#### Chaotic 2991

#### Chapter 2991: The Grand Elder Strikes

The three blood-red skeletons from the Empyrean Demon Cult's Army of Death achieved numerous feats too, heavily injuring multiple Chaotic Primes of the Hefeng clan one after another and dealing an extremely heavy blow to the Hefeng clan.

The three blood-red skeletons were not living creatures, but a form of undead. They were a special existence, so the various flaws that frequently appeared on cultivators, such as the sense of pain, emotional response, mental response, as well as the weaknesses of the body and even the soul, did not exist for them.

They had no souls and no fleshly bodies. They could never feel pain, nor could they feel the emotion of fear when they faced the threat of death. They possessed a single thought, which was to fight like there was no end!

On top of that, every single bone of the skeletons was extremely tough, basically on par with medium quality god artifacts, which directly prevented most Chaotic Primes from harming them much at all. At most, they could leave behind a few marks. They were truly machines of war.

Even if some stronger Chaotic Primes could harm them, it would be very difficult to impact the skeletons' battle prowess.

The three blood-red skeletons were already so difficult to deal with just by themselves. Coupled with the red mist that could corrode the soul around them, it only made them even more fearsome.

As a result, despite the fact that the three blood-red skeletons were weaker than late Chaotic Primes in battle prowess, the red mist around them could even threaten Ninth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Primes.

The four generals of the Empyrean Demon Cult and the Infinite Primes that had unleashed the battle prowess of Chaotic Primes through the formation scrolls not only made up for their disadvantaged situation completely under the assistance of the three skeletons, but they also gradually gained the upper hand, constantly heavily injuring the enemy Chaotic Primes.

And, the region was enveloped by a formation now, so it had completely become the Empyrean Demon Cult's home field. Only endless demon Qi surged through the surroundings. In this environment, the people of the Empyrean Demon Cult could recover their strength endlessly.

On the other hand, not only was the Hefeng clan unable to absorb the demon Qi there, but the origin energy that they could absorb was completely isolated from them due to the demonic formations, forcing them to recover through limited pills as they fought.

The Hefeng clan completely lost the upper hand when it came to the battles among the Primordial realm. As for beneath the Primordial realm, it was a crushing defeat. They were constantly forced back by the nine armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult, basically standing no chance at all.

All nine armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult were battle-worn and experienced. They had left behind a glorious battle record on numerous great planes of the Saints' World, and every single member of every single army was familiar with the various battle formations. On top of that, in a large-scale battle, the

nine armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult no longer just fought as individuals. They all assembled into battle formations of various sizes, ranging from several dozen to several hundred people.

If the need arose, an entire army could even assume a killing formation of startling power in a mere few seconds. They were so efficient that it was dumbfounding.

As for the Hefeng clan, they also had a few cases of assuming formations in battle, but that was only on a small scale. They were nowhere close to the Empyrean Demon Cult. Most of them moved as individuals and fought arduously alone.

The Empyrean Demon Cult possessed rich battle experience, a battle ideology of depth, and armies that were well-versed in battle, while most of the Hefeng clan were snowflakes, basically all descendants of the large clan that had not faced many battles of life and death.

If they fought in individual matches, then the Hefeng clan obviously possessed a similar battle prowess. After all, as people of a peak clan, all the cultivation methods and secret methods they possessed were extraordinary. However, when it came to group battles, the Hefeng clan had no sense of unity at all.

"Is fate truly trying to end my Hefeng clan?" A great elder of the Hefeng clan coughed up a few mouthfuls of blood in the surging demon Qi. He hovered in the air with a pale face, gazing at the battlefield miserably. He felt both sorrow and despair.

In his eyes, the various battle formations assumed by the armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult were like meat grinders, running amok among their people. Wherever they passed by, they left behind a ground strewn with corpses and blood.

These dead clansmen were all descendants of the Hefeng clan.

He could also tell with a single glance that all nine armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult advanced and retreated in an orderly manner, able to both attack and defend. They did not have the slightest weakness.

On the other hand, the people of the Hefeng clan were a mess. They even regularly harmed their own people.

At this moment, another two great elders of the Hefeng clan were heavily injured, spraying the air with blood and landing heavily on the ground.

"Y- you're despicable! You've actually launched a sneak attack!" One of the great elders gazed at Cloud Demon among the four generals and said with utter hatred, unwilling to accept this.

Cloud Demon said nothing. He immediately worked together with Blade Demon and launched a vicious attack against the last Ninth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime of the Hefeng clan. Wind Demon and Blood Demon did everything that they could do to cover for them.

The four generals fought with great teamwork as well. They moved through the battlefield freely, switching between their opponents adeptly according to the situation. They also cooperated with the three blood-red skeletons to launch a startling strike from time to time.

As their forces at the higher realms rapidly decreased, the Hefeng clan's response against the Empyrean Demon Cult's intense attacks also became more and more exhausted. With nowhere to run, these Primordial realm experts in dire straits were overcome with madness.

"Since fate wants to end our Hefeng clan, then I'll drag you down with me even if I die!" A Chaotic Prime great elder smiled wryly. The energy in his body pulses violently and rushed madly towards the four generals.

"He's blowing himself up! Be careful!" Blood Demon called out, and he immediately became stern. The self-destruction of a Chaotic Prime was a force to be reckoned with. Even they dared not be careless.

But at this moment, a terrifying pressure appeared. A huge hand condensed from demon Qi immediately descended from above, smacking the great elder who was about to blow himself up into the ground. At the same time, it also severed the possibility of him blowing himself up.

Two figures had silently appeared in the sky, one old and one young. The old man was obviously the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult, Cheng Ming. He gave off the powerful presence of a Grand Prime.

As for the young man beside Cheng Ming, he had a completely unfamiliar face. None of the upper echelon of the Empyrean Demon Cult, including the four generals, had ever seen him before.

He was obviously Jian Chen, but he had assumed another new appearance now, hiding away his true identity well.

"Grand elder, there's no need for you to take personal action against this mob of people," said the four generals.

### Chapter 2992: The Empyrean Demon Prison

"End it quickly. Don't drag it out," said the grand elder Cheng Ming. Before the armies and experts of the Empyrean Demon Cult, the friendly and amicable face that Cheng Ming showed Jian Chen vanished. It was replaced with solemnity. He used his old and vigorous voice to issue an undefiable order.

He felt like a supreme lord commanding the world.

The four generals and the numerous Primordial realm experts of the Empyrean Demon Cult were not surprised by this at all. Instead, it made perfect sense to them.

In the Empyrean Demon Cult, the grand elder truly did possess paramount authority. All affairs concerning the Empyrean Demon Cult, large or small, were basically determined by the grand elder.

As for the Empyrean Demon Lord, he was just a legendary figure in the Saints' World. He rarely ever showed himself. Even in the Empyrean Demon Cult, he was elusive.

His existence was more like a mental pillar of support, a source of stability, for the Empyrean Demon Cult.

"As the grand elder wishes!"

The commanders of the nine armies littered around the Hefeng clan all replied loudly. The Infinite Primes all answered him too. In the next moment, everyone stopped holding back and unleashed their full strength.

"There's no hurry in killing the great elders of the Hefeng clan. Keep them around for now and lock them up in the Empyrean Demon Prison," Cheng Ming continued. As soon as he had finished talking, a square, metal prison of thirty meters wide landed heavily on a mountain.

The prison did not seem large, but it seemed to possess unbelievable weight. The moment it landed on the ground, not only did it completely destroy the mountain, but even the entire ground shook.

Demon Qi surged within the metal prison. Its interior seemed to be a world of its own, where there was only chaos at first glance.

When they heard the Empyrean Demon Prison, the four generals all shuddered inside. They were all surprised.

The Empyrean Demon Prison was something that the great elder had left behind. It was an extremely powerful high quality god artifact, specially used to imprison Grand Primes.

Now, they were actually using a precious treasure like the Empyrean Demon Prison to lock up a group of Chaotic Primes. It really did feel like overkill.

The four generals said nothing more. The grand elder had even taken out the Empyrean Demon Prison, so they realised just how important the Chaotic Primes of the Hefeng clan were to the grand elder.

At this moment, the grand elder struck again. He conjured a demonic hand that shrouded the sky, which directly fell towards the last Ninth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime of the Hefeng clan.

As a Grand Prime, just a wave of his hand was devastating. Even a casual strike from him possessed alarming might. The hand immediately overwhelmed the expert from the Hefeng clan before conveniently tossing him into the Empyrean Demon Prison.

After that, the grand elder stopped helping out. Instead, he hovered in the air and watched the entire situation. However, after losing another Ninth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime, the difference in strength between the Hefeng clan and the Empyrean Demon Cult grew wider and wider.

At the same time, in the distant space beyond the Ice Pole Plane, a grey-haired old man tread through space, covering a tremendous distance with each step. The stars around him constantly changed as he moved.

"Now that I think about it, it's already been over a hundred thousand years since I've left the clan. I wonder if the clan has produced any amazingly talented juniors during these years."

"And the Hefeng clan. I wonder whether we've climbed above them."

"Our Hefeng clan should be ranked third on the Ice Pole Plane now. However, once I return, our ranking won't be third, but second."

Gazing at the Ice Pole Plane that rapidly grew larger in his eyes, an excited smile gradually oozed out of the old man's face. He was extremely emotional and unable to stay calm.

Over a hundred thousand years ago, he had left the Hefeng clan as a Ninth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime, travelling into the distant space in search of an opportunity to break through.

Today, he was returning to the clan as a First Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. He was returning home gloriously.

He also understood that his return would definitely increase the Hefeng clan's strength drastically. Their status on the Ice Pole Plane would rise as a result, and they would become the second greatest organisation only second to the Snow sect.

"It's already been a million years at the very least since any major changes have occurred to the rankings of organisations on the Ice Pole Plane. Today, once I set foot on the Ice Pole Plane, it's time for them to change." With a smile on his face, the old man gazed at the approaching Ice Pole Plane. He was filled with anticipation and pride.

However, right when he arrived beyond the Ice Pole Plane, he seemed to sense something, and his face immediately changed. He was overcome with fury. With a great bellow, his speed suddenly exploded, and he rushed towards the Hefeng clan with the tremendous pressure of a Grand Prime.

"Empyrean Demon Cult, how dare you attack our Hefeng clan! How bold of you!"

His voice rang out from the space beyond the Ice Pole Plane, forming a powerful sound wave that blanketed the entire place.

His voice reached many organisations on the Ice Pole Plane, which immediately left the upper echelon of these organisations with utterly fascinating expressions. It went without saying just how irritated they were by this.

The Grand Prime ancestors of the Hefeng clan seemed to be all slain by the Empyrean Demon Lord, without a single one left.

"It's great elder Wu!"

"It's actually old Wu. God dammit, he's vanished for over a hundred thousand years. Why has he suddenly returned at a time like this?"

"Old man Wu has actually broken through. Sigh, given the current circumstances, old man Wu can't change anything even if he's become a Grand Prime."

"Go away, old Wu. Escape from here! Don't come back!"

A series of cries rang out from the Hefeng clan. Normally, a clan gaining a Grand Prime would definitely be an event that could shake up an entire plane, but right now, the great elders of the Hefeng clan only felt grief.

With the Hefeng clan's current circumstances, so what if they had gained a Grand Prime? He would just be seeking his own doom and digging his own grave.

"The Hefeng clan actually has a newly-broken-through Grand Prime. Fair enough. I'll use him to test out the secret techniques that master has passed onto me." At the same time, Cheng Ming raised his head and gazed at the sky. Then he tossed a tablet reeking with demon Qi to Jian Chen and said, "Jian Chen, I'll be leaving here for a moment. This is an identity tablet that belongs to me. If you possess it, no one from the Empyrean Demon Cult will be bold enough to attack you, and you can freely order around anyone apart from Blade Demon and the three others."

Passing on some instructions in a hurry, Cheng Ming became wrapped in demon Qi as he rushed into outer space.

Immediately, the two Grand Primes became locked in an intense battle in outer space.

Jian Chen watched the intense battle unfold in outer space. He wanted to use his Profound Sword Qi to assist the grand elder, but upon further consideration, he still ended up giving up on that thought.

There were no formations in outer space to mask them from the senses of the soul. A battle between the grand elder and the new Grand Prime would definitely attract the attention of all the experts on the Ice Pole Plane. If he used the Profound Sword Qi in a situation like that, he could not be certain that he would not be recognised.

On the other hand, the Hefeng clan would be different. There were the demonic formations here to cover him, and the senses of the souls outside could not enter this place either. It was highly unlikely for anyone to recognise the Profound Sword Qi, as they were all just Chaotic Primes.

Compared to outer space, it was clearly much more well-hidden for him to move around in the Hefeng clan.

Jian Chen moved freely through the armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult with the grand elder's tablet. He directly flew away from the battlefield and found Yun Wufeng in a mountain range in the distance.

"Senior Yun, come with me to kill the enemy," Jian Chen called Yun Wufeng and directly returned to the Hefeng clan. With Yun Wufeng's strength as a Sixth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime, his participation would definitely make this battle come to an end sooner.

"My friend, t- that's the Empyrean Demon Cult's battlefield up ahead. It might not be a good idea to barge in rashly. It's very easy to cause misunderstandings." Yun Wufeng was not so sure.

"You don't have to worry, senior Yun. I've already reached an agreement with the Empyrean Demon Cult. Right now, we stand on the same side as the Empyrean Demon Cult," said Jian Chen in guarantee.

# Chapter 2993: The Authority Behind the Tablet

"You actually reached an agreement with the Empyrean Demon Cult?" Yun Wufeng was secretly surprised by that. The person who claimed to be little Yue'er's friend before him not only had connections to the Heavenly Crane clan, able to get a prestigious great elder of the Heavenly Crane clan to personally deliver God Tier pills to him with a single message, but he also managed to reach an agreement with the Empyrean Demon Cult in such a short time.

That really was a little unbelievable.

For a moment, Jian Chen's identity only became more mysterious in Yun Wufeng's eyes. He found him more and more difficult to see through.

Although he still did not know Jian Chen's true identity even now, Yun Wufeng did not ask about it. Ever since he saw Jian Chen change his appearance several times, he realised that Jian Chen was doing his best to hide his identity to prevent anyone else from finding out.

He had lived for so long, so of course, he would not make a mistake like that.

The two of them sped off, entering the battlefield between the Empyrean Demon Cult and the Hefeng clan in just a few flashes. The two of them were immediately swallowed by the surging demon Qi.

However, as soon as he entered the vicinity of the demon Qi, Yun Wufeng immediately felt discomfort. The demon Qi seemed to separate the world, completely isolating this place from the Saints' World.

Within the surging demon Qi, not only was he unable to sense any origin energy at all, but even his strength was somewhat affected.

"Under these circumstances, I can no longer absorb origin energy as I fight. Probably the only way to recover my spent energy is through pills and divine crystals." Yun Wufeng gazed at the battlefield before him and sighed. "With how disadvantageous the environment is, the Hefeng clan's defeat is nothing but guaranteed. There's also the nine armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult too. Just what organisation in the Saints' World can contend against an army this powerful?"

By now, the Primordial realm experts of the Empyrean Demon Cult had already noticed Jian Chen and Yun Wufeng. Infinite Primes immediately surrounded them.

"We're on your side!" Seeing this, Jian Chen shouted and immediately took out the black tablet that Cheng Ming had given him.

When the Infinite Primes that rushed over saw the tablet, their eyes all narrowed, becoming filled with great shock.

As Infinite Primes, they were obviously a part of the upper echelon of the Empyrean Demon Cult. No matter which branch they were in, they would be regarded as figures on par with vice-leaders. As a result, they knew exactly what the tablet meant.

That was the identity tablet of the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult. Seeing the tablet was like seeing him in person. Possessing the tablet was equivalent to possessing the same authority as the grand elder. He could rally any of the Empyrean Demon Cult's forces. Even they, the vice-leaders, had to listen to the person's commands if they possessed the tablet.

The Infinite Primes were all shocked. They had followed the grand elder for all these years, but they had never seen the grand elder hand the tablet to another person. It never left him.

Yet right now, they saw the tablet in Jian Chen's hands, which immediately made their thoughts run wild.

As a result, the Infinite Primes immediately concealed their presences and changed their murderous demeanours. They all clasped their hands and bowed at Jian Chen, saying with an extremely mixed tone, "What are your orders, sir?"

Jian Chen had changed his appearance, so the Infinite Primes of the Empyrean Demon Cult obviously did not recognise him. They could only refer to him as "sir".

"I have no other orders. Continue with your battles," Jian Chen said indifferently. His eyes were fixed on one of the Infinite Primes, and he immediately thought of something.

He recognised this Infinite Prime. She was one of the eight elders of the Empyrean Demon Cult, the Fox Saint Elder, as well as the master of Yaxi Lian, the commander of the seventh army.

Back then, the Fox Saint Elder had been such a lofty existence in his eyes. Just her name could deter the Pingtian Empire.

Yet now, he had already become an expert on par with Chaotic Primes. The Fox Saint Elder's cultivation as an Infinite Prime clearly did not bear much weight in his eyes anymore.

Even though she was a late Infinite Prime!

"Yes, sir!" Including the Fox Saint Elder, the high-ranking members of the Empyrean Demon Cult bowed towards Jian Chen again before returning to the battle, engaging in an intense clash against the Infinite Primes of the Hefeng clan.

Standing right beside Jian Chen, Yun Wufeng personally witnessed the Primordial realm experts of the Empyrean Demon Cult show Jian Chen so much respect. It left him in emotional turmoil.

If Jian Chen had only reached some sort of agreement with the Empyrean Demon Cult earlier, he would just be surprised at most. But looking at it now, this was no agreement. The response from the Infinite Primes when they saw Jian Chen was clearly that of subordinates to their superior.

Yun Wufeng looked at Jian Chen in a shaken manner. At this moment, he really felt the urge to ask about Jian Chen's identity.

Jian Chen obviously noticed Yun Wufeng's strange gaze. He did not say anything more, directly entering the battle among Chaotic Primes with Yun Wufeng.

Immediately, four powerful senses of the soul gathered over. They had already caught the four generals' attention.

However, after flashing the tablet, the senses of the souls silently receded.

Currently, the four generals were fighting against numerous Chaotic Primes of the Hefeng clan under the assistance of the blood-red skeletons. Their battle was utterly devastating, destroying the entire landscape.

Only Fifth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Primes and above could become involved in a battle with the four generals.

"Senior Yun, let's do it. The same as before. I'll injure their souls, and you handle the main attacks. Remember to keep them alive. Don't kill them." Jian Chen locked onto a Seventh Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime of the Hefeng clan and communicated to Yun Wufeng sternly.

"Don't worry. He's still a Seventh Heavenly Layer expert after all. With my strength at the Sixth Heavenly Layer, killing him won't be that easy," Yun Wufeng said before immediately casting a God Tier Battle Skill unique to the Moon God Hall.

Immediately, with the tremendous might of the world, a huge, circular moon condensed above Yun Wufeng, directly hurtling towards the Seventh Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime.

Jian Chen's Profound Sword Qi shot out at the same time as the God Tier Battle Skill fell, immediately heavily wounding the Chaotic Prime's soul. The protective energy around him collapsed, leaving him completely vulnerable.

Boom! With a deafening rumble, Yun Wufeng's God Tier Battle Skill directly smashed his god artifact armour to pieces. He sent the Chaotic Prime flying and coughing up blood, haggard in complexion.

"Hahahaha, alright! Nicely done!" Wind Demon of the four generals laughed aloud. Soon afterwards, a colossal wind blade descended from above, immediately slicing the Chaotic Prime in half along where his armour was damaged. In the end, he was punted into the Empyrean Demon Prison by a kick from Wind Demon.

## Chapter 2994: The Nine Godly Arts

Immediately, the Hefeng clan lost another late Chaotic Prime.

The Hefeng clan was already struggling to block the Empyrean Demon Cult's violent advance, already showing signs of collapse. Now that they had lost another Seventh Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime, it immediately dealt a heavy blow to the small number of remaining, high-level forces that the Hefeng clan possessed.

Without any late Chaotic Primes to keep them busy, the four generals of the Empyrean Demon Cult had finally been freed up. They began attacking the early Chaotic Primes of the Hefeng clan.

With their strength against these early Chaotic Primes that were at the Third Heavenly Layer at most, it was obviously a one-sided crushing. It did not take them much effort at all before they had sent all the early Chaotic Primes of the Hefeng clan into the Empyrean Demon Prison.

Without a doubt, Jian Chen and Yun Wufeng's participation had sped up the destruction of the Hefeng clan.

The conclusion on the ground was already as clear as day. However, the battle of Grand Primes in outer space was extraordinarily intense. The battle between the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult, Cheng Ming, and ancestor Wu of the Hefeng clan that had just reached Grand Prime, had reached a white-hot intensity. They both unleashed their full strength and surging energy clashed again and again, producing an endless rumble.

The space around them had already been reduced to darkness, stuck in a process of constant shattering and repair. The destructive storms of energy swept far off into the distance, not only making all the cultivators on the Ice Pole Plane shiver, but also reaching further depths in space.

Even from such a great distance, they could sense the vicious clash between the two ways of the world.

Although they were both at the First Heavenly Layer, they were still Grand Primes after all. Their comprehension of the ways of the world were both at an extremely deep level. If they fought without holding back, they were perfectly capable of stirring up a disaster on any plane.

As ancestor Wu of the Hefeng clan and Cheng Ming fought, they also paid close attention to the situation in the clan below. Although the senses of his soul could not enter the demonic formation, he could sense the presences of the Chaotic Primes from his clan vanish one by one through a secret technique of the Hefeng clan, which immediately infuriated him.

"Empyrean Demon Cult, you group of heretics, I'll tear you to pieces!" Ancestor Wu was utterly furious. With a deafening roar, the energy in him immediately began to bubble. The powerful might of the world immediately descended, instantly unleashing a God Tier Battle Skill.

The God Tier Battle Skills cast by Grand Primes were so startlingly powerful that they were on a completely different level from Chaotic Primes. The moment the terrifying energy of the battle skill condensed, the surrounding space began to shatter as large pieces like a mirror, turning into eternal darkness.

"Nine Godly Arts, Clawing Through Space!"

The grand elder did not respond carelessly at all when he was faced with ancestor Wu's God Tier Battle Skill. He unleashed a secret technique he had learnt from his master without the slightest hesitance.

He formed a claw with his right hand, which glowed with blinding light, and directly tore through the space before him.

Virtually at the same time, Cheng Ming's secret technique collided with ancestor Wu's battle skill. Within the deafening rumble, ancestor Wu's battle skill actually stood no chance at all, easily torn apart by Cheng Ming's claw. Afterwards, the secret technique continued onwards, and the five fingers turned into five streaks of light, directly landing on ancestor Wu.

Spurt! Spurt! Spurt! Spurt! Spurt!

The five streaks of light were like five sharp blades. Ancestor Wu's body stood absolutely no chance before it. His body was immediately carved into six pieces.

Ancestor Wu paled in fright. Having lost his body, his battle prowess was virtually reduced to nothing. Without any hesitation, he immediately controlled his head that was still intact to flee into the distance.

If a Grand Prime fled with their full strength, it would be very difficult for an expert of the same cultivation to capture them. Unfortunately, his opponent was the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult, Cheng Ming!

As if he had been anticipating this, Cheng Ming scoffed and immediately formed a seal with his hand, pointing at ancestor Wu from afar.

"Nine Godly Arts, Worldlock!"

Immediately, the space where ancestor Wu resided froze up, as if it had turned into a sturdy prison, keeping him trapped there.

With that, ancestor Wu immediately began to panic. He let out a furious roar, unwilling to accept this. He began burning the power of his soul. He furiously slammed his head as if he was trying to break out of this prison.

"Your God Tier Battle Skill is far too weak compared to the Nine Godly Arts that master has passed onto me. You're completely overestimating yourself if you think you can still escape under master's Nine Godly arts." Cheng Ming sneered. In the next moment, the Empyrean Demon Prison that was originally in the Hefeng clan suddenly appeared there and sucked in ancestor Wu's head. Even the other parts of him were not forgotten.

"You're still a First Heavenly Layer Grand Prime after all. It'll be too great of a pity to just kill you like this. I might as well leave you up to master to handle so that you can be turned into a high quality puresoul."

"A puresoul refined from the soul of a Grand Prime. Tsk tsk, now that's something rare to see." The grand elder stowed the Empyrean Demon Prison away in satisfaction and returned to the Hefeng clan with a flash.

The battle between Grand Primes had ended, and the grand elder had already vanished from outsider space, but the owners of the numerous powerful senses of souls that extended over from the Ice Pole Plane and lingered nearby struggled to calm down. All of them were in emotional turmoil.

"It's over. It actually ended so quickly? A First Heavenly Layer Grand Prime has just died like this?"

"That's far too startling. I thought it would be a struggle for them to decide the battle, where they would have to fight for a few decades or even centuries at the very least. I didn't expect it to be over so quickly."

"During the first half of their battle, the disparity in their strength really was not particularly great. After all, they've both only reached the First Heavenly Layer of Grand Prime recently. What truly decided the battle was the secret technique that the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult used at the end. That secret technique is something else. It possesses unfathomable power."

"That's right. The reason why the grand elder won so easily is all because of the secret technique he used. The secret technique is just too powerful, where even God Tier Battle Skills stand no chance."

With the grand elder's return, the battle of the Primordial realm in the Hefeng clan came to an end very quickly too. All the Infinite Primes from the Hefeng clan were mercilessly slain, without a single exception.

As for the Chaotic Primes, they were all heavily injured and imprisoned in the Empyrean Demon Prison apart from the Ninth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime that Blade Demon had killed in the beginning.

The four generals of the Empyrean Demon Cult suffered some wounds of various degrees through this battle.

They did not lose any Chaotic Primes. However, they did lose over twenty Infinite Primes.

With the end of the battle of the Primordial realm, the terrifying pulses of energy that surged through the Hefeng clan immediately decreased drastically. At this moment, the three blood-red skeletons that composed the Army of Death had already vanished. All the Primordial realm experts hovered in the air and watched the battle between Godhood cultivators coldly.

The nine armies of the Empyrean Demon Cult continued to fight with intensity. Their enemies were the countless clansmen of the Hefeng clan, which included many Godkings.

However, as Primordial realm experts, they had already lost interest in participating in a battle between Godhood cultivators. Moreover, this was a fantastic opportunity for the nine armies to train their troops.

Jian Chen stood beside the grand elder with Yun Wufeng. All the Primordial realm experts from the Empyrean Demon Cult gathered here studied the two of them curiously and suspiciously.

Being stared at by so many people, even Yun Wufeng felt very unnatural despite his composure. After all, the people in the surroundings were all part of the upper echelon of the Empyrean Demon Cult. Just the Infinite Primes alone amounted to over two hundred.

Compared to the Empyrean Demon Cult, the Moon God hall was absolutely nothing.

Let alone the Moon God Hall, even the Hefeng clan that ranked fourth on the Ice Pole Plane, or perhaps better described as second, had still been destroyed on a whim.

"Grand elder, according to the rate at which the blood and soul beads are being refined, we're still quite far off from what is required. If we want to reach the great elder's lowest standard, we can't keep any of the Chaotic Primes imprisoned in the Empyrean Demon Prison around," Blade Demon said at this moment.

The grand elder nodded before looking at Jian Chen. He said amiably, "C'mon, let's go interrogate the people in the Empyrean Demon Prison. We'll find something very quickly."

## Chapter 2995: The Person Behind it All

Jian Chen nodded. He told Yun Wufeng to wait outside the demonic formation before entering the Empyrean Demon Prison with the grand elder.

The Empyrean Demon Prison churned with demonic clouds inside. The demon Qi within was so powerful that the demonic formation outside was nowhere close. It had a world of its own inside. It seemed like a tiny prison on the outside, but the interior was an extremely spacious miniature world.

The miniature world was divided into numerous individual spaces. Every single space could serve as a perfectly-sealed cell. Not only were they extraordinarily tough and could block off all energies, but they also possessed a suppressive force inside.

The suppressive force came from a high quality god artifact. It was so powerful that even Grand Primes would be reduced to the same state as mortals if they were locked up inside, let alone Chaotic Primes.

The dozen or so Chaotic Prime great elders of the Hefeng clan had been separated and locked up in individual cells.

With a flash, Jian Chen appeared in one of the cells silently under the accompaniment of the grand elder.

The person imprisoned there was an Eighth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime.

"You can directly ask about whatever you need to know. There really aren't a lot of people that can hide their secrets in the Empyrean Demon Prison," said the grand elder.

At this moment, the person in the cell opened his eyes. Even though he already knew a horrible fate was awaiting him, he came off as extremely composed as if he had already accepted death.

"You can do whatever you want with me, whether it's to kill me or to torture me, but I'd advise you to give up if you want to learn anything from me. Even if I die here, even if I have to suffer all the tortures there are in the world, I'll never tell even a peep to you demons," the great elder said coldly.

Jian Chen turned a blind eye to his attitude. He stared at the person in the cell sharply and asked, "Two days ago, an Infinite Prime was captured in the Ice Goddess Hall. Did you do it?"

The Chaotic Prime shut his eyes and sat on the ground with his legs crossed like he was meditating, ignoring everything going on around him.

"Grand elder, didn't you say there really aren't a lot of people that can hide their secrets in the Empyrean Demon Prison?" Jian Chen looked at the grand elder beside him.

The grand elder chuckled and said nothing. He immediately formed a seal with his hand, and demon Qi churned in the cell. A few strands of black demon Qi that were clearly distinct from the other demon Qi separated out, constantly twisting about as they wormed into the Chaotic Prime's head like threatening fiends.

In the next moment, the Chaotic Prime's expression changed, but very soon, he seemed to experience unendurable pain. All of the muscles on his face twisted in an extremely violent manner. He even let out deep growls from his throat.

This process lasted for almost an entire minute. By the time he opened his eyes again, they had already lost their prior clearness. His scarlet eyes were filled with indescribable pain and madness.

There were also some chaotic emotions in the mix.

"The Empyrean Demon Prison that master left behind isn't just for imprisoning people. It can also interfere with the minds of those imprisoned here to a certain degree, thus achieving basic control over their souls." The grand elder smiled before he continued, "As a high quality god artifact, perhaps Grand Primes might be able to withstand its control over souls for a moment, but it's never failed against Chaotic Primes."

"Jian Chen, keep asking."

Jian Chen repeated the same question as before. Sure enough, everything unfolded extremely smoothly this time. The Eighth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime imprisoned in the cell directly answered Jian Chen's question without the slightest hesitation at all.

"I've already spent several decades in secluded cultivation in the clan. I only emerged when the Empyrean Demon Cult attacked. I probably know absolutely nothing about what's unfolded during these decades."

"It's not him!" Jian Chen frowned slightly and felt a hint of pity, but he was not dejected, as there were a total of three Eighth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Primes in the Hefeng clan.

Jian Chen and Cheng Ming immediately ventured to the next place and saw the second Eighth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime of the Hefeng clan. The grand elder used the same trick and controlled his soul through the Empyrean Demon Prison before carrying out the interrogation.

"I entered secluded cultivation for good a century ago, striving towards my breakthrough to the Ninth Heavenly Layer. I only emerged when the clan faced devastation."

"It's not him either." Jian Chen's frown deepened. He had already questioned two of the three Eighth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Primes of the Hefeng clan. Neither of them were the expert with the bamboo hat that abducted Shui Yunlan.

"There's one last Eighth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime." Jian Chen felt rather uneasy, arriving at the final spot with the grand elder.

"I've been in secluded cultivation the entire time. I've never seen the person you speak of." This was the response from the last Eighth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime.

With that, he had already questioned all three great elders of the Hefeng clan that satisfied the conditions, but the end result made Jian Chen pale. His heart felt empty as if he had just lost his soul.

Did his lead to Shui Yunlan just end here? Shui Yunlan's fate was of no concern, but her safety directly impacted the fate of Changyang Mingyue.

In particular, after witnessing a soul-controlling ability like the Empyrean Demon Prison, Jian Chen became even more worried.

Perhaps this was the only ability, secret technique, or evil art for controlling souls that the Empyrean Demon Cult was capable of, but it definitely was not the only one in the world.

"Jian Chen, perhaps the person you're searching for doesn't belong to the Hefeng clan at all. I don't know the exact details, but in my opinion, the current Hefeng clan would never be bold enough to capture someone in the Ice Goddess Hall with their current strength, as they can't even look after themselves properly after their Grand Prime ancestors died," said Cheng Ming.

Jian Chen's eyes immediately lit up with that. He suddenly came to a realisation. His thoughts really had been confused from all of his concern. The expert with the bamboo hat entered the Hefeng clan, but did that really mean he was from the Hefeng clan?

Aside from that, he suddenly remembered what ancestor Lan had said earlier today. There was the shadow of a Grand Prime behind the expert with the bamboo hat who helped him obscure the heavenly secrets and cover his tracks, which prevented ancestor Lan from finding anything.

Meanwhile, the Hefeng clan no longer had any Grand Prime ancestors left!

"Let's go interrogate the others. If the mysterious figure with the bamboo hat you mentioned actually entered the Hefeng clan, then he must have made contact with the upper echelon of the Hefeng clan, as the protective formation of the Hefeng clan still isn't weak enough for Chaotic Primes to infiltrate. He obviously received permission to be able to enter the Hefeng clan," said Cheng Ming.

As a result, Jian Chen and the great elder immediately began questioning all the great elders imprisoned here, starting with the strongest.

Effort and dedication always paid off in the end. When they finally got around to a Sixth Heavenly Layer Chaotic Prime, Jian Chen learnt the person's identity.

"The expert you're talking about is a great elder of the Snow sect. People call him elder Xie. Elder Xie did indeed visit our Hefeng clan two days ago, but that was just to exchange for a few God Tier materials with our clan. He left very soon."

After learning the identity of the expert with the bamboo hat, Jian Chen was both excited and alarmed. He was excited over the fact that he had finally tracked down Shui Yunlan.

However, what left him alarmed was he actually belonged to the Snow sect.

The Snow sect, the most powerful organization on the Ice Pole Plane!

### Chapter 2996: Out of Ideas

"The Snow sect. Why is it the snow sect?"

"Why is the expert who captured Shui Yunlan a great elder of the Snow sect?"

"After capturing Shui Yunlan that day, a Grand Prime obscured the heavenly secrets and erased all traces for the Chaotic Prime. As it seems, the Grand Prime must be an ancestor of the Snow sect."

For a moment, Jian Chen's heart weighed heavily. His face was very ugly. He struggled to calm down now that he was about to face the greatest organisation on the Ice Pole Plane.

After all, that was a colossal existence even stronger than the Heavenly Crane clan that sat steadily at first place.

What made him fear the most was that this colossal existence had already become the same as the Flame Reverend, eyeing the Ice Goddess Hall or the Snow Goddess.

He could clearly see this point from how they injured Shui Yunlan before forcefully abducting her.

When he heard that the mysterious expert Jian Chen had searched so arduously for was actually from the Snow sect, the grand elder Cheng Ming frowned as well. Clearly, he had also realised the severity of this issue.

"Jian Chen, I'll pay a visit to the Snow sect with you to find who you're looking for," the grand elder said sternly. He understood just how special Jian Chen's identity was.

Not only was he someone that his master favoured, but Jian Chen was like family to Xiao Ling too.

As for Xiao Ling, she was not powerful, but she was like a daughter to his master.

For these two reasons alone, Cheng Ming had to help out as long as it had anything to do with Jian Chen.

Jian Chen shook his head and sighed gently. "Grand elder, the Snow sect will never admit to this, as my friend who was abducted possesses an extremely special identity. Once the Snow sect admits to this, they'll struggle to bear the consequences even if they're the greatest organisation on the Ice Pole Plane."

Jian Chen sighed gently. The Snow sect was not the Flame Reverend after all. The Flame Reverend had no need to cover up his actions because he was powerful enough.

However, as a native organisation of the Ice Pole Plane and under the circumstances that many experts of the Ice Pole Plane still viewed the Ice Goddess Hall as a holy land, the Snow sect would never be bold enough to admit this at the risk of the world condemning them.

As a result, he could already imagine that even if the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult personally paid a visit to the Snow sect with him, the Snow sect would deny this desperately and never admit to it.

The grand elder said nothing. His gaze deepened instead. He seemed to draw some connections.

"Sigh, master seems to be handling something extremely important right now, so he'll probably struggle to spare any time. Otherwise, if master could personally tend to this matter, even the Snow sect would not be able to pose any problems." Cheng Ming sighed gently. He felt very powerless.

"The Snow sect!" Jian Chen memorised the sect's name firmly. His gaze sharpened.

Leaving the Empyrean Demon Prison with the grand elder, Jian Chen immediately bade farewell to Cheng Ming and left.

The Empyrean Demon Cult was still cleaning up the battlefield, collecting the various resources of the Hefeng clan and waiting for the battles between the Godhood cultivators to end.

Jian Chen found Yun Wufeng nearby. As soon as he saw him, Yun Wufeng asked, "How is it? Did you find out about that person's true identity?"

Jian Chen nodded slowly and said with a sunken face, "I did. He has quite the background. However, they've actually captured a friend of mine, so no matter how great his background is, I'll make them hand her over obediently." Jian Chen's voice was icy-cold. This had to do with his sister's fate after all, so he had to save her no matter what the price was.

"Senior Yun, thank you for helping me out this time. I need to come up with a way to save her next, so I'll be taking my leave first." Jian Chen clasped his fist towards Yun Wufeng. Right when he was about to leave, he suddenly thought of something and released the sixth elder of the Moon God Hall's soul.

"Ah, senior, you've finally let me out. May I ask if my actions in the Moon God Hall were to your satisfaction?" As soon as the sixth elder's soul appeared, he began sucking up to Jian Chen, bowing down and flattering Jian Chen in an extremely humble manner.

Jian Chen did not even look at the sixth elder. He said to Yun Wufeng, "Senior Yun, this is an elder from the Moon God Hall. I'll leave him up to you to handle."

"Ah, g- g- great elder!" Only now did the sixth elder notice Yun Wufeng behind him. His illusionary face immediately changed, filled with fright and fear.

"No, senior! No! Senior, you mustn't hand me over to the great elder. Senior, you promised to let me go back then!" The sixth elder pleaded desperately.

"I only promised to spare your life. Aren't you still alive and well right now?" Jian Chen said emotionlessly and ignored the sixth elder's pleas. After handing him over to Yun Wufeng, he turned around and left.

The sixth elder's fate was not something he should concern himself with.

"Great elder, great elder, spare me! The sixth elder's soul knelt down in the air. The current him no longer possessed the same spirit and courage to face death with open arms as before. He only wanted to live.

Elsewhere, Jian Chen arrived on a remote tundra and began calling for the Wind Venerable inside. The people behind this was the Snow sect, so the best idea that Jian Chen could come up with right now was to seek help from the Wind Venerable.

With the Wind Venerable's supreme cultivation on par with Grand Exalts, he could reach any location in the Saints' World with a single thought as long as he was still in the Saints' World.

That was the strength of Grand Exalts.

Asking for help from the Wind Venerable was without a doubt the best and the quickest idea to Jian Chen right now.

"I hope I won't disturb the Wind Venerable!" Jian Chen thought inside. If it were not for the fact that it was an emergency, he really did not want to disturb the Wind Venerable. However, after witnessing the special ability of the Empyrean Demon Prison, he did not even want to waste another moment.

Jian Chen constantly called for the Wind Venerable. He had heard about the impossible abilities of Grand Exalts numerous times. As long as their names were chanted, Grand Exalts would sense it even if they were at different ends of the world.

Time passed by silently. Jian Chen constantly called for the Wind Venerable, but he never received a reply, which left him unsettled.

"Don't tell me the Wind Venerable has entered a critical moment and sealed off all his senses to the outside world?" Jian Chen's face changed, but he still refused to give up and continued for another half a day. It resulted in absolutely nothing, forcing him to give up on this thought in the end.

With a flash, he immediately left there, proceeding to the Heavenly Crane clan as quickly as he could. In the end, he met with ancestor Lan on the Soaring Snow peak.

Ancestor Lan was still refining pills in the same place as before. She stood with her back to Jian Chen and said without even looking back, "Seeing how troubled you look, you must have found out about the person's identity and learnt just how immense the organisation behind them is at the same time."

Jian Chen nodded and said politely, "That's correct, ancestor Lan. The organisation behind this person is very powerful. He's a great elder of the Snow sect, Yu Yangxie!"

"The Snow sect! It's actually them!" murmured ancestor Lan softly. She did not seem surprised by this outcome.

"What do you plan on doing? Our Heavenly Crane clan is not the Snow sect's opponent, and the Soil of Divine Blood you've provided isn't worth enough for our Heavenly Crane clan to provoke the Snow sect that's even stronger than us," said ancestor Lan.

# **Chapter 2997: The Icecloud Founding Ancestor**

Jian Chen's eyes narrowed. He did not answer ancestor Lan. Instead, he asked with some surprise, "Ancestor Lan, you already guessed the Snow sect was behind it?"

"The Ice Pole Plane may be very vast, but there are only so many people capable of something like that, so it's not hard to guess," ancestor Lan said indifferently. Her voice was crisp and beautiful, very pleasant to the ear.

It made sense. After all, ancestor Lan had mentioned in the past that the person who covered elder Xie's tracks was a mid Grand Prime at the very least, or the Fourth Heavenly Layer and higher in other words.

There were many Grand Primes on the Ice Pole Plane, but most of them were early Grand Primes. There were obviously only so many mid Grand Primes.

"Ancestor Lan, can you tell me about the Snow sect's strength?" Jian Chen asked.

"The Snow sect has four Grand Prime ancestors. Among them, two are at the Sixth Heavenly Layer, one is at the Fourth Heavenly Layer, and the other is at the Third Heavenly Layer." Ancestor Lan told Jian Chen about the Snow sect's strength without any hesitation.

Jian Chen could not help but gasp with that. He knew the Snow sect was powerful, but he never expected them to be this powerful. Just their Sixth Heavenly Layer Grand Primes amounted to two.

Over the years, Jian Chen had come into contact with his fair share of Grand Primes in the Saints' World, but these people were mostly early Grand Primes. There were not many that had reached mid Grand Prime, let alone the Sixth Heavenly Layer.

He understood the significance of a Sixth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime very well. Every single one of them were prominent figures of the Saints' World, whose names rang through the entire world. Their influence was not limited to a single plane or planet anymore. Even throughout the vast cosmos of the Saints' World, they had a standing.

However, ancestor Lan's next words made Jian Chen even more dejected.

"The two Grand Primes at the Sixth Heavenly Layer aren't even the most terrifying aspect of the Snow sect. The most terrifying aspect of the Snow sect is the Icecloud Founding Ancestor among the two Sixth Heavenly Layer Grand Primes. Ten thousand years ago, the Icecloud Founding Ancestor clashed with a Seventh Heavenly Layer Grand Prime."

"The Icecloud Founding Ancestor was defeated in that battle, but she managed to retreat with ease."

"Just the Icecloud Founding Ancestor's strength alone is enough to contend against Seventh Heavenly Layer experts."

When she mentioned the Icecloud Founding Ancestor, even ancestor Lan became stern despite her cultivation.

Jian Chen's heart weighed even more heavily now. The Icecloud Founding Ancestor was actually so powerful. Did that not basically mean the Snow sect actually possessed a Seventh Heavenly Layer Grand Prime?

The Seventh Heavenly Layer was late Grand Prime. A colossal gulf existed between this cultivation and the Sixth Heavenly Layer.

For a moment, Jian Chen became extremely troubled. The Snow sect possessed an expert on par with a Seventh Heavenly Layer Grand Prime. With the Wind Venerable out of the question, just who possessed the ability to save Shui Yunlan out of all the experts he knew?

Without a question, the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng possessed this strength, but he understood even more that the first majesty would already be doing them a generous favour by not adding insult to injury at a time like this. As for taking action and saving Shui Yunland, that was simply ridiculous.

The relationship between the first majesty of the Heavenly Palace of Bisheng and the Snow Goddess of the Ice Goddess Hall was more like that of enemies.

Since they were enemies, why would she help out?

"The main reason why the Icecloud Founding Ancestor is so powerful is that when she was still very weak, she had once been chosen by the Ice Goddess Hall. She served the Snow Goddess in the Ice Goddess Hall for a period of time, but something happened afterwards, and she was expelled from the Ice Goddess Hall by the Snow Goddess." Ancestor Lan sighed gently. She turned around and gazed at Jian Chen behind her, saying, "You already know just how powerful the Snow sect is now. Will you still be saving your friend?"

Despite how stern Jian Chen was, his thoughts had not wavered in the slightest. He nodded slowly and said solemnly, "I will, and I'll do it regardless of the cost!"

Ancestor Lan smiled. Her smile was as beautiful as a painting from heaven. Even all the adjectives in the world could not describe her current beauty.

Her gaze towards Jian Chen was filled with a lot more colour. There was surprise, admiration, as well as a faint sense of disdain.

"I really don't know where your source of confidence comes from. You actually want to save someone from the hands of a Grand Prime ancestor of the Snow sect with your feeble strength that hasn't even reached Chaotic Prime." Who knew whether ancestor Lan was praising or mocking Jian Chen, but what she said next made Jian Chen shudder inside. It made his heart surge.

"However, what I'm more curious about is just what kind of relationship exists between you and the Snow Goddess."

Jian Chen's eyes narrowed to the size of needle tips. His heart violently skipped a beat, and even his breathing became rather ragged.

The sudden question from ancestor Lan immediately startled the unprepared Jian Chen.

Jian Chen's eyes flickered with thought. Even though he was rather taken by surprise, he was not actually too surprised upon closer thought, as he had asked the Heavenly Crane clan about far too much information regarding the Ice Goddess Hall already. He had given himself away a long time ago.

Jian Chen sucked in a deep breath and calmed down very quickly. He stared at ancestor Lan. "She's my elder sister!"

This time, it was ancestor Lan's turn to be surprised. Even though her expression had not changed by much at all, her gaze did ripple and flash. Her eyes narrowed slightly too.

Even though she had already guessed a relationship existed between Jian Chen and the Snow Goddess, she believed that this relationship was something along the lines of master and disciple or the Snow Goddess being his saviour.

She had never, ever imagined that Jian Chen's relationship with the Snow Goddess would actually be so close.

After all, that was the Snow Goddess, only second to Grand Exalts. Let alone the Ice Pole Plane, even across the forty-nine great planes and eighty-one great planets of the Saints' World, the Snow Goddess was a figure that could look down on most. She was the type that could kick up a storm with a stamp of her foot.

This time, ancestor Lan fell silent instead. She showed nothing on the surface, but she was actually anything but calm inside.

The Snow Goddess's younger brother? The person standing before her was actually the Snow Goddess's younger brother?

This piece of news could be described as world-shaking to any expert on the Ice Pole Plane.

Even though she knew the Snow Goddess had only gained this so-called younger brother after she had been reborn, it was still startling enough.

"The person the Snow sect captured is Shui Yunlan of the Ice Goddess Hall. Shui Yunlan is the only person who knows the whereabouts of my sister. Now that she's fallen into the hands of the Snow sect, the intentions of the Snow sect goes without saying. The Snow Goddess can be in danger at any moment."

"Ancestor Lan, since you've already learnt the truth of this matter, I'd like to know whether your Heavenly Crane clan will choose to stand by and watch or take action and assist me regarding this." With everything laid out on the table, Jian Chen stopped trying to hide his intentions, directly questioning the Heavenly Crane clan's stance on the issue.

Up against an organisation as powerful as the Snow sect, he had to find all the reinforcements he could get into contact with if he wanted to protect his sister.

### Chapter 2998: Terror Upon Closer Thought

Ancestor Lan said nothing. This time, she sank into a very long period of silence. Her beautiful eyes were fixed on the pill cauldron before her, but her mind was actually elsewhere.

Fortunately, her mastery of alchemy had already reached an extremely profound level, or becoming distracted during the process of refining God Tier pills could lead to failure extremely easily.

Jian Chen did not say anything more either. Instead, he simply stood behind ancestor Lan quietly and waited for her. He also understood that this was extremely important to the Heavenly Crane clan. If it were mishandled, it could lead to severe trouble for the clan, or even a disaster.

After all, they would be opposing the Snow sect. With how powerful the Snow sect was, the Heavenly Crane clan definitely was not their opponent.

If she thought about it a little deeper, then no one knew whether the Snow sect had done this on their own accord or if it was related to the Flame Reverend.

If the Snow sect leaned towards the Flame Reverend, then everything would be terrifying.

For a moment, the alchemy room sank into an eerie silence. Neither Jian Chen nor ancestor Lan said anything. Only the unique roaring sound produced by the blue, ice flames echoed through the room.

A very, very long time passed before ancestor Lan's voice rang out again, "Do you understand exactly what it means for the Heavenly Crane clan if we were to become involved?"

Ancestor Lan clearly had no interest in letting Jian Chen answer. She continued, "To us, this is not beneficial at all, only detrimental. No matter what the end result is, our Heavenly Crane clan will end up in a lot of trouble."

"First of all is the Snow sect. With our strength, we stand absolutely no chance if we clash with the Snow sect. If we are defeated, the Heavenly Crane clan will definitely suffer tremendous losses, or even follow in the footsteps of the Hefeng clan."

"Even if we emerge victoriously in the end and successfully save Shui Yunlan, thus protecting the secret of the Snow Goddess's whereabouts, our Heavenly Crane clan still won't be able to avoid the Snow Goddess's punishment in the end."

Reaching there, ancestor Lan let out a deep sigh. She was overcome with a multitude of emotions. "You may be the Snow Goddess's younger brother, and you might have spent a very long time with the Snow Goddess's reincarnation, but you need to understand that before her memories awaken, the Snow Goddess is not truly the Snow Goddess. She's just someone else."

Ancestor Lan turned around and stared at Jian Chen with mixed feelings. She said slowly, "As a result, you have absolutely no idea just what kind of a person the true Snow Goddess is. However, I can tell you very clearly that the true Snow Goddess is a completely different person from the elder sister in your heart."

"If our Heavenly Crane clan were to interfere with the matters of the Snow Goddess without permission, it'll be viewed as a great provocation of their dignity, whether it's the Snow Goddess or the Ice Goddess. We will definitely face the punishment of the Ice and Snow Goddesses."

"Let alone our Heavenly Crane clan, even you who are technically the younger brother of the Snow Goddess's reincarnation probably won't be spared." Ancestor Lan's words left a very bad taste in Jian Chen's mouth. He took in a deep breath, and his gaze became extremely determined. "No matter what kind of person my sister becomes, no matter how she views me in the future, none of it can stop me, as she's still my elder sister in my heart. She is one of the people I'm closest to. As a result, even if I have to go through fire and water, even if I must face eternal damnation, I will save her."

"Senior ancestor Lan, I also understand that this is not completely a positive matter to the Heavenly Crane clan. Since you're reluctant to take part, then I won't insist any further. Farewell!" Jian Chen sure was straightforward, turning around and making his way out.

However, his heart weighed extremely heavily. The Heavenly Crane clan refused to take part in this because they were racked with misgivings, so who else could assist him in saving his sister?

Thoughts flew through his head rapidly. He thought of Tie Ta in the God clan, he thought of the Radiant Saint Hall, and he even thought of the mysterious man who called himself Dao Jiu who had mysteriously appeared in the Tian Yuan clan.

However, without any exception, he dismissed all of these people.

The God clan was in decline. They had lost their former title of being known as the greatest clan in the Saints' World a long time ago. His chances of motivating them into opposing a tremendous organisation like the Snow sect was virtually non-existent.

As for the Radiant Saint Hall, it was completely propped up by the protector swords now. Without the protector swords, the Radiant Saint Hall stood absolutely no chance at all before the Snow sect. Finding the Radiant Saint Hall under these circumstances would only be harming them.

Moreover, among the protectors of the Radiant Saint Hall, he was only confident enough to persuade Han Xin, Donglin Yanxue, and Bai Yu.

Finally, regarding Dao Jiu from the Dao clan, he was indeed a force of deterrence to the Snow sect through the Dao clan's reputation as an archaean clan.

However, due to the Primeval Divine Hall, he still had no idea whether he would oppose the Dao clan in the future, so finding the Dao clan was inappropriate too.

On top of that, he still did not know what Dao Jiu's identity in the Dao clan was. He was absolutely clueless whether the influence of the tablet that Dao Jiu had given him back then was as great as he imagined it to be.

"If you want to save Shui Yunlan from the Snow sect, then you need to be prepared for a full-blown war with the Snow sect. Just our Heavenly Crane clan is nowhere near enough."

Right when Jian Chen was about to leave the alchemy room, ancestor Lan's voice rang out slowly.

Jian Chen immediately paused. Joy filled his eyes. "Ancestor Lan, you've agreed to help me out?"

Ancestor Lan let out a gentle sigh. "This brings absolutely no benefit to our Heavenly Crane clan, but there are just some things you have to do."

"The Ice Pole Plane is far too chaotic right now. It requires the Snow Goddess to watch over it."

"Then what if we rally the other peak organisations on the Ice Pole Plane? After all, there are still many people who revere the Snow Goddess on the Ice Pole Plane," said Jian Chen.

"That would be inappropriate." Ancestor Lan directly dismissed Jian Chen's suggestion. She said, "All you see is the surface of these people who revere the Snow Goddess and are willing to fight for the Snow Goddess. Let alone you, even I'm not certain about what they actually think."

"There are indeed a portion of people who are willing to fight for the Ice Goddess and the Snow Goddess, but there are also others who don't wish for the Snow Goddess to return, such as the Flame Reverend."

"The Flame Reverend eyes the Ice Goddess's ways. This has ceased to be a secret among stronger experts a long time ago. Even the people on our Ice Pole Plane have considered the Snow Goddess reincarnating, so why wouldn't the Flame Reverend include that in his calculations?"

"Why wouldn't he know that the reincarnated Snow Goddess would be the greatest variable in his attempt for the Ice Goddess's ways?"

"The Flame Reverend has been planning in secret on the Ice Goddess Plane for many years. Do you really believe he hasn't left behind some sort of back-up plan to deal with the Snow Goddess?"

"Among the people who treat the Ice Goddess Hall with absolute loyalty, who knows whether the Flame Reverend has planted anyone among them?"

Hearing that, Jian Chen immediately shivered inside. Ancestor Lan's guesses made perfect sense. The Flame Reverend was going after such a great thing. He was bold enough to even eye a Grand Exalt, so he must have come up with a surefire plan and made numerous arrangements. Were the organisations under his control really just the Hefeng clan and the Moon Goddess Hall?

### **Chapter 2999: The Martial Soul Lineage Gathers**

"Ancestor Lan, are you saying that these people who claim to support the Ice Goddess Hall and are willing to go through fire and water for the Ice Goddess Hall have organisations belonging to the Flame Reverend lurking among them?" Jian Chen asked.

"That's only my guess. I don't have any actual, concrete evidence to prove this. However, if I were the Flame Reverend, then I'd definitely carry out some meticulous arrangements and preparations. After all, what he's plotting for is very great. Just the slightest carelessness can doom him for good," said ancestor Lan.

"In other words, not only am I unable to ask for help from these people regarding the Snow sect, but I can't even divulge this information." Jian Chen was stern. Without seeking help from the other forces on the Ice Pole Plane, how was the Heavenly Crane clan supposed to contend against the Snow sect alone?

Since the Snow sect had captured Shui Yunlan, they would never release her so easily. As a result, the only way for him to save Shui Yunlan was through the most intense clash with the Snow sect.

He could even imagine already that the Snow sect would mobilise the force of their entire sect in this clash.

The Snow sect no longer had a way out of this anymore. From the moment they decided to capture Shui Yunlan, they had started opposing the Ice Goddess Hall. As a result, only a single path lay before the Snow sect, one without any chance of return.

Otherwise, once the Ice Goddess and the Snow Goddess returned, it was as clear as day what the Snow sect's fate would be given their personalities.

"I don't know whether the Snow sect did this out of their own interests or if they've already taken the Flame Reverend's side. If they did it out of their own interests, then that's easier to deal with. They won't divulge this news, and we will be the only people that know this secret apart from the Snow sect. Our opponent will only be the Snow sect too."

"If the Snow sect has taken the Flame Reverend's side, then the Snow sect is not all that we are up against. We're also up against all the organisations that the Flame Reverend has developed on the Ice Pole Plane," said ancestor Lan.

"Looks like saving Shui Yunlan from the Snow sect is far more difficult than I've ever imagined it to be." Jian Chen sighed. Ancestor Lan's analysis had basically ended his thoughts of rallying together with the organisations of the Ice Pole Plane.

Once he gathered these organisations together, it would be impossible to tell who was friend or foe. These circumstances would be perfect for a stab in the back.

If they were powerful enough to crush everything in their path, then there was obviously no need for them to fear any schemes or plots, but they were clearly on the weaker side, so they had to be as careful as possible.

"Don't you have connections with the Empyrean Demon Cult? If you can rope in the Empyrean Demon Lord, then it'll obviously be for the best."

"Though, there is something I must make clear first. If you can't find any other powerful assistance, just our Heavenly Crane clan stands no chance against the Snow sect. If there's no hope at all, then our Heavenly Crane clan won't take part either," said ancestor Lan.

"The Empyrean Demon Lord..." Jian Chen faltered. Back then in the Empyrean Demon Prison, he had heard Cheng Ming mention that the Empyrean Demon Lord was currently handling something extremely important and could not divert his attention. Looking for him at a time like this clearly would not result in anything.

However, he also understood that he had to find a supreme expert that could contend against the Icecloud Founding Ancestor of the Snow sect.

Jian Chen left the Heavenly Crane clan and hurried along using the Laws of Space, returning to the territory of the Hefeng clan with a few flashes.

He had returned the tablet that the grand elder had given him already, but that could not stop his advance through the Empyrean Demon Cult.

Very soon, Jian Chen met with the grand elder of the Empyrean Demon Cult again on the top floor of the demonic castle.

The grand elder was amicable. He gazed at Jian Chen with a smile. "Jian Chen, have you come this time because of the Snow sect?"

"That's correct. I have come because of the Snow sect. Grand elder, do you know if you can contact the Empyrean Demon Lord?" Jian Chen was anxious. He clearly knew the Empyrean Demon Lord was caught up in an important matter, yet he still came back and asked for him without hesitation. He felt utterly helpless about this, and it also caused him a deep sense of shame.

However, this had to do with his sister's fate. For the sake of his sister's safety, he had to do it even if it was humiliating.

"If I really can't find powerful reinforcements, then I'll have to fuse the twin swords and throw my life on the line." Jian Chen had already prepared himself for the worst. He was far more powerful than he had ever been in the past right now, and the sword spirits had been constantly recovering too.

If he fused the swords in his current state, the might would obviously be even greater than before.

"Hehe, I obviously can contact master. Actually, soon after you left, I told master about this already, which obviously included the Snow sect." The grand elder chuckled.

"Then what did senior say?" Jian Chen's eyes narrowed, and he immediately held his breath.

"Master is indeed caught up in something extremely important, but he told me to tell you that if you encounter any danger from the Snow sect, you can go and find the Martial Soul lineage," said the grand elder.

"The Martial Soul lineage? How is the Martial Soul lineage supposed to contend against a colossal existence like the Snow sect given their strength?" Jian Chen frowned. He could not be any more familiar with the Martial Soul lineage's strength. Let alone the Snow sect that possessed an expert on par with a Seventh Heavenly Layer Grand Prime, even dealing with a Fourth Heavenly Layer Grand Prime would take all of the Martial Soul lineage's efforts.

The difference between the Fourth and Seventh Heavenly Layers could be described as a tremendous gulf.

"Since that's what master said, he obviously has his reasons. Jian Chen, you need to believe in master." Cheng Ming smiled faintly. In his heart, he possessed almost blind faith and admiration towards his master.

"Thank you, grand elder!" Jian Chen clasped his fist and thanked him before immediately leaving the Empyrean Demon Cult.

Upon leaving the vicinity of the Empyrean Demon Cult, Jian Chen rushed into outer space. He sped through the stars with the Laws of Space before finally stopping in a region that was extremely distant from the Ice Pole Plane. Afterwards, he used a secret technique of the Martial Soul lineage to summon the mountain soul of the Martial Soul Mountain.

In just a few seconds, a colossal ripple of energy suddenly appeared in the space there. The figure of a huge mountain suddenly appeared in the empty space, rapidly consolidating with time.

In less than half a minute, the mountain soul of the Martial Soul Mountain had crossed a tremendous distance and descended beside Jian Chen.

Immediately, a colossal pressure radiated out in a blanketing fashion, sweeping through the stars.

Fortunately, they were extremely distant from the Ice Pole Plane, or the appearance of the mountain soul probably would have alarmed countless experts.

"Eighth junior brother!"

The fifth senior sister Su Qi's voice rang out from the mountain soul. Right beside her, the first senior brother Hun Zang, the second senior brother Chu Jian, the third senior brother Yue Chao, the fourth senior brother Yun Ziting, the sixth senior brother Bai Rufeng, and the seventh senior brother Qing Shan were all present.

Including Jian Chen, the eight successors of the Martial Soul lineage had all assembled together.

"Eighth junior brother, what're you still standing there for? Get on the mountain soul." Seeing how Jian Chen just stood there dumbly, Su Qi spoke again.

## Chapter 3000: A Sense of Belonging

Jian Chen sucked in a deep breath and took a step through space. His figure immediately vanished. When he appeared again, he was already on the mountain soul of the Martial Soul Mountain.

"Greetings, senior brothers and sisters!" Jian Chen clasped his fist and bowed to the seven of them.

For some reason, a strange feeling appeared in his heart when he set foot on the mountain soul.

This feeling immediately allowed his heart that had become extremely unsettled and restless due to his sister's safety to calm down.

Martial Soul Mountain seemed to be an island that floated on the vast sea. No matter how stormy it was outside, no matter how vicious the thunder and lightning was outside, it could shield him from everything as long as he hid on the island. No matter how astonishing the tidal waves were, it could provide him with a peaceful shelter.

"The Martial Soul Mountain is the final place of belonging for our Martial Soul lineage!" Jian Chen could not help but think of what his seniors had once said to him. As it seemed now, that was not without reason.

That was exactly what he felt right now. The moment he set foot on the mountain soul, he really felt like he had come home after wandering around outside. He completely calmed down.

"The Laws of Space! Eighth junior brother, I didn't expect your achievements with the Laws of Space to reach such an unbelievable realm!" The Laws of Space that Jian Chen unintentionally revealed immediately made Hun Zang, Chu Jian, and Yue Chao narrow their eyes. They were astonished.

"If I'm correct, eighth junior brother's mastery over the Laws of Space has probably reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer already or even greater than that." Chu Jian was amazed. "What? The Eighth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime? H- how is that possible? Eighth junior brother, don't tell me second senior brother is telling the truth? Your achievements with the Laws of Space have really reached such a profound realm?" Qing Shan widened his eyes and stared at Jian Chen in disbelief.

Back then in the training grounds of the Radiant Saint Hall, the World of Moon and Star, he and Jian Chen had both been Godkings. They were approximately equally powerful.

Only so much time had passed since then, yet Jian Chen's achievements with the Laws of Space had already reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime. He was the first to find this unacceptable.

Yun Ziting, Su Qi, and Bai Rufeng all stared at Jian Chen with shining eyes too. They were also filled with undisguisable shock.

Seeing how overwhelmed Qing Shan had become, Jian Chen could not help but smile wryly. "Second senior brother is correct. My current comprehension of the Laws of Space is indeed at the Eighth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime."

After Jian Chen personally admitted it, Qing Shan behaved like he had just received a heavy blow. He sprayed blood from his mouth in an extremely exaggerated fashion and cried out in a strange manner, "E- E- E- Eight Heavenly Layer! Eighth junior brother has actually reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer! Hh- how am I supposed to live as his senior brother?"

No one paid any attention to Qing Shan's worries. At that moment, all of their gazes gathered on Jian Chen. The eyes of the fifth senior sister Su Qi twinkled. "Eighth junior brother, if I recall correctly, you primarily cultivate the Way of the Sword. Since your Laws of Space have reached the Eighth Heavenly Layer, then what realm has your Way of the Sword reached?"

"Senior sister, my Laws of the Sword just happen to be a little stronger than my Laws of Space. It's currently at the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime!" Jian Chen answered.

"W- w- w- what? Not only is your Laws of Space at the Eighth Heavenly Layer, but you've even comprehended the Way of the Sword to the Ninth Heavenly Layer? You're a deviant, eighth junior brother. You're a deviant. I can't live anymore. I really don't want to live anymore." Qing Shan almost began crying from being so overwhelmed. Back then, they had been at the same realm of cultivation. He had even reached Infinite Prime first.

How had their strength completely inverted, even with the difference growing wider, after just a few centuries since they saw one another?

"I spent the past few centuries on the Martial Soul Mountain the entire time, cultivating away arduously, and I've only just reached the Third Heavenly Layer. Then I look at eighth junior brother, not only devoting no time to cultivation, but even running around everywhere all day long, yet his strength has increased the fastest. Do the heavens still have a sense of fairness!?" Qing Shan howled, sighing over how unfair the world was.

"Eighth junior brother, just how on earth did you cultivate? Your cultivation has already caught up to me, your sixth senior brother." Bai Rufeng also stared at Jian Chen like he was staring at a monster as he experienced emotional upheaval.

The three greatest experts of the Martial Soul lineage, Hun Zang, Chu Jian, and Yue Chao, were anything but calm right now too. In such a short amount of time, Jian Chen's strength had climbed up to the Ninth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime at such an unbelievable speed. It was so fast that even the three of them felt deeply shocked.

Ninth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime with the Laws of the Sword!

Eighth Heavenly Layer of Infinite Prime with the Laws of Space!

Whenever they thought of this, the successors of the Martial Soul Mountain all felt like they were dreaming.

It was simply far too surreal.

The illusionary mountain soul of the Martial Soul Mountain gradually faded from outer space, completely vanishing from there. The power of the mountain soul had already taken the successors of the Martial Soul lineage across an unfathomable space, directly bringing them to the true Martial Soul Mountain.

In an unknown region of space in the Saints' World, the Martial Soul Mountain drifted through outer space mindlessly in its own way. On the mountain, Jian Chen and the seven others sat around a stone table. They asked Jian Chen about what he had gone through with great interest.

All of them had a huge question mark about how Jian Chen had reached the Ninth Heavenly Layer in such a short amount of time. They were extremely curious.

"Senior brothers and sister, why don't I take my time and tell you about what I went through during the past few years another time? I have something that's much more important that I have to deal with right now." Jian Chen gradually turned solemn. He knew that time was tight, so he did not want to waste too much time. He directly said, "I'll be honest. I've called the senior brothers and sisters this time because I've run into a troublesome matter."

"Little junior brother, what did you run into? You can be honest with us. Our Martial Soul lineage are like siblings. Your matters are also everyone else's matters. Before your seniors, you don't have to be polite over anything," said Su Qi.

"Alright, I'll be straightforward then. I have a friend who was captured by someone from the Snow sect on the Ice Pole Plane. I want to save this friend." Jian Chen cut right to the chase.

"The Snow sect, the greatest organisation on the Ice Pole Plane?" Chu Jian's eyes narrowed with that. He said, "It's not exactly a big issue. The Snow sect might be powerful, but our Martial Soul lineage has quite the prestige in the Saints' World. We'll accompany you to the Snow sect and negotiate with the upper echelon to release your friend."

"Yeah, that should work. Our Martial Soul lineage may be nowhere close to the Snow sect in terms of strength, but we're still quite powerful. The Snow sect won't provoke major organisations pointlessly over some small matters." Yue Chao nodded and expressed his agreement.

"No, it won't be that simple. The Snow sect will never release her, as the person they captured is from the Ice Goddess Hall..." Jian Chen explained everything in detail, telling the people of the Martial Soul lineage without concealing anything. He did not even hide his relationship with the Snow Goddess.

"Eighth junior brother, you're not kidding, are you? The Snow Goddess from the Ice Goddess Hall is your sister?" Qing Shan's eyes widened tremendously. The shock he experienced right now was even greater than before.

He was not from the same age as the Ice Goddess and the Snow Goddess, but he had heard plenty about these supreme figures of the Ice Pole Plane.

As a result, he understood extremely well just what kind of a major figure the Snow Goddess of the Ice Goddess Hall was.

The fifth senior sister, Su Qi, bit her lip gently. She was also in emotional turmoil.

The Snow Goddess was actually eighth junior brother's elder sister?

That was far too absurd and far too difficult to believe.

It was not just Qing Shan and Su Qi, but Hun Zang, Chu Jian, Yue Chao, Yun Ziting, and Bai Rufeng as well. When they learnt of Jian Chen's relationship with the Snow Goddess, they were all deeply shocked.

All of their gazes gathered on Jian Chen, becoming speechless for a very long time. Even after quite a while, they had not returned to their senses.