

Great Ruler 1021

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1021: Chi Hongwu

"I'll take the Phoenix Flame Essence for 600,000 Sovereign Spiritual Liquid!"

A finicky female voice rang out from the crowd, and there was an unquestionable tonality in it. As soon as the voice was heard, a whip came cracking down. It whipped directly on the Phoenix Flame Essence in Mo Ling's hand.

Another thing that flew towards Mu Chen was a jade bottle, filled with Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. This all happened so suddenly, no one had adequate time to react to it. Mo Ling could only watch the flying whip coming at her, her eyes wide-open.

However, when the whip came and wrapped itself around the Phoenix Flame Essence, a slender hand reached out and grabbed the whip. A fearsome strength then surged forth, and immediately, the whip was captured in a tight grip. The whip let out a painful sound, as it was unable to advance any further.

This tight grip belonged to Mu Chen's hand. He grabbed the whip and swung his sleeves, causing a strong gust of wind to sweep out, and the flying jade bottle was blown back in the direction from whence it came.

"We're not selling," said Mu Chen calmly. With a finger flick on the whip, he sent the whip quickly retreating, like a snake that was under attack. At the same time, it let out a low moan.

Meanwhile, Mo Ling had recovered from her daze. Her eyes filled with anger instantly. She glared at the direction of the whip, seeing a lady, who was dressed in red, standing there.

The lady in red had curly red hair and looked charming. Her features were quite delicate, but she wore an unconcealed arrogant look on her face.

Such arrogance was different from Liu Ching's, as Liu Ching depended on Zong Teng to throw her weight around. But, this lady had her arrogance embedded in her own flesh, bone, and blood. Thus, her ego came naturally to her.

Whatever her type of arrogance was, Mu Chen knew that he disliked it. He stared coldly at her and said, "You're so rude! Don't you have any manners?"

The lady in red looked like it was her first time getting a scolding. She arched her winged-brow slightly. Her aura, then, weakened somewhat, yet she still insisted on getting her way and said, "You activated the Phoenix Flame Essence for 500,000 Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. Now, I will pay an extra 100,000 liquid for it. So, if you let me have it, you guys are not losing out at all."

"Unreasonable."

Mu Chen's eyes were cold. There was no gentleness in his words of refusal. "Get lost!"

The lady in red was so angry, her delicate face turned pale. She flicked her fire whip in her hands, turning it into a fire dragon, which swapt forcefully towards Mu Chen.

Although the red-dressed lady was arrogant, her strength was not weak. The explosion from her spiritual energy indicated that she had a strength of Sovereign Grade Seven. It also indicated that she belonged in the middle-class.

Mu Chen watched the charging fire dragon, his eyes cold. Immediately, he gave a quick punch, causing a golden light to surge. The blow landed on the fire dragon quickly.

Bang!

The fire dragon burst into pieces and disappeared in the air. The whip came back lifelessly. The red-dressed lady couldn't help but narrow her eyes. But, before she could say anything, her expression changed, as Mu Chen turned into a pillar of golden light and was dashing straight towards her!

The red lady tapped her feet softly and flew backwards. At the same time, the crimson spiritual energy heated up into a big fire. The fire then rushed towards Mu Chen. The stones on the ground were turned into ash by the tyranny of such a blazing fire.

Luckily, Mu Chen was able to pass through the fire, showing up as a ghost in front of the lady, while exuding golden light from his body. He continued to punch outwards.

Golden light surged, and his punch burst the space apart. The expression on the red-dressed lady turned completely solemn. She formed formations with her jaded hands quickly, then struck out immediately.

The crimson fire gathered madly in her hands, turning her palm into magma. With that palm, the magnificent temperature could burn the entire sky down!

Dong!

The palm and the fist collided together, releasing violently hot airwaves. Mu Chen's body shook a little, while the lady's body was thrown back a dozen steps. A large patch of bruises surfaced on her arm, and she felt a stinging pain immediately on impact.

The two of them exchanged their blows very quickly. After the lady was thrown back, one among the surrounding crowd of spectators couldn't help but exclaim loudly, "Isn't she the Chi Hong Wu fairy from the Scarlet Phoenix Clan?"

Hearing the voice, Mu Chen was slightly surprised.

Is she from the Scarlet Phoenix Clan, one of the Phoenix clans? Although the Scarlet Phoenix Clan is just a branch away from the Phoenix clan, it is still a genuine Phoenix bloodline!

No wonder her strength is so strong!

According to Mu Chen's estimation, she was not any weaker than Nine Nether! Mu Chen realized that he had only been able to gain the upper hand with his punch, because Chi Hongwu had not given her best!

She had chosen the most challenging strategy by going head-to-head with him. Mu Chen was somewhat confident in this knowledge. Within a level of Sovereign Grade Seven, no one could gain an advantage over him via direct confrontation with his physical body, not even Chi Hongwu, who was someone from the Scarlet Phoenix Clan!

While Mu Chen was a little stunned and lost in thought, Chi Hongwu looked down at her hand, which was badly hurt. She found it hard to believe that she could be hurt by a punch from someone who only had the strength of a Sovereign Grade Six!

"You've hidden well."

Chi Hongwu stared at Mu Chen, a strange look in her eyes. It was not a look of affection, but rather one of enthusiasm, as she was excited to try for something. She was born to fight, after all!

Mu Chen, on the other hand, did not care much about her. Even though she was someone from the Scarlet Phoenix Clan, he had no interest in her at all. He merely threw her a cold look and turned to walk away.

"Hehe, Hongwu, you're here! I've been looking for you!"

When Mu Chen was about to leave, a soft and feminine laugh suddenly broke out. The crowd slowly parted for a few figures, who were strolling in.

The one who was leading the group wore a white robe. He was suave-looking and was holding a fan in his hand. He looked like a weak scholar, but a sharp radiance flashed in his eyes, like a sharp knife.

When the white-robed man appeared, Mo Feng, who was behind Mu Chen, hardened his expression. Mu Chen frowned at the white-robed man. He could sense some dangerous aura coming from this man, as he did not look simple at all. But, Mu Chen did not want to create any trouble, so he just turned away.

"Hehe, are you the one who hurt Hongwu previously? If so, I would advise you to stay put." Another cold laugh rang, when Mu Chen turned away to leave again.

Mu Chen tilted his head slightly. The man was fanning his fan slowly. At the same time, a cold air gathered quickly at his fan. The air was immediately frozen into ice. The man's gaze locked onto Mu Chen, making him appear like a poisonous snake, his eyes ice cold.

"Bai Bin, stay out of my business!" shouted Chi Hongwu. She also frowned at the white-robed man.

The white-robed man smiled, paying no mind to her remarks. He cast his gaze towards the back of Mu Chen. When he finally saw Mo Feng and Mo Ling, he was a little surprised, but quickly drew a mocking smile to his lips, then said, "Wow, I'm really lucky. I didn't think I would meet two ba*tards here..."

Mu Chen frowned at his words. He looked at Mo Feng. The latter was looking extremely gloomy. The pair of eyes, which was staring at the white-robed man, surged with killing intent.

Chi Hongwu was stunned for a while. She looked at Mo Feng and Mo Ling, surprised. No wonder she felt a familiar fluctuation from them previously. They had the same Phoenix Clan bloodline as her. It was just that she had never physically seen them before.

Bai Bin explained their history, saying, "Hongwu, you may not know this, but their father was a high-class bloodline from our clan. He contaminated his own blood by sleeping with a girl from the Nine Netherbird clan. The elders were extremely furious about it, so they locked him up under the Black Mountain, while these two persons have been on the wanted list in our clan ever since. Then, someone from our clan helped them to escape, and they have been on the run ever since, for many, many years."

Chi Hongwu finally understood, but she could not be bothered at the moment. But, Bai Bin was more wicked, as he took out his anger and bitterness on them, even calling them ba*tards!

Bai Bin looked at the gloomy Mo Feng and laughed, "Looks like both of you have been hiding in the Nine Netherbird clan for all of these years. No wonder you know no news at all. But now, I've noticed your courage has grown since you've been roaming around."

He looked at Mu Chen again and said, "Are you with them? They are the sinners from our clan. If you shield them, you're making yourself our enemy. But, I am not from the side of discipline..." He stopped here and pointed to the Phoenix Flame Essence, then continued, "If you hand this to me, I will let the two ba*tards off today."

Mu Chen squinted both his eyes. He looked at Mo Feng, who was looking angry. He then turned and saw the pitiful Mo Ling, whose eyes were red from being called a ba*tard. Suddenly, rage grew in his heart.

He lifted his eyes and looked at Bai Bin. With sharp, cold eyes, his voice rumbled like a clap of thunder...

"Get lost!"

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1022: Protection

"Get lost!"

The creepy smile on Bai Bin's face froze, and his expression turned cold when he heard a voice that rumbled like a clap of thunder. A frightening, cold aura exuded from his entire body. Layers of frost started to form on the ground. Bai Bin glared coldly at Mu Chen. He said slowly, "Cut your tongue. I'll let you go."

Mu Chen smiled. "Who do you think you are?" However, his smile could not conceal his mockery.

He could sense the danger from Bai Bin, and Mu Chen figured that he was from one of the phoenix clans. However, Mu Chen was not afraid of anyone. Since he had made enough enemies for himself, adding another one would not make any difference. Hence, he did not mind at all.

"Do you think you can protect them? You are courting your own death!" The corner of Bai Bin's eyes twitched. Blood filled his eyes, and his cold face twisted. After all these years, this was the first time he had met someone who dared to look down on him. Furthermore, this person only had the strength of a Grade Six Sovereign!

Boom!

When Bai Bin finished speaking, extreme winter broke out, and the temperature dropped drastically. The moment Bai Bin opened his mouth, he breathed out a mouthful of icy blue mist. The mist transformed itself into a hideous ice dragon. Its body was surrounded by extreme coldness, and it moved in the air towards Mu Chen with the speed of lightning.

If any Grade Seven Sovereign had been caught in this coldness, their bodies would have been numbed. If the same thing happened to a Grade Six Sovereign, they might be turned into an ice sculpture.

However, Mu Chen had no intention of backing off, despite Bai Bin's incoming attack. He circulated golden light on his body's surface, and an indestructible aura was given off. He punched out, and the veins vibrated on his arm as if they were trying to escape from a cage. Daunting power was released.

Dong!

The two attacks collided hard. Mu Chen did not move an inch, but during the moment of impact, he could feel a stream of cold and poisonous energy continuously flowing into his body trying to freeze his spiritual energy.

However, Mu Chen did not mind that energy at all. At that split second, he circulated the real dragon and real phoenix runes on both his arms, and the stream of cold energy was dissipated entirely. The coldness in his body also disappeared immediately.

Without any expression on his face, golden light burst from Mu Chen's body, and the power from his physical body burst out at once. A cracking sound was heard, and the body of the ice dragon slowly cracked and exploded into pieces of ice.

"How could this be possible?!" Bai Bin narrowed his eyes as the ice dragon shattered into pieces. The most formidable thing about this dragon was not the power it possessed, but the extreme cold energy that could invade anywhere. Previously, he had clearly sensed that the cold energy had entered Mu Chen's body. How had he managed to activate his energy?

Is he immune to the cold energy? Bai Bin immediately ditched this ridiculous thought. He was a member of the Ice Phoenix Clan with inborn icy cold energy. The rest of the top powers of the same level from other clans would need to be cautious of it, so how could Mu Chen be immune to it?

Dong!

Mu Chen did not give him time to think. He stomped his foot hard. A crack started spreading itself from his feet. His body transformed into a golden light figure. Within the span of a breath, he appeared in front of Bai Bin like a ghost. The speed was so fast that it struck fear into him.

Bai Bin could not imagine that Mu Chen possessed such a surprising speed as a Grade Six Sovereign.

As the golden light appeared, Mu Chen shot out golden light from his eyes, too. He then struck his palm out. The palm contained not only all his physical strength, but also the powerful spiritual energy within his body.

It was a soft hit, yet the palm carried black and frightful space traces with it. This was a phenomenon that could only be triggered by formidable power.

The surrounding top powers were able to tell the good from the bad. Their expressions changed when they saw the palm attack. They could not believe it. The force of this palm would be too overwhelming for an ordinary Grade Seven Sovereign.

A frightful palm wind swept over. Bai Bin's expression altered entirely. His eyes finally turned serious, and he no longer belittled Mu Chen, since he knew that this Grade Six Sovereign was quite hard to deal with.

However, he was past the point of no return now. Bai Bin did not regret this. Cold radiance surged in his eyes. He quickly formed his seals. Behind Bai Bin's back, a huge ice phoenix was taking shape. The ice phoenix spread out its wings, and they protected him like an ice shield.

Boom!

The golden-lighted palm did not back off. It stuck hard on the ice phoenix's wings. Visible impact waves rippled out, and the hard ground crumbled into pieces. The ice phoenix's wings took the hit. Bai Bin was behind the wing's shield, but he could clearly feel the daunting power of that blow. If he had been hit by that palm, he would have sustained massive injuries.

However, to have been forced to this stage by a Grade Six Sovereign... Bai Bin's face looked rather dark. A killing intent flashed intensely in his eyes. Today, he shall torture Mu Chen!

Bai Bin gritted his teeth when the thought came to him. The blood started to heat up in his body. Everyone noticed oppression begin to sweep out from Bai Bin like a storm. This oppression came from his blood.

Bai Bin was a member of the Ice Phoenix clan. He belonged to a noble bloodline. Most of the divine beasts would be oppressed by it. Moreover, Bai Bin had heated up his blood so it would hit a maximum level of oppression. At such close-distance oppression, ordinary divine beasts would kneel in front of Bai Bin.

The rest of the spectators slowly backed off. They could tell that Bai Bin intended to force Mu Chen to kneel in front of him so that he could humiliate him. They knew they had better stay out of the way in case they got involved and ended up embarrassing themselves.

Chi Hongwu stood still not far away. She knit her brows slightly upon seeing Bai Bin's actions. Although she was arrogant and loved to fight, she preferred to gain her upper hand through fair play. She despised the way Bai Bin used his noble blood to oppress and gain favorable advantages.

But that fellow is going to be unlucky, Chi Hongwu thought to herself.

Even though Mu Chen had a strong physical body, Bai Bin was smart enough to use his blood for oppression. Under such circumstances, even physical power would not be able to offset the weakness of the blood.

While everyone was watching, Mu Chen could feel the enveloping oppression. But strangely, there was no horrified expression on Mu Chen's face. Instead, the spectators sensed a vague smile on him.

"Blood Oppression?" Mu Chen muttered softly.

He clenched his fists. The runes of the real phoenix on his arms.... No... When Mu Chen had successfully cultivated his Dragon-Phoenix Scripture in the second stage, both the real dragon and real phoenix in his body had already grown into something spiritual. Hence, at this point in time, they should be called spirits of the real dragon and real phoenix.

You want to play blood oppression? I will show you what the real oppression is!

The real phoenix spirits burst into strong purple-gold light. The eyes that had been closed were now wide open. That very moment, another indescribable oppression exploded.

The real phoenix oppression only appeared for a moment, and it did not spread itself out. The oppression was solely focused on Bai Bin, and others would not be able to sense it.

At that same moment, the oppression exuded from the ice phoenix behind him disappeared utterly. The ice phoenix let out a fearful cry and shivered while withdrawing all its cold energy.

Bai Bin's face turned ghastly white. His eyes were filled with disbelief. The oppression that burst out from Mu Chen's body suddenly was causing his blood vessels to quiver.

Bang!

Fear surged in Bai Bin. His legs could not help but bend forward. When his knees were almost hitting the ground, he recovered from his state of shock. Even though he tried to stop himself from kneeling, his knees eventually touched the ground.

The spectators were waiting to see how Mu Chen would be embarrassed by the Ice Phoenix's blood oppression, but they were dumbfounded to see Bai Bin kneeling down.

Chi Hongwu's eyes were also wide open, and her face was filled with astonishment.

Bang!

Mu Chen continued to look impassive. The golden-lighted palm that was imprinted on the wings of the ice phoenix suddenly jerked. With little real phoenix energy, the sturdy-looking wings burst into pieces in one go.

Bai Bin's body was thrown out immediately. Eventually, he landed on the floor leaving a long trail behind him before he could finally stabilize himself.

Pzzt!

After his body stabilized, he spat out a mouthful of blood. His strong surrounding spiritual energy reduced exponentially. Apparently, his injuries were quite severe. Taken aback by his defeat, Bai Bin was unable to recover from it. He could only stare with his pale face at the figure in front of him.

The surroundings were quiet. The top powers from various clans stared blankly at Mu Chen. By now, the golden light surrounding the juvenile figure dissipated. He had returned to his usual self. But after witnessing the fight just now, they all knew very well that this slender figure possessed daunting powers.

This fellow, who came from some unknown place...

That was the top power from the Ice Phoenix Clan! But now, he was utterly defeated by this person in front of them. Which clan did this supreme talent come from?!

Under the onlookers' shocked gazes, Mu Chen regained stillness in his eyes. He looked at Bai Bin again. His voice was calm and domineering. No one dared to rebuke him at all. "These two people are under my protection now!"

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1023: Another Three

As Mu Chen's calm voice was heard, Bai Bin's face twisted immediately. The hideous look on his face showed how badly he wanted to tear Mu Chen into pieces.

Although Bai Bin was not the strongest among the younger generation of the Ice Phoenix Clan, he did share the phoenix bloodline. As such, he was superior among the rest. Hence, those ordinary divine beasts would have to respect him whenever they saw him.

"Kill him! he yelled, looking hideous, with his bloodshot eyes.

A few figures walked out from behind Bai Bin. They glared at Mu Chen with hostility. A violent spiritual energy exuded from their bodies, eliciting a fierce oppression.

All of these people were from the Ice Phoenix Clan. Even though they were slightly weaker than Bai Bin, they had all reached the level of Sovereign Grade Seven. Hence, this was quite a powerful line-up.

While the top powers were glaring at them, Nine Nether, Ink Blade, and Ink Ring let out annoyed sighs and stood behind Mu Chen. They stared angrily at the group of people.

"You, Nine Netherbird Clan, dare to challenge the Ice Phoenix Clan?" Bai Bin asked coldly.

Nine Nether gave a mocking smile upon hearing his words, then retorted snidely, "Such a boaster! You're only an ordinary clan member from the Ice Phoenix Clan. Do you really think you represent the whole clan? And another thing...Once we enter the Land of the Divine Beasts, you will be asking for humiliation, as you will lose! Then, if news got back to your clan, I don't think anyone would help you then! Instead, you would be reprimanded for being useless."

Nine Nether was obviously not bothered by Bai Bin's threats. After all, the Ice Phoenix Clan was just a branch out from the Phoenix Clan. Thus, their strength was not enough to throw the Nine Netherbird Clan into a panic.

Bai Bin started to have mixed expressions on his face when he heard this. If the news of his losing to a Sovereign Grade Six was made known to his clan, he might be scoffed at by the rest. Also, maybe the elders might think he was useless, then they would not focus on training him anymore. That would be devastating for him!

"Haha, look at what you all have done. It's been only a while since we separated, and you have already gotten into trouble."

While Bai Bin could not decide what to do, someone laughed suddenly. The crowd gave way, and a few figures walked out from it. Giving off a strong sense of killing intent, it could now be clearly seen that they were none other than Han Shan and the top powers from the Demonic Rhino Clan.

Han Shan scanned the scene and immediately knew what had happened. He brought his men to Mu Chen's side and said helplessly, "You people really know how to make trouble..."

Even though he was obviously not pleased, he showed no intention of walking away. Instead, he stood beside Mu Chen, explicitly telling the rest that they were on Mu Chen's side.

"Those people are from the Demonic Rhino Clan, right? Is that person Han Shan? I've heard about him! He is the supreme talent from the Demonic Rhino Clan. He is also the cream of the crop among the talents of Sovereign Grade Seven. Yep, he must be pretty strong!"

"I never thought that the Demonic Rhino Clan and the Nine Netherbird Clan shared such a close relationship..."

Amid all of the whispering going on among the crowd, Mu Chen gave a weak smile. He had not asked these people to come here. They had all journeyed here of their own accord.

But, Mu Chen had a good impression of Han Shan, as he was apparently on their side, despite knowing that Bai Bin was one of the Ice Phoenix Clan members. The fact that Han Shan did not choose to ignore this showed that he was indeed a worthy friend to have.

Seeing Han Shan's stand on this, Bai Bin's expression hardened even more. The rest of the Ice Phoenix Clan members also frowned. With the new addition of these top powers from the Demonic Rhino Clan, it had nearly leveled the playing field.

Bai Bin, looking dismayed, took a deep breath to suppress his anger. He then said coldly, "This matter will not be over so quickly. I hope you will be able to be responsible for this next time."

Bai Bin did not stay after he finished his sentence, but left the place with a cold and indifferent aura. However, all of them knew that Bai Bin was in a rage.

The top powers from the Ice Phoenix Clan felt a sense of injustice well up in their hearts. After all, they had never lost to anyone before.

Moreover, those gathered here were ordinary talents. The rest of their clan members had split into different groups when they arrived in Land of the Divine Beasts. If the rest had been here, they would give Mu Chen and Han Shan hell today!

The spectators shook their heads with regret when the confrontation ended. They thought there would be a bloody fight between the two teams, with both sides sustaining significant injuries and casualties!

Chi Hongwu, who had been staying out of the conflict, turned her attention to Mu Chen. A strange radiance was flickering in her eyes, as if she now wanted to fight, but had decided to suppress it.

"Don't be too happy. Bai Bin was not even in the top five among the younger generation of the Ice Phoenix Clan. You would regret it, sooner or later, if you made the mistake of thinking they are weak."

She was giving them a gentle reminder in order to atone for her reckless actions earlier. But, Mu Chen still had no good impression of her. Hence, he just gave a nod, implying that he had heard her words.

Chi Hongwu gritted her teeth in anger, realizing that her good intentions had failed to hit their mark. She stomped her feet and refused to say anything more. She then made a turn, but before she left, she murmured angrily, "I'll see if you'll run for your life, when the times comes!"

Mu Chen watched her leave, his eyes narrowing slightly. Bai Bin was not even the top five in his clan. So, if what she said was right, the strength of the Ice Phoenix Clan could not be underestimated. It was no wonder that they were one of the Phoenix clans...

"What she said was true. Those formidable characters in the clan weren't here today. Otherwise, it would be difficult to end this." Han Shan nodded, a stern look on his face.

Mu Chen nodded slightly and smiled. "There will be many strong opponents on the road of cultivation. If we were only to evade them all, that would be too boring."

Han Shan was slightly stunned. He gave a strange look to Mu Chen, then said, "I respect you for having such a mindset."

"Whatever you do, never run away from anything in fear," said Mu Chen. "This is the true cultivation of a top power."

It was no wonder that Mu Chen was fearless, when he faced all the supreme talents from the various clans, despite being a Sovereign Grade Six. As he listened to him, Han Shan was rather impressed by Mu Chen.

He vaguely felt that Mu Chen would have unmeasurable achievements in the future. At that time, the entire Phoenix Clan would not be able to lay a finger on him, let alone the Ice Phoenix Clan!

Ink Blade gradually returned to his usual self after Bai Bin left. He looked deeply at Mu Chen, then said, "Thank you, but you don't have to meddle in this. I could have handled him on my own."

Mu Chen smiled and said casually, "I couldn't watch anyone humiliate my friends."

Ink Blade paused for a moment, a complicated look in his eyes. He lowered his gaze and nodded, saying nothing further.

But, Ink Ring was too familiar with her brother's character. She knew that her brother must have been very stirred up by his words.

Given their identities, the term "friend" was unusual for them to use, even in the Nine Netherbird Clan. As such, Ink Blade turned into a cold and isolated person.

Mu Chen did not think that his casual words would cast such a ripple in Ink Blade's heart. He turned around and looked at the stone tree in front of the skinny man after speaking.

Previously, he had used 500,000 Sovereign Spiritual Liquid in exchange for a Phoenix Flame Essence. That was quite a bargain. Subsequently, Mu Chen had great interest in this trade, as the items that the skinny man possessed seemed extraordinary.

But, it was possible that this fellow could have used up all of his luck while he was searching for these items, as he could not open them at all now. His heartbeat raced, when the skinny man sensed Mu Chen looking over at him again. He was still feeling the pain from when Mu Chen opened a Phoenix Flame Essence. If the essence were his, he could fetch at least close to a million Sovereign Spiritual Liquid.

"What's the matter? Do you want to try your luck again? Just now, I saw the way you broke the seal. Are there any special techniques to it?" asked the skinny man tactfully. He had carefully observed Mu Chen breaking the seal. Apparently, his method had a higher chance of opening the seal versus breaking it by force.

Mu Chen gave him an ambiguous answer. "Just luck."

He then swept his gaze to those crystal balls and looked at Ink Ring. The latter understood his intention. She focused on scanning the balls for quite some time, then stretched out her hands and tapped three of the crystal balls.

Upon seeing that, Mu Chen sucked them with his palm, and the three crystal balls fell into his hands. Without hesitation, he threw out a jade bottle and said, "Here's 1,500,000 Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. Thanks!"

The eyebrows of the skinny man twitched continuously, when he saw the decisiveness of Mu Chen. He stared hard at the three crystal balls that Mu Chen had taken. He had a hunch that Mu Chen had just taken away some of the realm's worthiest treasures.

Even though he was unwilling to deal with him, he could only give a fake smile and keep the jade bottle, at least while Mu Chen was watching. So, he forced himself to put an extreme ugly smile on his face.

After witnessing the fight previously, he knew that Mu Chen was not someone easy to deal with. Hence, he knew better than to offend him. So, the skinny man could only bear with the pain and cut away the spiritual energy light beams on the crystal balls.

As the three crystal balls landed in Mu Chen's hand, he threw them gently in the air. At the same time, he felt uneasy about it.

This time, he had spent almost all his Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. Now, he could only trust the extraordinary instincts of Ink Ring. Hopefully, these three crystal balls would contain something worth more than the 1,500,000 Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. Otherwise, he would have lost every penny that he had saved!

The Great Ruler

Chapter 1024: Ox Horn, Thunder Hear

After purchasing the three crystal balls, Mu Chen did not want to open them immediately in case they attracted unwanted attention. Although he was not afraid of it, it would be a headache when there were already endless troubles.

Moreover, he did not want that skinny man to know his unique way of opening the balls. If the latter harbored other intentions, it would be yet another bother. Hence, he kept the crystal balls and called out to the group. The skinny man watched with regret as they quickly left.

"The basic ingredients are almost done. We still have about two days before we can reach the Myriad Beasts Tomb. Since it's getting dark, I suggest we rest a day here. Tomorrow we will make our way again," suggested Han Shan, bringing the two groups together.

Mu Chen had no objections. He wanted to find a safe place to unlock the three crystal balls he had just gotten. The trading point might attract unwanted attention, but it was still safer when compared to the wild.

Seeing no objections from the group, he brought them to the west of the free trading point. There were stone towers everywhere. Some of the stone towers were taken by people as the various top powers temporarily rested there.

The group found an empty stone tower and settled down. They each found an individual space for themselves to rest and cultivate. Mu Chen sat cross-legged in one corner. He swung his sleeves, and three clear crystal balls appeared in front of him.

There were another three black crystals within the balls. Runes, suspected to be the seals, could be vaguely seen on the black crystals.

On the other side, the rest of the group watched with great interest. They wanted to know what treasures could be found inside the three crystal balls.

Han Shan also noticed what Mu Chen was doing. Previously, he knew that Mu Chen had gotten his Phoenix Flame Essence through a crystal ball. He was rather envious of it. After all, the value of one Phoenix Flame Essence was way more than 500,000 drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid.

Mu Chen did not mind them looking. He randomly picked one and crashed the first layer of crystal. The cold, black crystal then fell into his hands. On the surface of the black crystal, a dark red rune was protruding out. The fluctuation was the same as what he had felt previously. Apparently, it must have been engraved by the blood of some Sovereign Divine Beasts.

Mu Chen paused for a moment and once again, he made a simple, mini exquisite spiritual array like before. Following the previous method he had used, he slowly adjusted his strength from the real dragon and real phoenix spirits to slowly erode the seal.

Mu Chen closed his eyes for a moment. Then he opened them suddenly again, as he could feel the movement of the seal on the black crystal in his hand.

He no longer hesitated. He gripped the crystal tightly and circulated the spiritual energy that was infused into the crystal. Immediately, the spiritual energy triggered an explosion within the black crystal. Light beams lasered out.

When the light finally disappeared, everyone narrowed their eyes. A dark violet light gathered in Mu Chen's palm. As the violet light glowed brighter, it transformed into a suit of long, slender, dark purple armor. On the armor, ancient symbols and runes of different depths could be found. The armor was quietly exuding a mysterious, yet stunning fluctuation.

The entire suit of armor seemed to fit a woman, as the cut was slim and slender.

Mu Chen was a little amazed by the dark purple armor. He injected a little of his spiritual energy and instantly, a violent spiritual fluctuation was evoked, forming layers of spiritual energy as a shield around it.

Boom!

Mu Chen curled his fingers into a fist and punched the armor hard. The layers of shield pulsed out, at the same time offsetting the energy of the fist. By the time his fist touched the shield, only a fist print was left on it that quickly disappeared.

"That's a strong defense!" Mu Chen's eyes narrowed when he saw it. His fist did not seem dangerous, but a Grade Six Sovereign would puke blood and sustain injuries if they got hit by it. However, this armor blocked all the impact from it.

"Wonderful treasure! And, it could help increase spiritual energy," exclaimed Mu Chen. This armor not only had a strong defense power, it could also increase spiritual energy and in turn, enhance combat effectiveness.

Just with these two advantages, the armor was already comparable to any of those Magnificent Grade Divine Artifacts, and it could only be better. Its value was worth much more than the 500,000 drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid.

"Good stuff!" Han Shan's eyes brightened up when he saw it, too.

Mu Chen smiled and flicked his finger. Since this was female armor, the armor flew towards Nine Nether. Her combat strength would greatly increase again if she had the armor.

Nine Nether was stunned for a while when the armor flew over. She gave a smile and did not reject it. She stretched out her hand and suspended the armor in the air. She opened her little mouth and spurted out her spiritual energy. The armor was refined and absorbed quickly into her body.

After the armor was given to Nine Nether, Mu Chen looked at the other two crystal balls. Mu Chen broke the ancient seal without fail. When the seal was broken, the treasures surfaced from the black crystals attracting everyone's attention.

The first treasure was a black ox horn. The horn had a shape like a bow. Not only was it covered with mottled traces, but it was also exuding fierce killing aura. Mu Chen was slightly surprised by this black ox horn, as he realized that the horn was like those found atop Han Shan and the clan members' heads after they transformed.

He turned to look at Han Shan. The few top powers from the Demonic Rhino clan were also staring at the horn in his hand with red eyes.

"Does this belong to the Demonic Rhino Clan?" asked Mu Chen, who was taken aback a little.

Han Shan stared hard at that black ox horn and breathed hard. "This belongs to one of our ancestors in the clan. Our horns are the greatest weapon in the clan. It contains unique killing aura, and it is of great benefit for our cultivation practices. Although the effect has worn off with time, it will still speed up our cultivation if we carry it during our practice."

Mu Chen finally understood. No wonder those from the Demonic Rhino Clan were looking at it with red eyes. This was a treasure for the Demonic Rhino Clan. On its own, it did not benefit the rest of them. Ultimately, not everyone needed the strange killing intent.

"Brother Mu..." Han Shan gradually calmed himself down. He looked at Mu Chen awkwardly. "Do you think you can sell this to us?"

Mu Chen looked at Nine Nether and Ink Blade. They shrugged their shoulders without any comments. This thing might have been precious to the people in the Demonic Rhino Clan, but it was of no use to them. However, if Han Shan would offer reasonable pricing, it would not hurt to sell it to them.

Mu Chen smiled when he heard this. He threw the horn to Han Shan immediately. "Name your price, then."

Mu Chen did not mention it was free, as he and Han Shan were still not as close as he was with Nine Nether and Ink Blade. It would be inappropriate if it were given free. There might be conflicts in dividing out the work during their cooperation, too.

Han Shan took the horn carefully. He stroked it gently like a precious treasure before he pondered for a while and turned around to discuss with the rest of his companions. After a while, he threw a jade bottle to Mu Chen.

"Brother Mu, this thing is useless to most ordinary people, but it is a treasure to our clan. If this were to auction in the Great Thousand World, it could easily fetch more than 2,000,000 drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid."

Han Shan continued a little awkwardly, "However, we only have about 2,000,000 drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid in total. This bottle is just nice. Frankly speaking, it is a bargain for us."

"Two million drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid?" Mu Chen paused for a while and was secretly stunned. He thought it would be good enough to sell the horn for 1,000,000 drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. It looked like he had underestimated its importance to the Demonic Rhino Clan.

Two million drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid already covered the cost for buying the crystal balls.

"So be it." Mu Chen took the jade bottle and smiled. The price was already beyond what he had expected. Therefore, there was no point in harping on the smaller numbers. After all, they had to collaborate with each other in the future.

Han Shan nodded gratefully. The rest of the top powers cast a friendly gaze over, too. Apparently, Mu Chen had earned himself a good impression from them.

Mu Chen went on to the next item while Han Shan and the rest continued to stroke their black ox horn with tender care.

The next item was a silvery object the size of a fist. The surface was rough, and it looked like a heart. A thunderous sound seemed to be rumbling violently from it.

Mu Chen stared hard at the thing. His expression gradually turned solemn, as he could feel an extremely daunting violent power contained in it. If such energy exploded, he would not be able to control it.

"What is this?" Mu Chen turned to his companions with a questioning look on his face. He did not recognize this thing at all.

The rest of the members frowned, and their eyes surged with confusion. After a while, it was Han Shan who had finally taken his eyes off the ox horn and looked at the silver heart with amazement. He pondered a while and said, "If I'm not wrong, this could be a rare heart from a thunder-devouring beast."

Mu Chen narrowed his eyes upon hearing it, then a strange expression surged in his eyes.

"Heart of the Thunder-Devouring Beast?"

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1025: Myriad Beasts Tomb

During the ancient times, there were magical beasts, which fed not on plants nor meat, but only on thunderbolts. All of these thunderbolts, once ingested, then gathered in the hearts of these beasts. After the beasts accumulated layers upon layers of the thunderbolts, eventually the thunderbolts would condense into a daunting energy.

The beasts were gentle by nature, never hurting anyone. But, when they got provoked or backed into a corner, they would cause their hearts to self-destruct. Rumor has it that if a Thunder-Devouring Beast, who had been around for many years, blasted its own heart away, the impact from that self-destruction would be inestimable!

There was another rumor about an Earthly Sovereign, who tried to capture one of the beasts and keep it as a pet. But the creature was so furious that it exploded its own heart. In the end, the Earthly Sovereign died in the explosion.

But such Thunder-Devouring Beasts were much too rare to be found in the Great Thousand World. So, slowly, everyone forgot about the species existence altogether.

When Mu Chen finished hearing Han Shan's introduction of the Thunder-Devouring Beasts in the tower, his head felt numb. His hand, which was holding the silver heart, was shaking. He was afraid that the heart would explode and that none of them would escape.

"The age of a Thunder-Devouring Beast's heart can be differentiated by its color. I heard that, if the beast lived over ten thousand years, its heart would be pure gold in color. The one you are holding now is silver, meaning that it must have been over at least a thousand years old. Although this may not be able to kill an Earthly Sovereign, it would be at least be powerful enough to provide a deadly blow to those with a lesser rank." Han Shan stared at the silver heart, enthusiasm in his eyes.

This heart of the Thunder-Devouring Beast would then be another trump card, able to strike fear in the hearts of any opponent. Most importantly, in desperate times, this trump card could be their salvation!

Mu Chen knew this well, so he could not help but grin. He held the silver heart carefully, as he was well-aware of its immense worth now.

However, this heart could only be used once. Hence, Mu Chen would not use it casually, but only as a last resort. Otherwise, it would be a waste!

"Brother Mu is really lucky."

Seeing his abundant rewards, Han Shan's face was filled with envy. The three items that Mu Chen had were all extraordinary items. If they were to be exchanged for Sovereign Spiritual Liquid, he could easily get millions of it. Such a windfall would be undoubtedly way more than the 1.5 million that he had initially paid!

Mu Chen could not hide his delightful expression. He had not expected that he would reap that much! But, had it not been for the ability of Ink Ring, he would not have had such a fruitful trip.

And, of course, he was even luckier that he could barely decipher the difficult seal with the help of his spiritual array. Without these two crucial components, he could not have been so lucky.

"Brother Han, we're almost reaching the Myriad Beasts Tomb. Do you think that you can tell us more about how we plan on capturing the treasure beasts?" asked Mu Chen, while quickly trying to hide his excitement.

Nine Nether and Ink Blade also looked over to await the answer. The primary objective for their trip was to look for clues about the Primordial Undying Bird. Although they were also interested in the treasure beasts, that was still a secondary issue to them. Hence, they needed to estimate the danger involved in this mission.

Han Shan nodded and said, "Yes, of course. The last time that one of the top powers from our clan went into the Land of the Divine Beasts, he said that there were two more clans, besides us, that also found the treasure beasts.

"Who are they?" asked Ink Blade.

"The Sirius Clan and the Golden Lion Clan," Han Shan replied.

Mu Chen squinted his eyes, thinking hard.

These two clans have deep roots. If they managed to evolve to their final stages, they would become Moon-Devouring Sirius and Nine-headed Golden Lions respectively. These two are the sovereign forms that could even fight against a sovereign divine beast!

But of all these years, no one has seen a successful case of evolution to this final stage. Judging from this, one could tell that the difficulty is reaching the final stage!

Even so, both Sirius and the Golden Lion Clan are quite renowned in the Great Thousand World. So, it is better not to underestimate them!

"We had a secret agreement with the top powers of the Sirius Clan. Maybe we could join hands to kick the Golden Lion Clan out of the picture first. If so, we would then get additional shares from the divided loot!" Han Shan smiled.

Mu Chen took a closer look at Han Shan. He did not expect that Han Shan would have already teamed up with the Sirius Clan. If this was truly so, the Golden Lion Clan might really lose out.

"The Sirius Clan is known to be cunning and ruthless, so we need to be careful when we work with them," Nine Nether reminded the group.

Han Shan nodded. After all, he was not naïve, so he knew how unreliable this type of working relationship could be. If there were any situational changes that arose, the Sirius Clan might just attack them. That is the reason that he had invited Mu Chen's team on board in the first place. Otherwise, he would not have asked someone to share their treasures, had he been confident enough to win the battle alone!

"Other than those clans who are here for the treasure beasts, there are also beast spirits, who were eroded by the death aura, that are in the area where the treasure beasts were buried. They are troublesome creatures, too." Han Shan added more information to prepare the group.

"Beast spirits? How many of them? What's their combat strength?" Mu Chen asked.

The so-called beast spirits existed after the top powers of the Spiritual Beasts Clan had perished and were eroded by the death aura. They were like walking zombies that possessed parts of their combat strength before they died. They were not afraid of death, so it would be troublesome once the beast spirits got onto them!

"Not a lot. But, most of them are at Sovereign Grade Five or Six level. So, just be careful. Otherwise, we might lose out big time," Han Shan said seriously.

Mu Chen nodded. The information that Han Shan had was not very clear or definite, unfortunately. It was obvious that the Myriad Beasts Tomb must not be some sightseeing spot, where just anyone could come and go as they wished. Rather, it seemed to be a notoriously dangerous location in the Land of Divine Beasts. Hence, it looked like this fight for the treasure beasts would not be an easy one!

But, since they were already here, they could not give up, no matter how dangerous the Myriad Beasts Tomb was. After all, the clues about the Primordial Undying Bird could only be found here.

The group went on to discuss their plans for the treasure hunt, then stopped talking altogether after that. They then moved back their individual spaces and went into cultivation mode once night fell.

Mu Chen continued to immerse himself in the killing sentiments of the Self-sacrificing Demonic Fist. The night passed quietly and quickly.

The next morning, the land became lively immediately after sunrise. Figures flit endlessly to and fro, as people from the trading point left and headed to their individual destinations. The entire area seemed to be blooming with energy.

"Let's make a move, too," said Han Shan, smiling as he looked at the four of them.

Mu Chen and Nine Nether nodded, then flit out of the stone tower quickly. They then beamed into light figures, charging towards the sky. The rest followed closely behind them.

After Mu Chen left the stone tower, a dozen figures suddenly appeared outside of it. One of them was the well-recognized person who had lost to Mu Chen yesterday, Bai Bin.

Bai Bin's face was cold, his eyes an icy-blue. Ice formed in the air, as he swept his gaze across the space.

"Brother Bai Ming, I think the guys just ran off." Bai Bin looked at the empty stone tower, speaking with caution.

"Are you sure there was a real phoenix aura coming from that person?" The blue-robed man, who had accompanied him, asked.

"Yes, I'm sure. The oppression that I felt could not be otherwise. But, that fellow that it belonged to should be a human being. So, he must have our clan treasure. Otherwise, he would not be able to possess the real phoenix oppression," Bai Bin said quickly.

The blue-robed man nodded slightly, his eyes flashing with some doubt.

The real phoenix aura... Only the clan member from the Phoenix Clan with the highest bloodline would be able to possess it...

What treasure does that human possess?

If I could take it for myself, I might be able to enhance the pureness of my blood and increase my combat strength significantly!

The blue-robed man asked again, "Did you see which direction they were heading?"

"My guess is the north-west direction," answered Bai Bin.

The blue-robed man was slightly stunned. He then smiled and said, "That's the way to the Myriad Beasts Tomb. It looks like they share the same destination as us, so that means that they're going to be unlucky!"

"Brother Bai Ming, are we going to chase after them?" Bai Bin asked.

The blue-robed man shook his head, "I still need to get something from the trading point. Since they are heading towards the Myriad Beasts Tomb, we will meet them there eventually. As we're not in a hurry, we'll let them live a little longer."

The blue-robed man then turned and walked away, leaving Bai Bin staring towards the north-west direction. Bai Bin then said coldly, projecting his voice out into the void, "A few more days for you!"

...

Mu Chen's group, who had left the trading point long ago, did not know that someone was coming after them. Even so, given Mu Chen's character, he probably would not have been bothered by it. After all, when he had fought Bai Bin, he knew that he was inviting in future troubles. But, for now, Mu Chen could not worry over such things, as he was completely focused on finding his way to the Myriad Beasts Tomb.

For the next two days, they traveled at maximum speed. Encountering no obstacles or delays, they appeared on a mountaintop in the evening of the second day. As they stood there, they cast their gazes in a direction far away, all of them looking extremely solemn.

In the faraway mountains, a thick gray fog appeared, like a natural shield that was encompassing the entire area. The fog was chilling and extremely eerie and countless screams and cries seemed to be coming from it.

Numerous tombs shadows also appeared in mid-air, and a death aura was all around.

Finally, they had reached the Myriad Beasts Tomb.

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1026: The Sirius Clan

As the death-gas lingered around the land, not even spiritual energy could banish the chilliness in the air. This was a serious problem, because if the death-gas got into one's body, the spiritual energy would gradually become contaminated.

Mu Chen and the rest stood on top of a mountain peak just outside the Myriad Beasts Tomb. Mu Chen looked at the lingering death-gas, and then at the huge tomb shadow suspended in midair. His expression slowly turned solemn.

The Myriad Beasts Tomb struck fear into him.

"No wonder it is the most well-known dangerous spot in the Land of the Divine Beasts," exclaimed Mu Chen.

Han Shan nodded. "More than one Sovereign Divine Beast perished in this tomb." The Sovereign Divine Beasts were the top-notch beings among the entire Divine Beasts species. Their strength was comparable to a Heavenly Sovereign's, but they had still perished in this tomb.

When they died, they would exude a tremendous amount of death-gas if their burial places were not appropriately protected. The greater their strength was before they died, the more death-gas they would exude. The biggest reason this Myriad Beasts Tomb was overwhelmed by death-gas was probably due to these perished Sovereign Divine Beasts.

"It's about time. Let's go in." Han Shan observed the sky and flung his sleeves. A few white glowing lights flitted towards the four of them. They received the lights, which turned into white flame that settled on their shoulders. As the white flame was burning, it transformed into a light source that enveloped each of them.

Encompassed by the light, they felt their bodies gradually become warm. The ever-present death-gas was neutralized by that glowing light. This white flame was apparently stronger than the ones Han Shan had used previously when he was traveling.

"This is the Death Expelling Flame for chasing away the death-gas and detecting the beast spirits that were contaminated by the death-gas. However, it cannot last for long, so we need to add some ingredients occasionally to keep it burning. All the ingredients have been given to you previously." Han Shan smiled. On his shoulder, a white glowing flame arose. He flicked a white leaf into the fire, and it burned up immediately. Subsequently, the flame burned even more brightly.

Everyone nodded in acknowledgment.

"Let's go then." All the preparations were done, and Han Shan did not give any further instructions. He let out a yell and charged out first. The light figure flitted towards the grayish death-gas looming on the land far away.

Mu Chen and the rest followed behind immediately.

As the group got closer to their destination, Mu Chen could feel that the land contaminated by the death-gas was getting colder and colder. The ground below them was black as though it were covered by decomposed soil.

"We're entering!" Han Shan reminded everyone from the front. The group suddenly felt the temperature drop. Even though they had the Death Expelling Flames on their shoulders, the contamination of the death-gas still made them shudder.

The death-gas around them was getting thicker, and their vision clouded. As the contamination became severe, Mu Chen felt his senses from the spiritual energy were suppressed, and he could not sense anything that was far ahead of him.

The mountains around them gradually turned into clouds of gray and white. There was no greenery, and the entire place looked like a death zone.

Roar!

A lifeless, deadly creature seemed to be groaning coldly from afar.

Shua! Shua!

The group carefully shuffled through the gaps between the mountains. Their bodies were tense, and they vigilantly observed their surroundings.

Ha! Han Shan stopped suddenly in front. He jumped atop a white and grayish tree like a ninja and stared hard ahead. A few shadows exuding chilly death-gas were floating around in the air.

"Are they beast spirits?" Mu Chen lifted his head. The shadows were grayish-white with blank-looking eyes. There were no signs of intelligence, and they looked different from one another. Some of them were in a half-human and half-beast state. However, all of them exuded strong death-gas without fail. The amount of death-gas might cause immediate death for any Grade Five Sovereign and below.

"Let's settle this fast. Break their skulls. Otherwise, they will keep clinging onto you. And be quick. Otherwise, they will call out the rest of the beast spirits. We will be in trouble if we're surrounded by them," Han Shan said softly.

He made a few hand gestures, and the individual tasks were divided out quickly.

Mu Chen and the rest nodded. The next moment, they charged out almost at the same time, heading straight to those grayish-white shadows in front of them.

Mu Chen appeared before a grayish-white figure in no time. The figure had thick white fur on its body. The body looked fragile, but it was as hard as metal.

When Mu Chen appeared before the figure, gray lights shot out from its eyes. It lifted its head and locked onto Mu Chen. The wind from the razor-sharp claws came quickly towards Mu Chen's chest.

The ruthless and cunning movement stunned Mu Chen slightly. These beast spirits seemed to possess their combat ability from when they were alive. Otherwise, their moves would not have been so fierce and cunning. Even an ordinary Grade Six Sovereign might be in hot soup if they met such beast spirits.

But Mu Chen was not an ordinary Grade Six Sovereign.

Hence, Mu Chen did not evade the claw coming at him. Instead, he stretched out his hand and grabbed it. The sharpness of the claw was as good as any Divine Artefact, but it did not even scratch him a bit.

Kacha.

Mu Chen broke the claw with force, but that beast spirit did not feel any pain at all. Accompanied by the cold and dark death-gas, the other knifelike claw went straight at Mu Chen's throat.

Bang!

Mu Chen, looking calm, swung out his fist, and the space burst. The fist landed hard on the beast spirit's head, and a low explosion was heard. The skull burst open like a watermelon. However, there was no blood, just some ash in the air after it burst. The beast spirit's body froze and fell from the sky.

Mu Chen looked at his fist instead of the falling beast spirit. After he smashed the skull, gray gas filled his palm. The death-gas was trying to contaminate him.

"This gas is really troublesome." Mu Chen knit his brow slightly. He immediately circulated his spiritual energy to expel the death-gas. In this Myriad Beasts Tomb overwhelmed by death-gas, one would pay a high price if the gas entered one's body.

Not long after Mu Chen had killed the beast spirit, the rest of them also managed to eliminate the remaining beast spirits. They regrouped and quietly left with Han Shan, and then quickly traveled to another destination.

"The place where we found the most perished treasure beasts was at the northwest of the tomb. Let's be careful. We should reach the place in another half a day," said Han Shan.

"Will those people from the Sirius Clan and the Golden Lion Clan get there and take over the treasure beasts first?" asked Mu Chen.

Han Shan answered, "Judging from their speed, they may not be that fast. After all, that place is quite dangerous, too. It will not be easy to break through."

Mu Chen nodded without saying much.

The group flitted across the tomb at high speed. However, the tomb was just too big. It was far from what they had imagined. No matter how many mountains they came across and climbed over, the end was never to be seen.

They also met some beast spirits along the way. Although Han Shan was leading the way, the route that he knew had changed somewhat, which caused them to be surrounded by beast spirits a few times. They eventually struggled through, but they ended up being in a shabby state.

Luckily, the team did not meet any beast spirits that were too strong for them to handle. Otherwise, it would have been difficult to move forward.

Mu Chen quietly circulated his real phoenix spirits to detect the location of the Primordial Undying Bird while they were on their way. However, there were no results at all, and this disappointed Mu Chen slightly.

Time flew while they were traveling.

After passing through seemingly countless mountains, Mu Chen finally sensed that Han Shan was slowing down. He signaled the team to be careful with a hand gesture.

Mu Chen and Nine Nether exchanged a look and stayed alert. It looked like they were closing in on the ground of the perished treasure beast.

They passed through another mountain, and a grayish-white forest appeared before them. Death-gas lingered around the forest. Vague silhouettes could be seen floating around, and creepiness seeped in.

Mu Chen stared at the forest with his eyes squinted. He could feel some hidden spiritual fluctuations around the area. He looked across at Nine Nether and Ink Blade. Both kept their guard up as they also sensed that something was amiss.

Han Shan looked at the white forest. He took out a whistle and blew a high-pitched sound. The sound went through the forest, and after a while, the leaves on the trees moved. A few figures exuding a fearsome killing intent rushed out from the forest and showed up in front of them. Those figures were tall and bulky. There were scars all over their bodies, and they looked a little hideous. Their bloodshot eyes were fixed on Mu Chen and the group.

A crescent moon-shaped symbol could be seen on the center of their foreheads. It was the symbol of the Sirius Clan. Apparently, they were the top powers from the Sirius Clan.

Mu Chen did not let his guard down but instead became more vigilant when he saw them.

A man with a face filled with hideous scars took a look at the group before he suddenly fixed his red eyes on Mu Chen and Nine Nether. Instantly, his face surged with killing intent.

"Han Shan, these people are not from the Demonic Rhino Clan!"

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1027: Golden Break

Standing before the greyish-white forest, the leader from the Sirius Clan stared at Mu Chen and the rest. His eyes were bloodshot, the razor-sharp radiance coming out from them seeming to pierce through them.

"Hehe, you don't have to worry, Huo Yang. These are my friends from the Nine Netherbird Clan, as well as my partners," Han Shan explained with a smile.

"Partners?"

The leader, Huo Yang, slightly frowned. He then sneered. "Han Shan, do you think that the treasures here are endless? I do not agree to one more group of people sharing our profits."

Han Shan said, "Huo Yang, rest assured that, since I've invited them of my own accord, I will share my portion of the rewards with them. Your share remains yours entirely."

Huo Yang slightly softened his expression when he heard this. But, he continued to stare hard at Mu Chen. He drew his lips, a despising look flashing in his eyes.

Apparently, he had sensed that only Nine Nether and Ink Blade were Grade Seven Sovereigns in the group. The rest of them were only Grade Six Sovereigns.

How dare they come here at such low grades? They are so stupid to be blinded by their greed!

Huo Yang did not hide his feelings, so they could sense his contempt for the group. But they stood still and did not allow themselves to feel angry about it. Also, none of them wanted to bond with him anyway!

Mu Chen swept his eyes across the people from the Sirius Clan. Four out of the five were Grade Seven Sovereigns. Their line-up was also comparable to the Demonic Rhino Clan's. Apparently, the Sirius Clan spent quite a great amount of effort on the treasure beasts this time.

After all, the difficulty increased for every additional man in the Land of Divine Beasts. Hence, the Nine Netherbird Clan had sent only four members. But, in the long run, it really was not about the numbers, but rather the quality of men. This was also the reason why the clans refused to send in anyone who was not up for it.

However, other than their leader Huo Yang, the rest of the four Grade Seven Sovereigns did not surprise Mu Chen. He surveyed the rest of them. He could sense that, out of the four Grade Seven Sovereigns, three of them were around the same level as Lu Sui from the Lightning Crow Clan. If Mu Chen had not already reached the second level of his Dragon-Phoenix Body, it would have been bothersome to try to settle them. But now, it was a piece of cake!

"Huo Yang, what's the situation now?" Han Shan asked smilingly.

Huo Yang curled his lips and said, "The Golden Lion Clan reached here half a day ago. But, they did not dare enter any deeper. Also, the number of beast spirits seems to be increasing. Previously, someone from the Golden Lion Clan sent us a letter, saying that the number of Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits seems to have hit a total of 15 in the area where the treasure beasts perished."

Han Shan's expression turned solemn, as he knew that none of them could deal with 15 Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits alone.

"They meant to join hands with us to kill the beast spirits first, then decide about the profits sharing after we reached the land of treasure," Huo Yang explained, while casting a look at Han Shan. "Should we join hands?"

Han Shan was unsure about it. "Let's go in and have a look first."

He proceeded to lead the group deep into the forest at a rapid speed. Huo Yang watched their backs with flickering eyes, then signaled his men to follow closely behind.

Thick death-gas lingered around the forest, which was full of greyish-white trees. The deeper they went into the forest, Mu Chen could sense the death-gas getting denser. The amount of death-gas could almost stop any blood from circulating at all!

The forest was quite huge. The group journeyed for more than a dozen minutes before they slowed down. The forest turned sparse as they moved forward, and a steep, sloppy hillside appeared before them. Mu Chen and the rest stood on a huge greyish rock, looking at the large basin below the hill.

The trees were a dull black color and had been severely contaminated by the death-gas. Beasts, filled with death-gas, roared continuously in the region. Vague silhouettes were floating around, too.

"This is the land where most of the treasure beasts perished," said Han Shan in a serious tone, while pointing at the huge basin below.

Mu Chen narrowed his eyes. Daunting death-gas clouds loomed over the basin. No living things could be found in this entire land.

Such a scene often meant extreme danger in the Land of Divine Beasts. Ordinary people would definitely avoid this place at all costs. If someone had not stumbled here by chance, those top powers from the Demonic Rhino Clan, the Sirius Clan, and the Golden Lion Clan would not have discovered the land where most treasure beasts perished at all.

As they were observing the region, golden lights flickered from afar. Subsequently, the roaring of the wind got louder. Han Shan stayed on his guard vigilantly.

The golden lights stopped not far from them. When the lights finally showed them fully, their sturdy builds brought an immediate strong oppression that filled the entire space.

Mu Chen swept his gaze across the scene, noticing that there were six of them, each with a big and bulky body. They had golden hair and golden runes were running along their faces, exuding a domineering oppression. Apparently, these were the top powers from the Golden Lion Clan.

Ever since they showed up, the top powers from the Demonic Rhino Clan had put their guards up, everyone remaining uptight and alert. They now circulated their spiritual energy fluctuations around them, staring hard at the other party.

Han Shan remained calm. He looked at the well-built man, who was standing at the front of the Golden Lion Clan. His body was shaped like an iron tower. Golden rays were hidden beneath his skin, and a domineering spiritual energy oppression kept exuding from his body.

"Golden Break, you're the leader for the group again." Han Shan stared at the well-built man, speaking slowly.

At this point in time, Nine Nether also lowered her voice to say to Mu Chen, "There are two creeps of the crop among the younger batch of the Golden Lion Clan. The pair is commonly known as the 'Golden Duo.' Golden Break is one of them. But, it looks like the other one is not here."

Mu Chen nodded gently. Golden Break did release a very domineering oppression. The common Grade Seven Sovereigns would not be his match. Moreover, he could also feel the mightiness coming from Golden Break's body, almost as he had recently gone through some physical cultivation.

Golden Break laughed out loud, showing his sparkling white teeth. But, his smile seemed cold, as he swept an oppressing glance at Han Shan first, then stopped at Nine Nether, Ink Blade, and the rest.

"Han Shan, you don't have much confidence in the Demonic Rhino Clan, do you? Splitting your profits with someone else?" Golden Break gave a mocking grin.

"We are here just to widen our horizons," Nine Nether said calmly.

Golden Break smiled. "Barging into such a land? I'm not sure if you guys are too arrogant or too ignorant!"

"Try us, and then you'll know if we're arrogant or ignorant!" said Mu Chen.

"There's no place for you, a Grade Six Sovereign, here!" Another Grade Seven Sovereign from the Golden Lion Clan exclaimed from behind Golden Break.

Golden Break gave a hand gesture to stop his clan members from continuing. He did not look at Mu Chen at all, as he did not think highly of any Grade Six Sovereign.

"Han Shan, we're not here to argue. According to our previous scouts, a dozen Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits have already appeared within this region. With such a vast amount of beast spirits, none of us could get through this land alone." Golden Break looked at Han Shan. "This has been confirmed by those from the Sirius Clan. If you don't believe me, you can go look for yourself."

The top powers from the Sirius Clan, having just recently arrived, nodded their heads. Han Shan turned to face the region that was filled with death-gas, his brows knit. Even without scouting it himself, he could also sense the presence of formidable beast spirits.

"Brother Mu, what do you think?" Han Shan stayed quiet for a bit, then looked at Mu Chen and asked.

Golden Break and Huo Yang were a little stunned to see Han Shan seeking advice from a mere Grade Six Sovereign, especially instead of Nine Nether! They looked doubtfully at Mu Chen, unable to understand why Han Shan was so polite to Mu Chen.

Mu Chen and Nine Nether exchanged a look, then both nodded in agreement to Han Shan. Han Shan immediately nodded his head to Golden Break, too. "Alright, let's join hands to agree to get rid of those beast spirits! As for the treasure beasts, we will split the rewards after we make it through alive!"

Golden Break gave an affirmative gesture, then the three groups divided the zones and the number of beast spirits to tackle.

"Since we're all ready, let's get going."

Without any hesitation, Golden Break gathered his men and darted out.

"Let's go, too. We will meet again, once the area is cleared."

Huo Yang also moved out with his men.

"We should also leave."

Upon seeing all of the groups' departures, Han Shan also darted out, heading towards the huge and dark basin below. Mu Chen was at the back of the group. He squinted his pitch-black eyes in the direction where the Golden Lion Clan and the Sirius Clan had disappeared. With his hands at his back, he gave a gesture quietly to Nine Nether and the rest.

Be careful...

Nine Nether and Ink Blade looked at each other, radiance surging across their eyes. They then nodded.

The battle in this treasure beasts hunt would not be as easy as they thought...

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1028: Backstab

The light seemed to be abnormally somber in the forest filled with death-gas. The dusky death-gas hindered one's ability to scout via eyes and spiritual energy.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Occasional beast cries rang out in the forest. Suddenly, there was an air-rending sound, and a few light figures were seen quickly passing by. These people were agile. Using only their toes to push lightly off of a tree trunk, they had already propelled themselves forward before the leaves could even shake.

These figures were, of course, Mu Chen and the rest, who had infiltrated the forest.

As they moved forward through the forest, their eyes were fixated vigilantly on the places where the death-gas lingered. Although the death-gas had blocked the perception of spiritual energy, they could still sense the large amount of beast spirits hiding in the forest.

Han Shan said to Mu Chen and the rest via telepathy, "We came in from the southwest. From the distribution previously, there should be around six Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits emerging at our side. As for other beast spirits, there are quite a number of them. I would say over 100."

As Mu Chen and Nine Nether heard his words, their expressions turned slightly solemn. The lineup of six Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits with over 100 slightly weaker beast spirits was enough to make anyone feel dread. Fortunately, those beast spirits did not have any intellect. Otherwise, Mu Chen and the rest would never approach them.

"When the fight begins, the four of us will confront the six Grade Seven beast spirits. In the meantime, Ink Ring and the others will have to hold off the other beast spirits. We have to end our battles quickly or else they will be overwhelmed."

Mu Chen, Nine Nether, and Ink Blade all nodded. Although the Demonic Rhino Clan also had three Grade Seven Sovereigns, facing a large amount of beast spirits would still be a difficult task for them.

After explaining the plan, Han Shan called out to them in a low voice, "Be ready. We are about to enter the area where the beast spirits are entrenched."

Mu Chen and the rest instantly tensed as they felt the surrounding death-gas become thicker. In the somber forest, gray-white silhouettes were seen drifting around like ghosts.

As soon as they appeared in the area, those gray-white silhouettes instantly turned their hollow eyes towards them. In that instant, deadly howls echoed in the forest.

Bang! Bang!

Ghostly silhouettes carrying cold death-gas drifted out of the darkness incessantly and gushed towards Mu Chen and the rest.

Han Shan, Nine Nether, Mu Chen, and Ink Blade were the first to confront the enemies. Majestic energy instantly engulfed the front line of the squad, and terrifying light rainbows whizzed out.

Dong! Dong!

Sharp light rainbows pierced through over a dozen of the fastest beasts gushing towards the squad. They instantly exploded upon contact. The whole squad aggressively pushed their way forward against the beast spirits' heavy assault, heading towards the deep area of the forest.

Rumble!

Violent spiritual energy relentlessly lashed out in the death-gas-filled forest, sending the beast spirits who were in their way flying. Nonetheless, there were still beast spirits gushing towards them incessantly.

However, Mu Chen and the rest did not care about this and headed right towards the deep area. They understood that the biggest threat was still those Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits. As soon as they finished them off, their hands would be freed up to help eliminate the large number of beast spirits.

"Han Tong, you guys bring up the rear!" Noticing that the death-gas was getting thicker, Han Shan squinted, as he could feel that they had entered the forest's deep area. Furthermore, he also felt some dangerous death-gas fluctuations in the distance.

That must have been where the Grade Seven beast spirits were.

"Alright!" The Demonic Rhino Clan's four powerful people nodded as soon as they heard his order and quickly separated themselves from the squad. With a sweep of their majestic spiritual energies, an enormous Demonic Rhino silhouette appeared and instantly attracted the large number of beast spirits.

"Ink Ring, go help them, but take care," Ink Blade called out.

"Roger that!" Ink Ring replied and quickly fell back. Scourging red flame ascended from her petite body, instantly raising the temperature of the area as if the air itself were burning.

With Ink Ring and the others bringing up the rear, the road for Mu Chen and the other three was cleared in an instant. Thus, they accelerated and sprinted towards the concentrated death-gas.

After the death-gas, there was a rough land surrounded by gray-white tree shades. Numerous silhouettes covered the ground, and each of the silhouettes had a hollow, ice-cold stare fixated right on Mu Chen and the rest. In a sudden move, the silhouettes appeared in front of the group.

There were six black silhouettes. Their bodies were fine, black iron and seemed to be abnormally hard. This was because after their bodies had withered, they were quenched by the death-gas until they were extremely hard. The death-gas encircling them was also much stronger than that of normal beast spirits.

"So there really are six Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits, huh..." Mu Chen muttered to himself after eyeing the black beast spirits. However, a moment later, his eyes suddenly narrowed. "No, that's not right!"

Bang!

The moment Mu Chen had noticed, the ground behind them suddenly exploded. Two black figures slowly crawled out from under the ground. Judging from the amount of death-gas around them, they were apparently another two Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits.

Just like that, their number had increased to eight.

Seeing this, Han Shan looked aghast. It seemed like there were far more beast spirits gathered at this place than he had imagined.

"Now this is troublesome." Han Shan gave a wry smile. Even for them, fighting against eight Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits required some time. After all, these beasts were on par with supreme talents like Lu Sui in terms of battle prowess.

Mu Chen frowned and said, "Each of us shall handle two of them and try to end this quickly."

"Alright!"

Han Shan and the other two nodded and propelled themselves forward. Each of their majestic spiritual energies had surrounded two of the Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits.

Mu Chen did the same. His target was the two Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits that were crawling behind them.

Roar!

As the two Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits roared, their encircling death-gas vibrated. They swiped at Mu Chen's chest at lightning speed with their sharp bone-claw encircled with death-gas. Their sharp swipe even left gash lines in the space.

Dang!

Mu Chen used his arm to forcibly block the attack, and sparks flew out of his arm. However, the bone-claw with the death-gas only left lines of white claw marks scratched on his arm.

Bang!

With golden light glowing on his fist, Mu Chen landed a heavy punch on that Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirit's chest. A low noise was heard, and the beast spirit was sent flying with its chest sunk into its body.

However, this Grade Seven Sovereign Beast's tenacity was far greater than Mu Chen had expected. As soon as its body touched the ground, it immediately bounced back up and pounced towards Mu Chen again, not concerned about its sunken chest.

"What a hard body." Seeing this, Mu Chen looked surprised. That punch had been enough to make an ordinary Grade Seven Sovereign spit blood, but this beast spirit was still lively after receiving that attack.

Bang! Bang!

The two Grade Seven Sovereigns charged at Mu Chen madly with relentless attacks. Under the scouring of the death-gas, Mu Chen was forced to retreat a few steps, but he managed to recover quickly. As soon as he activated his Dragon-Phoenix body with a burst of dazzling golden light, Mu Chen let out a relentless fury of punches as heavy as a mountain, beating the two Grade Seven Sovereigns backwards. Parts of their bodies were crushed in from the punches. They would have been heavily wounded if not for the fact that they were already dead.

At this rate, it was just a matter of time before Mu Chen completely shattered the two Sovereigns.

As Mu Chen's battle was looking better, Han Shan, Nine Nether, and Ink Blade also gradually adjusted to the mad attacks of the two Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits, and they started to take the initiative in their battles.

Further back, Ink Ring and the others were also holding off the large amount of beast spirits with all their strength. Although it was hard to handle attacks from both the front and back, these beast spirits did not have intellect, and hence the group was able to handle the beast spirits for the moment.

Apparently, the situation was just as Han Shan had anticipated. As long as they were keeping this up, they should be able to get rid of their troubles completely.

Bang!

In the rough land, a huge rock exploded below Mu Chen's feet. With a golden flash in his eyes, Mu Chen grasped one of the Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits. With a clench of his palm, the Golden-Winged Sword appeared in his hands. In a flash of golden light, that Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirit's head was cut off.

Bam!

By cutting down a Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirit with a slash, Mu Chen was relieved of a lot of pressure. Mu Chen suddenly launched aggressive attacks on the remaining Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirit, suppressing it.

Noticing Mu Chen's progression, Nine Nether and the others also pumped up their efforts. As long as Mu Chen quickly got rid of his foe, this battle situation could be ended swiftly with his help.

At this rate, it seemed there was nothing to be afraid of.

However, as soon as Han Shan and the others were silently relieved, they suddenly felt the land start to shake, as if there were thousands of beasts stampeding. This abnormal charge also shocked Mu Chen. After he quickly raised his head to look left and right in the forest, his expression changed dramatically.

This was because he could sense that in those two directions, there was a lot of death-gas sweeping towards them. There was also a large amount of beast spirits, and among them there were some ink-black marks, the Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirits!

At the rear, the Demonic Rhino Clan powerful people called out nervously as their expressions drastically changed. "There are a lot of beast spirits incoming!"

Bam!

With a surge of golden light, Mu Chen blasted away the head of the Grade Seven Sovereign beast spirit in front of him with a punch. Looking left and right, his facial expression became a little heavy.

Han Shan's face was completely pale. With gritted teeth he said, "That is where the Golden Lion Clan and Sirius Clan are. What are those fools doing?"

Nine Nether gave a wry smile and said, "What else are they doing? They are turning their enemies against us."

Han Shan's eyes were completely frozen. The Sirius Clan had broken their promise and joined hands with the Golden Lion Clan. Judging from the situation, the scum had certainly plotted to eliminate them completely by driving these beast spirits to them.

This time, he was being backstabbed by the Sirius Clan!

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1029: Lose Effectiveness

Boom boom boom!

The earth shook, and the entire forest trembled in response. All-encompassing waves of death-gas swept forward, as if they were about to swallow up the sky and the earth.

As the waves of death-gas rolled in, flashes of greyish-white shadows shot forward quickly. Within them, one could vaguely see that black lights were floating. These lights were beast spirits, whose skills were comparable to those of a Grade Seven Sovereign.

Upon witnessing this scene, the expressions of Mu Chen, Han Shan, Nine Nether and the rest darkened. They had clearly fallen into a trap!

The areas lying in those two directions were originally supposed to be controlled by the Golden Lion Clan and the Sirius Clan, but their power and rule had clearly been usurped, since all of the beast spirits were currently surging towards Mu Chen and the rest! Han Shan's expression was stormy, the ice in his glare nearly taking solid shape! Right at that moment, he hated the Sirius Clan to the core.

The few masters of the Demonic Rhino Clan also turned pale, as they were all at a complete loss! If such a huge herd of beast spirits stormed towards them, none of them would survive!

"Dispose of the beast spirits in front of you!" While Han Shan and the rest were looking on grimly, Mu Chen suddenly commanded in a low voice.

At this moment, their first priority must be to eliminate all of the beast spirits in front of them. If not, even if they decided to retreat later, they would be delayed, thus allowing the herd of beast spirits to catch up to them!

Hearing his command, Han Shan, Nine Nether, and the rest immediately returned to their senses, then released their inner spiritual energy explosively. Waves of violent attacks struck the beast spirits.

Ping!

With an icy gaze, Mu Chen took the Grade Seven beast spirit's harsh battering on his chest. Then, as quick as lightning, his palm pressed on its temple, a violent energy surging out.

Boom!

The Grade Seven beast spirit's skull shattered in response. Its body immediately went rigid, then collapsed. After Mu Chen had speedily disposed of the two Grade Seven beast spirits in front of him, he immediately helped Nine Nether and the rest dispose of the six Grade Seven beast spirits.

By the time that they had eliminated all of the Grade Seven beast spirits, the flood of death-gas had gotten much closer. They could already see the ferocious but hollow expressions of those beast spirits. Han Shan didn't care that his shirt was badly torn from his fights with the Grade Seven beast spirits, he just watched the approaching herd of beast spirits with a dark look on his face.

"Now, what should we do?" Nine Nether asked in a subdued voice. The herd of beast spirits was too big. With such small numbers, they couldn't possibly stop them. They should retreat, while they still had a chance!

Han Shan grinded his teeth. If they retreated, they would be giving up on attaining the treasures of the Treasure Beast. After having prepared for this for such a long time, he was extremely reluctant to do so.

"Haha, Han Shan, it seems you are still unwilling to give up?" Just as Han Shan was hesitating, mocking laughter rang out from a distance.

Hearing this laughter, the expressions of Mu Chen and the rest changed. Raising their heads, their sharp gazes landed on a giant tree in the distance, where silhouettes had materialized. These silhouettes belonged to Golden Break of the Golden Lion Clan and Huo Yang of the Sirius Clan, who were accompanied by their followers.

"Huo Yang!"

The minute Han Shan saw Huo Yang emerge, his eyes became bloodshot and vicious currents roiled beneath the surface of his face, giving him a ferocious expression. Seeing Han Shan's expression, Huo Yang merely smiled faintly and said, "Han Brother, don't be like this. Cooperation requires mutual consent. If you trust people so easily, you will be taken advantage of. So, I hope that you take this as a lesson that you will always remember."

Han Shan took a deep breath, and his expression gradually calmed. But, the glare he directed at Huo Yang became even more poisonous, and he asked in a low voice, "I granted you many benefits, so why did you stab me in the back?"

Huo Yang smiled. "Indeed, you granted me a lot of benefits, but unfortunately, I like to work for the party with the greater success rate, naturally."

His words revealed that he clearly didn't think that Han Shan's side could beat the Golden Lion Clan. So, upon being offered the same conditions from them, he chose to help the Golden Lion Clan doublecross Han Shan and the rest.

With a vicious look in his eye, Han Shan smiled darkly and said, "Good, I'll remember this. You better pray you don't fall into my hands."

Seeing Han Shan's ferocious appearance, Huo Yang felt a chill creeping into his heart. But, outwardly, he just gave a cold smile and said, "Well you'd have to escape with your life first."

While they were talking, Golden Break of the Golden Lion Clan had been watching them with a huge grin, clearly sure of his victory. He looked at Han Shan like he was looking at a loser.

"Why aren't those beast spirits attacking them?" Beside Han Shan, Nine Nether suddenly asked, a slight furrow of her beautiful brow.

Only after hearing her words did the rest of them suddenly realize that those fellows were right in front of the beast spirits, but the beast spirits merely ignored them, madly rushing towards their group instead!

Mu Chen was staring intently at Golden Break and the rest, when he suddenly paused. He had sensed a faint layer of grey membrane surrounding them, which was radiating an odd fluctuating movement and giving off the smell of death-gas!

"They've probably prepared some special thing that would enable the death-gas to surround their bodies. Those beast spirits don't have eyes, but they can sense the presence of living things, as well as death-gas. So, when they used death-gas to mask their bodies, they could blend in among the beast spirits without being noticed," Mu Chen said slowly.

No wonder Huo Yang thought Han Shan didn't have much chance of success, as it turns out that the Golden Lion Clan had prepared thoroughly, even setting a trap for Han Shan!

"Those ba*tards." Han Shan naturally thought of this, too, and his expression darkened even more.

"Han Shan, brother." The masters of the Demonic Rhino Clan looked at Han Shan. The herd of beast spirits were getting closer, and if they didn't retreat now, they would not get a chance to later on.

With a grim expression, Han Shan gritted his teeth, then raised his hand to signal a retreat. While the treasure of the Treasure Beast was indeed valuable, he could only enjoy it if he stayed alive! Looking at the current situation, he felt some guilt towards Mu Chen and the rest. After all, they had endured a long and arduous journey, and even before reaching the place where the Treasure Beast fell, they were driven out, forced to escape with their tails tucked between their legs!

"Hold on."

However, just as Han Shan had decided to command a retreat, Mu Chen suddenly spoke. Everybody looked at Mu Chen in shock. If they didn't leave now, they would be in dire straits later.

Could Mu Chen really not let go of the treasure of the Treasure Beast?

Faced with their stunned expressions, Mu Chen only smiled faintly and said, "I think I can try to mask our presence from the beast spirits."

"What?"

They were all shocked. Even Nine Nether was a bit doubtful.

Looking at the nonplussed expressions of those around him, Mu Chen smiled. "The method those fellows used to hide from the beast spirits has inspired me. If these beast spirits can only sense the difference between living things and death-gas, their senses must be very poor. As such, as long as we mask the living gas of our bodies, they will treat us as non-living beings."

Han Shan was stunned by this logic. "While the beast spirits have extremely poor senses, they are extremely sensitive to living gas! Even just a bit of it would turn them into hungry wolves!"

He clearly didn't quite believe that Mu Chen had the ability to mask their living gas. Mu Chen didn't bother replying, but with a light flick of his fingers, flashed his spiritual seals rapidly. As they took shape around him, they quickly blended into the surroundings, creating ripples in the air.

"Spiritual array?"

Nine Nether's beautiful eyes flashed as she watched this scene.

Boom boom boom!

Just as the spiritual seals quickly blended into the air, the shaking of the earth became more violent, and the huge beast spirit let loose a massive howl from a distance away, which carried with it waves of death-gas.

The masters of the Demonic Rhino Clan broke out in cold sweats, their faces pale with terror upon hearing the aggressive roar. They kept looking at Han Shan, as the minute he showed any intention to retreat, they would also retreat immediately!

But Han Shan was staring intently at Mu Chen. Finally, he gritted his teeth violently and said, "I'm relying on you, Mu Brother."

He was also unwilling to leave. That fact, coupled with his bone-deep hatred for the Sirius Clan, made him even more loathe to be driven off, especially if there were any alternatives.

He knew that Mu Chen was not impetuous. Plus, since Mu Chen could remain so calm and self-possessed, he must have some degree of confidence. This made Han Shan willing to take a gamble on him.

Mu Chen closed both eyes, without replying. The spiritual seals forming at his fingertips gradually increased in strength.

"This Han Shan is apparently suicidal!"

From a distant treetop, Golden Break couldn't help mocking them, especially when he saw that Han Shan and the rest were unwilling to retreat. This made him think that Han Shan was just reluctant to give up on his goal of attaining the Treasure Beast's treasure.

"If he wants the treasure so much, he can just be buried here with it!" Golden Break said with a wide grin, baring his teeth, which gave him a ferocious look.

Boom boom boom!

The flood of beast spirits roared towards them, and the death-gas assaulted their senses. Nine Nether and the rest watched the rapidly approaching death-gas current with dead eyes.

When the distance between them had dwindled to a hundred fathoms and the smell of death was assaulting their senses, causing the masters of the Demonic Rhino Clan to sink into despair, Mu Chen's slightly squinted eyes finally opened abruptly. Then, his bright black irises twinkled.

Buzz buzz!

The surrounding air suddenly gave a violent tremor, and Han Shan and the rest saw flashes of spiritual energy light runes quickly spreading across the void in front of them. It then engulfed them all within it!

The silhouette cast by the spiritual energy light runes looked somewhat like a grey coffin. This spiritual array didn't seem to have a strong attacking power, but once it took shape, Han Shan and the rest could clearly feel the death-gas emanating into the space around them, chilling them to the bone.

Boom boom!

By the time the coffin spiritual array had taken shape, the flood of beast spirits had finally reached them. But, upon reaching the area in which Mu Chen and the rest were immediately within, the flood automatically parted around them!

The massive flood of death-gas brushed past them, making their knees shake in terror, but they couldn't care less about their shaking knees, as they simply watched the flood of beast spirits parting around them! Their eyes were wide with shock!

The beast spirits, which were emanating waves of death-gas, actually brushed past us, as if we were non-living beings!

"Success!"

At this moment, even someone as placid as Han Shan couldn't resist leaping for joy. As they all went wild with joy, in the distant treetops, the mocking expressions of Golden Break, Huo Yang, and the rest had gradually darkened.

Their malicious gazes looked past Han Shan and the rest, directly locking onto Mu Chen. Clearly, they sensed that the seemingly unremarkable Grade Six Sovereign was the root cause for failure of their trap.

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 1030: God's Punishment Array

The current of death-gas carrying the countless grayish-white figures from the forest brushed past and went roaring into the distance. Without any spiritual intelligence, they were totally unable to even wonder why their targets had suddenly vanished without a trace.

Somewhere behind the chaos, Han Shan and the rest watched the massive herd of beast spirits move further away, and their tense bodies immediately relaxed. The masters of the Demonic Rhino Clan sat down abruptly with pale faces, as their legs couldn't hold them upright anymore.

When the current had rushed towards them, they had thought they would be killed on the spot.

Han Shan swallowed harshly, his face wild with joy after escaping death. He turned towards Mu Chen and said gratefully, "Brother Mu, thank you so much." If not for Mu Chen, they would have been pursued and murdered.

Mu Chen smiled while shaking his head, saying, "I just wanted to try it out. I didn't think it would actually work."

Knowing Mu Chen quite well by now, Han Shan didn't take his words seriously. He knew Mu Chen would not have taken such a risk if he hadn't been certain to some degree. Regardless, they had survived their near-death experience.

"With this tactic, shouldn't we be able to invade this cemetery of many beasts at will?" Ink Blade asked, shocked.

Mu Chen shook his head and said, "The beast spirits we just encountered weren't strong, so we could easily fool their senses, but if we met a stronger beast spirit, this tactic would not be effective."

He had thought of this problem beforehand, and when the massive herd of beast spirits rushed past, he clearly detected the slight hesitation of some of the Grade Seven beast spirits that had sensed their presence. However, due to the massive herd behind them charging forward, they just dismissed the thought and flowed along with the herd. This showed that the stronger the beast spirit was, the more sensitive its senses were, so to think that they could always rely on the spiritual array to mask themselves would be overly optimistic.

Once all the beast spirits of the area had moved away, Mu Chen tapped his finger lightly, and the spiritual array surrounding them rapidly dissipated. He then lifted his gaze towards the distant treetop. There, the leaders Golden Break, Huo Yang, and the rest had dark looks on their faces and were glaring at Mu Chen murderously.

"It seems I've disappointed you..." Mu Chen looked at the dark expressions of Golden Break and the rest with a bright smile on his youthful and handsome face.

"Hehe, I didn't know a Spiritual Array Master was among you. That was a surprise." Golden Break smiled grimly while glaring at Mu Chen.

Han Shan's gaze was just as malicious. He stared at Golden Break and the rest, and grinned evilly. "I'm afraid that is not the only surprise. It seems this time you won't be able to monopolize the treasure of the Treasure Beast."

"Is that so?" Golden Break lifted his gaze, and his smile had a mocking edge to it. "Han Shan, do you really think that just by clearing this hurdle you can challenge me? Even without the help of the beast spirits, just the few of you cannot possibly turn the tide in your favor."

The alliance between the Golden Lion Clan and the Sirius Clan included around ten Grade Seven Sovereigns, while Mu Chen and the rest had at most only five. In a battle, the clans clearly had the advantage of numbers.

"Well, you could try it out," Han Shan responded in kind, not relenting in the least. While they were outnumbered, they had the advantage in terms of quality. Nine Nether and Ink Blade were masters equal to him in skill, and were considered the *creme de la creme* among the Grade Seven Sovereigns. They were far beyond what ordinary Grade Seven Sovereigns could handle.

Besides, they also had Mu Chen, whose power could not be measured using the normal standards. Even Han Shan would be afraid to face this man who had almost killed Lu Sui with a single blow.

According to his calculations, Mu Chen, despite being a Grade Six Sovereign, could probably take four or five Grade Seven Sovereigns at once without being at a disadvantage.

Golden Break glared at Han Shan coldly, but in the next moment he smiled grimly. "I had long ago heard of the name Han Shan of the Demonic Rhino Clan. It seems today I will finally have the opportunity to experience his power." He staked his claim on Han Shan as his opponent, clearly wanting to stop the latter personally.

"Nine Nether of the Nine Netherbird Clan is mine," Huo Yang of the Sirius Clan said, his ferocious gaze locked on Nine Nether. In their opinion, the only worthy opponents on Han Shan's side were Han Shan, Nine Nether, and Ink Blade. The rest were just minor figures. As for the fellow who had arranged the spiritual array, he was merely a Grade Six Sovereign, so killing him would be easy.

Golden Break inclined his head towards a blonde man behind him and said mildly, "As for the other one, Vajra take someone with you and deal with him." The man he was referring to was clearly Ink Blade.

The man behind Golden Break was as sturdy as a metal tower, and golden rays emanated from his skin. He had made a name for himself in the Golden Lion Clan, though he was still not as powerful as the golden duo. Together with another Grade Seven Sovereign, it would be easy to keep Ink Blade occupied, even if they couldn't beat him.

"Okay!" Vajra grinned, revealing a row of white teeth as he fixed his razor-like gaze on Ink Blade.

Faced with his wolf-like gaze, Ink Blade's expression still remained placid and unaffected.

"Then send another five people to deal with the rest of them," Golden Break said coldly. Apart from Han Shan, Nine Nether, and Ink Blade, the opposing side only had three ordinary Grade Seven Sovereigns. Five men would be enough to deal with them quickly.

Golden Break allocated all of his people with just these few sentences, and looking at it from the surface, this manner of allocation should have been sufficient to defeat Han Shan's party completely.

To Golden Break, the outcome seemed clear.

Golden Break stood with his hands behind his back, his mocking gaze trained towards Han Shan, Nine Nether, and the rest as he said, "If I were you, I would have retreated just now. Despite managing to evade the attacks of the beast spirits, you're still just futilely throwing away your lives."

Beside Golden Break, Huo Yang smiled mockingly and looked pityingly at Han Shan and the rest. Did they truly think it was a joke when he said he liked cooperating with the party with the higher success rate?

The Golden Lion Clan had made thorough preparations this time. They were not something Han Shan could handle.

The minute he finished the allocation, Golden Break transformed into a golden ray with a shake of his body and appeared before Han Shan. His mighty spiritual energy roared, and his murderous gaze, which was like the gaze of a vicious lion, fixed on Han Shan.

"I hope you won't disappoint me too much," Golden Break said mildly.

Wearing a ferocious expression, Han Shan just laughed nastily without saying a word. His mighty spiritual energy suddenly exploded outwards like a volcanic eruption. Behind him, his spiritual energy transformed into the shadow of an ancient demonic rhino, and its viciousness filled the sky.

Just as Golden Break and Han Shan confronted each other, Huo Yang also appeared before Nine Nether. Nine Nether's beautiful eyes scanned him coldly, and without wasting her breath on nonsense, purple fire rose on her jade-like hands.

Whoosh!

Vajra led another Grade Seven Sovereign to appear, flanking Ink Blade. He broke into a wide grin, which made him look simple, but his gaze was incredibly vicious. "You just stay right there."

At the same time, in the other direction, five Grade Seven Sovereigns assembled in fan formation and shot furiously towards Mu Chen, Ink Blade, and the rest, landing in front of them. Their gazes were full of ridicule.

In their opinion, only the three Grade Seven Sovereigns of the Demonic Rhino Clan were worthy of notice. As for Mu Chen and Ink Ring, their Grade Six Sovereign skills were not worthy of notice at all. Realizing this, the three Grade Seven Sovereigns of the Demonic Rhino Clan immediately stepped forward, and their gazes turned fierce.

"Brother Mu, we will handle three of the opposing Grade Seven Sovereigns, the rest we leave to you," a Demonic Rhino Clan master said courteously while looking at Mu Chen. Upon witnessing Mu Chen's battle prowess, he knew very well that any ordinary Grade Seven Sovereigns facing the latter would be bringing about their own doom.

Mu Chen didn't reply. He wasn't looking at the five Grade Seven Sovereigns in front of him, but rather was gazing obscurely in the distance where three men of the Golden Lion Clan and the Sirius Clan were left behind after Golden Break, Huo Yang, and the rest went to battle.

However, the spiritual energy surrounding these three was not strong. They were clearly merely Grade Six Sovereigns, which was probably why Golden Break did not send them to battle.

Mu Chen's sharp gaze brushed past the three, and then he immediately retracted his gaze, his eyes glittering. He waved his hand at the three Grade Seven Sovereigns of the Demonic Rhino Clan and said, "Back away, I will deal with all of them."

Gasp!

When he said those words, not only were the five opposing Grade Seven Sovereigns stunned, but even Ink Ring and the three masters of the Demonic Rhino Clan were startled. They stared at Mu Chen in shock.

He wanted to face the five Grade Seven Sovereigns alone? Even a peak master of Grade Seven Sovereigns would find that hard.

"Tsk, this reckless punk." At the other side, Golden Break jeered, then waved his hand expressionlessly and said, "Kill him." In his opinion, Mu Chen's behavior was clearly just to please the crowds and was exceedingly idiotic.

The five Grade Seven Sovereigns looked at Mu Chen first in wonder, then with pity. Had this fellow been driven mad by the impossible situation before him? It'd be sad if that were so.

Han Shan, Nine Nether, and Ink Blade looked at each other in dismay. While they knew Mu Chen's battle prowess was extraordinary, it would still be difficult for him to take on five Grade Seven Sovereigns. Although they had their doubts, they trusted Mu Chen, so Han Shan gave the three Demonic Rhino Clan masters a nod.

They could only back away with a weird expression on their faces. However, if the situation got out of hand, they could just step in, since with Mu Chen's skills, he wouldn't lose too badly.

The five Grade Seven Sovereigns crossed their arms, not in a hurry to make a move. They just stared at Mu Chen with ridicule in their gazes, as if they were staring at an animal in the zoo.

Ignoring their stares, Mu Chen merely stood still with both eyes closed.

At the other end, Golden Break furrowed his eyebrows when he saw Mu Chen's behavior, sensing vaguely that something was amiss. It suddenly dawned on him, and his expression changed drastically as he said sternly, "Stop him, he is arranging a spiritual array!"

The five Grade Seven Sovereigns who had originally been staring at Mu Chen with amused looks heard this, and their expressions changed drastically as well. Spiritual energy surged within their bodies, ready to burst forth.

Just then, Mu Chen opened his eyes slowly and with a mocking curl of his lips, looked towards the five Grade Seven Sovereigns who were rushing towards him.

"What a bunch of idiots..."

Suddenly, thousands of flashes of spiritual seals flew out from between Mu Chen's fingers and rapidly blended into the air.

Boom boom!

The earth suddenly shook, and the all-encompassing spiritual energy exploded outwards like a storm. With a light tap of his fingers, a soft command slowly rang out from Mu Chen's mouth, "Heavenly Grade Spiritual Array, God's Punishment Array!"