### Chaotic 871

Chapter 871: Battle for the Map Fragment (One)

Jian Chen removed the ring on the black-robed old man's finger, before bringing his head to Kai Ya. He said with a slight smile, "Miss Kai Ya, I've already beheaded this guy for you. Just treat it as returning your kindness of the hundred crystal coins."

Kai Ya and the twelve guards stared at Jian Chen in stupefaction, while great waves of emotions churned within their hearts. They felt extremely uncalm; a powerful, 14th Star Seasoul Warrior had just been slaughtered like that by Jian Chen and was even beheaded. They found this unbelievable and did not even return to their senses after a long time. They really refused to accept what had happened before them.

"Is that expert really that person who didn't even have money for the fees to enter the city?" At this moment, similar thoughts simultaneously appeared in Kai Ya and the twelve guard's minds. None of them dared to connect Jian Chen who had easily killed a 14th Star Seasoul Warrior to that person from before.

Staring at the beheaded corpse, the elder from the Kalor tribe was also extremely shocked. The blackrobed old man was a 14th Star Seasoul Warrior; although he did not reach the peak, he was still extremely strong. Meanwhile, Jian Chen had actually killed the old man so easily—this strength caused the elder to be extremely astounded.

"Peak of the 14th Star, that person who just struck out has definitely reached the peak of the 14th Star! He might even be a 15th Star expert!" the elder thought. His heart was soon replaced with ecstasy. If the Kalor tribe could pull such a powerful expert to their side, it would be a humungous matter.

The elder wiped away the blood from the corner of his lips and dragged his heavily-injured body to Jian Chen. He said gratefully, "I thank this warrior for helping us out. My Kalor tribe will never forget the great kindness you have shown. May I ask if you are able to come to my tribe as a guest so that my Kalor tribe can thank the warrior properly?"

"It's only a small matter, not worth mentioning. Also, miss Kai Ya has helped us once before so it's expected of me to help her this time. Elder, I still have matters to attend to so I won't be able to visit your tribe." Jian Chen declined after some meandering. He was extremely polite.

The elder was awkward. He clearly wanted to invite Jian Chen to their tribe very much as a guest. However, as Jian Chen was so powerful, he did not dare to pester him until he was angry. At that time, he would be in for a loss.

"Silly girl, what're you staring blankly for? Why don't you quickly invite this warrior to our tribe as a guest?" the elder immediately sent a mental message to Kai Ya after a thought popped into his head.

Kai Ya remained hesitant. Her relationship with Jian Chen was extremely ordinary. Additionally, she could clearly feel with her Innate Spirit-opening technique that Jian Chen only treated her as an extremely ordinary passerby, with no other intentions at all. The reason why he had helped her this time was completely due to the fact that he wanted to return the favor of the hundred crystal coins.

"Farewell miss Kai Ya," Jian Chen clasped his hands at Kai Ya before turning around and leaving.

Seeing how Kai Ya did not follow through with his suggestion, the elder immediately became frantic on the side. He urged once again, "Silly girl, don't just stand around. Why don't you quickly stop the warrior?" The elder's voice was filled with urgency. There was such a great opportunity right in front of him right now to rope in an expert; he did not want to just miss out on it.

Kai Ya shook her head gently and did nothing else. She knew that even if she spoke out to urge him to stay, it would do nothing at all.

"Ai." the elder of the Kalor tribe sighed resentfully as she had failed to do what he had insisted. His face was filled with regret and anger.

As Nubis and Xie Wang fought, they moved away. They were now already several dozen kilometers away.

Gazing at the two still embroiled in an intense fight, Jian Chen said, "Nubis, don't waste too much time here."

"Hahaha, understood. Kiddo Xie Wang, I, your great grandfather Nubis, won't be playing along anymore." Nubis laughed from afar. He immediately used his full strength, heavily striking Xie Wang's body a few times, which caused him to fly backward as he vomited blood.

"Kiddo Xie Wang, come find me after you break through to the 15th Star. You're not my opponent otherwise." Nubis's extremely arrogant voice shook up the surroundings, broadcasted far and wide. He no longer paid any attention to the heavily-injured Xie Wang, turning around and flying toward Jian Chen.

"I haven't wasted too much time, have I?" Nubis smiled slightly in front of Jian Chen. He did not feel pressured at all in his fight with Xie Wang. He had not used his full strength at all. As a Silver Striped Golden Snake, Nubis's battle capability was not his most powerful aspect but his venom was renowned throughout the Tian Yuan Continent.

"They've already left my range. We can't delay this any longer," said Jian Chen, before they arrived before the patriarch of the Dare tribe together. They said, "Patriarch, let's go."

"Ah! What! Oh... yes... yes... yes..." Stunned, the patriarch suddenly returned to his senses, unconsciously nodding his head. His face was already filled with extreme levels of shock and disbelief. He had truly and properly understood Nubis and Jian Chen's abilities from this fight.

Nubis had fought the infamous Xie Wang all by himself and heavily injured him so easily while remaining uninjured himself. Meanwhile, Jian Chen battled four Saint Rulers on his own and wiped out the soul of a 14th Star Seasoul Warrior in just a few bouts, while the other three 13th Star Seasoul Warriors fled with heavy injuries. The Dare tribe patriarch's blood boiled when he saw all this; how just was the mere Menghuang tribe worthy of any fear with such experts supporting his tribe?

The three of them left the area, while Kai Ya's group remained where they were, staring into the direction that Jian Chen had disappeared off to.

"Just who are the two of them? And who's the other one? Even the infamous Xie Wang was no match for him. Is he perhaps a 15th Star Seasoul Warrior?" mumbled the elder of the Kalor tribe. The regret in his heart increased even more; if he could rope in those two experts, the strength of his tribe would increase vastly.

Jian Chen's group stopped after traveling several hundred kilometers. Afterward, he turned to the patriarch and said, "Patriarch, the two of us have something important to attend to so we must leave temporarily. When we deal with it, we will come back to assist you with the Menghuang tribe. Is that fine?"

The patriarch pondered in silence in response before replying, "The three experts from the Menghuang tribe have already sustained heavy injuries so they probably won't have the power to fight my tribe for the time being. Alright, warriors, then you should go deal with your matter. I will wait for your return." The patriarch seemed like a brute but he was not stupid at all. Instead, he had a nimble mind. He could tell with a single glance that the two of them wanted to try their luck with the Octoterra Map fragment.

Bidding farewell to the patriarch, Jian Chen and Nubis did not show any hesitation at all, immediately shooting off into the distance as a blur with lightning speed. They disappeared in the blink of an eye.

At this very moment several thousand kilometers away, the Hao family directly traveled toward the territory of the Heaven's Spirit Hall with the Octoterra Map fragment and the accompaniment of Jad, a 16th Star Seasoul Warrior. As Saint Kings could not rip open space in the territory of the Sea race, they could only travel by flight.

At this very moment, a weird call appeared in the surroundings.

"Kakakakak, you better leave this last map fragment behind. I, Yun Feng, will be taking it." With this voice, a burly, middle-aged man appeared out of nowhere, right in front of the group's path and blocking them. Simultaneously, the surrounding space froze, becoming something akin to a frozen block of ice in that very instant. It trapped many experts from the Hao family, immobilizing them.

### "Daemon Lord Yun Feng!"

The expressions of many experts of the Hao family changed; their gazes toward Yun Feng were filled with deep fear and dread.

The city lord of Jass City, Jad, stood forward from the group, staring at Yun Feng with a sneer, "Yun Feng, you normally only move about in the territory of the Sea God Hall. Why've you come to our territory? Moreover, there's a powerful formation enveloping the exterior of the Octoterra Divine Hall. Once you reach the 15th, you can't enter it. You are a person who walks a solitary path, so what use is for the map fragment? It's not like you can go in any way." As Jad spoke, his body jolted slightly and the frozen space where Yun Feng had appeared shattered immediately, returning to how it was before.

Yun Feng laughed aloud. "You're right. I am indeed unable to enter the Octoterra Divine Hall but someone has put forward a condition that I can't reject. It'll be difficult for me to not interfere even when that's what I want."

"I never thought that the proud, lonesome Daemon Lord would help others do things. But with just your strength at the peak of the 15th Star, you probably aren't my opponent," Jad said.

"Senior Jad, there's not just me involved in this matter. I believe that there are still many others who covet the map fragment on you other than me." laughed Yun Feng loudly. Afterward, he looked around and said, "Everyone, stop hiding. Come out."

As soon as Yun Feng finished his words, over a hundred figures suddenly appeared out of nowhere from the empty surroundings. Every single one of them had reached Saint Ruler and there were even Saint Kings.

The people from the Hao family had known clearly about being followed since long ago. They did not find it surprising when the people appeared, while Jad who stood at the very front looked around. "Everyone, the Octoterra Map fragment was won by the Hao family in the auction by paying a heavy price. If you want to steal it, it won't be my fault for being merciless."

"Jad, you're the Jass City lord of the Serpent God Hall. Why are you helping the people from the Hao family of the Heaven's Spirit Hall?" asked an old Saint King.

"It's not up to you to care about why I am doing this. In short, I will be using all my strength to assist the Hao family in protecting the map fragment. If there is someone who dares to come and take it, don't blame me for being vicious," Jad said with a gruff voice. His eyes turned into a glare, while a powerful killing intent radiated from him. It caused the surrounding temperature to plummet abruptly as if the surroundings had turned into an ice cavern in permafrost.

Chapter 872: Battle for the Map Fragment (Two)

Although Jad was the most powerful person present, there were many Saint Kings similar to him in the surroundings so he was unable to deter the people who wanted to take the map fragment at all.

"Jad, did you really think that just you and the people from the Hao family would be enough to stop the attacks from all of us?" said the Daemon Lord Yun Feng.

"Everyone, you all probably belong to different organizations. There's only one fragment so who would the fragment end up with between so many of you? How will you split it?" asked an old man from the Hao family. He bore a smile and spoke with a normal tone; he was one of the ancestors of the Hao family. He was also a Saint King but at the 15th Star.

His simple question caused many of the people present to frown. This clearly was a question that was extremely difficult to deal with. None of them wished to work so hard and risk their lives to only have the fragment end up with someone else.

Seeing how everyone began to falter, a Saint King immediately called out, "He's trying to get us to turn on each other. It's self-evident. Everyone, do not fall for his tricks. We can discuss how to split it after we obtain the map fragment. Maybe we can directly turn the map fragment into multiple pieces and give everyone a piece.

"Alright. That's not a bad idea. Let's do that." Immediately, many people agreed to this solution, voicing their agreements.

Yun Feng licked his lips and chuckled. "Since it's all been dealt with, we have no need to waste any more time. Everyone, let's strike together and obtain the map fragment."

The Daemon Lord was the most powerful after Jad here. When he finished speaking, he charged at Jad first and called out, "Fellows of the 15th Star, come with me to deal with Jad, that old croon. We'll leave the people of the Hao family to others."

Immediately, several Saint Kings shot out from the group, embroiling in a great fight with Jad as they worked together with Yun Feng. As soon as they clashed, violent energy ripples erupted and surged through the entire region. It caused mountains to collapse, the ground to crack and the entire world to tremble violently.

The Hao family also had a Saint King. Leading over twenty experts from the clan, he began to fight with a hundred-odd people but he was kept busy by the last Saint King who entered the battle from the assailants. It caused the people from the Hao family to become surrounded while forced up against the attacks of over a hundred experts of a similar level. Under such a difference in strength, they fell into a disadvantageous position as soon as they clashed, surrounded and attacked by people that outnumbered them several times.

However, the people who had come for the map fragment belonged to different organizations. They did not trust each other so they had to guard against anyone besides them as they attacked the Hao family group in order to prevent anyone from suddenly ambushing them. It resulted in a great reduction of their strength and they were unable to fully display their might. So although the Hao family was tightly suppressed, no one dared to use an attack too powerful that would make them vulnerable.

On the other side, the battle between Jad and the Saint Kings had already reached a white-hot intensity. Jad did not fear much, using all his strength without holding back at all. He engaged intensely with the five other opponents. The battle was earthshaking, fighting up in the sky before sinking back to the ground again, all while moving backward. They had already moved a hundred kilometers away.

Wherever the battle passed by, violent energy ripples would wreak havoc. The surrounding region had basically become a zone of death, where even Saint Rulers would not dare to venture too deeply into.

Although the five Saint Kings fighting Jad were only in the Third or Fourth Heavenly Layer, they all had their motives so none of them were willing to use their full strength. They did not want to expend too much energy or suffer any injuries, which would cause them to miss the perfect opportunity to take the map fragment. As a result, even with the five of them working together, they could only reach a stalemate against Jad who was at the Sixth Heavenly Layer and they were even vaguely on the losing side.

# Argh! Argh!

With a few cries of pain, a few weaker Saint Rulers of the Hao family vomited blood and fell with heavy injuries.

They retreated into the center of the group, which immediately increased the pressure on the other experts of the family. Their resistance became more and more difficult; if it were not for the insecurity of the attackers, the group from the Hao family would have been forced to give in long ago.

Currently, Jian Chen and Nubis concealed their presences a thousand kilometers away. They hid behind the back of a mountain. They were unable to see the battle due to being too far away but they could clearly sense the violent energy ripples.

"This place is too far away. You can't see anything at all. I wonder what the situation is like. Jian Chen, let's approach them a little more," suggested Nubis.

Jian Chen raised his hand in objection. "No need. We can't get too close. We need to be careful. I've always been monitoring the situation up ahead and I've even vaguely sensed that there are other experts who have still yet to reveal themselves. We can't get too close."

"I sense so many presences of Saint Kings and one of them isn't any weaker than the Bi Yifei and Ling Yuanzi who pursued us. Jian Chen, do you think we'll be able to take the map fragment with our strength?" Nubis seemed rather worried. So many presences of Saint Kings had appeared up ahead, which made him feel completely unconfident.

"We need to steal the fragment through strategy and not force. We can only see now whether we get that opportunity or not. Though, we do have one advantage that other's don't have," said Jian Chen.

"What advantage?" Nubis asked curiously.

Jian Chen smiled mysteriously. "You'll learn about it later. Oh right, spit out your Water Spirit's Pearl. Our identities as foreigners will be revealed in a while when we go steal the map. As soon as we obtain it, we can use the pearls to mask our presences after finding a safe hiding spot. That way, it'll obscure what the other people will be searching for. They'll pour all their efforts into a search for foreigners while they ignore other members of the Sea race. That's one extra safeguard for us."

Nubis' eyes lit up with interest. Without any hesitation, he immediately spat out his pearl that concealed his magical beast presence, before placing it into his Space Ring.

Jian Chen also spat out his pearl and placed it into the saint artifact. To him, Space Rings were not exactly safe as there was the chance for them to be stolen at any moment. Only inside the saint artifact would there be no room for accidents, unless the saint artifact rebelled or he died.

"Let's just wait here. I'll tell you when it's time to move," said Jian Chen.

The great battle only lasted for roughly half an hour. More people from the Hao family became heavily injured and their numbers were whittled down to around a dozen. Three people had even died, fleeing the scene in the form of origin souls. The few remaining people resisted bitterly but they were also all covered in blood. They could not last for much longer.

Seeing how the situation was turning against them, the Saint King of the Hao family became extremely stern. He had anticipated that he would encounter ambushes along the way long ago but had originally thought that nothing would go wrong with senior Jad's help. Never did he think that so many people would come, with a total of six Saint Kings.

"We can't drag this out any longer," the Saint King thought. With a flash of determination, he knocked his opponent away with a blow. A grand aura immediately began to radiate from his body and he bellowed, "Three Palms of Heaven's Annihilation!" A huge palm suddenly condensed a hundred meters up in the sky, radiating with a devastating aura. Its appearance seemed to cause a great disturbance in the surrounding laws of the world and caused it to fall into disorder. All the Saint Ruler and even Saint Kings lost control of their abilities to manipulate Spatial Force. The palm corporealized World Force and contained an extremely great power. The space within a radius of several dozen kilometers froze with its appearance and even the Saint King who was knocked away was affected greatly. He seemed to have fallen into quicksand and all his movements dulled.

"A Tian Level Saint Technique!" His expression changed greatly and the blood drained from his face immediately. A Tian Level Saint Technique was equivalent to a Saint Tier Battle Skill on the Tian Yuan Continent, possessing devastating power. Even he, a Third Heavenly Layer Saint King, had not been able to grasp such a powerful technique yet.

Even though mere Saint Rulers could begin to comprehend Tian Level Saint Techniques, to grasp one definitely not that simple. Many Saint Kings could not even use a single one.

On the other hand, only those with outstanding talent in the comprehension of the mysteries of space could create Tian Level Saint Techniques. They would need to comprehend through their luck, which was extremely rare even over the span of tens of thousands of years.

Only a mere few were able to create their own Saint Tier Battle Skills from Mercenary City over the countless years it had existed.

The giant palm print sealed up the surrounding space before descending with a vast aura. It silently fused with the earth and disappeared completely.

All of the people, including the hundreds of Saint Rulers and the Saint King, disappeared with the palm. They had vanished. Only a few Saint Rulers from the Hao family hung in the sky, staring at the area beneath their feet tongue-tied.

Below them, a bottomless pit had appeared. It was shaped like a palm and encased a radius of several kilometers. A Saint King and over a hundred Saint Rulers had been all been pressed into the earth by it.

"Argh!" A cry of rage echoed from the bottomless pit. The Saint King had not died after receiving the attack. Following him, the presence of over a hundred Saint Rulers appeared as well.

The Tian Level Saint Technique had been received by a Saint King and over a hundred Saint Rulers at the same time. It did not manage to kill a single person with their resistance.

The Three Palms of Heaven's Annihilation had three strikes in total. The further the strikes progressed, the more powerful they became. The Saint King of the Hao family raised his palm mercilessly and another giant palm instantly condensed in the sky. It slammed down onto the ground like a bolt of lightning and caused the entire region to shake violently.

The third palm strike followed closely after the second. Wherever it passed by, space would be ripped open to reveal the void, creating a blanket of darkness.

Chapter 874: Battle for the Map Fragment (Four)

Qing Yixuan paled in anger, furiously stamping her feet. She said, "Those bastards of the Hao family. They actually tricked us all. Brat, tell me how you knew that the Space Ring was empty." A vast aura radiated from Qing Yixuan's body and tightly pressed down on Jian Chen and Nubis.

"Senior, the map fragment is still with the Saint King of the Hao family. He's currently heading north with it. If senior doesn't chase after him now, senior might not be able to catch up," said Jian Chen.

"Why do you know this so well? And why should I believe what you've said?" Qing Yixuan cried out. She stared fixedly at Jian Chen.

"Junior has said everything to be said. Whether senior believes it or not is not my problem," Jian Chen replied calmly.

The light in Qing Yixuan's eyes flickered uneasily. After some deliberation, she chose to believe Jian Chen's words in the end. She shot off north as a vague blur. The Octoterra Map fragment was just too important. Qing Yixuan was willing to delude herself than believing that the Saint King of the Hao family did not have it.

"Brat, I'll trust you this once. If I find that you're tricking me, I won't let you off even if we're of the same race. I'll chase you to the ends of the world." Qing Yixuan's words hung in the air. She had disappeared long ago.

"Odd. Jian Chen, how did you know that the Space Ring did not contain the map fragment? And how did you know where that Saint King was? Do you have eyes several kilometers away?" Nubis could not resist his curiosity after Qing Yixuan had left.

Jian Chen smiled mysteriously. "Right now is not the time to be discussing these things. That Qing Yixuan is just too strong. I hope the Saint King of the Hao family won't just fall to a single strike of hers. Though, he does possess a Saint Tier Battle Skill. If Qing Yixuan wants to take things from him, it shouldn't be easy. Let's go Nubis. The time for us to obtain the map fragment may be coming soon."

Jian Chen and Nubis erased their presences, carefully advancing forward.

The lord of Jass City and the five other Saint Kings were all kept busy by the two old men, battling where they were before. However, the Saint King who had lost his finger was not present and had already disappeared.

The ripples from the battle radiated to over thousands of kilometers away and drew in all the experts in that range. There were already a few Saint Rulers spectating from several dozen kilometers away in the air.

The Saint King who had lost a finger had already separated from the Saint Rulers of the Hao family by several thousand kilometers north. He currently traveled at full speed by himself, heading for the territory of the Heaven's Spirit Hall.

"The secret of my Space Ring will be discovered very quickly. I need to head to the Heaven's Spirit Hall as soon as possible. I'll be able to call on the elders of the hall to assist me in fending off people once I get there. I'll be out of harm's way even if a hundred 16th Star Seasoul Warriors appear," he muttered. He had not placed the map fragment in his Space Ring and had instead carried it on him.

At this moment, a grand aura quickly appeared from far away and headed directly for him.

The Saint King's expression changed greatly as he cried out, "Oh no, it's a 16th Star expert. Did they discover that the Space Ring was empty so quickly?" The Saint King became filled with worry. He no longer held back anymore as a strand of faint red mist enshrouded his body. It immediately allowed his speed to skyrocket. He had cast a secret technique that cost him some of his vitality to flee.

"You old bastard, you can't escape anymore!" A crisp voice echoed in the Saint King's ears. Qing Yixuan had also cast a secret technique, shooting over like a lightning bolt with speed that completely exceeded the Saint King's.

He said nothing, fleeing as if his life depended on it with gritted teeth. However, no matter how he increased his speed, he was unable to widen his distance from Qing Yixuan. The two of them gradually grew closer and closer and the distance shrunk to just one hundred kilometers from the initial several hundred, which then decreased to several dozen.

"F\*ck it!" The Saint King of the Hao family immediately stopped running seeing how it was useless. He hung in mid-air with a pale face and a grand aura immediately radiated from his body. He was like an ancient beast that was slowly awakening from its slumber.

Tian Level Saint Technique, Three Palms of Heaven's Annihilation!" He cried out. He cast the Saint Tier Battle Skill once again, causing the surrounding World Force to churn. It condensed into a huge, solid palm despite World Force being invisible and pressed down onto the surroundings with stupendous pressure. It locked up the region in the radius of several dozen kilometers and abruptly froze the space there.

As Qing Yixuan reached a distance of five kilometers away from him, the space around her suddenly froze and immobilized her. The powerful aura of the Tian Level Saint Technique locked onto her. She reacted violently, even with her strength of the Fifth Heavenly Layer.

Vast quantities of Saint Force surged from her body, immediately shattering the frozen space. However, the quicksand-like space around her still slowed her movements greatly.

A metallic-azure sword appeared in her hand. With a cry, she turned into an azure stream of light that shoot for the Saint King. She attempted to disrupt his battle skill.

The Saint King of the Hao family did not need much time to charge up with his strength, so he reached completion very quickly. He flipped over his hand and slammed it down forcefully.

Immediately, the enormous palm in the sky rumbled. It came crashing down with a devastating pressure.

Qing Yixuan's dress and hair danced in the wind. She gave up her attack on the Saint King and pointed her sword at the sky. She turned into a blur and shot up, planning to use her own strength to forcefully resist the battle skill. The battle skill had locked onto her completely anyway so she did not have the option of fleeing. All she could do was take it head-on.

# Boom!

Qing Yixuan's elegant body collided with the palm that was several kilometers wide. Their sizes did not match up at all but it produced a deafening boom. Violent ripples of energy wreaked havoc in the surroundings, ripping open space and destroying whole regions, turning it all into a blanket of darkness.

The giant palm fell from the sky without any decrease in force with an unstoppable manner. It left a bottomless palm print in the ground, which caused it to tremble. Qing Yixuan had been pushed into the earth with it.

However, she flew out from it very quickly. Powerful, slightly-azure Saint Force permeated her surroundings and caused the space around her to tremble because of the energy.

Forcefully taking a Saint Tier Battle Skill head on, she was unable to remain uninjured despite her strength. Her hair was in a horrible mess, while her face was slightly pale. Her clothes were quite ruffled up as well, clearly in a quite a bad shape.

Rumble!

A great boom resounded in the sky and a second palm fell. Its power was even greater than the first.

Qing Yixuan poured all her strength into resistance but she was still no match. She was pressed into the ground once again, this time emerging with a trail of blood at the corner of her lips. Blood had drained from her face, she was clearly quite injured now.

The third palm strike followed soon after. This was the most powerful one, enough to collapse the space it passed by.

Spurt! Forcefully enduring the last strike, Qing Yixuan vomited a mouthful of blood. She became pale, while she seemed completely disheveled. She was in a horrible shape, now heavily injured.

Even the Saint King of the Hao family found it rather hard to endure after casting two Tian Level Saint Techniques consecutively in a short time. He paled slightly and seemed extremely weak.

After he struck down with the three palms, the Saint King immediately began to flee. He paid no regards to the outcome.

A soaring sword Qi shot toward him from behind. Qing Yixuan had risen from the ground, pouring all her energy into killing the Saint King of the Hao family. She may have been heavily injured but she was still a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King after all. She had an extremely tenacious life and still possessed a strong ability for battle.

"Leave behind the Octoterra Map fragment and I'll spare your life," she cried out, before quickly being embroiled in a battle with the Saint King of the Hao family.

However, neither of them had detected that two insignificant Saint Rulers who were already five hundred kilometers from them as they fought. The two Saint Rulers had completely erased their presence while hiding away carefully.

They were Jian Chen and Nubis.

A golden light shot out from the center of Jian Chen's eyebrows, before it turned into a miniature golden tower in his hand. Jian Chen turned to Nubis and said, "We need to hide in the saint artifact. Don't resist."

A pillar of white light flashed out and disappeared with Jian Chen and Nubis. They had been sucked away by the power of the saint artifact.

Taking the two of them away, the saint artifact then sunk into the ground, tunneling toward the battle.

Qing Yixuan and the Saint King of the Hao family fought even-handedly in the sky. In Qing Yixuan's peak condition, she would have been able to deal with him easily but she was currently heavily injured. She still possessed a very strong battle capability but it was far from when she was in her best state.

The two of them fought for twenty minutes. The Saint King ended up being stabbed in the chest by Qing Yixuan and immediately vomited up a mouthful of blood. The mighty sword Qi turned his clothes to shreds, while a black, square piece of leather around thirty centimeters in length and width drifted into the air. It was undamaged.

The Saint King reacted violently when he saw this piece of leather. He ignored his injuries and grabbed at the leather with all he had.

However, Qing Yixuan was faster than him. Her thin fingers turned into a blur, snatching the piece of leather from the air. Her face became wild with joy as she cried out, "The Octoterra Map fragment! I've finally obtained it!" Qing Yixuan no longer stuck around after she grabbed it. She immediately turned around in an attempt to leave.

The Saint King roared out angrily, slamming his palm onto Qing Yixuan's back with all his strength. A mouthful of blood spurted from her mouth and worsened her injuries even further. However, she took advantage of this strike, using the knockback to flee and increase in speed. She no longer wanted to be tied up with this Saint King.

"Qing Yixuan, my Hao family will definitely not let you go!" roared the Saint King. He was furious.

Qing Yixuan fled pale-faced. She wanted to find a safe area as soon as possible to recuperate. The situation of her body was not very great at all. Due to the intense battle before, she had not suppressed her injuries, so they were constantly worsening. It had reached an extremely horrible level; she would struggle to deal with even an ordinary Saint Emperor right now.

"I may be heavily injured but it's all worth it as long as I can obtain the Octoterra Map fragment." Qing Yixuan glanced at the black piece of leather in her hand and could not help but reveal a smile on her pale face. Afterward, she casually placed the map fragment into her bosom. She did not place it into her Space Ring.

A golden light shot out from the ground at this very moment, directly toward her.

Chapter 875: The Final Owner

Shocked, Qing Yixuan immediately raised her vigilance. She swung the sword in her hand and directly stabbed at the ball of golden light.

Cling! With a metallic sound, the golden light was blasted away by Qing Yixuan's attack and revealed itself as a golden tower. However, it suddenly began to radiate with a golden light, encasing a radius of several hundred meters. Even Qing Yixuan herself became enveloped within.

The saint artifact used its power to convert the surroundings into its own domain. Although it did not possess full control over the area, it was able to suck up or let out anything that did not resist into the region.

The gold-clothed Nubis left the artifact space and appeared behind Qing Yixuan silently. He spat out a mouthful of venomous gas.

The venom of the Silver Striped Golden Snakes was ranked third in the world—as a Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler, his venom could even take out Saint Kings. Qing Yixuan failed to notice it and took in a breath and immediately began to feel dizzy.

"Sh\*t, it's poison!" Shocked, Qing Yixuan immediately discovered that someone had appeared behind her. Just as she was about to react accordingly, Nubis viciously grabbed her back and impaled her with his fingers. The venom surged into her body like the water of a broken dam.

Qing Yixuan cried out while great quantities of Saint Force churned within her, knocking Nubis away with her overwhelming strength. Her face was like frost and her eyes overflowed with killing intent. She directly stabbed out at Nubis with her sword.

Nubis did not fear her and immediately began to fight back. If Qing Yixuan was in her peak condition, he might have been limited to fleeing but she was now heavily injured and poisoned by him. She could only use half of her strength, not enough to threaten Nubis anymore.

The hurriedly clashed a few times, before Nubis was impaled through the chest. He was heavily injured but Qing Yixuan had also taken a fist from Nubis, which caused her to vomit blood as she was knocked back.

Before she could stabilize herself, Jian Chen appeared quietly before her through the use of the artifact. His hand snaked into her bosom like a lightning bolt and he immediately came into contact with her two soft, full breasts. They pressed against his palm, causing her clothes around the chest region to bulge.

He felt the map fragment as soon as he stuck his hand in. Without any hesitation, he snatched the fragment tightly with some force but he grabbed more than that. Jian Chen could tell from the feeling that he had also seized a piece of cloth and a portion of silky-smooth skin.

"Argh!" Qing Yixuan could not help but cry out. She became wide-eyed and stared blankly at the hand that had reached into her bosom. She was filled with disbelief.

She returned to her senses immediately. Her slightly flushed face was replaced with anger as she cried out, "You pervert!" As they were too close, she was unable to lash out with her sword so she directly threw a palm strike forward in this urgent situation.

A palm strike from an angered Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King could not be underestimated. Despite her injuries, this strike was beyond what Jian Chen's Chaotic Body could withstand.

Spurt! Jian Chen immediately spat out a mouthful of blood as he was sent flying off far away. His hand was also pulled out from her chest, along with the black map fragment that he had grasped tightly. However, there was something else; her white undergarment had been grabbed too, which came out with the map fragment. It waved freely in the air with a lingering body warmth, giving off a slight fragrance.

Qing Yixuan became bright red when she saw the undergarment in Jian Chen's hand. Her eyes burned with fury, while her killing intent shot into the sky.

"You pervert, I'll obliterate you." Qing Yixuan fell into a frenzy of rage. She charged at Jian Chen with her sword as she ignored her injuries.

"Let's go! This woman is too powerful. She still so powerful even with those injuries!" Nubis appeared beside Jian Chen in a flash, grabbing him before shooting off into the distance. As that all happened, the saint artifact turned into a streak of golden light and disappeared into Jian Chen's forehead.

"Where do you think you're going! Today is the day of your death!" Qing Yixuan screamed from behind. Her hatred for Jian Chen had already reached a bone-deep level.

"You've been poisoned by me. If you don't suppress its spread, you'll die before you've even caught up to us. You should know very well just how powerful the venom of a Silver Striped Golden Snake is," Nubis called back out in an attempt to stop her pursuit.

"I've burned the two of you into my memory. I'll kill you even if I have to chase the two of you to the ends of the earth," roared Qing Yixuan. She did not continue her pursuit and instead glanced at the two of them coldly. Afterward, she turned around and flew off in the opposite direction. Nubis was right; her body was indeed in a horrible condition—heavily injured and then poisoned. If she did not deal with it as soon as possible, she would die even if she was a Saint King.

Nubis traversed tens of thousands of kilometers with Jian Chen as fast as he could before finally coming to a stop. Afterward, they both entered the saint artifact.

Inside there, they healed very quickly and returned to their peak conditions under the treatment of the artifact spirit's origin energy. Only then did they finally relax.

Stealing from a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King was an extremely risky thing to do for them. If they had lost focus for even a split second, their lives could have been in danger.

"We've finally obtained the map fragment." Jian Chen smiled excitedly. He turned his hand to look at the map fragment as he did not have the opportunity earlier. However, his face suddenly froze and revealed an odd expression.

Although he had felt that he had grabbed something else with the map fragment in the situation before, he had never bothered to look at it. Only now did he discover that he had also grabbed Qing Yixuan's white undergarment.

"Let's see what the Octoterra Map fragment is like." Nubis also looked toward Jian Chen's hand but he soon locked onto the undergarment. He became stupefied while his mouth became agape. He was filled with disbelief.

"J- J- Jian Chen, w- w- what's that?" Nubis pointed toward the undergarment as he stuttered.

Jian Chen raised it up for a closer examination, finally confirming that he had not seen wrong. He could not help but smile bitterly.

"Th- th- that's an undergarment. Jian Chen, y- y- you've actually taken her undergarment," said Nubis as he was dumbstruck.

"It was a critical situation. How would I have noticed things like this?" Jian Chen forced a smile.

"Woah, Jian Chen, you're just too powerful. That person is a Fifth Heavenly Layer Saint King. No wonder she said she would chase us to the ends of the earth. Turns out you... you... you..." Nubis could not help but break into laughter toward the end.

Jian Chen could only force a smile as he stared at the undergarment. He carefully placed it into his Space Ring. He planned to return it to Qing Yixuan when they met again in the future. "Alright, let's not dwell on this matter. Let's check out the map fragment first."

Nubis immediately became serious when they reached the matter of the map fragment. He immediately rushed up to Jian Chen to examine the fragment.

It was a piece of black, square leather. It was extremely tough and even Saint Kings would struggle to destroy it. On it was a blurry image and with close examination, it was not difficult to see that it was an incomplete map.

"This fragment is a part of the map to the Octoterra Divine Hall, as well as the key to the divine hall. We need to collect all the pieces before being able to form the whole thing," said Nubis.

Jian Chen nodded and immediately put it away. He pulled out the Water Spirit's Pearl and gulped it down. "We can't dwell here. We better leave quickly."

Nubis nodded in agreement before swallowing his pearl too. He left the artifact space alongside Jian Chen.

Chapter 876: Emissary of the Serpent God Hall (One)

Swallowing the Water's Spirit Pearls, their presences turned back into the Sea race's. They then left together.

Jian Chen and Nubis erased their presence and carefully headed for the Dare tribe.

Several vast presences appeared from behind them at this very moment. It was Jad, Yun Feng and the other, shooting over like bolts of lightning. They headed directly for Jian Chen and Nubis.

Both of them immediately became nervous. They did not have the ability to flee from Six Saint Kings, especially when one of them was of the Sixth Heavenly Layer.

"Stay calm and keep the act." Jian Chen stopped and sent a mental message to Nubis. If they were to run right now, it would definitely raise suspicion.

The six Saint Kings arrived before them very quickly. They examined Jian Chen and Nubis, before paying no particular attention to them when they saw how the two were only Saint Rulers.

"Seniors, is there anything we can help you with?" Jian Chen clasped his hands at them and asked politely.

"Did you see an azure-dressed lady fly by?" Yun Feng asked condescendingly as he stared arrogantly at the two of them.

"No," Jian Chen replied seriously.

Jad seemed to realize something as his eyes glimmered. "I remember you two. Weren't you at the Jass Auction? Why're you here?"

The others all looked toward Jian Chen and Nubis while cold lights flickered in their eyes. They revealed expressions of suspicion.

Both Jian Chen and Nubis' heart sank slightly. Never did they think that Jad would remember two juniors he had only met once with his status. If Jian Chen did not explain this properly, it would definitely raise doubt. Any small error in this crucial moment could lead to their deaths.

"Senior, right after we left Jass City, we sensed many experts heading in the same direction, so we went to check out what was going on out of curiosity. This is why we're here." Jian Chen casually forged a reason, hoping to trick them.

"How would it be possible for them to participate in this with their puny strength? Yun Feng, let's go find Qing Yixuan quickly and not waste anymore time here." A Third Heavenly Layer old man said arrogantly. He looked down on the two of them.

"You're right. Finding Qing Yixuan is the most important matter at hand." Yun Feng nodded before he flew off first.

The other four Saint Kings tailed behind Yun Feng closely. Although they were not companions of each other, they possessed they same objective so they decided to work together to deal with Qing Yixuan. She was just too strong and she also had two extremely powerful helpers. It would have been very difficult for them if they moved alone.

With Yun Feng's departure, Jad did not cause any more trouble for the two of them. He flew off in the other direction.

Jian Chen and Nubis' beating hearts finally calmed down as they watched them disappear. They directly headed for the Dare tribe afterward without any hesitation.

When they had arrived, the news that Qing Yixuan of the eight human experts had taken the Octoterra Map fragment quickly spread out like wildfire across the entire territory of the Serpent God Hall. It caused quite the commotion. Many greedy Sea race experts and some great clans began to band together in search of Qing Yixuan's traces.

The Saint King of the Hao family dragged his injured body back to the territory of the Heaven's Spirit Hall. He did not return home immediately and instead traveled to the center of the territory.

At the center, a huge divine hall hung in the sky, filling the surroundings with a grand pressure.

The Saint King entered the hall with no obstructions and was taken to a grand conference hall under the lead of a guard.

A black-robed old man sat high up in the conference hall. He was short, only a meter tall but his eyes shone with spirit. A vast pressure radiated from his body, encasing the entire hall.

He was a hall elder of the Heaven's Spirit Hall, one of the most revered figures of the hall after the hall master.

The Saint King of the Hao family immediately became meek before him, unwilling to carry any arrogance. He clasped his hands at the hall elder. "Hao Daq pays respects to hall elder."

The hall elder stared at the Saint King calmed and asked, "What do you need?"

"Esteemed hall elder, I had succeeded in purchasing the map fragment but it was taken by Qing Yixuan along the way. Qing Yixuan is a foreigner yet she has interfered with the matters of the Sea race. She has gone overboard and definitely cannot be forgiven. However, my Hao family does not have the strength to deal with the eight human experts. I hope the esteemed hall elder can stand up for my Hao family and take back what was ours," the Saint King said unhappily.

In the sea realm, the three halls possessed a supreme status. They were the rulers of the sea realm and were extremely territorial. They normally would never interfere when organizations fought each other in their own territories but they would never stand by when a foreigner decided to create troubles in the sea realm.

The hall elder pondered for a while with his eyes closed before replying, "Hao Daq, five of the eight human experts have already sworn their allegiance to one of the three halls. Qing Yixuan belongs to the Sea Goddess Hall. If we move against Qing Yixuan, we will definitely be met with the Sea Goddess Hall's resistance. There might even be conflict. Do you think that we, the Heaven's Spirit Hall, are willing to risk something like this to deal with Qing Yixuan over such a small matter?"

"What!? She has already pledged her allegiance to the Sea Goddess Hall? Was she ordered by them to steal the Octoterra Map fragment?" The Saint King asked in shock.

The hall elder shook his head. "Don't dwell on the matter of the map fragment any more. Now that all eight pieces have appeared, of which the Sea Goddess Hall has three, the Serpent God Hall has three while we, the Heaven's Spirit Hall, has two, I believe the search for the Octoterra Divine Hall will begin soon."

"Every map fragment can allow twenty people in. When the search begins, the Heaven's Spirit Hall will personally negotiate with the two other clans to get them to hand over the right to pick a total twenty people, ten from each clan. We'll get some extremely powerful peak 14th Star Seasoul warriors to go in to ensure we have the strongest team. This way, we can reap the greatest rewards."

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The pale-faced Qing Yixuan sat in a secret basement in the territory of the Sea Goddess Hall. Her face was rather dark from the poison.

The venom of the Silver Striped Golden Snake was just too powerful. Even with her overwhelming strength, she could only forcefully suppress it and was unable to force it out.

A striking middle-aged man sat opposite to her. His face was weathered from experience, while he naturally radiated with a noble bearing.

"You're quite heavily injured. Looks like there were quite a lot of people that had come for the map fragment but it's all be worth it. Once you obtain that object, your strength will skyrocket. You would have nothing to fear even if you face up against Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Kings." smiled the man. His expression carried unconcealable joy. Qing Yixuan sat there pale-faced. She said, "I may be disappointing you then. The map fragment is not on me."

The man became stunned and immediately sat up straight. He cried out in surprise, "What? You haven't obtained the map fragment?"

Qing Yixuan's dazzling eyes immediately filled up with a cold killing intent. She ground her teeth. "I had already stolen the map fragment originally but I was caught off guard and ambushed by two juniors while I was heavily injured. They took it away from me."

"Juniors? What were their strengths?" The man's eyes flickered in surprise as he stared fixedly at Qing Yixuan.

"They weren't Saint Kings," Qing Yixuan replied icily. A powerful killing intent and anger radiated from her body uncontrollably, causing the temperature of the room to plummet.

The scene where the map fragment along with her undergarment was taken flashed through her head. It made her anger and killing intent skyrocket even more.

"Two little juniors who weren't even Saint Kings actually managed to take something from you, with your strength. Th- this..." The man struggled to believe it.

Qing Yixuan sat up instantly and stared at the man with a pressuring gaze. She grumbled, "That was what happened. Whether you believe it or not is up to you. The poison has spread by quite a lot so I need to head back to the hall immediately. I'll be leaving." Qing Yixuan turned around and left as she fumed.

"Qing Yixuan, according to our agreement, I can't give it to you since you haven't finished the mission," said the middle-aged man.

Qing Yixuan fumbled slightly, before leaving the room. She thought, "I'll come back for the map fragment after I'm healed. You brats, I definitely won't let you off. I'll kill you even if I have to chase you to the ends of the earth."

Qing Yixuan quickly spat out a sentence before leaving, "The map fragment's not on me. It was taken by a human Saint Ruler and a Class 7 Magical Beast."

As her words were spread, it created a great commotion. Qing Yixuan, one of the eight renowned human experts, had actually been robbed by two puny Saint Rulers. This caused a lot of disbelief.

Despite the disbelief, the people in search for the map fragment still kept this in mind. Other than Qing Yixuan, they included humans and magical beast Saint Rulers in their search. They would stop and question almost every human or magical beast Saint Ruler they came by, leading to countless complaints and protests from both races. However, what could they do?

The previous patriarch, the current patriarch and the two protector elders of the Menghuang tribe gathered in the highest room of the tower in their tribe, each extremely stern.

Chapter 877: Emissary of the Serpent God Hall (Two)

After observing the pale expressions of the current patriarch and the two protector elders, the former patriarch asked, "Are the two experts recruited by the Dare tribe really as powerful as you've described, where one of them fought Xie Wang on an equal level while the other defeated the three of you all by himself?"

"Patriarch, they're definitely stronger than us. Now that the Dare tribe has such powerful supporters, just what should we do?" A protector elder grumbled. His voice was rather weak as he was injured.

The former patriarch frowned, also conflicted in his heart. The developments had already exceeded his expectations.

Several vast presences appeared outside at this very moment and directly made way for the tribe.

The sudden appearance of powerful auras caused the four of them to frown slightly but it was soon replaced by astonishment. The current patriarch immediately cried out, "It's Sen'er, Sen'er has returned."

Sen'er's name was Yensen. He was the great grandson of the current patriarch and was a prodigy in cultivation. His talent was so outstanding that he cultivated his way to Saint Ruler in the span of four hundred years, becoming an expert in the region. He then became valued by the Serpent God Hall and was chosen as an emissary of the hall then taken as a disciple of a hall elder. They held an extremely high regard for him and his future was very bright.

The entire Menghuang tribe had increased greatly in status all because of him. There were even people who predicted that he would reach Saint King in the distant future and reach great renown among the sea realm.

Yensen had already cultivated at the Serpent God Hall for over three hundred years as of the now. His strength was even more terrifying than before; other than those from the Serpent God Hall, there was barely anyone else who knew exactly what level of cultivation he had reached.

The four experts of the Menghuang tribe immediately left the tower to go and welcome him personally. The four of them cared deeply for Yensen, a talented junior who had an extremely great chance at breaking through to Saint King.

Four figures flew toward the tribe quickly. They were all young men in the same attire, with a serpent's embroidery at the left side of their chest. It was the emblem of the Serpent God Hall.

"Yensen, is that the tribe you were born in up ahead? Your seniors seem to be coming out to welcome you. Probably only you can enjoy such an honor." Laughed a young man who had a scaled forehead. His tone made him seem like he was currying up to Yensen.

"You don't say, hey? Yensen's the genius of our Serpent God Hall. He's ranked up there even among all the other emissaries. He'll definitely break through to the 15th Star and gloriously become an elder of our hall. He might even become a hall elder, an existence only second to the hall master," said another young man, praising Yensen without hiding anything. There was a faint pattern on his face but other than that, his appearance did not stand out.

Yensen was a young man who seemed to be in his twenties and was striking. He could not help but reveal a sliver of arrogance from the praises of his two companions and replied, "The two of you speak

too highly of me. Between the 14th Star and the 15th Star is a chasm that is extremely hard to bridge. We can't be certain if I can make it over that gap or not. There's still a difficult journey before I can become an elder."

"Yensen, we have an important mission this time. We need to return the item to the hall elders as soon as possible, so we can't stick around for too long. None of us can bear the burden if something goes wrong," said the last young man. He was a broad-chested man who seemed to be in his thirties. He spoke with an exceptionally icy tone and had a cool face.

Yensen frowned and retorted, "Da Hei, don't you understand the hall elders' orders? I'm the leader of the squad, not you. All of you need to listen to me. Since when did you become in charge?"

The young man immediately shut up and silently followed behind the three of them.

With Yensen's arrival, he received a warm welcome from the entire tribe but was quickly invited into the tower by the four experts.

Inside, the old patriarch explained the threat they currently faced to Yensen.

"What? Grandfather has been heavily injured? And the protector elders, you've been injured too! This is outrageous! Who dares bully my Menghaung tribe? Don't they know that I am a part of the tribe as well? I don't care who they are, I'm not going to be letting them off easily!" Yensen immediately became angered and slammed the table. As an emissary, he only feared organizations that possessed Saint Kings. Any other third-rate or second-rate force was not worthy of his attention.

"Fantastic! With Sen'er and the three emissaries' assistance, the two experts won't be able to pose any threat to us any longer." The current patriarch laughed happily. Yen Sen's sudden return was a blessing for the Menghuang tribe.

"Grandfather, protector elders, wait here. Sen'er will lead my three companions to go teach those two experts recruited by the Dare tribe a solid lesson. I'll let them know just how powerful we are," Yensen said with a sense of justice.

"Alright, alright, alright. It's about time that we, the Menghuang tribe, showed off our strength. It'll show the other tribes that we really are strong. Sen'er, just wait. The four of us will come with you as well," said the former patriarch.

Afterward, the four emissaries and the four experts of the Menghuang tribe departed and headed off for the Dare tribe threateningly.

Jian Chen and Nubis were currently discussing with the Dare tribe patriarch about how to deal with the Menghuang tribe tens of thousands of kilometers away. They had no clue that the Menghuang tribe had actually already set off and were charging toward them with ill-intent.

"Warriors, the Menghuang tribe probably won't be attacking my Dare tribe for the time being. How about you two stay at my tribe for these days? Would that work?" The patriarch treated Jian Chen and Nubis extremely courteously as if they were gods being worshipped.

"Patriarch, the two of us still have some other important matters to attend to. We won't be able to stay for too long. Since the Menghuang tribe isn't coming, why don't the two of us pay a visit to the Menghuang tribe with the patriarch tomorrow in the morning and completely alleviate the patriarch of the burden of dealing with the Menghuang tribe?" asked Jian Chen. He had come to the sea realm with the intention of getting some extra time to power up. He could not afford to spend so much time dealing with these miscellaneous matters.

Now that the problem of the monster cores had been resolved, Jian Chen only needed time before he could reach the third layer of the Chaotic Body and gain the power of a Saint King. Nubis still had some hidden essence to refine as well, so the day when he reached Class 8 was not far off either.

The patriarch of the Dare tribe naturally felt extremely regretful over their hurried needed to depart but he knew that his small tribe was not enough to get these two great experts to stay. All he could do was add, "Alright, let's go to the Menghuang tribe tomorrow and finish them off since the two of you have other important matters to attend. We definitely can't let them off so easily after taking an interest in us. If it's possible..." muttered the patriarch. The light in his eyes flickered as they revealed a bubbling wild ambition.

Jian Chen understood that the patriarch wanted to borrow their power to swallow up the Menghuang tribe. He said in reminder, "Patriarch, the two of us are only tasked with blocking and repelling the Menghuang tribe, to prevent them from forming any sort of threat to your tribe. We have not been called on to help you do other things."

A Space Ring appeared in Jian Chen's hand silently and he gently placed it before the patriarch. "Patriarch, here is two million and one hundred thousand grand quality crystal coins. We are returning it to the patriarch. Please accept it." He had obtained all these coins from killing the black-robed old man when he had saved Kai Ya outside Jass City.

The two of them went off to rest after their discussion with the patriarch, planning to pay a visit to the Menghuang tribe the very next day.

Although the sea realm had no night, they possessed a special way of keeping track of time, guaranteeing that the time here matched up with the world outside.

Jian Chen directly entered the artifact to check on the white tiger after he returned to his dwelling. The tiger curled up in the palace constructed by the artifact spirit in the size of a small cat, while a huge pile of thousand-year or even ten-thousand-year heavenly resources was placed nearby.

In the recent period, Jian Chen had not let the white tiger out and instead made it devour heavenly resources to increase its strength. After all, it was still too weak. It could not deal with any of the problems outside. There were also many more experts in the sea realm than on the Tian Yuan Continent.

"In the span of five years, the tiger has already reached the Fifth Cycle as a Heaven Saint Master. It's equal to a cycle a year. He'll probably be able to reach Class 7 in less than a year if he continues like this. At that time, he'll have the ability to flee even if he encounters Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers," muttered Jian Chen as he stared at the white tiger. Afterward, he left the artifact space.

In the morning of the next day, several grand presences suddenly began to surge forward from the horizon just as they planned to leave with the patriarch.

"Whoever injured the people of my Menghuang tribe, get out here right now and die!" A roar of anger resounded from the horizon. It was like a clap of thunder that echoed through the surroundings. Eight ant-like figures quickly approached them along the horizon.

"It's the people of the Menghuang tribe," muttered the patriarch as he stared into the distance.

"Just when we wanted to go looking for them, they've shown up themselves. Saves us quite some time," sneered Nubis. He completely looked down on these newcomers.

"The experts of the Menghuang tribe are attacking..."

"The Menghuang tribe is attacking..."

"Make all preparations! We will protect the tribe with our lives and die with it if we have to..."

The Dare tribe that was originally peaceful fell into a mess immediately after the thunderous voice echoed past. Thousands of tribesmen ran out from their huts. Their faces were either filled with determination, fear or dread.

The patriarch of the Dare tribe frowned slightly as he saw the tribe instantly fall into mayhem. He bellowed, "Don't worry! Our tribe has the assistance of two peak 14th Star warriors. We do not need to fear the Menghuang tribe!"

The members of the tribe remembered that they too had experts from the patriarch's words so they calmed down immediately.

The eight Saint Rulers of the Menghuang tribe arrived above the Dare tribe very quickly and surrounded them.

The strength of the group caused many people of the Dare tribe to frown. They had a total of eight Saint Rulers, far beyond any estimations made by the Dare tribe.

Yensen floated high in the sky arrogantly, staring coldly at the people below. He looked at them as he would look at ants and said haughtily, "I am Yensen of the Menghuang tribe, emissary of the Serpent God Hall. Your tribe dared to injure the people of my Menghuang tribe, so today, I, Yensen, will be representing the Serpent God Hall to punish the Dare tribe. Where are the patriarch and the other two accomplices? Why don't you hurry up and come to accept my punishment?"

"It's Yensen. He's Yensen, the prodigy of the Menghuang tribe..."

"Yensen's an emissary of the Serpent God Hall. His status is extremely great and yet he's actually come to our tribe. We're completely screwed this time."

"Four emissaries have come at the same time. Our tribe has no more hope anymore. Even if we have two 14th Star Seasoul Warriors, it won't change anything..."

Yensen's status as an emissary frightened quite a few people of the Dare tribe and caused them to fall into despair once again despite just regaining some hope earlier. They no longer felt lucky. To them, becoming enemies with the Serpent God Hall was a death sentence.

Emissaries of the halls could not be provoked!

#### Chapter 878: Two Against Eight

"Never did I think he had returned and would even come with three other emissaries." The Dare tribe patriarch could not help but become stern after seeing the four emissaries in the sky. Their appearance pressured him greatly.

"What bullsh\*t emissaries? Acting so brazenly before me, the great Nubis, have you grown sick of living?" Nubis felt no fear. He rushed into the sky with his aura released, facing Yensen's group along with Jian Chen a hundred meters in the sky.

Yensen stared coldly at the two of them and growled, "So you're the two who injured the protector elders and the patriarch of my tribe?"

"So what if we did? Brat, do you want to take revenge for them? Too bad you might not be able to with your current strength." Nubis crossed his arms and sneered at Yensen. His tone was scornful.

Yensen was a prodigy that rarely appeared even in a thousand years within the sea realm. He was raised in the palms of his seniors, maturing and being picked as an emissary of the hall. He had also taken an elder as his master. There were only a few people within the Serpent God Hall who could match his status so he was a prominent figure. Even ordinary 15th Star Seasoul Warriors needed to be courteous to him so how could he, such a highly-regarded prodigy, take Nubis' scornful words? He immediately became enraged and a thick killing intent began to pour out from his heart.

"I don't care which organization you belong to. I will be taking your life today. You need to learn the consequences of offending me. Do not challenge the dignity of a Serpent God Hall emissary." A trident appeared in Yensen's hand, which he directly used to stab at Nubis.

Immediately, the surrounding water-attributed energy condensed around the trident before forming a huge, trident-shaped figure. It stabbed toward Nubis with tremendous force.

Nubis turned into a blur and shot off into the distance with a slight movement. He said, "There are too many people here. I don't want to injure innocent people so if you want to fight, come with me."

Yensen's trident pierced through the blur left behind by Nubis and caused that region of space to tremble. The residual force shot off into the distance, disintegrating the mountain range over ten kilometers away.

Yensen pulled back the trident and immediately pursued Nubis. The three other emissaries followed closely behind him.

Jian Chen turned into a flash and followed Nubis. However, just as he did that, the space around him began to shake. A silver-white spear the thickness of an arm shot toward him from behind.

The former patriarch of the Menghuang tribe had also struck in that moment against Jian Chen, hitting him silently with an amush.

A cold light flashed in his eyes and Chaotic Force filled every inch of his body. Jian Chen pushed the Chaotic Body to its limits.

A faint, golden glow immediately appeared as the vast energies of the spear struck Jian Chen's back. In this crucial moment, the golden silkmail had blocked the spear's attack.

However, the former patriarch was a Saint Ruler of the Eighth Heavenly Layer—the silkmail was unable to block the power of his attack. Its defenses collapsed while the spear continued onward with a decrease in force and brutally struck Jian Chen in the back.

But what happened next caused the four experts of the Menghuang tribe to become wide-eyed and drowned in disbelief. The spear did not impale Jian Chen as expected when it struck him and instead came to a stop after it hit. It was unable to continue any further. It seemed like the spear had struck a steel board, not a human.

"H- how is that possible !?"

"His defense is so powerful! Is he part of the Turtle clan?"

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The four experts all cried out. Not only was their opponent powerful, the toughness of his body was also anomalous. This exceeded all their expectations, immediately pressuring them greatly. This was because it would be extremely difficult for them to pose a threat to an opponent with such powerful defense with their strength.

"People of the Menghuang tribe, since you've decided to take the initiative and attack, you can't really blame me." Jian Chen pulled out the Dragon Slaying Sword coldly. He shot toward the four experts and began a grand battle with them in the sky.

Three of the four were all Saint Rulers below the Fifth Heavenly Layer. Only the former patriarch belonged to the Eighth but Jian Chen's Chaotic Body could withstand attacks from the Seventh. Together with the golden silkmail, it was extremely difficult for the former patriarch to harm him.

On another side, Nubis and Yensen fought each other a hundred kilometers away. Yensen was an emissary, so he was much more powerful than ordinary Saint Rulers. Unfortunately, he was only of the Eighth Heavenly Layer and was not Nubis' opponent at all. He had already fallen into a disadvantaged position as soon as they began fighting.

"It's like an idiot's dream for you to want to punish me with your strength." Nubis laughed aloud. He detested Yensen's arrogant, condescending attitude so he did not hold back with the offensive language.

Nubis' hands were surrounded by surging Saint Force. He used his left hand to grab the trident as he slapped Yensen's face with his right.

Yensen wanted to dodge but the surrounding space suddenly froze and trapped him tightly. Even though it only lasted momentarily, it was enough to shave away Yensen's time to dodge or block.

Slap!

With a crisp blow, Yensen took a solid slap to the face. It was very powerful, causing Yensen's handsome face to swell and bulge. Even a few teeth were knocked out.

Yensen became stunned by this slap. He seemed to reject the reality of things. He had displayed a prodigious talent ever since he was young and had grown up in the protection and care of his seniors. Even after he joined the Serpent God Hall, he was raised as a genius. Even most of the other emissaries

treated him politely, unwilling to provoke or anger him. This gradually groomed a certain arrogance within him, while Nubis' slap directly knocked the light out of him. He had never been so insulted in his entire life.

The three emissaries who watched on the side also became stunned as Yensen took the slap. A light of disbelief flooded from their eyes. Yensen was an emissary, as well as the disciple of a hall elder. His status was grand, yet there was actually someone who ignored the pride of the Serpent God Hall by slapping Yensen in the face. This was inconceivable.

This was due to the fact that in the territory of the Serpent God Hall, even Saint Kings of peak clans did not dare to treat emissaries as such. The emissaries were equivalent to the spokespeople of the Serpent God Hall—slapping them was that same as slapping the Serpent God Hall.

Yensen returned to his senses very quickly. He immediately fell into a rage as he felt the scorching pain on his face. This rage engulfed his mind and almost drove him mad.

"Argh! I will kill you! I will kill you!" roared Yensen. His eyes became bloodshot—as a person blessed with talent, he could not withstand this humiliation. He immediately began to thrust the trident wildly at Nubis.

Nubis causally dodged the attacks and sniggered, "You're dreaming if you want to kill me with your puny strength." As he said that, Nubis threw a fist at Yensen's chest, knocking him flying as he vomited blood. His chest caved in and quite a few ribs broke.

Yensen stabilized himself very quickly and swallowed a recovery pill from his Space Ring. Afterward, he roared at the other three people nearby, "All of you get him together! The dignity of the Serpent God Hall cannot be tainted!"

The three other emissaries hesitated slightly, before finally all pulling out their own weapons and beginning their fight with Nubis. The three of them were not weak—two of them were of the Eighth Heavenly Layer, while the burly, cold-faced emissary was of the Ninth. He possessed an equal level of cultivation to Nubis.

Meanwhile, Jian Chen battled the four experts from the Menghuang tribe several kilometers away. The intensity of the battle attracted the attention of all the tribesmen below, each and every one of them was observing with interest. Such a high-level battle between experts was extremely rare for these weak tribesmen. They gained quite a lot out of it as they watched from below.

Three of the four experts had not fully recovered from their injuries. Only the former patriarch possessed his peak strength, so even though they fought Jian Chen with numbers, they still failed to match him evenly. As soon as the battle began, they fell into a disadvantaged position where they were suppressed.

# Ding!

With the Ruler Armament, Jian Chen possessed the strength of a Ninth Heavenly Layer Saint Ruler in battle. He flicked the former patriarch's spear away with his sword, before jolting his arm. He stabbed out three times instantaneously, each strike with unbelievable speed. He seemed to have cut through

time, breaking through the restrictions of space and the stabbing three of them mercilessly through the chest before they could even react.

Fresh blood unceasingly from their wounds—when the sword had impaled them, it left behind a small residue of Chaotic Force which wreaked havoc in their bodies.

### Argh!

The three experts all cried out in pain. Chaotic Force rampaged in them, bringing on an unendurable agony. They immediately lost the ability to battle and all fell to the ground before crossing their legs. They circulated all the energy within them to obliterate the strand of Chaotic Force.

Although there was very little of it, the Chaotic Force was undoubtedly powerful. All they could do was forcefully suppress the Chaotic Force from tearing through their bodies with their full strength below the Fifth Heavenly Layer. They were unable to purge it immediately.

An ear-piercing boom appeared from behind. The former patriarch formed walls of blurs as he wielded his spear which surrounded Jian Chen. The sharp tip stabbed toward Jian Chen with powerful ripples of energy in an attempt to harm him.

The corner of Jian Chen's mouth curled up into a scornful smile. His sword was famed for its speed yet the former patriarch wanted to compete with him in this aspect. This undoubtedly was dooming himself.

This was because once speed reached a certain level, the body and arms would also have to withstand a great pressure. Without a powerful body as a support, it could not be increased any further. Jian Chen's powerful body guaranteed him to be the victor in speed.

Jian Chen's right arm jolted abruptly. His sword stabbed out with an unbelievable speed as his arm drove it and stabbed out thousands of times in just a short moment. The flashes of the sword packed together densely, layering on top of one another and blotting out the sky. It completely filled up the space before him.

Ding! Ding! Ding! Ding! Ding...

The flashes of swords and spears constantly collided mid-air and produced a series of screeches which completely fused together. Every time they collided, a powerful force would burst out and cause the surrounding space to tremble. Meanwhile, the ground below was also struck by the residue energy, splitting and forming spider-web cracks.

In just a few seconds, the sky full of sword and spear flashes disappeared, revealing Jian Chen and the former patriarch.

# Chapter 879: Daylight Robbery

Jian Chen stood with his sword in hand. He did not borrow any types of energy to float in the sky, while the wild wind whistled. His clothes flapped freely in the wind as his hair swayed. He stood like an undefeatable war god.

After the intense battle, Jian Chen's clothes remained completely untouched other than the hole caused by the initial ambush.

On the other hand, the former patriarch was in a worse condition. He was disheveled, covered in countless vicious sword slashes and his clothes were dyed red. He seemed to be made of blood, which was terrifying.

He breathed heavily as he hung at an altitude of a thousand meters. The five-meter-long spear drooped powerlessly to the ground as if he no longer had the power to raise it.

In his battle with Jian Chen, he suffered an utter loss with his strength as a Saint Ruler of the Eighth Heavenly Layer. Other than the initial ambush, he had not even managed to touch the corner of Jian Chen's clothes and had instead fallen into such a horrible condition himself.

"I thank the warrior for your mercy. May I ask who this warrior is and how this warrior would like to be referred as?" The former patriarch growled. His voice was slightly feeble. He knew extremely well that Jian Chen had countless chances to kill him before. This was because his attacks were completely suppressed by Jian Chen. The way Jian Chen struck out with the sword was just too fast, reaching an unbelievable level.

"I belong to no organization! I am Yang Yutian!" Jian Chen replied calmly.

"Whatever. Since the Dare tribe has such a powerful warrior supporting them, we, the Menghuang tribe, will be retreating. According to the rules of our realm, my Menghuang tribe cannot touch the Dare tribe again in the next hundred years," the former patriarch said dejectedly. Even though he was unwilling to give up on this attack, he could do nothing. His tribe possessed Yensen, an emissary of the Serpent God Hall but the three halls never interfered with battles over territory.

Yensen could only bring honor to the Menghuang tribe and elevate their status. They could not use his connection with the Serpent God Hall to strengthen the tribe.

Jian Chen's battle had come to a conclusion but Nubis' had yet to come to an end. Three Eight Heavenly Layer Saint Rulers and one Ninth Heavenly Layer emissary engaged in an intense battle with Nubis. Every time they clashed, great booms would ring out while the violent residue energy churned the surroundings. It caused the space to tremble and the ground to crack.

"You four kiddos aren't weak but too bad your strength in battle is not enough. I can take on ten of you guys at the same time," said Nubis as he fought. He fought them easily and skilfully even though there were four of them. Probably only Saint Kings could pressure Nubis nowadays.

"I won't be messing with you all any longer, in case someone tells me off for wasting time again," Nubis said with a laughed. His attacks suddenly became vicious, dodging their attacks and plunging his two hands into the chests of two of the emissaries. He impaled them before he threw a kick at Yensen's head with lightning speed. It jolted up his origin soul and knocked him out immediately.

In the blink of an eye, three of the four emissaries had lost their abilities for battle.

The last person was of the Ninth Heavenly Layer and named Da Hei. He could not help but react greatly but he did not choose to retreat. Instead, he wielded his trident as he stabbed it toward Nubis with all his might.

Nubis stuck out a finger and a golden thread shot from the tip of it. It bound the trident tightly. Nubis then planted a vicious kick onto Da Hei's chest as he took advantage of the situation. Nubis had basically

put all his strength into that kick. It sent Da Hei flying off into the distance as he vomited blood, while the bones near the area his foot had landed turned to smithereens. His organs were also greatly wounded and had started to crack. It caused him to bleed from his seven orifices.

All four emissaries were knocked to the ground by Nubis. One had fainted directly, while the three others were heavily injured and pale-faced.

Nubis descended from the sky and smiled at the three emissaries. He mocked them and said, "How is it, you superior emissaries? How's the feeling of being beat up? It must be very novel. Tell me, just who's punishing who?"

"You dare to injure the emissaries of the Serpent God Hall. It doesn't matter who you are, you don't have much time to live..."

"The hall elders will definitely avenge us. They'll definitely wipe out your soul. The hall will not accept any offense against emissaries."

The two people who sucked up to Yensen earlier glared at Nubis and they ground their teeth. Rage burned in their eyes. As emissaries of the Serpent God Hall, they each had a superiority complex. They believed that they were greater than other people. They could not accept anyone treating them like this as to them it was a great humiliation.

Nubis was angered. A cold light flickered in his eyes, while stern killing intent appeared on his face. He sneered, "Heh, quite brave to say that I'll have my soul wiped out. Since that's the case, why don't I let you experience it first?"

"What arrogance. I doubt you have the courage to kill an emissary of the hall," said one of them with a snicker at his threat.

"Since you want to die so badly, I'll grant your wish." Killing intent swelled in Nubis' eyes. Five fine golden threads suddenly shot from his fingertips, turning into five streaks of golden light as they shot for the center of their eyebrows. He intended to wipe out their souls.

The surrounding space froze abruptly at the same time under Nubis's control. He tightly locked the three of them in place, preventing any of them from escaping. All they could do was watch as their deaths drew near.

The expression of the emissary who had provoked Nubis earlier finally changed as he sensed Nubis' killing intent. A shred of fear permeated his heart. He had never thought that there would be someone foolish enough to kill an emissary in the territory of the Serpent God Hall.

In that moment, their minds all fell into disarray. They were superior emissaries who possessed highlyregarded statuses with bright future. Reaching the 15th Star was only an issue of time for them. None of them wanted to die right now.

"Nubis, stop!" A yell appeared from far away at this moment. It was Jian Chen who quickly drew near.

The golden threads stopped an inch away from the emissaries' foreheads. Nubis glanced toward Jian Chen. He hesitated slightly before he pulling his hand back and releasing the golden threads.

Jian Chen arrived beside Nubis. "Nubis, just spare their lives."

"Alright. Since you're speaking for them, I'll just spare their lives this time. But we need to take their Space Rings," said Nubis.

Jian Chen did not reject this idea. Ever since they had come to the sea realm, what they lacked the most was money. The four emissaries probably possessed quite a lot of it in their Space Rings and collecting some could never be a bad thing. If they ever came across something important that they required, at least they would not have to worry about money.

When they heard how Nubis wanted to take their Space Rings, the three of them reacted immediately. One of them cried out, "No, you can't take our Space Rings."

Nubis' face darkened as he spoke, "Your Space Rings or your life. Choose one. If you want to live, then leave behind your Space Rings. Otherwise, I'm not going to be showing any mercy."

The three of them dwelled on this matter for quite some time, before finally coming to an agreement. They unwillingly took off their Space Rings and handed them over to Nubis.

Afterward, Nubis arrived before the fainted Yensen and also took his ring.

The expressions of the three conscious emissaries immediately became extremely ugly as they watched Yensen's Space Ring get taken. They all gritted their teeth without saying anything.

"Alright, you can leave." Nubis waved his hand and dismissed the three of them impatiently.

The three emissaries endured their injuries as they stood up, leaving with dirty appearances and Yensen on their backs.

Nubis played around with the four Space Rings and said, "They should have quite a lot of crystal coins in there as emissaries."

"Let's go first. We've helped the Dare tribe deal with the Menghuang tribe, so it's about time we left," said Jian Chen. Afterward, they returned to the Dare tribe once again.

When they returned, they witnessed the Dare tribe patriarch and the Menghuang tribe patriarch signing something similar to a blood contract. The contract was a rule for determining the victor in the conflicts between organizations.

"You four hand over the Space Rings on you," Nubis said arrogantly to the four of them.

The four experts all reacted with frowns as they heard these words. The former patriarch controlled himself and said, "According to the rules, we only need to pay up some crystal coins. Taking the Space Rings is something that breaks the rules. We can't do that."

"Shut the f\*ck up, what bullsh\*t rules, hurry up and cough up the Space Rings," growled Nubis. He was actually using the situation to rob people.

The expressions of the four experts of the Menghuang tribe changed. However, due to Nubis and Jian Chen's strength, they felt extremely intimidated. As a result, they said nothing and obediently took off their Space Rings, handing them over to Nubis.

Chapter 880: A Mysterious Key

The four experts of the Menghuang tribe were forced to give their Space Rings to Nubis and then left with their injuries.

Jian Chen did not take their lives and removed the sliver of Chaotic Force in the three of them. Even if you ignored the fact that he really did not have any hatred for them, the Menghuang tribe also had a person who was a part of the Serpent God Hall. Killing these three would probably cause some problems.

Jian Chen had only come to the sea realm to seek refuge and gain some more time to power up, he naturally did not wish for something like that to happen.

"Patriarch, since the matters regarding the Menghuang tribe has been resolved, we have completed our mission. We shall bid you farewell," Jian Chen said it plainly with clasped hands to the Dare tribe patriarch after the departure of the group from the Menghuang tribe.

"Warriors, you must be exhausted from the battle before. Why don't you rest for a few days with my tribe, so that we can properly thank you for your deeds?" urged the patriarch.

Jian Chen shook his head. "I thank the patriarch for his good will but we really have important things that we need to go deal with. We cannot delay any longer."

Jian Chen and Nubis left immediately after declining the patriarch. They had come to the sea realm to increase their strength and not to play. They could not waste too much time on these miscellaneous matters.

The patriarch secretly sighed inside as he watched Jian Chen and Nubis leave. He mumbled, "Just how great would it have been if those two powerful warriors could stay with our tribe forever? It's a pity my puny tribe can't take them in."

The grand elder of the tribe walked over to the patriarch's side. "Patriarch, the two warriors have injured the four emissaries from the Serpent God Hall. Do you think the hall will take this as offense?" The grand elder was worried.

The patriarch shook his head. "Battles between emissaries and tribes itself is already breaking the rules of the hall. It'll be very fortunate for them if they avoid punishment once they get back. Why would the hall punish us over such small matters?"

"The tribe's like the citizens of the hall. The hall does not take part in arguments and disagreements between citizens unless it gets out of hand. They don't just take sides so casually."

•••

Nubis and Jian Chen traveled at an altitude of a thousand meters. Nubis constantly sniggered as he played around with the eight Space Rings. He was guessing just how many crystal coins there were in there.

Along the way, the two of them encountered many groups of Saint Rulers and even Saint Kings who were looking around. They were searching for the traces of the Octoterra Map fragment—they would stop human Saint Rulers and Class 7 Magical Beasts whenever they came across any and would question

them. Some Saint Kings even chose to take a more brutal method, directly taking and looking through their Space Rings.

Jian Chen and Nubis had been stopped many times as well but since their presences were the Sea race's, very few people came forward to look for trouble on purpose. However, they did come across a few unreasonable groups of Saint Rulers who wanted to search through their Space Rings forcefully and this almost led to battle.

Jian Chen and Nubis were on the move for an entire day before they finally stopped when they arrived at a desolate mountain range. They carved out a cave in the depths of the range and settled down temporarily. They wanted to spend the next period of time cultivating.

Jian Chen did not rush over the matter of searching for the Octoterra Map. There were experts everywhere in search of the map fragment right now, so if these experts found out they were the ones in possession of the fragment, the pair would be hunted down by everyone. At that time, keeping it would become extremely difficult.

Jian Chen lodged a luminous pearl into the roof of the cave and the darkness was illuminated slightly. On the other hand, Nubis squatted down on the side and began to look through the eight Space Rings.

Nubis really gained quite the harvest this time. There were great quantities of crystal coins—a total of over thirty million—as well as some miscellaneous items in the rings. The amount astonished the two of them.

There were also some cultivation methods, insight on cultivation, as well as two Heaven Tier Battle Skills. However, they were only useful for Heaven Saint Masters and meant nothing to the two of them so Nubis casually threw them to one side.

At this very moment, an extremely obscure energy began to radiate from the large pile of objects. It drew in Nubis' curiosity, so he poured out the pile from the Space Ring before he started to rummage through it.

An ordinary metal square box around thirty centimeters long and wide was soon pulled out. Nubis examined it curiously and said, "The thing inside must be very valuable." He then proceeded to open it slowly.

The metal box was made of a very special material. Obviously, it could isolate and block out the ripples of energy inside. It was extremely difficult to discover any energy radiations when it was closed but as soon as it was opened, it would begin to pervade the surroundings.

The energy was powerful and vast, like an emperor of the world. With its appearance, the waterattributed energy in the radius of several dozen kilometers quietened down as if they were scared. It was also like they had met their ruler and they all fell to the ground in subservience.

"That's too obvious. It'll attract the attention of other experts. Hurry up and enter the saint artifact," Jian Chen growled. Before he could take a closer look at the object in the box, a streak of golden light shot out from between his eyebrows and turned into a golden tower. Afterward, it sucked the two of them into the artifact space with the metal box. A woman silently appeared in the empty cave after they had been sucked away. She was elegant and her face was concealed by a veil. If Jian Chen and Nubis saw her, they would definitely recognize her as that mysterious woman who gave them the Water Spirit's Pearls.

The light in the woman's eyes flickered as they became icy. She murmured, "Never would I think that some emperor's charged into the Sea of Despair and obtained a piece of Abyssal Crystal then forged it into a key. Did you really think you could find me with that key?"

Jian Chen and Nubis suddenly appeared in the central hall of the artifact space. A cool aura immediately began to expand from all directions with them as the center. It filled the surrounding region with dense water-attributed energy.

"Master, what's that?" The artifact spirit appeared silently beside Jian Chen. The light in his eyes flickered with suspicion as he stared at the object in the metal box curiously.

Jian Chen and Nubis stared fixedly at the item in the box. Currently, the box had been completely encased in a ball of water-blue light. They could vaguely see a palm-sized key lying inside. All the bright light originated from the key.

Jian Chen carefully lifted the key from the box to examine it. The blue light illuminated their faces, dyeing the two of them blue. They seemed rather demonic.

"It's actually a key. Is this the key to some treasure?" said Nubis as a guess.

Jian Chen pondered about the key before returning it to the box. He slowly closed the lid and growled, "This key must open something important. It can't be for something insignificant. I just wonder whether the item belongs to the emissary himself or the Serpent God Hall. If it was only his, then that would be easy, though it would be problematic if it was the hall's.

"Jian Chen, looks like we need to find another place that's even further away before we go into secluded cultivation. Just in case the people of the Serpent God Hall come looking for us." Nubis suggested.

Jian Chen nodded. "Artifact spirit, I'll leave the box here with your for now. Take care of it for me."

"Yes, master!" The artifact spirit replied hurriedly.

Jian Chen left the artifact space with Nubis afterward. They returned to the cave. They no longer wanted to stick around the area, they quickly shoved the pile back into the Space Ring and left immediately. They flew away.

At the same time, the four emissaries, including Yensen, returned to the Serpent God Hall in a horrible shape. They narrated what they had experienced on the way to a hall elder.

The hall elder was a burly man in sleeveless clothes. His face was vicious and radiated with a brutal aura. The emissaries all trembled before him as they experienced a fear from the very depths of their souls. This was equivalent to the pressure of a bloodline, a phenomenon when the weak faced the strong.

"What! You actually lost it!?" The hall elder fell into a rage when he heard that the four of them had lost their Space Rings. His eyes quickly narrowed into a glare. They became like two swords that could make space tremble stabbed the void. All four emissaries knelt on the ground as they trembled. They were terrified.

"You four pieces of trash! The reason why we got the four of you to bring it back was to deceive others! Haven't those pathetic elders told you just how important that item is to the Serpent God Hall before you left? Not only did you go to provoke others when carrying something so important, you even lost it in the end! Do I have any reason to keep you all around!?" The middle-aged man broke into a howl. He directly threw a punch toward the four of them as he reached the end of these words.

"Charlie, calm down!" boomed an old voice. Immediately, a blue screen of light appeared and encased the four emissaries.

As the man's fist collided with the blue screen, it began to tremble violently before it shattered in the end. The remaining force landed mercilessly on the four emissaries, causing them to all vomit blood. They shot back like cannonballs and struck the wall behind them viciously.

An old man walked in unhurriedly with a cane. The burly man stared coldly at him and growled, "Look at the 'good disciple' you took in. He has actually lost something so important. You should know just how important that item is to the hall master. Neither of us can bear the wrath of the hall master."

The old man replied calmly, "Charlie, the item has already been lost. Even if you kill the four of them, it won't be of any help. Our top priority is to get it back before the hall master comes out of seclusion. We need to fix our mistakes."