of the other tribal leaders in the sky above the Beast Race army.

The tide of the battle had completely turned, and the Beast Race army was plunged into a state of panic and chaos, particularly in the wake of the black platform's destruction. However, upon spotting Nuo Qinglin and the others, all of the Beast Race warriors were instantly instilled with a sense of relief and reassurance, and morale was significantly elevated.

At the same time, three Beast Race Golden Immortals, led by a young woman whose face was concealed behind a veil, flew forward before summoning a small bone drum, a bone flute, and a white bone flag, which began to circle around in the air in front of them.

The three of them began to chant an incantation, and a layer of cold white light emerged over the three treasures.

In the next instant, the ground beneath their feet began to rumble and sway, then abruptly split as a series of thick beast bones emerged from beneath the earth.

These beast bones were several thousand feet tall and there were thousands of them, arranged in a uniform line to form an impregnable barrier in the path of the Insect Race army.

There were countless bestial runes engraved onto the beast bones, and in contrast with normal array runes, these ones appeared rougher around the edges, but were giving off extremely formidable spiritual power fluctuations nonetheless.

All of a sudden, the veiled woman switched to a different hand seal, and a black badge flew out of the top of her head amid a flash of black light.

The badge was rather bumpy and crude, and it seemed to have been carved out of the skull of a demon beast.

A design of a beastly head was engraved onto the surface of the badge, and the veiled woman expelled a mouthful of blood essence, which vanished into the badge in a flash.

A layer of black light instantly emerged over its surface, and a peculiar aura began emanating out of the badge, immediately following which countless streaks of black light shot out from within it before vanishing into the giant beastly bones.

The spirit patterns on the bones instantly began to glow brightly, and the bones themselves began to tremble as if they had sprung to life.

A series of spherical bulges abruptly emerged over all of the beast bones, following which countless sharp bone spears flew out within before raining down upon the Insect Race army like a volley of arrows.

All of this had taken place in the blink of an eye, and the Insect Race warriors at the forefront of the army were instantly punched full of holes.

The giant centipedes were the veiled woman's main target, and countless bone spears were sent raining down upon them.

However, their exoskeletons were extremely sturdy, and the sharp bone spears only able to raise trails of sparks and leave some white marks on their bodies.

Even though these bone spears weren't able to harm the giant centipedes, they clearly didn't enjoy the barrage, and they were screeching incessantly as they scurried back in retreat.

Right at this moment, four streaks of light flew out of the Insect Race army at an alarming speed.

All four streaks of light were giving off Golden Immortal Stage auras, and the veiled woman's eyes narrowed slightly upon seeing this, following which she immediately cast an incantation seal into the white bone drum overhead.

The surface of the small drum flashed momentarily as a burst of deafening drumming rang out, and streaks of viscous white light shot out of the drum before also vanishing into the beast bones down below.

A string of loud cracks rang out as all of the beast bones shattered in unison, forming a vast expanse of liquid-like spiritual light, which then rapidly fused together to form an enormous white light barrier in front of the Beast Race army.

All types of bestial designs surfaced on the white light barrier, and bursts of white light were flowing over the light barrier like water. The light barrier didn't appear to be very sturdy at all, but it gave off an indestructible appearance.

The four Insect Race Golden Immortals arrived in front of the light barrier, following which the spiritual light around them faded to reveal a yellow-robed elderly man, a bald man with an intimidating physique, and two near-identical golden-robed women who appeared to be twins.

The four of them were all looking a little startled, clearly not expecting the white restriction to take shape so quickly.

However, the yellow-robed elderly man then immediately sprang into action, sweeping a sleeve through the air to release three streaks of golden light that crashed down heavily upon the white light barrier.

A series of ripples spread over the light barrier around the points where it was struck by the streaks of golden light, but the ripples quickly subsided.

Meanwhile, the golden light rapidly faded to reveal three strange insects with blade-like bodies.

These insects were a radiant golden color, and they were giving off an incredibly sharp aura, resembling three almighty golden swords.

The yellow-robed elderly man's expression darkened slightly upon seeing this, and he cast his gaze toward the three bone treasures up above as he remarked with a cold sneer, "I've heard that the Heavenly Devil Spirit Drum, the Threefold Origin Bone Flute, and the All-encompassing White Bone Flag of the Calm Dawn Tribe were three treasures refined using three sets of High Zenith Stage true spirit remains. I'm curious to see if they can live up to their resounding reputation!"

As soon as his voice trailed off, he swept a sleeve through the air once again, and several dozen golden insects shot forth before quickly converging toward a single point.

The other three golden insects also flew over to join them, and in the blink of an eye, they had combined together to form a shimmering golden flying sword.

The yellow-robed elderly man then expelled a mouthful of blood essence into the golden flying sword, and it instantly began to tremble, while the golden light radiating from it grew even brighter.

All of a sudden, it swelled to over 1,000 feet in size, giving off a peerlessly sharp aura as it came crashing down upon the white light barrier with devastating force.

An earth-shattering boom rang out as a long gash was sliced into the white light barrier, but the gash wasn't very deep.

The three Beast Race Golden Immortals remained completely unfazed as they continued to chant incantations while making hand seals.

The white drum instantly swelled slightly in size while emitting a pounding sound, and the bone flute also began to blow, while the bone flag flapped through the air while releasing bursts of white light.

Immediately thereafter, the bodies of the deceased warriors of both races on the battlefield suddenly began to tremble violently.

The flesh on those bodies quickly peeled away to reveal sets of bloodstained skeletons, and these skeletons flew through the air before rushing into the white light barrier, mending the long gash on its surface in the blink of an eye.

The four Insect Race Golden Immortals were all quite surprised to see this, but a cold look then resurfaced in the yellow-robed elderly man's eyes as he swung his golden sword down once again.

At the same time, the other three Insect Race Golden Immortal Stages also lashed out.

The bald man swept a hand through the air, and a ball of radiant white light appeared in front of him.

Through the white light, one could see a white object that resembled a ball of putty that was constantly squirming and changing shape, presenting a rather harrowing sight to behold.

This chapter is updated by

Chapter 557: Miscalculation

The bald man from the Insect Race pointed a finger forward, and six semi-transparent wings abruptly sprang out of the clump of white putty-like substance, following which it began to fly toward the white light barrier.

As it turned out, the mass of putty-like substance appeared to be a strange spirit insect!

A series of corkscrew-shaped white ice crystals appeared in the space in its wake, indicating that it was giving off an almighty chill that seemed capable of freezing the very space itself.

At the same time, its body also swelled up like a balloon, quickly expanding to countless times its original size, and in the instant that it came into contact with the white light barrier, it exploded silently into a cloud of white mist that encompassed the entire light barrier.

A layer of white ice crystals instantly spread over the light barrier, causing the flow of white light over the light barrier to slow down significantly.

At the same time, the two golden-robed women swept their sleeves through the air in silence, releasing a pair of golden clouds that were actually two swarms of countless tiny golden insects.

These insects were only the size of ants, but they had wings on their backs, and their mouths were filled with blade-like sharp teeth.

As soon as they landed upon the layer of white ice crystals, they immediately began sinking their teeth into the white light barrier, and before long, countless holes had been bitten into the light barrier.

The white light barrier was still replenishing itself and mending those holes by absorbing the surrounding skeletons, but it was clearly doing so at a far slower rate than before.

Right at this moment, the yellow-robed elderly man's golden flying sword came crashing down with tremendous power once again, and an earth-shattering boom rang out as the sword clashed with the light barrier.

The latter was already severely ravaged, and several huge cracks instantly appeared on its surface, making it appear as if it could shatter at any moment.

The three Beast Race Golden Immortals' expressions changed drastically upon seeing this, and all of them threw up a mouthful of blood in unison from the backlash, but they had no time to tend to their own internal injuries as they hurriedly cast strings of incantation seals into the three bone treasures overhead.

The three treasures instantly began to glow brightly, while the white light that was moving sluggishly over the surface of the light barrier down below also sped up a little, but the three Golden Immortals knew that they weren't going to be able to last much longer.

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Meanwhile, far away from the battlefield, the Sand Beast was still pursuing Han Li, with the former racing through the air as a yellow shadow, while Han Li was flashing through the sky as an arc of golden lightning. (f)ree

At this point, the Sand Beast had shrunk down to less than a thousandth of its original size, and it was far faster than before.

Han Li had already summoned his Thunderstorm Wings and was unleashing his lightning movement technique with all his might, yet he was still unable to shake off the Sand Beast.

The main reason for this was because Nuo Yifan was by his side. With her essentially acting as dead weight, he was naturally bound to be slowed down significantly.

Right as the gap between them was closed to only several dozen kilometers, a ball of yellow light suddenly descended out of the sky toward Han Li. The ball of light was none other than the Sand Beast's spirit domain, and it was giving off tremendous law power fluctuations.

Han Li's expression changed slightly upon seeing this, and the Thunderstorm Wings on his back instantly released a burst of golden lightning that enveloped his entire body.

A loud thunderclap rang out, and he and Nuo Yifan were only just barely able to evade the spirit domain, reappearing several hundred kilometers away.

Han Li didn't pause for even a single instant as he vanished into thin air amid another flash of golden lightning, then re-emerged in the sky above a forest.

Finally, he was able to temporarily open up some distance between himself and the Sand Beast, and he hurriedly said to Nuo Yifan, "Get away from here, Fellow Daoist Nuo. The Sand Beast's target is me, so it shouldn't go after you."



Immediately thereafter, he sped away as an arc of golden lightning.

"Look after yourself, Senior Li!"

At this moment, Nuo Yifan's face was still rather pale, but she remained calm and collected as she extended a grateful bow in Han Li's direction, then flew back toward the canyon as a streak of light.

The Sand Beast arrived onto the scene in a flash, and Nuo Yifan's complexion paled even further as she sensed its approaching aura.

The spiritual light around her instantly glowed even brighter as she accelerated in her escape.

The Sand Beast turned to take a glance in Han Li's direction, but didn't immediately set off in pursuit. Instead, it turned to pursue Nuo Yifan instead.

Nuo Yifan was naturally far slower than the Sand Beast, and the distance between them was quickly dwindling.

Several hundred kilometers away, Han Li's expression changed drastically upon sensing this, and he clearly hadn't anticipated that the Sand Beast would be so intelligent.

The reason why he had been unwilling to abandon Nuo Yifan earlier was because he still had to remain in this place, and if she were to be killed because of him, then he would most likely be forced to leave this place.

However, at this point, the two of them were very far away from each other, so it was impossible for him to save her.

All he could do was stop cold in his tracks, then turn back around to fly toward Nuo Yifan as quickly as possible.

Nuo Yifan's complexion had turned deathly pale as she sensed the rapidly approaching Sand Beast, and she hurriedly flipped a hand over to produce a white jade talisman, which she then instantly crushed.

A dull thump rang out as the ball of white spiritual light flew out of the jade talisman before vanishing into her body.

She immediately began to glow with radiant white light, and a pair of crane wings that were several dozen feet in size appeared on her back, instantly enhancing her speed by severalfold.

Even so, she was still slower than the Sand Beast, and the distance between the two was still constantly shrinking.

As the gap between them was whittled down to less than 100 kilometers, the Sand Beast opened its mouth to release a burst of yellow light that resembled a rope, and it swept directly toward Nuo Yifan.

Right at this moment, a thick bolt of silver lightning came crashing down upon the top of the Sand Beast's head.

A huge ball of silver lightning then emerged, enveloping the Sand Beast's head within it, and it was sending arcs of silver lightning flying in all directions.

Immediately thereafter, the scar-faced man from the Calm Dawn Tribe appeared beside Nuo Yifan amid a flash of silver lightning.

"Elder Katun!"

Nuo Yifan was ecstatic to see him.

"We have to get away from here, Young Mistress!"

The scar-faced man slung one arm around Nuo Yifan's waist while holding a silver lightning hammer in his other hand. There was a silver lightning mark engraved onto the head of the hammer, giving off

bursts of lightning law power fluctuations, and it was releasing arcs of silver lightning that enveloped both of them.

However, right as they were about to make their escape, a ball of yellow light shot out of the ball of silver lightning behind them, then pierced straight through the scar-faced man's body at an incredible speed.

The ball of silver lightning rippled momentarily before quickly fading to reveal the giant Sand Beast, which was completely unscathed aside the fact that its head had been slightly charred black.

The ball of yellow light had been shot straight out of the Sand Beast's glabella, and the scar-faced man's expression stiffened as he looked down at the ball of yellow light embedded into his chest, which then abruptly exploded.

The scar-faced man's body also exploded into countless pieces that fell out of the sky, but at the same time, the silver lightning hammer in his hand shot forth directly toward the Sand Beast with a tiny nascent soul just barely visible within it.

The lightning hammer reached the Sand Beast in a flash, then exploded violently into a giant ball of silver light that was giving off tremendous energy fluctuations, causing the nearby space to tremble and quiver while gusts of fierce wind were sent sweeping in all directions.

The giant Sand Beast was completely inundated by the silver light, but its roar of alarm and fury could still be heard.

Nuo Yifan was sent flying far into the distance by the ferocious gusts of wind, and tears began to well up in her eyes as she turned to look at the ball of silver light, but in the next instant, a determined look appeared on her face as she sped away as a streak of white light.

A few seconds later, the Sand Beast flew out of the ball of silver light with its entire body riddled with injuries. In particular, its head had become entirely charred black, and it let loose a thunderous roar of fury before suddenly descending out of the sky.

A layer of yellow light emerged over its body as it burrowed into the ground like a fish plunging into water, then quickly re-emerged elsewhere, at which point all of its injuries had disappeared, but its aura had become a little weaker.

Immediately thereafter, it continued to pursue Nuo Yifan as a yellow shadow.

Meanwhile, Han Li emerged amid a flash of golden lightning, and a stunned look appeared in his eyes upon witnessing the Sand Beast's incredible regenerative powers.

He then quickly made a hand seal and vanished from the spot amid another flash of golden lightning.

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At the entrance of the Dark Star Canyon, Nuo Qinglin turned around and descended onto the fortress behind him.

There were already two gray-robed grand elders waiting for him there, and as soon as he descended onto the fortress, the pair of grand elders instantly declared, "The preparations are complete, Chief Nuo."

Nuo Qinglin nodded in response with a solemn expression, then swept a sleeve through the air, and a loose-fitting purple robe with beautiful embroidered golden stars appeared over his body.

The three of them quickly made their way onto a spacious altar at the center of the fortress, then formed a triangular formation with another, following which each of them produced a wooden staff, which they tapped down onto the strange patterns on the ground.

The two grand elders remained silent, while Nuo Qinglin began to chant an incantation in the true spirit language to complement the tapping of their staves.

Moments later, he raised his staff before ramming its tip heavily down onto the ground, and the staff instantly pierced through the stone material of the altar.

The two grand elders did the same thing, immediately following which Nuo Qinglin raised an arm before swiping a finger across the palm of his hand, instantly inflicting a gash that was deep enough to reveal bone.

Glowing purple blood flowed out of the gash before dripping down onto the ground, but instead of splattering in all directions, the blood stayed together to form a tiny dark purple snake that began to extend forward.

Before long, the tiny snake had filled the entire array on the altar, and Nuo Qinglin's complexion had paled significantly as he gritted his teeth and rammed the bottom of his staff into the ground once again.

A faint buzzing sound rang out as a burst of radiant purple light erupted out of the entire altar, and a complex purple array projection emerged, within which were countless tiny specks of light that were dancing around like fireflies before converging to form a giant shadow the size of a small mountain.

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Chapter 558: Suliu

The huge shadow was still for a moment before gradually rising up higher, and it was also taking on a more substantial form.

Even before the shadow's body had completely taken shape, a voice rang out from within the array. "What's wrong, kid? Is the state of the battle already so bad that you had to summon me?"

As the voice trailed off, the purple light within the array also gradually faded, revealing the giant shadow to be an enormous fox with azure fur, and it was seated with its legs crossed like a human cultivator.

The azure fox had a pair of thin and long eyebrows, and there was a symbol of a purple star on its glabella. There were also three long scars that ran parallel to each other over its right eye, looking as if they had been inflicted by the claws of some type of demon beast.

The azure fox was clad in a suit of extremely beautiful azure armor, and it had six massive tails that were dragging along behind it as it looked at Nuo Qinglin with a disdainful expression.

Nuo Qinglin hurriedly extended a deep bow as he said, "My sincerest apologies, Master Suliu, but I had to call upon you as Yifan is in grave danger!"

"What?! Who dares to pick on Yifan?"

The giant azure fox was enraged to hear this, and its six tails began to flail around in a display of fury.

"Right now, Yifan is being pursued by the Sand Beast raised by the chief of the Sand Eating Tribe. At the moment, all of our warriors are busy battling against the Insect Race army, so none of us can go and rescue her," Nuo Qinglin explained in an urgent and fearful voice.

Suliu immediately turned around to scour the battlefield in search of Nuo Yifan while grumbling in a thunderous voice, "What kind of father are you, Nuo Qinglin? Yifan is my pride and joy! You won't get away with it if something happens to her!"

As it was speaking, its gaze settled upon a certain spot on the distant horizon, where Nuo Yifan was being pursued by the Sand Beast.

"There she is..."

Suliu's eyes narrowed slightly as it sprang up into the sky like a flying mountain, then flew directly toward Nuo Yifan with its six massive tails flailing through the air behind it.

Fervent looks instantly appeared on the faces of all of the Calm Dawn Tribe warriors down below at the sight of Suliu, and they began to chant its name in reverence as they charged toward the Insect Race army with renewed vigor.

Meanwhile, Nuo Yifan was frantically fleeing from the Sand Beast, and in her haste to do so, she was getting further and further away from Han Li.

Han Li's brows furrowed slightly upon seeing this, but all he could do was continue to fly after her in pursuit.

Right at this moment, a resounding boom rang out, and the cliff face that Nuo Yifan was flying toward suddenly exploded.

The Sand Beast had burrowed into the ground, and it erupted out of the remnants of the collapsed cliff face before pouncing at Nuo Yifan with its mouth wide open, having already reverted back to its original size.

Nuo Yifan was very alarmed to see this, but to her credit, she remained composed as she swung around in mid-air, then stepped onto a giant falling rock, using it as a launch pad to propel herself away from the giant Sand Beast.

However, right at this moment, a dark red vortex abruptly emerged within the Sand Beast's mouth, and it was releasing a burst of tremendous suction force that was far too powerful for Nuo Yifan to withstand.

As a result, she wasn't able to get away at all before she found herself being sucked toward the Sand Beast's mouth.

Right as she was about to be devoured by the Sand Beast, Han Li hurriedly made a hand seal before pointing in a finger forward, and an Azure Bamboo Cloudswarm Sword reached Nuo Yifan in the blink of an eye, catching her during her rapid fall.

The sword was glowing brightly as it sent a burst of sword Qi erupting in all directions, counteracting the suction force surging out of the Sand Beast's mouth. Immediately thereafter, the sword flew away into the distance, carrying Nuo Yifan on top of it.

The Sand Beast's mouth was closed with tremendous power, but much to its fury and frustration, it had chomped down onto nothing more than empty air.

It shrank back a little while coiling itself like a spring, then shot up into the sky like a cannonball, hurtling directly toward Nuo Yifan.

Having only just barely escaped from the jaws of death, Nuo Yifan didn't even get a chance to catch her breath before her demise was once again imminent.

"Don't be scared, Yifan, I'll take care of this thing!"

Right at this moment, Sulu arrived on the scene, and it sprang through the sky, leaping over Nuo Yifan to pounce onto the giant Sand Beast that was pursuing her.

The two enormous beings clashed violently in mid-air, then came tumbling down to the ground together.

Meanwhile, the Azure Bamboo Cloudswarm Swords swiveled around in the sky before carrying Nuo Yifan toward Han Li.

Nuo Yifan was still looking deathly pale, and after taking a moment to compose herself, she said, "Thank you for saving my life, Senior Li. I'll be sure to repay you for this."

Han Li merely nodded in response while making a beckoning motion to summon his Azure Bamboo Cloudswarm Sword back to himself.

Right at this moment, a resounding boom rang out in the distance, and both of them turned to discover that the giant Sand Beast was currently stuck under Sulu, and despite its best efforts, it was unable to free itself.

Sulu was straddled atop the Sand Beast, and its tails were wrapped around the Sand Beast like six giant azure pythons, constricting tighter and tighter to crush its prey.

At the same time, it had also released its spirit domain, but not very far, only just enough to encompass the Sand Beast.

"What's that?" Han Li asked with a surprised expression.



"This is Master Suliu, the true spirit revered by our Calm Dawn Tribe. His cultivation base is comparable to that of early-High Zenith cultivators for you humans," Nuo Yifan explained.

Han Li nodded in response with a contemplative expression.

He had seen many different types of fox demons back in the Mortal Realm and the Spirit Realm, but most of them excelled in illusory and seductive techniques. It was the first time that he had seen a fox demon that possessed such immense physical prowess.

Having said that, given that the azure fox was a primordial true spirit, it had to have already been residing in the primordial land since time immemorial, so it naturally couldn't be compared with ordinary demons.

All of a sudden, Suliu made a grabbing motion with both hands, and a burst of black light converged to form an enormous black staff in his hands, one that was riddled with star patterns and glowing faintly.

Suliu let loose a thunderous roar, and the star patterns on the staff in his hands brightened significantly as a radiant vortex of starlight took shape on the tip of the staff before it was plunged down viciously toward the Sand Beast's head.

Even though the Sand Beast's body was temporarily immobilized, it was still able to swivel its head around, and it opened its cavernous mouth, then chomped down upon the black staff as a burst of dark red light emerged within its mouth.

A small section of the staff was plunged into the Sand Beast's mouth, and the starlight vortex clashed against the dark red light.

Bursts of formidable energy fluctuations erupted out of the Sand Beast's mouth as countless specks of starlight clashed against the vast expanse of dark red light, and it seemed that the two were evenly matched.

A hint of concern appeared in Nuo Yifan's eyes upon seeing this, but she knew that

"Don't worry, Senior Sului's cultivation base is slightly superior to the Sand Beast's, so he'll be fine," Han Li consoled.

As soon as his voice trailed off, a series of golden ring patterns began to emerge over the Sand Beast's body, and it began to swell in size, gradually forcing Sului's tails apart one by one until they were no longer able to trap it.

"You're not getting away!" Sului sneered, and the starry design on his glabella suddenly began to glow with dazzling radiant, while his eyes turned pitch-black, following which an image of a starry night sky appeared within them.

Immediately thereafter, the aura that was emanating from his body also became as deep and vast as the night sky.

As Han Li looked into Sului's eyes, he was momentarily dazed, and for an instant, he felt as if he really were standing in the boundlessly vast night sky among the stars, waiting for a baptism of starlight.  
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In the next instant, all of the star patterns on Sului's staff lit up in unison, making it appear as if there were a starry night sky clinging to the staff, and it was releasing bursts of peculiar energy fluctuations that didn't seem to belong to this world.

At the same time, a burst of blinding starlight erupted forth, and all of the energy fluctuations condensed together before descending to clash violently against the dark red light in the Sand Beast's mouth.

Almost at the exact same moment, the Sand Beast finally struggled free from Sului's tails, and a series of radiant golden rings surged up toward its head from its tail, as if it were focusing all of its power into its mouth.

The two bursts of tremendous power clashed with an earth-shattering boom, and bursts of incredibly formidable shockwaves were sent sweeping through the air in all directions. The dark red light resembled the radiance of the dying sun, and it completely exploded amid the countless specks of descending starlight.

Immediately thereafter, the Sand Beast's enormous body exploded into countless grains of sand, resulting in an enormous sandstorm that erupted outward with immense power, completely pulverizing all of the mountains and trees in its path.

Updated from

#### Chapter 559: Cockroach

Han Li's expression remained unchanged as he swept a sleeve through the air to release several bursts of azure light, which intertwined to form an azure light barrier in front of himself and Nuo Yifan.

In the next instant, the violent sandstorm descended upon them with unstoppable force, and it was as if the azure light barrier were being barraged by countless arrows, but it remained as resolute as a mountain.

Gusts of yellow wind rapidly spread through an enormous surrounding area, hurling more sand up into the sky while countless trees were uprooted before being buried under the sand. In the blink of an eye, the entire area in a radius of tens of thousands of feet had been transformed into a sea of sand.

The battlefield between the Beast Race and the Insect Race was quite far away from where Suliu, and the Sand Beast were locked in combat, but even so, the gusts of fierce wind were still able to sweep over the entire battlefield, reducing visibility to near zero.

In fact, the weaker warriors on the battlefield found it extremely difficult just to remain still on the spot without being blown away, and as a result, the advance of the Insect Race army was slowed down significantly.

This was naturally good news for the Beast Race army, and in particular, the Golden Immortals of the Beast Race heaved a collective sigh of relief, then pounced on this opportunity to alter the army's formation and fortify its defensive line.

The Beast Race army had the home advantage on this battlefield, and during this brief window of respite, some of the tribes were able to unveil the defensive measures that they hadn't been able to reveal up to this point.

Shortly thereafter, the sandstorm subsided, and everything returned to normal.

The morale of the Beast Race army was lifted significantly upon witnessing their revered true spirit slay such a powerful enemy, and they quickly arranged a counterattack under the instructions of their chiefs before charging toward the Insect Race army.

Due to how aggressive the Insect Race army's attack had been, the Beast Race army had been caught slightly off guard, but now that they had been given a chance to regroup and launch an effective counterattack, it didn't take long before the advance of the Insect Race army was stopped cold in its tracks.

At the center of the sea of sand, the Sand Beast was nowhere to be seen, and all that remained was Sulu, who was holding onto his black staff with one hand, while clutched in his other hand was a large sand crystal.

This sand crystal was clearly of a far superior quality to the one that Han Li had obtained. Not only was it completely translucent, there were some golden threads inside that were giving off bursts of formidable spiritual power fluctuations.

Han Li swept a sleeve through the air to do away with the azure light barrier, and Nuo Yifan immediately rushed over to Sulu's side as she asked in an urgent voice, "Are you alright, Master Sulu?"

"Of course! I'm as fit as a..."

Sulu's voice abruptly cut off mid-sentence as he threw up a mouthful of blood.

Nuo Yifan immediately flew around Sulu until she was in front of him, and only then did she discover that there was a huge hole on his chest. A large section of the azure armor around the hole had been charred black, and at this moment, the wound was slowly healing while releasing wisps of white smoke.

Meanwhile, Han Li merely stood and observed from afar.

At the same time, Jin Tong was communicating to Han Li through his spiritual sense, trying to goad him into taking that sand crystal from Suliu.

Prior to this, she had been staying in Xiao Bai's belly. However, despite her incredible physical constitution, the internal space in Xiao Bai's body also proved to be quite extraordinary, and she was forced to re-emerge not long ago.

"Forget it. Right now, we're counting on the Beast Race to deal with the other Gold Devouring Immortal for you. If we try any funny business now, there's a very good chance that we'll be banished by the Beast Race, and we'll have to face the Insect Race army on our own," Han Li replied through voice transmission.

"Speaking of the other Gold Devouring Immortal, it seems to be getting closer and closer!" Jin Tong exclaimed. "I have to hide again. Open your mouth, Xiao Bai!"

"You can hide in my stomach, but please don't eat any more of my treasures. It's not been easy saving up those immortal treasures, and you've eaten a third of them in one go!" Xiao Bai protested.

"Why are you stingy, Xiao Bai? Uncle has more than enough immortal treasures for both of us to eat!" Jin Tong retorted with a displeased expression.

"Master..." Xiao Bai wailed.

"If we manage to survive this ordeal, I'll let you eat to your heart's content, but if we can't, then this might be the end for us," Han Li said in a grim voice as he cast his gaze toward a certain direction with blue light flashing through his eyes.

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"I'm glad you're safe," Suliu said with a pleased nod after carefully examining Nuo Yifan.

"It's all thanks to you and Senior Li," Nuo Yifan replied.

"This is the human you were talking about?" Sulu asked as he turned to Han Li and rested the bottom of his staff against the ground.

"That's right. Senior Li has saved my life twice now," Nuo Yifan replied with a nod.

"Oh? You sound very grateful to him. Could it be that you're planning to repay him with your body?" Sulu jibed with a sly grin.

Nuo Yifan knew that Sulu was making fun of her, so she could only remain silent with a displeased pout on her face.

"Humans have always been very cunning, sometimes even more so than our Fox Tribe, so make sure you don't become too close with him," Sulu continued as a serious look appeared on his face.

"I understand, Master Sulu," Nuo Yifan replied with a nod.

Right as the two of them were conversing with one another, Sulu's expression abruptly changed drastically as he grabbed onto Nuo Yifan, then hurled her at Han Li as he yelled in the language of the immortal regions, "Take her away from here!"

Han Li seemed to have already detected that something was amiss, and in the instant that Sulu threw Nuo Yifan through the air, he had already vanished from the spot.

In the next instant, he appeared right in Nuo Yifan's path, then caught her by the waist before vanishing from the spot once again.

After hurling Nuo Yifan away, Sulu picked up his black staff, then thrust it into the space up ahead with tremendous force, and his attack was aimed in the exact same direction that Han Li had been observing just a moment ago.

The star patterns on the staff began to glow radiantly, and a burst of silver light emerged on the tip of the staff, then instantly expanded to form a radiant starry sky that was several thousand feet in size.

Immediately thereafter, a resplendent golden sun abruptly emerged in front of the starry sky out of nowhere.

The enormous ball of golden light crashed down upon the starry sky light barrier released by the black staff like a meteorite, and an earth-shattering boom rang out.

The starry night sky instantly exploded, and in the face of this ball of golden light, Suliu's staff was made to appear as fragile as a stick of sorghum, quickly shattering into countless pieces.

Ultimately, the countless stars were unable to contend against the single sun, and the entire starry sky exploded violently.

Suliu let loose an agonized roar as his giant body was sent flying back like a rucksack, plowing an extremely deep trench into the ground before he crashed heavily into a cliff face.

Countless loose rocks came tumbling down from the cliff face, instantly burying half of his entire body.

A trail of black blood began to trickle down from the corner of his lips, and he gritted his teeth as he glowered intently at the ball of golden light, within which was a golden beetle that was over 10,000 feet in size.

Its entire body was giving off an indescribably fearsome aura, and even Han Li was fleeing toward the canyon with his back facing the golden beetle, he knew that it was none other than the Gold Devouring Immortal that Jin Tong had been referring to.

Even though it was virtually identical to Jin Tong in appearance, its aura was at the late-High Zenith Stage!

A grim look appeared on Han Li's face upon sensing the golden beetle's aura, but he didn't slow down at all. Instead, he began racing away even faster than before.

"Master Insect Spirit!"

The Insect Race army was struggling to ward off the aggressive assault of the Beast Race army, but all of the Insect Race warriors instantly erupted into thunderous cheers at the sight of the Gold Devouring Immortal.

All of the spirit insects that were being controlled by the Insect Race warriors were also reinvigorated, and they began rushing at the Beast Race army with renewed effort and bloodlust, restoring both armies to even footing once again.

At this point, Nuo Qinglin had already returned to the battlefield, and an alarmed look appeared on his face at the sight of the Gold Devouring Immortal, following which he hurriedly cast his gaze toward Sulu in search for his daughter.

However, as he began to search for Nuo Yifan's aura, he discovered that she had already been brought back to the canyon by Han Li.

"Hand it over!" the golden beetle said in a cold and thunderous voice that rumbled over the entire battlefield.

"Just like Father said, you're as resilient as a cockroach! If you're not killed, then you'll only come back stronger, but I didn't think you would've already become this powerful since the last war..." Sulu jeered as he coughed up another mouthful of blood.

"Don't make me repeat myself," the golden beetle said in a cold voice, then crossed its two front legs before sweeping them both violently through the air, releasing two streaks of translucent light that resembled a pair of massive cicada wings, which then instantly vanished in a flash.

However, Sulu seemed to have already been prepared for the attack, and he immediately sprang up from the ground, jumping up several thousand feet to evade the two streaks of translucent light just in the nick of time.

Han Li was closely observing the golden beetle from afar with blue light flashing in his eyes, and he was astonished by what he saw.



As it turned out, even the dust particles and rays of light in the path of the two streaks of translucent light had been cleaved into two.

After Suliu dodged the attack, the cliff face behind him was struck by the two streaks of translucent light, and the entire cliff face was severed like tofu, unable to pose any resistance.

Suliu hovered high up in the sky, looking very much worse for wear as he yelled, "Father, this cockroach is picking on me!"

As soon as his voice trailed off, a vast expanse of radiant starlight appeared in the sky, and an even more massive figure emerged from within.

Updated from

Chapter 560: King

This was another azure fox that was over twice the size of Suliu.

It was wearing a suit of beautiful golden armor that was riddled with countless flashing silver runes, and there were nine massive tails trailing along behind it, giving it a very majestic appearance.

The nine-tailed fox also had a set of long and thin eyebrows, and there was also a radiant star design on its glabella.

At the same time, it was giving off an enormous aura that was slightly superior even to that of the golden beetle.

"Our king!"

Fervent looks appeared on the faces of all of the Beast Race Golden Immortals at the sight of the nine-tailed fox, while the Beast Race army down below enjoyed another significant morale boost.

"Father!"

Suliu immediately flew over to the nine-tailed fox's side, but the golden beetle wasn't paying any attention to Suliu or the nine-tailed fox. Instead, its golden eyes were roaming over its surroundings, seemingly searching for something.

Han Li was rather apprehensive at the sight of the golden beetle's searching gaze, and he couldn't be certain if Jin Tong really would be able to escape its detection by hiding in Xiao Bai's stomach.

Thankfully, the golden beetle's gaze swept over him without pause, and that came as quite a relief to him, but he still didn't dare to let down his guard.

The nine-tailed fox gave Suliu a stern glare, then raised a front paw to send a burst of azure light flying into Suliu's body.

With this injection of azure light, most of Suliu's injuries were instantly healed, and a wide smile appeared on his face as he said, "Thank you, Fa..."

"Stand down," the nine-tailed fox instructed, cutting him off in a serious voice.

Suliu nodded in response, then flew away into the distance.

"Leave this place right now, Insect Spirit. Otherwise, you leave me with no choice but to strike you down!" the nine-tailed fox declared in a thunderous voice.

Only then did the golden beetle finally turn its gaze to the nine-tailed fox for the first time.

In the next instant, it abruptly transformed into a golden shadow, appearing behind the nine-tailed fox in a flash before opening its mouth to release a thick pillar of translucent golden light, which pierced straight through the nine-tailed fox's body in the blink of an eye.

The nine-tailed fox remained completely still on the spot, seemingly having failed to react, but in the next instant, he abruptly vanished, revealing that body to have only been an afterimage.

The golden beetle faltered slightly upon seeing this, and it stopped cold in its tracks.

Immediately thereafter, the nine-tailed fox appeared behind it out of thin air amid a flash of azure light, following which its nine tails shot out like lightning to ensnare the golden beetle while also releasing an azure spirit domain.

At the same time, a layer of black spiritual light emerged over its nine tails, and starlight was flashing incessantly over the tails as they rapidly constricted, tightening around the golden beetle's body like nine black pythons.

The nine-tailed fox then opened his mouth to release a pillar of black flames that struck the golden beetle before erupting into a sea of fire, and all of this had taken place in the blink of an eye.

The sea of fire was giving off bursts of incredibly scorching heat that caused the nearby space to warp and tremble violently, and even though Han Li was quite a distance away from the sea of fire, even he had to fly into the distance, unable to bear the heat.

Suliu had also retreated into the distance as a pleased look appeared in his eyes.

Meanwhile, the nine-tailed fox continued its barrage of attacks, and a beam of starlight abruptly shot out of the star design on his glabella.

The beam of starlight was formed by countless black starlight runes, and they were plunged into the sea of black flames while giving off tremendous law power fluctuations.

As a result, the sea of fire reared up significantly, and the black flames quickly became lighter in color, but the heat that they were giving off only continued to elevate.

The nearby space was tainted a black color, and it also began warping far more violently than before, making it appear as if the very space were about to be set alight.

The golden beetle was completely inundated by the sea of fire, and it seemed that it had already been incinerated into ashes.

Suliu was ecstatic to see this, as were all of the Beast Race Golden Immortals, while all of the Insect Race Golden Immortals were looking on in horror and despair.

However, in the next instant, the sea of fire suddenly began to churn violently, and a rapidly expanding vortex appeared within it, following which a burst of golden light emerged within the vortex.

Before the nine-tailed fox had a chance to do anything, the vortex abruptly swelled in size, while the golden light inside also brightened significantly, and all of the black flames were instantly sucked into the vortex.

As a result, the golden beetle was revealed, and it was still ensnared within the nine tails, but there was golden light radiating from its mouth as it devoured the final wisp of black fire.

The cheering from the Beast Race army instantly subsided, and the entire battlefield fell still for a moment, while Suliu was also looking on with his mouth agape in shock.

"How has the insect spirit become so powerful? It stood no chance against Master Yohu during the last war..." Nuo Yifan murmured to herself with a stunned expression.

"Is this your king?" Han Li asked.

"That's right. Master Yohu is the king that's worshiped by all of our Beast Race tribes, and he's also the father of our tribe's true spirit, Suliu," Nuo Yifan replied with a nod.

"It sounds like this isn't the first battle between your king and the insect spirit. How does the insect spirit match up against your kind? Does it have any weaknesses?" Han Li asked.

"The insect spirit has an incredibly sturdy body and can devour almost all attacks, so I can't think of any physical weaknesses. I recall that Master Yohu had only been able to force it into retreat last time by using some type of spiritual attack," Nuo Yifan replied.

Han Li nodded in response.

He knew better than anyone else just how incredible the physical prowess of Gold Devouring Beetles were. However, compared with their near-indestructible bodies, their souls were indeed far more fragile.

Right as Han Li and Nuo Yifan were conversing with each other, the golden beetle suddenly turned his gaze to the nine tails around its body, following which two thin streaks of translucent golden light erupted out of its front limbs toward the tails.

The nine-tailed fox immediately withdrew its tails as quickly as it could while also fleeing into the distance, and even though it had reacted very quickly, two of its tails were still struck by the streaks of golden light.

Those two tails were instantly severed, and blood came gushing out of the wounds.

The nine-tailed fox drew to a halt close to 10 kilometers away, and a furious look appeared in its eyes at the sight of its severed tails. (f)ree

It thrust its two front paws forward, and two resounding thumps rang out as a pair of giant beastly paw projections, one azure and one black, emerged above the golden beetle.

The paw projections were giving off a faint azure glow, within which were countless dancing azure runes, following which an image of a starry night sky emerged on the paw projections.

The two projections drew back slightly, then came crashing down upon the golden beetle with tremendous power.

The golden beetle gave a disdainful sneer, following which two bursts of golden light that resembled pythons shot out of its body, then pierced through the pair of paw projections with ease before winding themselves around the projections and constricting viciously.

A burst of terrifying power instantly began acting upon the pair of paw projections, instantly shattering them into countless specks of azure and black spiritual light, which spread through the entire surrounding area in a radius of close to 10 kilometers.

The nine-tailed fox raised its two front paws before drawing a pair of semi-circles in mid-air, and the scattered specks of azure and black light suddenly began to flash before fusing together to form countless black and azure threads of light that wound themselves around the golden beetle.

The golden beetle was clearly a little taken aback by this, but it remained completely unfazed as countless streaks of translucent golden light erupted out of its body to strike the black and azure threads of light.

These threads of light didn't appear to be all that remarkable, but they were incredibly sturdy, and only less than half of them were severed, while the rest remained firmly in place.

A hint of surprise flashed through the golden beetle's eyes upon seeing this, and right at this moment, the nine-tailed fox appeared directly above its head.

Black light flashed from the nine-tailed fox's front paws, and two sets of scythe-like black claws that each around 10 feet in length sprang forth.

The nine-tailed fox then swooped down with radiant starlight emanating from its claws, which scratched down viciously upon the golden beetle's back to send sparks flying in all directions.

A burst of tremendous energy fluctuations erupted in all directions as the golden and black light clashed with immense power, and all of the claws on the nine-tailed fox's front paws were snapped, while only a series of white marks had appeared on the golden beetle's back.

The claws hadn't even been able to draw any blood, and the nine-tailed fox's expression instantly darkened significantly upon seeing this.

All of a sudden, the golden light radiating from the golden beetle's body abruptly brightened significantly, and translucent threads of golden light could be seen within it, giving off a burst of tremendous suction force.

The black light was instantly sucked into the golden light on contact, while the golden light continued to surge toward the nine-tailed fox.

The nine-tailed fox was clearly very wary of this golden light, and he immediately sprang away into the distance as an azure shadow.

However, right at this moment, the golden light around the golden beetle brightened even further, giving it the appearance of an incandescent golden sun.

The radiant golden light rapidly spread outward in all directions to form an enormous golden spirit domain, within which streaks of golden light were swirling around incessantly to form a series of vortexes of different sizes.

The nine-tailed fox wasn't able to get very far away at all before it was caught within the golden spirit domain, upon which its speed was significantly hampered.

At this point, the threads of azure and black light around the golden beetle's body had already vanished, and it cast a cold gaze toward the nine-tailed fox before opening its mouth to release around a dozen golden law threads.

As soon as these law threads shot out of its mouth, they immediately swelled drastically in size while radiating dazzling golden light with countless golden runes flashing within it.

Immediately thereafter, the dozen or so enlarged law threads intertwined to form an extremely lifelike golden wyrm that was several thousand feet in length.