Chaotic 1501

Chapter 1501: A Successor Found (One)

Longevity Valley was especially busy, but not bustling due to joy or cheers. Instead, this was a day when the valley had gathered the largest number of people in the past few centuries or millenia. Not only had all the villagers in the valley come out to send off Xiu Mi, but quite a few outsiders had come as well. Aside from Jian Chen and Ming Dong, there was the vice sect master of the Bloodsword sect, the four protectors, and the various elders. Their strongest member, Jiang Wang, had become a Saint Emperor due to Jian Chen's assistance over a decade ago while the rest were Saint Rulers or Saint Kings.

The people from the Bloodsword sect all wore long, red robes that seemed to be dyed with blood. They worked hard to conceal their Baleful Yin Force so that they could appear more ordinary, having arrived in Longevity Valley while maintaining a low profile. They all respectfully bowed to Jian Chen before quietly standing behind him. They all gazed at Xiu Mi's coffin with mixed emotions. There was sorrow, regret, and helplessness among their gentle sighs.

Before Jian Chen had become the sect master of the Bloodsword sect, the position had always been held by Houston. Ever since Houston had retired to Longevity Valley a thousand years ago and stopped participating in the struggles of the continent, the Bloodsword sect had been managed by Xiao Mi. For some time, it had been Xiao Mi who passed on orders for Houston. As a result, even though he was not powerful, only a mere Heaven Saint Master, he possessed a special status in the Bloodsword sect.

As a result, basically all the members of the upper echelon from the assassination organization had come. They had all come to see him off one last time.

The valley only lacked one person now, which was Xiu Mi's father, Houston.

Houston had vanished from the Tian Yuan Continent many years ago. Even though Xiu Mi had died, he still did not appear. Jian Chen had used his soul to search the entire continent as well, not only going over every inch of the Tian Yuan Continent but sweeping the territory of the three other races as well. However, he still failed to find any traces of Houston.

Ming Dong returned from the mountainous forests in the distance. He dragged a huge bear behind him as he walked toward the village. He seemed extremely ordinary, just like a regular mortal. He did not give off the bearing of a powerful expert at all. His white clothes were covered in specks of dust as well as green from the plants he crushed in the forest.

Ming Dong dragged the black bear into the valley. As the bear's huge body scraped against the ground, it left behind a long trail. Without delay, Ming Dong skinned and cleaned the bear, removing its monster core and chopping it into large pieces of meat, specifically to feed the villagers.

A very large portion of the villagers were ordinary people. They needed three meals a day and would only cultivate some Saint Force from time to time. However, they only cultivated to build a solid foundation for hunting so that they could provide the tiny village with meat to eat. Ever since Ming Dong and Little Fatty had come back, the matter of hunting had always been handled by one of them. All the recent meat that had been consumed by the village had come from Ming Dong. After cleaning the huge bear, Ming Dong arrived before Jian Chen, "Jian Chen, Class 7 Radiant Saint Masters possess the ability to revive the dead, but you've surpassed that level already. Do you have a method of reviving uncle Xiu Mi?"

Jian Chen shook his head powerlessly. He stared at Xiu Mi's coffin silently and gently sighed. "Uncle Xiu Mi's soul is incomplete because of a birth defect. Anything regarding the soul is very complicated. I may have reached the 9th Class now, but I still don't possess the power for uncle Xiu Mi to regrow a soul. At the same time, Radiant Saint Masters can revive the dead, but there are conditions as well. Only those who have died with their souls intact can be revived. If a person dies and their soul is dispersed, they can't be revived even if they're a Saint Ruler."

Ming Dong's hope was shattered by Jian Chen's explanation. He had not been very familiar with Xiu Mi, but he was Xiu Tianyu's father after all. It was quite painful for Ming Dong to see how sad Xiu Tianyu was.

"Jian Chen, can you find my grandfather?" Xiu Tianyu finally said something. He looked at Jian Chen full of hope. However, he was unable to contain his sorrow either.

On such an important day, they could not be without Houston. Not only did Little Fatty wish Houston was present, but all the villagers wished that their old village head could come as well.

Jian Chen shook his head again. He had no idea where uncle Xiu had entered seclusion or whether his presence had been concealed by the Empyrean Demon Orb or not. He had scoured the territories of the four races with his Returnance level soul and even looked through a few unpopulated regions as well as forbidden zones on the Tian Yuan Continent, but he failed to find any traces of uncle Xiu.

Jian Chen did not even miss the Death Nest. However, all he found there was Lankyros and Kaiser, the two former rulers of the Beast God Continent.

"Though, the Death Nest's rather strange. All the vengeful spirits seem to have vanished. Is it because of the tiger emperor and Kaiser? They might actually have that ability as Saint Emperors," Jian Chen thought. However, he did not pay too much attention to the changes. What really interested him was the blood-red skeleton he had seen in the Death Nest before.

The blood-red skeleton could not avoid Jian Chen's senses either. It squatted silently in the very depths of the Death Nest, surrounded by a large, dense, red mist. It seemed to be slumbering.

Back when they had fought over the Saints' Fruit, the blood-red skeleton had seemed undefeatable in Jian Chen's eyes because it had surpassed Saint Emperor and possessed an unfathomable level of strength. But now, Jian Chen found that the skeleton's strength was equivalent to late Receival. The same level as Ku Mu, who Jian Chen had killed in the spatial tunnel.

According to local traditions, Xiu Mi's funeral lasted for seven whole days. Houston did not return during those days, and in the end, they buried Xiu Mi without him on a small hill near the valley.

Another ancient gravestone stood beside Xiu Mi. It belonged to Houston's wife, Xiu Mi's mother.

Xiu Mi's grave had been chosen to be beside the mother he had never seen.

After the funeral, all the people of the Bloodsword sect bid farewell to Jian Chen. Under their vice sect master's lead, they left the valley. Jian Chen and Ming Dong chose to stay behind. They did not leave immediately.

In the blink of an eye, three days had passed since Xiu Mi had been buried. During those three days, Xiu Tianyu's grief gradually dulled, allowing him to slowly return to normal. Only his mother remained sad as tears constantly poured down her cheeks.

Once Xiu Tianyu recovered, Jian Chen called him and Ming Dong and over to leave the valley. Jian Chen found a suitable location to set down the Anatta Tower in the depths of the Cross Mountains. He took them to the ninth floor. He wanted to see if they could obtain the Anatta Grand Prime's legacy.

If Ming Dong and Xiu Tianyu failed, Jian Chen planned to go to the Huang family and get Huang Luan to try. After that he would bring the people from the Changyang clan as well as Yun Zheng, Senior An, Wang Yifeng from the Flame Mercenaries, Qin Xiao from the Tianqin clan, the third prince of the Qinhuang Kingdom, Qin Ji, and so on.

Chapter 1502: A Successor Found (Two)

The illusory Heavenly Palace of Bisheng let out a dazzling, golden light on the ninth floor of the Anatta Tower, illuminating quite a large portion of the floor. Even from extremely far away, the palace still appeared dazzling.

The Heavenly Palace of Bisheng had been the residence of the Anatta Grand Prime. It was a famed place even within the Saints' World. Not a single divine hall on the Tian Yuan Continent could compare to its grandeur. Any person who stood before it for the first time would be deeply stunned by how great it was.

Ming Dong and Xiu Tianyu stood before the illusory palace. They stared at it in shock.

The structure did not seem to be as simple as a palace in their eyes. Instead, it had become as great as the sky, the heavens that loomed over them.

"Jian Chen, is this divine hall real or fake? I actually feel like I'm an insignificant ant before this divine hall with my strength as a Saint Emperor. The pressure of the structure is just too powerful, almost to the point where it's suffocating." Ming Dong returned to his senses first after a long while, but he remained fixated on the structure while sighing in surprise.

Ming Dong's strength had been increased to Saint King by Jian Chen's Violet Cloud Peach before, and after over another decade, Ming Ding broke through once again by consuming the various heavenly resources from the Xuanhuang Microcosm left behind by Jian Chen. He had become a Saint Emperor now.

"It's real and fake. Let's go. Follow me, there's the legacy of a peerless senior inside. Let's see if you are fated to obtain it. Don't ask too much about this place." Jian Chen entered the illusionary structure first.

A strange light immediately appeared in Ming Dong and Xiu Tianyu's eyes when they saw Jian Chen standing on the illusory steps. They soon followed behind him with intense curiosity. They also began to climb the stairs.

Jian Chen brought the two of them to the familiar Fortune Jade Seat. After some warnings, he got the two of them to sit on the seat.

"I've already become a Saint Emperor now while you're still a Saint King. It's better for you to try obtain the legacy," Ming Dong said to Xiu Tianyu.

Xiu Tianyu hesitated, but he did not turn Ming Dong down in the end. He walked over and sat down on the Fortune Jade Seat.

Jian Chen stared fixedly at Xiu Tianyu. He knew that he himself was not fated to obtain the Anatta Grand Prime's legacy, so he obviously hoped that someone among his friends would be fated. He had always felt rather selfish since he was unwilling to let such a great legacy fall into the hands of others.

Several seconds later, Jian Chen sensed the familiar and powerful force surge from the seat, pushing Xiu Tianyu off.

Jian Chen gently sighed. Xiu Tianyu's talent could be considered exceptional. If he could not obtain the Anatta Grand Prime's legacy, then Jian Chen really had no idea what kind of requirements were needed to gain its recognition. Maybe only the Saints' World possessed people who could obtain it, but they would not appear in lower worlds.

It was Ming Dong's turn. He also sat down on the seat and closed his eyes like Xiu Tianyu, using his mind to sense the mysteries of the seat.

Jian Chen had already lost all hope now. He knew that probably no one in the lower world could obtain the Anatta Grand Prime's legacy. Only prodigies of the Saints' World could fulfil the conditions that had been set. He believed that he would end up failing to find someone by his side who could obtain it.

Just as he had expected, the extremely familiar power appeared from the Fortune Jade Seat again. Jian Chen had expected this outcome and did not feel surprised at all. He knew that Ming Dong would be pushed off the seat by the power.

However, Jian Chen's eyes suddenly narrowed. He stared at Ming Doang in surprise. His expression had changed too.

The powerful and gentle force from the seat did not behave like Jian Chen had imagined. It did not push Ming Dong off. Instead, it enveloped him, forming something akin to a cocoon.

At the same time, the entire palace began to gently tremble. The illusory structure blurred at that moment, but it also began to shine brighter. The light was as blinding as the sun, dyeing the entire ninth floor a golden color. Jian Chen could not help but close his eyes.

The golden light had appeared quickly and disappeared even quicker. When Jian Chen sensed the golden light vanishing, he also felt the ground fall from under him. Before he could react, he had become airborne. He was falling.

Jian Chen immediately stabilized himself in the air. When he opened his eyes, he was immediately stunned because not a single trace of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng remained. Only the stone tablet show how much he had refined remained.

The entire palace had just disappeared into thin air.

Jian Chen's face became extremely ugly because the structure was not the only thing that had vanished. Ming Dong had disappeared as well. Ming Dong had vanished from the ninth floor with the illusory projection of the palace.

"Where's Ming Dong? Jian Chen, how has Ming Dong disappeared?" Xiu Tianyu cried out while standing by Jian Chen's side. He looked around and became flustered and worried.

Jian Chen's face sank. His soul immediately fused with the Anatta Tower as he carefully inspected each inch of the ninth floor. He attempted to find any traces of Ming Dong, but disappointment was the only outcome. Ming Dong seemed to have left the Anatta Tower all together. He was not present at all.

Jian Chen slowly said after a moment of silence, "Looks like Ming Dong's fated with this senior. He's obtained the senior's recognition and left."

Xiu Tianyu let out a breath of relief. He said, "Jian Chen, do you know where Ming Dong went? I want to look for him."

Jian Chen sighed and gently shook his head. His face was filled with bitterness. He had already realized that it was extremely likely that Ming Dong had been taken away by the power within the Fortune Jade Seat. He was no longer in this world. He did not know whether to celebrate or grieve.

He would celebrate the high probability that Ming Dong had obtained the Anatta Grand Prime's legacy and was destined to become a powerful expert of the Saints' World. He would grieve over the fact that two of them were in two different worlds now. He had no idea whether they would meet again in his lifetime.

Chapter 1503: Marriage

"Little Fatty, let's go. We probably can't find Ming Dong so soon. There still might be a chance of finding him in the future," Jian Chen said rather dejectedly. He had never thought that the Fortune Jade Seat in the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng would teleport people away. If he had known this earlier, he would have never searched for a successor for the Anatta Grand Prime on the Tian Yuan Continent in such a hurry.

Although he had always wanted someone beside him to obtain the Anatta Grand Prime's legacy so that it would not end up with an outsider, he had not wanted Ming Dong to leave this world and be transported to the Saints' World all by himself.

This was because the Anatta Grand Prime was already dead. Even though Ming Dong had obtained the Grand Prime's legacy, he was unable to obtain the Grand Prime's protection. There were many people who desired the Anatta Grand Prime's legacy. If any news revealing that Ming Dong possessed the legacy was leaked, he would find no refuge in the Saints' World.

Ming Dong could have been protected if he had gained the legacy on the Tian Yuan Continent by Jian Chen, but Jian Chen was helpless if Ming Dong obtained the legacy in the Saints' World.

Jian Chen left the Anatta Tower with Xiu Tianyu and returned to Longevity Valley after storing the tower away.

The sadness from Xiu Mi's death had dulled. The villages who had lived there for generations gradually returned to their regular lifestyles. There were just a few people who were used to having Xiu Mi around, so they became rather quiet.

You Yue had stayed beside Xiu Tianyu's mother, comforting her. Her identity was gradually deciphered by the villagers while she was there. The villagers who had lived there for generations may not have known what the princess of a kingdom was, but they only needed to know that she was Jian Chen's fiancée. That was enough for her to be warmly welcomed.

Jian Chen did not stay in Longevity Valley for very long. After returning, he pulled You Yue with him to Xiu Mi's grave, paying his respects to him. Afterward, he bid farewell to all the villagers in the valley.

"Jian Chen, miss You Yue is so pretty. I've never seen such a pretty girl like You Yue in my entire life. You have to treat her well and not let her down."

"Jian Chen, you may not be a native of Longevity Valley, but all of us here have treated you as one of our own. When you get married to miss You Yue, you must invite us all."

"Uncle Han's right. Jian Chen, when you get married to miss You Yue, you have to invite all of us. Oh right, I've also heard from Little Fatty that you founded some city in the outside world and that it's extremely famous. I can't remember the name of it. That's probably where you'll get married to miss You Yue, right? When that happens, don't forget us. Invite us to come, and also show us just how big your city is. Let's see which one is bigger: your city or our Longevity Valley."

All the villagers of Longevity Valley came to chat with Jian Chen before he left, bidding him farewell. Quite a few of them mentioned Jian Chen and You Yue's marriage.

You Yue blushed because of what they said. She seemed slightly embarrassed, but she was also filled with sweet love. Jian Chen replied to every single one of them with a smile.

At this moment, one of the elderly members of the village walked over with a walking stick. He said to Jian Chen, "Little Chen, don't delay your marriage to the girl too much. I know you people who cultivate Saint Force can live a long time, so you have plenty of time, but there's quite a lot of us in Longevity Valley who don't cultivate. We can only live for two hundred years at most. Don't wait a few hundred years or even a few millennia before holding your wedding. You may have the time, but we don't. Sigh, I'm old and don't have many years left. I just hope that I can see you juniors get married during my final moments of life."

"Yeah. Don't wait till we've all disappeared to get married." A burly, middle-aged man chuckled beside the old man. He was joking.

However, jokes could be taken seriously. When Jian Chen heard them, a bolt of lightning seemed to strike his head, causing his heart to heave.

He knew that the next battle against the World of Forsaken Saints would definitely be the most intense yet. Not only would there be several dozen Receival experts, but there would be a few Returnance experts and possibly the Spiritking, who had reached Reciprocity and comprehended the Ways of the Sword.

No one could guess the outcome of such an intense battle. Even Jian Chen was not confident he would survive.

Jian Chen and You Yue left together after bidding farewell to all the people in Longevity Valley. Xiu Tianyu did not leave with them. Instead, he stayed behind to keep his heart-broken mother company.

The Zi Ying Sword flew as a resplendent streak of light above the clouds. However, many matters weighed on Jian Chen's heart as he stood on it.

"Jian Chen, what's wrong? Is there something on your mind?" You Yue sensed the abnormality within Jian Chen and immediately asked a question out of concern.

Jian Chen gently placed his arm around You Yue's waist. After a small moment of silence, he said, "Yue'er, let's get married as soon as possible."

You Yue had not expected Jian Chen make this decision so suddenly. She was stunned, but very soon, she understood Jian Chen's thoughts. She did not show any happiness at all and instead became rather sorrowful.

"Jian Chen, are you worried that we'll never be able to see each other again after the next battle against the foreign world?" You Yue gently inquired with a trembling voice.

Jian Chen nodded slightly and said nothing else. He knew that his time with You Yue, his family, and his friends, would likely come to an end during the next battle.

The Tian Yuan Continent might even cease to exist all together after the next battle.

"Yue'er, let's get married in three days. Is that fine with you?" Jian Chen asked.

"Okay. We'll get married in three days. Jian Chen, since time is so tight, I'll go back and make preparations right now. Go fetch Huang Luan from the Huang family as well as the woman who's given birth to your son. Let's all get married in three days." You Yue smiled, except her smile had lost its usual beauty. It seemed rather miserable.

Chapter 1504: The Huang Family

Jian Chen's heart ached when he saw You Yue's miserable smile. He had no idea whether the beauty before him or how many of his friends and family would still remain after the next battle against the World of Forsaken Saints.

The Tian Yuan Continent could crumble or be reduced to a group of islands scattered across the sea during the next battle. There was even the possibility that the entire continent would sink into the sea all together, becoming a part of the sea. Even his life might come to an end during the next battle, his flames of life extinguished.

Or maybe the Tian Yuan Continent would successfully repel the attack of the foreign world and all the faces he knows would survive the battle. However, he also knew that this scenario was extremely unlikely to happen with the current difference in strength.

"Over a decade's past and the white tiger still hasn't emerged from the Beast God Hall with the Winged Tiger God's legacy. Once he does emerge, he'll probably have reached the Origin realm as well. The Beast God Hall will also be controlled by him. Senior Tian Jian's still refining the supreme divine hall left behind by Mo Tianyun as well. That divine hall is extremely extraordinary. I was unable to fathom it due to my weaker strength before, but now that I think about it, I probably wouldn't be able to smash through the divine hall even with my full strength now. If we use the divine hall to block the tunnel connecting the two worlds, we might be able to stop the people from the foreign world from reaching the Tian Yuan Continent," Jian Chen thought. It was not impossible for the Tian Yuan Continent to stop the World of Forsaken Saints, but the outcome would depend on whether or not the white tiger could successfully complete its inheritance and take control of the Beast God Hall and whether or not senior Tian Jian could refine the supreme divine hall in Mercenary City and use it to block the tunnel.

Jian Chen dropped You Yue off. You Yue left by herself to go prepare the wedding while Jian Chen continued in the same direction, flying to the Huang family.

The Huang family was incomparable to the past due their ties with Jian Chen and their ancestor Huang Tianba, who had now become a Saint Emperor. Thus, they were renowned across the continent. They were no longer a silent hermit clan that could only reign supreme in a specific region.

Even though there were many more Saint Emperors now and even though Huang Tianba was not particularly extraordinary among them, Huang Tianba was still one of the most famous Saint Emperors among the four races.

When Jian Chen arrived at the Huang family, he found the entire clan covered by a powerful barrier that was several hundred meters wide with the manor at its center. It had personally been cast by Huang Tianba and was extremely powerful. Those who were not Saint Emperors could not break through it, and it functioned as the strongest line of defense for the Huang family.

The Huang family still maintained its hermit-like status even though it was countless times more powerful now, but the clan's cautious behavior did not change. As soon as Jian Chen approached the barrier, two powerful presences immediately shot through the barrier that had been cast down by Huang Tianba. Two people fused with the surrounding space and flew over from the manor. They moved very fast, but they did not give off any sound at all. They were silent.

"Who has come? Speak your name!"

As the two figures rapidly drew closer, an ancient voice rang out. The voice was completely inaudible within the barrier, but as soon as it passed through, it thundered out, exploding across the surrounding mountains. The sound waves rolled for a hundred kilometers, frightening the birds and the beasts in the forests below.

Jian Chen hovered at ease outside the barrier. He stared at the tiny manor several dozen kilometers away and gently smiled. He had not concealed his presence.

In a gloomy room a thousand meters beneath the manor, Huang Tianba suddenly opened his eyes and roused from his cultivation. The moment he opened them, they glowed, causing the entire room to light up. Two finger-sized holes punched through the unreinforced door.

"It's Jian Chen. Hahahaha, he's disappeared for over a decade. It's been tough for my greatgranddaughter." Huang Tianba chuckled from the bottom of his heart. With a flash, he disappeared from the room and went to personally receive Jian Chen. At the same time, a tiny building completely made from bamboo stood in the forbidden grounds of the Huang family. Aside from the patriarch and Huang Tianba, no one could set foot in that region. Even the elders of the clan were not allowed there.

There was only a small building in the quiet forbidden region. There were many flowers planted around the building, and every single one of them was very precious. Just their fragrances possessed unique effects, able to benefit those who cultivated.

There was even a flower that could not be seen elsewhere on the Tian Yuan Continent. Its fragrance was beneficial to Saint Emperors.

This variety was called Heaven-connecting Flowers. The soil that they were planted in did not belong to the Tian Yuan Continent either.

Currently, a slender woman in a yellow dress carried a watering can as she carefully watered the Heaven-connecting Flowers. She was focused on her task and her gaze was gentle, as if the flowers were her lover. She treated them gently as reminiscence flooded her eyes.

The liquid in the watering can was green. It was filled with the presence of life. The water would cause Saint Rulers and Saint Kings to desperately fight over and could create a bloodstorm on the Tian Yuan Continent. However, it was only used to water the flowers here.

She was Huang Luan. Ever since Jian Chen had left, she had departed from Mercenary City and spent many years living in this building. She took care of the flowers every single day and did not take a single step away from the forbidden region. She waited for Jian Chen to return.

Huang Luan would pour all her thoughts for Jian Chen into the Heaven-connecting Flowers when Jian Chen was not around. He had left them for her, so she seemed to see Jian Chen when she looked at the flowers. She felt like she was beside Jian Chen as long as stood beside the flowers.

Huang Luan had become a Saint Emperor while Jian Chen had been missing. Her seniority was not particularly great among the Huang family, bu on par with an ancestor.

Chapter 1505: Huang Luan

However, just as the spring water was about to reach the flowers, Huang Luan suddenly froze. The water in the watering can froze as well. She suddenly turned her head to look into the distance. Her eyes seemed to be able to pierce through space, able to see through the various obstructions and observe an area several dozen kilometers away. That place just happened to be where Jian Chen was standing outside the barrier.

Huang Luan threw the watering can down and the otherworldly liquid immediately poured out, radiating with a heavy presence of life.

However, Huang Luan did not even glance at the watering can on the ground right now. She gently trembled and stared into the distance full of both excitement and joy. Tears seemed to be pooling in her eyes.

The two Saint Rulers from the manor arrived near the barrier at the same time. They did not pass through and instead stood several dozen meters away from Jian Chen.

Both of them were old men in white robes. One of them was ruddy with straight eyebrows, possessing a rather sagely bearing, while the other one seemed much more ordinary.

Jian Chen silently hovered as he leisurely gazed at the two old men. He did not know their names, but he had seen them in the Huang family in the past. They had only been Heaven Saint Masters back then, and after several dozen years, they had both broken through and reached Saint Ruler.

"May I ask you who you are sir? And why..." The sagely old man clasped his hands at Jian Chen and asked casually. However, before he finished speaking, his pupils narrowed while his eyes widened. He stared at Jian Chen in surprise as his facial expression rapidly changed. In the end, it morphed into an expression of shock, reverence, and disbelief.

At the same time, the Saint Ruler by his side also revealed a drastically different expression. In the end, his facial expression also morphed into shock and reverence. He had also recognized Jian Chen.

"Elder of the Huang family, Huang Bing greets sovereign Jian Chen!"

"Elder of the Huang family, Huang Yifeng greets sovereign Jian Chen!"

Without any hesitation, the two Saint Rulers deeply bowed to Jian Chen. They showed him a lot of respect along with a smear of excitement.

"Hahaha, Jian Chen, you've finally appeared. If you still hadn't appeared, I probably would have gone to search the world for you in a few more years." A clear laugh rang out. Huang Tianba hovered in the air as he stepped toward Jian Chen. Every single step caused ripples to form in the air, and he crossed several dozen kilometers in just a few steps.

"The human sovereign has come to visit my Huang family. This is our honor. Everyone, why don't you come out to welcome the human sovereign." Huang Tianba laughed. His voice was very clear and reverberated throughout the territory of the Huang family. It alerted every single member of the clan. Even those who were in seclusion roused due to Huang Tianba's voice.

Immediately, the whole clan began to surge over. Every single person in the Huang family stopped what they were doing and all came out to receive Jian Chen.

Jian Chen bitterly smiled at this sight. "Senior Huang, there's no need for this."

"Jian Chen, you've already become the sovereign of the humans. You're the greatest expert of the Tian Yuan Continent. Your status is extraordinary. It is my clan's honor to have you visit us, the honor of every single person here. We have to do this with your superior status." Huang Tianba laughed aloud. If any other Saint Emperor had seen Jian Chen, they would have definitely bowed to him to greet him, but Huang Tianba obviously did not need to go overboard because of his connection to Jian Chen through his great-granddaughter, Huang Luan.

At this moment, both of them seemed to sense something. Jian Chen and Huang Tianba glanced toward the distant manor. All they saw was a yellow figure flying over, steadily approaching them.

This figure was Huang Luan. Tears pooled in her eyes as she looked at Jian Chen joyfully. However, she did not move quickly at all. Her speed as a Saint Emperor was extremely slow.

"You're back!" Huang Luan arrived before Jian Chen. She did not say much at all, only a single sentence that contained her sentiment. Her voice trembled when she spoke.

"I'm back!" Jian Chen smiled at Huang Luan. He then took a step and arrived right before her, opening his arms to hug her.

Huang Luan tightly hugged Jian Chen. She buried her head in his chest as her body shook violently. Tears rolled down her cheeks uncontrollably.

Huang Tianba stroked his long beard and smiled as he watched on. He then waved his hands at the clansmen below and dismissed them all. He also left silently, leaving only Jian Chen and Huang Luan in the air.

•••

Jian Chen and Huang Luan strolled through the fragrant gardens in the forbidden zone of the Huang family. Huang Luan held onto Jian Chen's arm while a satisfied expression appeared on her face. She paid close attention to everything that Jian Chen had gone through over the past few years.

The garden was extremely peaceful. Aside from the two of them, there was no one else. At that moment, the forbidden grounds seemed to have become Jian Chen and Huang Luan's entire world.

At this moment, Jian Chen stopped. He turned to Huang Luan and seriously asked. "Luan'er, will you marry me?"

Huang Luan glared at Jian Chen. "It's not like you don't know about my feelings for you. Not to mention the fact that I became yours long ago. You already know whether I want to marry you or not."

"Then let's go back to Flame City. In three days, we'll get married. Yue'er will also be there for the wedding and maybe even..." Jian Chen paused. He thought about the Heavenly Enchantress. The Heavenly Enchantress had given birth to his son, so by tradition, he should have married her. However, Jian Chen was uncertain if the Heavenly Enchantress would accept his proposal because of her temperament.

Huang Luan glared at Jian Chen and furiously asked, "Jian Chen, there's another woman besides You Yue? Who is she?"

"On the Tian Yuan Continent, people call her the Heavenly Enchantress, except she's no longer a Saint Ruler now." Jian Chen answered her and became melancholic. At that moment, he could not help but think of the first moment he had seen the Heavenly Enchantress. He remembered that it had been in the miniature world of Mercenary City back then. He had only been a puny little Earth Saint Master while the Heavenly Enchantress had been an indomitable expert in his eyes.

"The Heavenly Enchantress. It's actually her." Huang Luan was shocked. She also knew about the Heavenly Enchantress. In the past, the Heavenly Enchantress had also been an indomitable expert in her eyes as well. The Heavenly Enchantress had stood on equal footing with her ancestor, Huang Tianba. They had been dazzling.

Chapter 1506: Shangguan Aojian's Change

Jian Chen left the Huang family with Huang Luan that same day and returned to Flame City. Soon after he returned, news that the captain of the Flame Mercenaries, also known as the city lord of Flame City and the greatest human expert, wedding was announced. The news spread across the entire continent in an extremely short amount of time, and in just half a day, the sea realm, the Beast God Continent, and the Wasteland Continent received the news as well. They were all shocked.

The wedding would be held in Flame City, but the brides were not announced, leaving the entire world to wonder. Many people believed that there would be more than one bride in this grand wedding. There would definitely be a second, a third, or even more.

Some people familiar with Jian Chen had even guessed that Huang Luan would be Jian Chen's second bride.

Bi Yuntian also stopped cultivating in the artifact space and appeared in Flame City. She directed the entire city, personally making preparations and designs for her own son. Bi Lian took part as well.

As the brides, You Yue and Huang Luan disappeared. According to tradition, they could not appear before people until the day of the wedding.

The king of the Gesun Kingdom hurried over from afar. His face was lit with joy as he smiled from the bottom of his heart. He was also displaying his pride.

Although he had become the king of the Gesun Kingdom several dozen years ago and the Gesun Kingdom's current status was far greater than before, he personally had not felt as glorious as today. This was because after Jian Chen and You Yue's wedding, he would suddenly become the father-in-law of the greatest human expert.

All the important figures of the Changyang clan in Lore City passed through Space Gates and arrived in Flame City. Jian Chen's three aunts and uncle Chang all took part in the preparations as well.

At the same time, a large number of invitations made from purple gold were sent out from the city as well. They were sent everywhere, to all the people Jian Chen was familiar with. Not only did the Qinhuang Kingdom receive one, even Qin Xiao in the Tianqin clan received one as well. A portions of the invitations had even been sent to the sea realm, the Beast God Continent, and the Wasteland Continent by a few Saint Kings and Saint Emperors of Flame City.

The entire city immediately became frantic. All the people who lived in the city began to wash the city walls and decorate everything with lanterns and streamers. All the members of the Flame Mercenaries freed themselves to help prepare for the wedding of their admirable captain.

Jian Chen did not take part in the preparations for the wedding. He left it all up to his seniors and Bi Lian to handle. He himself left the city and made his way to Three Saint Island.

At this moment, the purple-dressed Heavenly Enchantress stood on the tip of Three Saint Island as she gazed at the Tian Yuan Continent. The wind there whistled, causing her dress to ruffle and her hair to dance in the wind.

She carried a zither in her hands. It was six feet long and one foot wide. It had a total of thirty six strings and every single strings created its it's own light, as if some mysterious energy circulated within them

constantly. Vaguely, the strings seemed to have recently been strummed, making them seem like they were emitting a note, but on closer inspection, there was no note at all.

The Heavenly Enchantress stood there with her zither in her hands. She gazed at the Tian Yuan Continent with complicated emotions. In the reflection of her eyes, it was even possible to see a tiny Flame City. Countless people were busy there. Some were hanging up decorations for the wedding.

At this moment, a teenager who looked similar to Jian Chen walked over from afar. He stared at the Heavenly Enchantress fill of eagerness and asked, "Mother, father's been missing for over a decade. No one has found any traces of him. When do you think he will return?"

"Your father has already returned. You will see him very soon." The Heavenly Enchantress turned around and gently looked at the young man.

The young man's face lit up when he heard her reply. He asked in disbelief, "Really? Has father really returned?"

The young man was Shangguan Aojian. He had already grown up, growing into a handsome young man. He was no longer the child from before.

However, no inexperience could be seen on his face. There was only a cold-blooded coolness. The faint smell of blood was even present on his body.

This was the presence of someone who had gone through many fights of life and death.

A dazzling speck of violet light suddenly appeared on the distant horizon as soon as he finished speaking. In less than a second, the violet speck turned into a streak of dazzling violet light. It flew over at an indescribable speed.

Shangguan Aojian was immediately overjoyed when he saw the violet light. His face was filled with excitement, "It's father. It really is father. Mother, father really has returned."

The violet light moved extremely quickly. In a single breath, it descended on Three Saint Island. The light vanished, revealing the white-clothed Jian Chen.

Jian Chen only appeared several hundred meters away from the Shangguan Aojian. Jian Chen did not even look at the Heavenly Enchantress. His gaze was fixated on Shangguan Aojian instead. He faintly smiled, but hidden within his smile was some shame.

Jian Chen could still clearly remember that a naive little boy. Now, his son had completely grown up.

Jian Chen knew he had not been a good father. He had not tended to his responsibilities as a father at all. He owed his son just far too much. However, he had been left no choice in these matters either. He was filled with bitterness due to his lack of options.

"Father, you've finally returned," Shangguan Aojian emotionally said. He hurried over. His face was completely filled with joy from seeing Jian Chen. He showed no intentions of blaming him or reprimanding his father.

Jian Chen walked over as well and tightly grabbed Shangguan Aojian by the shoulders. He closely examined his son. He could obviously sense the faint presence of blood on Shangguan Aojian. He also noticed the cold-blooded and resolute attitude his son had forged through rain and wind.

"Xiao Bao, you're all grown up," Jian Chen said. His facial expression was extremely mixed. There was relief and solace as well as self-blame. He gently opened the front of Shangguan Aojian's robes and revealed most of his son's belly. There were three vicious scars on his son's belly, and they were all as wide as his body.

Looking at the three vicious scars, Jian Chen's heart immediately throbbed. Even though they had healed up long ago, Jian Chen could still tell from the scars that just a single one of them would have been enough to cleave a person in two.

Chapter 1507: Conversation

"Father, I left Three Saint Island when you were gone and wandered the Tian Yuan Continent, Beast God Continent, the Wasteland Continent, and the sea realm. All my wounds have come from the battles I experienced along the way." Shangguan Aojian gave an explanation when he saw that Jian Chen had noticed his scars. He spoke with pride.

"I did not initially plan on leaving these scars behind. I can erase all of them through the recovery of my Chaotic Body, but mother made me leave these three behind."

Jian Chen glanced at the Heavenly Enchantress, whose back was facing him while she gazed at the vast ocean. He obviously knew that she had gotten her son to keep these three scars just to show them to him.

In other words, she had left the three scars to tell Jian Chen that when Xiao Bao had gone out adventuring and faced many dangers, even arriving at the brink of death several times, he had not accompanied his son as a father.

"Xiao Bao, I've vanished for over a decade, and in that time, I haven't helped you even once even when you faced life-threatening danger. Do you blame me?" Jian Chen asked with a gentle voice. He was filled with self-blame and shame.

Shangguan Aojian shook his head. Instead of becoming angry, he instead revealed pride. He said, "Father, I spent some time on the Tian Yuan Continent and heard rumors from the people around me. I've already learned about some of your past, and I also understand just how heavy your burden is. I can only feel honored to have a father like you."

Jian Chen smiled and also let out a breath of relief inside. What he feared the most was that Xiao Bao would blame him and find him to be a disappoint. Now, his uneasy feelings had finally settled down because of what Shangguan Aojian had said.

Even though he was the greatest human expert in the eyes of others and even though he was a cold and merciless god of death in the eyes of his enemies, he was only a father to Xiao Bao, a kind father.

"And I also came across an unfathomably powerful senior in the sea realm. I couldn't see the senior's appearance, but the senior knew you extremely well. I learned much of your past from the senior, and

she let me understand just what price you had to pay to reach your current level of cultivation in just a few decades," said Shangguan Aojian. He gazed at Jian Chen with admiration.

"Oh yeah, the senior from the sea realm also gave me a jade pendant. This pendant saved my life when I faced fatal danger." Shangguan Aojian pulled out a palm-sized pendant. The jade carving on it was exquisite and was covered with simple patterns. In the center of the patterning was a trident that seemed sharp enough to pierce through space. A pressure seemed to emanate from the weapon, powerful to cause a Saint Emperor to shiver.

Jian Chen looked at the jade pendant. He could sense the power of an Origin realm expert hidden within it, and it was extremely familiar. He knew exactly who the senior from the sea realm Shangguan Aojian had mentioned was.

"Xiao Bao, you have to hang onto this jade pendant. It can help you block many full-powered attacks from Saint Emperors. You don't even need to worry about Saint Emperors with it," said Jian Chen. Not only was great strength required to produce such a pendant, but a corresponding amount of skill was also required. Jian Chen did not know how to make a pendant like this, so he was unable to produce a defensive treasure that could block attacks from Saint Emperors.

Shangguan Aojian was surprised. He carefully put the pendant away before glancing at Jian Chen and the Heavenly Enchantress. He smiled, "Father, mother, you keep talking. I'll go out and catch some fish. It's rare for the three of us to eat together, so we need to properly celebrate like the fishermen on the island today." With that, Xiao Bao left the island. Only Jian Chen and the Heavenly Enchantress were left on the peak of Three Saint Mountain after his departure.

Jian Chen looked at the Heavenly Enchantress. His emotions were mixed. He walked over and slowly approached her side. He gently sighed, "Mu'er, it's been so many years already. Even Xiao Bao's grown up. Are you still unable to get over what happened in the past?"

"Call me the Heavenly Enchantress," the Heavenly Enchantress coldly and emotionlessly replied, but complicated feelings flashed through her enchanting eyes.

"The Heavenly Enchantress is only a name given to you by the people of the Tian Yuan Continent. Shangguan Mu'er is your real name," said Jian Chen.

When the Heavenly Enchantress heard her own name, she immediately trembled. She gently bit her lip and revealed a sliver of sorrow deep in her eyes.

"If you continue to disown your name, then having Xiao Bao's surname as Shangguan will be pointless," continued Jian Chen.

The Heavenly Enchantress remained silent. She slowly sat down and placed her zither on her legs. Using her hands to touch the strings, she played a pleasant melody. Each note seemed to be filled with a mysterious charm that penetrated the soul and reverberated in the mind. The notes could also affect one's emotions and thoughts.

The music was pleasant, but it lost its usual springiness. Instead, it became rather heavy.

Jian Chen also sat down beside the Heavenly Enchantress. He gazed at her face and said, "I know you resent me. A portion of this resentment comes from Xiao Bao. Through all those years he grew, I did not

fulfil my responsibilities as a father. I was not around to protect him either when he was in danger. However, you also know that I was left without a choice. I may have vanished for over ten years, but I've always spent that time trying to strengthen, only hoping to gain an even greater power to fend off the next invasion of the foreign so that I can protect our world. I've come closer to death than I've ever had in the past. I was just an inch away from death, and my soul had almost dispersed. I did survive in the end, fortunately enough, but the price I paid was my entire body.

"I will make it up to Xiao Bao. I will make up everything to him tenfold."

The Heavenly Enchantress was not wavered by his words at all. She behaved as if she had not heard Jian Chen at all. She focused on her zither, concentrating on playing it. She did not pay attention to anything else.

Jian Chen fell silent for a while before continuing, "Three days from now, I will be holding a wedding with Yue'er and Luan'er. I will take you with me to make up for the lack of a wedding. At the same time, I will let the entire world know that Shangguan Aojian is my son."

"I won't go and neither will Xiao Bao." This time, the Heavenly Enchantress said something. Her voice was cold and firm.

Jian Chen sighed. He looked at the Heavenly Enchantress, feeling quite the headache, and said, "Mu'er, there are some things that are set in stone by fate. No matter how much you dislike them, they are unchangeable."

"Tell me this once you've truly fulfilled your responsibilities as a father, and weddings are completely pointless. Only mortals hold things like that." The Heavenly Enchantress coldly replied. She continued to play her zither, except the music sounded even heavier.

Jian Chen secretly rejoiced. He could tell that most of her resentment had disappeared. The main reason why she was displeased with him was because of Xiao Bao.

Jian Chen's mind suddenly cleared up due to what the Heavenly Enchantress said. Marriage to mortals was a significant matter, a ceremony that was almost crucial. It was indeed nothing to fighters with lengthy lives. Some of them did not even follow the tradition of getting married. As long as the two people involved agreed, there was no need for a ceremony at all. They just needed to become a couple.. There was not even a need to tell their parents or the seniors of their clans.

The reason why many people still maintained the traditions of mortals was because all fighters had started out as one. Even though a few of them were powerful, they still followed tradition since it was difficult to disregard the traditions of mortals.

Jian Chen no longer placed so much focus on the wedding after reaching this understanding. Holding a wedding was something that had slowly developed among mortals. It did not signify anything. In reality, he and the Heavenly Enchantress, as well as Huan Luang, had already become couples. Even without marriage, nothing was able to change that fact.

"The last matter I want to talk about is your father. I hope you can visit your father and the ancestor of the Zaar family, Zaar Caiyun. Her soul is damaged and she's in a coma. She cannot recover with just heavenly resources, but I do believe that you possess the power to awaken her." Jian Chen mentioned his final reason for visiting, and he also looked at the Heavenly Enchantress with some gentleness as well.

Chapter 1508: Thinking Things Through

Jian Chen seemed to have crossed the Heavenly Enchantress' bottom line when he mentioned the final matter. The Heavenly Enchantress' presence immediately changed, and she stopped playing the zither.

At that moment, Jian Chen could clearly feel an iciness emanating from the Heavenly Enchantress. Her presence affected the surroundings, causing the temperature at the peak of Three Saint Mountain to plummet. It felt like winter was coming.

"Mind your own business," the Heavenly Enchantress coldly said. She was expressionless but her eyes were frigid.

Jian Chen knew that the Heavenly Enchantress still resented Hao Wu. She did not have a good impression of Zaar Caiyun either, so Jian Chen immediately felt pained.

"Mu'er, did you know that when I was young, I was known as the prodigy of my clan. My father, my mother, and the caretaker, uncle Chang, as well as many other people in the clan held extremely high hopes for me. This was because I could learn anything and learn it quickly. You could even say that I had photographic memory, so I was better than anyone the same age as me. At that time, both my mother and father cared for me very much, treating me like a treasure in their hands. Until a few years later, when I took part in a test for Saint Force, the test revealed that I possess no talent for Saint Force due to an accident, so I became labeled as a cripple. I was unable to gather Saint Force within me and condense a Saint Weapon. This piece of news spread across the entire clan very quickly, revealing that the talented young master was actually a cripple. I fell from heaven to hell in a single stroke. My father Changyang Ba rarely visited me after that. In fact, I could count the number of times I saw him with my fingers during those years. Only my mother, sister, second aunt, and uncle Chang still cared for me like before.

"Although I was a young master of the Changyang clan, son of the current patriarch Changyang Ba, there were people who would come and bully me in the clan. They would make fun of me and harrass me, and my father never helped me at all, maybe because he forgot that he had me as a son. However, even though that happened, I do not resent my father, nor do I blame him because he is my father by blood. He gave me my life.

"In other words, it was me who valued this connection of family very much, because I had parents. Even though my father owed me a lot, I still found happiness because their existence is my happiness. On the Tian Yuan Continent, there are many orphans, where some of their parents even pass away as soon as their born due to certain circumstance. They never enjoy love or care when they were young. They might not even know what their parents look like. I understand their pain and know we are all better off compared to those people. At the very least, we have our seniors and family.

"Mu'er, I heard about your past from your father. I know you resent your father and a major part of that comes from your mother. Your father actually regrets the past very much as well, except it's already happened. There's nothing he can do by regretting it. He can't go back in time. No one can change the past. At the same time, there are just some things you can never regain after you lose them. He's still your father by blood. He's your closest family in the world."

Jian Chen deeply sighed. He gazed at the vast ocean and suddenly became rather stern. He continued, "At the same time, the next invasion of the World of Forsaken Saints is growing closer and closer. I know their strength, and so do you. The disparity is just far too great. It's like heaven and earth. We are at a disadvantage in overall battle prowess and peak strength. There might not even be any hope of emerging victorious during the next battle. The only hope for us is for a divine hall to block the entrance of the tunnel, but I still don't know when the supreme divine hall in Mercenary City will be completely refined and whether or not we can successfully block the entrance at all.

"If we can't stop the foreign world from invading, it will be our end. There will only be death. Even I am not confident I will surviving, but I know my friends and family will all die in that battle. The entire human race may end up dead due to that battle, including your father, Hao Wu."

What Jian Chen said near the end was like a bolt from the blue for the Heavenly Enchantress. It caused her to quiver and pale slightly. A deep rumble came from her zither as well. Three strings had snapped.

Jian Chen looked at the Heavenly Enchantress, "What I just said is the worst case scenario. Maybe I can survive the next battle, but many experts will definitely die on the continent. You might not be able to see your father ever again after that battle. During this limited period of peace, maybe you should spend these final moments with your family.

"You don't know how valuable some things are when they are there. You only realize how important they are to you once you have lost them. When that happens, it will be too late..."

Jian Chen spoke very softly and very nonchalantly. However, the Heavenly Enchantress' heart churned when she heard his words. She began to quiver even more intensely. She was caught in a struggle.

A while later, the Heavenly Enchantress slowly calmed down. She lowered her head and looked at the broken strings. Her eyes were filled with mixed emotions, confusion and sorrow. She slowly raised her right hand and gently rubbed the broken strings. In just a few seconds, the strings were fixed and reattached.

The Heavenly Enchantress slowly stood up. She gazed at the distant Tian Yuan Continent. The zither in her hands immediately turned into a blur and disappeared into her right hand as an extremely powerful energy. She left the island with her hands empty, flying toward the Tian Yuan Continent.

Jian Chen's words had influenced. They had also made her understand that she might not be able to see her own father ever again after the next battle. As a result, she wanted to go to the Tian Yuan Continent to see him. She put her zither away because she did not want to visit him as the Heavenly Enchantress but as Shangguan Mu'er.

Jian Chen deeply sighed as he watched the Heavenly Enchantress grow further away. He smiled before sending a message to Shangguan Aojian, who currently lay on a boat. He then followed the Heavenly Enchantress.

The Heavenly Enchantress could build Space Gates, but she did not build ond this time. Instead, she flew, flying from Three Saint Island to the Tian Yuan Continent. Jian Chen stood on the Zi Ying Sword by her side.

Even though she was flying, she moved extremely fast, at a speed that completely surpassed what a Saint Emperor could reach.

Chapter 1509: Zaar Caiyun Awakens

In an ancient mountain range quite far away from the City of God, a violet streak of light suddenly appeared on the horizon, shooting across the sky like a violet comet. It disappeared into the depths of the mountain range after a moment.

The violet streak of light was Jian Chen riding the expanded Zi Ying Sword. The Heavenly Enchantress walked beside him. She seemed to be casually strolling through the air, but the space around her trembled gently, constantly changing. Visible ripples of space appeared beneath her as well. She seemed to be teleporting an extremely far distance with each step. She was no slower than Jian Chen.

The Heavenly Enchantress had already surpassed Saint Emperor and had reached the Origin realm. Her control and usage of space surpassed ordinary Receival experts.

Jian Chen was not surprised by the Heavenly Enchantress' rapid growth at all. Even ignoring the Yin and Yang energies she had absorbed from the Yinyang Saint Rock, Xiao Bao had gifted the Heavenly Enchantress a huge fortune.

Xiao Bao possessed the Innate Chaotic Body, which was rare even in the Immortals' World. As the mother of Xiao Bao, the Heavenly Enchantress was blessed by the world, blessing her with a smooth cultivation path. As long as she did not die, she would definitely become an emperor.

Not a Saint Emperor of the Tian Yuan Continent, but an Immortal Emperor of the Immortals' World.

Even in this sealed world, the Heavenly Enchantress could break through Saint Emperor without any obstructions. Jian Chen suspected this was because of Xiao Bao.

The seal preventing the breakthrough to the Origin realm was extremely powerful, but it was not perfect. It was unable to stop those who cultivated the Chaotic Body like him and Xiao Bao; the war god of the Hundred Races, Tie Ta; or Xiao Jin and Xiao Ling, natural spirits of the world.

Jian Chen and the Heavenly Enchantress entered the depths of the mountain range before stopping in front of a tiny wooden shack at the top of a mountain. The wooden structure had stood there for several decades, constantly buffeted by the wind, and had become extremely weak. It was like an old man close to death, creaking in the wind as if it was about to collapse.

The Zi Ying Sword returned to its original size and stuck to Jian Chen's back. Jian Chen stood beside the Heavenly Enchantress, quietly looking at the wooden structure. The Heavenly Enchantress also stared at it as her feelings became extremely complicated.

The person in the shack seemed to sense the arrival of others. With a creak, the wooden door slowly opened, revealing Hao Wu.

Hao Wu stood at the tiny entrance. The simple, white robes he wore seemed rather old. His face was haggard, filled with the heavy weight of exhaustion.

Even though Hao Wu's appearance had not changed much, Jian Chen still felt like he was far older now.

"Mu'er..." Hao Wu was immediately stunned when he caught sight of the Heavenly Enchantress. His quivering voice was filled with serendipity and disbelief, along with some complicated and bittern emotions.

Remorse immediately overwhelmed Shangguan Mu'er's heart. It ached when she saw how much older Hao Wu had become as well as his haggard, disheveled face and graying hair. She had once resented Hao Wu, refusing to even accept him as her father. To her, not only did Hao Wu owe her mother a lot since he never give her happiness, but her mother had even died because of him. He never showed any true concern for her either.

Shangguan Mu'er only suddenly realized after what Jian Chen had said that even though she hated her father very much, he still possessed a certain level of significance in her heart. After all, he was her father as well as her only blood relative left in the world.

It was just that this level of significance was nothing compared to her hatred for him. It was nowhere near enough for her to make up to him. The reason why she had come this time was to spend a short period of time with him before the next invasion of the World of Forsaken Saints. This visit could even be their last moments together.

After the next battle, maybe the world would no longer possess a Heavenly Enchantress or a Hao Wu, or maybe she could survive with her Origin realm strength, but Hao Wu would perish.

"Father..." Shangguan Mu'er said with great difficulty. Her voice trembled slightly and was rather raw. At that moment, her feelings were extremely mixed. She was not even certain what she was feeling.

Hao Wu was stunned by what the Heavenly Enchantress had said. His body trembled even more as two streaks of turbid tears uncontrollably rolled down his cheeks.

"Mu'er, y- y- you're finally willing to call me father." Hao Wu was overjoyed. He felt like he was in a wonderful dream. He had wanted Shangguan Mu'er to refer to him as father for so long that it had become an unrealistic dream.

Shangguan Mu'er gently bit her lower lip. She said nothing and looked away from Hao Wu, now focusing on the shack behind him. As she gradually raised her right hand, a tremendous and powerful energy immediately surged forth, condensing into her zither in a single moment. She began to play it gently.

The music was light but also very deep. Each note seemed to possess an irresistible charm, able to pierce all obstructions and affect the soul.

Jian Chen had heard her play something like this on Three Saint Island in the past. She had used this melody to comfort his great-grandfather's soul, but it was slightly different as well. When he heard it, his soul was affected as well. At that moment, he felt extraordinarily calm and comfort filled the depths of his soul. The music seemed to be able to heal injuries of the soul.

Jian Chen was shocked. Injuries to the soul were the most difficult to deal with. Any heavenly resource that could heal the soul was invaluable. They were also extremely rare and precious. However, just the Heavenly Enchantress' music possessed such an effect, which he found rather unbelievable.

Jian Chen could even feel that the music had other effects aside from healing the soul. Just listening to it would benefit one's soul.

Very soon, the music stopped and the melody came to an end. The zither disappeared from the Heavenly Enchantress' arms, and at the same time, Zaar Caiyun's eyelids slightly trembled. She finally showed signs of movement after being unconscious for many years.

Chapter 1510: Zhou Chuyun's Close Call

Zaar Caiyun, who had been in a coma for many years, awakened because of Shangguan Mu'er's melody. At the same time, Jian Chen left, returning to Flame City. He left to give Shangguan Mu'er, Hao Wu, and Zaar Caiyun some space. He could no longer interfere with how they dealt with each other. This was all he could do.

There were still two days before Jian Chen's wedding. When he returned to Flame City, the entire city possessed a new appearance. Whether it was the various shops in the city or the residential zones for the members of the mercenaries, they had all been covered with decorations. The entire city was bubbling with joy.

The divine realm was a famed place in the sea realm. Not only was it famous because of how dangerous it was, where even 17th Star experts could die, but it also hid many fortuitous encounters as well as treasures that could make 15th and 16th Star experts waver.

The divine water of the world was one particular example. Not only could it change someone's constitution, making a cripple become a cultivation prodigy, but it could also condense one's soul and strength it. It also increased the chances of a Saint Ruler breaking through to Saint King.

As a result, even though the divine realm was a terrifying place that could claim the lives of Saint Emperors, the danger was not enough to stop countless adventurers from gathering and forming groups to enter in search of treasure.

At this moment, several people jetted toward the exit of the divine realm. The person at the very front was disheveled and pale. He was covered with wounds and heavily injured. Behind him were five other figures radiating with presences no weaker than him. They were pursuing him.

All six of them were Saint Rulers. It was impossible for the person fleeing to outrun his enemies due to his heavy injuries. As a result, the five Saint Rulers inched closer. In the end, the five people caught up a few dozen kilometers away and an intense battle immediately erupted.

Even if the fleeing person had been in peak condition, he definitely would not have been able to fend off five other people, let alone defend himself while he was heavily injured. As a result, as soon as they began fighting, he was knocked away and spit out blood. His injuries became even heavier, and he even lost the ability to flee.

As if the five Saint Rulers knew that their opponent had been incapacitated, they took their time. They slowly surrounded the bloodied Saint Ruler on the floor. One of them sneered, "Zhou Chuyun, how are

you worthy of possessing 16th Star quaking thunders? If you knew you'd end up like this, why didn't you just hand them over? That way, you would have been able to emerge alive at the very least. It's just a pity that you made the five of us chase you all the way from the depths of the divine realm here for the quaking thunders. Even if you hand them over willingly now, we will not forgive you." As he said that, he slowly raised the spear in his hand, targeting Zhou Chuyun's head.

Zhou Chuyun lay on the floor as he stared at the five of them. His eyes were filled with regret, but he seemed to understand that he could not avoid death no matter what today. He sighed inside and slowly closed his eyes. The moment his eyes shut, he could not help but think of his daughter, Zhou Lin.

"Lin'er, I won't be able to accompany you in the future. You have to look after yourself." At death's doorstep, the one thing that Zhou Chuyun found most difficult to let go of was his daughter, who he had left in Divine City.

At the same time, the Saint Ruler's arm suddenly moved. The spear in his hand shot toward Zhou Chuyun's head with lightning-like speed, appearing as a blur.

However, just when the spear had traveled halfway, the space around them suddenly froze. At that moment, time seemed to stop around the six people. The spear that had been targeting Zhou Chuyun's head froze there as well. It was unable to cross the remaining distance no matter what.

It was not just the spear. Even Zhou Chuyun and the Saint Rulers who were pursuing him had been immobilized by the frozen space. They were stuck.

Shock and fear filled the eyes of the person wielding the spear. He was unable to move at all even with his strength as a Sixth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler, so it was impossible for a Saint Ruler to have frozen the space around them. Even Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers could not achieve such a feat. This could only be the work of a Saint King.

Similar emotions flooded the eyes of the four other Saint Rulers. A Saint King was actually stopping them from killing Zhou Chuyun. Even if the Saint King was not acquainted with Zhou Chuyun, just freezing the space around them signified that this Saint King wanted to save him. They could only pray that the Saint King was not familiar with Zhou Chuyun and was just lending a hand when in need. That way, they still had a chance of living.

Zhou Chuyun could also sense the changes of the space around him. He immediately opened his eyes and saw a white-dressed woman, who seemed to be in her twenties. A fist-sized beast lay on her shoulder.

The woman was emotionless. She looked at the five Saint Rulers who had hunted down Zhou Chuyun with cold killing intent. She coldly said, "I hate those who kill for treasure the most." With just that, the woman's palm gently touched the heads of the five Saint Rulers. Immediately, their eyes dimmed before losing all light in a single moment. They had become empty shells.

The gentle strike from the woman had wiped out their souls.

Space returned to normal and the five Saint Rulers collapsed powerlessly. The woman passed over their corpses and made her way to the exit of the divine realm. She paid no attention to Zhou Chuyun, as if

she did not help Zhou Chuyun to save him and only helped because she found people who killed for treasure annoying.

Zhou Chuyun stood up with great difficulty and clasped his hands at the woman who was traveling further away, "I am the captain of the Blue Sky Adventurers, Zhou Chuyun. I thank senior's kindness for saving my life."

The woman paid no attention to Zhou Chuyun. She stepped toward the exit and, in just a few steps, vanished from his vision.

Zhou Chuyun deeply sighed after surviving. He pulled out medicine from his Space Ring and consumed it. He then collected the Space Rings of the five Saint Rulers before leaving in a hurry. He had come close to dying many times in the past, but this was the closest he had ever come to death. He had already made up his mind to never venture into the divine realm again. He wanted to return to the Tian Yuan Continent with his daughter. Even if it meant death to return, he wanted to die in his homeland.

At this moment, the woman who had saved Zhou Chuyun stood outside the divine realm. She gloomily looked at the familiar world and showed deep anguish. However, it was soon drowned out by roaring hatred. An icy-cold killing intent radiated from her body. She discerned her orientation and shot off.