

# Dragon War God

## - - Chapter 911 - General Su Mo

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The moment Ye Xuan appeared, the crowd roared. There was nothing but praise for her, and only pure admiration filled the eyes of women, without a hint of jealousy or other negative emotions. This simple observation showed that Ye Xuan was very successful in terms of both cultivation and her work ethic. The people genuinely admired her.

Ye Xuan had a smile on her face. She was looking in the direction of the city gates when a young man appeared at the gates and slowly approached.

An earth-shattering shriek came from the eastern section of the city, causing everyone to look up. A densely packed group of hundreds of people was approaching from the east. They were dressed differently compared to the people in the city; they were clad in ink-green armor and were sophisticated-looking. Their armor contained great power, and the combined power of hundreds of Divine Martial Realm experts exerted intimidating pressure on the whole city. Although they were not deliberately releasing killing intent, the faint killing intent that they innately emanated was terrifying enough.

The cold aura pressed on the crowd.

The crowd was still emotional, especially the youths, because these Divine Martial Realm Underworld Soldiers were people who led thousands of people; they were worshiped!

“The Underworld Soldiers have come!”

“There are hundreds of Divine Martial Realm soldiers here! That’s basically half of the experts in the Underworld Army!”

“The leader must be General Su Mo. Indeed, he is handsome.”

Listening to their conversations, Long Chen looked at the man in front of the group. He was a middle-aged man who was not wearing armor, but instead dressed in black brocade robes. Admittedly, he was a very charismatic, handsome man, the type similar to Dongfang Xuanxiao. However, he was even more handsome and had a demonic quality when compared to Dongfang Xuanxiao. He had a pair of ink-green eyes that resembled deep, emerald lakes with bright lights flowing within.

Long Chen sensed that his aura was similar to Ye Xuan’s aura.

Su Mo led the Underworld Soldiers closer to Ye Xuan. This man had an unforgettable sophistication to him. He was more like a scholar than a general who led millions of soldiers.

“Xuan’er, I apologize for being late. I had to deal with some matters. I’ll drink a few more cups tonight to ask for your forgiveness,” said the middle-aged man with a salute.

Long Chen guessed that Su Mo was likely over a hundred years old, or maybe hundreds. However, to experts at the Divine Martial Realm, he was still a young prodigy. This was the Royal Territory with countless masters; the lifespans of Divine Martial Realm experts were terrifying compared to the Heavenly Martial Realm. Heavenly Martial Realm experts could live up to two thousand years, while Divine Martial Realm masters could live up to ten thousand years.

“It’s alright.” Ye Xuan smiled. From her tone and expression, it seemed like she had long recognized Su Mo as her future partner.

She was still looking in the direction of the city gates. Su Mo, who was next to her, looked in the same direction and smiled. A teenager who looked similar to Ye Xuan entered passed through the gates.

Long Chen looked at him as well. He indeed looked like Ye Xuan, and he gave off a youthful aura that hinted at a young age. However, Long Chen sensed an aura that was similar to that of Divine Martial Realm masters coming from him.

“Twenty-nine years old; First Divine Martial Stage. Not bad, not bad. Xuan’er, is this your youngest brother? The one with the same name as you?” Su Mo smiled as warmly as the spring breeze.

“We don’t have the same name. He is Ye Xuan, written like: 轩.[1] And as for my name ... You know how to write it.” The beautiful City Lord smiled. Then she waved at the teenager at the gates and said, “My dear brother! I haven’t seen you in five years! I can’t believe you’ve reached the Divine Martial Realm so soon. I thought you’d need ten more years.”

When the teenager named Ye Xuan saw his sister, he also broke into a smile and ascended, flying towards her.

“It’s been five years, and you’re still as pretty as always, my sister. As for myself—I’ve only gotten uglier,” joked Ye Xuan, looking his sister up and down.

“Nonsense. I hear you have many fans over at the estate. Why have you come to Underworld City all of a sudden? I heard from Father that you’d like to join the Underworld Army?” City Lord Ye Xuan asked directly.

“Yeah. I want to train at the Underworld Battlefield,” said the youth, nodding.

“You want to join the Underworld Army? You could have registered over at the estate too. I think you just wanted to see your sister. Don’t worry. Now that you’re in Underworld City, you won’t have any issues joining the army with me here.” Su Mo had not spoken since the two siblings reunited, only chiming in when they discussed the Underworld Army.

“Right. Look at how forgetful I’ve become.” City Lord Ye Xuan looked at Su Mo apologetically and then said to her brother, “This is the famous General Su Mo. He is the highest-ranked official of the Underworld Army in Underworld City, and my best friend. If you want to join the Underworld Army, you need his permission.”

Looking in the direction she pointed at, the youth looked Su Mo up and down, then laughed and said, “Of course I have heard of you. You’re my sister’s fiancé, but you guys haven’t gotten married because your cultivation isn’t strong enough. Am I right?”

The youth’s sudden remark was very rude. Many people had colorful expressions on their faces when they heard him. The soldiers standing behind Su Mo were also privately upset when they heard their own general being insulted. If Su Mo had not given prior instructions to them, they would have raged at him.

If he wanted to insult someone, he should not have done it in public.

Su Mo had an awkward expression. He looked at the youth for a second, stunned, then replied resignedly after a long time, “Indeed, I feel embarrassed about it. Xuan’er is a super-prodigy. I have done my best, yet my cultivation has not caught up to hers yet. However, I will surely succeed one day.”

City Lord Ye Xuan was also put in a tough spot, seeing how her brother had cornered Su Mo into this situation. She glared at him and said, “You’re being so rude. As for that matter between him and I—he was the one who insisted on marrying me only after his cultivation level surpassed mine. It wasn’t a condition I set. Don’t listen to gossip. Alright, since you’re here, I’m taking you to my estate first. We haven’t seen each other in five years!”

“Alright.” The youth smiled nonchalantly, though he did not seem to like Su Mo.

City Lord Ye Xuan nodded and said to Su Mo, “My younger brother has come to Underworld City. I will be holding a feast, and since our brothers from the Underworld Army are here, let’s all celebrate together.”

Su Mo nodded, and both parties flew towards the City Lord’s estate. It was a magnificent sight. After a while, all the Divine Martial Realm cultivators disappeared from sight.

“They’re gone.

“The beautiful City Lord and General Su Mo.”

Everyone felt like they had not had enough.

“The boy Ye Xuan is only twenty-nine, yet he is already a Divine Martial Realm expert! That’s amazing!”

The crowd started to discuss.

Long Chen was impressed too. Ye Xuan looked similar to Xiaolang. Going by the Ten Thousand Nations Territory’s standards, he would be around fifteen years old.

Reaching the Divine Martial Realm at such a young age proved that he was an impressive prodigy. The Su and Ye families were major clans in the Underworld Estate. If the young prodigies they raised were this impressive, then Long Chen could roughly guess how strong their families were.

*This is just the Underworld Estate, and the strongest people are already at the Seventh and Eighth Divine Martial Stages. How strong is the whole Eastern Royal District? How strong is the True Martial Palace? The True Martial Palace seems to be similar in strength to the Swordsoul Palace ...*

Based on this information, Long Chen’s estimate of the Swordsoul Palace’s strength far surpassed his imagination.

*I don’t care anymore. I just need to get to the Divine Martial Realm as fast as possible. Then I will have the right to think about other matters.*

After Ye Xuan and the others left, the other people in the crowd also walked away. However, they were still very excited.

“Young Master Ye Xuan is going to join the Underworld Army. With his cultivation, he should be able to become a Thousand-Sergeant the moment he joins, right?”

“That’s not completely certain. Within the Underworld Army, battle contribution is still important. Both strength and battle contribution are used as benchmarks. Young Master Ye Xuan does not have battle results yet, and if he is instantly promoted to Thousand Sergeant, the others won’t be happy, right?”

“That’s impossible. Ye Xuan is the City Lord’s younger brother, and General Su Mo is the City Lord’s fiancé. The other Underworld Soldiers will surely give General Su Mo face in this matter. Just wait and see. I’m guessing that Ye Xuan will become a Thousand-Sergeant the moment he joins, or at least a Hundred-Sergeant.”

Amidst the discussions, Long Chen headed towards the eastern side of the city. He heard that the Ghost Arena would open in three days, so he found a relatively luxurious hotel nearby and stayed there. The building’s walls, tables, and chairs had been reinforced with

various runes, making them very sturdy. People who fought in this hotel would not even be able to break a chair if they were below the Divine Martial Realm.

It was said that the boss of this hotel was related to the people in the City Lord's estate.

It cost five hundred Emperor Crystals to stay a night at this hotel. However, Long Chen was rich now and had robbed someone to get the money, so he did not care about the cost.

The hotel emphasized the guests' privacy.

Long Chen's room could be described as "sealed in all directions," so normal people could not even approach it. It was definitely a suitable environment to cultivate in.

He took out the Divine Martial Condensation Pill and peered at it. This was his hope for reaching the Divine Martial Realm.

*Xiaolang is in the Desolate Royal Territory, while Lingxi is in the Swordsoul Territory, and I am in the True Martial Territory. I'll get Xiaolang after I have found Ling Xi.*

After making his plan, he took the opportunity to immerse himself in cultivation.

1. TL Note: Ye Xuan (叶轩) is the boy, and Ye Xuan (叶萱) is the girl, and they sound the same in Mandarin too. I will try to differentiate them by referring to the girl as City Lord Ye Xuan, and to the boy as "the youth". ㄟ

## - Chapter 912 – Ye Xuan

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The good weather turned into heavy rain that night. Time passed quickly when Long Chen was cultivating. After he studied the Emperor's Manual for a while, the sky had already turned dark. Thunder rumbled frequently, and even cultivators were too lazy to head out in such heavy rain. Furthermore, they usually rested or cultivated at night anyway.

Long Chen opened the elegant windows. Through the veil of rain, he could see flickering lights throughout Underworld City. The city looked eerie in the storm as its black buildings appeared and disappeared in the night. It was not as bustling as it was during the day.

"What is it? Are you thinking about love, brat?" Behind Long Chen, the fuzzy Little Cat leaped from the floor to the window. When he saw the heavy rain, he quickly retreated to the room.

Long Chen was not thinking about anything. He had noticed someone walking in the rain on the street in front. He was using his essence to form a protective layer around him so that he would not get wet from the rain.

All cultivators could do this.

What intrigued Long Chen was that he recognized this person. It was the young prodigy he had seen earlier that day, the youth Ye Xuan. He seemed to be taking a leisurely stroll in the rain, below Long Chen's window.

"Does he like walking that much?" This youth's eyes did not contain the type of arrogance found in the young progeny of other clans, as if they were number one in the world. Instead, there was a certain quietness to them. Although he was young, he looked like he had a mature personality.

Long Chen was about to close the window. Ye Xuan and him were not from the same world.

Just before he closed them though, through his Soul Swallowing Gaze, he spotted a dark silhouette quickly approaching Ye Xuan from the back.

He could not even see the person clearly due to how fast they were traveling.

Based on this person's aggressive aura, they held malicious intent towards the youth.

This was City Lord Ye Xuan's territory, and the youth was her brother. He had only just arrived, yet someone wanted to kill him. Why?

This was a fight between two Divine Martial Realm experts.

Long Chen pulled in the shutters until only a tiny gap remained. Through the gap, he watched them.

Ye Xuan was indeed an expert. Despite the vigorous storm, he still sensed the ambusher's presence. He turned quickly and then fought the attacker so intensely that even Long Chen could not see them clearly.

"Second Divine Martial Stage! Who are you?" Throughout the exchange, Long Chen only heard this question. Then he saw both get thrown back into the air. Although he could not see exactly how intense the duel was, based on the rumbling from the trembling hotel, he probably could not even survive the residual ripples of the fight between the two Divine Martial Realm experts.

The fight both started and progressed quickly.

The killer wanted to kill the youth, but this was City Lord Ye Xuan's turf too. Therefore, the attacker had to use the quickest method to kill him, or his goal would not be achieved.

"Sister! Save me!"

*Boom!* The attacker was one stage above the youth, and in the Divine Martial Realm, one stage was not a small gap at all. The immense attack caused blood to spray out of the youth's mouth as he flew towards the hotel!

*What are the odds of this?* Long Chen was speechless. He quickly backed off, and Ye Xuan crashed into his room and onto the ground.

The wall, despite being reinforced with runes, shattered.

There was even a large crater on the floor where the youth landed.

Ye Xuan's gaze was cold. His face was pale, and there was blood on the corner of his mouth.

At the last moment, Long Chen suddenly made a decision. He said softly, "I'll save you. Don't fight back!"

Then he activated the energy from the Primordial Realm so that it sucked Ye Xuan inside. Once inside, Ye Xuan would surely be safe and sound.

Ye Xuan had only just spotted the young man next to him when the Primordial Realm sucked him in. He only had a moment to process, then he was tugged in. A second later, the floor where Ye Xuan previously stood collapsed. Long Chen stood next to the wall, so he did not crash downstairs along with the cloud of dust.

Thankfully, no one was staying in the room downstairs.

Right after Long Chen put Ye Xuan away, the attacker, who was dressed in all black, stormed in angrily. After he entered, he realized that Ye Xuan's aura was gone.

"Where is he?" The killer looked at Long Chen with an icy glare. He radiated an eerie and dark aura, and his Divine Martial Realm aura exerted pressure on Long Chen's body. Just a casual look from him could make someone below the Divine Martial Realm lose their mind.

"Ran off." Long Chen took a step back and pretended to look at the man fearfully. He pointed at the large hole below.

The killer immediately rushed down, but halfway there, he quickly turned around and glared at Long Chen. He said coldly, "It is impossible for his aura to disappear just like that. You must have done something!"



Long Chen initially thought he was safe, and he had just sighed in relief. However, when the killer turned around, his hair immediately stood on end. At this critical moment, Long Chen did not argue and instead burned up all his essence and fled towards the City Lord's estate using Blood Warp. His essence was boosted by his Dragon Soul Transformation and the Five Emperor Palm, and his sudden speed stunned the killer.

Who would have thought that a brat of the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage could flee at such speed?

It was just a moment of shock, but Long Chen had already disappeared from his world. He wanted to chase, but Long Chen was running towards the City Lord's estate. Ye Xuan had already sent out signals for help, so the City Lord was likely rushing over.

*Who the hell was that? Mission failed!*

The killer had no choice but to hide his aura, then he gradually disappeared in the stormy night.

Long Chen stopped five kilometers away. He only stopped because he had exhausted all the essence he had. Although he had used up all his essence, he still had the Category Seven Emperor-tier feral beast's carcass in the Primordial Realm, which contained a lot of blood. Long Chen swallowed almost half of its blood so that his essence started to recover. It took some time for the blood to turn into essence, but he would soon recover completely.

He guessed that the killer would not dare chase after him, so Long Chen stood on a wide street and let Ye Xuan out of the Primordial Realm. After he placed Ye Xuan in the Primordial Realm, he had wrapped Primordial Qi around him so that all Ye Xuan knew was that he went to a place where he could not see anything.

There was a flash, and Ye Xuan emerged. When he appeared in front of Long Chen, he was filled with anxiety and was looking around. When he realized that he was not in danger, he said to Long Chen, "Thank you for saving my life, brother! I am very grateful!"

As he spoke, he eyed Long Chen up and down.

Long Chen looked slightly older than him with lean but strong limbs. He looked like he had unlimited power. His gaze was sharp, and there was a gray vertical line between his eyebrows. He also had a mysterious aura.

Of course, this was mostly a psychological effect. However, he did sense that Long Chen was not a simple-minded person, and Long Chen radiated a faint aura similar to that of a feral beast. Ye Xuan wasn't sure what this was, but considering Long Chen had just saved him, how could he not be a capable person?



Although Long Chen looked like he was only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, Ye Xuan believed that this was not Long Chen's true strength. He did not believe that a Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator could have escaped from that killer.

Long Chen was still weak, so he did not want to interact too much with strong people like Ye Xuan. He was weak but had many secrets; if they were discovered, it would be bad news for him.

"Young Master Ye, you're safe now. You should go back to the City Lord's estate as soon as possible. I'm leaving now as I have matters to attend to. Goodbye." Despite Ye Xuan's grateful thanks, Long Chen replied coldly and turned to leave. He quickly disappeared into the darkness, leaving Ye Xuan stunned.

"That person is quite interesting." Looking in the direction where Long Chen had disappeared, the corners of Ye Xuan's mouth turned up into a smile.

Thinking of the murder attempt, his expression hardened. He wondered, *I've only just arrived at Underworld City. Who's in such a hurry to kill me? Is it my family's enemy? Or my sister's enemy?*

Ye Xuan could not figure it out.

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Long Chen checked into another hotel. He was also wondering why that person wanted to attack Ye Xuan. However, he was an outsider, so he naturally would not know why.

After being immersed in intense cultivation, the day of the tryouts for the Underworld Army had finally arrived. At dawn, Long Chen stepped onto the street and strode towards Ghost Arena on the eastern side of the city. A large crowd gathered outside the arena, some the kin of Underworld Soldiers and some younger folk who wanted to join. There were also parents and other friends, though most people were just there to spectate.

However, they were forbidden from watching the tryout process, so they were actually only there to enjoy the bustling atmosphere and see who would enter.

## - Chapter 913 – Song Yuchun

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Many long tables were placed at the entrance of Ghost Arena with Underworld Soldiers sitting behind them. These soldiers included ten-plus Hundred-Sergeants and Sergeants, as well as more soldiers who maintained order.

The Hundred-Sergeants only briefly inspected every person who registered. Next to them were several Sergeants who would register the person's details.

Young prodigies lined up with confidence in their eyes. All of them were arrogant people who did not talk much with others, only focusing on preparing for the upcoming fight. They had to win four Divine Martial Realm experts' approval through their fight, and that was not an easy feat. That was why even many people who had killed Category Seven Emperor-tier feral beasts before were still nervous.

After registration, they could enter the Ghost Arena.

Long Chen observed for a while. Since his arrival, more than a hundred people had successfully entered the magnificent building. The Ghost Arena was an emerald-green structure built like a tiger roaring at the sky, and it had countless runes flickering on it. It showed how wealthy the Underworld Army was, to be able to build a building in the shape of a beast.

The people who entered were at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage and above. There was the occasional Sixth Heavenly Martial Stages person, but they had superior abilities. It was like what Long Chen had heard. Some Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage scribes or people with powerful divine weapons also registered successfully.

Some Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators also approached them, but the Hundred-Sergeant would stop them, do a brief test to confirm the person's strength, and then send them away.

There were strict militaristic rules in the Underworld Army. Those who did not qualify were not allowed in.

Long Chen saw that it was almost time, so he entered one of the lines. His presence attracted a lot of attention because he looked quite young, and his cultivation level was clearly lower than everyone else's.

"He's ... at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage?"

"Is this a joke? Even Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators can't pass, yet this Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage guy is going up there. Isn't he just there to cause trouble?"

"The Hundred-Sergeant will probably be angry when it's his turn."

After Long Chen was in line, there was a lot of gossip. He looked around and saw people looking at him with contempt and even disgust.

He did not care about these things though. He would shock them with his performance.

A man with a flamboyant style turned around and eyed Long Chen, tutting. Long Chen took one glance at him. This man had on a full face of makeup, including eyeshadow.

“What are you looking at?” Long Chen glared at him.

“Not bad. You’re only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, but you dare come here to register, and you dare talk to me, Master Cun. You’re looking for a beating. If you upset me, I’ll make you wish you were dead.” He spoke demurely and looked at Long Chen with contempt.

Long Chen did not bother to talk to him.

“Why aren’t you talking? You’re guilty, right? I think you should leave. I, Master Cun, am irritated just looking at your face. You’re just a kid, yet you want to join the Underworld Army. You don’t know your limits! Hmph!” Master Cun turned around and threatened him, gesticulating wildly.

“Is there a problem with your brain?” Long Chen glared at him.

Master Cun took a few steps back in fear, then he gathered his emotions. His fully made-up face twisted in anger and turned fully red, as if being scared into taking several steps back by Long Chen was a very shameful thing. Without another word, he pounced and cried, “Fuck you! How dare you insult me? I am going to kill you!”

“Get out of my face, you eunuch!” Long Chen had been in a great mood, but he had the urge to beat this man up.

That was when someone yelled, “Song Yuchun, get yourself over here to register!”

It was one of the Underworld Sergeants. It was Song Yuchun’s turn.

Song Yuchun glared venomously at Long Chen, then huffed effeminately before striding towards the Ghost Arena. He acted arrogantly, as if he did not care about the few soldiers in front of him. When he arrived in front of the Hundred-Sergeant, he took out a token from his sleeve. After seeing the token, the Hundred-Sergeant’s eyes lit up and said, “Alright, you may enter directly. Your grandfather is waiting for you inside.”

Song Yuchun smirked smugly, his full face of makeup scrunched together. A few muscular men’s faces twitched. They wanted to vomit, but they held it down.

Long Chen noticed this detail.

*It looks like Song Yuchun has a connection in the Underworld Army. Every organization has a path like that; the Underworld Army is the same.*

Song Yuchun was related to someone in the Underworld Army. This meant that even if Long Chen was stronger than Song Yuchun, he still could not attack him. Of course, Long Chen was still not afraid of him, regardless of his background. The issue was that Long Chen genuinely wanted to join the Underworld Army, so he did not want to start any unnecessary conflicts.

However, despite wanting to avoid trouble, some people still came knocking on his door. Long Chen's achievement today was mostly due to being forced by circumstances.

After registration, Song Yuchun did not leave, but instead watched Long Chen menacingly. He said to the Hundred-Sergeant, "That brat is only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. It's ridiculous that he's here to register. I hear that people whose cultivation levels are not up to par must go through a small test at registration. You guys have been working very hard today; why don't you let me take care of this minor task?"

The Hundred Sergeant and the few other Sergeants hesitated.

The rules in this militaristic organization were strict. Song Yuchun was right; they indeed needed to test Long Chen, but an Underworld Soldier would have to conduct it, not an outsider. Song Yuchun was clearly here to cause trouble.

"If you guys don't agree to it, I'm telling my grandfather," Song Yuchun said when he saw their hesitant expressions.

"Young Master, don't kill him or make it look too bad. If this gets to Ten Thousand-Sergeant Qin Xiong, all of us here will be done for," said the Hundred-Sergeant after some thought.

"Isn't that obvious? I'll even make his dead body look nicer if it comes down to it." This was the exact response Song Yuchun wanted. After he spoke, he approached Long Chen. He huffed, and a lot of powder fell from his face.

"You heard him. You're only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. I need to test you to check if you're only here to cause trouble."

After he spoke, his Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage domain exerted pressure on Long Chen's body. There was a *whoosh*, and a delicate-looking fist flew at Long Chen's face. It looked like he was planning to kill Long Chen.

No Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator could survive this attack.

A Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage domain had absolute dominance over a Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. Long Chen did not move, and when the spectators noticed them, they thought that Long Chen was unable to react.

"What's going on?"

“How dare they fight right in front of the Ghost Arena?”

“I don’t know what’s happening, but the Underworld Soldiers aren’t stopping it.”

“Isn’t that a Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator? Ah, the woman wants to kill him! How could she kill someone in front of the Underworld Soldiers?”

“Woman? That’s a man!”

“That person must be very close with someone in the Underworld Army; why else would those Underworld Soldiers watch him kill someone?”

“Who’s killing who? Look!”

Everyone gasped because an advanced Emperor-tier spear appeared in Long Chen’s hand, and it flew out like a venomous snake.

“Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear Manual!” Dense dots of starlight flew violently at Song Yuchun. The Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage domain could not defeat Long Chen at all.

Long Chen did not use Dragon Soul Transformation, but he used his Yin Yang Sword Soul and the Five Emperor Palm. His attacking ability rose to the Sixth Heavenly Martial Stage, and with his weapon, he managed to force Song Yuchun back.

The Three Thousand Star Clusters Spear pierced through Song Yuchun’s clothes, and Long Chen whipped it around so that a large patch of snow-white skin was exposed. The crowd laughed at the sight of such white skin on a man.

“You!” Song Yuchun had not been paying attention, so Long Chen took advantage of it. He quickly wrapped new, beautiful clothing around himself while his face, caked with layers of makeup, was red with anger. He pointed at Long Chen, about to explode from rage.

“You ... You!”

“What did I do?” Long Chen opened his arms and grinned.

Song Yuchun was about to lose his mind. This had attracted a lot of attention, and Song Yuchun had reached his limit. In a panic, the Hundred-Sergeant behind him quickly held Song Yuchun back.

## - Chapter 914 – Thousand-Sergeant

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“How dare you stop me! Do you want to lose your job as a Hundred-Sergeant already?” Song Yuchun struggled with all his might but could not escape the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage expert’s grip.

“Young Master, even if your grandfather were here, he would not dare let you cause trouble either because General Su Mo is very likely watching us secretly. This is for your own good. Also, as for whether I can be a Hundred-Sergeant or not, it depends on my own capability and war contributions. It’s unrelated to your grandfather.”

The Hundred-Sergeant’s words and fierce expression stunned Song Yuchun. He had long heard that the Underworld Army was a strict militaristic organization, unlike his family’s place, where they could do whatever they wanted as long as they were from a wealthy background. Now, even a tiny Hundred-Sergeant could discipline him.

“Also, I have another idea for you, Young Master. Isn’t Thousand-Sergeant Song Yang one of the examiners? You can rely on his power to teach this guy a lesson once you get inside, right?”

“Alright!” Song Yuchun waved his large sleeve, glared venomously at Long Chen, then sashayed into the Ghost Arena.

Long Chen observed the whole incident.

“Thank you,” said Long Chen to the Hundred-Sergeant while registering.

The Hundred-Sergeant lowered his head and said to Long Chen after examining him, “If you want my advice, don’t go in. I can see that you’re smart and have great potential. You’re only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, but you can fight at a much higher level—that’s why I’m giving you this advice. Wait a few years and you won’t meet people like Song Yuchun. And you’ll have a huge chance.”

“I am very confident now.” Long Chen grinned, which showed his great confidence.

“Hmm?” The Hundred-Sergeant realized he might have underestimated Long Chen. From Long Chen’s smile and words, he had a feeling that this was a very mature teenager who would not do something impulsive and risk his life.

After completing his registration, he received a unique number and walked into the Ghost Arena. Many people were stunned that Long Chen could enter, and they found him very mysterious.

Many others also successfully registered and entered the arena with him. These youths were all nervous, but their faces were also filled with hope. Becoming an Underworld

Soldier was their dream. After Long Chen saw these youths, he felt like he was the strange one.

*Although I'm surely younger than them, why do I feel so old?*

Long Chen was speechless.

Perhaps he had experienced too much, and he no longer placed emphasis on dreams. What urged him on was responsibility. His responsibility towards his father, and his responsibility for Ling Xi's love, and also his responsibility for his brother, Mo Xiaolang. These were responsibilities that pushed him forward, not dreams.

It was as if he never had a dream that belonged to himself.

The Ghost Arena was a gigantic building. After he entered the tall and wide entrance, it was dark inside. The sounds of footsteps echoed across the whole space, and they walked until they saw light ahead. After emerging into the light, Long Chen realized it was just a small door on the inside of the arena.

Many Underworld Soldiers stood at the entrance.

"Newbies! Find yourselves a seat anywhere and sit down. Once everyone has entered, the tryouts will truly begin."

Following the Underworld Soldiers' instructions, Long Chen sat down on a wooden chair not far away. There were more than ten thousand seats, and they circled around a fighting pit below. The pit was a flat and wide patch of black ground with many beast footprints and evidence of past duels. A pungent, bloody scent emitted from the soil, and although the blood had dried up, it was obvious that there was previously a large pool of blood there.

This meant that many people or beasts had died there.

The air was filled with the scent of killing.

One by one, the candidates exited from the small door and took a seat around the fighting pit. There were more than ten thousand seats, but only a few hundred people were here so far. No one trusted each other, so everyone sat sparsely; there was no one within ten meters of Long Chen.

Long Chen had registered relatively early.

The cut-off time for registration was noon, so the tryouts would likely start then.



The Ghost Arena was a place for fighting beasts. It was a method of training for the Underworld Soldiers and even common cultivators. Long Chen could feel vibrations from the ground, which showed that there were many beasts reared within the arena.

There were also fighting mech beasts created by Mech Priests, which were as strong as real beasts and could even use attacks similar to combat techniques. The Underworld Army had many Mech Priests.

Participants could choose their own opponents. On the whole, feral beasts were fiercer, and while mech beasts had strong combat abilities, they were more robotic.

A participant required approval from four examiners in order to succeed.

The tryouts would likely last several days as thousands of participants would have to complete their duels. The fact that the Underworld Army could use thousands of feral beasts or mech beasts for this showed how wealthy of an organization it was.

The Underworld Army conducted entrance tests once a month, and it was not considered a grand event. That was why the hosts were only four First Divine Martial Stage cultivators.

Long Chen looked up at the top seats of the arena. Underworld Soldiers filled that space, and they were standing around four large chairs that were arranged in a row right in front of the pit. Sitting in those seats would allow the people to see every detail of the fight in the pit.

The four examiners would likely sit there.

The position of seats made them feel like the leaders of the place, and they intimidated the others.

It was not time yet. Long Chen grew bored, so he closed his eyes and rested.

Entering the Ghost Arena was not an easy feat. As time passed, more and more people streamed in. Almost half the ten thousand seats were filled. It was a particularly popular test session this time with five thousand participants.

Long Chen was grateful he was not one of the first to enter, or he would have had to wait much longer.

As the crowd grew, the noise grew too. There were strict, militaristic rules in place, so the examinees did not dare talk much, but due to the size of the crowd, even whispered conversations combined into loud noise.

They were all talking about the entrance test.

“I heard that all four of today’s examiners are quite strict. Each of them is very nit-picky, and even when someone performs perfectly, they will pick out a flaw to eliminate them. The crowd is insane today too—five thousand people came to test. They’re only looking for a hundred. Doesn’t that mean that if you can’t kill your opponent in one second, you won’t stand a chance to enter?”

“Don’t worry too much. Out of five thousand, the four of them are choosing the most outstanding hundred. I believe that I have this capability. If someone as strong as me doesn’t get in, there must be something going on behind the scenes. I could just go to another city and try out again.”

All sorts of conversations filled Long Chen’s ears.

“Indeed, Thousand-Sergeant Song Yang will be here. He’s at the First Divine Martial Stage.”

Song Yuchun and Song Yang were surely related.

*It looks like my performance has to be outstanding today, or I won’t get in. I must be so good that they have nothing to say.*

Long Chen privately made his decision.

Only one hundred of the five thousand participants could enter, and these people had to suit the four examiners’ tastes too. It would be very difficult, and even Long Chen was not confident.

Noon soon arrived.

A handsome teenager, accompanied by several Underworld Soldiers, entered the arena.

“Look, it’s Ye Xuan!”

“He could have entered the Underworld Army directly. I can’t believe he’s also here for the tryouts.”

“Yeah. I don’t know what he’s thinking. He is at the Divine Martial Realm, so why is he here to take away a spot from us?”

“He wants to prove that he joined the Underworld Army through his own strength, not connections. He’s not like some people, who force themselves inside just because they have relatives on the inside. Those people will die in the army from the grueling competition.”

“After you said that, I’ve become impressed by Ye Xuan.”

“He’s handsome and young, and even has a wealthy background. He has great strength and potential too. Ye Xuan is just perfect. I wish I was him.”

“Yeah, and he has such a perfect sister ...”

Under gazes of admiration, Ye Xuan chose a random seat and sat down. He did not talk and only looked at the pit below calmly.

His calmness did not show that he had experienced a murder attempt last night.

*I wonder who tried to kill him last night.* Long Chen took a glance at him.

An old man in normal Underworld Armor sat down next to Ye Xuan. The old man was a little strange to Long Chen, who studied him for a while. This man was likely at the Divine Martial Realm, above the First Divine Martial Stage.

Long Chen was able to confirm this by comparing Ye Xuan and the old man.

*This old man is surely a high-level figure in the Underworld Army who came to watch. Probably a Ten-Thousand Sergeant who leads ten thousand soldiers.*

Ten thousand experts above the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage could do many things.

## - Chapter 915 – Purple Lightning Giant

### Chapter 915 – Purple Lightning Giant

Long Chen did not bother too much with the old man. After a while, everyone was finally present. A line of four middle-aged people flew over from far away and sat in the four examiners’ seats.

One of the four examiners was a beautiful woman who was wearing Underworld Armor, while the other three were men. Considering Song Yuchun’s special getup, Long Chen could not tell who Song Yang was.

All four of them were experts at the Divine Martial Realm.

Perhaps because they were examiners today, all four had cold expressions and terrifying auras. After they appeared, all the talking people fell silent. The noisy arena quietened instantly.

All eyes were on the four examiners. The four of them had already taken their seats and were now looking down at the newbies with regal gazes. There was not a hint of a smile on their faces.

The woman looked at the three men next to her, then started to speak. Her crisp but cold voice filled the arena.

“A total of five thousand, three hundred and twenty-seven people have registered for this month’s entrance test. All of you have been given your unique numbers.”

Long Chen looked at the wooden token in his hand. His number was three hundred and eighty. If the test was conducted based on this number, he was likely near the front.

Everyone instinctively looked at their numbers and had a rough estimate of when their turn would be. The person who arrived first were likely very nervous.

“Let’s introduce ourselves. My name is Qi Bing.” The beautiful woman in armor was elegant and handsome.

“My name is Jiang Shi.”

“My name is Zhang Huaiyuan.”

The man on the rightmost seat stroked his beard and said coldly, “My name is Song Yang! I am one of the Thousand-Sergeants of the Underworld Army!”

These four Thousand-Sergeants did not have great reputations outside and were seen as very strict examiners, so everyone was very quiet when they spoke.

The woman, Qi Bing, looked around and said, “We won’t waste time on nonsense. If you want to enter the Underworld Army, use your most powerful techniques. Show us your strength, dueling skills, and potential! If you conquer our hearts, you will pass the entrance test. The entrance test of Underworld City is much stricter than in the other, less prestigious places. Therefore, every Underworld Soldier in Underworld City can be called a dragon amongst men.

“There’s nothing else to say. Number one, get into the pit. Tell us if you choose a feral beast or mech beast.”

After Qi Bing finished speaking, she waved and did not speak again.

Behind her, dozens of Underworld Soldiers descended from the sky and leaped into the pit. On the side of the pit were many iron doors with many feral beasts and mech beasts behind them. These soldiers were in charge of controlling those beasts.

Following Qi Bing's instructions, a teenager walked to the edge of the seating area and leaped into the pit. This teenager's eyes were filled with strong confidence. It was no wonder he had chosen to be first. He surely had a trump card.

"I am number one. My name is Jiang Jinglong! I choose ... feral beast!"

"Alright!"

The first cultivator showed himself to be very brave. Qi Bing approved of this and praised him. The other three examiners had the same cold expressions, especially Song Yang. He did not look like he was related to Song Yuchun at all.

After Jiang Jinglong spoke, the few soldiers looked at each other, and the person in charge of controlling the doors opened them. An earth-shattering roar came from behind them. The moment they opened, a feral beast that resembled a lion charged out. There were surely many beasts inside, so when the lion was outside, the few soldiers worked together to force the beasts inside and locked the doors once more!

The lion was hurried into the pit. Its only target was Jiang Jinglong.

"Roar!"

It unleashed a deafening roar!

Strong ripples of sound traveled in Jiang Jinglong's direction, and black dust was blown from the ground into the air. The scent of blood lingered in the air.

*Boom boom boom!*

The violent lion charged.

Jiang Jinglong's face did not change despite facing such a terrifying Category Seven Emperor-tier beast. He quietly guided the essence in his body so that the moment the violent lion was close, he let out a loud cry and threw a punch. An even louder lion's roar sounded!

"Quaking Lion Punch!"

A golden lion shot out from the teenager's fist and expanded countless times. It descended from the sky and roared. The lion beast was immediately swallowed by the lion fist seal!

It wailed in agony.

Thousands of eyes watched the Category Seven Emperor-tier feral beast turn into a pile of minced meat from the impact.

Jiang Jinglong was pushed back several steps from the momentum, then he stabilized himself. It was slightly difficult for him to use this technique. He calmed his breath for a moment, then his eyes flashed coldly. He saluted the four examiners and said, "Please judge my performance!"

Before the examiners spoke, everyone started talking.

*Jiang Jinglong was able to use a Divine-tier combat technique. Coupled with his comprehension of the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage, he gave an impressive first-battle performance, so he should have no problem passing.*

Long Chen analyzed his performance.

Jiang Jinglong was much stronger than Luo Wei.

Everyone looked at the four examiners sitting high up in the arena. Based on their comments of Jiang Jinglong's performance, they would have a rough idea of whether they could pass.

Jiang Jinglong's performance was undeniably impressive.

The examiners were to give their comments in sequence. The first examiner, Qi Bing, was the first. She nodded and said, "The first participant has given a great start to this event. You were able to use a Divine-tier combat technique to a great extent, and wasted very little energy. You pass."

The other two also gave brief comments of praise. They both let him pass. Three judges allowed him to pass, meaning that Jiang Jinglong would progress to the next level. However, this did not mean that it was absolutely certain that he would join. If the number of people who passed exceeded a hundred, some participants would still be eliminated.

The final examiner, Song Yang's, decision became unimportant.

Song Yang huffed and said, "Although my decision is not important anymore, I would not let you pass. You're older than the average participant, showing that you have low potential. Although you performed well, there is little we can dig out of you. If you join the army, you won't amount to much."

Such harsh words made the excited Jiang Jinglong's heart sink to rock bottom.

Jiang Jinglong's expression did not look good. Everyone present was an arrogant youth, and Song Yang had said that he would not amount to much in front of thousands of people. This was a huge blow to his psyche.

“Thank you for the feedback!” Jiang Jinglong did not argue. After he thanked the four examiners, he left the pit and took another path to return to his seat. The examinees would only be allowed to leave after the whole event was complete.

Whispered conversations ensued.

“He performed very well, but Song Yang still picked out a flaw in him. That was terrifying.”

“Doesn’t that mean I also used up my potential? Anyone would feel dejected at his comments.”

“This Song Yang guy shows no mercy.”

Long Chen did not think much of it. He had been undermined by countless people who said he would not amount to anything, but he had reached his current level despite all that. Hadn’t he still come to the Three Royal Territories?

In the future, he would show more people his extraordinary capabilities.

Other people’s contempt was his motivation. If Jiang Jinglong disregarded Song Yang’s words and continued to forge ahead, he would surely be more successful than what Song Yang had said.

*That old man’s words are venomous.* Long Chen looked at Song Yang, but then his expression changed. He saw the dolled-up Song Yuchun standing not far behind him.

That was a bad omen.

Very soon, fighter number two automatically leaped into the pit and chose to fight a mech beast. Mechs did not have sentience, so they did not change as much in battle. However, they were stronger in terms of attacks.

Under several soldiers’ control, a gigantic black ball rolled in front of the cultivator. There was a bout of electrical crackling, then the iron ball transformed. In a short time, the black ball turned into a muscular iron giant with purple lightning crackling all over its body. Purple runes flickered where the lightning passed. They were the source of the purple lightning’s energy.

Long Chen heard the person next to him say, “He’s so unlucky to get the Purple Lightning Giant.”

“Is the Purple Lightning Giant really strong?” asked Long Chen.

The guy glanced at Long Chen and said in an impressed tone, “The Purple Lightning Giant is considered one of the stronger ones within its tier of mech beasts. Very few Seventh



Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators can defeat it, unless they were Jiang Jinglong from before. But don't worry, if you encounter a super-strong opponent, you still have a chance of passing even if you lose."

## - Chapter 916 – Song Yang

### Chapter 916 – Song Yang

As they conversed, the second fighter was already fighting the Purple Lightning Giant.

This fight was not as efficient as the first round. Fighter Number Two was using a longsword. He was a Sword Warrior and had comprehended the first stage of the Sword Path. The sword moved as quickly as lightning, and he surpassed the giant in terms of speed. From the beginning, they could all hear the clanging of the sword and steel colliding.

Unfortunately, Fighter Number Two's attacks could not break through the giant's defenses.

The runes on the giant's body flickered. It sucked in copious amounts of Royal Qi, then released the Qi in the form of an attack. Then it smashed its fists together and unleashed a powerful electric current aimed at Fighter Number Two.

"Domain!" Fighter Number Two clenched his teeth and used his domain to suppress the Purple Lightning Giant!

This was his trump card.

*Boom, boom!*

Unfortunately, the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator's domain was not strong enough to defeat the Purple Lightning Giant. Royal Qi accumulated quickly in its body, then it slammed its palm into the ground, causing the fighter to get blasted into the air!

"No!" Fighter Number Two shouted in despair.

But the Purple Lightning Giant was a mech giant with no feelings. It threw a punch, and Fighter Number Two turned into a pulp and fell onto the ground.

*Slam!*

When they heard the fighter crash onto the ground, everyone's hearts sank to rock bottom.

The Underworld Army's try-outs were brutal.

"Next." Thousand-Sergeant Qi Bing's cold gaze swept across the crowd. She did not show any pity for Fighter Number Two's death.

Fighter Number Three quickly leaped into the pit.

After the previous fighter's experience, he decided to pick a beast as his opponent. After fifteen minutes of battle, he killed it.

However, despite killing the beast, his performance was not impressive. Therefore, none of the four examiners let him pass.

The cultivator left the pit dejectedly.

More duels ensued. Most cultivators spent less than fifteen minutes on average to defeat their opponents. Every two hours, only about ten or sometimes twenty people went in. Most of the time, they only received approval from one or two judges. Very few people had three judges allowing them to pass, and so far, no one received a pass from all four. This showed that all the examiners differed in opinions, and it was very difficult to seek approval from all four of them.

Long Chen was numbered in the three hundreds, so it would only be his turn after a day. Based on this speed, the trials would likely last for ten days. Long Chen realized that the event took a very long time despite being held every month.

As a result of this process, only the best elites were picked to enter the army.

Everyone present was an expert, so ten days was a short time for them.

On the second morning, it was almost time for Long Chen's turn. He had witnessed many fights in the past day and learned a lot from them. He used what he learned to fill his weaknesses, and he even tried activating the True Martial Soul while watching them. To his pleasant surprise, even watching other people fight was a great help to his comprehension of the techniques. His Martial Soul strengthened slowly, and he had a feeling that he would progress to the next cultivation level, the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage, very soon. He was approaching his goal.

Although Long Chen and Song Yuchun were one after another in the queue, due to the ten-plus registration booths, there were ten-plus numbers between them. It was Song Yuchun's turn to enter the pit.

A hint of a smile finally crept onto Song Yang's face when he saw his grandson.

This was a rare sight for the icy man. He had approved fewer than three people during this whole event, and participants feared his strict requirements.

Song Yuchun cleared his throat. Under the gazes of the crowd, he smoothed his hair smugly and said to the four examiners, “Good day to you, examiners. I am Fighter Number 371. My name is Song Yuchun.”

It was not appropriate for him to speak of his relationship with Song Yang in public. If he did, it would be difficult for the examiners to give him an easy pass.

So far, only seven people received three passes and above.

“My opponent of choice is the mech!” Song Yuchun said confidently after looking around.

Under the Underworld Soldiers’ command, a stallion-type mech emerged. This mech looked like a horse and a goat at the same time. It had rings of wool growing around its body, a glazed look in its eyes, and a long neck. However, it radiated an intimidating aura. Although it looked dumb, it had decent combat ability, despite looking several times worse than the Purple Lightning Giant. Yellow runes flickered on its body.

“Oh, it’s a llama.”

The crowd laughed.

It was a mech llama that looked like it was made for a prank. Despite its resemblance to a certain type of beast, it could not be underestimated because this llama was able to inflict great damage.

Song Yuchun was about to fight the mech llama.

As he listened to the laughter above, Song Yuchun sulked. It had been an unlucky day for him. However, he did not know that his grandfather had arranged this llama for him. It was ugly, but it was the weakest among all the beasts and mechs.

“Silence,” Thousand-Sergeant Song Yang said coldly.

His voice contained a power that could make souls tremble. Everyone felt a headache and was forced to stop laughing.

In the pit below, Song Yuchun’s embarrassment turned into rage when he started to fight the llama intensely. The mech looked fragile, but it was actually as tough as the giant from before. Every time it charged at its opponent, it brought with it an explosive power. That was why it was one of the mechs chosen for the Underworld Soldiers’ trials.

Song Yuchun was still someone with an older relative at the Divine Martial Realm, so the techniques he cultivated were extraordinary. He unleashed a Divine-tier combat technique and shattered the mech. However, he emerged from the duel clumsily too. After tumbling on the ground several times, he finally stopped.

There were many participants with Divine-tier combat techniques like him, approximately twenty out of the past three hundred people. However, very few of them could use them as perfectly as Jiang Jinglong did. Song Yuchun was just barely able to use the technique. It would require a long time of study in order to master it.

Long Chen spotted many issues from his fight, for example, the lack of combat experience and dramatic, unnecessary movements.

In summary, if someone else had performed like this, they would only receive two passes at most.

“Dear Seniors, please provide your feedback!”

After straightening his clothing, Song Yuchun swished his hair dramatically, then looked at the four examiners. He focused his eyes on his grandfather with a begging look. He knew that he was slightly lacking compared to the other people who had passed. However, he had a grandfather among the examiners, so how could that be an issue?

Above, Song Yang gave a resigned smile.

In a place where people could not see, Song Yang gently touched Jiang Shi next to him. Jiang Shi understood and touched the next examiner, who then signalled to Qi Bing. Silently, all of them now knew that this was Song Yang’s grandson.

They were all Thousand-Sergeants, so they still had to do favors like this.

Qi Bing said directly, “Precise and fierce attacks. Your usage of the Divine-tier technique was not bad either. I’ll let you pass. All the best to you!”

“Thank you, Senior Qi Bing!” This was as Song Yuchun expected.

One pass was nothing. However, the second examiner also let him pass. All eyes were now on the third examiner, Jiang Shi, who was now under a lot of pressure. However, only three passes were necessary. In order to ease the crowd’s anger, he waved and said, “To me, he’s still lacking in skill. It’s a no for me.”

The final decision-maker was Song Yang.

Song Yang had a reputation for being strict. He had only passed around ten cultivators so far, and most of them had already become reserve soldiers for the army.

All eyes were on Song Yang.

“This is a talent with potential. Pass.” He said something that the crowd was not satisfied with.

“What? Did he pass with just that level of skill? Do they think we’re blind?”

“I don’t accept this.”

The crowd chattered noisily, especially those who performed well but were still eliminated.

“Everyone, keep your mouths shut. Anyone who questions our decisions will be killed!” huffed Qi Bing coldly, her gaze sweeping across the crowd.

Everyone swallowed their dissatisfaction.

Long Chen had already expected this result. To a Thousand-Sergeant, arranging for a relative to enter the Underworld Army was not considered a major scandal, so the higher-ups would not care. Song Yuchun was not too weak either.

Song Yuchun walked out of the pit arrogantly and took a seat not far behind Song Yang. He called a soldier over and said, “Later, there will be a teenager with a gray line between his brows. Tell my grandfather that there’s some conflict between this person and myself. Don’t let him pass.”

The soldier hesitated, but he nodded and relayed the message to Song Yang.

“That little brat.” Song Yang smiled resignedly.

He had not seen his grandson for many years. As a grandfather, he could not bear to refuse his grandson’s request.

## - Chapter 917 – Shocking The Whole Crowd

### Chapter 917 – Shocking The Whole Crowd

More time passed. In less than an hour, it was Fighter Number 380’s turn. Long Chen had experienced being watched by thousands of people many times. However, it was different this time because Divine Martial Realm cultivators were present. He had to be careful, and he even felt a bit nervous.

No one could know that he was a Dragon Warrior.

Previously, the Five Emperors knew that Long Chen was a Dragon Warrior because the Red Emperor had been observing Long Chen all along. At the time, Long Chen was only found out to be a Dragon Warrior because his cultivation level was low. Now he was at

the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage and had his guard up, so the average person could not guess that he was one.

How many Dragon Warriors were there in the whole Three Royal Territories after all?

Other than Wang Chen, he did not think there were any.

A Dragon Warrior had appeared in the Ten Thousand Nations Territory before. Although he was the lowest-ranked dragon, the Red Dragon, Long Chen was still astonished.

In ancient times, there were likely no differences in strength between the Ten Thousand Nations Territory and the Three Royal Territories. Therefore, it was normal for the dragons' lineage to appear there too.

All eyes were on Long Chen, who was in the pit. His appearance attracted everyone's attention.

"What's going on? Even a Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator could come in?"

"Yeah. Isn't this nonsense? Is this another guy using his connections to get in? That's so unfair. If this brat loses, I'd like to see what nonsense the four examiners will spout to make him pass!"

Many people in the arena started to complain.

However, even the four examiners were stunned.

"How did a Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage person enter?" The four of them looked at each other, confused. However, Song Yang saw a faint, gray line between Long Chen's brows.

*This little kid who's only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage is the one Chun'er mentioned? His archnemesis?*

He was very surprised.

Long Chen had expected this reaction, so he saluted them and said, "Greetings, elders from the Underworld Army. I am Junior Long Chen. Fighter Number 380! I choose mech!"

He told them his choice directly and waited for their response.

Among the seats above, someone's eyes lit up after he saw Long Chen. This person was Ye Xuan.

"I can't believe he's here at the trials for the Underworld Army. So his name is Long Chen? What a mysterious fellow."

“You know him?” a Ten Thousand-Sergeant next to him asked.

“We’ve met once. He seems to be an interesting person.” Ye Xuan smiled and did not elaborate.

Qi Bing did not give the soldiers permission to release the mech. She eyed Long Chen and said, “Are you sure you can defeat a Category Seven Emperor-tier beast or mech at your level?”

“If I couldn’t, I wouldn’t be standing here,” Long Chen answered loudly.

His voice was filled with confidence, and he looked very calm. He was not as dramatic and arrogant as Song Yuchun was, so many people had a positive impression of him after this sentence.

No matter what, this teenager was very bold.

“Alright.” Qi Bing waved.

*Click!* The Underworld Soldiers opened a large door, and a large, purple, steel ball rolled out. Purple electricity crackled loudly around it. It rolled until it was ten meters away from Long Chen.

“It’s a Purple Lightning Giant!”

“This teenager is unlucky today. The last three people who faced the Purple Lightning Giant were killed.”

“Let’s see what method he uses against it!”

Everyone thought Long Chen was also relying on his connections to enter the army.

He took a few steps back and watched the shining purple ball slowly transform into a three-meter-tall steel giant. Pieces of steel shaped like muscles covered its body with purple runes etched on them. Sharp purple lightning shot out of the runes.

A wave of heat blasted Long Chen’s face.

There was a stand-off between the giant and Long Chen. Countless eyes were on him, ready to see how this kid was going to defeat the Purple Lightning Giant. Many people had already imagined the scene where he was beaten to pulp.

The four Divine Martial Realm examiners were also watching Long Chen. They did not think he would do anything impressive, since they trusted their eyes.



Everyone watched as the giant strode over, turned into a bolt of purple lightning, and flew at Long Chen. The whole arena rumbled and trembled. Although it was also a mech, the Purple Lightning Giant was a few times stronger than the llama from before.

All they could say was that the people who encountered the Purple Lightning Giant were simply unlucky.

“This kid is unlucky. He’ll shatter in a breath’s time.”

“I’d like to see how he relies on his connections to enter the army. Will he enter the even after death?”

Many people smirked as they discussed.

In Long Chen’s eyes, the giant’s movements became very slow.

He had already figured the rules out. If he did not perform extremely well, it would be difficult to obtain approval from all four examiners. Therefore, he had to use all his best techniques.

He instantly unleashed every trump card he had.

Dragon Soul Transformation. Yin-Yang Sword Soul. Emperor Vanquishers. Emperor’s Palm. When all these were combined together, Long Chen’s strength skyrocketed to a level that shocked the audience.

An immense, strong aura radiated from Long Chen’s body.

“What’s happening?”

This was the question that popped into all their minds. Long Chen used the Emperor’s Manual.

“Emperor’s Manual, Emperor’s Arrival!”

He threw a punch that radiated a regal aura. A golden fist seal flew at his opponent as if it was an unstoppable force, radiating an intimidating aura. It was as if a peerless cultivator standing at the peak of existence had thrown this punch.

All the strength in his body was gathered in the punch. There was a loud boom. The Purple Lightning Giant was moving extremely quickly, so it directly crashed into Long Chen’s Emperor’s Manual attack, leading to a huge explosion. Purple lightning shot out and lit up the whole arena.

After the explosion, large pieces of metal flew in all directions. There was a shrill sound of metals colliding, and then the pieces all crashed. The Purple Lightning Giant, which was

perfectly fine a few moments ago, had turned into a pile of scrap metal after Long Chen's powerful Emperor's Manual attack.

Long Chen retracted everything and even deactivated his Dragon Soul Transformation. It had only taken him one moment to activate the Dragon Soul Transformation, attack, then deactivate.

That singular moment stunned everyone.

Dozens of pieces of steel were scattered haphazardly across the pit. Some of them were still crackling with lightning. Long Chen stood in the middle of the mess and slowly retracted his hand. He looked around, his gaze sweeping across the thousands of people. He had just used the Emperor's Manual, so there was still a regal emperor's aura in his eyes. The youths who were not yet Underworld Soldiers were startled by the look in his eyes.

Long Chen's gaze finally fell on the four examiners. Their expressions were colorful.

"Please provide feedback on my performance," Long Chen said, as per the people before him.

The four of them were so stunned that they could not speak.

The other people started discussing.

"How was that possible? He used one move to shatter the Purple Lightning Giant. That's really strong. Even the first guy, Jiang Jinglong, could not do the same."

"Yeah. There's no way he's only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. For that moment, he displayed immense strength. The Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage is definitely not his true cultivation level."

"I think I saw him pulling out a pair of Divine-tier weapons just now, and the technique he used was surely a Divine-tier combat technique. If this person were at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage, it would be normal for him to defeat the Purple Lightning Giant using these two things. But his cultivation level is ..."

"We were mistaken just now. With his abilities, he definitely isn't entering the army through his connections."

The whole arena chatted loudly about Long Chen's impressive performance, their voices even spreading to the skies.

Among the countless people, Ye Xuen and the Ten Thousand-Sergeant looked at each other. The Ten Thousand-Sergeant had a puzzled look when he said, "I sense a type of Divine Martial Realm energy on him. I think it's likely that a few Divine Martial Realm

experts left their essence in his body for him to use. He has some type of magical item on his right hand, which I am guessing stores their powers.”

He was filled with shock. Very few Divine Martial Realm experts would give their remaining power to another person, as doing so would accelerate their death.

“That’s not it. I’ve met many strong Sword Warriors, and I’ve met one who has comprehended the third stage of the Sword Path. Long Chen may be using a pair of punching gloves, but based on his aura, he is also a Sword Warrior. He also seems to be at the third stage of the Sword Path …” stuttered Ye Xuan.

Compared to the other Sword Warriors he had met, Long Chen was too young. If he had not seen it for himself, Ye Xuan would not have believed that Long Chen had reached the third stage at such a young age.

“He’s also a Sword Warrior? It makes sense that he has such explosive combat abilities, then. However, he may have other trump cards. If not, he would still be weaker than what we imagine. He has great potential.”

## - Chapter 918 – The Crowd Is Angered.

### Chapter 918 – The Crowd Is Angered.

“You’re right. With his stunning performance, I think he will be the first participant with four passes,” Ye Xuan said confidently.

He obviously hoped that Long Chen could enter the Underworld Army, seeing as Long Chen had once saved his life.

Of course, there were also people who did not hope that Long Chen would join, like Song Yuchun. He was completely stunned and taken aback by Long Chen’s performance. The sudden strength that exploded from him was astonishing. After the incident, he realized that if Long Chen’s attack had been directed at him, his body would have shattered too.

*That’s impossible! How could he be this strong? I must not let him join the Underworld Army!*

With that thought, he quickly hurried the soldier next to him to relay his message to his grandfather. This soldier had been sent by Song Yang to serve him, and while he was unwilling to become the messenger, he could not disobey him.

Everyone was waiting for the four examiners’ feedback.

As usual, Qi Bing was the first to speak. She looked at Long Chen approvingly and said, “Not bad, kid. Even I can’t tell what technique you’re using to hide your aura. It doesn’t

matter what your cultivation level is. The way you used your Divine-tier combat technique and weapon was perfect. You have also reached a high level of comprehension of the Sword Path. It is impressive to have achieved this at such a young age; how could I not let you pass?”

The crowd burst into conversation at her comments.

That was the highest praise anyone had ever gotten.

Did that mean that Long Chen was surely entering the next round? Perhaps he could receive approval from all four.

After Qi Bing was done, the second examiner spoke. He smiled and said, “Qi Bing is right. You have great potential and every skill was executed perfectly. Very few participants here today can defeat the Purple Lightning Giant in just one move. My answer is yes, of course.”

If Long Chen could get one more yes, he would progress successfully to the next round.

Everyone watched the third examiner expectedly. Some were excited, while others were nervous.

The third examiner was initially looking at Long Chen with a bright smile. Suddenly, Song Yang’s lips moved. No one knew what he said, but the examiner’s expression changed immediately. He hesitated for a moment, then looked at Long Chen coldly and said, “I think you were only able to perform at that level because you used some special technique. You don’t look very young, yet you’re only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. Compared to other people, your cultivation level is much lower. You’re fated to not achieve anything in this life. After thinking it over, I don’t think I can let someone who has used up his potential into the Underworld Army.”

The crowd erupted instantly.

The examiner may have given a courteous answer, but it was utter nonsense! Long Chen had performed excellently! How could he give such a wildly wrong evaluation? The reasons he had listed were a stretch.

Everyone was dissatisfied with the results. Long Chen’s performance was many times better than Song Yuchun’s, so if Song Yuchun passed, how could he not?

Of course, the final examiner, Song Yang, remained.

Song Yang raged, “Shut your mouths! We are the examiners, and everyone has their own opinions. Anyone who doubts our decision may step forward now!” Then he gazed coldly at Long Chen and said, “This person is only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. All active Underworld Soldiers were at least at the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage when they

were his age. Everyone, isn't this a sign that he has exhausted his potential? While you don't see it now, you will in the future. He will surely be far behind his peers. People like that should not join the Underworld Army! Therefore, it is also a no from me!"

Two examiners had not allowed him to pass. Therefore, Long Chen could not become an Underworld Soldier.

Long Chen obviously knew what was going on. It was clear that Song Yuchun had told Song Yang to do this.

"Fighter Number 380, get out of the pit. Next!" Song Yang huffed and waved Long Chen off, not even glancing at him.

But he had underestimated Long Chen. Long Chen was not someone who could be bullied so easily. He was adamant about joining the Underworld Army, so no one could stop him—not even the four examiners.

Although they were examiners and were Divine Martial Realm Thousand-Sergeants, Song Yang could not decide this alone.

Long Chen did not leave even after Song Yang told him to go. He looked around, and then started laughing. His laughter attracted everyone's attention.

"Actually, I know why Senior Song Yang eliminated me. I'm sure everyone wants to know, right?"

Long Chen had a nonchalant expression.

Song Yang's eyes widened. What did the brat know?

Long Chen did not pause for long. He continued, "Before this event, I offended someone named Song Yuchun, who is the previous fighter who received three passes. The one who fought the llama. Song Yuchun seems to have a grandfather named Song Yang. I'm sure everyone knows what I mean. If the Underworld Army is a place like that, then I don't care about joining. Do you all actually think there's any meaning to these try-outs?"

His implied message was clear.

Cultivators were all decently intelligent. As cultivators, they all had a bit of violence in their blood. If they were alone, they would not dare rage. But when thousands of people were indignant, the accumulation of all of their rage turned into a powerful wave.

Long Chen was right. The key aspect of the tryouts was fairness. Without fairness, even a capable person could not enter the Underworld Army. In that case, what was the point of joining the Underworld Army if the trial process wasn't fair?

“Who supports me?” Long Chen raised his arm, looking at every person in the stands with shining eyes.

One by one, people stood up from their seats and glared angrily at Song Yang, who was sitting at the top.

“It’s very unfair! A capable person can’t enter, but an incapable person can. I’m not joining the Underworld Army anymore!”

“Me neither! What’s the point? Might as well become a city guard! The benefits are good, and I don’t need to suffer like this!”

“Yeah! I’m not doing this anymore! Let me go!”

Thousands of people had come to compete for a hundred spots, and most of them had only come to try their luck. Once they witnessed such an unfair incident and even found out that there was a ringleader behind it, the matter snowballed and more and more angry voices sounded. The whole arena descended into chaos.

Countless scoldings and insults were thrown. Even Song Yang could not save face anymore. The other three examiners could barely sit comfortably either.

Ever since they became Thousand-Sergeants and high-level officials in the Underworld Army, they never thought they would have to face humiliation ever again.

Long Chen had completely humiliated Song Yang today. His embarrassment turned to anger, and he was about to attack Long Chen. Suddenly, Long Chen turned into a ray of blood-red light and fled to stand with the other cultivators. Song Yang’s attack crashed into the ground. The power of a Divine Martial Realm cultivator caused the whole ground to tremble.

“Has your embarrassment turned to anger? And you want to kill me? Even a person like that could become an Underworld Thousand-Sergeant? I’m utterly shocked.”

Long Chen’s words not only humiliated Song Yang, but also made everyone feel dejected.

Song Yang’s face turned completely pale. What had unfolded today had severely affected the Underworld Army’s reputation. If it escalated, Song Yang would surely be killed by someone higher up. The Underworld Army was famous for being strict with its military rules, and his actions had tarnished the Underworld Army’s reputation in Underworld City, or potentially an even larger area. He was looking for death!

“Song Yang, you dragged me into this!” yelled the other Thousand-Sergeant who failed Long Chen.

“How could you blame me? Blame the brat! Damn it! I couldn’t kill him fast enough!”

“If you killed him, everyone here would have surely left. And the Underworld Army wouldn’t be able to recruit any new blood for years. If that happened, it wouldn’t matter how powerful your family is, Song Yang—General Su Mo would kill you!”

Song Yang was slightly traumatized by how close he was to that scenario.

“What should we do, then?” Song Yang did not know what to do. Not only was Long Chen’s performance extraordinary, but he was extremely brave too. No one else would have dared to attempt such a stunt.

Surrounded by countless furious participants, the Ten Thousand-Sergeant smiled bitterly and said to Ye Xuan, “Your friend really knows how to cause trouble. But I like him.”

“Mhm. I’m afraid I’ll need your help with this, Grandfather He.”

“Don’t call me ‘Grandfather.’ You’re the younger brother of the City Lord! I’ve sold my life to General Su Mo. If he knew that you called me ‘Grandfather,’ he’d kill me.”

Then the old man appeared in the sky above the arena. He was flying, which proved that he was at the Divine Martial Realm.

The sudden appearance of an older Divine Martial Realm expert made everyone speculate that this was someone important.

An immense aura descended on them. The old man was like a god, and the cursing youths slowly turned their gazes to him. Their eyes were filled with curiosity.

“Greetings, young ladies and gentlemen. First, let me introduce myself. I’m a Ten-Thousand Sergeant from the Underworld Army, and my name is Qin Xiong. I lead ten thousand Underworld Soldiers, and if you join the Underworld Army, you’re likely going to be my subordinate. A mistake has happened today. May I ask if you all can give me some face, and quiet down a little?”

## - Chapter 919 – Shield Talisman

### Chapter 919 – Shield Talisman

The old man’s voice rang in every person’s ear. Everyone looked at each other and simmered down. He had a solemn expression and radiated justice; he did not look as untrustworthy as Song Yang.

Long Chen glanced at the old man, then at the direction where the old man came from. He sensed that someone was looking at him from that area.

*Ye Xuan?*



Long Chen could barely see him.

He smiled and did not say anything. If this old man came from Ye Xuan's side, then it meant he would have no issues entering the Underworld Army.

The old man looked around, then said, "What happened just now was just an accident. I guarantee that incidents like this do not happen often, and it will definitely never happen again. Our trials are absolutely fair and open. From now onwards, I will take over Song Yang's place. As for Fighter Number 380 from just now, Long Chen, I permit him to join the Underworld Army."

The old man's decision won over the crowd's trust.

The only person with a grimace was Song Yang. He was one of the main examiners, but he had been fired from his position. He had utterly humiliated himself. However, this was considered a great outcome after such a major incident. If the old man had been in a bad mood today, he would have killed him.

This was a Ten Thousand-Sergeant. To the people present, a Thousand-Sergeant was already a highly ranked official, let alone a Ten Thousand-Sergeant. Many people's goal in life was only to become a Thousand-Sergeant. A Ten Thousand-Sergeant was at the Second Divine Martial Stage and was considered a legendary master. Only a few dozen of them existed out of the five hundred thousand Underworld Soldiers in Underworld City.

Furthermore, Qin Xiong seemed to have a decent reputation. After his appearance, the crowd was clearly much calmer. The sounds of objection slowly died down.

This man was close to Ye Xuan, and he had likely stepped in to help because of Ye Xuan. Therefore, Long Chen quickly supported his decision. If the affected victim agreed with him, the other people would have nothing else to say. "I believe Ten Thousand-Sergeant will handle this matter well. Thank you!"

In the subsequent trials, Qin Xiong replaced Song Yang. Meanwhile Song Yang glared at Long Chen with seething hatred. He was sitting amongst the crowd, and Song Yuchun also had a stiff expression next to him. He knew that his grandfather had lost face today, so he did not dare say anything. All he did was glare at Long Chen, thinking of a way to get him back.

"Chun'er, let me explain something to you. Listen well," Song Yang suddenly said with a sneer.

"Grandfather, what is it?" Song Yuchun asked, puzzled.

"Based on the trend so far, there will likely be about two hundred participants who will receive at least three passes. Then, I think they will pair the participants up to duel so that one hundred people will enter the Underworld Army. You and Long Chen were two

consecutive participants who passed, so he's likely going to be your opponent. That brat is very unpredictable and he's likely quite strong. You may not be a match for him ..."

"What should I do, then?" Song Yuchun had witnessed Long Chen's performance too. If he really was no match for Long Chen, then it would end in a tragedy for him.

"Don't worry. I'll give you something so you can kill him." There was a sneer on Song Yang's face.

Indeed, the oldest gingers were the spiciest.

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Long Chen took a seat, and the arena quietened down. One by one, the young fighters fought feral beasts or mechs. In order to obtain three passes, every participant gave their all. Qin Xiong's decisions were much fairer than before, so the audience felt much more assured.

Examining the few thousand fighters took almost ten days. In the end, only one hundred and ninety people passed. Long Chen's incident was just a minor interruption. The most attention-grabbing event was Ye Xuan's performance. Just as everyone expected, Ye Xuan killed his opponent, a Category Seven Emperor-tier feral beast, effortlessly.

Long Chen had a great revelation while watching him fight, especially with his True Martial Soul activated. He learned many things while watching duels, but he learned even more when he watched stronger people fight. Right now, he was very close to the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage.

After the trials ended, the Underworld Soldiers cleaned up the area while the four examiners discussed how they would conduct the next round. They had one hundred and ninety people, but they only needed a hundred every month.

There were times when they needed more, but they only needed a hundred this month.

"All participants who received three passes and above, please gather below."

Although there were supposed to discuss how they would proceed, the examiners were mostly just obeying Qin Xiong's instructions.

Long Chen went into the pit with the other people. Due to what happened before, many people were eyeing him. He was already used to being the center of attention by now.

However, the person who attracted more attention than him was Ye Xuan.

He was a youth prodigy at the Divine Martial Realm, and he was the strongest person present. He was also City Lord Ye Xuan's younger brother, and he had an easygoing

personality that led to a halo effect around him. Ye Xuan seemed much more awesome than Long Chen, and he was surely going to enter the Underworld Army. He would surely climb to a high rank within a short time, so he was destined to take a different path compared to the rest of the examinees.

Qin Xiong was about to make an announcement, so they all waited quietly. Long Chen sensed a goading gaze on him, and when he looked over, he saw that it was Song Yuchun. When their eyes met, Song Yuchun huffed coldly, pointed a sassy finger at him, and then quickly turned his head away.

*He's being so secretive. I don't know what he's up to.* Long Chen ignored him.

Long Chen was capable of killing an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage opponent, so Song Yuchun could not even pique his interest. The only threat this person posed to him was his grandfather, Song Yang, Divine Martial Realm cultivator.

In the past, Divine Martial Realm cultivators were like legends to him. Now they were standing in front of him. Long Chen was impressed at how far he had come.

“Long Chen.” A voice that sounded slightly childish rang in his ear. When he turned around, he saw that it was the person at the center of attention, Ye Xuan.

“I didn’t know you’d also join the tryouts. What a coincidence,” Ye Xuan said with a laugh.

Long Chen thought that this guy was someone worth making friends with and he seemed like a decent person, so he smiled and said, “Thank you for getting me out of that sticky situation just now. Without you, I would not be able to get into the Underworld Army.”

“Don’t mention it. If it wasn’t for you, I wouldn’t be standing here today. Also, they’re going to announce the second round’s rules now. I need to tell you something,” Ye Xuan suddenly whispered into his ear.

“What is it?” asked Long Chen.

“Just now, I saw Song Yang stuff something into Song Yuchun’s hands. I couldn’t see it clearly, but I think it’s a talisman. They were surely talking about you at the time. Therefore, you must be careful later. Don’t fall into their trap. I have something for you.”

As he spoke, Ye Xuan discretely took out a talisman from his storage ring. It radiated invisible ripples. He said, “Put it away quickly. Don’t let other people see it.”

Long Chen stored it in the Primordial Realm and inspected it once it was inside. It was a piece of transparent talisman paper with dramatic, bright-red runes. The runes danced on the talisman, which radiated ripples of energy.

“That is a Shield Talisman. It can withstand a First Divine Martial Stage cultivator’s most powerful attack. However, it can only be used once. If your opponent uses a super-strong attack, use it against him,” said Ye Xuan with a nonchalant expression.

*It can withstand a Divine Martial Realm cultivator’s most powerful attack?*

“This is such an expensive item! Isn’t this a little too much?” said Long Chen.

“Don’t worry about it. I have many Shield Talismans like that one. Treat it as a gift from me. Use it for self-defense. If you don’t use it today, it’ll be handy some other time,” said Ye Xuan with a grin.

“Then I shall keep it safe with me.” Long Chen was not one to decline gifts. This was someone he had saved before, so receiving a gift from him was very normal.

And Ye Xuan had said it was a gift.

After the conversation started, they started chatting about other things.

“Actually, I think the only meaningful thing about joining the Underworld Army is the Underworld Battlefield. That’s the main reason why I am joining them. Once you enter the Underworld Battlefield, nothing matters. There are Underworld Beasts, natural disasters, and people trying to kill each other there. That’s a haven for training yourself. After training there, I believe I will grow very quickly. Long Chen, what’s your objective for joining the Underworld Army?” Ye Xuan asked curiously.

“The Underworld Battlefield,” Long Chen answered calmly.

Ye Xuan was stunned for a moment, then he said, “That’s what I guessed too. If we get a chance, we should spar in the Underworld Battlefield. I sense that you have many strong techniques up your sleeve.”

“Of course, if we get the chance.” Long Chen was not averse to sparring.

They continued chatting until Qin Xiong stood up to announce the rules.

“A total of one-hundred-and-ninety-three people received three passes and above. After discussion between the four of us, some people will directly become Underworld Soldiers, while the remaining people will be paired up according to their numbers. They will duel, and the winner will join the army. Now, I shall announce the people who will directly become Underworld Soldiers.”

The nerve-wracking moment had arrived.

Everyone listened carefully.

After Qin Xiong finished, Long Chen's name was not on the list. People like Jiang Jinglong and Ye Xuan had been called out, while Long Chen would need to fight the fighter whose number was next to his.

Long Chen counted. His opponent would be Song Yuchun.

## - Chapter 920 – Fire Beast Soul Talisman

### Chapter 920 – Fire Beast Soul Talisman

After the rules of the second round were announced, the intense duels began. Long Chen's number was near the front, so only four or five pairs were up before him. Every battle was extremely intense, and all of them used Divine-tier combat techniques. Even the results could only be described as tragic. Many of them were excellent cultivators who could certainly qualify to be Underworld Soldiers, yet they were eliminated because of one or two mistakes.

Very soon, it was Long Chen and Song Yuchun's turn. The crowd was looking forward to this duel because of the conflict from before. One represented justice, while the other represented the opposite.

Song Yuchun was an example of what not to be. His previous performance was not even good enough to obtain three passes, and Long Chen had performed much better than him.

Therefore, everyone was looking forward to seeing Long Chen beat him up.

They all watched expectantly as Long Chen leaped into the pit. Opposite, Song Yuchun also leaped down, and they both engaged in a standoff. To the crowd's surprise, Song Yuchun did not look worried at all. Instead, he gazed at Long Chen smugly, as if he was confident he would win.

*This person clearly has a trick up his sleeve. It looks like Ye Xuan was right. His grandfather has given him something that will keep him alive and maybe even kill me.*

Ye Xuan had given Long Chen a Shield Talisman, which could protect him from a Divine Martial Realm expert's attack, so Long Chen was not worried.

Only the person who got the last laugh would win. Long Chen did not care about people like Song Yuchun.

Song Yuchun pointed at Long Chen, about to say something. But the moment Qin Xiong announced to begin, Long Chen immediately charged at him, turning into a red gust of wind.

"Why are you in such a hurry to die?"

Song Yuchun was privately furious. He did not actually believe that he would lose to Long Chen, and he would only use the item his grandfather gave him as a last resort.

The Emperor Vanquishers appeared on Long Chen's hands. His right hand was filled with the warm, Yang-energy, Golden Sword Soul. His left hand was filled with a cold, Yin-energy, Black Sword Soul. The two sword souls formed energy fields around his hands, greatly boosting his combat abilities.

"Tyrannosaurus Punch!"

He threw two consecutive punches, one golden and one black. When the golden warmth and black chill mixed together, they formed a two-layered attack. It was no longer one-plus-one-equals-two anymore, but it equated to much more.

*Boom!*

When Song Yuchun saw the attack, he turned pale. His instinct told him that this was not a Divine-tier attack, but Long Chen was the only person who had ever used an advanced Emperor-tier technique to this level.

"No!"

Even if Song Yuchun died, he would never admit defeat!

He could see all the faces in the crowd above. Everyone wished he would lose, and they had already decided that he would lose. He had a grandfather who was a Thousand-Sergeant, so his status had been high all his life. How could he be looked down on like that here?

"Nine-Layered Yin-Yang Wheel!"

Song Yuchun brought both palms together and twisted them. Under his control, the essence in his hands quickly turned into a spinning Yin-Yang symbol. The image instantly expanded, then there was a loud *boom*. It spun as it shot out at Long Chen!

The attack quickly formed nine layers. This was a nine-layered attack that could serve both as an attack and a defensive technique. It was an excellent Divine-tier combat technique!

This was the technique that Song Yang was the proudest of. It was passed down in their family, and Song Yang had found it in a Divine Martial Realm expert's grave while on an assignment once.

This Divine-tier technique was not the same as the previous one he had used, which meant that Song Yuchun had learned two Divine-tier techniques.

Within the Underworld Army, it was considered above average for someone to learn two techniques. The crowd's impression of him started to change when they saw him use this attack. Indeed, if he had used this technique earlier, perhaps he would have actually gotten the right to receive three passes.

Song Yuchun was initially saving this skill as his trump card so that he could use it in the future when he was fighting to become a Sergeant. He had not expected Long Chen to force him to use it.

“Die!”

Song Yuchun's dolled-up face was unbelievably red. Due to the great trembling of the attack, a lot of his powder had fallen off.

Long Chen was also a bit shocked to see the Nine-Layered Yin-Yang Wheel.

The corners of his mouth curled up into a cold smirk. By then, both his Tyrannosaurus Punches had landed on the Nine-Layered Yin-Yang Wheel, but then they bounced back and Long Chen was thrown back into the air.

“He lost?” The crowd was stunned.

They did not wish for Long Chen to lose to Song Yuchun.

However, after Long Chen was thrown back, he quickly flipped in mid-air. His aura transformed dramatically. If he was previously a furious Tyrannosaurus, he was now an emperor who ruled over all living beings.

The image of an emperor appeared behind him.

“Emperor's Manual, Emperor's Arrival!”

Long Chen threw a golden punch downwards. This was the punch that had directly killed the Purple Lightning Giant. The whole arena was amazed by his attack.

This attack had once killed an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator.

Although Song Yuchun's Divine-tier attack was excellent with nine layers of defense, Long Chen's Emperor's Arrival pierced through them. One by one, the layers exploded and broke!

“Impossible!” Song Yuchun had hoped that Long Chen's attack could not pierce through his nine layers of defenses.

To his despair, Long Chen's attack seemed to contain unstoppable momentum. It pierced through every layer and even became stronger at the last layer. The crowd gasped when it

pierced through the final layer. There was a loud *boom*, a *crack*, and the final layer exploded!

“I can see you now.” Long Chen chuckled and threw a punch. The remaining momentum of the punch landed on Song Yuchun’s body!

Blood sprayed out of Song Yuchun’s mouth and he was thrown back into the air. Long Chen landed gracefully, while Song Yuchun tumbled several times. He clambered clumsily to his feet. This was the most pathetic he had ever looked. His luxurious clothing was covered with black soil and his face was mixed with soil and blood, making him look dirty.

The crowd cheered above.

“Long Chen is powerful! Despite Song Yuchun’s strong attack, he managed to defeat it.”

“He has a resilient mind, remains calm in dangerous situations, and is bold but observant. If this person is given enough space to grow, he might turn into a prominent figure someday.”

“Song Yuchun is clearly no match for him. He needs to surrender. Scum like that will just be parasites if they enter the Underworld Army, then get kicked out someday.”

“Kicked out? You underestimate his grandfather. He’s a Divine Martial Realm expert, a Thousand-Sergeant!”

“I guess I underestimated him.”

Discussions like that rang everywhere. Among the crowd, Song Yang’s face turned green.

His grandson was injured.

But no matter how badly he was hurt, he was capable of taking that item out.

His precious grandson had been bullied so tragically. How could Song Yang let this happen?

As he expected, Song Yuchun clenched his teeth and stood up in front of the whole crowd. He glared at Long Chen and said, “It looks like tomorrow will be the day of your funeral!”

“Just use whatever you’ve got. I’m waiting. Don’t waste time.” Long Chen was already expecting it. The brat had already taken something out of his storage ring and was hiding it in his sleeve.

“You know about it? Then die!”

Song Yuchun laughed and threw out the talisman in his hand as he charged at Long Chen.



Those who recognized it cried, “A Fire Beast Soul Talisman!”

The Fire Beast Soul Talisman was a rare and valuable talisman. Only a high-level talisman priest could make one, and it required many rare materials. The most important ingredient was a Divine-tier demonic beast’s beast soul!

Even a Fire Beast Soul Talisman made of a Category One Divine-tier beast was very destructive. A demonic or feral beast’s beast soul was not easy to find. One beast soul could usually make over ten Category One Divine-tier Fire Beast Soul Talismans. Every talisman contained power equivalent to an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator’s attack.

Song Yuchun was currently using a talisman made from a fire-type demonic or feral beast, so it was known as a Fire Beast Soul Talisman.

After Song Yuchun threw the talisman out, a fireball shot out of the tiny talisman. In a short time, the fireball exploded and the fierce flames transformed into a ferocious beast with four claws. With flames wrapped around its body, it charged at Long Chen.

*Roar!*

Furious roars rang out.

Long Chen could never dodge such a powerful talisman’s attack.

Everyone present was shocked at the talisman. This attack far surpassed Long Chen’s Emperor’s Manual. Long Chen had already used Emperor’s Arrival once. This showed that Song Yuchun intended to kill him.

Once Long Chen died, could Qin Xiong stop Song Yuchun from joining the Underworld Army?

He would achieve his goal and kill Long Chen at the same time. Although the price was a Fire Beast Soul Talisman, it was worth it.

What expression would he make if he knew that Long Chen had received a Shield Talisman?

*Ye Xuan is making a mountain out of a molehill. This is just an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage attack, but he gave me a Shield Talisman strong enough to block a First Divine Martial Stage attack.*

In the face of the talisman’s attack, Long Chen appeared to be much calmer than the other people.

They thought Long Chen was done for.

Song Yuchun was not a talisman priest, so if he used a talisman to defeat Long Chen, it was considered a shameful tactic that would never make him trustworthy in other people's eyes.

However, to the crowd's astonishment, Long Chen charged ahead instead of retreating.

## - Chapter 921 – Shifting Galaxies

### Chapter 921 – Shifting Galaxies

Long Chen did not plan to waste the Shield Talisman on the Fire Beast Soul Talisman's attack.

*Boom!*

A loud explosion.

Essence surged within his body and started to boil in his nine meridian points. A regal aura rose within him and spread to his surroundings. This was the aura of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory's guardian. The Emperor's Manual was the combat technique used to guard the territory. Long Chen unleashed the attack.

The aura in his body surged even more than the previous time he used Emperor's Arrival. A destructive energy erupted from him and rumbled. When he stomped on the ground, even the space around him trembled.

Power surged through his nine meridian points. All his strength gathered in the Yang Emperor Vanquisher on his right hand. It lit up with golden light, then vibrated with a low hum. Long Chen punched in the direction of the Fire Beast Soul Talisman. The silhouette of an emperor appeared behind him. He mirrored Long Chen's stance and also punched. Compared to Emperor's Arrival, this move had an additional layer of destructive force!

Emperor's Arrival was the Fist of Justice and emphasized on aura. Shifting Galaxies was the Fist of Destruction, and it emphasized on destructive power!

In the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, this fist technique was once said to make the galaxy tremble in the sky.

When Long Chen punched, the trembling real fist seal was coupled with an illusory fist seal. Both of them vibrated with power and flew at the feral beast that emerged from the Fire Beast Soul Talisman. There was an earth-trembling collision. The punch, which was both real and illusory at the same time, was able to shatter the talisman into pieces!

*Awooo!* The beast soul within the Fire Beast Soul Talisman was destroyed!

The talisman was quite a powerful one, so it was able to block the brunt of Long Chen's attack. Despite that, Long Chen's punch sent Song Yuchun flying. Blood sprayed out of his mouth once more, and the red blood formed a beautiful arc in the air.

*Slam!*

Song Yuchun crashed into the ground and fainted.

The arena was silent.

Just when everyone thought Long Chen was about to lose, he had turned the tables once more. He had defeated Song Yuchun with his own strength. It was not clear how severe Song Yuchun's injuries were.

"Chun'er!" Song Yang immediately rushed to Song Yuchun's side and sensed his condition with an outstretched hand. His injuries were not severe.

Long Chen was no idiot. If he had killed Song Yuchun, Song Yang would secretly kill him once he joined the Underworld Army. It was sufficient to teach Song Yuchun a lesson. To Song Yuchun, this defeat was worse than death.

To prevent Song Yang from attacking Long Chen, Qin Xiong floated between them.

While Song Yang was inspecting Song Yuchun's injuries, other people praised Long Chen's performance.

"He used his attack to directly shatter the Fire Beast Soul Talisman's attack. Long Chen is the only person here who can do this, other than Ye Xuan, of course."

"There are probably other people hiding their true capabilities. I think there are people at the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage in this event, but they are just hiding it."

"Even if there are, their combat abilities are similar to Long Chen's level. Long Chen's combat abilities aren't only at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage, I think. He should be at the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage."

They only underestimated him because they saw that he was at the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. Now they believed that Long Chen had hidden his actual strength to manipulate other people's impressions of him. In reality, there were also other people using the same tactic to mislead others.

Thousands of people looked at Long Chen. The fight was over, so Long Chen gradually deactivated his Dragon Soul Transformation.

Everyone was speechless looking at him.

“The results of this duel are obvious. Long Chen is the winner. Everyone who is irrelevant, please leave the pit quickly. Next duel, Fighter 397, Xie Xue. Fighter 452, Jiang Kongkong!”

Qin Xiong’s icy voice echoed across the pit.

The irrelevant person he referred to was clearly Song Yang.

When Song Yang saw that his grandson was only unconscious but not severely injured, his anger dampened a little. His grandson was the one who was weaker than his opponent, so he could not argue against that. Though he had to admit that Long Chen was very strong.

He glanced at Long Chen coldly, then left with his grandson in his arms.

Long Chen returned to his seat. It was finally done. He felt much lighter.

After Long Chen left quietly, the gazes that watched him were different compared to before. It started from contempt in the beginning to respect now.

The duel between Long Chen and Song Yuchun was considered the brightest moment of this event, though the subsequent duels still had to go on. There would be a total of one hundred duels. After one day, the duels were finally over and one hundred winners were declared. They all stood in the pit while the soldiers directed the rest of the people to leave.

The arena, which was initially filled with many people, was quickly emptied.

Many people left unwillingly, as they had gotten so close to their dream. Unfortunately, they had no choice but to go. The most tragic cases were the ones who had passed the first round but lost the second round due to a mistake.

Hundreds of Underworld Soldiers in Underworld Armor gathered around the one hundred recruits. These soldiers radiated powerful auras, and there were Sergeants and Hundred-Sergeants among them. Long Chen’s current strength was equivalent to a Sergeant.

Within the five hundred thousand Underworld Soldiers, he was considered one of the lowest-ranked.

The four Thousand-Sergeants and one Ten Thousand-Sergeant stood before the hundred recruits. Qin Xiong’s gaze swept across them. Many of them were injured, but under Qin Xiong’s arrangements, they received excellent medicine for treatment, namely Revitalization Pills.

“First of all, congratulations on your enrolment into the Underworld Army.”

Qin Xiong paused, then he continued, “I will not waste your time with nonsense. Other people will brief you on the things you need to take note of and all sorts of other knowledge when the time comes. The hundred of you will be divided into four groups of twenty-five people. Each group will be led by a Thousand-Sergeant.”

After he finished, the group started to eye the four Thousand-Sergeants.

“What arrangements will be made for Ye Xuan?” asked Qi Bing, one of the examiners.

Ye Xuan was as strong as a Thousand-Sergeant. Anyone who had Ye Xuan under them would see a great boost to their team.

Qin Xiong thought for a moment and said, “Ye Xuan will be my bodyguard. He will not be with you all. As for the rest, you may choose whoever you want.”

Then he smiled at Ye Xuan, who stepped out of the group. Ye Xuan had already thought about this and discussed it with Qin Xiong beforehand.

He would start his journey in the Underworld Army as Qin Xiong’s bodyguard.

Ye Xuan’s only goal was the Underworld Battlefield.

As for positions like Sergeants and Hundred Sergeants—he did not care about rank at all.

The remaining people automatically divided themselves into four groups. Long Chen merely entered one of the groups because they could freely move around. He sensed a pair of eyes watching him—Song Yang, who then stood in front of him and pretended not to see him. Song Yang said, “In that case, this group will be mine.”

Everyone could clearly see that Long Chen was in the group.

Song Yang was implying that he would never let Long Chen live peacefully in the Underworld Army.

He had gotten this role as the examiner with great difficulty, and it was all to let Song Yuchun join the Underworld Army. However, his plan was foiled by Long Chen. If Song Yuchun came against next month, he would surely not be able to join Song Yang’s team.

If he was assigned to other Thousand Sergeants, it would be difficult to keep him safe, not to mention ensure his rank progression.

Even though Long Chen had spared Song Yuchun, Song Yang was very uncomfortable with how things turned out.

Everyone saw through Song Yang’s plans.

Qin Xiong looked displeased. He looked like he was about to object, but Ye Xuan pulled him back and said, “Don’t worry about him. I sense that he’s actually very strong.”

Long Chen had saved Ye Xuan from a Second Divine Martial Stage murderer. Therefore, Ye Xuan believed that Long Chen was strong. He suspected that Long Chen was even stronger than what he had shown today, but that was actually his own overthinking.

“Song Yang, I’ll remember what happened today. I’d better not receive any negative news about this.” Although Qin Xiong did not object, he still warned Song Yang.

“Of course,” said Song Yang mildly.

Very soon, the other three examiners also chose their own groups of twenty-five and brought them back to their training camps. After bidding Ye Xuan farewell, Long Chen left with the other people in Song Yang’s group without another word. They walked through one of the small tunnels exiting the arena and arrived at their training camp.

The arena was actually a large entrance to the training camp of the Underworld Army.

Underworld City was unimaginably huge, and the Underworld Training Camp took up one-fifth of the city. It contained five hundred thousand Underworld Soldiers, which was a huge number.

Long Chen’s group of twenty-five was just a small pebble tossed into the ocean of five hundred thousand people. After emerging from the arena, they were officially on the Underworld Army’s territory. The camps were divided into sections led by individual Thousand-Sergeants, and the whole training camp area was divided into hundreds of Thousand-Sergeant Camps. Every Thousand-Sergeant Camp was led by a Thousand-Sergeant at the Divine Martial Realm, and Song Yang’s camp was known as Camp Wolf.

From today onwards, Long Chen would be a member of Camp Wolf.

They passed all types of sealed-off camps along the way.

They could faintly hear shouts from military training.

The training grounds were vast and Long Chen saw neatly arranged courtyards and structures with red bricks and green roofs. Every camp was surrounded by walls that were tens of meters tall.

## - Chapter 922 – Camp Wolf

Chapter 922 – Camp Wolf

Camp Wolf was not far from the Underworld Arena; it was situated in the outer section of the hundreds of training camps. That meant that compared to the other training camps, Camp Wolf was considered as one of the weaker ones.

However, with one thousand Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators, one hundred Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage Sergeants, ten Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage Hundred-Sergeants, and one Thousand-Sergeant at the Divine Martial Realm, this camp was already a mammoth of an organization to Long Chen.

Every Ten Thousand-Sergeant led ten Thousand-Sergeant Camps, while Underworld Admirals managed a hundred Thousand-Sergeant Camps each.

Every camp was divided by tall, ink-green walls. Trespassing into other camps without proper reason was a crime serious enough to warrant the death penalty.

Within the vast training grounds, Long Chen could only stay in Camp Wolf.

Very quickly, a large cluster of ink-green buildings appeared before him. This was Camp Wolf. There was a large sculpture of an ink-green wolf at the entrance, and the opening was through its chest. It was crouching, made of beautiful jade, and emanated thick Royal Qi. The ink-green jade was likely even more valuable than Emperor Crystals.

Emperor Crystals were also a type of stone filled with Royal Qi.

They entered the camp through the large wolf's chest and arrived in a vast plaza. The plaza looked as if it was boundless, and the soldiers' accommodations were beyond this place. The plaza was likely used for gatherings and also training activities. The other soldiers had likely received news of the trials, so about a thousand soldiers were already gathered in the plaza, which was almost the whole camp.

The Underworld Soldiers formed one hundred rows in front of Song Yang, with each row forming a team. The Sergeant leading each group stood in front of their groups, while the ten Hundred-Sergeants stood in front of them all. One thousand Underworld Soldiers radiated a powerful aura, as if they were deliberately being intimidating. After they entered, the immense killing intent hit them in their faces, causing the twenty-five newcomers to retreat several steps in fear.

The soldiers burst into laughter after they saw Long Chen and the others' reactions. When these people first joined, they had also been startled by the existing soldiers.

"Silence," the few Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage Hundred-Sergeants ordered. The Underworld Soldiers stopped talking.

Song Yang was still in a terrible mood. He walked towards the frontmost section of the plaza, and the ten Hundred-Sergeants stood behind him to brief him on some matters.

“Thousand-Sergeant, which is your grandson, Song Yuchun?” asked a Hundred-Sergeant with a smile.

Song Yang glanced at him coldly and did not speak. Then he looked at the twenty-five people standing obediently.

The Hundred-Sergeant who spoke and the other Hundred-Sergeants all looked at each other.

Did that mean Thousand-Sergeant Song Yang’s grandson had failed to enter?

They once heard that Song Yuchun could have entered a long time ago, but did not because he wanted to wait until Song Yang was the examiner. Then he would enter Song Yang’s camp so that his grandfather could watch over him.

He had not expected Long Chen to foil his plans.

“Sergeants whose teams do not have nine people, step forward.” Song Yang did not chat with the Hundred-Sergeants, but instead looked at the group of soldiers.

Due to deaths in battles and promotions, as well as deaths in the Underworld Battlefield, many groups did not have ten members. That was why the Underworld Army recruited new blood every month. One hundred this month was considered low.

The Sergeants could sense something wrong with today’s situation, so they stepped forward obediently. Thirty-plus Sergeants lacked team members out of the hundred teams.

“You, go to this team!

“You, go to this team!”

Song Yang instructed them without expression. The newcomers were assigned to their teams, but Long Chen seemed to receive special treatment because he was assigned last. Very quickly, Long Chen was the last newcomer remaining, but there were still many Sergeants standing in front of him.

Song Yang’s gaze darkened. He looked at Long Chen for a while and recalled what Qin Xiong had said. Qin Xiong had stated he would not let Song Yang go if he received any negative news. But Song Yang was unwilling to let Long Chen live peacefully.

“You, go to this team!”

Very naturally, Song Yang pointed at a man with tan skin. He was not very tall, but he was very muscular, making him look like a stout, powerful bear. His eyes were filled with



bloody violence and his face was pockmarked and had various knife scars. He radiated a violent aura, and with just a glance, he was obviously not a good person.

Song Yang was only assigning them casually, so not many people suspected that something was wrong.

But many sergeants gave Long Chen pitiful looks.

“Thousand-Sergeant assigned him to become the Butcher’s subordinate? This brat looks so fair and delicate; he’s done for.”

“The Butcher is violent, vicious, and kills people like it’s nothing. And he’s particularly interested in fair and delicate-looking youths like him.”

“Although the Butcher won’t kill him, once this kid is in his hands, I don’t know what’s going to happen to his ass.”

“Look at the people in his team. In the beginning, all of them were fair and youthful. Now they’re all thin and malnourished-looking. Their health levels haven’t been on par with the army’s standards in a long time.”

Long Chen heard all of them.

He looked at the Butcher, then at the men who were clearly not living well behind him, and shrugged. If the bastard decided to cause trouble, Long Chen would make him suffer.

“Alright, join your teams. I won’t waste time. Your Sergeants will tell you everything about the army’s rules and what you need to take note of. Sergeants of newcomers, follow me to get your armor. As for the others, take your new members and return.”

“Yes, Sir!”

Everyone nodded and left in an orderly fashion. Long Chen followed the soldiers behind the Butcher and left with them. After he left, Song Yang gave the Butcher a look.

“Thousand-Sergeant, you don’t need to say a word. I understand.” The Butcher gave a perverted sneer.

“That’s good,” said Song Yang with a smile.

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There were also training grounds and soldier accommodations beyond the plaza in Camp Wolf. Long Chen followed the others and did not speak along the way. There was only numbness in their eyes.

“Brother,” said one of them, turning around, “did you offend the Thousand-Sergeant?”

“Why do you ask?” asked Long Chen with a smile.

When the soldier saw that Long Chen did not seem to know what was coming, he shook his head resignedly and said, “If you did not offend him, he would not have assigned you to the Butcher.”

“Is this guy a pervert who is interested in men?” Long Chen asked.

The moment he asked it, the rest of them turned to look at Long Chen with numbness in their eyes.

The Butcher was very impressive if he reduced eight men to this state.

“Surely the eight of you combined can defeat one Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator.”

The few of them looked at each other, and then one said bitterly, “Since you’ve joined us, then we’ll treat you as one of us and tell it how it is. You don’t know the Underworld Army’s rules. We all despise the Butcher, but what use is that? Indeed, the eight of us could fight back if we worked together, but there are laws in the military. If you violate them, you are killed. For example, working together to fight a Sergeant is against military law.”

“Is there any way to kill a Sergeant?” Long Chen asked.

The other people looked at each other, then pitifully at Long Chen. As the saying went, the newborn calf did not fear the tiger. [1]

“In the Underworld Army, killing one of our own is considered violating military law and will result in different levels of punishment. You may only kill in the Underworld Battlefield. However, injuring someone is still permissible. For example, every soldier may challenge a Sergeant. If you defeat the Sergeant, you will automatically be promoted to Sergeant. This rule is only applicable to a Sergeant. As for positions such as Hundred-Sergeants and above, it will depend on the Thousand-Sergeant or Ten Thousand-Sergeant above you. Only the Sergeant can be challenged.”

Another person said, “You understand what we mean, right, kid? Only one person may fight the Sergeant. This means that if you want to take over as the Sergeant, fighting him together as a group would be against military law. Therefore, the Butcher is not someone we can disobey.”

“I see.” Long Chen nodded and did not react. He still looked nonchalant.

Looking at him, one of the other soldiers said half-mockingly, “You may be carefree now, but when the Butcher returns later, you’ll know how terrifying he is. Then you will regret the decision you made to join the Underworld Army. You will feel like life is a nightmare.”

The other people looked like they agreed.

Long Chen smiled and said, “That’s because you all are willing to endure it and do not dare to fight back. If the alternative is to live in humiliation, you might as well kill him off. Let’s just go. Take me to the place.”

The other people mulled over his words, but very soon, the brutal reality brought them back into depression once more.

1. The newborn calf does not fear the tiger = a newbie who is not afraid of any threat due to ignorance ㄟ

## - Chapter 923 – The Butcher

### Chapter 923 – The Butcher

They quickly arrived at their camp. It was a wide courtyard, and every person had their own large room. Each room had all types of cultivation facilities, meaning they were fully equipped. The Sergeants’ accommodations were more luxurious.

“This is your room. The previous owner of this room killed himself last month, but don’t worry, the room has been cleaned well.” All types of furniture were arranged in the room, and the ink-green glass-like floor reflected each person’s expression.

“Enjoy life now while you await Butcher’s arrival.” After this warning, the rest of them left with numb expressions. After they left, Little Cat quickly emerged from the Primordial Realm and rolled around the floor laughing.

“You’re finally getting what you deserve, brat! Haha! Someone has set their sights on you! I’m going to die of laughter! When you two have fun tonight, should I give you two some privacy so you can enjoy yourselves?”

Long Chen kicked the fuzzy creature aside and surveyed the room. Emperor Crystals were set around the room so the Royal Qi here was three times thicker than outside. There was even an underground room specifically for cultivation. It was a very sturdy house, and he would need to use techniques at the advanced Emperor-tier or above to completely destroy this place.

The large, underground room was especially suited for cultivation.

In the middle of the room, Long Chen found a book. He picked it up and saw that it was filled with the Underworld Army's military rules, as well as information on the army's organizational structure. After reading through it once, he had an idea of the whole hierarchy.

"Why isn't there any information on the Underworld Battlefield? I guess it's a more confidential matter. I need to ask the others later."

The Underworld Battlefield was his goal. Once he entered that place, he would not have time to worry about Song Yang and the other nonsense. He did not plan to stay in Underworld City for long.

After he read the military rules, there was a rumble of knocks on his door. Long Chen put the book into the Primordial Realm and went upstairs. When he arrived in his foyer, the door was blasted open. The stout and muscular Butcher walked in with a big smile. Behind him, the other few Underworld Soldiers hid outside the door and looked at them worriedly.

"Your name is Long Chen, right?" In the beginning, Butcher did not reveal his sinister side, but rather looked at Long Chen with great interest.

Long Chen looked at him mildly and nodded.

"Not bad, not bad. Welcome to the Underworld Army. Now that you have joined my team, I will be your leader from today onwards. The military law is above all. You must obey every word I say."

After he spoke, he did not even look at Long Chen's reaction and directly took out three items from his storage ring.

"Every cultivator dreams of entering the Underworld Army. You'll receive three super-treasures the moment you join the Underworld Army. With these, your strength will increase by three or four times!"

Long Chen recognized two of the three items with just a glance. The first was the Underworld Armor worn by all the soldiers. It was only the lowest-tiered kind and could only triple a Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage soldier's essence. It was not effective for an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator's essence.

Long Chen was currently weak in essence. He had progressed multiple times so far, but he still only had the essence of a Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. Therefore, the suit of Underworld Armor etched with ink-green runes would be useful to him.

The next item was an Underworld Warhorse.

This Underworld Warhorse was much better than the black stallion he had received from the Iron Blood Association.

The third item was an advanced Emperor-tier combat technique called the Nine Hells Finger.

Among all advanced Emperor-tier combat techniques, this was considered a stronger attack. Usually, only Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivators like the Seven Star Lord could utilize its full strength.

“Underworld Armor, Underworld Warhorse, and Nine Hells Finger. Aren’t these the things you’ve always dreamed of? Take them.” Butcher placed them in Long Chen’s hands.

“The Underworld Armor is able to transform, so it will turn into regular clothes when you’re not in training.” Butcher eyed Long Chen’s body up and down, tutting and smiling. It was very obvious what he was thinking.

Long Chen tried the armor on, and it was exactly as he had said.

He became the armor’s owner, and when he tested it out, it indeed had essence-boosting effects.

*The Underworld armor is the symbol of the Underworld Estate. General Su Mo is likely wearing something even more awesome than this one. The Five Emperor Palm technique left behind by my Senior Brothers, the Five Emperors, will reach its peak when I reach the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage. After I reach the Divine Martial Realm, I won’t be able to use the Five Emperor Palm. It will be good to have a suit of high-quality Underworld Armor when that happens.*

Long Chen’s mind was racing.

He put the Underworld Armor and the Nine Hells Finger in the Primordial Realm.

Butcher thought Long Chen would be very emotional after receiving these things, but he remained very calm.

He recalled that Song Yang wanted him to pay Long Chen extra attention, so after Long Chen put the items away, Butcher’s eyes shone with passionate fire. With his gaze fixed on Long Chen, he instructed the rest, “Close the door.”

The other soldiers jumped when they heard the instruction. They looked at Butcher fearfully and submissively, then one of them stepped forward and did as he was told.

“What are you doing?” Long Chen’s gaze turned cold.

“Nothing. Let’s go down to the basement. I’ll tell you all about the military law,” said Butcher with a big grin, revealing yellow teeth.

“Let’s talk outside.” Long Chen knew that Song Yang meant to cause trouble for him. After speaking, he walked towards the door.

“Hm?” Butcher was a little surprised by Long Chen’s reaction, then his expression turned icy. “Stay where you are!” he commanded in a low voice.

The other people retreated, startled by the sudden outburst. Long Chen walked out nonchalantly.

“You’ve only just joined the army and you don’t even want to obey my commands. You’re looking for death!” Butcher’s expression soured. No one beneath him had ever disobeyed him like that.

*Rumble.*

His essence surged to his feet, and the Sergeant, who was as strong as a bear, chased after Long Chen. A strong gust of wind blew at Long Chen.

Everyone was shocked to see Long Chen accelerate and instantly dodge Butcher’s fatal attack. When they were in the wide courtyard, the two of them had a standoff.

When the other people saw Butcher rage, they quickly hid away fearfully, hugging each other. At the same time, they looked at Long Chen pitifully. They knew that if this person dared to disobey Butcher, he would endure much suffering tonight.

Long Chen guessed that people would not be able to get out of bed after spending the night with Butcher.

He could not help but sigh at these men who had no more fighting spirit in them. Men lived to fight, but with their fighting spirit gone, they were no longer men—nor women. They were merely people who had lost their souls.

“Be good, child. Follow me back. You will realize that even a man can give you great enjoyment. Also, you’re still a virgin, right?” Butcher sneered and opened his arms, then grabbed at the “thin and weak” Long Chen.

Long Chen immediately boosted himself to his strongest form using the Dragon Soul Transformation, the Yin-Yang Sword Soul, the Emperor Vanquishers, and even the newly obtained Underworld Armor. With all these boosts, his essence reached its peak.

In the eyes of everyone else, Long Chen had turned from a rabbit to a lion, or maybe something even more terrifying than a lion.

Even Butcher halted.

*It makes sense. He was able to join the Underworld Army, so he had to have some tricks up his sleeve!* Butcher was not concerned at all. He licked his lips and sneered, then pounced fiercely on Long Chen once again.

“Fine. Since I’m bored, I might as well become a Sergeant.” Long Chen chuckled. Song Yang intended to use Butcher to make him suffer, but how could a character like that defeat him?

Song Yang had vastly underestimated Long Chen’s abilities.

“Emperor’s Manual, Shifting Galaxies!”

The image of an emperor appeared behind Long Chen and mirrored his movements. The immense aura from his attack made the stars shake, and even the whole courtyard trembled. The houses started to shake as well.

“A Divine-tier combat technique!” Butcher’s eyes widened with disbelief.

Long Chen had shocked him too much.

Who would have thought that this tiny rabbit would turn into such a frightening lion?

Butcher was like a pig who had bullied a rabbit. Facing the Emperor Manual’s second technique, Butcher also unleashed a Divine-tier combat technique. However, it quickly lost to Shifting Galaxies and shattered completely. The immense force landed directly on Butcher’s stomach, causing him to fly backwards with blood spraying out of his mouth. His tanned face turned pale.

Long Chen’s attack had struck his internal organs. Although he had his essence to protect them, many of his meridian veins were shattered. His injuries were severe. If he did not heal well, he might never even crawl again.

However, Long Chen still did not let him go. After returning to his original state, he strode over to Butcher.

The sudden transformation stunned everyone.

Looking at Long Chen, they finally understood how different Long Chen was to themselves. In the past, when they first came to this place, they had fought back too, but they had quickly lost.

# - Chapter 924 – Underworld Qi

## Chapter 924 – Underworld Qi

Subsequently, they became utterly depressed and lacked even the courage to cultivate. Otherwise, with their potential, many of them would have achieved a breakthrough to the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage by now.

In reality, none of them had managed to progress because they had long given up.

In contrast, Long Chen's eyes were filled with determination and refusal to submit.

This unending determination and resilience had forged the Long Chen of today. This was also how he was different compared to the rest.

The word "surrender" did not exist in his dictionary.

After the Butcher collapsed, he did not become fully unconscious. Under extreme shock, he quickly swallowed a large number of Revitalization Pills to heal his injuries. Despite that, his severe injuries could not heal that quickly.

Long Chen walked over to him calmly, but the smile on his face terrified the Butcher so much that he almost wet his pants. He scrambled backwards in terror, glaring at Long Chen, and threatened, "Long Chen, you cannot kill me! If you kill someone outside the Underworld Battlefield, you will be sentenced to death!"

"Who said I was going to kill you?" Long Chen laughed, and the Three Thousand Star Clusters appeared in his hand.

This was as Butcher expected. Long Chen had only just joined the army and did not have a strong background or great wealth. How would he dare kill anyone?

"Get away from me! You injured me! I'm going to tell the Thousand Sergeant, so that he'll punish you. Get away from me!" Butcher threatened with a stern expression.

"Is that so? I heard that if I challenge and defeat a Sergeant, I'll automatically become one myself. The Sergeant is now me, right?" Long Chen looked at the other people.

Butcher gave them a threatening glare.

The other soldiers had an instinctive terror towards him, so they did not dare speak.

"He is no match for me. From today onwards, I am the leader here. Why are you guys still worried?" Long Chen asked disappointedly.



One of the soldiers struggled to step forward. He said, “Long ... Long Chen, you’re right. You are now qualified to become a Sergeant. All you need to do is report it so that the Hundred Sergeant updates the records. Then you’ll be a fully registered Sergeant.”

Long Chen smiled. That was exactly what he wanted to hear. He pointed the spear at Butcher and looked at him with amusement. “You’ve harmed many people before this. Now that I am the Sergeant, how should I punish you?”

Butcher almost wet himself from the threat and quickly scrambled backwards. He looked at Long Chen pitifully and said in a panic, “Alright, you’re the sergeant! I’ll follow your orders from now on! Let me go, I beg you! I will change my ways!”

“Is that so? That’s great news. However, I need to first remove the root of your evil deeds.” After Long Chen finished, his glare turned cold. A ray of starlight shot out from the Three Thousand Star Clusters, then pierced into the crotch of the man on the ground. Butcher’s precious parts broke apart.

Butcher screamed in agony, his legs twitching and eyes bulging as he glared at Long Chen.

“Don’t glare at me. I never joke about these things. If I ever catch you being disobedient, it’ll be your hands and legs next.” He swung the spear and knocked Butcher out.

Everyone stared at Long Chen woodenly, not daring to speak.

Then they cheered. Butcher did not have his private parts anymore. From today onwards, they would lead happy lives.

“Don’t discard the dreams you once had just because you had to deal with brutal reality. If you live in perpetual rock bottom, I think it’s better you all die.”

These were the words Long Chen left them with.

It was up to them to comprehend what he said.

Then Long Chen said, “Carry the bastard away. Just don’t let him die. I’ll give you all a task, which is to forbid him from leaving this place for the next few days. He is severely injured, so he is no match for you. If you can’t even do this minor thing well, you guys will lose my respect.”

The few of them looked at each other. Their dead eyes gradually regained their light.

“We can do it!” they said one after another.

Long Chen was proud of them. He called for the first person to argue with Butcher to step forward and said, “Come with me inside for a while. I want to ask you a few things. As for the others, deal with Butcher.”

No one disobeyed his orders.

The others nodded and watched him enter his room. Their eyes were filled with admiration.

Long Chen had not only helped them beat Butcher up; it was not that simple. More importantly, he had helped pull them out of depression to become human again.

“What is your name?” Long Chen asked the other youth. He looked closest to Long Chen in age.

“I’m Jiang Chong,” said the youth, gazing at Long Chen admiringly.

“Have a seat.”

After they were seated on the luxurious wooden chairs, Long Chen directly entered the main topic and asked, “I want to go to the Underworld Battlefield. Tell me everything you know about it.”

“The Underworld Battlefield?” Jiang Chong’s eyes widened. He looked at Long Chen and said with surprise, “Brother Chen, you want to go to the Underworld Battlefield? That’s quite a scary place. Most of the Seventh Heavenly Martial Stage people do not return from that place. Many Sergeants, even Hundred and Thousand-Sergeants, often die there.”

“You only need to tell me how to get there,” said Long Chen.

“Uh ... Based on what I know, as long as you’re an Underworld Soldier, you are allowed to enter the Underworld Battlefield even if you’re a soldier or a Sergeant. Usually, we have cultivation assignments or are sent out to complete missions. When we are unable to complete these tasks, we are punished. However, there is an exception. If you are in the Underworld Battlefield, you can skip all these tasks!”

“The leader is encouraging Underworld Soldiers to enter the Underworld Battlefield.” Long Chen immediately grasped the key intention.

Once one entered the Underworld Battlefield, they would not need to complete any missions outside and wouldn't have to worry about anything else. That was exactly what Long Chen wanted. He did not want to execute all those tasks or pair up with other people to train.

“The Underworld Battlefield is a strange miniverse. I heard that it's like a mirror of the Underworld Estate. The terrain and the Underworld Estate in the miniverse are all identical to the world here. However, the Underworld Battlefield is a desolate world filled with Underworld Beasts and natural disasters. It’s a place where normal people cannot survive. These harsh conditions make for a good place to train and strengthen yourself.

“There’s something called Underworld Qi in the Underworld Battlefield, and it is mixed with the Royal Qi there. Long-term exposure to Underworld Qi leads to corrosion of the body, and even the strongest people end up collapsing eventually.”

“What do you mean? So people can’t stay there for too long?” asked Long Chen.

The Underworld Qi would make it very inconvenient.

“No. I’m saying that this is the limitation of being in the Underworld Battlefield. Humans are very intelligent. After discovering the Underworld Battlefield, someone invented a way to mix Underworld Qi into their body by cultivating it in their own essence. Not only does doing that increase your combat abilities, it also makes you immune to the negative effects of Underworld Qi. It can even quicken the speed at which your essence strengthens. This means that you’ll first need to cultivate Underworld Qi before you enter, Brother Chen. This is the first step for every person who intends to enter the Underworld Battlefield.”

“How do you cultivate Underworld Qi? Where do I go to do it?” Long Chen asked.

“At the center of the Underworld Training Camp, there is a large place called the Underworld Plaza. In the middle, there is a hundred-meter-tall rock called the Underworld Rock. Instructions to cultivate the Underworld Qi are carved on it. Every day, many people go there to cultivate Underworld Qi. However, Brother Chen, you need to be mentally prepared,” said Jiang Chong.

“Why?” Long Chen asked.

“It is not easy to cultivate the Underworld Qi. Fifty percent of people can’t do it even after a lifetime of trying. For other people, it takes a very long time to succeed. It is just too difficult. Take Butcher for example. He has cultivated for ten years but still has not succeeded. If we are just referring to Underworld City, the fastest person to cultivate Underworld Qi took two months. I hear that General Su Mo himself took three months. For people like us who aren’t prodigies, taking a few years is already an excellent achievement.”

“A few years?” Long Chen was speechless.

*I think I’m stronger than other people in terms of intelligence and comprehension abilities. Therefore, I don’t think it will take me a year. Even if it’s difficult, I still need to try before reaching a conclusion.*

Long Chen had made his decision. He was not scared by Jiang Chong’s warning.

“Brother Chen, are you still going to try your hardest to enter the Underworld Battlefield? I don’t think you should do it. Cultivating outside is just as fast and you don’t need to

spend time cultivating Underworld Qi. It is very dangerous place, and very few people who enter return alive,” said Jiang Chong worriedly.

“But those who return become dragons among men, right?” Long Chen said with a smile.

Then he stood up.

“Brother Chen, what are you doing?” Jiang Chong asked nervously.

“Going to the Underworld Plaza so that I can find the Underworld Rock, of course. Lead the way.”

“So soon? You’re actually going?” Jiang Chong was stunned.

He could not accept the speed at which Long Chen did things.

“Let’s go.” Long Chen did not stay any longer and walked out the door.

Jiang Chong quickly ran after him and said tiredly, “Brother Chen, there’s no need to rush.”

Long Chen did not answer him and pulled him in front. “Lead the way. We must not waste time.”

“But there are so many people there.”

“Go!”

“Alright ...”

After weaving through the Underworld Training Camp for a long time, Long Chen finally reached the aforementioned Underworld Plaza and saw the gigantic Underworld Rock.

## - Chapter 925 – Tiny Golden Thunder Beast

### Chapter 925 – Tiny Golden Thunder Beast

It was just as Jiang Chong said. The Underworld Plaza was indeed huge, with a radius of about five kilometers. Standing on the edge of the plaza, Long Chen would have to use up his Blood Warp quota in order to reach the Underworld Rock.

The plaza's floor was covered with a layer of black crystal. It was a beautiful and clear crystal that could reflect a person's face almost as well as a mirror. Ink-green lights flowed in the depths of this crystal.

About ten thousand people had gathered in the plaza to cultivate Underworld Qi. These people were a mixture of both high and low-ranked soldiers. The stronger ones included Divine Martial Realm Thousand-Sergeants, while the weaker ones were newcomers to the Underworld Army like Long Chen.

Very few newcomers dared to cultivate Underworld Qi directly after joining. Long Chen leaving Camp Wolf to cultivate here was considered strange.

The most prominent thing in this plaza was the hundred-meter-tall Underworld Rock. Long Chen looked up at the black, asymmetrical rock. It was like a long, oval egg with many sharp corners, and it also took up a lot of space on the ground. It was a gigantic object.

The black rock was covered with ink-green runes. These runes danced and grouped up on the surface, and they faintly emitted a strange aura. Long Chen guessed that this was the method to cultivate Underworld Qi.

"Jiang Chong, you may leave without me."

Long Chen merely wanted to cultivate here quietly on his own. Once his cultivation was complete, he would head to the Underworld Battlefield. He was not going to bother dealing with military training.

The Underworld Battlefield was his goal.

"If I head back, you'll be here alone ..." Jiang Chong hesitated. Long Chen was new after all, and he did not know many things. If he offended someone here, he would be in trouble.

"Go back," Long Chen repeated.

"Alright. Be careful!"

Jiang Chong then returned via his original path. Butcher was now crippled, and without a few months of rest, he would not recover to his original state. He was no match for Jiang Chong now, and the body part he had used on the other squad members had been destroyed by Long Chen.

Jiang Chong felt that life was wonderful without constant terror.

After he left, Long Chen observed the rock closely. All the people who came here approached the rock, then sat down next to it. Long Chen approached the rock while studying it at the same time.

“Long Chen?” A familiar voice sounded.

Long Chen looked to his left and saw Ye Xuan, who was in white brocade robes. He was also sitting among the crowd and had probably just arrived, so he was not immersed in cultivation yet. When he spotted Long Chen, he waved.

Long Chen sat down next to him.

“Are you also cultivating Underworld Qi to enter the Underworld Battlefield?” Ye Xuan asked with a smile.

He was a young master who came from a large clan, so he exuded elegance and was very well-mannered. The way he spoke made people feel at ease.

Long Chen nodded and smiled. “I can’t believe you’re quicker than I am. You must have come straight here.”

Ye Xuan was not surprised to see Long Chen cultivating Underworld Qi. To him, the fact that Long Chen could help him escape a Second Divine Martial Stage cultivator meant that he was a hidden expert himself.

“Since you’re here, then let’s cultivate the Underworld Qi. We can also share our thoughts and experiences. Let’s see who will successfully cultivate it first!” Ye Xuan challenged him.

To be honest, there were very few prodigies who were strong enough to be Ye Xuan’s peers in Underworld City. That was why when Ye Xuan met Long Chen, he felt like he had finally met a peer. It was more fun and motivating to compete with someone at almost the same level.

“Alright! I won’t lose to you!”

Along Long Chen’s journey, he had been immersed in killing. It was a good thing for him to meet a friend who did not have a conflict of interest with him.

The two chatted for a while, then they started to study the mysterious Underworld Rock.

“It is said that the Underworld Rock came from beyond the heavens. There are a total of one hundred and one Underworld Rocks. Each of the one hundred cities under the Underworld Estate contains one Underworld Rock. The Underworld Estate has the largest rock of them all on its own territory. I haven’t even seen that rock before. Only the high-

level officials of the Underworld Army can study it. I heard that one is five hundred meters tall,” said Ye Xuan with admiration.

“From beyond the heavens? You mean a meteor from the sky?” Long Chen studied it up and down. This rock had a mysterious aura, and it was indeed strange.

“The world beyond the heavens is mysterious. Who knows what’s out there? Hehe. Let’s focus on cultivating Underworld Qi. The fastest person to cultivate it in history took two months. The average prodigy takes three or four months, and Su Mo took three months. I want to see how many months it takes me!”

“Two months? Let’s see which of us will break that legendary record,” said Long Chen.

After the promise, both of them stopped chatting and focused on studying the runes on the rock. Out of the ten thousand people in the plaza, they were not eye-catching at all, considering they had only just joined the army and very few people recognized them.

This meant that no one disturbed them.

Long Chen focused his mind. The Underworld Rock was the only thing that remained in his world.

He knew that his comprehension abilities had always been shocking. This was a gift given by the ancestral dragon’s Inherited Blood Essence. He had absorbed one-hundredth of the Inherited Blood Essence, but his comprehension abilities had surpassed the normal person and even many prodigies of the Three Royal Territories.

In the tiny Underworld Estate, Long Chen’s comprehension abilities were the best of the best.

He was naturally sensitive to invisible elements, making him much more receptive to these subtle things.

Furthermore, he was naturally a patient person.

There were many runes on the Underworld Rock, and it was not easy to find the starting point. The runes spun around the rock, so Long Chen did not need to move around to find the correct ones. However, they also flickered, which only made things more difficult. Many people wasted a lot of time searching for the starting point during their first time.

Long Chen had to rely on himself to understand this.

There had to be certain special parts in this mass of countless runes. Understanding Underworld Qi was actually a mundane process, and Long Chen kept searching. Normal people took ten to twenty days to find the starting point, but Long Chen had a faint feeling after just two days.

*It seems to be starting from this point.*

His super-comprehension abilities made these things crystal clear to him. After grasping the main concept of the runes, it was easy to find the starting point he was looking for.

He glanced at Ye Xuan next to him. Ye Xuan was still working hard, and his sweat was dripping like rain. Long Chen knew he had not found what he had found yet. Everybody's understanding was slightly different, so Long Chen could not tell him where to start either. He had to rely on himself.

After that, Long Chen started to study the runes.

They looked complicated, but after grasping the order of everything, it was not difficult to understand. Long Chen studied this from a very high angle, using the perspective of the ancestral dragon to study the runes. After grasping the root concept, he studied the specific mechanisms, and it grew much easier. No one could've guessed that Long Chen would progress this fast. When ten days passed, an ink-green aura quietly formed in Long Chen's dantian, then it spread to his meridian points. Soon, the ink-green aura had already spread and mixed with all his essence.

Long Chen sensed that a strange aura had appeared in him.

This was Underworld Qi.

Underworld Qi had a strengthening effect on the Dragon Essence without any side-effects since it was born from Long Chen's understanding, and he controlled it.

When he successfully cultivated the Underworld Qi, Ye Xuan had only just started to enter the zone.

*I can't believe it only took me eleven days to cultivate Underworld Qi. Isn't that several times faster than the fastest record in the Underworld Army?*

Long Chen was delighted. The Underworld Qi flowed through his nine meridian points once. He was prepared to stop when he seemed to sense something inside the rock through the connection between his Underworld Qi and the Underworld Rock.

He instinctively opened his True Martial Soul, which had become his third eye.

Gray light faintly shone from between his brows.

Looking through the eye of the True Martial Soul, the black rock started to transform. The ink-green runes spun quickly and transformed into an ink-green circle. A golden light shone in the middle of the circle, which came from the inside of the rock. Long Chen peered closer and felt a violent and fierce aura from the golden light. It was a tiny Golden Thunder Beast.



This small creature was almost the same size as Little Cat. It looked both like a lion and a tiger, and its body was made up of golden lightning. Dense bolts of lightning formed the tiny Golden Thunder Beast's body. Although it was made up of lightning, it seemed to have its own sentience. It roared furiously, as it was trapped in the rock. Long Chen was hit with a shock wave. Golden lightning shot out of the small creature's body, crackling loudly, as if it was about to destroy the world!

Long Chen felt immense psychological pressure when facing the Golden Thunder Beast.

## - Chapter 926 – Hell Soul Lightning

### Chapter 926 – Hell Soul Lightning

“What's that?” Long Chen hurriedly shut his True Martial Soul off. If he didn't, the pressure he experienced would be too immense. After he shut it, the Golden Thunder Beast disappeared, and everything returned to calm. Everyone was still quietly studying the Underworld Qi's cultivation method.

There was a tiny Golden Thunder Beast in the Underworld Rock.

Although it was small, it contained vast amounts of energy, and it had an aura that showed it could rule over the lands.

“I think it's a type of magical thunder. A kind with sentience,” Little Cat suddenly said.

“How so?” Long Chen asked.

“Between the heavens and earth, there are magical versions of the elements such as metal, wood, water, fire, earth, and thunder. For example, Xiaolang previously swallowed a type of fire, but that was no ordinary fire. The Golden Thunder Beast is the same. It's probably a very high-level Hell Soul Lightning. However, it formed sentience. Magical elements that develop sentience but are unable to use it can become quite terrifying, just like the Golden Thunder Beast. If it were released when it was still in its peak state, all of Underworld City would be flattened. After being suppressed for countless years, I think its powers have been almost exhausted. If you approach the Underworld Rock, I have a way for you to tame it so that it will do your bidding.”

“Hell Soul Lightning? Golden Thunder Beast? Do my bidding?” Long Chen's eyes widened. Based on what Little Cat had said, this beast was quite powerful.

“With my abilities, catching a Thunder Beast is easy. However, you must first approach the Underworld Rock. Also, I don't know if it'll cause a huge commotion”

“This is the Underworld Army’s territory. That makes it very inconvenient.”

It was daytime, so any phenomenon would be very obvious. There would likely be fewer people present at night, and that would be a good opportunity. Many people who cultivated Underworld Qi did not come here every day, and they did not stay for the whole day when they did. They had other things to do after all. Very few people were like Long Chen and Ye Xuan, who cultivated here for several days in a row.

“Brother Chen, why have you stopped?” Next to him, Ye Xuan opened his eyes and forced a smile.

“Just catching my breath. I’ll continue very soon. It looks like I’m going to be faster than you,” Long Chen replied with a smile.

He had cultivated Underworld Qi in just over ten days. If this got out, it would be huge news in the whole Underworld Estate. Long Chen did not want to be the center of attention, and he knew he had to keep his head down before he became strong.

Therefore, he continued sitting there, waiting for nighttime to arrive.

“Little Cat, if I could get the Golden Thunder Beast, in what way will my abilities improve?” This was what he was most concerned about.

“The Golden Thunder Beast is also called the Hell Soul Lightning. Based on the cultivation level system, it should be considered an advanced Divine-tier treasure. Furthermore, it has gained sentience, so that will boost its strength by another level. Unfortunately, it has been suppressed for a very long time, so most of its strength has been exhausted. Only a little is left.”

“What can this remaining strength do for me?”

“If you can tame it, and it has enough strength, you can let it out to bite people. Plus, you can toughen up your body if you use its lightning power to condition your body. Your speed will improve greatly as well. It is named ‘Hell Soul Lightning’ because its greatest strength is actually its speed. Lightning has always been the symbol for speed. With the Hell Soul Lightning residing in your body, your speed will surpass that of a regular person. As for how much, you’ll have to test it out yourself.”

These two benefits would help Long Chen greatly.

Therefore, Long Chen decided that he had to obtain the Golden Thunder Beast.

But not right now.

He was waiting for night to fall.

Two men entered the Underworld Plaza, and their gazes swept across the crowd for a while, then they quickly spotted Long Chen. These two were Butcher and another man. Butcher had an aggrieved and venomous expression, making him look pathetic. The man next to him was handsome, strong, and tall and had the look of a talented man.

When the two of them saw Long Chen, they walked over to him.

Before they approached, Long Chen sensed their presence.

“Long Chen!” someone called out.

Long Chen stood up and turned around. He was not afraid of Butcher, but the other man’s aura was immense—he was likely at the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage. This made him a Hundred-Sergeant in the Underworld Army.

This person was on the same level as the six demons from before.

“You’re Long Chen?” the man asked coldly, eyeing Long Chen for a while.

“May I ask who you are?” Long Chen looked up at him.

“Hehe. You’re asking who he is? This is the Hundred-Sergeant who manages all of us, Lord Huang Qiong, Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage!” Butcher said coldly with his eyes fixed on Long Chen.

Long Chen glanced at him and then said, “Greetings, Hundred-Sergeant. You must be here because I injured Butcher, right? Don’t the rules state that every soldier has the right to challenge a Sergeant? And that he will automatically become a Sergeant after defeating one? Did I do something wrong?”

What Long Chen had done was within the rules.

Huang Qiong felt disrespected when Long Chen did not seem afraid of him at all. He said coldly, “What you did was indeed within the rules, but after he was defeated, you still pressed further and tried to kill him. You even cut off his ...”

*Oh, so that’s why they’re here.*

“What did I cut off?” Long Chen asked, pretending to be nonchalant.

“You cut off my knob!” Butcher cried out furiously when he saw that Long Chen was refusing to admit it.

That was the punchline.

The people around them were initially immersed in cultivation, but they were startled by this sentence. They all looked at the stout Butcher with strange expressions, then burst into loud laughter.

Even Ye Xuan woke up.

Butcher wanted to hide in a hole, while Huang Qiong was so mad that his face turned red. He did not want to stay here any longer. He shot Long Chen a cold look and said, "Come with me."

"And if I don't?" said Long Chen.

"Insubordination is cause for the death penalty in the Underworld Army." Huang Qiong shrugged and left with Butcher. If Long Chen did not obey him and follow, he had many ways to rightfully kill Long Chen.

While Butcher was an evil person, he was Huang Qiong's confidante too. Every year, Butcher would give Huang Qiong many valuable items, and Huang Qiong would help solve his problems in return.

Long Chen and Ye Xuan looked at each other.

"Brother Chen, ignore him. I'll speak to Qin Xiong later, and these minor figures won't dare to touch you or harass you again."

"I don't need to trouble you. I'll just go once. They can't do anything to me." Long Chen smiled and bade him farewell, then he went to Camp Wolf. He did not want to trouble Qin Xiong over such a small matter, so he went back directly. He only needed to return to the Underworld Plaza at night anyway.

Since Long Chen was insistent, Ye Xuan did not know how to respond.

When they saw Long Chen catching up to them, Butcher and Huang Qiong both smiled.

"This brat made me like this! If I can't kill him, I at least want him to wish he was dead, or I won't live up to my name—Butcher!"

"Don't worry. He's just some ignorant kid. He has no power, status, or background. I can kill him quietly anytime."

"Don't kill him. After you cripple him, pass him to me. He made me like this, so I must torture him for a few years so that he will regret being born!" A sneer appeared on Butcher's face and he laughed.

But he laughed so hard that it aggravated his injuries, causing him to spasm in pain.

After a while, they finally reached Camp Wolf. Long Chen followed the Hundred-Sergeant to the courtyard where Long Chen's room was, and the other eight soldiers were already standing nervously together. They had no idea that Butcher and Huang Qiong were this close. It was no wonder no one seemed to care about Butcher's reckless behavior.

Long Chen followed them into the courtyard.

When they saw the moods of the two men, the group of soldiers quickly hid in the back, except for Jiang Chong, who stood in his spot hesitantly.

"Long Chen is done for. Butcher has a good relationship with Hundred-Sergeant. Now that Long Chen has been called back, the consequences will be unimaginable."

"That brat dared to fight Butcher. I told you this wouldn't end well. I was right."

"Thankfully, we did not help him beat Butcher."

The few of them muttered amongst themselves, doing their best to show that they had nothing to do with Long Chen.

Long Chen heard them.

"Useless trash." Long Chen laughed to himself and ignored them. With their characters, they would not achieve anything in their lives. They had already peaked.

In the vast courtyard, Huang Qiong and Butcher turned around and looked at Long Chen. An icy aura erupted from Huang Qiong and pressed on Long Chen.

The Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage was the peak of the Heavenly Martial Realm, and also the peak of domain strength.

When he walked up to Huang Qiong, Long Chen looked up and asked, "I have followed you here. May I ask if you have any orders, Hundred-Sergeant?"

Huang Qiong laughed. It was rare to see someone so unafraid of dying. He said directly, "I won't trouble you. If you can withstand one move from me and not die, I will forget about the mistakes you committed."

Butcher panicked a little, but after he remembered how strong Huang Qiong was, he felt more assured. Although it was just one move, it would surely be enough to kill Long Chen.

"Go on, then."

Long Chen made a "come hither" gesture with his hand.

# - Chapter 927 – Taming The Beast

## Chapter 927 – Taming The Beast

*Wow. This brat is crazy arrogant.*

Everyone was privately shocked.

However, being so bold in front of Huang Qiong was just a death wish to them.

“Not bad!” Huang Qiong leaped off the ground and shot at Long Chen.

He exuded so much power that he ended up pushing Butcher into the air.

The other people were also thrown into the air by Huang Qiong’s powerful aura. Long Chen was the only one directly facing his attack.

“Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage, domain!”

A domain that felt practically solid pressed on Long Chen’s body. It was a complete domain that exerted absolute force. Long Chen felt like a mountain was pressing on his head so hard that he could not move.

“Break!”

In that short moment, Long Chen clenched his teeth and activated the Dragon Soul Transformation, the Yin-Yang Sword Soul, and the Five Emperor Palm. In the face of a peak-level opponent, he was forced to instantly activate everything he had.

The Emperor Vanquishers appeared on Long Chen’s hands, and he threw two punches. Due to the gloves’ destructive force, the domain trembled once more. Long Chen also received extra protection from the Underworld Armor. In summary, Long Chen received all types of boosts to his abilities.

“What’s that?” Huang Qiong’s eyes flashed with greed when he saw Long Chen’s Divine-tier Emperor Vanquishers.

*Those are punching gloves! I’m cultivating the Killing God Sutra right now, so those Divine-tier punching gloves will be greatly beneficial to me!*

Huang Qiong, who initially wanted to just teach Long Chen a lesson, changed his intentions instantly when he saw the gloves.

This weakling had a very valuable item; how could he not get jealous?

Long Chen noticed the change in his eyes.

*Is he trying to get something I have?* Long Chen thought for a moment and guessed that it was the Emperor Vanquishers.

*Then we'll just have to see if you're lucky enough to get them.* Long Chen laughed to himself.

Many people had eyed his things throughout the years. However, they all met the same end—death.

Within the Underworld Army, a Hundred-Sergeant was a middle-ranked member. Long Chen could not kill him in public, or the army would chase after him.

Furthermore, he couldn't handle a Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage opponent yet.

"True Martial Soul, activate!"

Long Chen was not confident in winning this fight at all. Thankfully, Huang Qiong was only attacking once, so Long Chen still stood a chance. Furthermore, he could use the True Martial Soul to obtain Huang Qiong's comprehension of the Heavenly Martial Realm during this fight, subsequently improving his own cultivation.

"Killing God Sutra, Massacre Claw!"

As expected, Huang Qiong used the famous Killing God Sutra of the Underworld Army! Long Chen had seen this move before, but Huang Qiong's attack was many times stronger than Zhao Kongming's.

The whole world disappeared before Long Chen's eyes. The powerful killing Qi was like a chilly air current spreading in Long Chen's direction. The only thing he could see was the glinting arc from the claws. It was dangerous, and it was quickly approaching his neck!

"Emperor's Manual, Shifting Galaxies!"

The Emperor's Manual had three moves, and the final move used up too much essence, so Long Chen could not use it for now. However, he was already familiar with Shifting Galaxies.

After using it a few times, Long Chen had achieved the late stage of Shifting Galaxies.

Shifting Galaxies could output more energy than Emperor's Arrival.

This time, he was releasing two attacks in a row. On the right, he unleashed the golden Shifting Galaxies, while on the left, he unleashed the black Shifting Galaxies. When both techniques were combined, there was a huge explosion. Both fist seals, one hot and one

cold, were mixed together to form an attack with destructive power on a level Long Chen had never utilized before.

*Boom!*

Even the sturdy courtyard and the buildings trembled!

Huang Qiong had underestimated Long Chen, so he had not used his full power. That was why Long Chen could take advantage of the situation and use two Shifting Galaxies to suppress Huang Qiong's Killing God Sutra, which contained a vast amount of essence. However, Huang Qiong still had the essence of a Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator, which was many times stronger than Long Chen's essence at just the Fourth Heavenly Martial Stage. If Long Chen did not have this many tricks up his sleeve, he would have been decimated.

The immense power shattered the Shifting Galaxies and blasted Long Chen back.

*Thud!* Long Chen landed on a house. Thankfully, he decreased his momentum in time so that the house did not collapse.

He only sustained minor injuries from the exchange and was not killed.

But this was a very shocking result for Huang Qiong and the others.

Huang Qiong's intention was to kill Long Chen in one strike, or at least heavily injure him so that he could take the Emperor Vanquishers. Unfortunately, it looked like his wish would not come true.

Long Chen suppressed his churning blood and Qi, calming himself down. He then suppressed the killing intent in himself and looked up. He smiled, though his gaze remained cold when he looked at Huang Qiong. "Hundred-Sergeant, that was one strike. You said that you would forget about my mistake after one strike. In that case, I shall excuse myself."

Then Long Chen turned and left, leaving them behind while they looked at each other.

"Hundred-Sergeant," said Butcher, running up in an ingratiating manner.

"Go away!" Huang Qiong was in an extremely bad mood and kicked him.

Butcher tumbled several times before climbing back to his feet. His expression remained sincere when he said, "Don't worry. You merely underestimated him today. As long as he's in Camp Wolf, what you want will eventually be yours ..."

Huang Qiong thought for a while and realized he was right. "Alright, he'd better not let me find an opportunity, then."



Then Huang Qiong shook his sleeve and walked out.

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After Long Chen returned to the Underworld Plaza, he realized Ye Xuan had not resumed his cultivation yet. He had been looking worriedly in the direction he had left in. When he saw Long Chen emerge once again, he smiled.

“You’re back.”

“Mhm. Why don’t you hurry? Don’t you want to break that two-month record?” asked Long Chen. He knew that Ye Xuan was a person of good character.

“We started at the same time, so I didn’t want to take advantage of you,” said Ye Xuan with a grin. He seemed to want to compete against Long Chen. What face would he make if he knew that Long Chen had already cultivated Underworld Qi?

“Let’s begin, then.”

Long Chen did not keep him waiting and sat down to wait for nighttime.

Time passed very quickly, and it was soon nighttime. Ye Xuan was immersed in cultivation. If nothing major happened, Long Chen was not going to startle this person who was cultivating so sincerely. Long Chen used his Soul Swallowing Gaze to estimate the number of people present.

Only three or four thousand people remained, compared to the ten thousand people during the day. Due to the large size of the plaza, the crowd was very sparse. There were very few people walking around, leaving, or approaching the rock. Long Chen picked a side with fewer people and started to head towards the rock with light footsteps. In the dark of the night, he attracted little attention.

Very soon, he was standing at the foot of the Underworld Rock. A hot and violent aura was hidden in its depths.

“The Golden Thunder Beast is barely breathing. This is a great time to tame it. Place your left palm on the Underworld Rock,” said Little Cat.

“Will it cause any commotion?” asked Long Chen.

“No. Do you think a god like myself would be that stupid?”

“You have always been,” muttered Long Chen. Little Cat did not hear him. If he did, he would not be as enthusiastic in helping him.

The Dream Demon emerged from the Primordial Realm and skipped along Long Chen's arm until he reached his palm. Long Chen activated the True Martial Soul, and he sensed through Little Cat's mysterious summoning power that the violent Golden Thunder Beast was starting to move in his direction.

"It's coming. Hold on."

The hot and violent aura approached. Long Chen discovered that a layer of golden lightning had wrapped around his palm while it rested on the rock. The lightning did not make a sound. If it did, someone would have discovered Long Chen.

The Golden Thunder Beast roared, as if it had discovered delicious food, and it approached Long Chen.

Long Chen felt like his hand was being electrocuted. Having no choice, he activated the Dragon Soul Transformation only on his arm. After the red scales appeared, he felt much better.

Golden lightning was starting to travel up his left arm.

The bolts of lightning swam up his red scales. It was a beautiful sight. This was the Hell Soul Lightning.

"It's here."

With Little Cat's reminder, Long Chen felt like a hot knife had stabbed itself into his palm. He was in so much pain that he shivered and almost cried out loud. He endured the pain as best as he could through sheer determination.

The Golden Thunder Beast charged into the meridian point in Long Chen's left palm and resided inside, just like the Five Emperor Seals in his right hand. However, the Golden Thunder Beast was many times stronger.

Long Chen felt like a fireball was hiding in his hand. It was unimaginably hot and sharp. With Little Cat's permission, he pulled his palm away and discovered an image of the Golden Thunder Beast on his palm! And a large part of the image was a mouth made of golden lightning!

## - Chapter 928 – Awesome Effects

### Chapter 928 – Awesome Effects

When the Golden Thunder Beast entered Long Chen's body, he felt his body change. He did not start to study the Golden Thunder Beast; he got away from the stone first. Standing there for a long time would only attract suspicion.

Ye Xuan had not noticed that Long Chen had left. Long Chen took a glance at him, then he left for Camp Wolf. He was worried that the Golden Thunder Beast in his hand would cause a commotion.

With Little Cat's ability to suppress it, the Golden Thunder Beast obediently stayed in Long Chen's hand.

Along the way, Long Chen kept checking on the meridian point in his left palm. The mass of golden lightning was shaped both like a lion and a tiger crouching in the meridian point. Although the beast was made of lightning, it was similar to a true beast. It was obviously very weak, and after Little Cat suppressed it, it did not move and was even trembling slightly.

"It's extremely weak right now and really needs energy. You need to feed it Emperor Crystals. To be frank, if it recovers its peak strength, we will be no match for it. However, despite it being sentient, it is still a low-level intelligence, similar to a newborn baby. If you feed it, it should see you as family and should not hurt you," Little Cat explained as Long Chen headed back.

After hearing the explanation, Long Chen tried comforting the tiny beast using a very gentle aura to avoid triggering its rage. At the same time, he took out Emperor Crystals from the Primordial Realm and placed them in his hand.

"How do I feed it?"

"Place an Emperor Crystal on your left palm."

Long Chen placed a crystal on the image of the beast, which was crackling with lightning. Long Chen sensed that the beast had grown excited, and the golden lightning wrapped around the crystal before merging it into his hand. Finally, it merged with his meridian point.

The Golden Thunder Beast opened its jaws wide and ate the Emperor Crystal. There was a chewing sound, then after a while, it had consumed all the energy in the Emperor Crystal. After swallowing it, the beast looked around pitifully, as if wanting more.

Being inside Long Chen's body, the beast saw his Martial Soul as his whole body. That was why it was actually looking at Long Chen's Martial Soul.

The Golden Thunder Beast was indeed not very intelligent, but it was interesting.

Long Chen had a feeling that if he continued to feed it, the Golden Thunder Beast would surely see him as a father figure.

With that thought, Long Chen placed more Emperor Crystals in his palm, walking and feeding the Golden Thunder Beast at the same time. As time passed, the deathly aura that

once hung over the Golden Thunder Beast slowly disappeared. It started to radiate a violent aura similar to lightning.

When Long Chen slowed down, the Golden Thunder Beast would tumble around in his meridian point impatiently, looking pitifully in the direction of Long Chen's Martial Soul.

"This little brat ..."

Long Chen gave a resigned smile.

The Golden Thunder Beast was like a bottomless pit. Long Chen had taken thirty thousand Emperor Crystals from his previous encounters, so he placed them one by one into its mouth. It swallowed and digested them all instantly. Little Cat also needed Emperor Crystals to grow, so when he saw how quickly the Golden Thunder Beast consumed Emperor Crystals, he started to panic.

But this was technically his fault too. Without Little Cat, Long Chen would not have tamed the Golden Thunder Beast.

Long Chen had not stopped feeding it since he started walking. After feeding it more than ten thousand crystals, the Golden Thunder Beast finally started to look somewhat satiated. It looked slightly larger and stronger too, and its golden lightning became shinier. While it could not be said to look very strong and muscular, at least it was no longer on the brink of death.

It was nighttime, so Long Chen snuck into his quarters' underground room without the others knowing. Within the army, personal privacy was guaranteed. At the very least, it was difficult to knock down the entrance to the sturdy underground room without great force.

The buildings here were reinforced with runes made by Talisman Priests and Royal Qi, making them very sturdy.

"Damn it! This thing's appetite is huge! How am I going to live?" Little Cat complained bitterly.

Long Chen had thirty thousand Emperor Crystals on him, but after a while, ten thousand had been swallowed. And the Golden Thunder Beast was not completely full yet.

Long Chen was someone who saw the big picture. His instincts told him that he would reap a great reward from this tonight, so he gave all his Emperor Crystals to the Golden Thunder Beast without hesitation. One by one, the Emperor Crystals sank into his palm and were swallowed by the golden picture.

Midnight soon arrived. When less than a thousand crystals remained, the soft, chewing sound coming from his left palm finally died down. The dying Golden Thunder Beast was almost double its original size after the nourishment of the Emperor Crystals.

After eating the crystals, it burped. It had regained its energy and was weaving around happily in Long Chen's meridian point, though it didn't leave. It looked very excited.

It stayed in his meridian point next to Long Chen's meridian core, which was filled with essence.

Long Chen sensed that the Golden Thunder Beast was sending his meridian core a friendly message.

As it interacted with the meridian core, wisps of blood-red essence merged into the Golden Thunder Beast. Long Chen sensed that a connection had formed between him and the creature.

"It has recognized you, so you're now something like its master and you will eventually be able to command it. There's a lot of time, so you should slowly get to know it better. Once you have communicated more with it, you can utilize more of its strength."

Long Chen started to communicate with the Golden Thunder Beast in a delicate manner. This creature only had some sentience and could not be considered a true life form. After it merged with Long Chen, it became part of him.

Under his control, the golden Hell Soul Lightning spread from the meridian point to his whole body. To prevent himself from getting hurt by the lightning, Long Chen had no choice but to activate his Dragon Soul Transformation. However, he realized he had been worried over nothing. The Golden Thunder Beast had already submitted to him, so the golden lightning functioned as if it belonged to him and would not cause him serious harm. Instead, it was even a type of conditioning.

Golden lightning spread across every corner of his body. From the outside, his body was covered in dense golden lightning, making for a terrifying sight. However, Long Chen felt very comfortable under the lightning's conditioning.

The lightning's power seeped into every atom of his body.

This was different from conditioning his body during his past cultivation experiences, because the golden lightning did not make his physical body tougher—it made his flesh denser. Every atom in his body was now boosted with lightning, and he felt his body become much lighter.

He tested it out and found that he was much faster and more agile than before.

This was only after a short while of conditioning.

“These effects are awesome.” Long Chen smiled with satisfaction.

The increase in speed was surely not going to be the largest benefit the Golden Thunder Beast had given him. Long Chen was very pleasantly surprised by this sudden encounter, and he had a feeling that the Golden Thunder Beast would bring him great benefits like the True Martial Soul.

This item would become much more important than the items left behind by the Five Emperors such as the Five Emperor Palm and the Emperor Vanquishers.

“Thirty thousand Emperor Crystals. That was basically a snack for the Golden Thunder Beast. I must remember to get more Emperor Crystals when I go to the Underworld Battlefield.”

Money had never been a priority to Long Chen, but after obtaining the Golden Thunder Beast, it had become important to him.

“What are you going to do next? Are you going to enter the Underworld Battlefield directly?” asked Little Cat.

Long Chen thought for a moment and shook his head. He had offended Huang Qiong and Song Yang here, and the military rules were strict. Although these people were an inconvenience and they would not bother him when he was in the Underworld Battlefield, there would surely be records of people entering the place. Only ten days had passed since Long Chen had cultivated the Underworld Qi. This would be huge news to the Underworld Army, and he did not want to become a celebrity.

“I’ll cultivate in the Underworld Plaza from tomorrow onwards. Two months will pass quickly. If I enter the Underworld Battlefield then, I don’t think it’ll trigger too much drama.”

It was late, so Long Chen was prepared to go to the Underworld Plaza the next day. After he decided to continue cultivating more, his Soul Swallowing Gaze noticed something. He looked up and discovered that someone had snuck into his room and was heading towards the underground room.

Who was it?

Long Chen recognized him quickly. It was Huang Qiong, the person who had injured him earlier.

*He must be here for the Emperor Vanquishers. Maybe he noticed when I returned. Was he going to kill me after I started cultivating?*

Admittedly, Huang Qiong was a difficult opponent for him.

## - Chapter 929 – Shattered Heart

### Chapter 929 – Shattered Heart

Huang Qiong had countless times more essence than Long Chen did.

The underground room had limited space. If Huang Qiong decided to go all-out, Long Chen would be no match for him. Long Chen was currently barely able to beat an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator.

*Click!* Huang Qiong shoved the underground room's door open. He did not hide his identity at all. After he closed the door, he walked leisurely up to Long Chen, who was already standing up.

If this had happened one day earlier, Long Chen would have run immediately. However, he did not run. The Golden Thunder Beast in his left hand's meridian point seemed to realize the situation Long Chen was in, because it became anxious and irritable. It started to bang against the walls of the meridian point.

A terrifying aura came from the tiny Golden Thunder Beast. It already had an intimate relationship with Long Chen, as if he was part of itself. When Long Chen was threatened, it was also threatened.

Huang Qiong saw that Long Chen had noticed him, but he did not attack. He was not in a hurry to attack. Instead, he eyed Long Chen with interest. He walked a few circles around Long Chen, the hard soles of his shoes clicking on the floor.

"You're not running away?" Huang Qiong asked, feeling puzzled when he realized Long Chen was not moving.

Long Chen did not answer. He raised his left hand and realized that it was already covered in golden lightning, radiating a violent aura. Huang Qiong had an odd feeling that a large, ancient beast was hiding in Long Chen's left hand.

"What's the matter with your hand?" Huang Qiong sensed a source of power that made him anxious.

Long Chen did not reply. He merely asked directly, "You want my Emperor Vanquishers?"

As he spoke, the Emperor Vanquishers appeared on his hands.

Huang Qiong had come for them, so the moment they appeared, his attention was completely captured by them. He looked at Long Chen for a while, then laughed with

amusement and said, “Those aren’t bad at all. Give them to me, Long Chen. Follow me and I guarantee you’ll live a good life in the Underworld Army.”

In the beginning, his gaze was gentle, though it turned into a cold glare towards the end, and he said, “But if you refuse to cooperate, you will disappear from this world. I know that your strength is probably at the Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage, but to me, killing an Eighth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator is as easy as chopping vegetables.”

As he spoke, he released his Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage domain. The whole underground room was covered with his domain. Long Chen had nowhere to run.

“Give them to me.”

Huang Qiong completely suppressed Long Chen using his domain. When he saw Long Chen’s knees bending, he was smug and held out his hand.

Huang Qiong never even considered the possibility that he would be unable to take something from a subordinate.

Long Chen was currently in his Dragon Soul Transformation form. Under the suppression of the domain, every atom in his body was being squeezed. Long Chen slowly looked up. His eyes were blood-red and a ray of gray light shone from between his brows. This meant that his True Martial Soul had been activated.

“Haargh!”

Long Chen gave a loud cry and stomped hard on the ground, then shot out like an arrow at Huang Qiong!

“It’s useless. The whole room is under my domain’s influence. Even if you cause a huge commotion, the people outside won’t feel it.”

Huang Qiong guffawed.

As he laughed, ink-green lines spread across his body and formed a high-grade Underworld Armor. There were even more runes on his armor, and it was clearly countless times better than Long Chen’s current set.

*Click!*

The armor had formed completely.

“Emperor’s Manual, Emperor’s Arrival!”

Long Chen threw a quick punch at Huang Qiong’s face.



“What a weak trick.” Huang Qiong laughed. The ninth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator controlled his domain so that Long Chen’s speed decreased. Huang Qiong was able to neutralize a large portion of Long Chen’s attack just using his domain.

Long Chen naturally knew that he was no match for him in terms of strength, as he was as strong as the six demons from before.

However, this was a rare chance for him. His objective was to achieve a breakthrough to the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage, which he was very close to, using this duel.

He grew through fighting. This was his extraordinary method of growth.

“Killing God Sutra, Massacre Claw!”

There was an arc of light from the claw that flung Long Chen back in the air. Blood sprayed out of his mouth and landed on the ground. Long Chen tumbled several times on the floor before finally crashing the wall, causing the room to shake multiple times.

“I don’t want to talk anymore. Long Chen, if you want to continue living, give me the Emperor Vanquishers. I am not as patient as you think. That treasure may be important, but don’t you think you need to be alive to enjoy these things?”

Huang Qiong stood next to Long Chen and looked down at him with a smug and mocking smile.

“Take that quote as my gift to you. You need to be alive in order to enjoy treasures.”

Long Chen quickly got back on his feet, as if he was not injured at all. With a violent battle spirit, he unleashed a mad barrage of attacks. The crazed attacks privately made Huang Qiong nervous.

Streaks of lightning appeared on Long Chen’s thighs.

*Even under the influence of my Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage domain, he’s still very fast!*

Huang Qiong was shocked for the first time. If not for his domain, Long Chen would surely have reached a terrifying level.

His whole body turned into golden lightning and he moved quickly past Huang Qiong. If Huang Qiong did not focus, he would not have been able to keep track of Long Chen.

“Haargh!”

Powerful essence erupted from Huang Qiong’s body. A whirlpool of strength shoved Long Chen back into the air. Huang Qiong laughed and instantly arrived in front of Long Chen. He then threw a punch!

“Killing God Sutra, Shattered Heart!”

This move was much stronger than the previous one. This attack could be fatal to Long Chen, and everything in Long Chen’s field of vision disappeared. All that remained was Huang Qiong’s fist. This punch was filled with violence and strength. It was full of killing intent and was fitting for a move in the Killing God Sutra. Countless people had died from the Shattered Heart’s punch.

The punch could be said to contain all of Huang Qiong’s understanding of the Heavenly Martial Realm. Although it was a Divine-tier combat technique, Huang Qiong could only use it to the extent of his own strength as a Heavenly Martial Realm cultivator. The domain’s power was all gathered into this single punch, forming a powerful and destructive force.

“Just like that!”

When the punch landed, Long Chen entered a bizarre state. He felt as though Huang Qiong had become himself. The True Martial Soul’s observation and duplication effects were activated. Long Chen’s Martial Soul developed quickly, and within a short period of time, it completed the metamorphosis from the Fourth to the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage!

In the blink of an eye, Long Chen had reached the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage.

Although the essence in his body had not caught up to his cultivation level, Long Chen already had the mental capacity for it.

Despite reaching the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage, Long Chen could not avoid this imminent threat. However, he was not worried. To Huang Qiong’s confusion, Long Chen smiled.

“Emperor’s Manual, Shifting Galaxies!”

At this critical moment, Long Chen had no choice but to try to block with a punch of his own.

There was a loud *boom*. The Shifting Galaxies technique was no match for Huang Qiong’s Killing God Sutra at all. Long Chen’s entire body shook. The force from the Killing God Sutra rushed into his body and damaged it so badly that he was unrecognizable, and Long Chen felt a gut-wrenching pain.

He was on the brink of death.

In his hand, the Golden Thunder Beast was furious and kept banging itself around, trying to escape his meridian point to tear Huang Qiong apart.

“I told you to hand the Emperor Vanquishers over. If you did, I wouldn’t have needed to cripple you. How idiotic.” Huang Qiong stopped his attack and shook his head as he watched the dying Long Chen get thrown back into the air.

The impact of the Shattered Heart attack from the Killing God Sutra had indeed shattered Long Chen’s heart.

That was when ....

“Rewind!”

Transparent ripples traveled out from Long Chen’s chest. Wherever the ripples touched, Long Chen’s body recovered to its original state. It only took one second for the dying Long Chen to become energetic once more. This was an astonishing phenomenon to Long Chen.

“That’s impossible!” Huang Qiong yelled, staring at Long Chen with wide eyes. He had just watched Long Chen completely heal instantly.

“What do you mean, impossible? I still need to thank you for allowing me to reach the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage.”

Long Chen laughed, then he took off the Emperor Vanquishers and suddenly raised his left hand. The Golden Thunder Beast image in his palm was wrapped in countless golden lightning bolts. A violent and ancient energy radiated from it.

“Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage? You’re only at the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage? What secrets are you keeping?” Huang Qiong was starting to panic. Long Chen was too strange for his liking. He had been on the brink of death, yet he fully recovered. This was unbelievable. He was immortal.

There was a legend that when a cultivator reached the Sixth Divine Martial Stage, they could cultivate the Peerless Golden Body. This allowed the user to have an indestructible body and even limb-regenerative abilities. Long Chen was only at the Heavenly Martial Realm, so how could he have mastered the Peerless Golden Body, something that only the great Sixth Divine Martial Stage experts could achieve?

“Killing God Sutra, Shattered Heart!”

## - Chapter 930 – Star Cluster

Chapter 930 – Star Cluster

Huang Qiong was terrified, but he had another thought. The mystery would be solved after he killed Long Chen. This brat had many secrets, and it was likely that he would become much more powerful after he killed him.

An opportunity was right before his eyes.

This time, Huang Qiong went all-out and unleashed the Killing God Sutra once again. The whole underground room trembled. Without Huang Qiong's Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage domain, the people outside would have long noticed the commotion here.

Huang Qiong moved quickly and arrived in front of Long Chen instantly.

"Let's see how you're going to survive this!"

He was going to chop Long Chen to pieces. He refused to believe that Long Chen could survive that!

The fatal punch arrived right in front of Long Chen's eyes.

"It's up to you, baby." To Huang Qiong's horror, not only was Long Chen not afraid at all, but he even gave an evil smile.

The golden lightning extended across his whole arm like weaving dragons.

Huang Qiong finally recalled that something strange was happening on Long Chen's mysterious left hand.

"You're just trying to scare me! I'm going to kill you!" Huang Qiong erupted with maximum power, unleashing the full might of the Killing God Sutra.

Suddenly, the golden image on Long Chen's left palm split open. Countless streaks of golden lightning shot out and a deafening beast roar sounded. The golden, shining energy lit up the whole underground room. A ferocious, gigantic beast made completely of golden lightning sprang out of Long Chen's palm and instantly became unimaginably huge. It pounced at Huang Qiong, roaring. Then it opened its gaping jaws and completely swallowed Huang Qiong!

"Ahhh!"

In the end, Huang Qiong screamed in panic. In that short moment, his body was reduced to ashes by the golden lightning.

Long Chen had released his Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage domain, so the commotion was contained in the room.

"Come back, baby."

Under Long Chen's command, the gigantic Golden Thunder Beast turned back into its tiny form. It had likely spent most of its energy, because it looked as withered as it used to be. However, it looked very happy after killing Huang Qiong, as if it had vented its hatred. It walked casually back into the meridian point in Long Chen's left palm.

The underground room was plunged into darkness once more.

Everything fell back into silence.

"Woo-woo ... Woo-woo ..."

In the meridian point, the golden beast was so impatient it started tumbling around. It was very weak, just like before. It started to beg Long Chen, trying to get more Emperor Crystals.

"That one move cost me thirty thousand crystals?"

Long Chen had the urge to thump his chest. This little bastard was burning through his money. Thankfully, only Huang Qiong's body had been burnt to ash—his storage ring was preserved.

"The storage ring is made out of asteroids that came from beyond the heavens. Although it is tiny, it is extremely tough. Even now, I'm not strong enough to break one. But that's good because his belongings are still inside."

After taking all of Huang Qiong's things, Long Chen's inventory expanded.

This fight was actually quite worth it.

First, he still had to destroy the body and any evidence of the fight so that his underground room returned to its original state. The unlucky Huang Qiong was cleaned up. To be honest, his death could only be blamed on his greed.

The Hundred-Sergeant at the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage was a rich man. He had more than a hundred thousand Emperor Crystals, which was enough to last Long Chen a long time. However, taking the Golden Thunder Beast's appetite into account, they would not last long.

After covering up his tracks, Long Chen continued to cultivate as if Huang Qiong never came.

This time, he had to feed the Golden Thunder Beast seventy thousand Emperor Crystals before it was finally satiated. Crackles of lightning shot out of the little beast, which gently conditioned Long Chen's body. The Hell Soul Lightning's qualities were gradually transferred to Long Chen.

He had greatly benefitted from today's events. First, he had reached the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage, meaning his cultivation had progressed by one level, and he was one step closer to the Divine Martial Realm. On top of that, he had obtained the Golden Thunder Beast, which both boosted his attack and his body's toughness. Thus, he was much stronger than before.

With the Golden Thunder Beast at his side, Long Chen also had an additional layer of protection for the Underworld Battlefield.

The only troubling thing was that the little beast ate too much.

Long Chen's essence reached the Fifth Heavenly Martial Stage after just one day. He quickly returned to the Underworld Plaza. According to military rules, killing a superior was a major crime. Long Chen did not want people to suspect him, so he returned to where he was for the past ten days.

The only person who knew that Long Chen had left last night was Ye Xuan.

When Ye Xuan saw Long Chen return, he smiled and said, "It looks like your cultivation level improved."

Long Chen nodded and said, "I had some revelations last night, so I left to cultivate. Right, how is the progress of your Underworld Qi cultivation?"

"It's going fine. I am confident I will finish in three months to break Su Mo's record," said Ye Xuan, who was feeling a little proud of himself.

Long Chen thought for a moment, then he whispered into Ye Xuan's ear, "Last night, when I returned to Camp Wolf, a Hundred-Sergeant tried to kill me in secret because he was eyeing something of mine. I killed him. If someone comes looking for me ..."

Ye Xuan was a little shocked, but before Long Chen finished, he said, "That's not a problem. As far as I'm concerned, you've been cultivating by my side all along."

Long Chen felt more assured. He trusted Ye Xuan, or he would not have told him what happened.

"You were even able to kill a Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage cultivator. What exactly is your cultivation level?" Ye Xuan looked at Long Chen curiously.

"Guess?"

"I am guessing that you've reached the peak of the Ninth Heavenly Martial Stage. Your body hasn't transformed yet, and you clearly haven't experienced the Heavenly Empowerment process," Ye Xuan answered decisively.

This piqued Long Chen's interest. He asked, "What's the difference between the Divine and Heavenly Martial Realms?"

Ye Xuan looked at Long Chen strangely. Long Chen, being at his current level, should've known everything.

"The gap between the Divine Martial Realm and the Heavenly Martial Realm is as wide as heaven and earth. The Earthly and Heavenly Martial Realms are the basic foundations for the Martial Realm, whereas the Divine Martial Realm is the true Martial Realm. This is where the real metamorphosis happens. When you progress from the Heavenly Martial Realm to the Divine Martial Realm, the Divine Soul and the Martial Soul merge. The Divine Soul is planted in the Martial Soul, forming the Divine Martial Soul, which does not disappear even after ten thousand years. The Divine Martial Soul will trigger the Heavenly Empowerment process, and the body will transform. 9,999 meridian points will form, and they are as dense as a cluster of stars. A hundred thousand meridian veins form in the body, thus forming the Divine Martial Body. You will be able to fly in the sky, and there will be nothing you cannot do. That is the Divine Martial Realm. The Earthly and Heavenly Martial Realms are merely to prepare for the Divine Martial Realm and gain the ability to wield the energy of heaven and earth on a surface level."

Long Chen was stunned by what he heard. He had been busy cultivating the Heavenly Martial Realm, so he knew nothing about the Divine Martial Realm.

Based on what Ye Xuan had said, the Divine Martial Realm seemed to be very complicated. And powerful.

"The Divine and Heavenly Martial Realms are different. To be honest, I feel as if the three Martial Realms only have eleven levels. The first two levels are the Earthly and Heavenly Martial Realms, while the next nine levels are all in the Divine Martial Realm. The gap between each Divine Martial Stage is insanely huge. It took me twenty-nine years to reach the Divine Martial Realm, and I spent nine of them attempting to achieve a breakthrough to the First Divine Martial Stage, also known as the Star Cluster Realm. The 'star cluster' is referring to the 9,999 meridian points in the body, which resemble a star cluster. With my abilities, it will take me over ten years to reach the Second Divine Martial Stage. After you reach the Divine Martial Realm, your lifespan becomes more than five thousand years. However, many people are still unable to reach the Second Divine Martial Stage even after that whole time is used up."

Ye Xuan sounded wistful when he said that.

"The path of cultivation is full of obstacles. When you have reached the Divine Martial Realm, you have embarked on a path to become a god. No one can succeed easily. This is a god's martial path."

Long Chen was silent. Although he did not know what the Divine Martial Realm would be like, he knew that Ye Xuan would not lie to him, especially when Ye Xuan described the three Martial Realms as eleven levels.

“My older sister is the ultimate prodigy. It took her just over a thousand years to finally reach the Fifth Divine Martial Stage. She is considered a peak-level prodigy in the whole Underworld Estate. It sounds quite funny too; she is indeed my older sister, but she’s a thousand years older than I am. When you’re cultivating, time passes very quickly. A thousand years can pass in the snap of a finger.”

This was the real world of cultivation.

In the Ten Thousand Nations Territory, where the average lifespan was just over a hundred years, the people there could never comprehend this level of cultivation.

Long Chen had sworn that he would meet Ling Xi in ten years, but that sounded like a joke to the people of the Royal Territory. Every person who reached the peak of the Divine Martial Realm took more than a thousand, or even thousands of years, to get there. That was the case in the Swordsoul Palace too. What he had said was a gigantic joke to them.

*It doesn't matter. I have ancestral dragon blood in me, and I have the True Martial Soul. I have seven years left! I refuse to believe that I cannot do it!*

The determination of a youth could not be underestimated.

He would never give up on the promise he made years ago.

This was Long Chen’s personality.

He had a nagging feeling that he was very close to Ling Xi, as if he would meet her at any moment.

He wondered if it was just his imagination.

He sat down and digested what he had learned from the True Martial Soul.

After a few days, there was a huge commotion, and Song Yang appeared behind Long Chen.