

## Great Ruler 1151

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### Chapter 1151: The Heavenly River Seal

Dong!

Rapid spiritual energy shockwaves raged in the Heavenly River. The shockwaves inflicted fear on those who had just stepped into the Peak of Grade Nine, as they knew that they would die if they were hit by the shockwaves. They could see the power of Mu Chen's combat force, even though he had just stepped into Grade Nine...

The top powers were amazed. They lifted up their heads and looked at the fierce fight. Two huge Sovereign Celestial Bodies with majestic spiritual energy were attacking each other as the horrifying spiritual energy blows whizzed out.

This level of attack was earth-shattering, and it used up a great deal of spiritual energy. When Xia Yu realized that he could not defeat Mu Chen speedily, he had changed tactics by using up the spiritual energy. He was after all, a Complete Grade Nine and was only a step away from Earthly Sovereign. His spiritual energy was richer than Mu Chen's. He believed that as long as he could persist, Mu Chen's spiritual energy would soon be used up.

He had planned it well, but as the fierce fight continued, he realized that the Great Solar Undying Body remained bright. Its spiritual energy was like an endless ocean. Mu Chen's spiritual energy was overflowing and was not inferior to his.

"How can this be!" Xia Yu turned pale. He did not know that Mu Chen had incorporated the Undying Flame into his spiritual energy so that he could enjoy a continuous flow of spiritual energy. Xia Yu had made the wrong move in trying to dry up Mu Chen's spiritual energy.

This guy's Sovereign Celestial Body is too powerful. His physique and Celestial Body are amazing. If I want to kill him, I have to separate him from his Celestial Body and kill them individually!

Xia Yu was an extraordinary person. He had found a way to turn the tables. Mu Chen was able to contend with him, even though he had just stepped into Grade Nine, due to his mysterious Celestial Body. As long as he could separate Mu Chen from his mysterious Celestial Body, Xia Yu believed that he would be able to kill Mu Chen. However, he was hesitant about it, as he had intended to use the means on Garuda. If he used it now, Garuda would find out and be alerted.

After hesitating for a while, Xia Yu decided to go ahead with it. As long as he could capture Mu Chen and find out the cultivation method for the mysterious Celestial Body, it would be worth it.

Hoof.

After Xia Yu had made up his mind, he looked viciously at Mu Chen. He bit his tongue and spat out a mouthful of fresh blood. The blood gathered before him, and a dim light exuded from it.

When the dim light appeared, it speedily spread out and formed a black royal seal. Mountains and rivers were carved on it, and as a rich energy exuded from it, the space cracked, as it was unable to bear its weight.

Many top powers shouted as they saw the black royal seal. "Is that... the national treasure of the Great Xia Dynasty, the Heavenly River Seal?"

"How can it be? The Heavenly River Seal is a Middle Grade Sacred Object, and only the Earthly Sovereigns can activate it. Only Emperor Xia has it. How could he possibly have given it to Xia Yu? If it has been stolen, the Great Xia Dynasty will be in deep trouble!" Some of the top powers could not believe it.

After pondering for a while, some top powers, who were observant and experienced, said, "That is not the real Heavenly River Seal! It must be the mini Heavenly River Seal that Xia Yu has cultivated. I have heard that there is a restriction to the number of times it can be used. Its power is comparable to a Lower Sacred Object!"

"Even if this is an imitation, it is powerful. Xia Yu seems determined to kill Mu Chen. He has even used this trump card," someone exclaimed. This move was apparently Xia Yu's trump card, but he had decided to use it on Mu Chen.

Mu Chen looked at the black royal seal and turned grave. So, is this the imitation of the Great Xia Dynasty's national treasure, the Heavenly River Seal?

Xia Yu had indeed some trump cards!

"You should be proud of yourself that you are able to make me use this!" Xia Yu looked at Mu Chen somberly. In the next instant, he formed a seal with his hands. The black seal shook, and the runes on its surface came to life. The cry of a nation could be heard, and it seemed to hold the power of the universe.

"Heavenly River Seal, Heavenly River Barrier!"

Xia Yu flicked his fingers on the royal seal, and there were buzzing sounds. The top powers then saw the picture on the royal seal shoot out and form a shapeless barrier. It came down from the heavens and covered the Great Solar Undying Body.

When the barrier moved over him, Mu Chen noticed that he had lost touch with the Great Solar Undying Body. His spiritual energy immediately weakened. Mu Chen turned grave. The barrier had come too suddenly, and although he was on guard, the barrier had gone past his defenses and had covered the Great Solar Undying Body.

Is this sacred object specially made to deal with the Sovereign Celestial Body? Mu Chen was shocked. This was the first time that he had encountered such a sacred object. The Heavenly River Seal was indeed powerful. One could use it to seal up the opponent's Sovereign Celestial Body and have the upper hand.

No wonder Emperor Xia was so reputable in Tianluo Continent. He had such a powerful sacred object... the imitation was powerful enough. One could not imagine the power of the genuine Heavenly River Seal.

"Mu Chen, it is now too late for regrets!" Xia Yu said as he looked at Mu Chen, who was looking somber. There was no escape for Mu Chen now.

Light flashed in Mu Chen's eyes. Although the situation had changed, he was not alarmed. The Heavenly River Seal was indeed powerful, but he had the Divine Wind Fan. He could use it to counter the Heavenly River Barrier.

However, Mu Chen did not do it immediately. After all, the Divine Wind Fan was his trump card, and he had no intention of using it. He wanted to use it to deal with Garuda.

Boom!

While Mu Chen was still thinking, Xia Yu had struck. He stomped his feet, and spiritual light burst out from his Great Heavenly King Celestial Body. Vast spiritual energy flowed into Xia Yu's body, and he expanded and looked like a small giant. Spiritual runes protruded from his body, and there was a horrifying fluctuation.

Crunch.

Xia Yu slowly clenched his fists, and there was a grating sound. He looked at Mu Chen and smiled viciously. Mu Chen had lost the power from his Sovereign Celestial Body, but Xia Yu could tap into his Great Heavenly King Celestial Body. This had caused a great disparity in the amount strength between the two of them.

The winner had emerged.

Bang!

Xia Yu smiled viciously and shot up. He turned into a streamer and shot toward Mu Chen. Afterimages were formed along the way, and he was so fast that there were screeching sounds.

"Heavenly King Punch!" Xia Yu shouted. He punched out, and a vast spiritual energy spurted out. He was now like a sun with horrifying spiritual energy suppression. A face with authority like a Heavenly King appeared above the sun.

Horrifying oppression came down on Mu Chen, causing prickly pain. The spirits of the real dragon and real phoenix squirmed around and roared. Apparently, they had sensed danger. If Mu Chen was hit by the punch, he would be seriously injured, even though he had a strong physique.

The top powers looked on with pity as they saw that Mu Chen would be killed.

The Heavenly King Punch was coming near Mu Chen, and death was knocking on his door. His eyes narrowed but surprisingly, he stayed put and did not move away.

"Are you too stunned!" Xia Yu mocked him when he saw it.

Mu Chen ignored him and felt the breath of death coming to him. He slowly shut his eyes as though he would no longer retaliate.

"He has given up." Many top powers sighed. After Mu Chen had lost his Sovereign Celestial Body, he should know that he was unable to contend with Xia Yu.

Just as they were having such thoughts, Mu Chen suddenly opened his eyes. His dark eyes appeared bloodshot. An indescribable killing intent gathered crazily in Mu Chen's body. Once again, he felt the

breath of death under Xia Yu's destructive punch. The only way to turn the tables in a deadly situation was to find a way out of the impasse!

Mu Chen clenched his fists, and immense killing intent burst out from his body. It seemed to have turned the water in the Heavenly River red. Mu Chen lifted up his fists and slowly punched out. Although it was a simple punch, the water in the Heavenly River exploded at the punch.

The Sacrifice Self to be Spellbound aura shot up to the sky.

Sacrifice my demonic body and destroy the past and the present!

Self-Sacrificing Demonic Fist!

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1152: The Power of the Demonic Fis**

Boom! Boom! Boom!

A majestic killing intent burst out from Mu Chen's body, polluting the water in the river. The water turned red in an instant.

When the top powers saw this from afar, they were shocked. They could feel their blood boiling and they started to lose control of themselves, a killing intent overtaking their hearts.

"What an overbearing killing intent!" one of the top powers exclaimed. They were all shocked when they noticed it.

"What is this that Mu Chen has cultivated? Why does it have such a horrifying killing intent?" another top power looked at Mu Chen, dumbfounded.

Soon, all of the powerful top powers were freaking out in excitement...

"It is a Super Power!"

"Has he successfully cultivated a Super Power Technique?"

The Super Power Techniques were formidable, but only the Earthly Sovereigns could successfully cultivate them. Even if ordinary people managed to obtain them, they would not be able to cultivate them. Thus, when they saw that Mu Chen had displayed a Super Power Technique, they were taken aback.

Even Xia Yu was stunned. He turned pale when he noticed the strong killing intent, then looked at Mu Chen with fear.

They had Super Power Techniques in the Great Xia Dynasty, which Xia Yu had read about, so he knew how difficult it was for a Grade Nine Sovereign to display such a technique. Till now, he had not successfully cultivated a Super Power Technique himself.

"Mu Chen is truly talented. Today, I must kill him!" Xia Yu gritted his teeth, a cold light surging in his eyes.

He wanted to kill Mu Chen, as Mu Chen's talent and potential filled him with fear. Also, he was an enemy of the Great Xia Dynasty, so Xia Yu had to kill him before he grew even stronger!

"Let me see how powerful your Super Power is!" Xia Yu shouted.

He had sealed up Mu Chen's Sovereign Celestial Body, so he knew that Mu Chen should be at his weakest. Even if he had displayed a Super Power Technique, the power would still be restricted.

As for Xia Yu, he had his Great Heavenly King Celestial Body to help him, which should be more than enough to suppress Mu Chen. As Xia Yu thought of that, he threw out a Heavenly King Punch toward Mu Chen. As he did so, light burst out and destructive waves shot forth.

Mu Chen fixed his gaze on the Heavenly King Punch, looking indifferent. He was now in the Self-sacrificing State. As such, even if a Heavenly Sovereign was before him, he would not hesitate to put his life on the line.

If one was not in the Self-sacrificing State when using the Self-sacrificing Demonic Fist, he would not be able to display it or bring out its full force. Thus, when Mu Chen displayed it, he had to be ready to give up his life.

Mu Chen slowly threw out a punch, and the world suddenly became still in his eyes. Other than the black gas that was circling around his fists, there was nothing special about his punch. In fact, from the looks of it, Xia Yu's Heavenly King Punch looked far superior to Mu Chen's punch.

However, Mu Chen was oblivious to that. He slowly threw out his punch, which hit hard against the Heavenly King Punch that had just come down from the heavens.

The Heavenly King Punch was huge and had spiritual light that swirled above it. It also had the face of the majestic Heavenly King on it. Any ordinary top powers would be terrified by such a blow.

As compared to the huge Punch, Mu Chen's fist was like an ant. There was a vast difference between the two. However, just as they were about to hit each other, visible ripples of energy swirled out.

Xia Yu was taken aback by the sudden turn of events. This was because, when his Punch and Mu Chen's fist hit each other, Mu Chen remained immovable! His fist was like a rock, as it remained completely stationary!

However, the overwhelming punch started to shake crazily. The fearless aura of the Sacrifice Self to be Spellbound exuded from the little fist onto Xia Yu's heart, causing his heart to shake.

He then looked faintly at Mu Chen. He knew from Mu Chen's aura that he had determined to put his life on the line.

"Crazy fella!" Xia Yu muttered. He was obviously shocked by Mu Chen's insanity.

After all, he had never thought of putting his own life at risk in this fight. Besides, he was the Prince of the Great Xia Dynasty, so he would not be silly enough to give up everything just to fight Mu Chen!

In fact, nothing was more important to him than his own life. With this in mind, Xia Yu immediately wanted to retreat. He did not want to fight this lunatic! However, it was too late now...

Crack!

Fine cracks suddenly appeared on the Heavenly King Punch, then speedily spread out. In split seconds, the punch was completely filled with cracks.

Bang!

The punch, which contained Xia Yu's consolidated power, exploded and turned into spiritual energy light spots. The top powers dropped their jaws when they saw the light spots.

Xia Yu, who was bearing the brunt of it all, was badly injured. Mu Chen's punch that contained his Self-sacrificing aura had not only hit his heart, but had utterly destroyed his fighting spirit!

Splat.

Xia Yu spewed out a mouthful of blood and flew backward, the majestic spiritual energy in him dwindling instantly. When Mu Chen hit the Heavenly King Punch, he did not stop there, but stepped forward and appeared before Xia Yu. He then threw out another punch at Xia Yu's chest.

It was a simple punch, but the killing intent and fighting desire behind it engulfed Xia Yu like the God of Death. This caused great fear to fill Xia Yu's heart. He knew that, if he was hit by the punch, he would definitely die!

"Heavenly River Seal, Heavenly River Barrier!" Xia Yu yelled.

During this life-and-death situation, Xia Yu had to use his Heavenly River Seal. He activated its last usage, summoning the Heavenly River Seal to appear before him like a barrier.

Boom!

As Mu Chen's fists hit on the Heavenly River Barrier, blood shot out from them. His flesh tore, but he was not bothered by it. Instead, he looked indifferent and continued to punch mercilessly.

Boom! Boom!

Mu Chen hit hard on the Heavenly River Barrier, completely disregarding the blood that was spurting out from his fists. He simply stared at Xia Yu with his red eyes and continued to punch crazily.

"Crazy fella!" Xia Yu was shocked by Mu Chen's crazy attacks. He quickly shouted, "Mu Chen, you win! I admit defeat! I will retreat immediately!"

Although Mu Chen had activated the Super Power Technique, he knew that it would not last forever, so he would become weak soon. Xia Yu would then take the opportunity to kill him.

Boom! Boom!

However, to Xia Yu's great surprise, Mu Chen ignored him! Mu Chen remained expressionless and continued to punch on, even though his fists were badly injured. Xia Yu was now truly fearful of Mu Chen.

Bang!

As Mu Chen continued to punch, the Heavenly River Barrier finally could not take the blows. With a loud bang, it broke into pieces.

Splat!

Xia Yu spit out a mouthful of blood when he saw the Heavenly River Barrier smashed into pieces. He then turned ghastly pale, as he saw Mu Chen lifting up his injured fist...

"Mu Chen, if you kill me, our Great Xia Dynasty will make sure that you pay for it!" Xia Yu shouted.

When Mu Chen heard Xia Yu's threat, he suddenly stopped. Xia Yu was elated. Although Mu Chen was crazy, he still clearly knew the consequences of offending Xia Yu's father.

Just as Xia Yu was about to retreat, Mu Chen fixed his gaze on him with a sneer. "I don't think that your Great Xia Dynasty will stop creating trouble for me if I let you off."

Mu Chen smiled. As he was sure that Emperor Xia would not let him off, especially since he had beaten Xia Yu up so badly, he did not see why he should show any mercy now!

Boom!

Mu Chen looked indifferent. He lifted up his fist that was encircled by the black light and punched out.

Xia Yu was appalled by this action. The spiritual energy in him surged, while he retreated frantically. At the same time, he prepared himself to display his various means of protection.

Bang!

However, Mu Chen wasted no time and punched out. Although the punch was slow, it pierced through the space and hit Xia Yu's head.

The black light then burst out and the space broke into pieces, like a shattered glass. As the space cracked, one could see that Xia Yu's shocked look was filled with resentment!

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1153: The Death of Xia Yu**

Deep within the Heavenly River, when Mu Chen punched out, violent spiritual energy fluctuations instantly dispersed. The Great Heavenly King Celestial Body turned into light spots and dissipated.

As the top powers widened their eyes and looked at the light spots, they were filled with disbelief. "He... he has killed Xia Yu!"

Some of the top powers swallowed hard and looked at Mu Chen with fear. They shuddered at his action.

Xia Yu is the Prince of the Great Xia Dynasty, and he is Emperor Xia's successor!

He is important to Emperor Xia, and if Emperor Xia knows that he has been killed, he will not take it lying down! Will Mu Chen be able to take Emperor Xia's wrath? Apparently not...

Mu Chen looked indifferently at the headless corpse. He had not only blown off Xia Yu's head, but his Self-Sacrificing Demonic Fist had also destroyed Xia Yu's Sovereign Sea...

He had killed Xia Yu.

Mu Chen knew that he would offend the Great Xia Dynasty by killing Xia Yu. However, he had to do so, as Xia Yu was ruthless. If he had let Xia Yu off, once Xia Yu found an opportunity, he would attack Mu Chen with a deadly blow like a venomous snake.

Moreover, Xia Yu was talented. Given some time and the Great Xia Dynasty's resources, he would have stepped into Earthly Sovereign before long. Because of that, Mu Chen figured he might as well kill him. He would not want to have a future Earthly Sovereign eyeing him. Given all these considerations, Mu Chen had to be decisive and kill the successor of the Great Xia Dynasty.

I am now a great enemy of the Great Xia Dynasty.

As Mu Chen looked at the light spots, his eyes glittered. Emperor Xia was the overlord of part of the Tianluo Continent. If he were to attack Mu Chen, Mu Chen would be in great trouble. Fortunately, Mu Chen had Mandela to back him up, thus he was not afraid of him.

"Looks like I have to help Mandela find her actual body." Mu Chen curled up his lips. Emperor Xia was an Upper Earthly Sovereign, and he most likely had extraordinary combat force. Since he had the Heavenly River Seal with him, a Middle Grade Sacred Object, Mandela might not win if she stepped in. Moreover, she had an enemy that she had to deal with, the Master of Saint Demon Palace.

To make sure that nothing went wrong, Mu Chen had to help Mandela find her actual body. Once she merged together with her actual body, her strength would return to Complete Earthly Sovereign. By then, she would be at the top in the entire Tianluo Continent. Moreover, although Mandela was his friend, he could not always expect her to clean up his messes for him. He had to do something for her in return. Thus, he had to help Mandela get her actual body back.

As Mu Chen thought of this, he lifted up his head and looked into the distance. The black royal seal, which was the imitation of the Heavenly River Seal, was hanging in the air. Mu Chen stretched out his hand and took it. He was interested in this treasure that could separate a person from their Sovereign Celestial Body. If he had not successfully displayed the Self-Sacrificing Demonic Fist, he would have had to use the Divine Wind Fan to counter it.

Mu Chen held the black royal seal and probed it with his senses. He frowned as he realized that the spiritual energy in it had been used up. If he wanted to activate it, he would have to spend much time and spiritual energy on it.

He put the imitation Heavenly River Seal away. Although the spiritual energy had been used up, it was an extraordinary object. He might have use for it in the future. After he had put away the Heavenly River Seal, Mu Chen waved his hand, and a Golden Dragon Token Amulet appeared. It had belonged to Xia Yu.

He patted the Golden Dragon Token Amulet, and light beams rose up and hung before him. Clear Heavenly River Crystals were within the light beams. There were about eight of them. Those Heavenly River Crystals must have been found by Xia Yu.

"This guy is pretty efficient..." Mu Chen was shocked as he looked at the eight Heavenly River Crystals. He had to painstakingly set up spiritual arrays to obtain 13 Heavenly River Crystals, and Xia Yu had obtained many as well. In the end, Mu Chen benefited from Xia Yu's efforts.



Mu Chen immediately put away the eight Heavenly River Crystals as the people looked at him covetously. He had a total of 21 Heavenly River Crystals now. Once he had gathered nine more, he would be able to receive the Low Rank Baptism of the Heavenly River.

After putting away his spoils, Mu Chen looked into the distance. Some people were moving toward him now that the aftermath of the fight had dispersed. Mu Chen could feel that they were coveting his spoils.

Although Mu Chen had won the fight, he had used up a great deal of spiritual energy. In order to conserve his spiritual energy, the Great Solar Undying Body had dissipated. Thus, the spiritual energy fluctuation exuded from Mu Chen's body had weakened.

As some top powers noticed that Mu Chen had used up much of his spiritual energy, they started to move toward him in the hope of taking advantage of him. After all, the Heavenly River Seal and the Heavenly River Crystals were appealing.

Mu Chen glanced at these people with evil intentions and entered into the spiritual arrays that he had set up earlier. After he had entered the spiritual array, he flicked his fingers and activated the Nine Dragon Devouring Fairy Array that was in the outer ring. Majestic spiritual energy burst out immediately, and a strong oppression swirled out.

When those who tried to go near Mu Chen noticed the horrifying spiritual array, they turned pale. They felt threatened by the array. "Mu Chen is truly amazing... he has set up such a powerful spiritual array. No wonder Xia Yu dared not enter earlier."

"If Mu Chen had activated the spiritual array during the fight, Xia Yu would have been defeated much earlier."

"Forget it. This fella is not to be trifled with. Let's not offend him..."

"..."

When those top powers who had evil intentions saw it, they sighed and moved away. Mu Chen was extremely cautious, leaving no loopholes for them. When Mu Chen saw that they had retreated, he ignored them and sat cross-legged in the spiritual array and tried to get himself back in shape again.

When the top powers who had stayed on saw his actions, they started to leave. After all, they had to make good use of their time and search for Heavenly River Crystals. Should Mu Chen recover and create trouble for them, they would be in a sorry state.

After a few minutes, the area quietened down. The water in the river gushed down and wiped out the trails of the fierce fight that had taken place earlier.

On the other side of the Heavenly River.

When Xia Yu was killed, Zhu Yan squinted and walked away without saying a word, although he was surprised by the outcome.

Xiao Xiao looked at him and laughed. She said, "After I am done with my stuff, I will have some fun with you." Although her laughter was seductive, Zhu Yan knew that the daughter of the Flame Emperor was angry with him for stopping her.

"I will wait for you." Having said that, he nodded and left.

"Mu Chen is really amazing..." Su Qingyin lifted her head and smiled at Nine Nether as she toyed with a red scorpion in her hand. She looked grave at the same time. She had fought with Xia Yu before and knew how powerful he was. She did not have confidence that she was capable of killing Xia Yu, but Mu Chen had done so, and she was disturbed by it.

Nine Nether stared coldly at Su Qingyin, but she could not be bothered to talk to her.

"Hohoho, don't worry. I will not get involved in such things. There are so many of you, and I am scared of you," Su Qingyin said with a smile when she saw that Nine Nether looked unfriendly. She then waved at Nine Nether. After tapping her feet, she was carried away by a green light.

Nine Nether heaved a sigh of relief when she saw that Su Qingyin had left. Su Qingyin was more powerful than she was. Although she could use the Summoning the Wind Technique to deal with her, she would have a hard time.

Fortunately, Mu Chen had won...

Nine Nether lifted up her head to look into the distance, and she smiled.

Garuda looked at the bronze mirror that was before him and saw the scene whereby Mu Chen smashed Xia Yu's head. He then waved his sleeve and put away the bronze mirror. He looked nonchalant and said, "This guy is ruthless."

Although he looked nonchalant, there were some fluctuations deep within him. He was surprised by Mu Chen's combat force.

"If you create trouble for Mu Chen again, he will kill you!" Lin Jing beamed and held the black pearl with the ancient runes in her hand.

When Garuda heard it, he smiled. He crossed his fingers and said, "I will fight with him, and I will definitely kill him."

Lin Jing raised her brows. She then stared at Garuda and said, "In that case, you will die as well."

Garuda frowned, but he did not say another word. He simply shrugged and walked away.

"Maybe..."

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### **Chapter 1154: The 100th Heavenly River Crystal**

Many spiritual arrays appeared near the Heavenly River. Violent spiritual energy fluctuations continued to expand, which stirred up a tidal wave.

Mu Chen sat cross-legged within the spiritual arrays and opened his eyes. Light flashed across his dark eyes, and the spiritual energy around him was like a dragon that had been awakened, lofty and frightening.

My spiritual energy has forged ahead.

When Mu Chen sensed that his spiritual energy had become stronger, he smiled. His fierce fight with Xia Yu had clearly helped his spiritual energy to forge ahead. As such, he figured that he should be at Peak of Grade Nine Sovereign now, which surprised him.

As his body had now returned to its top form, Mu Chen stood up and looked around. The bustling region had quietened down, as all of the people who had tried to take advantage of him had left.

Time is running out. I must get ahold of the Heavenly River Crystals! Mu Chen reminded himself of his current goal. After all, the Baptism of the Heavenly River was the most important thing now!

He then looked at the surrounding spiritual arrays and started to revamp them. After about an hour, he clapped his hands, looking pleased.

He had added several more spiritual arrays around him and was overwhelmed by their power. If a Complete Grade Nine Sovereign had barged into this Spiritual Array Pit, he would be seriously injured.

After setting up the Spiritual Array Pit, Mu Chen set up a Spirit Convergence Array at its center. The grade of the Spirit Convergence Array was higher than the previous arrays, meaning that it would be more efficient for gathering spiritual energy.

After Mu Chen finished his preparations, he moved a safe distance away. He then used a spiritual array to hide his spiritual energy fluctuation and waited patiently.

At this time, the vast Heavenly River was bustling. People were moving around, each searching for the Heavenly River Spirit.

In the beginning, many top powers had underestimated the power of the Heavenly River Spirit, which caused them to pay a high price. Some unlucky ones had their Disciple Token Amulets smashed and their bodies dissolved in the water of the Heavenly River!

When the top powers realized that the Heavenly River Spirits were tough nuts to crack, those who had not reached Complete Grade Nine chose to join forces. Their plan was to surround the Heavenly River Spirits and catch them.

However, they became less efficient, which was a problem when it came to apportioning the power. Thus, they were afraid that they might end up killing one another!

Those who were extra powerful worked alone, going deep into the Heavenly River, and when they found the Heavenly River Spirit, they got into a big fight, creating tidal waves. Time passed quickly, as these activities continued to repeat themselves.

Boom!

The Nine Dragon Devouring Fairy Array roared within the spiritual arrays. The huge dragon rose up and turned into a majestic light, hitting hard on one of the Heavenly River Spirits. After the Heavenly River Spirit had been hit, its lights dimmed. It then turned into a dazzling crystal and dropped to the ground.

Mu Chen stretched out his hand and caught the Heavenly River Crystal, smiling happily.

After an entire day, he had collected 62 Heavenly River Crystals!

Mu Chen believed that, with this amount of Heavenly River Crystals, he should be able to achieve one of the top three spots! He had used the convenience of the spiritual arrays to get his gains.

However, Mu Chen believed that Xiao Xiao, Lin Jing, Zhu Yan and Garuda had their means of doing the same. Thus, he was not so arrogant as to pronounce himself as number one.

I should be able to get the High Rank Baptism with 62 Heavenly River Spirits! Mu Chen thought and licked his lips.

Since he had the help of the Spiritual Array Pit, he decided to try to get even more. In fact, he was going to try to get 100 Heavenly River Crystals! This way, he could receive the Perfect Baptism of the Heavenly River!

Let's go for it! Mu Chen waved his sleeve and activated the spiritual arrays again. After that, another day passed by...

Boom!

Vast spiritual energy surged in the spiritual arrays as they attacked a Heavenly River Spirit that had been trapped within it. Every time a Heavenly River Spirit was hit, the light around it would dim.

Mu Chen stood outside the spiritual energy and looked at the Heavenly River Spirit's dimming light. Although he was self-composed, he could not help but smile.

He had a total of 99 Heavenly River Crystals with him now, and this one that had just been trapped would be the 100th! He had heard that, if he had 100 Heavenly River Crystals, he would be able to receive the Perfect Baptism of the Heavenly River!

"This Perfect Baptism of the Heavenly River is not so difficult to achieve after all." Mu Chen smiled, then suddenly started to frown, as he felt that something was amiss.

Specifically, the Perfect Baptism of the Heavenly River seemed too easy to achieve. Although he had the help of the Spiritual Array Pit, Mu Chen believed that, during the Primordial Age, the talented disciples in the Ancient Celestial Palace would have thought of using similar means.

Why are there so few disciples who have received the Perfect Baptism of the Heavenly River?

Mu Chen frowned and could not think of a reason. However, this was not the time to brood over it. He had to first get the 100th Heavenly River Crystal! He came back to himself and activated the spiritual array to release its power.

Buzz.

After a long while, the Heavenly River Spirit dimmed and turned into a Heavenly River Crystal. Mu Chen caught it as it fell to the ground. He then cast the 100th Heavenly River Crystal toward the Golden Dragon Token Amulet at his feet.

The Heavenly River Crystals were so amazing and special, one could only use the Golden Dragon Token Amulet to store them. Once 100 Heavenly River Crystals had been stored in the amulet, one could then receive the Perfect Baptism of the Heavenly River.

Bang!

The Heavenly River Crystal shot toward the Golden Dragon Token Amulet, but as it hit the amulet, something unexpected happened. The Heavenly River Crystal did not enter the amulet, but was instead repelled and sent flying back to Mu Chen.

"What happened?" Mu Chen was stunned. He looked at the Golden Dragon Token Amulet at his feet and could not understand why the 100th Heavenly River Crystal had been repelled.

Something is not right. Mu Chen frowned. If he was unable to get the 100th Heavenly River Crystal into the Golden Dragon Token Amulet, he could only receive a High Rank Baptism.

Generally speaking, the Golden Dragon Token Amulet should not reject the Heavenly River Crystal. Could it be that this is not a genuine Heavenly River Crystal? If so, where did the 100th Heavenly River Crystal come from?

After pondering for a while, Mu Chen stamped his feet and the Golden Dragon Token Amulet shook. Multiple light beams flew out and hung before him. These were the 99 Heavenly River Crystals that he had caught.

Mu Chen stretched out his hand and formed a beam with his spiritual energy, which covered the 99 Heavenly River Crystals. He looked at them and observed their changes. He believed that there must be a way to obtain the 100th Heavenly River Crystal, but he did not yet know how...

As Mu Chen gazed at the 99 Heavenly River Crystals, they simply hung suspended in the beam, not moving at all. Mu Chen suddenly turned pale. Is there truly a Perfect Baptism? Since the Ancient Celestial Palace is no longer around, does that mean that there is a defect in the Baptism of the Heavenly River?

Boom!

As Mu Chen was deep in thought, the Heavenly River suddenly quaked. A strange fluctuation then appeared above the Heavenly River.

Mu Chen froze. This was the fluctuation of the Baptism of the Heavenly River, which meant that someone had activated the Baptism of the Heavenly River.

Boom! Boom!

After the first baptism, the strange fluctuations continued. Apparently, more and more people were receiving the Baptism of the Heavenly River.

As the Baptism of the Heavenly River continued to take place, Mu Chen felt that the water in the Heavenly River started to exude an extra bouncy buoyancy. In fact, it seemed to be rejecting the people in the water, causing them to bounce backwards.

It is about time. Mu Chen was excited. The hour had come for the Heavenly River to open up.

However, he had still not obtained the 100th Heavenly River Crystal! Mu Chen pursed his lips together and stared at the 99 Heavenly River Crystals. Suddenly, he squinted his eyes, then frowned. He had noticed that, when the Heavenly River Crystals came together, some were brighter than the rest.

It looked as though some of the Heavenly River Crystals had devoured the energy of the other Heavenly River Crystals! As the change was very subtle, Mu Chen had not noticed it earlier.

Could they have devoured one another?

Could the 100th Heavenly River Crystal have come from within one of the 99 Heavenly River Crystals?

Shall I go for it?

Mu Chen found himself in a dilemma. If he had made a wrong speculation, his previous efforts would come to naught, and he did not have the time to start all over again!

Mu Chen found it difficult to make a decision. However, he was a decisive person.

He suddenly looked resolved. The High Rank Baptism and the Perfect Baptism were not about the levels. If he could receive the latter, it would help him breakthrough to the Earthly Sovereign-level.

In this case, he would have to take the chance! So, Mu Chen stopped hesitating and wiped across the 99 Heavenly River Crystals with his palm, leaving a mark on each of them. After he was done with that, he waved his sleeve.

The 99 Heavenly River Crystals flew out and fell into the water, absorbing the majestic spiritual energy in the water like a whale. Within split seconds, a dazzling light burst out.

The 99 Heavenly River Crystals had turned into a humongous Heavenly River Spirit and appeared within the spiritual arrays like stars! When the 99 Heavenly River Spirits appeared together, the spiritual energy was so overwhelming, even Mu Chen was taken aback.

Mu Chen shot up to the sky and flew out of the Heavenly River, as there was no reason for him to stay any longer. If his presumption was correct, he would now be able to retrieve the Heavenly River Crystals that he had left his mark on.

If he was wrong, he would not be able to receive even a Low Rank Baptism. Thus, he had taken a big gamble!

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1155: Made a Scapegoat**

Swish.

After Mu Chen shot out of the Heavenly River, he stepped on the Golden Dragon Token Amulet that was floating on the surface of the water and looked out. The area was bustling as people continuously dashed out from the water in the Heavenly River.

Is that the Baptism of the Heavenly River?

The moment Mu Chen appeared, he fixed his gaze on a person who was stepping on a Token Amulet. Light burst out from the Token Amulet, and light spots shot up into the sky. Each light spot contained pure and vast spiritual energy. Apparently, the light spots were the Heavenly River Crystals, and there were about 20 of them. Judging from the quantity, it should be a Low Rank Baptism of the Heavenly River.

The man looked pleased with this level of baptism. After all, it was difficult to obtain the Heavenly River Crystals. Even a Complete Grade Nine Sovereign would have to put in much effort to obtain 20 of them.

Buzz. Buzz.

The Heavenly River Crystals shot up into the sky and gathered together to form a large light beam. The light beam formed a bridge to connect the Heavenly River and the void. The man was standing on the bridge.

Swash! Swash!

A big wave curled up above the man and formed a large whirlpool. Vast pure spiritual energy was compressed in the whirlpool, and after it exploded, it turned into raindrops and rained down from the sky.

These were not ordinary raindrops. They were green in color and possessed great vitality and spiritual energy. Each drop was comparable to thousands of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid droplets.

The man who had triggered the Low Rank Baptism was elated. He immediately activated his Sovereign Celestial Body and opened his arms to allow the raindrops to scour his Sovereign Celestial Body.

Buzz!

The raindrops seeped into his Sovereign Celestial Body, and light burst out from it. His spiritual energy then increased at an amazing speed. Green light surfaced on the Sovereign Celestial Body and covered it up like a film. Although the film was thin, Mu Chen and the rest knew that this layer of green light had greatly enhanced the power of the man's Sovereign Celestial Body!

After the man had received the baptism and was cleansed, his skin glowed, and his physique was enhanced.

"Hahaha, the Baptism of the Heavenly River is indeed amazing!" As the man perceived the changes in his Sovereign Celestial Body, he laughed aloud and was filled with joy. Apparently, he was pleased with the baptism.

Many top powers looked at him, and they were shocked at the increase of his power. They yearned to try it out as well! The Baptism of the Heavenly River was indeed remarkable!

A Low Rank Baptism has such a great effect! Mu Chen was shocked. They could see a great difference in the man's power due to the man's weak foundation. However, it was, after all, a Low Rank Baptism. There was still the High Rank Baptism and Perfect Baptism, though Mu Chen doubted the latter's existence.

Boom! Boom!

More and more rays of light shot up into the sky, and there was a great commotion. More and more top powers started to trigger the Baptism of the Heavenly River. All the baptisms were Low Rank Baptisms, but due to the difference in the number of Heavenly River Crystals, there was still a difference in the power.

"Oh? Is there a High Rank Baptism?" As Mu Chen watched the numerous baptisms, his gaze suddenly froze. A large light beam shot up into the sky from afar, and it contained high energy. It surpassed the rest of the baptisms and attracted the attention of the people.

Mu Chen squinted to look at the man and found him familiar. He was Qin Jingzhe, whom Mu Chen had met before at the Dragon Entrance Gate. He used to be ranked number five on the List of Powerhouses.

Around 70 Heavenly River Crystals shot out from the Token Amulet that was under his feet. This quantity was more than the quantity that the rest of them possessed. This quantity would naturally trigger the High Rank Baptism that was yet to be seen.

When Qin Jingzhe triggered the baptism, the scene was majestic. Vast amounts of light turned into a stream. It cut across the sky and flowed into his head as the sound of water accompanied it.

Qin Jingzhe did not summon his Sovereign Celestial Body. However, everyone could tell that the sword sense that exuded from his body had become sharper. It was so sharp that it slashed apart the space that was around him. It seemed to be feeding the sword sense that was in his body. As the sword sense was scoured by the stream of water, it became sharper.

When the last drop of water entered Qin Jingzhe's head, he opened his eyes. The sword aura shot out from his eyes and created a long sword mark on the ground. The spiritual energy fluctuation that burst out from Qin Jingzhe's body was amazing. It had brought his level up to Complete Grade Nine!

"Qin Jingzhe has had a breakthrough!" Many top powers were shocked. Qin Jingzhe was at the Peak of Grade Nine previously, but now, he had stepped into Complete Grade Nine!

They were envious of him. Once he reached Complete Grade Nine, he would have the chance to get into the Earthly Sovereign-level. If he became an Earthly Sovereign, he would become a master and be well-known.

There was a disparity between Sovereign-level and Earthly Sovereign-level. Once one became a Sovereign in the Great Thousand World, he would be known as a top power. However, an Earthly Sovereign could become an overlord. He could set up his own sect and build his influence in the Tianluo Continent.

The Heavenly River was indeed the root of the Ancient Celestial Palace.

"Oh?" Mu Chen suddenly froze. He tilted his head and saw some people appearing on the surface of the water. The Golden Dragon Token Amulets under their feet were dazzling, and the top powers who were watching Qin Jingzhe shifted their gazes toward them.

When the top powers saw these people, they became excited and were filled with anticipation. They were the top powers among the younger generation in the Tianluo Continent. Zhu Yan, Garuda, and Su Qingyin were among them.

Three ladies appeared on the other side at the same time. They were Xiao Xiao, Lin Jing, and Nine Nether. When they appeared, they caught everyone's attention. However, the ladies ignored the people and fixed their gazes on Mu Chen in the distance.



They waved at Mu Chen, but they did not go near him. After all, all of them wanted to trigger the Baptism of the Heavenly River, and it would be better to keep a distance from one another so that there would be no interference.

Zhu Yan looked at Mu Chen and did not say a word, but Su Qingyin looked on with interest. As for Garuda, he smiled as he looked at Mu Chen and said, "Hohoho, Brother Mu is here. I have heard nothing from Xia Yu. You must have killed him. You are so amazing."

The people gasped when they heard what Garuda had said. They then looked at Mu Chen in disbelief. Apparently, not many people had heard about the fierce fight between Mu Chen and Xia Yu.

"Has Mu Chen killed Xia Yu? How can this be!?" The top powers were stunned. Even Qin Jingzhe, who had just stepped into Complete Grade Nine, looked shocked. He had thought of having a duel with Xia Yu after his breakthrough, but he had not expected Xia Yu to be killed by Mu Chen.

"No...impossible!" Xia Hong, who was on one side of the Heavenly River, looked ghastly pale. The top powers of the Great Xia Dynasty who were behind him broke out in a cold sweat. They were filled with fear when they looked at Mu Chen, as though they had seen a spirit. They knew that Xia Yu would be fighting Mu Chen at the Heavenly River. However, instead of killing Mu Chen, Xia Yu had been killed by him.

Mu Chen remained indifferent as the people stared at him. He glanced at Garuda and felt that he had ill intentions.

"If you are interested, you can try it for yourself," Mu Chen said flatly.

Garuda smiled and said, "It is not a good time now. Moreover, you are not simple. You are able to get help from powerful people outside Tianluo Continent, and it looks like these people have benefitted from the Ancient Celestial Palace." As he made such a comment, he glanced at Xiao Xiao and Lin Jing. What he meant was obvious.

When the top powers heard it, their expressions changed, and they looked warily at Mu Chen, Xiao Xiao, and Lin Jing.

"This guy is so evil!" Nine Nether turned cold. She looked angrily at Garuda, as she knew that he was trying to make the top powers isolate Mu Chen and treat him like an enemy of Tianluo Continent.

However, Mu Chen ignored the wary looks of the people. He simply smiled and said, "The Ancient Celestial Palace has been left behind by the people of old. The elders of the Ancient Celestial Palace passed on while protecting the Great Thousand World from the Extraterritorial Race. What they have left behind belongs to the Great Thousand World. Now, you have made use of the opportunities that they have left behind to sow discord in the Great Thousand World. Your behavior is no different from the Extraterritorial demons'."

When the top powers heard what Mu Chen had said, they immediately felt ashamed of themselves. He had made a justifiable comment. Whoever dared to speak against him would be helping the Extraterritorial demons break up the Great Thousand World. Not only Garuda, but a Heavenly Sovereign would get himself into hot soup by doing so.

Some of the top powers looked at one another and then at Garuda, who had turned pale. They sighed, for Garuda had been made a scapegoat.

"Mu Chen is truly ruthless..."

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1156: Sense**

Above the Heavenly River, a furore arose. Garuda's face was completely void of its usual calm.

He had not expected that Mu Chen would read his intentions so easily. Moreover, Mu Chen even described the situation nonchalantly, which was unbearable!

In the Great Thousand World, extraterritorial clans and spiritual beings were archenemies. However, any past feuds and rivalries were nothing compared to the apocalyptic crisis they were facing right now!

As such, anyone related to the extraterritorial clans instantly became the public enemy of the Great Thousand World! Of course, Mu Chen's words alone were enough to shame Garuda.

"You deserved it!" Nine Nether felt satisfied, looking at Garuda's sick face. She could not but laugh out loud.

Although he was shamed, Garuda recovered quickly, ignoring the many sardonic gazes around him. Instead, his eyes locked onto Mu Chen.

He then slowly said, "Brother Mu is sharp-tongued. But, do your capabilities match up with your tongue?" Though his tone was calm, anyone could feel the killing intent hidden deep within his words.

"You will have to see for yourself." Mu Chen smiled nonchalantly.

They locked eyes, and faintly, an icy aura surged around them, exuding a terrifying killing intent. This shocked many powerful individuals who were present, as they obviously had not been aware of their feud.

"Hehe, if you gentlemen do not intend to fight, kindly leave, so that we can continue our baptism." When they were about to draw their swords, a lazy laugh echoed from afar. Many turned their heads to see Su Qingyin. She was looking at the both of them lazily. Although the pair were boasting loudly, she could see that they would not about to fight here.

Cut short by Su Qingyin's chiding voice, Garuda said to Mu Chen with a smile, "It seems like we have to postpone this for a bit."

Mu Chen nodded. "Anytime."

When Su Qingyin saw them both step back, she smacked her lips and stretched her back casually. Then, with a light stomp on her token amulet, an exuberant brilliance swept forth, sending light spots flying toward the sky.

A valiant gust overcame everyone's spiritual energy fluctuations, then gushed out forcibly. This wave even made Qin Jingzhe frown a little, and he could not help from gulping when he saw the light spots. He then exclaimed, "Those are the 90 Heavenly River Spirits!"

Buzz!

The 90 Heavenly River Spirits were floating around Su Qingyin like stars. With a swipe of her hand, the Heavenly River beneath her began to swirl violently, forming a large whirlpool.

Boom!

A huge light beam rose up suddenly from the middle of the whirlpool, reaching to the skies and finally connecting the void. The horizon was then filled with spiritual light. After a few breaths, a crystal clear river flowed out from the light as well.

This river was obviously 10 times greater than Qin Jingzhe's little creek, and it was clearly more pure and strong. Many powerful individuals looked upon the Heavenly River with envious eyes, thinking that, if they were to receive such a baptism, they would certainly be completely transformed!

The river suddenly coiled in a spiral in mid-air, then fell down like a rain shower. However, facing such a rare opportunity, Su Qingyin did not imbue it into her Celestial Body. Instead, she sat down cross-legged in mid-air. At her glabella, a red light spot appeared, with a blood-red silkworm cocoon squirming out of it!

As the crystal clear river fell like rain drops, the water poured onto the blood-red silkworm cocoon, which it absorbed like a bottomless abyss. As it devoured more and more water, runes began to emerge on the cocoon, as well as streaks of cracks!

As the last drop of water dripped onto the cocoon, it was already covered with numerous cracks.

Ka-cha!

As the cocoon completely cracked, a red light burst forth from within it. Under countless gazes, a beautiful blood-red butterfly flew out of the cocoon, fluttering quickly around Su Qingyin.

Every time its wings flapped, a strong spiritual energy fluctuation was emitted. Even Complete Grade Nines would be wary of such fluctuations.

"Is that... Su Qingyin's Life Spiritual Insect?" Mu Chen was a little surprised to see the blood-red butterfly.

It was rumored that every Spirit Bug User had a Life Spiritual Insect. Apparently, these insects could evolve as their masters improved, even sacrificing themselves to protect their masters in life-and-death situations! Thus, having such a Life Spiritual Insect was like having two lives!

Su Qingyin was quick to make the decision to invest in her Life Spiritual Insect instead of strengthening herself through the Heavenly River. So, ultimately, she was able to hatch her Life Spiritual Insect.

Now that she had this Life Spiritual Insect, Su Qingyin's power would definitely rise exponentially. In fact, if she were to take the Dragon Entrance Gate's test again, she would probably be awarded the Golden Dragon Disciple token amulet with ease!

After Su Qingyin's successful baptism, Nine Nether and the rest could wait no longer. Nine Nether was the first to move, as the token amulet beneath her feet shot out 78 Heavenly River Spirits. Although this was less than Su Qingyin's, it exceeded Qin Jingzhe's, and was thus considered decent.

And, if Nine Nether could be considered decent in numbers, then Xiao Xiao and Lin Jing could then focus on impressing everyone on the Heavenly River. The token amulets beneath the both of them emitted a blinding light. Quickly thereafter, clusters of Heavenly River Spirits rose with a howl, surrounding them like stars.

There were surprisingly 99 Spirits! That was officially the pinnacle of a high class baptism!

Mu Chen hummed silently when he saw the Heavenly River Spirits surrounding them. It was clear that even Xiao Xiao and Lin Jing did not know how to obtain a hundred Heavenly River Spirits. Of course, he dared not say that his method was the correct one, as he was only gambling...

Zhu Yan and Garuda looked at the Heavenly River Spirits that were surrounding the girls, their eyes acutely focused. With a stomp, the Heavenly River Spirits rose from beneath their feet as well.

"There are the 99 Heavenly River Spirits!"

"Wow!"

On the Heavenly River, countless exclamations resonated above, uttered by the onlookers. Powerful individuals from various clans were envious of their 99 Heavenly River Spirits, which were sufficient to activate the strongest high class baptism.

"But, why could they only get 99 Spirits?" one onlooker inquired. Many of the people wondered why Zhu Yan and the others were missing one Spirit.

"It seems like the perfect class baptism could not be achieved via the normal methods," another onlooker answered. Then, many powerful individuals understood the theory after some thought. This explained why Zhu Yan, Garuda, Xiao Xiao and others could only obtain 99 Spirits.

Buzzz...

While the crowd was still staring in awe at Zhu Yan's and the others' great number of Heavenly River Spirits, a giant whirlpool was stirring around the river beneath them. Then, a great light beam shot up to the sky! Directly after that, a creek appeared directly above Nine Nether. While the creek was smaller than Su Qingyin's, it exceeded Qin Jingzhe's.

Compared to Nine Nether, the other four's ( Xiao Xiao's, Lin Jing's, Zhu Yan's and Garuda's) could be counted as earth-shattering! The Heavenly River whirlpool beneath them was ten thousand feet in diameter, and spiritual light filled the skies and the earth, turning into four huge lakes.

Within the lakes, spiritual light spread out everywhere. The lakes' pure spiritual energies seemed a little viscous. Their brilliance shone through the lake, transforming into an astonishing spiritual bridge of light.

Many powerful individuals looked at the lakes with dropped jaws. Even Su Qingyin's river seemed modest in comparison.

"Is this the epitome of a high class baptism? What strength!" An onlooker gasped aloud.

Countless powerful people looked on with covetousness in their hearts. If they could accept this baptism, their improvements would be incomparable! However, despite their covetousness, they didn't dare move a single finger in front of the fierce Zhu Yan.

"Why hasn't Mu Chen taken action yet?" As the rest of the crowd was distracted by the high class baptism of Zhu Yan and the others, some of the onlookers noticed that Mu Chen was also stepping on his Golden Dragon token amulet. However, his amulet seemed unusually dim.

"Why do I not feel any fluctuations of the Heavenly River Spirits coming from your token amulet, Brother Mu?" Garuda looked up at his giant lakes of spiritual light, then looked at Mu Chen with a half-hearted smile.

After he had asked this question, many looked at Mu Chen with doubt. On the other hand, Xiao Xiao, Lin Jing, and Nine Nether looked at Mu Chen with worry. They also sensed that nothing was coming from Mu Chen's amulet, not even a single Heavenly River Spirit. This meant that there wasn't a single Heavenly River Spirit in it!

Had there been an accident when Mu Chen was collecting the Heavenly River Spirits?

Some powerful individuals thought of this and could not help but feel satisfied, especially Garuda, who was smiling faintly. But, Mu Chen ignored them, turning his focus instead to silently sense the fluctuations in the depths of the Heavenly River.

As he waited, he clenched his fists tightly. He wasn't sure if his guess would work. If it failed, it would be a devastating defeat.

As time slowly passed, the furor outside the river quelled. Now, he could only feel the movement of water within the depths of the Heavenly River.

Grumble.

At that moment, a strange noise echoed from the depths of the Heavenly River. As Mu Chen opened his eyes again, an overwhelming expression of joy filled his pupils. He could once again sense the seals that he had marked upon the Heavenly River Spirits!

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1157: A Competition of Celestial Bodies**

Mu Chen's glaring eyes showed surprise when a strange response came out from deep beneath the Heavenly River. This was because he realized the imprints he left on those spirits of the Heavenly River had once again showed up in his senses.

However, it seemed that the waveform emitted by the imprints wasn't exactly the same as the ones before. This was because there weren't 99 of these waveforms responding. Instead, there was only one!

Yet, Mu Chen's mind was astonished by the waveform emitted by merely one imprint. If those 99 spirits of the Heavenly River were the sparkling stars, this particular waveform would then be as bright as the sun, enlightening the world with its endless supply of light.

Mu Chen couldn't help but react with a smile as soon as he noticed the changes. His guess was more or less accurate judging by current situation.

It's pretty obvious that the so called 100th spirit of the Heavenly River cannot be obtained with ordinary methods.

Rumble...

While Mu Chen was surprised by the situation, the enormous lake made up entirely of spiritual light located above Zhu Yan, Xiao Xiao, Garuda, and Lin Jing—who were on the Heavenly River's surface—began to shake. The lake began to pour down as it shook, and a gigantic waterfall could be seen descending from the lake as it surrounded them.

The waterfall contained energy with extreme purity so pure that the liquid was in a viscous state, and some shimmering dust could even be vaguely seen throughout the liquid. The dust was known as a form of extremely refined spiritual energy. A droplet alone could perhaps easily outmatch tens of thousands of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid droplets. Besides that, the level of refinement was even more astonishing.

Hence, while such a spiritual light waterfall descended from above, Zhu Yan and the others immediately activated their Sovereign Spiritual Bodies to get ready for the baptism.

Zhu Yan took the lead unveiling his Sovereign Spiritual Body, and majestic flames started to condense on his back, forming a huge fire giant in the blink of an eye. The fire giant was surrounded by overbearing fire which distorted the air, making him look like a Fire God from afar.

"Is this the Fire God Sovereign Spiritual Body Zhu Yan has been practicing? It's said that this is one of many Flame Spirit Clan's guardians, and it's ranked 34th on the list of 99 Sovereign Spiritual Bodies!" Countless voices blasted out into the atmosphere the moment Zhu Yan unveiled his Vulcan-like spiritual body. Nearly all the strong ones were envious of his Sovereign Spiritual Body. This was because the ownership of a Sovereign Spiritual Body with such high ranking was almost unheard of, even among the factions in Tianluo Continent such as the Great Xia Dynasty, further showing its extreme rarity.

Mu Chen was no different. He couldn't help but sigh as he stared at the Fire God Sovereign Spiritual Body behind Zhu Yan. In his estimation, this Fire God Spiritual Body was perhaps powerful enough to rival the Great Solar Undying Body he had been practicing.

After all, despite the Great Solar Undying Body's huge potential, it was just one of the most basic Sovereign Spiritual Bodies. Besides, the Great Solar Undying Body ranked 30th, which was not much higher than the Fire God Spiritual Body.

In the past, when Mu Chen was rather weak, the enormous strength of the Great Solar Undying Body could easily crush any encountered supreme talents with a relatively weak foundation. As the encountered opponents became stronger and stronger, so did the strength of those Sovereign Spiritual Bodies he would be up against. It was conceivable if that continued, perhaps one day he would meet a Sovereign Spiritual Body even more powerful than the Great Solar Undying Body.

When that happened, it may be that he would taste grievances when his Sovereign Spiritual Body was suppressed. Therefore, he must acquire the evolution method from this ancient heavenly palace for the Great Solar Undying Body to prevent this from happening. Only by evolving it again could he maintain this absolute advantage.

While Mu Chen was deep in thought, an overwhelming brilliance was condensing behind Lin Jing. The brilliance felt extremely gentle, as if it could accommodate and fuse with everything.

As the brilliance condensed, it transformed into a giant bright figure. That bright figure had a jade-like color scheme scattered all around, as if it could blend with all things regardless of status. She also held a jade flask in her hand, and a trembling waveform could be vaguely seen flowing out of the opening, as if some horrifying creature was being fed inside.

It startled the strong ones above the Heavenly River for a moment as the Sovereign Spiritual Body appeared. Moments later, as someone finally figured out something, the sound of people gasping for air immediately followed.

"The one Lin Jing has been practicing is actually the God of Jade Spiritual Body, ranked 28th on the list of 99 Sovereign Spiritual Bodies?!" Mu Chen couldn't help but feel shocked, and it was truly reflected on his face.

The God of Jade Spiritual Body was not famous in the Great Thousand World. This was not because it didn't live up to its name, but because of the extremely harsh conditions required to practice it, along with the resources it took to master it. Even so, there was no guarantee of success, even after draining a top faction's worth of resources.

The famous part of the God of Jade Spiritual Body wasn't about its ranking but the singular ability to accommodate all beings. Once an individual mastered the spiritual body, if they ever wanted to practice higher-ranking Sovereign Spiritual Bodies in the future, instead of starting from scratch, they could use the God of Jade Spiritual Body as the foundation. In this case, not only would the speed of practicing the new Sovereign Spiritual Body be faster, but the power output would also have the advantages of both spiritual bodies, which made it truly mysterious. Hence, although the God of Jade Spiritual Body was ranked only 28th, the plasticity it possessed was more than enough to get it a ranking in the top ten or even higher!

"It really is important to have a good father." At this point, even Mu Chen couldn't help but sigh. Perhaps only an existence like the Martial Border and Martial Ancestor could provide Lin Jing all the mandatory conditions to practice the God of Jade Spiritual Body.

Zhu Yan was obviously slightly surprised when he saw the God of Jade Spiritual Body. He quickly took a deep look at Lin Jing. The foundation she had shown shook even him. As a matter of fact, her background must have been terrific and was no weaker than Xiao Xiao's at the very least.

The sight of Garuda was filled with darkness. With no expression on his face, it was hard to tell what he was thinking.

"I wonder which Sovereign Spiritual Body Xiao Xiao could have mastered?" While sensing the waveform from deep beneath the Heavenly River, Mu Chen once again looked at Xiao Xiao. The Sovereign Spiritual Body her father had prepared for her must be something extraordinary since he was the renowned Flame Emperor.

Apparently the legendary Martial Ancestor and Flame Emperor had never come face to face, yet their daughters could be seen competing on behalf of their fathers.

Xiao Xiao's eyes were slightly closed, and behind her there was a colorful light spray. A huge figure had also appeared among the lights. The figure was also slender and was obviously a woman's shape.

However, what surprised people was the colorful snake tail under the woman's waist. The snake's scales shined as if they were some sort of demonic light, stinging people's sight.

"What is that Sovereign Spiritual Body?" Mu Chen once again couldn't help but stare the moment he saw the Sovereign Spiritual Body with the torso of a human and the tail of a snake. It was because as far as he knew, there seemed to be nothing similar to it that could be found on the list of 99 Sovereign Spiritual Bodies.

Evidently, the mysterious Sovereign Spiritual Body Xiao Xiao had mastered wasn't included in the ranking system, but the bizarre fluctuation emitted by that being was so strange, even Mu Chen could sense a slight indication of danger. The power of this spiritual body was perhaps no weaker than the Great Solar Undying Body's.

"Would it be a Sovereign Spiritual Body created by Flame Emperor? If that is the case, Flame Emperor Yan is more fearsome than ever." Mu Chen was slightly amazed as well as slightly surprised.

On the Heavenly River, the hustle and bustle continued. The strong ones were apparently confused by the mysterious Sovereign Spiritual Body Xiao Xiao possessed. However, they weren't aware of Xiao Xiao's identity, and therefore couldn't speculate, so they left it hanging in the end.

It was at this time that Mu Chen turned his slightly sharp gaze toward Garuda. Surprisingly, the latter turned his head toward Mu Chen at the same time. He stared at Mu Chen, and the intent to kill quickly rushed through his eyes. He then chanted and formed a seal with his hand. A vast amount of spiritual energy immediately gathered behind him. The shocking waveform blasted in all directions, causing the surrounding space to oscillate.

Everyone witnessed the rising sun the moment the majestic light condensed behind his back. Under the gigantic sun, a giant figure sat cross-legged, looking down on the crowd as if it were watching over the world from high up.

A boundless energy flooded the space.

Mu Chen looked at the Great Solar Undying Body that appeared behind Garuda. His pupils couldn't help but vigorously contract.

The Great Solar Undying Body Garuda had mastered appeared to be somehow similar to what Mu Chen had been practicing. However, instead of a gold color, the Great Solar Undying Body Garuda had mastered was a dark, ghostly color.

Moreover, the big sun floating behind his head was a big, pitch black sun instead of Mu Chen's golden sun. The big sun rotated slightly, as if it were a black hole about to swallow the world.

If the Great Solar Undying Body practiced by Mu Chen was like a great sun of glory, destined to walk the majestic path of a king, the Great Solar Undying Body Garuda had mastered, however, would be a black hole in the sky, dark and weird, strange and daunting.

It was the same Sovereign Spiritual Body, yet it had diverted into totally different paths when practiced by two individuals. However, the moment Garuda condensed his Great Solar Undying Body, the spiritual energy around Mu Chen suddenly and violently boiled up. The light began to condense on his back as



the Great Solar Undying Body he had mastered shockingly went a little bit out of his control and was about to appear.

He was finally able to suppress the phenomena, but he also looked deeply at Garuda. Somehow, he had a feeling that one of the two Great Solar Undying Bodies owned by them would have to be destroyed.

Out of the two, only one could live!

Garuda looked at Mu Chen indifferently. He smiled and said, "Once I've finished this baptism, my Great Solar Undying Body will reach its peak. When the time comes, I will destroy your Great Solar Undying Body."

Mu Chen looked up and said, "I think your Great Solar Undying Body might become my sharpening stone."

"Oh? How so? For one who lost even his baptism?" Garuda replied with a fake smile.

A strange smile appeared on Mu Chen's face. He stared at Garuda, smiled lightly, and said, "Do you actually think I have lost the baptism?"

At this moment, his arms slowly opened.

Garuda couldn't help but squint slightly. Just when he about to say something, his eyes instantly became fierce. This was because he suddenly saw a super bright light bursting out from the Heavenly River under Mu Chen's feet.

There seemed to be a round, infinitely hot sun rising rapidly from beneath the Heavenly River!

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1158: The Perfect Baptism**

Swoosh!

When the endless beams blasted out of the Heavenly River beneath Mu Chen, countless gaze turned to observe. Looks of disbelief and bewilderment filled the faces on the onlookers.

Top powers with sharp senses stared specifically at the Heavenly River beneath Mu Chen. At that point, a terribly frightening wave was rolling out from somewhere deep inside the river.

"What is that?" one of the top powers asked, a bit terrified. Then, everyone looked at Mu Chen questioningly.

Could Mu Chen have caused this odd change?

Garuda was watching the situation with a cold heart. The corner of his eyes couldn't help but twitch a little, as he unexpectedly felt a wave of uneasiness. After all, this was the first time that Mu Chen had made him feel as if he was losing control of the situation.

Zhu Yan and Su Qingyin were also looking at Mu Chen with astonishment. On the other hand, Xiao Xiao, Lin Jing, and Nine Nether were pleasantly surprised. They were starting to feel sorry for him, but now, it seemed that Mu Chen had a hidden ace up his sleeve all along!

"What exactly is that?" was a question that was racing through everyone's mind.

Finally, amid all of their questioning gazes, the river beneath Mu Chen started to boil. The endless beam was actually pierced through and had blasted out of the river!

At that moment, a tremendous halo appeared in the Heavenly River beneath Mu Chen's feet. The vastness of the halo was terrifying, as it covered a lofty area and made Mu Chen, who was standing above it, seem so tiny in comparison.

However, once the halo had completely departed from the Heavenly River, it started to shrink rapidly. In just a few seconds, the halo had transformed into a large glowing ball that was floating in the air before Mu Chen.

Above the Heavenly River, everyone was stupefied. After a moment, their expressions changed, as they began to feel the rippling movements of the Heavenly River Spirit from within the glowing ball!

These rippling movements were so powerful, they made their blood run cold. It seemed like, even if the 99 Heavenly River Spirits from Zhu Yan and Su Qingyin were to be placed together, they would still be far inferior to this dazzling bright ball!

"What is this thing?!" Numerous top powers cried out involuntarily.

As they continued to gawk, Mu Chen gently tapped his finger, causing the sudden appearance light dots within the glowing ball!. They looked like fireflies, each single dot containing ripple movements that gave a chill one's bones. Moreover, there were exactly 99 lights spots!

The top powers stared at the glowing balls. When they realized there were 99 of them, a gleam raced across each of their eyes. Awe and utter disbelief were evident on all of their faces.

Assuming that the 99 light dots were all spirits of the Heavenly River, adding that to the outer giant circle that was also a Heavenly River Spirit would mean that Mu Chen now had one hundred spirits! As such, a hundred Heavenly River Spirits could initiate the most perfect baptism!

These thoughts drifted across everybody's minds, including the powerful Zhu Yan and Su Qingyin, who were now looking at Mu Chen gravely. They both had obtained 99 Heavenly River Spirits, which is why they understood the difficulty of obtaining a hundred, not to mention that they themselves had failed to do it!

Creak!

Garuda's expression was grim, and he couldn't help but clench his fists and stare at Mu Chen solemnly. He had initially thought that Mu Chen had messed up the baptism at the Heavenly River. But, in reality, Mu Chen had surpassed everyone and gotten a hundred Heavenly River Spirits!

Even though it was just one extra spirit than they had, the difference between the two was like an impassable chasm! Specifically, it was the difference between a high rank and the perfect baptism.

"Mu Chen, is this the hundredth Heavenly River Spirit?" asked Xiao Xiao, who was beside Lin Jing and Nine Nether, all of whom were watching the situation in utter astonishment.

Mu Chen smiled and nodded. "Yes. It is the hundredth Heavenly River Spirit. I merged it with the 99 spirits. It seems like luck was on my side."

Now, Xiao Xiao and the rest of the bunch realized how the hundredth spirit had come about. Even though Mu Chen's description of everything sounded simple, they felt that some sort of special technique had definitely been required.

Inevitably, one had to have an eminently calm mind and enough courage to collect that last spirit. So, Mu Chen's action had indeed been a gamble. He had ultimately chosen to go with the very risky perfect baptism instead of a high-ranked baptism that was a certainty.

Above the Heavenly River, many top powers took stock of themselves, asking themselves if, now that they knew the technique, would they ever choose to take such a courageous risk?

"This Mu Chen is indeed remarkable," one of the top powers uttered in awe.

A few top powers were looking at Mu Chen with admiration. After all, they figured that an amateur Grade Nine Sovereign who was able to kill Xia Yu must have many hidden talents!

Even Zhu Yan felt a slight sense of dread as he looked at Mu Chen. He wasn't necessarily afraid of Mu Chen, he just felt that the next time they met, Mu Chen may truly be his match.

Mu Chen didn't seem to care about all of the looks he was getting. He glanced at the gloomy Garuda and smiled, not caring that the latter's gaze was getting colder by the second. He tapped a finger, and the giant glowing ball swooshed up to the sky.

Zoom zoom!

The glowing ball soared high into the skies. Then, an infinite splendor filled the entire space.

The splendor seemed infinite. In fact, it covered the entire skies above the Heavenly River. The mightiness of the scene caused all of the top powers to gape in awe.

This scene was rapidly followed by an influx of spiritual clouds that shrouded the atmosphere. A few moments later, a clear dripping sound echoed throughout the sky.

The spiritual clouds became distorted. Then, under everyone's fixed stares, the clouds started to disperse. As they faded away, a scene in the sky appeared clearly before their eyes.

Shhhh!

Suddenly, a shocking sound of shocked inhalations rang out in the air.

"Th...that's?" Some top powers were so stunned, they began to stutter.

Zhu Yan, Xiao Xiao, and Lin Jing all looked up. Even Garuda had all ten of his fingers clutched tightly together.

Mighty sounds of the river water resonated with clarity high up in the atmosphere. It seemed like an infinite Heavenly River was forming in the sky!

Comparing the infinitely boundless Heavenly River to Zhu Yan's gigantic lakes, the lakes appeared to be extremely small. Also, there were crystals suspended within the river, all sparkling and glittering. A spiritual energy that was this condensed could only be achieved by someone who had stepped into the Earthly-Sovereign level.

Added to these other phenomenons, spiritual clouds would rise from the river's surface occasionally, then transform immediately into the shapes of a dragon, a phoenix, a tiger or a leopard. They would even make roaring sounds, which were extremely mystical!

"Is this the legendary perfect baptism?" an onlooker asked.

The top powers had started to regain their senses, but their faces still registered shock. Mu Chen had not summoned a Heavenly River! In comparison with this Heavenly River, all of the abnormal scenes from other baptisms paled in significance.

"Mu Chen sure scored big this time!" Lin Jing exclaimed.

There was no jealousy in her words, as she was genuinely excited for Mu Chen's achievement. Even though baptism in the Heavenly River was a precious event, to Lin Jing, who had seen all sorts of rare treasures and miracles, she wasn't really phased by it.

Among all the admiring gazes, Mu Chen looked up to observe the mighty Heavenly River in the sky. He couldn't help but smile. In fact, it seemed like he would be smiling all the way through this gamble!

As he spread out both of his arms, a golden light burst from behind him, then a giant shadow appeared. Behind the shadow was a golden solar flare, spectacular and domineering.

As Mu Chen's Great Solar Undying Body appeared, the audience burst into an uproar. The astounded gazes couldn't stop wandering back and forth between Mu Chen and Garuda.

Obviously, the audience may not know the origin of the Great Solar Undying Body, but the people could definitely sense that the sovereign celestial bodies from Mu Chen and Garuda were extremely similar. In fact, they may even be from the same source!

Amid their astonishment, high up in the atmosphere, a colossal tributary from the mighty Heavenly River plunged downwards like an enormous dragon, enveloping Mu Chen.

The perfect baptism had been officially activated!

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1159: Increase in Strength**

Roar!

The Heavenly River vibrated strangely, and the majestic lake that descended was like a dragon that swooped down, carrying an overwhelming power that even destroyed space under its impact.

The Spiritual Energy fluctuation was even more terrifying.

The Great Solar Undying Body stood high up in the air. Mu Chen also appeared in the Celestial Spirit Cover and then sat calmly. At this time, the golden color of the Great Solar Undying Body was slowly turning.

Boom!

The dragon-like lake emitted an astounding light in front of their eyes, and Mu Chen was the first one who ran toward it. At this moment, he could feel an endless amount of spiritual energy rushing from the Celestial Spirit Cover into his body. Almost in an instant, his body swelled for a few full laps.

That feeling was like having a dragon rushing into the body and then tumbling around inside of it. If the terrifying spiritual energy at this time had been controlled by somebody, then Mu Chen's body might have burst into bubbles of blood. Fortunately, the spiritual energy did not belong to anyone, and its purity was far beyond Mu Chen's imagination.

The majestic spiritual energy entered directly from the top of his head and then came down madly. Wherever it passed, it immediately caused a sharp pain like being cut by a knife. But under the pain, Mu Chen was able to detect that, whether it was in his veins or in his flesh, there were glittering and translucent fine lines.

Those fine lines penetrated the veins, the flesh, and even the bones. It seemed insignificant, but Mu Chen could sense that these glittering and translucent fine lines had a terrifying endurance, and so his flesh, veins, and bones became more tenacious and powerful.

At the same time, whether it was the surface of his body or inside his body, black-colored blood permeated him and was washed out. Those were the impurities contained in Mu Chen's body and the dark wounds that had been suffered during the battle. Those hidden wounds were quickly repaired at this moment.

Feeling the changes happening within his body, Mu Chen felt great. His current body was strong. For this level, it was already quite powerful. Therefore, it was more difficult to improve upon it. Even if using some natural treasures, the improvement was very limited. Even the strong people at Earthly Sovereign level would be attracted by these treasures. Their value could not be described. Even with the support of Daluo Territory, Mu Chen did not dare to waste them on himself.

When he discovered this perfect level of the Heavenly River's baptism improved his body, he was happy. Therefore, he immediately urged the Dragon-Phoenix Body without any hesitation, and suddenly, a golden light burst on the body. The real dragon, real phoenix spirit that lingered above his arms was also awakening at this time. It directly escaped Mu Chen's body, squatted on his shoulders, and let the Heavenly River's baptism wash it over and over again.

Under the scouring, the body of the real dragon, real phoenix spirit had become condensed. Moreover, a faint glittering and translucent light appeared on the body's surface.

The bottomless lake water was constantly washing down. It shook the space, and under that scouring wash, anyone could feel that the fluctuation from Mu Chen's body had begun to quickly become stronger.

Moreover, an upgrade was not only conducted on Mu Chen, but also on the Great Solar Undying Body. It became obviously more amazing, so the degree of elevation was even greater. The golden light was constantly surging on the enormous body, and the source of the golden light was constantly erupting, shining on the sky.

Everyone present was able to clearly feel the terrible power that came out of the Great Solar Undying Body. That kind of power, even for a strong person who had reached Complete Grade Nine, would make one have a sudden uncontrollable change of expression.

In the distance, Garuda was also accepting the Heavenly River's baptism, but with Mu Chen's perfect baptism, the baptism on his side seemed to be somewhat less attractive. Because of this, he stared coldly at Mu Chen and the Great Solar Undying Body under his feet. There was a strong intention to kill in his eyes because he was able to perceive that the power of the Great Solar Undying Body under Mu Chen's feet was quickly approaching him.

With the perfect level of the Heavenly River's baptism, Mu Chen's upgrade even made Garuda shocked and angry, which made him feel regret for the first time. If he had known this before, he would have killed Mu Chen earlier.

The current Mu Chen had already made him feel a little threatened. However, no matter how much he regretted it, it didn't matter now. Garuda could sense that although Mu Chen was accepting the baptism, he was still watching him secretly. Once he wanted to attack, Mu Chen would be able to use the power of the Heavenly River's baptism to deal with him.

"What a curse." Garuda took a deep breath and finally lowered his eyes. His expression also returned to indifference. Although this time he had been slightly careless, it did not matter. The difference between Mu Chen and him could not be compensated by a perfect Heavenly River baptism. When the next opportunity was found, he would inevitably use the thunder-like trick directly and completely obliterate Mu Chen. This advanced baptism, no matter what, was also strengthening for Garuda.

When Garuda took back his murderous gaze, Mu Chen closed his eyes slightly, as his eyes were also shivering somewhat. He was always guarding against Garuda. He even had the intention of provoking him. This could allow him to use the power of the Heavenly River's baptism to attack Garuda.

However, Garuda's cautiousness was still somewhat beyond Mu Chen's expectation. He turned out to be able to suppress the intention to kill. Confronting his rapid growth, he chose to continue to tolerate his existence.

"What a tough opponent." Mu Chen also sighed. Regardless of Garuda's character or scheme, it was obviously not the same, and this could not be underestimated.

However, Garuda chose to be silent at this time. Mu Chen was also no longer distracted and began to fully accept the perfect baptism. There would be a life and death battle between him and Garuda, and the latter gave him the feeling of extreme danger, so he must also seize all the time and opportunity to improve his strength as much as possible.

Mu Chen opened his eyes slightly. From far away, he saw the black Great Solar Undying Body under Garuda's feet, and there was a deep ray of light passing along its eyes.

His perception made him understand. When comparing the strength of the two Great Solar Undying Bodies and the degree of power of the spiritual energy, Garuda's was still more powerful. In a head-on battle between the two, Mu Chen thought that he had no advantage.

After all, the time that Garuda had spent practicing this Great Solar Undying Body was definitely longer than the time Mu Chen had spent, and the Saint Demon Palace had cultivated Garuda using all their resources. This showed that the Saint Demon King valued him.

Garuda had reached Full Grade Nine a long time ago and was already looking for an opportunity to break through to the Earthly Sovereign level. Mu Chen currently had just reached Grade Nine. There was indeed a difference between the two, and even Mu Chen had to acknowledge it.

The battle with Garuda is probably not far away. I must continue to work hard on practicing the Great Solar Undying Body. Surpassing Garuda is not an easy task, and it would be impossible to gain absolute advantage if we battled each other now. Mu Chen changed his mind. He still had many undiscovered skills. He even had the Divine Wind Fan, but he could not believe that Garuda did not have any real sacred items, so if he wanted to defeat Garuda, he would have to prepare in advance.

Mu Chen looked down at the Great Solar Undying Body, and he hesitated for a while. He then closed his eyes decisively.

His mind was also moving, and at this time, the Great Solar Undying Body suddenly expanded continuously with golden light, but it actually stopped growing at this moment. The spiritual energy growing strong inside the Great Solar Undying Body also gradually slowed down at this time.

The vast strength coming from the perfect baptism was quietly locked in an inexplicable place by Mu Chen.

After doing this, Mu Chen closed his eyes again. His body was erupting in gold, and the real dragon, real phoenix that lingered on both shoulders was constantly groaning. His inner spiritual energy and his body were rapidly growing stronger under the power of the Heavenly River's baptism.

After temporarily inhibiting the Great Solar Undying Body's improvement rate, Mu Chen had to use his own strength to gain the upgrade at a faster rate. Like the dragon-like torrent, Mu Chen's arms were slowly opening.

...

Above the Heavenly River, the spiritual energy was continuously engulfing, attracting the Heavenly River below, also rolling up in bottomless waves. At this moment, almost everyone had triggered the Heavenly River's baptism. The baptisms were either great or small. However, after Mu Chen had a terrifying situation, all the other baptisms were somehow humbled in comparison.

However, apart from being depressed by Mu Chen's perfect baptism, most people were extremely satisfied. This baptism was extremely great for their upgrade. Even with this, their future upgrades would also be a lot easier.

Over time, more and more baptisms were complete, so the vast and mighty Heavenly River began to gradually calm down. There were only a handful of high-level baptisms between heaven and earth.

Of course, there was also Mu Chen's unique perfect baptism.

Screech!

Nine Nether's baptism also ended at this time, and she turned into her original form. A huge Nine Netherworld Bird fanned its cloud wings. Every time her wings spread, it would bring a Spiritual Torrent that would distort the space.

On Nine Netherworld Bird's huge body, there were some radiant rays that could be seen by the naked eye. Although these lights were inconspicuous, they could upgrade Nine Nether's body. The glory swept through her body and then began to shrink rapidly, finally turning into a slender shadow.

Nine Nether stood high up in the air. Her closed eyes suddenly opened, and there was a real crystal flame surging as a powerful spiritual energy broke out from her body.

Noticing the pressure of this spiritual energy, some strong people constantly changed their attitudes because this spiritual energy had already entered the full level of Grade Nine.

Obviously, after Qin's horror, Nine Nether also used this baptism to make a breakthrough and had reached Complete Grade Nine.

After Nine Nether, Xiao Xiao, Lin Jing, Zhu Yan, Garuda, and others had also completed their baptisms. However, they obviously did not have any breakthroughs, because based on their level, if they wanted to have a breakthrough, they would reach Earthly Sovereign Level.

That level was not easy to break through to, so what they needed to do now was to continue to accumulate. Only when they had accumulated to a certain level, would they dare to try to break through.

However, although there was no breakthrough for them, anyone could sense that at this time, Xiao Xiao and the others were obviously more unfathomable than before, now that they had accepted the baptism.

The moment Xiao Xiao and the others completed their baptisms, their focus immediately turned toward Mu Chen. This was because at this time, the Heavenly River, which was above the sky, began to gradually become illusory, and the last torrent washed down upon Mu Chen's crown and vanished into him.

Mu Chen, too, slowly opened his eyes at this moment.

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 1160: Incomplete?**

Buzz!

The moment Mu Chen opened his eyes, a dazzling ray of light appeared out of thin air between heaven and earth. As the ray of light flooded the world, no one dared to look straight at it.

The source of the light was, shockingly, Mu Chen's eyes! At that time, his eyes looked extremely dark and deep. In the depths of his pupils, it almost looked like a falling Milky Way, the appearance of which was marvelous!



Boom!

At the same time, a surly force of spiritual energy abruptly swept out from Mu Chen's body, then wreaked havoc within the world, like a furious storm.

"The force of Spiritual Energy fluctuation must be the pinnacle of Grade Nine!" As the numerous top powers were feeling the Spiritual Energy fluctuation, their eyes flashed in an instant.

It seemed like Mu Chen had used the help from the perfect baptism to accomplish the breakthrough and entered the pinnacle level of Grade Nine! But, this upgrade was not what the people found to be surprising. Instead, they were surprised because the perfect Heavenly River baptism had only managed to bring Mu Chen to this level!

After all, Mu Chen was already in the early stages of entering the pinnacle of Grade Nine. As such, he only had to spend some time to steel himself, then entering the pinnacle of Grade nine would be a natural achievement! Therefore, this relatively insignificant result was unbelievable.

"Eh, this is not right! Mu Chen's Spiritual Energy is still getting stronger!" The people suddenly realized that the Spiritual Energy that was sweeping out from Mu Chen's body had yet to stabilize, meaning that it was still growing dramatically!

Boom! Boom!

Waves of majestic Spiritual Energy came down in torrents. The waves of the fluctuations swiftly climbed to the highest point of the pinnacle of Grade Nine, then probingly lashed out, attempting to rise to Complete Grade Nine.

However, they were unsuccessful the first couple of times, only reaching the doorstep of Complete Grade Nine. The good news was that the Spiritual Energy that burst out of Mu Chen was very tough, and after multiple unsuccessful attempts, a step over was finally achieved!

The Spiritual Energy that was expanding and contracting back and forth suddenly poured out, like a dam finally being released of its stored water. At this moment, Mu Chen stepped into Complete Grade Nine!

"The perfect Heavenly River baptism's reputation is indeed fully justified." Above the Heavenly River, the numerous top powers secretly sighed. A baptism of this sort was almost satisfying enough to make all of the years spent in hard work worth it!

Even though they were faced with Mu Chen, who had successfully stepped up two levels, they were not too surprised. After all, it was a perfect baptism.

As the people were amazed at how Mu Chen's powers had grown, in the other direction, Xiao Xiao, Nine Nether, and Lin Jing were slightly knitting their brows. The others might think that it was pretty satisfying that Mu Chen could step up two levels, but they did not see it that way.

This is because they had clearly seen that Mu Chen's previous breakthroughs, where he had experienced multiple shocks before managing to barely step into the Complete Grade Nine. This was a sign of a breakthrough that lacked Spiritual Energy.

This situation had never appeared before, even with Qin Jingzhe and Nine Nether, who only had the high level baptisms. But, for Mu Chen, his was the perfect baptism!

This Heavenly River baptism was one of Ancient Celestial Palace's foundations, and the perfect baptism was of the utmost importance. It was said that, in that generation, almost every disciple that had a perfect baptism in the Ancient Celestial Palace went on to become one of the most important people in the Ancient Celestial Palace. This showed the power of the perfect Heavenly River baptism!

Originally, according to Xiao Xiao and the others' estimations, Mu Chen could have steadily stepped into Complete Grade Nine. But, the current situation made them indescribably puzzled.

Xiao Xiao and the others caught glimpses of The Great Solar Undying Body under Mu Chen's feet. Although, at that time, the Sovereign Celestial Body was emitting a lofty golden light, after Heavenly River baptism, this Sovereign Celestial Body had obtained a great elevation. Yet, this elevation had yet to reach the predicted degree.

Xiao Xiao and the others looked at each other in dismay. The Spiritual Energy of the perfect baptism had not allowed Mu Chen to step into Complete Grade Nine steadily, nor had it allowed Mu Chen's Sovereign powers to become extremely intrepid. This left them to wonder where the Spiritual Energy went...

Xiao Xiao and the other two let out several sighs. They sympathized with Mu Chen, who was supposed to stand in the same position as Zhu Yan, Garuda, and the others. However, this unforeseen event had led that to become only an empty hope.

Although Mu Chen had managed to barely attain Complete Grade Nine, members within Complete Grade Nine still had different capabilities and rankings. For example, if Qin Jingzhe was going to fight Garuda, both of whom are members of Complete Grade Nine, there would be no doubt that Qin Jingzhe would lose the match.

Of course, Mu Chen couldn't use common judgements and magnanimity, as this was what allowed him to defeat Xia Yu when he had first joined. Now that he was officially a member of Complete Grade Nine, he was ready for any battle, even if it was against the strongest, most powerful member. Today, it seemed that things would only get more complicated.

When Xiao Xiao and the rest breathed a few sighs of sympathy, the intense Spiritual Energy that burst out of Mu Chen was immediately weakened. He bowed his head to catch a glimpse of his feet, where The Great Solar Undying Body scattered and disappeared.

Surprisingly, he looked fairly calm. After all, he had been baptized, so he knew for sure that he and The Great Solar Undying Body both had room for improvements.

"Hehe, looks like you've run into some bad luck!" The mocking voice travelled from afar. As Mu Chen looked up, he saw Garuda snickering at him. Clearly, he had discovered that Mu Chen's perfect baptism was not complete.

"You're right," Mu Chen nodded in agreement, seemingly unaffected by Garuda's mocking tone.

When Garuda witnessed Mu Chen's calmness, he smiled and said, "Such a pity! I thought we were going to have a serious fight, but by the looks of it, you did not grab the opportunity."

As Mu Chen's perfect baptism was incomplete, even though his strength was still amplified exponentially, Garuda could sense that there still existed a big gap between them. While he had been in

Complete Grade Nine for many years, thus having experienced endless hardcore training and slowly accumulating knowledge and experience, Mu Chen had just entered Complete Grade Nine.

So, in regards to knowledge and experience, Mu Chen was nowhere near his level! Hence, if there really was going to be a bloody battle, Garuda was confident that he would be the victor.

Hearing Garuda's words, Mu Chen only stared at him and nodded in agreement. He then replied a few moments later, "It is indeed a pity."

When his words reached Garuda, the smile on his face faded a little. He narrowed his eyes and looked at Mu Chen, thinking to himself that this punk in front of him really needed to be taught a lesson!

However, Garuda just smiled at Mu Chen and said, "I am looking forward to the day when your Great Solar Undying Body is destroyed. Then, I'll see if you can still remain this calm!"

"Sure." A smile instantly appeared on Mu Chen's handsome face.

Looking at Mu Chen's smile, Garuda felt an involuntary twitch in his eyelids. For some unknown reason, he felt uneasy...

This kid is only a punk, who barely made the cut into Complete Grade Nine. His knowledge and experience are no match for me, and his tricks are no match either!

His Sovereign Truth Body is also inferior to me, and yet he's dreaming about winning this match? Those are just completely the ravings of a lunatic!

Garuda took a deep breath. As many thoughts flashed across his mind, he gave Mu Chen a dead stare. Without another word, he waved his sleeve and turned into a stream of light, projecting upward from the Heavenly River and immediately disappearing out of sight.

Following Garuda's departure, the Heavenly River became lively again. At the same time, the top powers transformed into streams of light, rushing toward the Ancient Celestial Palace.

Zhu Yan took a look at Mu Chen, then slowly turned toward Xiao Xiao. As he did so, Xiao Xiao noticed, but coldly and lazily looked the other way.

Zhu Yan did not say much, but his eyes revealed his eager thoughts of battle. At that moment, he stomped his foot and transformed into a stream of flames, then quickly disappeared.

Su Qingyin shyly smiled at Mu Chen, as if she was interested in him. But, in the end, she waved her hand and left as well.

As everyone began to leave, Mu Chen appeared beside Xiao Xiao and the rest. He looked up and stared at the deep end of the Ancient Celestial Palace, then smilingly said, "Let's go. The Heavenly River baptism is over, so we should proceed on our journey."

His next target was the Hidden Scripture Pavilion of the Ancient Celestial Palace, as The Great Solar Undying Body's evolution method was most likely there. That would also be the place where the battle to the death between him and Garuda would take place.

Mu Chen stared in the direction where Garuda had left, a smirk slowly appearing on face.

To defeat you, I have made many preparations. So, I hope that when the time comes, you will not disappoint me...