

Chaotic 3301

Chapter 3301: Expansion

“The Peace region is changing...” The Sword Emperor let out a great sigh and said, “Little Rou, you should go. Forget about avenging the White Emperor. Your priority right now is to protect yourself and live on.”

“You can’t stay in the Peace region anymore. Here me out. Leave the Peace region and go to the Jade Centre domain. Try everything you can to become the Jade Sky Ruler’s disciple.”

“Your talent is far too great. You’ve already become an expert on the Heavenly Rankings at such a young age, such that you’re undefeatable amongst others at the same cultivation. If you continue to grow, it’s extremely likely for you to become on par with heavenly kings in the future.”

“As a result, someone will be worried that you’ll come for revenge in the future, so they’ll never give you the room to grow. They’ll completely nip you in the bud while you’re still weak.”

“Don’t depend on the Mayhemless Heavenly King either. He won’t interfere. The only way for you to avoid this crisis is to go to the Jade Centre domain and become the Jade Sky Ruler’s disciple.”

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The death of the Magic Emperor spread through the Peace region rapidly, immediately leading to a great uproar.

The Magic Emperor ranked second among the nine emperors. His death led to a disturbance even greater than the White Emperor’s.

After all, the White Emperor had been heavily injured for many years. During this time, countless rumours had spread through the Peace region, saying that the White Emperor would not be able to last much longer.

In the end, White Emperor city said that the White Emperor died by Bai Yurou’s hand. As a result, the Peace region was surprised by his death, but it also made sense.

However, it was a different situation with the Magic Emperor. The Magic Emperor had been slain by the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King while at peak condition.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King did not intentionally hide anything. He directly engaged the Magic Emperor above Magic Emperor city. The fierce shockwaves of the battle destroyed a good part of the city, leading to tremendous losses.

Such a great disturbance obviously spread through the entire Peace region like a wildfire.

The Magic Emperor’s death was only the first storm to be raised in the Peace region. A second storm followed shortly.

The Xia Merchant Union suddenly launched an attack at the merchant unions under the Xiong and Zhan family’s control with lightning speed, swallowing their businesses and properties rapidly.

In a short while, the Xia Merchant Union had swallowed a third of the Xiong and Zhan family's businesses.

On top of that, the Xia Merchant Union continued to seize the two merchant unions' remaining businesses, moving like a grassfire. They were extremely fast.

The Xiong family and Zhan family did resist, but all of their efforts were futile before the leader of the Xia Merchant Union, Xia Jianming.

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Afterwards, the deaths of the ancestors of the Zhan family and the Xiong family also spread like wildfire, immediately pushing the Xia Merchant Union to an entirely new height.

For a moment, the attention that the Xia Merchant Union received in the Peace region was only second to the Magic Emperor's.

"The Xia Merchant Union is actually bold enough to swallow the two other merchant unions. They sure are brave."

"The Magic Emperor has only just died, having been mercilessly slain by a heavenly king, and the Xia Merchant Union has stirred up such a great disturbance too. Looks like the Xia Merchant Union also has someone impressive behind them."

"The Peace region is changing!"

For a moment, many discussions arose in the Peace region. Some people celebrated, while others lamented. So many major events had occurred in such a short period, which made many people sense something.

The Xia Merchant Union unified the entire commercial side of the Peace region very successfully. Xia Jianming took action personally, so he obviously cleaned up the remaining forces of the Zhan family and Xiong family skillfully. He roped in whoever he could rope in and incorporated anyone he could incorporate into his own ranks. As for the stubborn ones, he killed them mercilessly.

Immediately, the influence of the Zhan family and Xiong family declined. The Xia Merchant Union strengthened at an unbelievable rate.

All of the imperial cities and the organisations with Primordial realm experts were watching. They were tempted by the Xiong family and Zhan family's businesses, but none of them dared to do anything at a time like this.

The White Emperor had perished first; then the Magic Emperor who ranked second among the nine emperors had been slain. In a short few days, the Peace region lost two emperors. Many people caught the scent of a storm.

Meanwhile, the Xia Merchant Union was actually bold enough to strike at a time like this and act without any qualms at all, so they clearly had something they could depend on.

With the rapid expansion of the Xia Merchant Union, the Lifesoul Flowers they obtained grew in numbers. All of the Lifesoul Flowers were delivered to Jian Chen as quickly as possible.

At the same time, the Xia Merchant Union used the wealth they had swallowed from the Xiong family and Zhan family to carry out a large-scale buyout of Lifesoul Flowers in the entire Peace region.

And because of Jian Chen's desperate need for Lifesoul Flowers, Xia Jianming tried to purchase as many Lifesoul Flowers as possible in the shortest amount of time, so he offered a price at least two or three times more than usual.

The price offered by the Xia Merchant Union was far too high. Many cultivators who possessed Lifesoul Flowers but were reluctant to sell them still decided to sell them to the Xia Merchant Union after some deliberation.

There were even cultivators that managed to purchase Lifesoul Flowers for regular prices through secret avenues outside the Peace region before unloading them all to the Xia Merchant Union at a higher price.

The Xia Merchant Union turned down no one. Regardless of how many and regardless of their quality, they purchased all of the Lifesoul Flowers they could get their hands on.

Immediately, a fever for selling Lifesoul Flowers swept through the entire Peace region.

However, the Xia Merchant Union's strange actions also led to the curiosity of many organisations in the Peace region.

"That's strange. Why does the Xia Merchant Union need so many Lifesoul Flowers? Don't tell me there's some other secret function to Lifesoul Flowers?"

"Pass down the order that the clan is forbidden from selling any Lifesoul Flowers. At the same time, immediately send people to investigate why the Xia Merchant Union wants so many of them."

"If it's just for the sake of recovery, then it makes sense if they purchase high quality Lifesoul Flowers, but they'll even purchase low quality ones too without limit. That's rather puzzling."

The imperial cities and the organisations with Primordial realm experts in the Peace regions all wondered about the reason behind this. Some of the organisations even became suspicious and began to follow their behaviour, also collecting some Lifesoul Flowers from the outside world.

At the same time, in Life Emperor City of the nine imperial cities of the Peace region.

By now, the centre of Life Emperor City had already been reduced to ruins. There were dilapidated structures everywhere with corpses scattered on the ground. Blood pooled and flowed freely.

This was the Life Emperor clan in charge of Life Emperor City, but at this moment, not a single person from the clan had been spared. The Life Emperor dressed in fancy clothes collapsed in a pool of blood. There was a clear hole through his forehead, clearly having been slain already.

A figure hovered above the Life Emperor clan coldly.

He resembled a middle-aged man, dressed in green clothes with a crown on his head. He gave off the hefty presence of a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime.

He was one of the nine heavenly kings, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King.

Suddenly, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King furrowed his brows. Cold light flashed through his eyes as he said gruffly, "The Xia Merchant Union has actually swallowed the Xiong family and Zhan family's businesses, and the ancestors of the Zhan family and the Xiong family have both perished?"

"The Xiong family and Zhan family are both organisations that have already declared their loyalty to me. I was even waiting for the Xiong family and Zhan family to swallow the Xia Merchant Union. I had never thought that the Xia Merchant Union would instead swallow them while I was dealing with the nine imperial cities."

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King thought about it. "Just the Xia Merchant Union alone definitely does not possess the ability to do something like that. The Xia Merchant Union definitely has an expert behind them."

"Basically all of the Infinite Primes in the Peace region have caught wind of what's going on. Don't tell me it's someone belonging to the Heaven Fighting Ruler or the Jade Sky Ruler, seeing how they're bold enough to do something like this?"

"No, if they belong to the Heaven Fighting Ruler or the Jade Sky Ruler, there's no reason for them to act secretly. They would have exposed themselves a long time ago." The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King suddenly recalled the power of the Way of the Sword that appeared in White Emperor city. His gaze immediately deepened. "Or is it that unknown expert of the Laws of the Sword?"

After a moment of thought, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King said, "But my priority right now is to place the entire Peace region under my control before the people from the Jade Sky Ruler and the Heaven Fighting Ruler notice what is going on. The people belonging to the Blood Slaughter Ruler are doing everything they can to lock down the news, but I still can't take too much time."

Chapter 3302: The Mayhemless Heavenly King

Very soon, the news of the Life Emperor's death also swept through the entire Peace region like wildfire.

Another emperor had perished after the White Emperor and the Magic Emperor, which put the remaining emperors that ruled over the Peace region in an extremely uncomfortable position.

Now, all of the Wood Spirits located in the Peace region could sense a terrifying cloud envelop the entire place.

In such a short time, three emperors had died. Even weaker Wood Spirit cultivators could sense that something major was about to happen.

Within Dark Emperor city of the nine imperial cities, two middle-aged men sat within a guest room in the Dark Emperor clan.

One of them was dressed in black robes, giving off a natural sense of dignity and gravitas. He was one of the nine emperors of the Peace region, the Dark Emperor.

The other middle-aged man was dressed in simple clothes. His appearance was nothing special, which made him seem like a mortal. No part about him stood out.

However, despite being one of the nine emperors, the Dark Emperor behaved rather reservedly before this ordinary middle-aged man.

That was because the middle-aged man was one of the nine heavenly kings of the Wood Spirits World, the Harmonious Ode Heavenly King!

Heavenly kings were all experts that stood at the apex of the Wood Spirits World, above everyone else, only second to the three rulers!

“Ode Heavenly King, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King has been acting with such recklessness, killing the Magic Emperor first and now the Life Emperor. He’s broken the rules set down by the three rulers in such an open manner. He’s already committed a great crime. Will there really be no one to punish him?” The Dark Emperor spoke sternly, clearly sensing the danger already.

The Harmonious Ode Heavenly King sighed gently. “Out of the three rulers of the Wood Spirits World, the Blood Slaughter Ruler controls the Scarlet Blood Domain, the Jade Sky Ruler controls the Jade Centre Domain, and the Heaven Fighting Ruler controls the Grand Heaven Domain. The Peace region lies between the three domains under the three rulers’ control, serving as a buffer zone.”

“The three rulers have set down the rule that none of their subordinates are allowed to touch the Peace region. The nine heavenly kings also reside in the three domains, so they’re forbidden from interfering with anything in the Peace region. That is the reason why the nine imperial cities possess their current status.”

“But now, the rules of the Peace region have already become a matter of the past. The Blood Slaughter Ruler has already broken the agreement, wanting to occupy the Peace region. The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King has the Blood Slaughter Ruler supporting him from behind.”

The Dark Emperor’s expression immediately changed when he heard the Harmonious Ode Heavenly King’s explanation. He cried out, “Do the Jade Sky Ruler and the Heaven Fighting Ruler still not know about something so important!?”

The Harmonious Ode Heavenly King shook his head and said, “Including the Blood Slaughter Ruler, none of the rulers are present. They’ve led a large number of experts under their command out at sea in an attempt to slaughter the tyrant of the demonic island, the Demonic Dragon Ruler.”

“Among the nine heavenly kings, the remaining eight of us do not belong to any ruler, apart from the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King who’s pledged himself to the Blood Slaughter Ruler. As a result, the eight of us can only stand by during the chaos of the Peace region.”

“After all, this is a pie that the three rulers are fighting for. As heavenly kings without the support of rulers, we don’t have the courage to become involved in this mess.”

The Dark Emperor’s expression was extremely stern. He was slightly dazed. “Don’t tell me the age of the nine emperors in the Peace region really is coming to an end?”

The Harmonious Ode Heavenly King also felt powerless. “Right now, only two choices lay before you. The first is to yield, submitting yourself to the Blood Slaughter Ruler.”

“The second is to resist!”

“However, with the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King around, you should be aware of the consequences of resisting.”

The Harmonious Ode Heavenly King's suggestion left the Dark Emperor rather pale.

None of the three rulers were present. Meanwhile, eight of the nine heavenly kings had chosen to stand by, refusing to interfere in the matters of the Peace region.

Under these circumstances, just who still stood a chance against the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King in the current Wood Spirits World?

Suddenly, a tremendous presence appeared over the Dark Emperor's estate. The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King in his green clothes with his crown on his head had arrived. He stood in the air with his hands behind his back.

In the next moment, the Harmonious Ode Heavenly King and the Dark Emperor both appeared, confronting the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King.

"Harmonious Ode Heavenly King, I know you go way back with the Dark Emperor, but you can't interfere with this." The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King stared at the Harmonious Ode Heavenly King coldly.

"I'm not bold enough to interfere with the matters of the three rulers." The Harmonious Ode Heavenly King sighed gently and turned towards the Dark Emperor. "It's time for you to make a choice. I can only help you up to here."

When he heard that, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's eyes shone as he turned towards the Dark Emperor. "Since you've already learned everything from the Harmonious Ode Heavenly King, then I won't repeat it again. Are you going to yield, or are you going to die? That's your choice to make."

"Dark Emperor, I'll only give you a minute to consider." The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's tone was extremely cold.

"I-I yield!" The Dark Emperor was dejected. After saying that, he seemed to grow much older all of a sudden.

When you're just trying to make great content at .me.

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In Sword Emperor city, the gentlemanly Sword Emperor dressed in white clothes currently stood respectfully behind a ruddy old man. He asked, "Senior Mayhemless, is there really no other choice? Is there really no one who can stop the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King?"

The sagely-looking, ruddy old man was the Mayhemless Heavenly King!

"If you want the situation to change, the Jade Sky Ruler and the Heaven Fighting Ruler must return, but they're on the demonic island out at sea right now. In that special environment, no information can be transmitted over, so it is indeed true that no one can stop the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King in the current Wood Spirits World if the eight of us do not interfere."

"However, once we do interfere, that'll be working against the Blood Slaughter Ruler."

“That’s all there is to it. The choice next is for you to make.” The Mayhemless Heavenly King had already vanished, leaving the Sword Emperor clan.

After the Mayhemless Heavenly King’s departure, the Sword Emperor sat on his seat in silence for quite a while before letting out a powerless sigh. He murmured, “Looks like no one can stop these changes. The only way for me to live is to yield to a ruler. The glory of the nine imperial cities will become a matter of the past sooner or later.”

In a particularly unique courtyard within Sword Emperor city, Bai Yurou remained in her room alone. The Sword Emperor’s warning echoed through her head as she faced intense conflict inside.

“The only way to live is to leave the Peace region and become the Jade Sky Ruler’s disciple. Has the situation really become so severe?” Bai Yurou murmured, finding it unbelievable. Just what kind of enemy had their White Emperor faction provoked that they needed to seek refuge under a ruler to live?

After all, she was merely a Godking!

“The situation will only be more severe than you imagine. Even I don’t know whether you have enough time to become the Jade Sky Ruler’s disciple.” At this moment, an elder voice rang out in the room. The Mayhemless Heavenly King appeared there silently.

The sudden voice startled Bai Yurou, but she immediately became excited when she discovered it was the Mayhemless Heavenly King.

“Greetings, Mayhemless Heavenly King!”

The Mayhemless Heavenly King gazed at Bai Yurou with mixed emotions and said, “I’ve learned about the matters regarding the White Emperor clan a long time ago, except I am unable to help you.”

“Bai Yurou, if you trust me enough, then hear me out. Leave the Peace region immediately and head to the Jade Centre domain under the Jade Sky Ruler’s control. If you’re fast enough, you still might make it in time.”

“Senior, what exactly is going on?” Bai Yurou was perplexed.

“The upheaval of the White Emperor clan is connected to the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King. There is a soul imprint on you left behind by him. I don’t know why he hasn’t killed you, but you’re clearly already under his watch.”

“Your talent is exceptional. Everyone says you have the aptitude to become a heavenly king, so the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King won’t spare you, just in case you become a powerful enemy of his in the future.”

“Go. Leave the Peace region immediately and head to the Jade Centre domain as quickly as possible. You have to reach there before the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King frees up the time. The Jade Centre domain is the Jade Sky Ruler’s territory. You’re still in danger before the Jade Sky Ruler returns, but at least the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King will act with much more caution.”

“Bai Yurou, the path ahead of you will depend on your own fortunes. I am unable to assist you.”

“Go. Go now. I hope that there’s still time.” After a series of instructions, the Mayhemless Heavenly King left silently, clearly refusing to become involved in this mess.

The Mayhemless Heavenly King’s words immediately made Bai Yurou turn sheet-white. Without any hesitation, she immediately gathered all of her clansmen.

“Young miss, what’s happened? Why are you gathering us in such a hurry?”

Very soon, the six remaining Godkings of the White Emperor’s faction gathered, and the descendants that had been sent out to purchase resources immediately returned too. A group of people gathered around Bai Yurou.

“There’s a change in the situation. We need to leave the Peace region immediately. We can’t stay here for any longer.” Bai Yurou had never been so stern before. Being under the watch of a heavenly king and even possessing a soul imprint of his gave her unprecedented pressure.

She did not even bother with further explanation, immediately releasing the flying ship. She planned to leave this place with her clansmen.

At this moment, a letter shot through the air and stopped before Bai Yurou.

“A letter from the Sword Emperor?” Bai Yurou was solemn, immediately opening the letter.

But with that, she immediately became ashen. She seemed to lose all of her strength, collapsing on the chair behind her.

“Young miss, what’s wrong with you? What did senior Sword Emperor’s letter say?” Elder Qing was filled with worry.

Bai Yurou was pale-white. She murmured, “Senior Sword Emperor has said that the three passageways out of the Peace region have all been sealed off. No one can leave. We can’t go anywhere anymore.”

“But young miss, why are we in such a hurry to leave the Peace region?”

“Yeah, young miss. We belong to the Peace region. This is our home. Why do we have to leave?”

The remaining Godkings all spoke up. They were all confused.

“Because if we don’t leave, only death awaits us.” Bai Yurou was pale. She told everyone about the danger they were facing without holding back at all.

“What? The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King wants to kill us?”

All of the Godkings immediately became dumbfounded. A chill ran down their spines as they became deathly pale.

Chapter 3303: A Ray of Hope

In their eyes, even experts who had only broken through to the Primordial realm recently were existences beyond their reach. After all, such people were all ancestors in any peak organisation across the Wood Spirits World, enjoying lofty statuses.

Yet right now, they had learned from Bai Yurou that the person coming after them was a heavenly king that dominated the entire Wood Spirits World.

How could they not be startled?

As a result, when they heard the news, all of the Godkings were frightened out of their wits, including elder Qing and Chu Tianxing.

For a moment, no one said anything. They sank into an eerie silence, such that despair and fear slowly permeated between them.

After quite a while, Chu Tianxing asked hoarsely, "Young miss, I struggle to understand how we would catch the attention of a heavenly king as mere Godkings?"

Chu Tianxing's words allowed the other dumbfounded Godkings to return to their senses. As a result, the five remaining elders all spoke up, voicing their doubts.

"Yeah, young miss. We're just elders of the White Emperor clan. It's not like we've committed any heinous crimes. Why would someone as lofty as a heavenly king direct their attention to insignificant figures like us?"

"Even if he wants to kill us, there's no need for him to take action personally."

"What exactly have we done? What heinous crime have we committed such that a heavenly king wants to erase us?"

It can be hard to make great work when its stolen from .me.

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Bai Yurou's expression became extremely complicated as she listened to their doubts. She said in dejection, "You've been dragged down by me. The person that the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King is truly after is actually me. Due to certain reasons, he won't let me live."

Bai Yurou paused. She seemed rather lost. She said gently, "In the past, the White Emperor was heavily injured. Numerous rumours about the White Emperor being on the verge of death rang out, which made our reputation as the White Emperor clan plummet. The only way to heal the White Emperor that we could come up with was to refine a Myriad Divine Illumination pill."

"The materials for the Myriad Divine Illumination pill were difficult to source. Ancestor Yan and ancestor Zong in the clan constantly found excuses to avoid the matter, refusing to go to Death Valley and face the Earthen Winged King. With no other choice, I could only lead you all to Death Valley to gather the resources and face the Earthen Winged King."

"After a bitter battle with the Earthen Winged King, coupled with ancestor Yan's interception along the way back, only you have survived out of all of our elders."

"Along the way, we've gone through many hardships and difficulties. It really hasn't been easy for us to survive until now and assemble here."

“But what we face now is the killing intent of a heavenly king. This is certain death. We have no hope of survival.”

A boulder seemed to weigh on Bai Yurou’s chest, such that she found it difficult to breathe. She sucked in a few deep breaths and said in a dispirited manner, “As such, there’s no reason for the elders to die with me. Everyone, please leave here by yourself.”

Bai Yurou’s words surprised the Godkings present. Elder Qing said in a hurry, “Young miss, what are you trying to say?”

“The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King is after me. If you continue to stay with me, you’ll probably be doomed as well. If you leave, you might still have a chance at surviving.” Bai Yurou’s expression was rather numb, seeming like she had accepted her fate already.

Elder Qing opened her mouth. Right when she was about to speak, she was interrupted by Bai Yurou. “Don’t say anything more. I know you’re not afraid of dying, but dying meaninglessly is not worth it!”

Afterwards, Bai Yurou gathered all of the clansmen beside her. A huge group of people gathered in the tiny courtyard, forming a great hoard.

Bai Yurou did not hide anything at all from them, telling everyone about the dangers and enemies she was facing.

These clansmen belonging to the White Emperor’s faction were all elites, but they were Overgods at most. Most of them were even beneath Overgod.

As a result, when they heard about the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King, their expressions were identical to the Godkings. They were all frightened out of their wits.

“I’m aware that telling you will only make you feel pressured, but we’re all descendants of the White Emperor. As his junior, we should know exactly whose hand our ancestor died by. We need to know who our greatest enemy is.”

“I’m not counting on you to avenge our ancestor, as it’s not realistic at all. However, you need to know who the person is.”

Bai Yurou stood on the roof of the building. The gentle breeze made her long hair sway gently. Her eyes were filled with a forlorn emotion as she slowly glanced past all the clansmen below. “You should all disperse and forget that you were part of the White Emperor clan. Leave the Sword Emperor city, change your names, and live in hiding. Live on in the Peace region.”

“No, sister Yurou. We won’t let you face the dangers alone. Everyone is a descendant of the White Emperor. If you want to die, we’ll die together.”

“We’re not leaving. We’re never leaving. So what if he’s a heavenly king? We’ll stay right here and face him with the young miss.”

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People cried out endlessly in the crowd. Members of the White Emperor clan all spoke up bravely, without any fear of death, swearing to fight alongside Bai Yurou.

No one left. Everyone chose to stay without any hesitation!

Standing in the crowd, Bai Yueye's eyes also shone with a fearless light, vehemently refusing to leave.

But at this moment, Bai Yueye seemed to recall something. Her eyes shone; she immediately called out, "Sister Yurou, I know a safe place that might be able to resolve our difficulties."

Bai Yueye called out using her cultivation, so she immediately drowned out the ruckus present, clearly reaching everyone's ears.

Immediately, the surroundings fell silent. Including Bai Yurou, everyone stared at Bai Yueye.

"Yueye, what did you just say? You know a safe place that might be able to resolve our difficulties?"

"Yueye, is what you said true? You cannot be joking at a time like this."

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The clansmen in the surroundings all spoke over each other and asked. Their eyes all shone with hope.

They were not afraid of dying, but they obviously wanted to grasp all the opportunities that could resolve the danger they faced.

"Yueye, what are you on about?" Bai Changlin standing beside her panicked. He had always been by Bai Yueye's side, so he was also the person who understood her the best. However, according to his knowledge, it was impossible for Bai Yueye to find a safe place like that.

After all, this was one of the nine heavenly kings, not some regular expert.

Bai Yueye turned towards Bai Changlin. Her eyes shone brightly. "Have you forgotten, Changlin? We met him in the city earlier. He personally said that we could go and find him if we faced any dangers we couldn't resolve."

"He had guaranteed that we would be extremely safe where he was!"

"Y-y-you even believe that?" Bai Changlin immediately remembered Jian Chen, which gave him the urge to cough up blood.

"Bai Yueye, h-have you been frightened out of your wits? How are you even believing the words of a disabled person?" The other people of the White Emperor clan who had met Jian Chen all clutched their heads. They were pained.

"Bai Yueye, what exactly is this about?" Bai Yurou stared at Bai Yueye.

"Sister Yurou, do you still remember that person that elder Chu saved when we were hunting ancient forest beasts in Death Valley before? We met him in Sword Emperor city earlier, and we even had a slight conversation with him. That person rambled on about things, and it felt like he knew a lot. He even said that it won't be so easy for us to return to White Emperor city."

“In the end, when we were about to leave, he told us to go and find him if we encountered any difficulties we could not resolve. He even said that other places might be very dangerous, but his place will be extremely safe.”

Bai Yurou immediately furrowed her brows when she heard that. The figure who rode the low-level spiritual beast with petrified legs appeared in her head.

Meanwhile, Chu Tianxing’s eyes twinkled as he sank into his thoughts.

Bai Yueye continued, “Sister Yurou, for some reason, I just feel like this person is anything but simple. Even if you ignore everything else, he’s quite well-informed and knows about quite a lot of things. For example, when sister Yurou went off to kill the Earthen Winged King before, he immediately knew there were two sacred beasts in Death Valley soon after you had left. Even our White Emperor clan didn’t know that.”

Bai Yurou shuddered. Her gaze immediately sharpened. “What did you say? He immediately knew there were two sacred beasts in Death Valley after I left?”

Chapter 3304: I Am Jian Chen

It was not just Bai Yurou. Even Chu Tianxing and the other Godkings who participated in the attack against the Earthen Winged King all narrowed their eyes in surprise.

Seeing how her words led to such a drastic response from Bai Yurou, Bai Yueye immediately beamed with joy inside. She nodded away fervently and said with great interest, “Yeah, yeah! When sister Yurou led the elders off to deal with the Earthen Winged King, he told us that there were two sacred beasts in Death Valley soon after you left. In the beginning, we didn’t believe him, but we never expected him to be right.”

“He’s far too well-informed, such that he actually beat our White Emperor clan to it. He seems to be extremely familiar with the danger we’re facing right now too.”

Bai Yueye became more energetic the more she spoke, yammering away. “However, since he knows our White Emperor clan is in trouble and is still bold enough to claim that he can provide us with a safe place, it looks like he does have some confidence in that.”

Bai Yueye’s eyes shone with hope. “Sister Yurou, I know he might be deceiving us, but at least this is hope. In these dire straits of almost certain death, I think anything with even the slightest glimmer of hope is worth trying out.”

“Yueye, what’s wrong with you? He couldn’t even deal with an ancient forest beast, yet you think we can deal with our current danger?”

“Yueye, use your head. We all know that you’re very desperate in a situation like this, but no matter how desperate you become, you shouldn’t be so naive.”

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As soon as Bai Yueye said that, the people in the surroundings sighed. Many of them had seen Jian Chen before, but none of them were naive enough to believe the person who rode a low level spiritual beast with petrified legs was someone extraordinary.

However, Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing sank into their thoughts. Their eyes shone with uncertainty.

“Elder Chu!” Suddenly, Bai Yurou shouted out.

“Young miss!” Chu Tianxing answered with his fist clasped.

Bai Yurou stared at Chu Tianxing with brimming interest and asked, “Chu Tianxing, did that person really find the small sword in death valley? The one that erupted with the strength of a heavenly king the other day in White Emperor city?”

“Young miss, he did indeed say that he found it when he gave me the small sword. As for whether he actually found it, that... that’s not something I can be certain about,” Chu Tianxing said in thought. He did not spend too much time thinking about this in the past, but looking at it now, it did not seem to be as simple as it appeared on the surface.

Chu Tianxing was more than familiar with the rarity of a secret treasure that could unleash a heavenly king’s attack in the Wood Spirits World.

Could a secret treasure that precious just be found on the ground?

At that moment, Chu Tianxing began to develop doubts as well.

“Bai Yueye, lead the way. I will meet with this person personally.” Bai Yurou made a decision very quickly before saying, “Elder Chu, you come with me too. The rest can remain here for now.”

Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye left. Bai Yueye led the way, and the three of them arrived outside the courtyard where Jian Chen stayed very soon.

“Sister Yurou, it’s right here.”

It was extremely scenic outside the courtyard, with no one around. Bai Yurou stood around the entrance and looked around for a while. She did not use the senses of her soul rashly. Instead, she clasped her hand solemnly and was just about to talk.

Suddenly, the gates to the courtyard slowly opened, and an old man emerged. He did not give off any presence at all, so he seemed like a mortal.

The old man was the leader of the Xia Merchant Union, Xia Jianming!

Both Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing had heard many things about Xia Jianming before, but it was only in terms of renown. They had never seen Xia Jianming in person or any depictions of him.

As a result, neither of them recognised Xia Jianming’s true identity.

“Master is already waiting. Please come with me,” Xia Jianming spoke extremely mildly.

Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing exchanged glances. There was a hint of surprise in both of their eyes. The owner of this place had actually sensed their arrival beforehand. That without a doubt consolidated some of their thoughts.

“Young miss, looks like he really isn’t as simple as we imagined him to be.” Chu Tianxing communicated to Bai Yurou.

The three of them followed Xia Jianming into the courtyard.

Bai Yurou nodded gently and said nothing.

The three of them followed behind Xia Jianming and arrived before Jian Chen very soon.

Jian Chen was seated in the same pavilion as when he met Bai Yueye and the others. His legs had turned to stone, so he remained in the same seated position. He seemed quite relaxed.

“I didn’t think we’d meet again so soon.” Jian Chen glanced past Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye and smiled faintly.

Bai Yurou stepped forward in front of Chu Tianxing. Her beautiful face was filled with seriousness, staring straight at Jian Chen.

However, right as she was about to speak up, an extremely powerful presence suddenly appeared on the horizon, enveloping the entire Sword Emperor city instantly with a sense of pressure that could not be resisted.

Outside Sword Emperor city, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King appeared with his green robes and his crown on his head. He strode through the air, instantly shooting over the mighty walls of Sword Emperor city and making his way directly towards the Sword Emperor clan.

At the same time, in the Sword Emperor’s estate, the Sword Emperor dressed in white stood up and let out a great sigh. His expression was mixed, filled with a sense of helplessness.

In the courtyard of the Xia Merchant Union, Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye all lost their breaths to the presence of a heavenly king. Their faces all became sickly pale.

Xia Jianming, who stood quietly beside Jian Chen, also had an ugly expression. He subconsciously cried out, “It’s one of the nine heavenly kings, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King! I didn’t expect him to reach Sword Emperor city so soon!”

When they heard that it was the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King, the expressions of Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye immediately changed drastically.

But very soon, Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing noticed something and suddenly looked towards Xia Jianming in surprise.

Even the two of them were unable to distinguish who the presence belonged to, so how did this old man that resembled a servant tell with a single glance?

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King strode through the air leisurely with his hands behind his back. With each step, he covered an extremely great distance. He moved extremely quickly, heading directly towards the Sword Emperor's estate.

"Hmm?" Suddenly, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King seemed to sense something. He looked towards a certain part of Sword Emperor city and was surprised. "It's the leader of the Xia Merchant Union, Xia Jianming, and the talented little girl from the White Emperor clan. I didn't expect them to be together!"

After a moment of thought, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King seemed to connect some dots, and his lips curled into a sinister smile. He changed directions and directly made his way towards Jian Chen's courtyard.

Heavenly kings moved with great speed. In an instant, he had crossed through the sky and appeared in the courtyard.

Xia Jianming, Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueyue only felt a blur before their eyes. Before they knew it, a middle-aged man in green clothes with a crown on his head had appeared before them like he had teleported. His presence was as vast as an ocean and absolutely terrifying. The weaker Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueyue were immediately forced back.

Blood even oozed out from the corner of Bai Yueyue's lips.

Xia Jianming was able to withstand the presence, but he was solemn, standing behind Jian Chen carefully.

"Xia Jianming, union leader Xia, you sure are bold, destroying my plans." The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King immediately turned towards Xia Jianming.

That was because in his senses, Xia Jianming was the strongest out of the people in the courtyard. He was a Primordial realm expert.

Xia Jianming had erased his presence, but he was only a Third Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime after all. Before a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime heavenly king, he was obviously unable to hide anything.

But in the next moment, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King narrowed his eyes slowly and shifted his gaze from Xia Jianming. Then he saw Jian Chen, who sat on the stone seat with his petrified legs. His gaze immediately turned into a glare.

"Sir, who are you?" The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's presence surged as his expression gradually turned serious.

"I am Jian Chen!"

Chapter 3305: Overwhelming

When they heard the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's words, Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing who were currently being forced back by the terrifying pressure suddenly shuddered. Their hearts surged, immediately looking towards the elderly servant who stood quietly beside Jian Chen in disbelief and shock.

Xia Jianming? Union leader Xia?

These both referred to the same person, so there were no longer any doubts about his identity anymore.

He was the leader of the Xia Merchant Union, one of the three merchant unions of the Peace region, Xia Jianming!

As Godkings, Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing had never seen the leader of the Xia Merchant Union before, but they had heard many things about him.

But right now, the two of them struggled to imagine that the old man who always behaved like a servant in front of them and was currently standing quietly behind Jian Chen was actually the leader of the Xia Merchant Union!

Exactly what kind of person was the leader of the Xia Merchant Union?

Throughout the entire Peace region, he was a man of great authority and prestige. He was beneath the nine imperial cities, but from certain perspectives, his capabilities even surpassed the nine imperial cities. He controlled one of the merchant unions that divided the Peace region into three, possessing startling amounts of wealth.

How could someone of such lofty status serve another as a servant?

In particular, the person that union leader Xia regarded as his master was a troubled person that they had saved from the belly of an ancient forest beast from Death Valley in the past.

Both Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing were rather dumbfounded. Their heads had blanked out. A troubled person that they did not even pay much attention to had become the master of a Primordial realm expert in the blink of an eye. That was far too absurd and bizarre.

At this moment, the presence from the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King suddenly increased, which immediately exceeded what Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing could withstand. Both of them grunted and staggered backwards, leaving behind deep footprints.

They could no longer spare any effort to think about anything else, pouring all of their energy into resisting the pressure.

Meanwhile, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's green clothes fluttered away. He was solemn and dignified, staring straight at Jian Chen while striding over.

With each step, the presence he gave off grew stronger.

"Jian Chen? I haven't heard about you. Where are you from? Where do you cultivate?" The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King snorted coldly, approaching Jian Chen step by step.

Behind Jian Chen, Xia Jianming became even more stern. The increase in the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's presence made him feel tremendously oppressed too.

However, seated on the stone chair, Jian Chen seemed extremely relaxed and composed. He lifted his cup steadily and took a sip before placing it back down gently. He said indifferently, "Isn't it a little rude of you to ask such personal questions the moment you've arrived? Though, I still haven't decided whether I want to tell someone all that."

As he spoke, a spatial barrier silently appeared, completely isolating the area around the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King like it had split up the world. Even his presence had been blocked by the spatial barrier.

With the spatial barrier, Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye immediately felt their bodies lighten. All of the pressure had vanished instantly.

However, none of them said anything. They all stared at Jian Chen, greatly shocked.

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The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King stood before the spatial barrier and stared at it for a while. He growled as he said, "No wonder the Xia Merchant Union is bold enough to expand. So they had someone like you supporting them from behind. Looks like the ancestors of the Zhan family and Xiong family both died at your hands."

"That's right!" Jian Chen said indifferently.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's gaze sharpened as he bellowed like he was interrogating him, "Was the ancestor of the White Emperor clan injured by you as well that day outside White Emperor city?"

When they heard that, Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing both shuddered inside, looking at Jian Chen in disbelief.

"You can say so!" Jian Chen.

However, when his calm answer reached Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing's ears, it was no less than a bombshell. It left them blanked out and stupefied yet again.

Suddenly, Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing both looked towards the spatial barrier. They felt a great mixture of emotions inside.

By now, how could they still not realise that Jian Chen was actually the mysterious expert who had saved them twice when they faced the Earthen Winged King and then were ambushed by ancestor Yan?

"H-he's actually an expert on par with heavenly kings. T-this--"

When they learnt about Jian Chen's strength, Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing both gasped. 4887

Heavenly kings were supreme existences that they could only look up to but never reach. They never imagined that they had actually spent so much time beside an expert on par with heavenly kings.

"You've gotten in my way again and again. Tell me, why do you oppose me? Has someone instructed you to do so? Is it the Jade Sky Ruler? Or the Heaven Fighting Ruler?" the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King asked sternly.

"I've only been minding my own business. How can you say I'm opposing you? As for who instructed me..." Jian Chen's lips curled into a sneer. "No one has the right to instruct me in this world!"

"Hmph, you don't have a ruler supporting you, yet you're still interfering in the matters of the Peace region? Are you sick of living? Let me give you a piece of advice. Everything that's happening in the Peace region is nowhere near as simple as you think it to be. Even if you possess the strength of a heavenly king, you can't change anything."

“I’ll give you an opportunity right now to hand over the people of the White Emperor clan and Xia Jianming. After that, leave the Peace region immediately. I’ll forget about everything you’ve done in the past,” the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King said sternly. He could tell with a single glance that the spatial barrier casually cast by Jian Chen was extremely powerful, such that the laws were no weaker than his.

With Laws of Space at such a high level, combined with the Laws of the Sword that were no weaker, even the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King was not confident about killing him.

Most importantly, he possessed the Laws of Space. If he wanted to leave, it was impossible for the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King to stop him.

As a result, after some consideration, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King gave up on killing Jian Chen. He planned on leaving him up to the Blood Slaughter Ruler once he returned.

“Since the people of the White Emperor clan have come to this courtyard, I’ll obviously protect them. As for Xia Jianming, he’s serving me, so it’s even more impossible for me to hand him over.” Jian Chen looked at the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King and continued, “There’s one more thing. I have never cared about the interests of any heavenly king.”

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s face sank. His eyes immediately turned cold.

However, what Jian Chen said next immediately ignited the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s killing intent.

“Last of all, I have a piece of advice for you too. Keep your nose out of my business.”

Chapter 3306: The New Ruler

“How impudent!” The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King flew into a rage. Tremendous killing intent radiated from his body as terrifying energy erupted like a volcano.

Immediately, it was as if Jian Chen’s courtyard was caught in a bloody storm. In Xia Jianming, Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye’s eyes, the entire world turned blood-red with corpses littered on the ground and blood pooling everywhere. It was hellish.

This was one of the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s secret techniques. He could directly manifest his presence and killing intent into a scenario to stun the opponent.

This was equivalent to a secret technique of the soul, except it was not an offensive secret technique but an illusionary one. It was impossible to block through ordinary methods.

Even the Third Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime Xia Jianming struggled to withstand the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s secret technique. His face turned pale as his soul shook.

As for Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye who were weaker, they were even worse off. Not only did they turn sheet-white, but their eyes became filled with fear too. Even their bodies began to shake uncontrollably.

After all, this was the might of a heavenly king!

Heavenly kings were Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes, but their actual strength was clearly even higher than that thanks to their ancestral imprints.

They were even stronger than regular Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Primes!

Each step that the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King took was as heavy as a mountain, making the entire courtyard shake. Huge cracks even opened up in the ground.

Jian Chen's words had completely infuriated him, igniting his surging killing intent. At that moment, he was completely prepared for battle, ready to erupt with the startling might of a heavenly king at any moment.

However, he did not end up doing anything, forcefully repressing his urge to kill him. He was extremely wary of the strength of Jian Chen's Laws of Space and the power of the Laws of the Sword that erupted in Sword Emperor city back then. Unless he ran out of options, he did not want to engage him.

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He was extremely aware that with such high levels of the Laws of Space, he definitely could not prevent him from leaving even if he won the battle.

And if he was unable to kill him, he would turn into trouble sooner or later with his speed.

Jian Chen sat on the stone seat like he was immovable. He completely ignored the presence that the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King had erupted with and said calmly, "You better withdraw your presence. You're a heavenly king, yet you're now harassing a bunch of Godhood juniors. Aren't you a little too petty?"

"And this courtyard. As my residence, you'll have to pay if you destroy it."

"Hahahaha, since you just refuse to listen, then you better not blame me for what happens next. I'd like to see exactly how you make me pay." The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King was completely angered. At that moment, he completely cast aside his qualms and erupted with energy. A god artifact that resembled a ceremonial bell immediately appeared out of thin air, shining with blinding light.

It was a medium quality god artifact!

With the god artifact in hand, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's surging energy erupted as he directly smashed it towards Jian Chen.

As he struck out, wisps of a distinctive presence appeared, which seemed to form some kind of resonance with the green sun in the sky. It managed to draw in slivers of the green sun's power.

This was the ancestral imprint!

The nine heavenly kings of the Wood Spirits World were all in possession of an ancestral imprint. It was exactly because of these ancestral imprints that they could enjoy the title of heavenly king, providing them with battle prowess far beyond their peers!

Having unleashed the ancestral imprint, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's powers vaguely resembled the might of a Chaotic Prime.

“A hint of the sovereign god artifact’s powers, is it? Unfortunately, it’s too little.” Jian Chen’s eyes lit up slightly. With a thought, the spatial barrier around the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King immediately vanished, splitting into two. One of them enveloped Xia Jianming, Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye, while the other silently surrounded the entire courtyard, separating it from Sword Emperor city.

At that moment, the courtyard seemed to become a world of its own.

Jian Chen clapped his hands with the wonders of the Laws of Space, dividing the world and altering space. The entire space there became capable of endless things.

Boom!

Jian Chen’s hand drifted out gently and pressed against the ceremonial bell god artifact, erupting with a great rumble. The terrifying sound waves spread out, penetrating all obstacles as catastrophic energy wreaked havoc and tore through space.

The ceremonial bell god artifact shook violently. Jian Chen’s hand seemed to be devoid of any strength, but it actually contained unimaginably terrifying power, directly shaking up the ceremonial bell god artifact.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King who wielded the god artifact only felt a terrifying force emerge from the god artifact, making his blood and flesh surge. His face went from red to white, then to green, changing rapidly in colour.

But shortly afterwards, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King suddenly felt chills run through every inch of his body. He sensed countless strands of sword Qi silently take shape in the surrounding space, making him feel like he was being sliced by blades.

“This person is so powerful!” The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King was shocked. His heart surged violently as he widened his eyes in disbelief.

He immediately determined that this disabled person was not simply on par with heavenly kings. His strength had clearly surpassed the range of heavenly kings, reaching the ranks of rulers.

“A ruler! A ruler! He’s actually a ruler!” The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s heart shook, developing a sense of fear.

The Wood Spirits World had actually produced a fourth ruler. That was an earth-shaking piece of news.

At this moment, Jian Chen’s hand suddenly closed around the ceremonial bell god artifact.

With that, the space suddenly shrank, and the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King felt his breath taken from him. A terrifying pressure appeared in the surroundings, immediately compressing his body. Even his clothes seemed to dig into his flesh.

Even his blood began to squirt out from his pores under this terrifying pressure.

The pressure was so powerful that it basically wanted to crush him into a ball.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King bellowed out and used the power of the ancestral imprint. The cultivation of a Ninth Heavenly Layer Infinite Prime erupted at full strength. He began to resist as hard as he could.

Immediately, the space shook as the surroundings were destroyed. The clash between the two supreme forces produced pitch-black cracks in space.

Under the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's full-powered resistance, the space that restrained him finally began to loosen bit by bit.

A fierce light flashed through Jian Chen's eyes. In the next moment, the Laws of Space suddenly strengthened.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King grunted. The space he had just forced back began to fall on him again. All of his powers were overwhelmed and cracks even began to run through his organs.

The suffocating presence of death filled the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's heart.

"No! This is impossible! This is impossible!" Even at this moment, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King felt disbelief. He was a mighty heavenly king, so how could he fail to even offer up the slightest resistance?

Chapter 3307: Ancestral Imprint

Right now, under the suppression of the Laws of Space, he could not even escape anymore.

Even with the ancestral imprint, it was useless.

After all, the ancestral imprint was only a shred of power from the sovereign god artifact. It could not even be considered as power, only presence.

Through the ancestral imprint, he could dominate experts of the same level, but there were still differences he could not make up for against rulers that were even stronger than that.

Not to mention the fact that the person he faced right now was no regular Chaotic Prime.

But at this moment, Jian Chen's expression changed as he shook violently too. The Laws of Space he used right now had already surpassed the limits that his soul could withstand.

A tiny region he had repaired in his soul became covered with cracks again. He had only repaired it after so much difficulty through the Lifesoul Flowers and other heavenly resources he had consumed over the past few days. Afterwards, with heart-wrenching pain, the small part of his repaired soul actually shattered again.

The unbearable pain from the worsening injuries in his soul left Jian Chen pale. His body swayed as his vision blurred. The world spun around him as if he would faint at any moment.

The wounds to his soul were nowhere close to recovery. Now that he used so much of the Laws of Space against the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King, he immediately suffered from a backlash.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King only felt the pressure on him weaken. The restraint from the space around him immediately became countless times lighter. Without any hesitation, he spat out a mouthful

of essence blood and quickly formed seals with his hands to use a secret technique during this rare moment, fleeing as quickly as he could.

In the next moment, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King broke free from the space there and fled from Sword Emperor city, appearing ten million kilometres away.

He had managed to escape, but the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King did not loosen up at all. He knew this distance was no different from a few inches away to an expert with the Laws of Space like Jian Chen.

He did not dare to idle around for even a moment, immediately rushing off into the distance as quickly as he could, scampering away like a tramp.

Meanwhile, Jian Chen's face turned pale. He had already begun bleeding from all of his facial openings.

However, his gaze was extremely sharp. He slowly raised his right hand and reached into the space in front of him.

The space before him immediately rippled like it had been agitated like water. Half of his arm vanished into it.

Ten million kilometres away from Sword Emperor city, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King moved with lightning speed over a barren grassland.

Suddenly, the space before him split open. A huge hand reached out, completely condensed from the Laws of Space. It shone with blinding light as sword Qi swept through the surroundings.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's expression changed drastically. He came to a screeching halt and immediately began to flee in the opposite direction without a moment of hesitation.

He had already become fear-stricken by the pressure of the Laws of Space from back then inside Sword Emperor city, basically unable to offer up any resistance at all. Since he knew Jian Chen was a ruler now, why would he still possess any fighting spirit?

But at this moment, Jian Chen's hand opened, and the five huge fingers turned into five strands of startling sword Qi.

The sword Qi slashed down as the space split apart. Five pitch-black cracks stretched through the surroundings with earth-shaking might.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's expression changed drastically. At that moment, he felt that Jian Chen was even more terrifying than back then in the courtyard. He immediately raised his god artifact frantically to defend.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The medium quality god artifact in his hand blocked three of the sword Qi. With a deafening rumble, the god artifact shook violently, clearly having received some heavy strikes. The shockwave alone turned the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's clothes to tatters.

Afterwards, the fourth strand of sword Qi shot over, piercing his chest and tearing apart his organs.

The fifth strand of sword Qi flashed past his neck, beheading him. The residual sword intent rushed straight to his soul as if it wanted to kill him for good.

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But at this moment, the ancestral imprint in his soul suddenly began to shine, emitting a hazy screen of light that defended the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's soul.

While the ancestral imprint managed to protect the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King's soul at that critical moment, the imprint itself had been set flying by the sword Qi, leaving the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King.

However, as soon as the ancestral imprint flew out, a hand extended out from thin-air and caught it before vanishing again.

"This time is only a lesson. If it ever happens again, I'll be sure to make you perish."

Jian Chen's voice rang out from the space there, the indifference containing bone-chilling coldness.

With that, the wild energy and laws in the chaotic space gradually settled down.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King did not perish. He quickly reconnected his head with his body. After that, his wounds rapidly recovered under the powerful regeneration that all Wood Spirits were endowed with.

Of course, only the surface of the wounds healed. He would not be able to recover from the heavy internal injuries in just a day or two.

"My ancestral imprint! My ancestral imprint..."

With his ancestral imprint taken away, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King became panic stricken. He was both worried and disappointed. At the same time, he was filled with a sense of coldness from having just evaded death.

He had already forgotten exactly how long it had been since he last experienced the threat of death, but at this moment, he could clearly sense exactly how close he was to it.

For a moment, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King became despondent. Everything that happened had quite a large impact on him. He stood there for quite a while before eventually letting out a great sigh, leaving there.

Compared to his lost ancestral imprint, he was already fortunate enough to survive.

Within the courtyard, Jian Chen slowly withdrew his hand, and the spatial barrier around the entire place vanished. Jian Chen released all of the Laws of Space he had used.

His battle against the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King had not been easy. He had also paid a certain price. Not only was he pale-white and bleeding from his eyes, nose, mouth, and ears, but even his clothes had been completely dyed red by his blood.

He was completely blood-soaked and haggard in appearance.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King had not touched a hair on him. His injuries were all from triggering old wounds when he fought.

After all, he had not recovered from them, and he was nowhere close to his peak condition. He would obviously suffer a certain level of backlash if he used the powers of a Chaotic Prime at a time like this.

“Your wounds, master?” Xia Jianming stood behind Jian Chen. He was filled with worry.

Jian Chen waved his hand gently, his voice slightly feeble as he said, “I’m fine. Remember to gather as many Lifesoul Flowers as possible.”

“Thank you for your assistance, senior!”

At this moment, Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye also arrived before Jian Chen. They all demonstrated great respect, bowing deeply towards him.

The emotions that Chu Tianxing and Bai Yueye experienced were the most mixed out of all of them. As a matter of fact, even now, they had yet to completely recover from the drastic fluctuations in their emotions.

They were the people who had the most contact with Jian Chen, but they never thought that the troubled person they had saved from the belly of an ancient forest beast would actually be on par with heavenly kings.

Bai Yurou’s emotions were mixed as well. When she killed the Earthen Winged Beast in Death Valley and when she was faced with ancestor Yan’s ambush afterwards, it had all been a mysterious expert that helped her through the Laws of Space.

In the beginning, she still thought this had something to do with the Mayhemless Heavenly King, but she had never thought that the person who secretly helped her out had always been in their group.

Jian Chen raised his head slowly and glanced past the three of them. He smiled slightly. “You helped me in the past, so it’s time for me to help you. You can bring all of your clansmen here. As long as you remain in the courtyard, I’ll ensure your absolute safety.”

“We are unable to repay your kindness for saving us, senior. However, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King probably won’t spare us. If we remain here and the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King comes again, we’ll only create trouble for you, senior.” Bai Yurou was also filled with worry as she stared at the bloodied Jian Chen who bled from his eyes, nose, ears, and mouth.

Anyone with some wit to them could tell that Jian Chen had managed to repel the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King. He possessed battle prowess on par with heavenly kings, but he had also paid a tremendous price.

Not only was Bai Yurou worried, but even Xia Jianming was unsettled.

The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King had been repelled, but they did not see him suffer any injuries.

On the other hand, they could tell with a single glance that Jian Chen was extremely heavily injured.

Chapter 3308: The Sword Emperor’s Choice (One)

Jian Chen coughed a few times. With each cough, blood spurted out. Coupled with his sickly complexion, it was obvious that he was in quite a horrible state.

However, even though his body was in trouble, he sat firmly on the stone seat. He seemed as sturdy as a rock, like he would never fall.

“You don’t have to worry about anything else. Feel free to bring the people of your White Emperor clan over. As long as you’re in this courtyard, no one can threaten you. It’ll be difficult to say if you’re somewhere else.”

“Xia Jianming, you need to accelerate the expansion of the Xia Merchant Union. Try to occupy the entire Peace region. Afterwards, bring me all the Lifesoul Flowers in the entire Peace region.”

After saying that, Jian Chen suddenly vanished from the stone seat. He had already left through the Laws of Space, returning to his own room.

Xia Jianming bowed deeply in the direction of Jian Chen’s room before hurrying off to complete the mission that Jian Chen had given to him with his utmost attention.

With Xia Jianming’s departure, only Bai Yurou, Chu Tianxing, and Bai Yueye remained in the enormous courtyard.

As Jian Chen had dismissed all the servants, the entire courtyard seemed quite empty.

“Sister Yurou, w-will that senior be fine? He seems to be very heavily injured.” Bai Yueye turned towards Bai Yurou. She was filled with worry.

Jian Chen’s strength had left her shocked, but it also gave her a sliver of hope, hope that they could survive the threat of the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King.

But now, the sliver of hope seemed like it could collapse at any moment.

Bai Yurou was also slightly worried. Jian Chen spoke very confidently, but his state gave Bai Yurou and Chu Tianxing no confidence at all.

They could all tell that Jian Chen could indeed fend off the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King and even repel him.

But in their eyes, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King had retreated with ease, while Jian Chen had paid an extremely great price, ending up heavily injured.

He had probably used some kind of forbidden technique to repel the heavenly king.

“We have no other choice either right now. After all, this is our only chance at survival. We should move all our remaining clansmen here.” Bai Yurou sighed gently and left the courtyard with Chu Tianxing and Bai Yueye.

Within a room, Jian Chen sat on a jade bed and slowly took off his bloodied clothes, revealing vicious wounds across his entire body.

These wounds were extremely terrifying. Every single one of them was extremely deep, basically covering his entire body.

And at this moment, blood flowed from all of these wounds.

Gazing at the injuries on his body, Jian Chen let out a sigh inside. He was filled with a sense of powerlessness.

These wounds were all a result of the laws of the Wood Spirits World when he first arrived here. The power of the laws lingered in them.

The power of the laws was connected to the sovereign god artifact that hung in the sky, so he was completely incapable of cleansing them. As a result, he was unable to recover from his injuries.

When he faced the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King, he had used a bit of his physical strength, which reopened the wounds.

Of course, none of this was a big deal. After all, he could hold on with the Chaotic Body.

The truly severe aspect was his soul.

“The small part of my soul that’s only just recovered has split open again. A full recovery of my soul truly won’t happen in the foreseeable future.” Jian Chen sighed gently. A few droplets immediately appeared out of thin air.

He had refined the droplets of fluid from all the Lifesoul Flowers in his possession. It contained the essence of the Lifesoul Flowers.

Afterwards, the droplets of fluid directly merged with his forehead, beginning to nourish his soul.

If his soul was a dried field, then the essence refined from the Lifesoul Flower was dew.

A few droplets of dew were not enough to irrigate an entire dried field, but if he could accumulate the droplets of dew and eventually form an ocean, the dried field would obviously be fully watered.

“Lifesoul Flowers can repair my soul, but I can’t be hasty. I can only nourish it slowly,” Jian Chen murmured. Afterwards, with a flip of his hand, an imprint immediately appeared, giving off a strange presence.

Jian Chen studied the imprint in his hand carefully with a sense of wonder. “Is this a so-called ancestral imprint? Isn’t this just a product of when the energy and presence given off by the sovereign god artifact reaches a certain density and condenses together?”

“Though, while it’s just condensed from the presence, it does indeed have a slight connection with the sovereign god artifact.”

Thinking about that, Jian Chen stowed the ancestral imprint away again. He wanted to make the sovereign god artifact his, so the ancestral imprint might serve a purpose then.

Only two people stood before one another in the majestic, spacious discussion hall of the Sword Emperor’s estate.

One of them was a scholarly middle-aged man, the lord of Sword Emperor city, the Sword Emperor!

Before the Sword Emperor was an old man with white eyebrows and hair. Dressed in white robes, he seemed quite sage-like.

The old man was the only other Primordial realm expert of the Sword Emperor clan, ancestor Li!

“Have you really decided on submitting to the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King with the entire Sword Emperor clan? Once you do that, our Sword Emperor clan will be servants to him.” Ancestor Li let out a long sigh and stared at the Sword Emperor.

“We’ve already lost our influence in the Peace region. The only path of survival before us is submission. I’m not afraid of dying, but I can’t make the entire clan face destruction because of me.” The Sword Emperor sighed gently. His face was filled with a sense of powerlessness as he said dispiritedly, “Several of the nine imperial cities have already been destroyed. I don’t want our Sword Emperor clan to follow their footsteps.”

“I can already sense the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s presence. He’s already arrived in Sword Emperor city. Once he comes, our Sword Emperor clan will submit.”

“Sigh, for the continuation of the clan, we can only bow down.” Ancestor Li shook his head gently. He was also rather dispirited.

Afterwards, neither ancestor Li nor the Sword Emperor said anything more. They stood quietly in the majestic hall, waiting for the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s arrival.

And that wait lasted for an entire day and night.

“Why isn’t the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King here yet?” Ancestor Li lost his patience and asked.

The Sword Emperor’s gaze was deep. He peered off in a certain direction and said, “The Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King came in an aggressive manner, without making any attempt to erase his presence, so I can sense that he’s already entered Sword Emperor city.”

“Except soon after he entered the city, he headed off in a different direction, and he hasn’t appeared since then.”

The Sword Emperor was rather curious as well. Sword Emperor city was his territory. He struggled to imagine just what could interest a heavenly king in his city to such a degree that he still had not come here after a day and a night.

He was obviously aware that Bai Yurou and the others were in the city, but he did not believe Bai Yurou could take up so much of the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s time.

Earlier, when Jian Chen and the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King clashed, Jian Chen had already locked down the entire courtyard prematurely through the spatial barrier, isolating it from Sword Emperor city.

As a result, as long as the spatial barrier remained intact, none of the disturbances could leave the courtyard.

The Sword Emperor was obviously unaware of all this as he remained in his estate the entire time.

Chapter 3309: The Sword Emperor’s Choice (Two)

“Apart from a few properties owned by large organisations, there doesn’t seem to be anything else interesting in that direction.” Ancestor Li followed the Sword Emperor’s gaze with some curiosity.

“No, there’s still one place worthy of attention.” The Sword Emperor looked away and turned towards ancestor Li. “You’ve only just emerged from secluded cultivation, so perhaps there are still some things you’re unaware of. The Xia Merchant Union has been behaving extremely erratically recently. They’ve already begun unifying the entire commerce side of the Peace region.”

“In other words, the Xia Merchant Union has already made a decision and submitted to the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King?” Ancestor Li sighed gently and continued, “With a heavenly king supporting them, the Xia Merchant Union can obviously take over all the commerce of the Peace region with ease.”

The Sword Emperor shook his head. “But according to my understanding, the Xiong family and Zhan family in charge of the other two merchant unions have already pledged themselves to the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King beforehand. After that, they began working together against Xia Jianming.”

“Yet in the end, Xia Jianming lived. Meanwhile, the Xiong family and Zhan family were both destroyed. Their ancestors perished one after the other, and the businesses beneath them have all been swallowed by the Xia Merchant Union.”

“That happened?” Ancestor Li’s eyes shone brightly, having sensed that something was off already.

“Also, Bai Yurou of the White Emperor clan possesses outstanding talent. She is rumoured to be able to become a heavenly king in the future, so the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King would never spare her. She entered the courtyard belonging to the Xia Merchant Union before the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King entered my Sword Emperor city.”

“A day ago, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King also entered this courtyard. As soon as he entered the courtyard, his presence vanished.”

Ancestor Li’s eyes abruptly narrowed when he sensed that. He was just about to release the senses of his soul to investigate.

“Don’t use the senses of your soul. That’s a form of great disrespect to a heavenly king!” The Sword Emperor immediately stopped ancestor Li before producing a gasp of surprise. After sensing around carefully, his expression changed slightly. He murmured, “That girl Bai Yurou has actually emerged from the courtyard.”

“The Xia Merchant Union?” Ancestor Li became stern as well and said in thought, “Looks like there’s also a force behind the Xia Merchant Union working against the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King. Don’t tell me another heavenly king has interfered?”

The Sword Emperor shook his head. “The other heavenly kings have all stood aside with regard to the mess of the Peace region, refusing to interfere with it, as this is a conflict between rulers.”

“In other words, one of the two other rulers is supporting the Xia Merchant Union?” Ancestor Li’s voice became rather grim. If the three rulers wanted to clash in the Peace region, then the entire place would probably be caught in a storm of blood.

“That should be the case.” The Sword Emperor gradually became serious. He also sensed the significance of this.

If the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King only moved around as a representative of the Blood Slaughter Ruler, then this would be much simpler. Just submitting was enough. Once the Peace region was completely conquered by him, it would only be a clash among rulers even if the Jade Sky Ruler and the Heaven Fighting Ruler objected.

However, if the Jade Sky Ruler and the Heaven Fighting Ruler both participated in the same way, placing a few cities under their control while being unable to reach an agreement over their conflicts of interests, then conflict between imperial cities would be extremely likely to unfold.

“In the past, before the Peace region had been formally established, there had always been constant skirmishes between the three rulers at their borders. Afterwards, in order to avoid this situation, the three rulers all gave up a part of their borders, forming the Peace region today.”

“The Peace region actually exists as a buffer region to prevent skirmishes between the three rulers. If the Peace region ceases to exist, then the entire Wood Spirits World would descend into chaos.”

Ancestor Li let out a great sigh. His face was filled with worry.

In the courtyard of the Xia Merchant Union, Bai Yurou had already brought all her clansmen in Sword Emperor city over.

After helping the weaker clansmen settle down, she led several dozen elites of the White Emperor clan to see Jian Chen.

Including Chu Tianxing and elder Qing, the six surviving Godkings were all present. Among the Overgods, Bai Changlin who had first met Jian Chen from the ancient forest beast was also present.

But at this moment, everyone looked towards Jian Chen with extremely mixed emotions.

In particular, Bai Changlin’s face was pure-white as his entire body shook uncontrollably.

He had already learnt Jian Chen’s identity from Bai Yurou. He also learnt that the person who had secretly assisted them twice in Death Valley was actually the disabled man right before his eyes.

“Senior, I was unaware of your identity before, so if I have disrespected you in any shape or form, please forgive me!”

After everyone greeted him, elder Qing stepped forward with a face filled with regret and sincerity, bowing towards Jian Chen politely.

“The courtyard is very large. It’s enough to house all of you, so feel free to do whatever you like. If there’s nothing important, don’t disturb me.” Jian Chen waved his hand in an unconcerned manner. He stood at a completely different height, so his insight and breadth of mind was much vaster. He obviously would not haggle over these trifles with these Godkings.

“Yes, senior, then we’ll take our leave first!” Bai Yurou bowed towards Jian Chen and was about to leave with her clansmen.

“Bai Yurou, go and receive the person outside. You happen to be acquainted with him,” Jian Chen suddenly said to Bai Yurou.

Bai Yurou was surprised, but she soon returned to her senses and responded politely, making her way straight towards the main entrance.

As the prodigy of the White Emperor clan, she no longer possessed any sense of arrogance. She did not feel any resistance or displeasure towards Jian Chen’s almost-commanding tone.

Bai Yurou opened the front door. When she saw the person outside, her eyes suddenly narrowed, but she soon clasped her fist and bowed. “So it’s the Sword Emperor. Please come in, Sword Emperor! The senior is already waiting for you!”

The Sword Emperor entered the courtyard. He noticed the ruined landscape of the courtyard immediately and became solemn. 4887

He was in Sword Emperor city, yet he failed to notice any of the disturbance from the battle that occurred right beneath his nose despite his strength.

That left him extremely shocked.

“Yurou, were these traces left behind by the battle between the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King and the senior?” the Sword Emperor asked Bai Yurou secretly.

Bai Yurou only nodded without making a verbal response.

“What was the outcome of the battle? Is the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King still here?” the Sword Emperor continued to ask.

“I can’t really describe the outcome properly, but the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King left in the end,” Bai Yurou responded.

“He left?” The Sword Emperor furrowed his brows and sank into his thoughts.

Very soon, the Sword Emperor appeared before Jian Chen under Bai Yurou’s lead.

As soon as he saw Jian Chen, the Sword Emperor knew that he was not any of the nine heavenly kings, nor any of the experts that he knew.

“I am Jian Feng. Greetings, fellow. How may I address you?” The Sword Emperor clasped his fist.

“Jian Chen!”

“Fellow Jian Chen, please forgive my question, but do you belong to the Heaven Fighting Ruler or the Jade Sky Ruler?”

Chapter 3310: The Sword Emperor’s Choice (Three)

Jian Chen glanced at the Sword Emperor deeply and said, “Has the Sword Emperor come to visit me specially to ask me this?”

“Yes!” The Sword Emperor stared straight at Jian Chen and directly admitted it.

Jian Chen did not immediately answer him. He took out a jade bottle and poured out a cup of medicine steadily before drinking it.

The medicine in the bottle had all been extracted from Lifesoul Flowers. Right now, it was no different from water to Jian Chen. He needed to take a small sip every once in a while.

After ingesting the medicine, comfort immediately spread through Jian Chen's soul. The cracks in his soul were being nourished, recovering at an extremely gradual rate.

Jian Chen shut his eyes as if he enjoyed the feeling of having his soul nourished very much. Only after quite a while did he say slowly, "I don't belong to any ruler."

Surprise appeared in the Sword Emperor's eyes. After a moment of thought, he said, "Fellow, are you aware that the matters of the Peace region are not as simple as they seem on the surface? Behind the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King is a ruler. Aren't you afraid of the ruler behind the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King when you opposed him?"

"That doesn't seem to have anything to do with you," Jian Chen said.

"Of course it does. Originally, I had already made my decision. I would lead Sword Emperor city into submitting to the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King once he arrived to ensure the survival of my clan. However, the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King left silently after visiting you."

The Sword Emperor stared at Jian Chen deeply and continued, "Before this, I thought you belonged to one of the two other rulers seeing how you opposed the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King, so I specially came to learn more about the situation, which would allow me to make the correct decision."

"But I never expected it to actually be different. However, while you don't belong to either ruler, you don't seem to be afraid of the ruler behind the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King."

"You want to know exactly where my confidence to fear none of the three rulers comes from." Jian Chen smiled faintly.

The Sword Emperor sighed gently. "I'll be honest with you. My Sword Emperor clan doesn't want to submit to any ruler, much less serve another. If there is any other choice, our Sword Emperor clan would obviously like to consider it."

Jian Chen looked at the Sword Emperor and said nothing.

The Sword Emperor's expression suddenly became stern. He stared at Jian Chen brightly and lowered his tone slightly. "Fellow, you possess battle prowess on par with heavenly kings. Someone as powerful as you is already enough to attract the careful attention of rulers. If you're willing, our Sword Emperor city is willing to offer up thirty percent of our profits. We only hope that you can protect our Sword Emperor city, allowing us to remain independent."

Sword Emperor city did not just represent a city, but the range of influence of an organisation. Within the range of influence of this organisation, Sword Emperor city only served as the capital. There were many other towns beneath the capital.

But without any exception, all towns and businesses that lay in the range of their influence had to pay a large sum of taxes to Sword Emperor city. Even the three merchant unions of the Peace region were no different.

As a result, Sword Emperor city's yearly income from taxes was quite an impressive sum. After all, it was one of the nine imperial cities of the Peace region.

Apart from that, there were many mines and medicinal gardens that lay in their range of influence, which also provided Sword Emperor city with a tremendous amount of wealth every year.

Right now, the Sword Emperor was offering thirty percent of all of that. The wealth involved was so great that even heavenly kings would be tempted.

With that, Jian Chen sank into a moment of silence before saying, "I can ensure the independence of Sword Emperor city, maintaining the current situation, but I have a condition."

"What condition?" The Sword Emperor's eyes lit up.

"Cooperate with the Xia Merchant Union in gathering Lifesoul Flowers for me. I require an extremely large number of Lifesoul Flowers."

"Xia Jianming is already gathering them right now, but the Xia Merchant Union can only gather a portion. There are still many clans and organisations that are holding onto their Lifesoul Flowers in the Peace region, refusing to sell them. There's nothing that the Xia Merchant Union can do about these Lifesoul Flowers either. After all, if they refuse to sell them, it's not like the Xia Merchant Union can take them by force."

Jian Chen looked at the Sword Emperor and said, "I want you to gather all the Lifesoul Flowers that these organisations are holding onto."

"No wonder the Xia Merchant Union has been purchasing Lifesoul Flowers en masse in the Peace region, causing the price to multiply. So you were in need of them. But what do you need so many Lifesoul Flowers for?" The Sword Emperor was curious, but when he saw Jian Chen's petrified legs, he sank into his thoughts again. "Alright, I agree!"

After a slight discussion, the Sword Emperor left the courtyard and returned to his estate.

"An expert on par with heavenly kings? Even the eight heavenly kings refuse to become involved with the mess that the Peace region is in. Can he really protect our Sword Emperor city?" Ancestor Li immediately frowned when he learnt all this from the Sword Emperor. "Before a ruler, who stands a chance? Not even heavenly kings stand a chance."

The Sword Emperor stood before the window and gazed in a certain direction of the city. He said slowly, "He's relatively special, as I can see no reverence at all to rulers from his expression. When I mentioned the rulers to him, he remained calm the entire time. His expression had not changed at all."

"Even the Mayhemless Heavenly King does not possess this kind of composure."

"So what if he's composed? That doesn't necessarily mean anything. Don't tell me you think he stands a chance against the rulers?" Ancestor Li shook his head gently.

“I’m obviously not depending on him being able to stand a chance against the rulers. The rulers are so powerful that no heavenly king stands a chance. However, this only costs our Sword Emperor city thirty percent of our profits.”

“Amidst the clash between the three rulers, if he really can maintain Sword Emperor city in its current condition, then that would be the best. If he can’t, then we’ll change with the circumstances and choose a ruler to yield to.”

Ancestor Li nodded in response. He understood the Sword Emperor’s thoughts. He was grasping for any and all rays of hope. No matter how dim they were, he had to make an attempt for the future of the clan.

The Sword Emperor clan had ruled over the Peace region for far too long. Unless they had truly run out of options, neither of them wanted to yield to anybody.

Afterwards, the Sword Emperor got to work. An order was sent out from the estate towards all the organisations of various sizes within their range of influence. The order only contained a single message—make all the organisation sell their Lifesoul Flowers.

Even though the current Peace region was a little restless due to the Ceremonial Bell Heavenly King’s actions, the imperial cities still possessed their weight. Faced with the Sword Emperor’s personal order, none of the organisations within the range of influence of Sword Emperor city dared to defy it. They all offered up the Lifesoul Flowers they were holding onto.

As a result, the Xia Merchant Union purchased Lifesoul Flowers for hefty prices across the entire Peace region, while the Sword Emperor specially targeted all the clans that lay in the range of his influence.

Under their combined efforts, all the Lifesoul Flowers in the range of influence of Sword Emperor city ended up in Jian Chen’s hands in the shortest amount of time possible.

Jian Chen remained in secluded cultivation within the courtyard, extracting the essence from these Lifesoul Flowers and condensing droplets of spiritual fluid, which he used to nourish his soul.

The Xia Merchant Union strengthened with each passing day in the Peace region. Under Jian Chen’s secret assistance, they occupied all of the businesses in the nine imperial cities with unstoppable speed, truly unifying the commerce of the Peace region.

With the expansion of the Xia Merchant Union, even more Lifesoul Flowers gathered towards Jian Chen’s hands.

Under the accumulating effects of tremendous amounts of Lifesoul Flowers, more and more cracks were healed in Jian Chen’s soul.

As his soul gradually recovered, the laws he could use became stronger and stronger too.

His strength was gradually recovering.

“Master, basically all of the Lifesoul Flowers that can be purchased in the Peace region have already been bought out. There are still some Lifesoul Flowers that many clans in the eight other imperial cities are holding onto, but they refuse to sell them to us.” Half a month later, Xia Jianming appeared before Jian Chen.

