

Emperor 3761

Chapter 3761: Too Confusing

A bronze ring was attached to the string instead of a hook. It seemed strangely moist and shiny as if it had drunk enough water from the creek.

It obviously couldn't drink or absorb water; it merely gave off that strange impression. After being filled, the ring seemingly came back to life as if it was sentient - ready to turn into a creature, such as a true dragon, and soar among the clouds.

Dugu Lan became startled. She never saw this ring before but had heard of her master talking about it. She couldn't believe that he was using it as fish bait. His intent remained unknown.

Initially, she assumed that it would be something strange like a hook without bait or having a strange shape.

This didn't seem to be the case at all. His goal was something else entirely.

"Young Master, what?" She didn't know what to say; her eyes darting back and forth between Li Qiye and the ring.

"Just fishing since I have nothing else to do." Li Qiye chuckled.

She naturally didn't buy it. The ring was peerless and had paramount significance in the holy ground. No one else would be as careless as him with it.

"Sigh, this crappy place is annoying me now, so troublesome. Should I just burn it to a crisp?" Li Qiye seemed unhappy about something. He then casually tossed the ring down the creek.

"Splash! The ring floated away with the string still connected. The latter seemed to be quite long.

She was still afraid despite knowing that he wasn't going to throw it away like this. Her next focus became his intent.

Was there something special about this creek? She took a look at the water but didn't find anything peculiar. Nonetheless, he must have a reason for his action.

"Curious?" Li Qiye smiled at her.

"I just don't get it." She stopped looking at the water and answered while touching her hair.

"Have you been to Sacred Mountain?" Li Qiye suddenly asked.

"Sacred Mountain?" She shook her head: "No, few are qualified to get there, only the top characters of the holy ground. I heard that the four grandmasters have done so to meet the supreme."

Sacred Mountain was the ultimate symbol of authority at the holy ground - its true ruler. It remained elusive throughout history but still maintained a firm grasp. It was impossible to visit without an invitation. Those lucky enough to be eligible were amazing existences.

"That's why you don't understand. Of course, you might not even after going up there." Li Qiye smilingly nodded.

She pondered in silence. It was too hard to understand someone like Li Qiye.

“Take a look at the land. Say, what if one day, all of it will be in your grasp. What do you think about that?” Li Qiye casually asked.

“In my grasp?” She was slightly jolted before regaining her composure, being smart enough to understand what he meant.

She had impressive mental fortitude but it still took her a while to regain her wits. She took a deep breath and said: “You’re joking, Young Master.”

“What if I’m not?” Li Qiye stared at her.

She became speechless; her mind empty. A while later, she answered: “Young Master, I don’t think I’m suitable.”

“Oh? Elaborate.” He smirked.

“If that falls upon me, I’m afraid I’ll lose to the scion before the battle even starts. It becomes something more than just a personal duel. Winning is absolutely essential and I can’t handle that, whether it be my state of mind or abilities. I rather fight while representing myself and nothing more. I know that I will most likely lose but fighting a top genius will be truly beneficial. I don’t mind the loss of reputation in that case.” She became solemn and continued: “My goal is to seek the mysteries of the dao and hope to reach the apex, not authority and fame.”

“Correct.” Li Qiye nodded and praised: “You’re not the most talented or the smartest but you truly know and follow your heart. This is quite rare. Your potential is limitless. You might lose to Righteous Scion in the incoming battle but who knows what the future will bring.”

“Thank you, Young Master.” She bowed towards him.

“Go now.” Li Qiye said and closed his eyes again.

She bowed one more time before floating away.

The news of the scion’s challenge spread across the holy ground. It didn’t take long before the start of the event.

“Righteous Scion is here!”

The news of him setting foot on the border traveled like a storm and shocked everyone. Who would dare to fight him outside of Dugu Lan?

He didn’t bring an army for the trip, only a few followers. Nonetheless, he still commanded attention along the way.

He rode on a war chariot with a few riders in front and back - that’s it. As he came from the east with this humble group, his momentum and aura were still wondrous.

The war chariot was made of bronze, looking quite ancient and full of scars from blades and arrows. It emitted a ferocious battle intent, capable of crushing everything in its path.

A fierce beast pulled the carriage. It had snow-white fangs and bony outgrowths on its spine, seemingly ready to pierce the sky. Nothing could stop this combination from moving onward.

The scion stood on top with both hands behind his back. He wore a purple robe, looking as gallant as can be.

He seemed to be a deity in control of lightning and clouds. The world seemed to be rotating around him. Just one hand wave of his could command thunderbolts to descend and slay an entire army.

Chapter 3762: Righteous Scion

Righteous Scion was imbued with a spirit that can conquer mountains and rivers then soar above Eight Desolaces. He looked like the greatest in existence, virtually unbeatable.

His aura surpassed all the geniuses in the holy ground and he had no intention of hiding it.

The grand dao resonated along his path. Laws poured down like waterfalls along with bright halos. The surroundings were affected by his mighty presence.

In fact, the birds and beasts within one hundred thousand miles trembled in fear, wanting to run away.

This was the case for human cultivators as well. Powerful countries and sects all felt the pressure.

The ancestors could withstand his aura and were unaffected. As for the young ones, their mind wavered under the suffocation and got the urge to prostrate.

This rampant proliferation of aura was a blatant challenge, showing utter disdain to the geniuses of the holy ground.

They were naturally furious but after experiencing this aura, they could only keep it to themselves. They waited for their top geniuses to make a move instead, hoping to repel him.

“Righteous Scion has inherited Righteous Supreme’s legacy, his achievements will just be as illustrious.” One ancestor emotionally commented.

This has confirmed his power. He didn’t need an army to deter his opponents. He alone was more intimidating than a million men.

“He’s past the border now.” His location was the focus of the holy ground. Everyone knew where he was right away due to the flow of information.

“That’s the Vigorous Tiger Legion’s territory. Will they fight?” One youth said. [1]

“Vajra’s Hu Ben is in charge there. The dynasty won’t sit idly by during this event, they can’t.” The young lord of a sect added.

All eyes were on the legion by the border now. This area had pivotal importance to the holy ground.

In history, Righteous and Buddha had numerous skirmishes. The legions here had to repel various invasions.

Now,, the scion wasn't declaring war and merely challenged the geniuses of the holy ground. Nonetheless, not answering this challenge was rather shameful.

The current commander was Hu Ben of Vajra. Though he had entered War Camp later, he still maintained his position at the legion.

If the dynasty didn't do anything about the scion, their authority would be questioned. Thus, the legion sent out scouts in order to meticulously watch the scion's movement. They had to do something in order to avoid criticisms from the great powers in the holy ground.

"I alone will fight the heroes of this land, even the great armies of Buddha Holy Ground." The scion took note of this and heartily laughed while moving forward.

"He's challenging Vigorous Tiger and Vajra now." Everyone heard him clearly, realizing that Vajra absolutely needed to do something right now. Otherwise, it would be too humiliating and disgraceful.

"Righteous Scion, we will answer your challenge." A voice from the legion responded.

One figure emerged above the camp of Vigorous Tiger. He had a golden glow due to his armor, looking quite divine and battle-ready.

"Hu Ben of Vajra!" A spectator shouted.

"This is how it should be." Many nodded approvingly while the youths heaved a sigh of relief.

Hu Ben had a great background in Vajra Dynasty. He originated from Martial Hall and was a general in War Camp on top of being the commander of Vigorous Tiger. Most importantly, he was one of the four great geniuses of the holy ground.

Thus, whether it be for personal or duty reasons, he should be the one accepting the challenge. He represented the legion in charge of the border and Vajra Dynasty's prestige.

"I have heard about your talent and military aptitude long ago, Fellow Daoist. Today is a great opportunity to witness it in person." Righteous Scion's majestic and awe-inspiring voice sounded.

"Smoke-fire Fortress, I and my army will fight you there." Hu Ben didn't relent at all against his foe's oppressive aura.

"So be it." The scion didn't waste words.

"That's the youngest grand commander for you." The youths of the holy ground suddenly became excited and started praising Hu Ben.

"He's the pride of our land, not letting Vajra down at all." Someone else said.

"The commander protects the border, truly a noble cause." A youth with shallow cultivation was a fan.

Hu Ben's initiative earned him numerous praises from the populace.

The news of their match quickly spread across the holy ground.

"Hu Ben will lead 100,000 men to fight the scion at Smoke-fire Fortress." Everyone heard about it with haste.

“Let’s go already!” Most started running towards this area.

“We’re not strong enough to fight Righteous Scion but we can at least support Hu Ben. We can’t let Righteous Sect look down on us.” One youth said.

It didn’t take long before the mass ran towards the border, the majority being from the young generation.

“Will Hu Ben be able to stop the scion?” Some were worried because they knew how strong the scion was. He was actually superior to the four great geniuses so they didn’t have that much confidence in Hu Ben.

“Hu Ben alone is no match for the scion but don’t forget, Vigorous Tiger is a powerful legion. Hu Ben led it to numerous victories before.” Someone familiar with Hu Ben’s past exploits was relatively confident.

“Hu Ben is a gifted commander but the difference in power is too great. An army won’t do anything in a real fight between masters. It’s absolutely inconsequential.” A powerful genius disagreed.

“Regardless of the outcome, he’s worthy of admiration just by stepping up to represent Vajra Dynasty and the holy ground.” One young fan asserted.

Chapter 3763: Smoke-fire Fortress

Smoke-fire Fortress was an important stronghold near the border, completely surrounded by mountains with only one entrance.

It looked like a cage from a distance, easy to defend and impossible to attack. Inside was a valley prepped to make easy work out of invaders.

Vigorous Tiger Legion hid among the walls and cliffs, always ready for long-range attack. Moreover, each mountain and every inch of the land have been refined and blessed by the sages of Buddha Holy Ground. They brimmed with grand dao power, seemingly unbreakable.

It has successfully stopped attackers numerous times in history. Righteous Sect itself has lost numerous troops trying to take over this pivotal stronghold.

Due to the peace recently, the borders were open for members of both sides. Thus, the entrance was still open despite the match between the scion and Hu Ben. This was only a contest, not a declaration of war or an invasion.

Under these circumstances, closing the entrance would show weakness and fear. Vice versa, leaving it open displayed confidence in spite of the scion’s power.

Numerous experts from the holy ground were already here. The majority consisted of the young generation of the holy ground. Some cultivators from Righteous Sect came to watch the show.

The latter wouldn’t want to miss such a good opportunity to see their scion in action.

Therefore, it didn’t take long before the stronghold was filled with people, whether it be the walls and cliffs or the sky.

As for the members of Vigorous Tiger Legion, they looked different today. Each member wore golden armor and had surging vitality. Not one soul was weak.

It became abundantly clear that only the elites were chosen today. The regular guards have been sent away. They knew how to fight and had great teamwork through rigorous training and ample battle experience.

Hu Ben came prepared today. They naturally didn't want to lose so they went all out.

"Is it possible to stop him?" One youth wondered after seeing the impressive soldiers.

No one doubted the legion's might. Alas, the older experts were still pessimistic. One of them shook his head: "Their opponent is the scion, a wondrous existence. This legion alone can't stop him."

Nonetheless, the youths still believed in Hu Ben and his army, that they would put up a good fight.

The sun slowly rose while the fortress was the center of attention.

"The scion is here!" The appearance of the scion caused quite a stir.

"The battle will start soon!" Another shouted.

Waves of commotion resounded. Some spectators became serious while staring at the scion.

He came alone, wearing a natural expression despite entering a heavily guarded fortress. Despite his relaxed demeanor, others didn't have a good time.

This was because he didn't hide his aura in the slightest. His grand dao power ravaged the area like a deity from above.

It swept through the crowd; the weaker members had a hard time breathing.

In reality, the scion wasn't purposely aiming his aura at anyone in particular or trying to increase its oppressiveness. He merely let it roam free. Alas, he was just too strong so it became unbearable. Some had no choice but to retreat in order to be at a safe distance.

He didn't say a word or mock anyone while sauntering forward. Nonetheless, just this style of his was dominating enough. He resembled an apex existence looking down on everyone else.

They felt like insects in comparison and shuddered.

Those who have never seen him before found this a grand event. His aura was beyond words. No wonder why he was the chosen successor of Righteous Supreme.

The most arrogant geniuses found themselves inadequate after seeing him in person.

"The number one genius indeed." One youth realized the gap without needing to fight him.

Prior to this, a few still weren't convinced of his superiority. Now, they kept their mouth shut.

"A natural stronghold, hard to attack." The scion scouted the area. Those who met his gaze had a hard time standing straight.

“I hope that the holy ground has enough experts to let me go all out and not return in disappointment.” The scion’s next comment was overbearing.

Despite not insulting the holy ground, he made it sound as if no one else could enter his sight.

The geniuses from the holy ground became vexed but they were helpless, too weak to stand up to him. If anyone were to call him out on his arrogance yet fail to back it up, they would be throwing away the holy ground’s reputation. That would be awfully unwise.

“I apologize for the lack of reception since we are armed, Scion.” A calm voice came from the high wall.

Everyone looked over and saw that it was Hu Ben. He looked gallant like a great general - clearly someone adept at commanding a great army.

Chapter 3764: Supreme Style

Hu Ben’s appearance relieved the crowd. At the very least, the holy ground gained some face back.

It would have been disgraceful if Righteous Scion walked straight to Minor Sacred Mountain without anyone stopping him along the way.

Now, Hu Ben - a commander of Vajra and one of the four geniuses - accepted the challenge at Smoke-fire Fortress. This was as proper of a start as can be due to Hu Ben’s various statuses.

“Hu Ben of Vajra, your fame precedes you.” Righteous Scion posed with both hands behind his back and smiled.

Though he was standing at the base looking up at Hu Ben, this didn’t matter at all. He was still the lord of all, looking down on his subject.

His aura and power were too much for the young generation. Other geniuses always seemed inferior in comparison.

“You’re too kind.” The fierce Hu Ben still enjoyed the pleasantries and cupped his fist: “Your fame also precedes you, Righteous Scion. Your reputation is well deserved.”

Enjoying this conversation was understandable due to the scion’s status. It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to call him the current number one genius of the southern West King. To have been heard by him before made Hu Ben feel quite good even though it was mere pleasantries.

“However, you’re not a match for me.” Unfortunately, the next sentence took Hu Ben down a notch.

The first line made Hu Ben feel like floating in the air. The next was akin to being hit in the head by a rod, enough to see stars.

Hu Ben’s smile disappeared right away. First was carrot then came the stick - no one would enjoy this treatment.

Others exchanged glances. Anyone else would have been branded as being arrogant and rude. After all, Hu Ben was a top genius in the holy ground and a capable commander.

Not to mention the young generation, even some ancestors would be wary of an all-out attack from him. The scion's comment was rather contemptuous towards both Hu Ben and the holy ground.

Nonetheless, the crowd kept quiet instead of reprimanding him. He had proven himself after sweeping through his own region. He was qualified to make this domineering statement.

Some thought that he was merely speaking the truth. It had nothing to do with arrogance.

Hu Ben's expression became unsightly. Nonetheless, since he was the first representative, he tried his best to smile in order to show off his magnanimity.

"I'm more eager to try now. I hope you won't disappoint me either." Hu Ben responded.

"Of course, I shall take down Smoke-fire Fortress today." The scion replied in a dominating manner, annoying the holy ground once more.

Smoke-fire served as the first stronghold at the border. This had special significance so when the scion made this claim, it was as if he wanted to break the gate of the holy ground.

"I see." Hu Ben was furious because of his opponent's contemptuous attitude and absolute confidence in victory.

No one could handle being treated in this manner; even a statue would become angry.

"Since you're so confident, my legion and I will see what you can do." Hu Ben added.

"Come, an army or not, all the same." The scion smiled. His style was both infuriating yet admirable to the opponents.

"He lives up to his reputation, so haughty." One youth admitted.

"It's normal for him to act in this manner since he's so strong." A genius agreed.

"Start!" Hu Ben didn't want to speak anymore since the scion had an advantage in terms of momentum and aura.

"Rumble!" Figures descended from above and landed outside of the fortress.

These were older soldiers in golden armor. Bloodthirst emanated from them - a testament to their bloody experience on the battlefield.

The young ones became startled after seeing this. One said: "They're the central pillars of the legion."

"These men play a great role in helping the legion keep the border safe." Some saw hope after seeing the soldiers surround Righteous Scion.

Maybe there was a chance since Vigorous Tiger had so many experts.

"This seems lacking." The scion glanced at the combatants.

"You'll find out soon enough." Hu Ben raised his hand.

"Creak!" Platforms with crossbows on top began to rise from the walls. The crossbows were unique and emitted a frightening aura.

“Smoke-fire Crossbows!” Someone shouted: “The dynasty asked powerful Heavenly Sovereigns to make them back then.”

This was one of the stronghold’s strongest offenses. The dynasty invited numerous sovereigns for the sake of creating these crossbows.

“If you don’t mind, I will use everything possible for this battle.” Hu Ben said.

This was supposed to be a duel between geniuses but Hu Ben was using Vajra’s military power as well. Of course, the scion didn’t actually mind.

“That’s fine, I want to see your famous leadership.” The scion smiled.

Hu Ben was actually quite frustrated. He was obviously not a match in a one-on-one fight. However, he had his legion and the resources of the stronghold. He thought that this would be enough to put up a good fight.

“I’ll be starting then.” He said seriously.

The spectators watched with bated breath, hoping for a miracle.

Chapter 3765: I Am Unbeatable

“Go.” The scion smiled as he glanced at the surroundings, still looking composed.

“Open the fortress!” Hu Ben glared at his foe and roared.

This confused some spectators. The gate was open, what did he mean by that?

Loud rumbles and dazzling lights occurred in the next moment. The entire fortress started quaking and the area beneath the scion suddenly sank downward.

In fact, the fortress was below ground now, creating something akin to a large cooking pot with the scion in the center.

The fortress itself was sleek and smooth like a mirror before the astonished spectators.

“What is going on?” Most were confused.

“I heard the sovereigns spent a lot of time preparing this back then, Meteoric Beam. It’s rarely used.” One ancestor said with a solemn tone.

The scion in the center wasn’t frightened at all. He was cool and collected despite knowing that a sure-kill move was coming.

“Be careful, Scion. We’ll be starting the mechanism soon.” Hu Ben said.

“I know, go ahead, I’m ready for it.” The scion smiled.

“Start!” Hu Ben scowled and declared.

“Buzz.” Something seemed to be rubbing against the mirror-like surface of the fortress, causing it to become even brighter.

An unknown power has been activated and time suddenly halted. Everyone saw a magnificent scene in this split second. Everything was frozen in the vicinity including the lights.

The latter suddenly turned into countless arrows. At the same time, the ground beneath the scion emitted an irresistible sucking force. All the light arrows started shooting towards him at an unbelievable speed.

They twisted together to form great beams with enough destruction to pierce through all affinities. Even the hardest substance would be reduced to nothingness.

The spectators were amazed because this was a method consisting of borrowing the powers of the word. Moreover, the scion's location has been locked on. Dodging and fleeing weren't possible this late into the attack.

The beams came from above just like lightning bolts. If they made contact, they would pierce his head.

"Boom!" The beams made direct contact, washing over the scion like heavenly waterfalls and drowning him.

"Nice!" One spectator shouted after seeing the direct hit on the scion's head. The destructive power of the beams was unquestionable.

Everyone in the crowd thought that their head would instantly explode upon contact.

"Meteoric Beam, that sounds about right." Another spectator said.

The members of the holy ground became excited and felt great about the situation.

One opened his eyes wide and stared at the beams: "Will he die from this?"

Most thought that he would definitely survive due to his mighty strength. However, injuries should be possible.

"Rumble!" The beams were suddenly pushed up. The spectators clearly saw the scion become enveloped in a pulsing divine light brimming with dao laws.

This defensive barrier fully nullified the beams. He started pushing the beams upward, going against the currents.

The confrontation of the two forces resulted in loud explosions and earthquakes.

"I can't believe it." Someone commented. The scion faced the attack directly with his own power, letting the beams actually hit him.

"That's Righteous Scion for you." Others took a deep breath.

"He's very close to reaching the golden avatar. He'll become an heir soon and will have a chance to prove his dao." One ancestor remarked.

It became obvious that the scion has broken through the Grand Dao Sacred Physique realm.

After breaking through this realm, cultivators would have two paths. The first was Dao Lord Golden Avatar; the other was Myriad-dao Heavenly Physique.

The scion chose the dao lord path and has become an heir - a potential candidate for the next dao lord.

"He's uninjured." The young geniuses could see that the scion wasn't trying his hardest.

"This attempt isn't bad but it can't defeat me." The scion laughed heartily while pushing the beams upward.

The fact that he could still speak while being suppressed by the beam impressed the hostile audience.

"Damn, so this is the number one genius." One commenter said with admiration.

Hu Ben's expression turned ugly. This move from the fortress massacred numerous invaders before. Unfortunately, it didn't leave a single wound on Righteous Scion.

"Anything else? Go for it." The scion said, ignoring the beams fixated on him.

Chapter 3766: Heaven Devourer Dragon Guard

"How could he be so strong?" One young expert said after seeing the scion's nonchalant attitude.

Some geniuses initially thought that they would be able to last ten moves or so when fighting against him. They had this much confidence, at least. A few believed that five hundred moves shouldn't be a problem.

But now, after seeing him in action, they realized that they have overestimated themselves. There was no chance of lasting that long in battle.

Hu Ben's expression soured as well. The powerful move might not be enough to defeat him but should still suppress or hinder him to a certain extent. This wasn't the case at all.

This move was effective against other armies, just not against someone like the scion.

"An official heir..." Everyone realized that he was an heir right now. Perhaps one day, he would be able to prove his dao and become a dao lord.

"Go!" Hu Ben shouted.

The crowd wasn't ready for the old soldiers outside of the fortress to take action. They held a strange tube made of bronze and immediately fired.

Rays came out first before people heard the wind-breaking noises due to the speed of the rays.

"Clank! Clank! Clank!" They then noticed chains of light coiling around the scion. The other end drilled deep into the ground.

The arm-thick chains were quite magical, fully trapping the scion while stabilizing by connecting with the earth. Their thickness made them quite heavy but no one felt this way due to their incredible speed. This allowed them to coil around him in no time at all.

"Great!" Many spectators applauded after seeing this.

"Seal him!" One youth jumped excitedly to the air.

"This is a once-in-a-thousand-years opportunity! Incredible!" Another cultivator shouted.

Some started thinking that maybe the scion wasn't unbeatable. There was still a chance for their side.

"Don't celebrate so soon." One ancestor shook his head in disagreement: "It won't stop him for long."

The scion still had a calm expression despite being pulled up in the air by the chains of light. He smiled and said: "It is an honor. These are chains made from precious Shadowseize Light Steel. Looks like Vajra put in some capital."

The crowd exchanged glances. Most had no idea what these chains were made of. As for the high elders and ancestors, they weren't surprised to see Vajra helping Hu Ben.

The bronze tubes used by the older soldiers didn't belong to the legion. The dynasty made an exception for this battle.

After all, Hu Ben, more or less, represented Vajra. Though his defeat seemed likely, he couldn't lose in an ugly manner. That's why the dynasty gave him its support.

"Fire!" Hu Ben didn't care about this and gave the command.

"Creak!" The crossbows on top of the wall aimed straight at the scion and released large arrows.

Their size didn't diminish their speed. They left behind afterimages along the way before instantly hitting the scion.

The crowd was in awe at their power and speed. Most importantly, they instantly exploded the moment they struck him. Deafening blasts destroyed the spatial areas around the scion.

Spatial remnants broke down into colorful pieces, just like blossoming fireworks.

"Boom!" Finally, a black hole manifested and immediately collapsed afterward, sucking everything within.

The spectators did everything they could to run away.

"Incredible crossbows." Some who saw the power of these weapons for the first time became amazed and frightened due to their destructive capabilities and speed.

Damages came from multiple aspects - the explosions from the arrows, the collapse of space, and the sucking force of the black hole. One could survive but injuries seemed unavoidable.

"Yes!!!" More people applauded.

"He didn't have a chance to retaliate against the continuous attacks. Well done." One genius became excited.

"Hu Ben did well to seize the opportunity." Another praised Hu Ben.

Many thought that the consecutive attacks were well done. Hu Ben didn't hesitate in the slightest and had the style of a capable commander.

The actual result didn't matter. He managed to impress the older cultivators as well. Others would find it difficult to have a better plan.

“Boom!” The collapsed space was torn apart. One foot stepped out first then the person - Righteous Scion.

A golden dragon coiled around him along with a golden aura. The creature breathed in and out, seemingly ready to devour ten thousand worlds.

Scales began to latch onto the scion. The dragon itself emitted the aura of a dao lord. Everyone felt as if he was the chosen one and they needed to prostrate right now.

“Heaven Devourer Dragon Guard!” An ancestor shouted.

“An invincible technique from Righteous Sect.” Another master blurted out.

“Yes, created by Heaven Devourer Dao Lord.” Most from the previous generation were amazed and envious.

The dao lord used to be a serpent demon that managed to reach the dao. For the sect, Righteous Dao Lord left behind the seven chapters while Heaven Devourer Dao Lord left behind this ultimate defensive merit law.

Of course, he left behind other dao lord-level merit laws as well. Nonetheless, this draconic defense was the most popular.

Chapter 3767: Peerless Defense

The transcending youth walked out of the collapsed space, completely unharmed. Not even his robe was damaged; his hair was still perfectly tidied. He didn't bother to block the previous move yet still nullified it.

The members of the holy ground became frightened. Even the ancestors took a deep breath.

The scion was sealed earlier by the chains before the barrage of arrows. This should have done something to him.

“It's tough enough breaking down the draconic defense, let alone defeating him.” One ancestor solemnly said.

“Who in the holy ground can actually stop this monster?” An experienced big shot shuddered.

Not to mention the young generation, even some ancestors thought that they wouldn't have been able to escape unscathed just now from Hu Ben's plan.

“No wonder why there was a rumor of him beating Righteous Sect Master.” An expert murmured.

The sect master of Righteous was obviously powerful - the ruler of the land with great authority. Nonetheless, this youth bested him.

“Hu Ben has no chance.” This became apparent to the crowd.

In reality, this was obvious before the start of the fight. Hu Ben couldn't match up with the scion in terms of power and cultivation.

Nonetheless, they remained relatively optimistic and clung to a sliver of hope. After all, Hu Ben was a famous genius and a capable commander who should have been able to last up to several hundred moves.

Unfortunately, they realized that the gap was too great after the start of the battle.

“Righteous Scion is untouchable in the young generation.” Others had no choice but to put their pride away and accept this reality.

“Not just the young generation, few in the previous generation can take him down.” One ancestor shook his head.

Silence and pessimism permeated the air. The youths of the holy ground felt as if there was something heavy pressing down on them.

The previous statement meant that the scion was at another level. If he could take another step forward, he would be similar to the four grandmasters.

Hu Ben pondered quietly while being stuck in this predicament. He had underestimated the scion’s power by a considerable margin.

He knew that defeat was inevitable. Alas, it was hard to get off a tiger. Giving up wasn’t an option now since he represented Vajra. This must go all the way.

“That was a decent attempt.” The scion floated up in the air, looking domineering: “But if that’s all you can do, I’m truly disappointed.”

He stared straight at Hu Ben but the rest of the crowd was affected as well. None thought that he was being arrogant at this point.

“I hope the other geniuses of the holy ground can have better plans.” He stated in a matter-of-fact manner, perhaps with no intention of insulting his opponent.

Alas, others construed it as disdain. Hu Ben was one of the four geniuses of the holy ground yet still didn’t earn any respect. This meant that other youths couldn’t get into the scion’s sight. They assumed that he was mocking them for being incapable.

Hu Ben’s expression soured. He has never been treated in this manner before.

Of course, the frustrated youths couldn’t do a thing since the scion’s power far exceeded theirs.

“Don’t worry, our fight is not finished.” Hu Ben said seriously: “The holy ground has plenty of capable cultivators. It’s just that I am lacking.”

Others approved of this message from Hu Ben and gave him a thumbs-up.

“I hope so.” The scion laughed: “Let us continue then, do you dare to accept one move from me?”

This froze the listeners, especially Hu Ben. From start to finish, the scion hasn’t done a thing. He assumed a passive state and merely let Hu Ben do whatever he wanted.

What would happen once he started attacking? Would Hu Ben be able to handle it?

Hu Ben felt his scalp tingling. He wanted to give up but the situation didn't permit.

He took a deep breath and said: "We are ready to accept your attack." He pointed out that it would be both him and his army working together.

"That's fine, you can do as you please." The scion said.

"We're ready then." Hu Ben felt better because they had the defensive advantage with the fortress around.

"Clank!" The scion immediately summoned a lance after Hu Ben finished speaking. It had a silver glow akin to the shine of bones. There was a tinge of gold as well.

The spectators became intimidated by its sharpness. They even heard a roar as if a White Tiger was in front of them.

"This lance's name is White Tiger, it's not a supreme weapon or anything but still presentable." The scion introduced.

"How is this just presentable? It's close to being a dao lord weapon. The third dao lord of Righteous created this for his disciple." One ancestor blurted out.

"It belonged to a top sect master from Righteous once." Another expert knew the history and power of this lance.

Chapter 3768: White Tiger Lance

The lance was infinitely close to being a dao lord weapon. It has been blessed and refined by a dao lord so to a certain extent, it contained one's power.

The third dao lord of Righteous had the title of Lightgrasp. His disciple was the sect master of Righteous during that generation, a white tiger demon.

This demon was extremely powerful at peak Heavenly Sovereign. He took off one of his fangs and used it to create a weapon using a top true fire. Unfortunately, this weapon couldn't reach perfection despite numerous refinements.

His master could no longer watch and decided to help fix the flaws of the weapon.

At the moment of completion, the grand dao resonated with the roar of a tiger. This became the famous White Tiger Lance of Righteous. Its origin and history resulted in a mighty weapon.

It wasn't the strongest weapon in the sect but the generational sect masters kept it around. Therefore, it was a symbol of authority.

When the scion wielded this weapon, his aura became increasingly impressive. There seemed to be a divine tiger with claws and fangs capable of tearing the world and the grand dao apart.

Its bestial aura was dreadful and shiver-inducing. The spectators' throat felt itchy as they became overwhelmed with an image of a tiger ripping their throat.

The spectators and Hu Ben took a deep breath after seeing the armed scion.

“Show me the majestic defense of Smoke-fire Fortress.” The scion smiled.

By this point, most realized that the rumor of him defeating his sect master was true. This lance was usually kept by the sect master. Now, since he had it, the implication was obvious.

“Start the fire walls.” Hu Ben roared.

“Rumble!” The ground shook violently. Next, pillars floated up from the walls but upon closer inspection, they also resembled square-shaped cauldrons.

“Poof! Poof! Poof!” The pillars became ablaze just like kindled cauldrons.

The flames rushed to the sky, seemingly intending on incinerating everything with its scorching heat.

The fortress resembled an erupting volcano with lava oozing out in an endless and all-devouring manner.

The crowd also saw the members of Vigorous Tiger channeling all of their grand dao power and vitality onto a runic platform carved with chaos stones.

Next came dao runes appearing on the walls of the fortress. They connected together to form dao chains enveloping the fortress.

As the crowd tried to digest the new development, the runic walls increased in size continuously, enough to stop all enemies from invading. This in combination with the dao chains created what seems to be the most fortified wall in existence.

The flames from the pillars earlier gathered in front of the physical wall and manifested into a fiery shield. As more flames joined the mix, the shield also became gigantic with countless layers.

This divine wall empowered by the dao pierced the clouds, ready to withstand all offenses.

“I didn’t know the fortress has something like this.” Many experts were amazed to see this in person.

Peace has made people forget about what this fortress was capable of. Minor skirmishes didn’t warrant activating this level of defense.

“Smoke-fire Divine Wall, we’re lucky to see it in person.” An expert from a large sect said.

“It doesn’t have a problem stopping multiple armies.” One youth sighed and said.

“One move should be fine.” Another genius nodded.

Hu Ben felt better after seeing the fortress’ most powerful defense - the wall and barrier. They have been blessed by numerous Heavenly Sovereigns and were currently empowered by the soldiers. It should be able to withstand any attack, at least for a period. He thought that it shouldn’t have a problem with one move from the scion.

“Not bad. Okay, try this.” The scion smiled and said.

“Buzz.” His lance became resplendent in the next second. Bright pulses continuously spread, seemingly reaching the deeper dimensions.

The current spatial dimension was being overwhelmed by the pulses. Once there was enough light, ten suns manifested into reality.

“Ten suns?!” Someone blurted out.

The world became dried from their unbearable heat. People had a hard time keeping their eyes open from their radiance.

“Ten-sun Grasp, Skygrasp Dao Lord’s technique!” An old cultivator shouted.

The young ones exchanged glances after hearing this and shuddered.

Everyone knew about the scion’s expertise with the Evil Devourer Seven Chapters. Now, he also used Heaven Devourer Dragon Guard and Ten-sun Grasp. This meant that he knew the arts of three dao lords.

Just learning one was amazing, enough to prove that one was a great genius. But the scion knew three separate merit laws?

“A supreme genius.” The most prideful youths in the audience felt inadequate.

“Completely peerless.” An ancestor sighed.

They completely understood how he managed to defeat the sect master of Righteous.

“Break!” The scion made his move and threw his lance forward, causing the suns to move as well. The suns were the focus of the technique, not the lance.

Chapter 3769: One Move

The lance and the explosive ten suns heralded the end of the world. They engulfed the entire area and made the crowd tremble with fear.

Ten suns were certainly enough to be apocalyptic. Everyone felt tiny and helpless during this crucial moment.

“Bam!” The suns finally hit the fiery shield.

The latter had unbelievable thickness due to the multiple layers. Alas, this still couldn’t stop the ten suns.

The shield crumbled to fiery pieces and sparks. The crowd couldn’t believe it - this was enough power to sink the earth.

The ten suns continued pressing down on the wall after the swift dispatch of the shield.

“Boom!” The impact made it difficult to stand straight. Some actually fell to the ground while screaming in horror.

They had no doubt that the wall would fall too. However, once they actually looked, the wall of the fortress managed to stop it.

It was quaking continuously but it was still a successful stop, separating the world into two halves.

“Yeah!” The youths cheered loudly and raised their fists, turning red from excitement.

This was fleeting. The suns couldn't smash the wall down with force so they released endless sunfire in the shape of a white tiger.

The beast was monstrous with a tail longer than a mountain range. Its terrible aura and roar swept through the area like a tempest and blew the spectators away.

However, the wall still managed to stop the roar. The white tiger then leaped forward and raised its front claws, treating them like sharp divine swords. They were golden and brimming with dao lord power.

"Power refined by a dao lord." Some spectators could tell.

"Boom!" The claws left deep marks. This wall managed to stop the ten suns, just not the sharp claws of this dao lord's power manifestation.

"Rumble!" Sections were ripped apart along with the pillars above.

"Ahhh!" Soldiers on the platform screamed as they were sent flying. Some were killed; others grievously injured.

Eventually, once enough pillars shattered, the divine wall disintegrated as well.

People watched in astonishment. The scion only needed one move to defeat Smoke-fire Fortress and Vigorous Tiger Legion. He had once again proven his supremacy.

He floated in the air and held the great lance. He didn't need an oppressive aura to intimidate the crowd.

They all thought of one title while looking at him - the god of war! He seemed to be possessed by a god and was completely unstoppable.

"How can we stop him?" One genius from the holy ground turned pale.

Not long ago, some thought that the four geniuses had a chance. Now, this confidence was nowhere to be found.

"Is he really unbeatable?" Another said with empty eyes.

"Too powerful, he's unmatched among the young generation." One ancestor concluded. His peers agreed as well, at least when it came to the southern West King.

Smoke-fire Fortress has lasted numerous wars without falling. Now, it became a stepping stone for the scion.

One ancestor at the sovereign level thought that he would have been seriously injured by Ten-sun Grasp and the lance as well.

As for Hu Ben, he had plenty of experience, being a commander for Vajra. He saw numerous powerful cultivators before as well. Nonetheless, his confidence wavered before the scion.

He wasn't feeling despair but still knew that he was no match for the scion. No one from the young generation could do so.

“Still lacking.” The scion said after fully convincing the crowd through action. He looked around and smiled: “If this is the last ace card of the fortress, it’ll be very disappointing. It doesn’t live up to being a famous stronghold of Vajra.”

He could say whatever he wanted at this point without seeming arrogant. The crowd had no choice but to swallow their anger.

“Fellow Daoist Hu Ben, do you still wish to continue?” He pointed his lance at Hu Ben.

All eyes were on the latter. They didn’t know if he had anything else up his sleeve. In fact, no one would make fun of him for giving up now.

They saw him trying his best. He wasn’t weak; his opponent was just too strong.

Hu Ben’s expression changed continuously. He eventually gritted his teeth and said: “Our fortress will take on another move from you.”

“Oh? I can’t wait to see.” The scion spoke with confidence.

“There’s still something else?” The spectators became interested again, especially the youths.

“Activate the main vein!” Hu Ben made up his mind and ordered.

The older soldiers outside of the fortress exchanged glances. They eventually nodded in agreement.

“Rumble!” They formed hand seals and fire engulfed them. They looked like fiery tornadoes but instead of ravaging the sky, they actually drilled into the ground - creating scorched pits in the process.

Chapter 3770: Ace Card

The appearance of the scorched pits intrigued the crowd. They wondered why these old soldiers went beneath the ground.

“There’s something down there?” One youth murmured.

“A great vein, but this is the very foundation of the fortress...” A big shot with ample knowledge regarding the fortress nodded.

“Boom!” A loud blast came from beneath and took the contemplating crowd by surprise.

Steam and heat emanated from the large pits.

“What’s going on?” The young ones wondered.

Next came springs of lava gushing out of the pits. The crowd didn’t know what Hu Ben was up to.

“The foundation.” A big shot stared at the surging lava waves and sighed.

They knew that there was no other choice. He was betting everything on this last move.

Lava rampaged on the ground beneath the fortress, enough to form a thick layer.

“Rumble!” More explosions came from below along with cracking noises. Sure enough, cracks emerged on the surface and continued to spread in size.

“Is the fortress collapsing?” The spectators found this astonishing.

Lava started gushing from the large cracks as well. It wouldn't be long until it drowns the area.

“Boom!” Even mountains surrounding the fortress started spewing out lava. The scene resembled an active volcano.

“!!!” Many were spooked out of their mind.

The experts nearby withdrew with haste. A few cultivators were too slow and screamed from being burnt by the heat.

They took a deep breath - this region has turned into an inferno in no time at all.

“This will destroy the fortress and the region...” A terrible youth trembled.

“There's a volcanic vein right beneath all this time, it's just that the sages of the holy ground refined it into habitable land. This is turning it back to its original form.” An ancestor explained.

The first-timers here didn't expect this answer at all.

“Boom!” Finally, what's left behind looked like a bottomless chasm with surging lava within.

There seemed to be a terrible beast in there as well, ready to devour everyone at a moment's notice.

“Raa!” A dragon roar could be heard as a pillar of lava rushed to the sky. A lava dragon appeared within, as large as a mountain range. The area near it immediately turned into scorched earth.

The temperature in the air increased to an unbearable level. It also had access to true dragon flame, enough to refine anything.

“Boom!” It landed and stood on its massive and long claws.

“A real lava dragon?” Some spectators felt insignificant when compared to the great beast.

“No. It might be the manifestation of the vein. The sages must have turned the vein into this dragon back then. It has been gestating and growing beneath, waiting for the right day.” One ancestor said.

The heat wasn't the only thing frightening about the dragon. It had an impressive draconic aura as well.

Everyone thought that just one claw from this dragon would turn them into mincemeat.

“So this is the real ace card of your fortress. Very well, let's take a look at how strong it is.” The scion remained undeterred, still as confident as ever.

The geniuses from the holy ground thought that they wouldn't be able to stay calm like him when facing this powerful dragon. Of course, this confidence stemmed from his mighty abilities.

“Kill him!” Hu Ben ordered, having resorted to everything the fortress had.

“Raa!” The dragon soared to the clouds before looking down.

“Whoosh!” It opened its mouth and unleashed a fiery torrent.

This draconic flame started burning space and time along its trajectory. It became a great pulse aiming for the scion's chest.

The spectator found this discomfoting as if the pulse was aiming at their own chest. Some screamed due to the pain.

"Go!" The scion thrust his lance upward and released a White Tiger. The beast lunged straight towards the incoming draconic pulse.

"Boom!" Everything turned dark for the spectators as if the world had been destroyed.

The White Tiger had the character, King, engraved on its forehead. This character became dazzling and created a shield to stop the pulse.

"Rumble!" They seemed evenly matched. The real victim was the area around them.

"Raa!" The lava dragon roared and continued to fire its pulse straight at the tiger. At the same time, it slashed with its claws without showing any mercy.

The claws contained both immense sharpness and temperature, resulting in incredible destruction.

Suddenly, a new phenomenon occurred. Everyone felt the world tightening, seemingly turning into a fire bow with its string drawn to the limit.

They looked back and saw Hu Ben holding a gigantic bow made of fire. As he drew the string back, they thought that he was holding the entire vein, not a regular bow.

Where the arrow should be was an accumulation of flames. The flames turned into a divine arrow, ready to pierce through its target.

Who else could the target be but Righteous Scion?