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Chapter 381: The Three Sovereign Disaster

Following the departure of the Black Dragon Sovereign from the sky of the Western Desolated City, the originally tense atmosphere completely vanished into thin air. The sunlight that fell from the sky seemed to have regained some of its warmth.

Looking at the space where the Black Dragon Sovereign had disappeared, the forehead of Dean Tai Cang's started to slightly wrinkle up, while chilling intent flashed within his abstruse eyes. Over these last few years, there were countless students training in the Northern Heavens Continent that had been buried under the hands of the Demonic Dragon Palace. This caused the grudges and grievances of the two sides to turn into a level of hatred that was seemingly irreconcilable.

However, although the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy couldn't bear to completely wipe the Demonic Dragon Palace off the face of the world, this wasn't an easy task to accomplish. The hidden cards of the Demonic Dragon Palace within the Northern Heavens Continent was, in some words, even more ancient than their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. They were once the Overlords of this continent, all till the appearance of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

In their previous war, although the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had achieved victory, they weren't truly able to destroy the Demonic Dragon Palace into oblivion. The core of their strength still remained, causing the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy to maintain constant vigilance, as well as dread, against them. Although they wished to deal with this looming danger once and for all, they would have to be prepared to pay a great price for that. In fact, it might even result in Sovereigns falling from the sky.

This kind of price was something that even the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was somewhat unwilling to shoulder. This was due to the fact that the opponents they had to contend against weren't just merely restricted to the Demonic Dragon Palace in the Northern Heavens Continent. There were still various strong and powerful Spiritual Academies from other continents. The title of being one of the five Great Academies had given fame and reputation to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, while similarly casting them into the limelight. They didn't know how many spiritual academies possessing similarly powerful strength as them were staring at them from the darkness. Once the might of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy weakened, they would take action, snatching away the title of one of the five Great Academies...

This battle would similarly be extremely cruel and bitter.

"What's the Divine Spiritual Mountain, Dean?" asked Mu Chen with slight curiosity.

Shooting a look at Mu Chen, Dean Tai Cang replied, "That's a sacred ground within the Northern Heavens Continent. It's said to be inherited from the ancient antiquity. It will open once every three years. If one was able to successfully enter the Divine Spiritual Mountain, one would obtain enormous blessings, which is know as the 'Divine Spiritual Baptism'."

"Divine Spiritual Baptism? Is it similar to the Spiritual Light Empowerment of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy?" Feeling startled, Mu Chen asked out doubtfully.

Unable to hold it in, Dean Tai Cang gave a laugh, before answering, "If the Spiritual Light Empowerment is able to be compared to the Divine Spiritual Baptism, the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy would have far exceeded the title of the Five Great Academies..."

"The Divine Spiritual Baptism doesn't have an obvious effect of raising one's strength. However, it's still a place that would cause countless youths of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy to turn crazy because of what it is. That's because, the Divine Spiritual Baptism is able to help construct a foundation..."

"Construct a foundation?" Mu Chen repeated while frowning. That didn't seem like a formidable ability. There were many heavenly treasures that were also able to achieve such an effect.

"It's not just any ordinary foundation. It's the foundation of a Sovereign stage..." With a smile, Dean Tai Cang replied to Mu Chen while shaking his head. Looking at the latter, he continued with his explanation. "Looks like you have yet to know the process to promote to Sovereign Stage, and exactly how much frightening tribulations are needed to be experienced."

Mu Chen gave an awkward laugh in response. As of now, he hadn't even broken through to Heavenly Completion Stage. Thinking about promoting to Sovereign Stage was too far fetched from him now. Although, it was the realm that he ultimately yearned for in his dreams.

"Only when your strength reaches the peak of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase will you understand. It isn't just another step that you have to take to properly promote into the Sovereign Stage..."

At this moment, Dean Tai Cang's gaze turned solemn as he continued, "This is a true hole that everyone will face. Countless talents that shocked the world have stopped at this step, with some even falling from the sky."

"Why's that so?" Mu Chen asked.

"That's because what comes after the Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase... is the 'Three Sovereign Disasters' that will make the faces of countless geniuses change upon hearing them. Only when one successfully passes through these three disasters would one be able to shape their Sovereign bodies, and truly promote and step into the Sovereign Stage!"

"The Three Sovereign Disasters..." Mu Chen muttered. Although it sounded somewhat foreign to him, for some unknown reason, a chilling intent radiated out from the depths of his bones.

"There are countless geniuses within this world, before these 'three disasters' there are quite a few of them who would have rapid progress in their cultivation stages, and display their astonishing talents. However, they had turned into ashes by these three disasters in the end, dissipating from the world."

With a faint smile, Dean Tai Cang said, "Therefore, you should know by now why Sovereign Stage experts are able to possess such a status, am I right?"

Mu Chen swallowed his saliva, while his face turned slightly pale as he nodded his head. This was the first time that he had heard about the extreme difficulty and dangers one would actually face when promoting to Sovereign Stage.

“Does this have a relation with the so-called ‘Sovereign foundation?’” asked Mu Chen as he thought about what Dean Tai Cang had said.

“You’re very smart,” replied Dean Tai Cang with a faint smile as he nodded his head. “The three disasters are too frightening, if one isn’t careful, one would be turned into ashes. Even one’s Divine Soul would be hard pressed to escape. As for that Spiritual Baptism, it can help build a foundation for one’s Divine Soul, strengthening one’s resistance against the three disasters. At the same time, if the most dire situations were to occur, it can protect one’s Divine Soul during the three disasters, allowing one to have another chance of making a comeback.”

Faintly opening his mouth, Mu Chen exclaimed in astonishment, “That awesome?”

Although he had yet to make contact with the so-called “Three Sovereign Disasters”, he could feel that the absolute despair it would bring to people if they were to fail in them. However, this “Divine Spiritual Baptism” was able to allow people to preserve their lives during these “Three Sovereign Disasters”. This was absolutely too important to have. There might be countless experts with the qualifications to rush into the “Three Sovereign Disasters” that would pay any price just to obtain such protection.

At this moment, he finally understood why the so-called “Divine Spiritual Mountain” would become the greatest occasion within the Northern Heavens Continent. Compared to that, the Spiritual Light Empowerment of their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was truly not worth a second look.

At the same time, it had made his heart feel slightly itchy. This Divine Spiritual Mountain was too enticing. If he and Luo Li were able to get baptised by it, they would possess slightly more insurance for when they planned to rush into the Sovereign Stage in the future.

“Are we able to participate in it, Dean?” asked Mu Chen in a soft voice.

Hearing Mu Chen’s words, Dean Tai Cang gave a soft sigh, before replying, “The people participating in the Divine Spiritual Mountain are mostly the core geniuses of peak influences in the Northern Heavens Continent that have been painstakingly nurtured with their utmost resources. Our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy is unable to gain any advantage on this aspect. That year, we had participated once, with the participating student being the first rank on our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy’s Heavenly Rankings. However, in the end, he didn’t return. Therefore, after that, we have basically given up on this occasion.”

Mu Chen was slightly startled, before nodding his head. This didn’t mean that the students from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had talents that were weaker than those people. It was just the way the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy works. All of those core geniuses were seemingly raised and nurtured by the various sects and families. Compared to them, the students of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy came from all sort of places and directions. Although they had trained and cultivated for a number of years, this time was too short when compared to those outstanding youths at the peak within the Northern Heavens Continent. It’s to the point of being able to lead to a great threat to the students.

This created a situation where students with strength would leave the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy upon becoming fully-fledged towards places at higher levels, seeking stronger Dao paths. As for the new students that had just entered, they would temporarily be unable to compare with those

peak geniuses that had stayed in the Northern Heavens Continent for a long time. Therefore, this had created the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, which seemed to be a leviathan, but rarely produced any characters that were able to truly stand at the highest peak within the younger generations of the Northern Heavens Continent.

That's because, the people that the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy receives were students, and not sect disciples or clan disciples that had to contribute their all for their clans or sects...

"As of now, the strongest student within our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy rankings is Shen Cangsheng. His talent is extremely good. If he's given a couple more years, wanting to exceed the peak talents within the younger generation in the Northern Heavens Continent isn't a difficult matter. However, that won't be happening now," replied Dean Tai Cang.

Mu Chen faintly nodded his head. This time they had been forced to such a stage just to deal with Mo Longzi. What more could they achieve against the true elites within the peak of the younger generations? An example would be Mo Xingtian, who was an even stronger character than Mo Longzi.

However, he still had a slight feeling of not wanting to give up on that alluring "Divine Spiritual Baptism". It was extremely important for him and Luo Li. After hesitating a moment, he gathered his courage and asked Dean Tai Cang, "Dean, would it be possible for me to give it a try?"

Dean Tai Cang's eyes immediately narrowed as he stared at Mu Chen. After a while, shaking his head, he replied, "Your training and cultivating time is too short. Although I admit your capabilities, it's still too early for you to participate at the Divine Spiritual Mountain."

Tilting his head, Mu Chen appeared wanting to say something. However, with a wave of his hand, Dean Tai Cang continued speaking, "Gather them all and prepare to return to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Every student back at the academy is still waiting for news about you guys."

After completing his statement, a laugh rang out of him as he looked towards Mu Chen and said, "This time, I'm afraid that you've become a hero for our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Even Mo Longzi was beaten down by you."

Mu Chen gave an embarrassed smile, before turning around and shooting off towards Shen Cangsheng and the rest.

Looking at the back figure of Mu Chen, an expression of deep pondering flashed within Dean Tai Cang's eyes, appearing as if he was thinking of something.

Under the Spiritual Energy nourishment from everyone, Lin Zheng and the other two had successfully woken up gradually from their stupors. Embarrassed and guilty expressions were present on their faces. Although they were in a stupor earlier, that didn't mean that they were totally unclear of what had happened.

"Haha, Senior Brother Lin Zheng. That Mo Longzi had long reached Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase. We truly weren't his match. Even I had lost." Shen Cangsheng spoke out while sending a candid smile. "However, we're fortunate to have that fellow, Mu Chen, fight and beat that fellow, Mo Longzi, up for us. Even I don't know if he will be able to live after that beating."

"Mu Chen defeated Mo Longzi?"

Lin Zheng and the other two were slightly dumbfounded as they looked towards Mu Chen with inconceivable expressions within their eyes. Heavenly Transformation Stage Late Phase against Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase. They were simply unable to imagine how this disparity was bridged by the latter.

Shrugging his shoulders, Mu Chen spoke out. "I was just lucky this time... Our mission's complete. Let's go back to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy first, alright?"

Nodding their heads, everyone started to support their injured compatriots, before shooting into the sky.

Mu Chen fell to the back and headed off together with Luo Li. Looking at the sparkling jade-like face of the young girl that was exquisite to the point of perfection, he quietly extended his hand, and grasped the slender and chilling jade-like hands of the young girl.

Luo Li's lovable face turned slightly red as she shot a coquettish glare at Mu Chen. The latter, however, sent a grin back over while saying, "Ain't I awesome?"

Luo Li rolled her eyes unhappily towards him, her coquettish looks were extremely alluring, while an amusing laugh rang out within her heart. This fellow always maintained a humble and modest appearance in front of others, and yet he always acted so proud of himself in front of her, making her really want to give him a bite.

However, when Luo Li noticed the remnants of the wounds still present on his body, her clear and limpid eyes turned much more gentle. Her small hand gently grasped Mu Chen's hand, and her angled loveable and snow-white chin gave a gentle nod. A soft and gentle "Mhm" sound rang out, satisfying the little bit of vanity present in Mu Chen's heart.

Floating in the sky, Dean Tai Cang looked towards everyone from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy before nodding his head. Turning around to cup his fist and smile towards the Western Extreme Sovereign, he spoke out, "Sorry for the trouble this time, Old Brother Western Extreme."

"It's alright, it's alright," replied the Western Extreme Sovereign with a smile and a wave.

Without continuing to waste time talking, spatial fluctuations instantly enveloped everyone with a wave of his sleeve. As space started to distort, everyone disappeared into thin air.

Looking at the place where the people from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had disappeared into, the eyes of the Western Extreme Sovereign faintly narrowed before speaking out with a faint smile, "Never imagined that the Demonic Dragon Palace's Mo Longzi would actually get beaten up. Looks like they will have one less participant in the Divine Spiritual Mountain this time."

"In the first place, Mo Longzi's not sufficient to be feared." Beside him, Xi Qinghai spoke out with a smile. From his tone and words, he didn't place Mo Longzi much within his eyes.

"I don't know of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy will participate this time...after this matter, that Shen Cangsheng might breakthrough into the Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase," said the Western Extreme Sovereign.

Shaking his head, Xi Qinghai spoke out in a soft voice, “Even if Shen Cangsheng breaks through, the threat he poses isn’t great. Although he’s quite talented, his cultivating time is much shorter than us...”

Speaking until here, there was a small pause in his words as he muttered to himself.

“That Freshman by the name of Mu Chen...truly is somewhat unfathomable.”

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Chapter 382: Demonic Dragon Brand

When Mu Chen and the group returned back to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, they had undoubtedly attracted countless stares from everywhere. This was especially true when news of the astonishing fight between Mu Chen and Mo Longzi was disseminated out, causing the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy to go into shock.

Any student that heard about this matter would have their jaws drop wide open in shock, turning into a seemingly petrified state. Obviously, this news was somewhat of a fantasy story to them.

That number two on the Bounty Board, the super fierce character that even Senior Brother Lin Zheng and the Overlord of the Heavenly Rankings, Shen Cangsheng, had lost to had, unexpectedly, suffered a defeat in Mu Chen’s hands?

The atmosphere within the entire academy was in a fiery state as countless people endlessly sought out the news about the astonishing battles that happened within the Western Desolated City. Within this fiery state, Mu Chen’s fame and prestige had seemingly rose up in a vertical line, with signs of even surpassing Li Xuantong.

This kind of growth rate caused quite a few students to sigh in admiration. After all, Mu Chen had just entered the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy for only a year. However, an achievement of such a degree caused countless students to feel ashamed and respect for him.

At this stage, there wouldn’t be one that would doubt Mu Chen’s strength anymore. Everyone knew that it wouldn’t take long for Shen Cangsheng’s title as the Overlord of the Heavenly Rankings to change hands...

Facing such a fiery atmosphere within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, the lead character, Mu Chen, didn’t show too much care about it. Upon reaching the academy, he had quietly holed himself up in the Freshman region to recover and rest from the injuries he had suffered in this life-risking clash with Mo Longzi.

He wasn’t the slightest bit interested in the title of the so-called ‘Overlord of the Heavenly Rankings’. Strength was something that only belonged to oneself, and not something that could be changed by a title. Furthermore, the finally risk-filled victory in the battle at the Western Desolated City didn’t make Mu Chen feel any arrogance. On the contrary, he had even felt some pressure due to it.

After all, from the news that he had obtained, although Mo Longzi was the number two on their Bounty Board, he wasn’t considered the genuine peak of the younger generation within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

Within this vast and expansive continent, there were still some people that represented the true strength at the peak of the younger generation of this continent.

If he wanted to chase after that group of people, he would clearly need to work even harder. Although those fellows had cultivated longer than him, and were also older than him, Mu Chen didn't wish to use these as excuses.

True strength wasn't separated by age.

...

On the third day after Mu Chen had returned to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, he could be considered to have completely recovered from his injuries. Although he had relied on the demonic energies of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar, it had caused injuries within his body. It was fortunate that his fleshly body was exceedingly tyrannical, possessing quite a bit of resistance against the corrosion of the fiendish and demonic energies. Therefore, he wasn't left in a condition as miserable as last time.

After recovering from his injuries, he received a transmitted message from Dean Tai Cang.

Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, Conference Hall

Looking at the six figures within the large hall, shock and astonishment clearly filled Mu Chen's heart. Not only did he see Dean Tai Cang here, the other five Heavenly Seated Elders were actually present within. Such an impressive lineup could be considered as the highest level within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

"Haha. You've done a pretty good job this time, Mu Chen. Firstly, I have to express the gratitude of the Punishment Hall to you. If not for you, our Punishment Hall would suffer a huge loss of face this time." Upon seeing Mu Chen, the Punishment Hall Hall Master, Mo You, took the initiative and spoke out with a smile.

Next to Mo You was Zhu Tian, as well as the other three Heavenly Seated Elders. Other than the youthful appearance of Zhu Tian, the other three Elders appeared white-haired and ancient, with deep and abstruse eyes akin to being shrouded by starry skies. Not a single trace of Spiritual Energy fluctuations were present around their bodies. However, one would feel the frightening sensations of them being about to shatter the heavens and rend the earth with a single move.

"Five Sovereigns...with Dean Tai Cang, that should be six Sovereigns."

Shock shook through Mu Chen's mind. Obviously, this was the most powerful strength of their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. The reason why the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was a leviathan in the Northern Heavens Continent was due to their existences, causing the academy to be unshakable.

Only after an instant did Mu Chen gradually regain his clarity. Giving a respectful bow towards the five Heavenly Seated Elders, he turned towards Dean Tai Cang and said, "Is there any instructions for me, Dean?"

With a faint smile, Dean Tai Cang replied, "The main reason I've summoned you here is due to the matter of that 'Great Meru Demonic Pillar' within your body."

The five Heavenly Seated Elders immediately cast weird gazes towards Mu Chen's body. They were clearly familiar towards the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. During that year when the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was in a great war with the Demonic Dragon Palace, if not for the White Dragon Sovereign suddenly betraying the Demonic Dragon Palace and taking away the Great Meru Demonic Pillar, their victory would be more hard pressed.

They understood the ominous fame of the "Great Meru Demonic Pillar". It was a strong weapon that would shake even the hearts of Sovereign Stage experts. Although it was ominous and fiendish, once one was able to control it, one would be able to display its terrifying strength.

However, as of now, such an ominous object had unexpectedly landed in the hands of such a young and weak Freshman. This truly caused people to feel surprised.

Mu Chen was also startled as his heart skipped a beat. *Could it be that the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy wants me to hand over the Great Meru Demonic Pillar?*

"Hoho. Relax. If our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy does such a thing, how are we different from the Demonic Dragon Palace?" Seemingly able to see the worry within Mu Chen's heart, Dean Tai Cang spoke out to quell the unease Mu Chen was feeling.

Having his inner thoughts exposed, Mu Chen felt awkward. However, he wasn't to blame for having such thoughts. Who allowed the "Great Meru Demonic Pillar" to be so tyrannical to the point where it would tug at the hearts of even Sovereign Stage experts?

"As of now, although the Great Meru Demonic Pillar has landed in your hands, it still isn't considered totally yours..." Mo You spoke out with a smile as he continued explaining. "Do you think that the treasure of the Demonic Dragon Palace will get snatched away by other people in such an easy fashion?"

Immediately, Mu Chen gawked. Starting to frown, he asked, "Hall master's meaning is that...the Demonic Dragon Palace is able to retrieve it?"

Speaking until here, his expression turned slightly grave as he thought about the actions that the Black Dragon Sovereign had taken. At that time, if not for Dean Tai Cang, the Great Meru Demonic Pillar might have truly broken out of his body...

"The Great Meru Demonic Pillar was in the hands of the Demonic Dragon Palace for many years. According to what I know, there should be a Demonic Dragon Brand from the Demonic Dragon Palace. With your strength, it's clear that you're unable to discover it," explained Dean Tai Cang.

"Demonic Dragon Brand?" Mu Chen was stunned as he blankly stared back at Dean Tai Cang. Indeed, he didn't discover the so-called 'Demonic Dragon Brand' within the Great Meru Demonic Pillar.

"This is the special method of the Demonic Dragon Palace, and it was personally arranged by a Sovereign Stage existence. It hides within the depths of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar and won't show any activity on any ordinary occasion. However, once the Demonic Dragon Palace activates it, you'll immediately lose control of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. Furthermore, if they have slightly more killing intent than, your little life will be under their control. With just a single thought from them, they'll be able to cause the Great Meru Demonic Pillar to erupt from your body." The person taking this time was the youthful-looking Elder Zhu Tian. Rubbing his chin, he grinned as he stared at Mu Chen.

Hearing those words cold sweat erupted from Mu Chen's entire body. If this was true, that would mean that the Great Meru Demonic Pillar had become an explosive? As long as the Demonic Dragon Palace activated the Demonic Dragon Brand, he would definitely be decimated by the energy that was unleashed.

"In the past, you didn't expose the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. Therefore, there's no danger of that. However, as of now, as long as you're in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, they won't recklessly activate it. However, once you leave the academy... perhaps that explosive hidden within your body might explode."

Mu Chen wiped the cold sweat off his forehead as he felt a chill seemingly spread throughout his aurasea. He was afraid that the Great Meru Demonic Pillar would completely explode. With his current strength, he was completely unable to endure it.

"I don't think that you've called me over just to give me a scare, right, Dean?" Although his heart had skipped a beat, Mu Chen quickly calmed down. Raising his head to look to Dean Tai Cang, he spoke out with a smile.

"Truly a smart fellow."

Unable to resist it, Dean Tai Cang gave a laugh before answering, "You've completed your mission this time without a hitch, so a reward should be given to you. After discussing, we've decided to help you remove the Demonic Dragon Brand within the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. This way, it will completely break its connection with the Demonic Dragon Palace. In the future, when you're able to completely tame and control it, it'll truly be yours."

Upon hearing those words, Mu Chen was immediately elated. The Demonic Dragon Brand was planted by a Sovereign of the Demonic Dragon Palace, and Mu Chen clearly didn't possess the ability to remove it. The only one that could help him in this matter would only be Dean Tai Cang and the Elders.

"Thank you very much, Dean!" Mu Chen showed his heartfelt gratitude.

Replying with a wave, Dean Tai Cang nodded towards the other five Heavenly Seated Elders, before the five scattered in different directions.

"Summon the Great Meru Demonic Pillar."

Upon hearing that, Mu Chen hesitated awhile. At this moment, the Great Meru Demonic Pillar was suppressed by the mysterious black paper. However, once it was released, it might create a great commotion... However, after seeing the faint smile on Dean Tai Cang's face, Mu Chen felt much more at ease. With six Sovereign Stage existences guarding him over him, he didn't believe that the Great Meru Demonic Pillar could create an upheaval!

Thinking till here, Mu Chen no longer hesitated. Faintly narrowing his eyes, with a thought, the mysterious Mandala flower in his aurasea slowly blossomed. As this happened, the purple-coloured chains that were wrapped around the Great Meru Demonic Pillar started to slowly retract.

Bang!

Just as the purple-coloured chains retracted, the Great Meru Demonic Pillar started to crazily vibrate. With a bang, it transformed into a scarlet-red streak of light, rushing straight out of Mu Chen's aurasea.

Whoosh!

As the scarlet-red streak of light rushed straight out of Mu Chen's crown, a black demonic pillar followed along the streak of light and rushed out. Demonic energies originating from the ancient antiquity swept out, filling the entire large hall in an instant.

Humm!

The entire large hall vibrated as storms whipped up with the arrival of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. Instantly piercing towards the sky of the large hall, it tried to escape and flee this place.

Hmph!

Looking at the gigantic pillar, Dean Tai Cang gave a cold snort. With a wave of his hand, a dazzling brilliance furiously erupted from the ceiling of the large hall. Countless gigantic rays of brilliance formed into chains that explosively shot out. Piercing through space, they immediately wrapped around the Great Meru Demonic Pillar.

"Suppress it!"

A deep cry rang out from Mo You, Zhu Tian and the three other Heavenly Seated Elders. Five boundless Spiritual Energies flowed out, akin to liquid streams, while howling from their palms. Wrapping around the Great Meru Demonic Pillar, the demonic energies radiating from it were completely suppressed.

Humm! Humm!

The Great Meru Demonic Pillar crazily struggled as it attempted to escape its restraints. As it did so, shattering patterns appeared in the surrounding space.

A slightly grave expression appeared on the faces of Mo You and the other four Heavenly Seated Elders as slight shock appeared within their hearts. The Great Meru Demonic Pillar was undoubtedly an ominous weapon from the ancient antiquity.

However, although the Great Meru Demonic Pillar was powerful, the lineup it faced was overly luxurious. As time elapsed, the shock created by the Great Meru Demonic Pillar gradually turned quiet.

Whoosh!

Upon seeing this, Dean Tai Cang brought his hands together to form a hand seal. In the next instant, a ray of boundless Spiritual Energy shot out. Akin to a liquid, it enveloped the entire Great Meru Demonic Pillar within it.

This liquid-like Spiritual Energy slowly seeped into the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. As it seeped in, Mu Chen noticed some dark and abstruse black light appearing on the surface of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. From afar, it appeared akin to a pattern of an entrenched demonic dragon!

Obviously, this was the Demonic Dragon Brand that Dean Tai Cang had talked about!

“Dispel it!” Chilling intent erupted from Dean Tai Cang’s eyes. Looking towards the Demonic Dragon Brand that appeared akin to a living thing, he gave a shout.

Bang!

Boundless Spiritual Energies howled from the six people, sweeping towards the Demonic Dragon Brand.

As Dean Tai Cang and the five Elders were attempting to dispel the Demonic Dragon Brand, within a giant black hall in a far place, the Black Dragon Sovereign, who was cultivating in a sitting position, furiously opened his eyes, while a chilling glow flashed within them.

“Tai Cang, you really dare to dispel our Demonic Dragon Brand! Okay! Since you want to fight, our Demonic Dragon Palace will have a fight with you first! Let’s see if you have the capability to dispel our Demonic Dragon Brand!”

Quickly standing up, a low dragon-like roar resounded as spatial fluctuations radiated to far distances.

As his low roar rang out, a number of furious dragon roars rang out within the deepest depths of the black, giant imperial tomb-like hall. In the next instant, the space in front of the Black Dragon Sovereign distorted as five figures immediately step out of it, appearing within the large hall.

Following their appearance, a terrifying pressure started to radiate out.

These five people had impressively possessed Sovereign Stage strength!

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Chapter 383: Battle of the Sovereigns

Boundless Spiritual Energy flooded the large hall. The Spiritual Energy present here was extremely pure, with faint signs of being liquid-like. With the level of Spiritual Energy within each clump being comparable to the maximum amount a Heavenly Completion Stage expert could condense within one’s body...

Within the centre of all that boundless Spiritual Energy, the Great Meru Demonic Pillar continued to endlessly emit humming noises. However, the frightening demonic energies were unwaveringly suppressed by the Spiritual Energy, unable to spew out as previously.

The Demonic Dragon pattern squirmed about on the surface of the demonic pillar, as if the Demonic Dragon Brand had seemingly sensed the impending danger. Low and deep roars rang out from it as a dark and sinister black brilliance radiated from it, defending against the corrosion brought by the boundless Spiritual Energies.

Humm. Humm.

However, faced against the collaboration of six Sovereign Stage existences, the Demonic Dragon Brand was by itself and appeared clearly weaker. Even though it had taken root within the Great Meru Demonic Pillar, and was unable to borrow some of its demonic energies, with signs of it starting to dissipate under the corrosion of the boundless Spiritual Energies.

At this moment, Mu Chen was standing at the furthest position possible, while he was unable to move a single inch of his body. That was due to the immense pressure created by six Sovereigns unleashing their Spiritual Energies.

With nothing he could do about it, he could only bitterly laugh in helplessness. With his strength only at the Heavenly Transformation Stage Late Phase, he was not even at the level of an ant in front of a Sovereign Stage expert. Just the Spiritual Energy pressure created by them was enough to make him incapable of budging.

However, the only thing that could make Mu Chen feel comfort was that the Demonic Dragon Brand was being dispelled. That was undeniably removing an extreme danger hidden within.

Bang!

However, just as Mu Chen had exhaled a breath of relief, extremely terrifying energies furiously gushed out from the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. The Demonic Dragon Brand, which was gradually being corroded by the boundless Spiritual Energies gushing from Dean Tai Cang and the five Elders, radiated with intense black rays of light at this moment. Dragon roars howled out as storms were whipped up by the Demonic Dragon Brand. Separating itself from the demonic pillar, it had unexpectedly transformed into a rather frightening demonic dragon.

As the demonic dragon coiled up in the air, frightening fluctuations radiated from its jet-black body. Being somewhat unable to endure them, the surrounding space even started showing signs of shattering.

“Tai Cang, are you planning to take the treasure of our Demonic Dragon Palace for your own? It isn’t that easy!” In a seated position, the gigantic eyes of the demonic dragon roared with incomparable rage and ferocity towards the people present in the large hall.

“Black Dragon Sovereign?!”

Upon hearing that familiar voice, Mu Chen’s heart was instantly overwhelmed with shock and dread.

“Look’s like you’re unable to endure it after all, huh, Black Dragon Sovereign?” Upon seeing this, Tai Cang gave a faint smile as if he didn’t feel the slightest bit of surprise. Obviously, he had long expected the outcome of this situation.

“Hmph! The guts of your Demonic Dragon Palace ain’t small! You’re really asking for trouble by daring to send a remnant shadow to charge into our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy!” A cold snort rang out from Hall Master Mo You as his expression turned dark.

“Hmph! In this Northern Heavens Continent, our Demonic Dragon Palace can go wherever we want! Do you think you can stop us?!” Another cold voice rang out from within the demonic dragon. This voice was different from the Black Dragon Sovereign. However, it appeared similarly cold and frightening.

“Haha. If not for you guys activating the Demonic Dragon Brand, we wouldn’t have been able to cast our projections over. Today’s a good day. Relying on the power of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar, we’ll completely butcher all of you!” A laughing voice brimming with cruel tyranny rang out from within the demonic dragon.

“So, it's not just a single projection. Can it be that the Six Great Hall Masters of the Demonic Dragon Palace have arrived?” Elder Zhu Tian spoke out with a sneer.

“Six Great Hall Masters?”

Mu Chen was startled as he heard those words. Looking towards the gigantic eyes of demonic dragon, a black brilliance erupted from within as six blurry figures were faintly discernable from within. Those six figures were akin to figures of demon gods, causing people to feel extreme pressure and oppression.

“All of you guys have finally gathered together. However, it'll not change the result one single bit.” Chilling intent flashed within the abstruse eyes of Dean Tai Cang. With a wave of his sleeve, the boundless Spiritual Energy gushing out of him transformed into a sea of Spiritual Energy. As the waves surged out, they shattered space, sweeping straight towards the sitting demonic dragon.

At the same time, Hall Master Mo You and the other four Heavenly Seated Elders launched their attacks, causing boundless Spiritual Energies to sweep out.

Roar!

Upon seeing this, the demonic dragon gave a roar. Extending its claws, it grabbed onto the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. Violently fanning it out, it smashed the incoming Spiritual Energy sea apart.

Bang!

At this moment, frightening demonic energies erupted from the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. As the demonic pillar was waved around, the surrounding space was split and shattered apart, completely blocking against the boundless Spiritual Energies heading towards the demonic dragon.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

As a frightening fight erupted within the large hall, the startled Mu Chen hastily shot out of the large hall. In the next instant, cracks started to appear and split apart on the surface of the Spiritual Array-reinforced large hall.

Bang!

As the cracks extended to their extremities, unable to endure the frightening shock waves forming within, the large hall exploded apart. As the frightening Spiritual Energy shock waves rushed out, storms were whipped up in the air above the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, attracting the shocked and horrified gazes of countless students.

Bang!

As countless shocked and terrified gazes looked over, the large hall exploded apart. In the next instant, a gigantic dragon with a demonic pillar grasped within its hands rushed towards the sky. Six streams of light rushed towards the horizon from the surroundings as boundless Spiritual Energy seas enveloped over, continuously sweeping towards the demonic dragon. As the Spiritual Energy seas came pressuring over, space started to shatter, piece by piece, showing their extremely terrifying destructive powers.

Such a terrifying exchange appearing out of nowhere caused all the students to stare in dumbfounded shock. Did they ever see a fight of such degree?

Alarm cries quickly resounded across the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, causing numerous higher levels of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy to swiftly shoot over. Looking gravely at the fight taking place in the sky, shock and astonishment appeared within their eyes.

At a secluded peak far away, a big and small figure could be seen observing the battle up in the sky. It was Ling Xi and Sun'er.

"Such frightening Spiritual Energy fluctuations... even the Dean and the other Elders have actually taken action." Sun'er cried out in shock.

"That's...the people of the Demonic Dragon Palace." Ling Xi's crescent moon-shaped eyebrows slightly bunched up. Staring at the demonic dragon, she spoke out in response.

"Aren't you going to take action, Elder Sister Ling Xi? That demonic dragon seems extremely formidable!" Sun'er replied in worry. This was, after all, the inner region of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. If students were to be swept up in the collateral energies radiating out from the fight, this would be too grave and serious for the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

Gently shaking her small head, Ling Xi replied in a faint voice, "There's only the projections of those fellows from the Demonic Dragon Palace within that demonic dragon. How can they contend against Dean Tai Cang and the other Elders? Therefore, there's no need for me to take action."

Speaking until here, her gaze turned slightly towards the mountain peak located below of the fighting radius. There was a thin figure faintly discernable over there, which was precisely Mu Chen.

Upon seeing Mu Chen's figure, faint fluctuations appeared for an instant within her eyes.

At this moment, Mu Chen didn't notice the gaze coming from Ling Xi in the far distance as his head pointed towards the sky. Although the commotion coming from the sky was extremely huge, he wasn't overly worried about that. The fight happening there was clearly in the control of Dean Tai Cang and the five Elders. After all, the Six Great Hall Masters of the Demonic Dragon Palace had only sent their projections over. Although they were relying on the might of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar, they were still unable to truly contend with Dean Tai Cang and the five Elders.

If this continued, it would be no surprise to anyone that Dean Tai Cang would obtain victory.

"Is there any point in doing such useless actions, Black Dragon Sovereign?! Today, none of you will be able to bring it out of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy!" Dean Tai Cang spoke out with a cold and detached expression.

"Hmph! Is that right?!"

Black Dragon Sovereign's sneering voice rang out, while sinister and chilling intent seemed to surface within the eyes of the demonic dragon. In the next instant, its body suddenly started to crazily inflate. At this moment, the six blurry figures within the giant eyes of the demonic dragon had unexpectedly exploded.

"Careful! They want to self-destruct their projections!" Dean Tai Cang's eyes instantly contracted as he cried out.

Bang!

At the instant when his cry rang out, the demonic dragon had already inflated to a size nearing ten thousand feet. Hiding the sky and covering the earth, it completely exploded in the next instant. Seemingly destructive fluctuations swept out, enveloping the academy below.

Upon seeing this, Dean Tai Cang and the five Elders instantly retreated. Sending a palm patting out, boundless Spiritual Energy seas expanded out underneath, enveloping the academy below them.

Bang! Bang!

As the destructive fluctuations smashed against the Spiritual Energy seas, deep and low sounds erupted out. However, they were unable to pierce through them in the end, causing the pale faces of the countless students below to regain some colour.

Whoosh!

After Dean Tai Cang and the five Elders had successfully blocked the destructive fluctuations, a bloody light rushed towards the sky. The Great Meru Demonic Pillar swiftly followed suit as the space before it violently distorted, transforming into a pathway.

“Don’t let it escape!” Dean Tai Cang’s expression sank. Those Demonic Dragon fellows were really decisive and ruthless. They had actually wanted to let the Great Meru Demonic Pillar escape by itself.

However, relying on the explosive force due to the explosion of the projections, the speed of the Great Meru Demonic Pillar drastically increased. In a flash, it had already rushed into the spatial pathway, and was just about to disappear within.

Bang!

However, just at the instant when it was about to shuttle through the spatial pathway, the entire stretch of the world suddenly turned dim. Overwhelmed with shock, countless people raised their heads, only to see a ten thousand foot long feathery wing unfurling across the horizon. This entire stretch of the world was shrouded by the shadow it created.

Bang!

Under the feathery wing, sharp black claws were thrust out, causing the spatial pathway to completely shatter apart. Piercing deep within the spatial path, it grabbed onto the Great Meru Demonic Pillar within.

As the feathery wing that hid the skies and covered the earth rapidly disappeared, sunlight came enveloping back. As the strange scene suddenly disappeared, countless students looked at each other, slightly confused over what had just happened.

“Just now, that’s...”

“It looked like a wing...”

“Such a big wing! Could it...could this be the Divine Beast Protector of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, Lord Northern Sea Dragon?”

“...so formidable! Even space was captured!”

“.....”

A Clamoring of emotional voices erupted across the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

On the mountain peak, Mu Chen's face was filled with shock and astonishment. However, before he could regain his clarity from it, a black streak of light shot over the horizon, shooting straight into his body.

It's the Great Meru Demonic Pillar!

With a thought, the Mandala flower within his aurasea immediately bloomed. Countless purple-coloured chains shot out, rapidly wrapping around the demonic pillar, before pulling it back into the centre of the flower. In the next instant, purplish light radiated, before suppressing and sealing it up once again!

Hu.

Seeing that the Great Meru Demonic Pillar was sealed once again, Mu Chen breathed a sigh of relief akin to having a heavy weight lifted off his shoulders. For the sake of dealing with the Demonic Dragon Brand, the peak existences of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had all taken action...

Dean Tai Cang and the five Elders shot down, appearing beside Mu Chen.

“Haha. We're fortunate to have lord Northern Sea take action. If not, we'd have really lost it,” said Mo You with a smile.

“Those fellows are really decisive. Exploding their own projections. That will definitely cause damage to their true bodies.” Elder Zhu Tian added with a frown.

With a smile also present on his face, Dean Tai Cang looked towards Mu Chen and said, “However, it's good that we didn't lose it. From today onwards, the Demonic Dragon Palace will no longer be able to control the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. As long as you're able to control it, it will be yours.”

“Thank you very much, Dean!” Mu Chen was unable to express how much gratitude he had from them. They had helped settle a gargantuan hidden danger for him. He would absolutely have been unable to achieve it by himself. After all, he didn't have the strength to face against the projections of six Sovereign Stage experts.

With a wave of his hand, Dean Tai Cang didn't continue speaking anything as he turned around, planning to leave.

“Dean...”

Upon seeing him leave, Mu Chen hastily called out to him. When Dean Tai Cang had turned around and faced him, Mu Chen hesitated for a moment. Summoning his courage, he spoke out, “I've some interest towards the Divine Spiritual Mountain...”

“Divine Spiritual Mountain?” Hall Master Mo You and the other four Elders were all startled, before starting to slightly frown. This matter was, in fact, a thorn in the heart of their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. After all, they were a leviathan and the Overlords of the Northern Heavens

Continent. However, they had always been unable to participate in the biggest occasion of the Northern Heavens Continent, causing quite a few tongues wagging outside for the past few years.

“It’s too dangerous.” Shooting a look at Mu Chen, Dean Tai Cang shook his head, before turning around and walking away.

Mu Chen gave a bitter laugh, shrugging his shoulders in disappointment. *Looks like I’ve no affinity with this Divine Spiritual Mountain.*

Dean Tai Cang’s footsteps suddenly paused, before he entered the large hall. Placing his hands behind his back, he pondered deeply for a moment, before a faint voice rang out from him.

“If you really want to go, there’s a possibility. Make a breakthrough to Heavenly Completion Stage in a month.”

Upon hearing those words, Mu Chen immediately felt elated, before becoming dejected the next moment. Make a breakthrough to Heavenly Completion Stage in one month...this level of difficulty was too high...

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Chapter 384: Idea

Freshman Area

Mu Chen lazily laid on the small building with his hands resting behind his head. Looking blankly at the fluttering clouds in the sky, an expression of helplessness was present on his handsome face.

At this moment, Mu Chen was having a headache. The reason was naturally due to the goal of reaching Heavenly Completion Stage within a month given to him by Dean Tai Cang.

As of now, his strength was at the Heavenly Transformation Stage Late Phase. Although it seemed as if he was only one step away from it, he was extremely clear how hard it was to take that step forward. According to his estimates, even if he were to do his utmost and cultivate, while using all of the methods he could use, it would take him three months or even longer time before being able to take this step.

As for one month, it was clearly too short.

Sitting up, Mu Chen grabbed at his hair in frustration. He knew that Dean Tai Cang was doing this for his safety in mind. After all, those people with the qualifications to participate in the Divine Spiritual Mountain were seemingly all peak-level existences of the younger generation within the Northern Heavens Continent. There were some people that were even stronger than Mo Longzi. If he were to participate with his strength at Heavenly Transformation Stage Late Phase, even with all the various methods he possessed, it would still lead to disaster for him.

I’ve no other way but to find someone to help me. thought Mu Chen as he shrugged his shoulders in helplessness. Raising his head, he looked towards a quiet and secluded mountain peak within the depths of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. That was the place where Ling Xi lived.

Within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, the number of Elders Mu Chen were on familiar terms with weren’t many, with Ling Xi being one of them. The time they knew about each other wasn’t considered too long. However, for some unknown reason, Mu Chen always had an extremely

indescribable feeling of trust towards Ling Xi. It was as if Ling Xi would never ever do anything that would harm him, no matter what.

This feeling made Mu Chen even feel at a loss during certain times. However, faintly, he had a certain feeling that this was seemingly related to his mother.

Ling Xi had a painting of his mother with her. This was sufficient proof that she should have some relationship with his mother. However, he was still unable to guess exactly what kind of relationship that was.

Although Mu Chen didn't know if Ling Xi had any way of helping him. In such desperate times, the only thing he could do was to try everything possible.

Thinking till this point, Mu Chen no longer continued to hesitate. Shooting towards the sky, he headed straight towards the quiet and secluded mountain peak in the depths of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. For the past few days, Luo Li had started her dedicated cultivation regimen once again, giving the cold shoulder to Mu Chen, causing him to harbour a hidden bitterness for her.

Mu Chen's figure descended on the quiet and secluded mountain peak. Upon him landing down, the tightly shut the clean doors of the courtyard that had already started to quietly open, no longer being tightly shut as they were before.

With a smile, Mu Chen walked into the courtyard, before seeing a beautiful lady in a snow-white dress sitting on the platform before the bamboo house. At this time, Ling Xi's jade-like hand was resting on her cheek, while a slender finger was playing with a lock of black hair. Upon Mu Chen entering, those pair of quick-witted eyes rested on his body.

At this moment, there wasn't any of the cold and detached chilling aura radiating from her lustrous and white face. Her beautiful face that displayed a gentler expression had undoubtedly possessed much more allure and soul-stirring emotions to be born upon seeing her.

"You've not come here for many days since your return to the academy. Suddenly coming here to find me, is there a problem?" Ling Xi said out softly. Her voice was clear and melodious, akin to the voice coming from the deep valley, sounding extremely pleasing to one's ears.

With an awkward smile, Mu Chen walked forward and replied, "I was injured during the mission; therefore, I've spent all this time recovering and recuperating..."

With a gentle nod, Ling Xi didn't continue speaking again.

Not too used to such silence, Mu Chen gave a laugh to break the quiet atmosphere before saying, "Oh, yes. I've to thank you for giving me that array drawing the previous time. It had really helped me a lot this time."

"Okay."

Ling Xi nodded her head, while her slender fingers were still twirling with a lock of her black hair. After allowing it to fall down and cover her voluptuous chest, she quietly cast her beautiful eyes towards Mu Chen.

The latter obviously had some matters in his mind to be seeking for her this time.

Being stared at by her, Mu Chen was a little too unused to such an action from her. Tilting his head from side-to-side, he spoke out after drumming his courage up, "Would you be able to help me on something?"

"Speak," replied Ling Xi with a blink of her long and slender eyelashes.

"Is there any way that can allow me to break through to Heavenly Completion Stage within a month?" Mu Chen spoke out the trouble he faced while shrugging his shoulder, before continuing, "Naturally, I'm talking about ways that don't have any after effects or repercussions."

"Breaking through to Heavenly Completion Stage within a month?"

Ling Xi was startled by his words, before slightly knitting her eyebrows together. "Other people are unable to step into this stage even after cultivating for one or even two years. And here you are, wanting to accomplish that within a month. Aren't you too naive?"

Mu Chen gave a bitter laugh. This wasn't him demanding for instant success. However, Dean Tai Cang had only given him this amount of time. Regardless of whether he could accomplish it or not, he wanted to give it a try. Furthermore, it wasn't him trying to arrogant about his capabilities. He truly had the confidence in himself that he would be able to handle the power requirement of promoting into Heavenly Completion Stage.

Ling Xi stared at Mu Chen with her beautiful eyes. If anyone else were to beg her in such a way, she might not even care and think about it. However, faced with the current Mu Chen, she was unable to have any thoughts of rejecting him.

These feelings caused Ling Xi to feel somewhat inconceivable. After all, she had only know Mu Chen for no more than two months. However could she treat him so differently?

Could it be due to him having cultivated the Great Pagoda Art? Or perhaps that the lady within the painting that was extremely important to her, was actually his mother?

Ling Xi's beautiful eyes faintly sparkled, as confusion and disorder was momentarily present within her heart and mind.

"It's alright if there isn't any way to go about this...I'll head back first." Looking at the silent Ling Xi in front of him and assuming that she didn't have any way to help him, Mu Chen could only speak and say such words.

After speaking out, he planned to turn around and leave. Ling Xi was the only person staying here. Him remaining here seemed to not be too good of an idea.

"Wait." Ling Xi's clear and melodious voice suddenly rang out.

Turning around, Mu Chen immediately noticed Ling Xi extending her slender and jade-like hand towards him. Under the illumination of the sunlight, it appeared as if her hand was sparkling with a white luster.

"Show me your hand," said Ling Xi as she slightly curled her lips.

Immediately, Mu Chen gawked, hesitating for a moment, before walking over. Extending his hand, he placed it on Ling Xi's jade-like palm. The extremely wonderful feeling he felt on contact was as if he had touched a piece of top-quality white jade, causing people to not want to part with it.

However, Mu Chen didn't have too many other thoughts at this moment as he stared with a strange gaze at Ling Xi. With the latter's disposition, she seemed to be the type of person that wouldn't do such senseless actions.

"Export one strand of your Spiritual Energy," said Ling Xi in a soft voice.

Mu Chen had some doubts present in his mind. Nevertheless, he had followed her words and pressed a strand of Spiritual Energy out. As the jet-black Spiritual Energy erupted from his palm, black flames were present, burning around it.

Shooting a look at it, a strand of Spiritual Energy erupted from her palm. Her Spiritual Energy was also, unexpectedly, a jet-black colour, with the only thing different being the absence of black flames burning on it.

Mu Chen was startled and astonished. It was exceedingly similar to the Spiritual Energy that he had built up after cultivating the Great Pagoda Art. It looked like Ling Xi had truly cultivated in the Great Pagoda Art before.

As the Spiritual Energies erupted from their palms and came into contact, the two different energies unexpectedly started to slowly fuse, bit by bit.

Whoosh!

With the fusion of the two Spiritual Energies, the two of them could clearly feel that their Spiritual Energies had started to miraculously expand by many times. Furthermore, this fused Spiritual Energy had become exceedingly stronger than each the previously combined strength of the Spiritual Energy strands.

Looking at the fused Spiritual Energy, Ling Xi didn't retract her portion back. With a light tap of her slender finger, the clump of Spiritual Energy was flicked straight into Mu Chen's body.

A faint shudder shook through Mu Chen's body as the greatly expanded Spiritual Energy started to automatically revolve along the same pathways he used when cultivating the Great Pagoda Art. Finally, drilling into his aurasea, it was devoured by his Divine Spirit in a single breath.

However, when his Divine Spirit absorbed this clump of Spiritual Energy, Mu Chen immediately felt that the Spiritual Energy within his body had instantly increased by a portion.

"This..." Shock and astonishment filled Mu Chen's face as he immediately turned to look at Ling Xi with a weird expression in his eyes. Why would such a change happen to their Spiritual Energy when they came into contact with each other? It was able to treat his wounds, and was also able to act like a sacrificial offering, letting his Spiritual Energy expand and become much more dense and strong.

"I, too, don't know what enables this." Seemingly able to understand his doubts, Ling Xi learnt from him and shrugged her little shoulders.

"Looks like there truly is something special between the two of us."

As Ling Xi stood up, her snow-white dress made her beautiful figure appear slender and full, showing off her alluring curves. With a sudden smile, she spoke out, "If the lady in the painting that's extremely important to me is truly your mother, do you think that I'm the child bride that she has found for you?"

Overwhelmed by shock and horror, Mu Chen retreated a step back. He had almost been scared to death by Ling Xi's words. Only after quite a long while did he manage to regain his clarity, replying her with his forehead dripping with sweat, "That joke's not one bit funny."

"I hope so."

Ling Xi replied while nodding her head. Turning around and walking towards the depths of her courtyard, she spoke out, "Follow me. Due to the unique situation between us, it seems that you promoting to Heavenly Completion Stage within a month isn't absolutely impossible."

Looking at the alluring and beautiful figure of Ling Xi, Mu Chen exhaled a long breath of air, before following her in quick steps. Ling Xi's previous words had given him quite a heavy freight.

As they headed into the depths of the courtyard, layers of cloth and mist obscured their vision.

Stopping in her tracks, Ling Xi panned her head over, looking towards Mu Chen before saying, "You'll come in when I call for you."

Mu Chen didn't know exactly what she was doing. Thus, he could only nod his head in doubt.

After walking through the hanging cloths, a clear pond was present before Ling Xi. Biting her lip, she lowered her head to look at the beautiful snow-white reflection present on the water's surface. In the next instant, she gave a smile, appearing exceedingly soul-stirring.

Slowly walking into the pond, the pond water turned her white dress wet, causing it to tightly adhere against her proud and lovable body, extending her astonishingly heart-stopping curves.

After entering the pond, Ling Xi sat within it. Boundless Spiritual Energy proceeded to erupt from her, assimilating within the water at that point. Instantly, the water started to gradually turn jet-black, while sparkling with a beautiful luster.

"Come in."

Mu Chen, who was waiting behind the layers of cloth, finally heard Ling Xi's voice. Extending his head over, he walked pass them, before finally seeing Ling Xi, who was sitting in the water.

Although the majority of her lovable figure was covered by the jet-black water, her upper body was still above the water line. Being drenched by the water, her slender and fair neck was shown through her white dress, before showing the voluptuous curves present below.

Upon seeing such an alluring and erotic scene, Mu Chen was completely dumbstruck and stupefied.

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Chapter 385: Aunt Jing

Faint puffs of steam rose from the pond. However, they were unable to mask the alluring and erotic scene before Mu Chen.

Hua!

Discovering the gaze coming straight from Mu Chen, a crimson shadow surfaced on her white, lustrous face. With a wave of her jade-like hand, a pillar of water rushed out, spraying towards Mu Chen.

As the icy-cold water drenched his body, Mu Chen finally regained his clarity. Hastily turning his gaze away, he felt awkward and embarrassed, while not knowing what Ling Xi was planning to do.

“Enter the pond and absorb all the Spiritual Energy within.”

Ling Xi tried her best to submerge all of her body within the pond. However, due to the water level being quite shallow, it was unable to cover the entirety of her body. Puffs of steam rose into the air, causing her cold and indifferent-looking face to appear a pinkish-red. Gently biting her lip, she said, “Also, please mind your eyes. If you dare to look at me, I’ll expel you from here.”

Immediately, Mu Chen nodded his head in succession, before proceeding to jump straight into the water. Upon feeling the water in the pond, amazement erupted within his eyes. He clearly felt the pure Spiritual Energy contained within the water.

These fluctuations were clearly the Spiritual Energy from Ling Xi. *She had actually assimilated her Spiritual Energy into the pond for me to cultivate!*

Mu Chen was baffled for a moment, while a slightly complicated expression appeared within his eyes. Looking at the beautiful figure that still appeared exquisite and lovable within the thick clouds of mist, the rather spectacular curves on her body continued to extend out.

“Why did you do this?” asked Mu Chen in a soft voice. What Ling Xi had done was simply using her Spiritual Energy and giving it to him. Although it would increase his cultivation speed, her cultivation would temporarily come to a standstill. Although it was just for a short period of time, was there anyone in the world that would do such a thing for a stranger?

Sitting within the pond, upon hearing Mu Chen’s words, a blank expression appeared within Ling Xi’s eyes. *That’s right. Why would I help Mu Chen to such a degree? And yet, why wasn’t there the slightest bit of rejection to such a thought within the depths of her heart...?*

“I also don’t know... Perhaps, this is something that I ought to do.”

In a soft voice, Ling Xi replied, “Although I’ve lost my memories, the feelings within the depths of my heart didn’t disappear. With them, I can feel that it’s quite good for me to do such a thing.”

After remaining silent awhile, Mu Chen started to sit down within the pond, while mist sprayed across his face. After quite a while later, a faint smile appeared on his face as he said, “Elder...Sister Ling Xi. Can I address you this way?”

A tremble shook through Ling Xi’s lovable body. Raising her beautiful eyes, she looked towards the handsome youth smiling radiantly across the pond. For a while, she was unable to say anything. Within her heart, surging feelings seemed to impact her spirit. This caused a warm and gentle feeling to surface within her quiet and cold heart.

Therefore, a faint smile surfaced on her beautiful face as she gave a gentle nod.

“Relax, Elder Sister Ling Xi. Although I don’t know exactly what relation you have with my mum, you have to believe in me that I’ll definitely help you regain your lost memories! Regardless of who it was who did that to you, I’ll definitely help you!” Mu Chen spoke out resolutely and decisively, while a firm and bright light flashed within his eyes.

Looking blankly at the firm and resolute eyes of the youth in front of her, the warmth Ling Xi felt in her heart caused a sliver of warmth to appear within that frost-covered heart of hers. That was a feeling that had seemingly not appeared for a very, very long time, causing even her eyes to turn slightly red. Slightly tilting her head around and wiping her eyes with her hand, a gentle smile appeared on her face as she said, “That’s good. I’ve now have a little brother. However, just firing off words isn’t useful. As of now, you’re too weak.”

With a cheeky laugh, Mu Chen replied, “I’ll try my best.”

“Okay. You should start cultivating first,” said Ling Xi with a faint smile.

Although he didn’t know what this pond was, Mu Chen wasn’t one bit affected. There were times when knowing such feelings within one’s heart was enough. Speaking from one’s mouth would instead make one appear hypocritical.

Therefore, gently nodding his head, he started to slowly close his eyes. The Great Pagoda Art within his body started to revolve, while black rays of brilliance extended from the surface of his body.

Crash!

The water in the pond surged as if it possessed a conscious, and was rapidly gushing towards Mu Chen. As this happened, the black colour within the water endlessly continued to drill into Mu Chen’s body.

All of this was the Spiritual Energy coming from Ling Xi.

This Spiritual Energy drilled straight into Mu Chen’s body, instantly fusing within the Spiritual Energy within his body. At the instant when they fused together, abstruse black rays of brilliance erupted within his body. These black rays of brilliance irrigated throughout his body, flooding through every corner within.

The Spiritual Energy within his body started to increase at a furious rate!

Boundless Spiritual Energy rapidly revolved within his meridians. Continuing to pour endlessly into his aurasea, it was completely devoured by his Divine Soul sitting within with a single gulp. Black rays of light radiated from its entire body, appearing exceedingly abnormal and mysterious.

A feeling of his Spiritual Energy gradually growing more tyrannical rippled through Mu Chen’s limbs and bones.

As Mu Chen sunk into the miraculous feeling of his Spiritual Energy growing stronger, the revolving speed of the Great Pagoda Art seemed to grow increasingly faster, greedily devouring the endless Spiritual Energy gushing into his body.

...

Within the pond, Ling Xi looked towards Mu Chen, who had entered a state of cultivation. Faintly curling up her slender legs and resting her snow-white chin on her knees, Spiritual Energy continued to erupt from her body. After assimilating into the water, it replenished that which had already been absorbed by Mu Chen.

As Spiritual Energy continued to flow out of her, Ling Xi could feel a faint feeling of weakness starting to erupt from the depths of her body. However, instead of stopping, wrapping her jade-like arms around her knees, a slightly vacant expression appeared within her beautiful eyes as she started to slowly close them.

A feeling of dizziness started to spread within Ling Xi's mind, Unknowingly, her consciousness started to gradually grow dark and dim.

Ling Xi's consciousness fluttered within the darkness, the feelings of helplessness caused her to feel afraid and frightened.

Within the darkness, there seemed to be fluctuations present, rippling out as they undulated. Faintly, there seemed to be some blurry pictures surfacing within her mind.

It was a stretch of bloody ruins, filled with the flames of war. A little girl, completely covered in dirt and grime, shivering as she curled up within the rubble within. Trembling and shivering, the neverending rain continued to pour down, causing her already weak and frail body to appear even more pitiful.

A stretch of dull-gray was already present within her eyes, while she was able to feel the encroachment of death. However, there wasn't much fear or dread within her. Although she was young, she had seen too much of the cruelty and indifference within the secular world. There was no one that cared, no one that liked her. Even if she was to disappear, it would not attract anyone's attention.

Ever since her birth till now, she had seemingly not felt a single sliver of warmth.

Her consciousness started to grow increasingly blurry. *It seems that I'm about to die like this...*

Unknowingly, the rain drops falling on her body had stopped. A figure seemed to appear before their eyes. Raising her head, she could faintly discern a gentle figure right in front of her.

The gentle figure extended her palms, rubbing Ling Xi's head. Under this gentle caressing, her originally cold and icy body unexpectedly started to warm up.

Within her blurry eyesight, she could feel this gentle figure giving her incomparable warmth, something that she had never felt before.

In the next moment, the gentle figure before her gently placed some food beside her. After rubbing her head once more, the figure rose up and walked off.

Looking at the figure gradually disappearing in the distance, a breath of courage that sprouted out from an unknown place erupted forth. Grabbing the food left for her, she stumbled and staggered, walking towards the direction the figure had walked to.

She continued walking, and walking. Time was not a concept to her now, continuing till all the energy within her body was drained. In the end, finally seeing the gentle figure that she couldn't seem to catch up to, her petite body finally collapsed.

Nevertheless, her body didn't hit the hard ground below, instead she landed within a warm and gentle embrace.

"Planning to follow me, little thing?" The gentle figure rubbed her head, while the voice ringing out was similarly warm and gentle.

"Em." Within her weakness, she tightly grabbed the sleeve of the lady, wanting to grab onto the last remnant of warm within her life.

"However, the place I'm going to is extremely dangerous. It's hard to predict whether it'll be fortunate or disastrous if you follow me..." After giving a gentle sigh, the gentle lady spoke out.

She drilled herself into the lady's bosom, greedily seeking the warmth within. For the sake of that warmth, she was willing to pay any price.

In the end, she followed the gentle lady and left.

"What's your name?"

"Ling...Ling Xi..."

"A really nice-sounding name."

"Really?...How should I call you...?"

"Okay, call me Aunt Jing." The gentle lady replied with a faint smile.

"Okay...Aunt Jing..."

...

"Come Ling Xi, I'll teach you how to cultivate... Firstly, you'll have to choose a Spiritual Art. Come, take a pick. These few are very formidable..."

"Okay. Let me see...is this alright?" Looking at the glowing scrolls before her eyes, radiating with astonishing brilliance, Ling Xi hesitated for quite a while. In the end, she looked towards the unassuming black scroll that was floating at a corner.

"Oh?"

"Is there a problem? I can't choose it, Aunt Jing?"

"No...This martial art is split into two scrolls, Yin and Yang. The scroll before you is the Yin Scroll. I've left the Yang Scroll for my Little Mu'er. If you cultivate it, you'll suffer a lot in the future."

"Little Mu'er? Is that Aunt Jing's child?"

"Haha. That's right. He's a very cute little fellow, and is a little smaller than Ling Xi..."

Looking at the happy smile that had radiated from Aunt Jing's heart, a sour feeling erupted within her heart as she spoke out, "Then, why did Aunt Jing split up with him?"

Rubbing Ling Xi's head, Aunt Jing's expression turned into one of grief and dejection as she replied, "That's because I want to protect him...therefore, I can only leave him..."

Half-understanding Aunt Jing's words, Ling Xi nodded her head, and said, "Then, I'll cultivate in it."

"If you cultivate it, it'll bring a lot of trouble and danger for you..."

"I'm not afraid. Since Aunt Jing misses Little Mu'er that much, I'll cultivate in the same martial art. In the future, if I manage to find him, I'll bring him to see you." Ling Xi replied. As long as Aunt Jing became happy, she was willing to do anything.

Looking at the young and childish face of the little girl before her, the gentle lady gave a faint sigh. Raising her head to look towards a distant place in the endless horizon, that was a place she needed to return to. A place that possessed strong power, and yet was extremely cold and heartless. Compared to that, she truly preferred staying in the small Northern Spiritual Realm. Her husband was there, with a little fellow that she was willing to give her all to...

Therefore, there were times that she had to make a choice. Due to that, for the sake of protecting that little fellow, even though she couldn't bear it, the only thing she could do was to leave.

...

Within the pond, Ling Xi's long eyelashes faintly trembled, Her eyes started to open, bit by bit, revealing the sparkling gem-like tears brimming within them. Gently wiping away the slashes of water on her face, she started muttering.

"Aunt Jing..."

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 386: Memories

When Mu Chen had exited from his cultivation state, he could feel that the boundless Spiritual Energy circulating within his body was undeniably much more vigorous and dense than before.

Cultivating for a short span of half a day, in accordance to Mu Chen's feelings, he might have already reached the same benefits as cultivating normally for ten days. Such an efficiency truly made him gasp in amazement.

According to this speed, Mu Chen could tell that it was extremely possible for him to complete his breakthrough and genuinely promote into the Heavenly Completion Stage within a month.

Lifting his hands to do a stretch, sharp and clear cracking sounds seemed to ring out from all the bones within his body. At the same time, a feeling brimming with happiness radiated from his entire body.

Lowering his head to shoot a look at the pond, he noticed that the jet black water had already turned clear and transparent once again. Obviously, the Spiritual Energy within it had already been completely sucked dry by him.

Raising his head, to look towards the other side of the pond, the scene that he saw instantly caused him to feel startled, since he saw Ling Xi currently hugging her knees. At this moment, her beautiful teardrop-shaped face appeared exceeding calm, while her weak and lovable figure seemed to be shivering.

“Elder Sister Ling Xi!” Shock filled Mu Chen as he hastily stood up and rushed over. Hugging Ling Xi up by the waist, he carried her out. The clear water dripped down from her lovable body, while the already translucent dress stuck tightly on her exquisite and voluptuous figure, accentuating those astonishing and soul-stirring curves.

However, at this moment, Mu Chen didn’t have the heart or attention left to admire such a beautiful scene. Carrying Ling Xi over the grass patch beside the pond, he retrieved an enormous set of robes and wrapped them around her.

“I’m alright. I’ve just exhausted all of my Spiritual Energy, that’s all,” replied Ling Xi as she tightened the robes that were wrapped around her. At this moment, her beautiful eyes were staring unblinkingly at Mu Chen, as if she had wanted to burn the face of the youth in front her into the depths of her mind.

“What’s the matter?” Being stared at with such a gaze, Mu Chen felt somewhat unnatural, causing him to ask out.

“Now, after looking at you again...indeed, you’re look slightly like Aunt Jing,” replied Ling Xi with a gentle smile.

“Aunt Jing?” Mu Chen was immediately startled. In the next moment, after regaining his clarity, he asked out in shock and astonishment, “Are you talking about my mum?”

Gently nodding her head, Ling Xi replied, “In the previous moment, I have faintly remembered some stuff...”

Upon speaking until here, a grin appeared on her face. Looking at Mu Chen, she spoke out, “So you’re the little Mu’er that Aunt Jing was talking about...looks like my luck’s really good, huh? I’m even able to meet up with you just by waiting at this place.”

“Come, call me Elder Sister.” Extending her jade-like hand, Ling Xi gently twisted Mu Chen’s ears, while happiness brimmed within her beautiful eyes. At this moment, with every word and action, she truly appeared to be exceeding close and intimate to Mu Chen. Furthermore, it also appeared much more naturally and smooth.

Immediately, embarrassment filled Mu Chen. However, he didn’t have any rejections towards the natural intimacy Ling Xi was showing towards him. In addition, faint feelings of warmth appeared within his heart. However, feeling helpless, he tilted his head and evaded her incoming hands. Surprise, happiness and an urgent feeling appeared within his eyes as he hastily shot a question out to her. “You’ve remembered, Elder Sister Ling Xi? Do you remember where my mum is now?”

When he had left the Northern Spirit Realm, he had promised his old man that he would definitely bring his mum back to the Northern Spirit Realm. Being alone by himself in the Northern Spirit Realm, his old man was too lonely.

However, at this moment, he was still extremely weak, and didn’t have any way of travelling around the Great Thousand World to seek for the trail of his mum. However, if he was able to get some information beforehand, it would undoubtedly be an extremely heart-inspiring matter for him.

Faintly shaking her head, Ling Xi replied, "It's just some fragments of a memory. Furthermore, it was from an extremely long time ago...However, the place that Aunt Jing was headed to should be extremely dangerous..."

Speaking until this point, her forehead started to knit up before continuing to speak. "I might have gone to that place before...there's even a possibility that my memories were lost in that place. Somebody should have done something to me at that place!"

Speaking until here, her voice had already become exceedingly cold and frosty. Tightly clenching her jade-like hands, hatred and bitterness flooded her eyes.

At this moment, Mu Chen had also started to frown. From the information that he had gotten from his old man, his mum should be from a place that was ancient and extremely powerful. Furthermore, during the time when she had chosen to leave, it seemed as if she was worried that the people at that place would find them.

The extremely dangerous place that Elder Sister Ling Xi had mentioned might be the mysterious place that his mother had come from.

However, what exactly happened? Why would Ling Xi, who was always following his mum, separate from her? Furthermore, why would her memories disappear?

Tightly clenching his hands, Mu Chen thought, *Exactly what had happened to my mum?*

"There's no need to be worried. Aunt Jing's extremely powerful. Even if she's met with some trouble, it won't be too big of a problem."

Ling Xi's icy jade-like hands covered Mu Chen's hand as she spoke out in a soft voice, "As of now, what you need to do is to work hard and increase your strength. If not, even if you managed to find the location that Aunt Jing is in, you'll be completely helpless to do anything. If you're go there with a hot-headed and reckless approach, you might even bring unnecessary trouble for Aunt Jing."

Hearing her words, Mu Chen's expression turned solemn, If his mum was truly trapped in that mysterious place, the current him truly would not be one bit useful. After all, if what Ling Xi said was correct, that even her memories of that place were wiped clean...his current strength was really too miniscule.

"Elder Sister Ling Xi, how strong are you?" asked Mu Chen cautiously.

"I should have no problem dealing with the Heavenly Seated Elders of your Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy," replied Ling Xi in a played-down manner.

"So strong..." Mu Chen was shocked. Look's like she's a true genius with monstrous talent! Even within younger generation of the Northern Heavens Continent, compared to her, none of them could be worth a single look.

"The five Heavenly Seated Elders of your Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy should be at the level of First grade Sovereign, and are not particularly strong. Compared to them, Dean Tai Cang is much more formidable, and should be around Fifth grade Sovereign..."

Sweeping the lock of black hair that had fallen in front of her forehead, Ling Xi pursed her lips before continuing her words, "The Divine Beast Protector of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, the Northern Sea Dragon truly is extremely formidable. As of now, he should be a Ninth grade Sovereign, and might be attempting to break through to the realm of an Earth Sovereign..."

"However, even with that strength, he's still far from being able to compare to Aunt Jing."

Mu Chen's mouth twitched as he heard her words. Although he had guessed that his mum wasn't simple, he never imagined that she would actually be that strong, to the point where even the Northern Sea Dragon was unable to compare to her. This truly was hard to imagine.

"Therefore, there's no need for you to feel shocked or amazed. After all, I was personally taught by Aunt Jing." Ling Xi said with a sweet smile on her face. "If you were brought up by Aunt Jing from young, you'd be even stronger than me."

Letting a bitter laugh out, Mu Chen replied, "I didn't have such luck. From birth till now, I've never seen my mum before, let alone getting any pointers..."

Extending her jade like-hand to pinch Mu Chen's cheek, Ling Xi's beautiful eyes stared straight at Mu Chen, before speaking out in a stern look, "Aunt Jing left you behind to protect you. I can feel that she cares a lot about you...therefore, you can't throw childish tantrums about her not always being by your side."

With a smile, Mu Chen nodded his head. Just as he was about to say something, his senses picked up on something, causing him to turn his gaze towards his back. Turning around, he noticed Su'er hugging a broom the size of her staring in shock at them with wide open eyes.

Cough

Upon seeing this, Mu Chen made a dry cough, while hastily removing Ling Xi's hands from his cheeks. Standing up, he walked straight towards Su'er.

"Ah, Big Brother Mu Chen! I didn't see anything! I won't tell Elder Sister Luo Li! Please don't kill me!" Upon seeing Mu Chen walking over to her, Su'er immediately spoke out in panic.

Feeling amused by her, Mu Chen flicked the little girl's bright forehead before replying, "What are you talking about? Elder Sister Ling Xi's helping me cultivate."

Opening her eyes wide, Su'er stared at Mu Chen, before turning to look at Ling Xi, whose entire body was wet, with Mu Chen's robes even draped over her. Instantly, her small mouth twitched. *Is this called cultivation? Are they still treating me like a kid?*

With a faint smile, Ling Xi removed the robes that were draped over her, before folding them in two. However, she didn't return them to Mu Chen, instead she held onto them. Spiritual Energy sparkled across her entire body, evaporating all the water present on her into steam. Clearly, Ling Xi had recovered some of her spiritual energy.

Standing up, she walked over to Mu Chen, before saying, "Our training ends here for today. Come again tomorrow to continue. This should allow you to breakthrough within a month."

“We’re continuing this tomorrow?” Feeling startled, Mu Chen hesitated before replying, “Would that be too rushed? Just take a rest for tomorrow.”

This method of dispersing one’s Spiritual Energy would result in quite a bit of injury towards the person doing it. Although Ling Xi’s Spiritual Energy was strong and intrepid, Mu Chen didn’t want to see anything happen to her by helping him.

“You truly are gentle. Nevertheless, don’t worry. I can endure this little bit,” replied Ling Xi with a smile. This was an extremely natural smile, causing Su’er to stare at her with slight inconceivability. In her memory, the previous Ling Xi was extremely cold and indifferent, let alone doing something extremely extravagant like revealing a smile.

“Okay then.”

Upon seeing and hearing her reply, Mu Chen could only tilt his head. After waving to the two, he didn’t continue saying anything else, before turning around and walking out of the courtyard.

Looking at the back figure in the distance, Ling Xi gave a gentle smile. *Aunt Jing, I’ve finally found him. Relax, before finding you, I’ll protect him, and not let him suffer one bit of pain...*

“This is over.”

Noticing the smiling Ling Xi as she stared at the back figure of Mu Chen, Su’er seemed to understand something. Unable to hold it in, the little girl started to cry out, “Elder Sister Ling Xi, could it be that you like Big Brother Mu Chen?”

Tilting her head over, Ling Xi replied with some amusement, “What’s the matter? Is there a problem?”

Summoning her courage, Su’er replied, “This isn’t good. Big Brother Mu Chen and Big Sis Luo Li are a pair.”

“You sneaky little brat. Are you actually not on my side?” Extending her jade-like hands, she gave a pinch on Su’er’s little cheeks while speaking out with a grin.

“Wu...Elder Sister Ling Xi, forcing the issue will not lead to happiness.”

“Su’er, do you want to clean up the Spiritual Array House today?”

“Ah, no, I don’t want to! I’m sorry! Elder Sister Ling Xi and Big Brother Mu Chen are the best match possible!”

“.....”

The Great Ruler

Chapter 387: At a Loss

For the next half a month, Mu Chen had seemingly spent every single day in Ling Xi’s mountain peak residence, undergoing the same special and erotic method to cultivate.

However, it had to be said that this method of cultivation truly had extremely awesome benefits for Mu Chen. He never expected that the fusion of his and Ling Xi’s Spiritual Energy would have such an enormous effect on him.

However, as this special method of cultivation continued, Mu Chen started to get slightly apprehensive with such a rapid increase of his strength. Every time he had cultivated this way, Ling Xi would become weak and frail. Obviously, although this method was beneficial for him, there wasn't any of that for Ling Xi.

This situation made him feel slightly regretful. If he had known about the consequences earlier, he wouldn't have gone to seek help from Ling Xi.

Therefore, as approximately half a month went by, finally, Mu Chen couldn't endure the guilt building up within his heart. The efficacy of this cultivating method with Ling Xi had also dropped. Being a resolute and decisive person, he didn't have any way to continue seeing Ling Xi's beautiful face grow weaker and paler as time went by, while remaining indifferent and unconcerned.

...

Within a little building in the Freshman region, Mu Chen sat on the roof. As he blankly stared at the sky, a somewhat absent-minded expression appeared within his eyes.

Sha. Sha.

Faint and gentle footsteps rang behind him as a familiar fragrance that caused his heart to relax followed suit. Nevertheless, this time, Mu Chen continued staring at the sky, lost in his thoughts.

Arriving beside Mu Chen, Luo Li took a seat. Staring at him with her clear and tranquil eyes, she asked in a soft voice, "What's the matter?"

For the past two days, she had noticed that Mu Chen was feeling uneasy about something, with his gaze turning blank and lost in thought at times. This caused her to feel slightly worried about this youth.

Hearing her voice, Mu Chen turned to look at Luo Li. This was the young girl who had weathered life-or-death moments time after time during the Spiritual Road with him, and was also the young girl that was firmly imprinted in his heart and mind. Tilting his body to the side, he placed his head on her long and slender legs, before muttering, "There's some stuff, and I don't know if I'm doing the right thing or not..."

Lowering her head, her big, clear eyes casted a doubtful look towards Mu Chen.

Turning silent awhile, Mu Chen finally took a deep breath, before starting to tell Luo Li the detailed happenings about the need for him to break through to Heavenly Completion Stage within a month and the matter with Ling Xi. In fact, he had even talked about the relationship between the latter and his mother, not wanting to hide anything from Luo Li.

In return, Luo Li continued to attentively listen to him in silence.

"Do I need such easily-obtained power?" Mu Chen muttered. If that was the case, breaking through to Heavenly Completion Stage truly would be a piece of cake for him.

Lightly blinking her beautiful eyes, Luo Li continued to stare at Mu Chen. After a moment, she spoke out in a soft voice, "Mu Chen, do you know why I started liking you?"

Mu Chen gawked, before looking at the absolutely beautiful face above him.

"I like you, not because of your appearance, not because of your skills and methods, and more so your talent. Instead, I like the boy that would face any difficulty he encountered within the Spiritual Road. Regardless of how life-threatening the situation was, or perhaps being encircled by various ways, he would always show a smile brimming with confidence and tell me, 'Don't be afraid, I'll bring you out of here'..."

"I love the self-believing smile of yours... In the past, due to the changes that happened in the Luo God Clan, I had no choice but to passively bear the responsibility of carrying on the inheritance for the sake of hundreds and thousands of people. Due to that, I was forced to cultivate. I tried to make myself capable of enduring it. However, within my heart, there wasn't any hope present. That was because, I was unable to believe that I am able to endure such a heavy responsibility..."

"However...after meeting you in the Spiritual Road, you've taught me that I need to believe in myself."

Luo Li's clear and limpid eyes stared at Mu Chen, with her soft and gentle voice akin to an alarm clock. Seeping, bit by bit, into the heart and mind of Mu Chen, it causing the confusion present within his eyes to dissipate, sliver by sliver. Within the depths of those black eyes, brilliance seemed to start condensing once again.

"Now...the person that had taught me to believe in myself, had started to stop believing in himself. What do you think I should do to remind him?" Luo Li's warm and delicate hands caressed Mu Chen's face as she spoke with a faint smile.

Hu.

A clump of white smoke left Mu Chen's mouth as he exhaled a long breath of air. At this moment, the pressure within his heart had completely dissipated, while the corners of his mouth started to slowly curl up.

Within the Spiritual Road, the number of times where he was placed within a life-or-death situation was uncountable. At that time, he was even incapable of using any Spiritual Energy. Nevertheless, there was not the slightest bit of tremble within his heart. That's because, he believed in himself, that in any situation, regardless of the difficulty, he would be able to overcome all obstacles and pass through!

In those situations, he was already able to rely on himself to overcome them. Why was a mere Heavenly Completion Stage able to force his self-confidence to such a low point now? In fact, why did he have the need to rely on a method that would cause harm to others to increase his own strength?!

His path towards supremacy didn't require all of that!

Slowly clenching his hands, the smile hanging at the corner of his mouth became haughty and brimming with confidence. *Heavenly Completion Stage? I'll use my own strength and break through!*

Looking at the familiar smile reappearing on Mu Chen's face, Luo Li started to faintly smile with him. This was the Mu Chen that she loved. Forever filled with confidence, with no difficulty able to obstruct his way.

"Luo Li."

Raising his head up, Mu Chen looked towards the figure dressed in a long black dress, with golden flower patterns outlining the frills. Her outfit had caused her to appear like a noble and respectable young girl of absolute beauty. This was the future Empress of the Luo God Clan.

He was loving her more and more.

“Yes?” Raising her clear and sparkingly big eyes, Luo Li looked towards Mu Chen.

“Thank you, but I really can’t endure any longer.”

With a smile, Mu Chen pressed his hands straight down on Luo Li’s delicate shoulders. Lunging forward, a panicked cry rang out from the young girl as Mu Chen pushed her down.

As her bright and luxuriant hair spread out across the ground, akin to a silver river, Luo Li was a little startled as she looked towards Mu Chen, who had lunged onto her. At this moment, the latter was looking down at her, with his tall body pressing tightly on hers. The scorching-hot situation she was currently in caused her face to turn burning hot.

“Hehe.” Looking at the face that was inches away from him, unable to hold it in, Mu Chen started to laugh evilly.

Feeling slightly peeved, Luo Li rolled her eyes, before showing a stern expression on her beautiful face while saying, “Don’t think about asking me to console you again.”

“Then, let me console you.”

Lowering his head, under Luo Li’s big eyes, which were slightly wide-open, he stuffed those rosy lips that were sufficient to cause people to melt within his mouth.

A smear of confusion immediately flashed within Luo Li’s beautiful eyes. In the end, extending her slim and slender jade-like arms, she embraced Mu Chen’s neck, giving in to Mu Chen for the picking.

After enjoying this little bit of warmth from her, Mu Chen was unwilling to relinquish it that quickly. Quietly slipping his hand within the young girl’s dress, he took a grab at that perky lump of warm jade fat within his palm.

“Mu Chen! Mu Chen!”

However, just as Mu Chen’s loins had started raging with intense fire, hurried cries rang out from below the building.

The cries immediately broke the fiery and intoxicating atmosphere, with Luo Li being the first to snap out of it. That absolutely beautiful and calm face of hers instantly turned scorching hot. Hastily shoving Mu Chen away, she stood up and arranged her dress. Filled with resentment, her beautiful eyes stared at Mu Chen as she thought, *This fellow truly is such a bad guy.*

Seeing her glare at him, Mu Chen gave a dry laugh, before looking down at Zhou Ling below him. Gnashing his teeth unhappily, he asked, “What’s the matter?”

Luckily this fellow knew the rules, and never rushed up to the building. If he saw the scene of Luo Li being as soft as water just now, Mu Chen could guarantee that fellow’s extermination.

“Su’er brought an Elder to find you...” Spotting the unhappy expression hanging on Mu Chen’s face, Zhou Ling could only reply in the most straightforward and innocent manner.

Upon hearing this, Mu Chen instantly gawked. *Elder? Look’s like it’s Elder Sister Ling Xi. Why did she come here for?*

“Is that your Elder Sister Ling Xi?” Luo Li’s charming face gradually recovered to normalcy. Moving closer to him, her beautiful eyes shot a look at Mu Chen, while an indescribable expression appeared within.

Feeling embarrassed, Mu Chen nodded his head.

“Let’s go take a look. In any case, she’s already here,” said Luo Li with a faint smile.

Making a bitter laugh, Mu Chen held her hand, before shooting out of the building, descending towards the public square in the Freshman region. Within the centre of the public square, the familiar beautiful figure of Ling Xi was currently standing there.

In the surroundings of the public square, the crowds of the Goddess Luo Association were sneaking peeks as whispering sounds rang out.

“She’s really an Elder of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy? Is that possible? How can she be that young?!”

“I’ve heard that she’s a Spiritual Array Grandmaster, possessing extremely terrifying strength.”

“Her age seems to not be that much older than us...can she be like Elder Zhu Tian?”

“I don’t think so, the feeling’s different...”

“Why’s she finding Big Brother Mu Chen? Could it be...hehe...”

“Are you seeking your death? If Big Sis hear’s that, won’t she chop you up!?”

“.....”

Upon hearing those whispers ringing within the public square, Mu Chen could only shake his head in helplessness. With a move, he appeared before Ling Xi and Su’er as he asked with a smile, “Elder Sister Ling Xi, is there something wrong, for you to suddenly come to the Freshman region?”

Raising her charming eyes, Ling Xi shot a look towards Mu Chen, before taking a look at Luo Li, who was standing beside him. Gently nodding her head, her eyebrows started to slightly knit up as she spoke out, “Why didn’t you head to my place to cultivate?”

With a smile, Mu Chen replied, “Elder Sister Ling Xi. Let me handle my cultivate from this point onwards. I’m truly grateful for your help during the past half-month.”

Ling Xi’s eyebrows knitted more tightly as she asked, “If you rely on yourself, it’ll be extremely difficult to break through to Heavenly Completion Stage within the next half-month. Why do you reject my offer? If you’re afraid of me suffering a loss, you truly don’t need to. My cultivation is just stopping for only a month.”

Giving a slow shake of his head, Mu Chen replied with a soft voice, "Elder Sister Ling Xi, the only thing I'm doing is believing in myself."

Startled, Ling Xi looked towards Mu Chen. At this moment, the youth's eyes were sparkling with brightness, brimming with genuine self-confidence. Compared to the day when he had come to find her, this was clearly an entirely different expression.

"Elder Sister Ling Xi, I'm really grateful for your help. I know...that you helping me is really due to your relationship with my mum. You're only wishing to divert the feelings of gratitude to my mum towards me..."

Ling Xi had a cold and detached personality, and took deep precautions to isolate herself from others. Mu Chen wasn't being narcissistic when he said those words, since he knew about the true reason for her actions. If not for her relationship with his mum, the current Ling Xi might still be treating him with the icy and cold manner she had done during their first encounter; what's more, using such a method of self-hurt herself to help him.

Mu Chen continued speaking with earnesty, "However, don't spoil me too much, Elder Sister Ling Xi. I believe that if my mum knew that I had used such a method to gain strength, she might be extremely disappointed in me."

"Furthermore..."

Flinging his mouth aside, Mu Chen said in helplessness, "I also really don't want to see your weak appearance. That look isn't beautiful."

As Ling Xi gawked, she appeared startled as she looked towards the handsome youth in front of her. The latter's smile was as radiant as the sun, causing even her cold and frosted-over heart to faintly tremble.

After remaining silent for a long time, a gentle smile finally appeared on her face. This smile caused quite a few students to fixedly stare at her. Compared to Luo Li, Ling Xi clearly had a graceful bearing that was unique to her.

Slowly walking up, her jade-like hand extended out, touching Mu Chen's face. Within her eyes, genuine feelings of love and pampering radiated out, before she spoke out with a sigh, "You really are Aunt Jing's child. Those previous words might be due to Aunt Jing, however..."

A smile crept on her face as she continue, "Your Elder Sister really likes the current you."

Immediately, an embarrassed expression appeared on Mu Chen's face.

"Okay. I won't force you. I believe that you're able to succeed. However, it's best that you come to my place to cultivate. I'll try my best to help you, but I'll not use that method again."

This time, Mu Chen didn't continue rejecting her help, then smiled as he nodded his head.

...

As this incident took place within the Freshman region, Dean Tai Cang and the five Heavenly Seated Elders were sitting within a large hall in the central region of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. In

front of them was a glowing Spiritual Energy screen, with the scene happening within the Freshman region displayed on it.

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 388: Stealing Spirituality

Within the large hall, all was quiet as Dean Tai Cang and the Elders looked at the glowing Spiritual Energy screen, where the scene happening in the Freshman region was displayed. Obviously, the commotion that happened there had caught their eyes.

“That little fella...”

Focusing on the figure of Mu Chen displayed within the glowing Spiritual Energy screen, Dean Tai Cang finally gave a soft laugh with the feeling of a heavy weight having been lifted off his shoulders.

Ever since he gave Mu Chen the condition of breaking through to Heavenly Completion Stage within a month, he had been secretly observing the former. With Mu Chen’s strength then, breaking through to Heavenly Completion Stage within a month was a rather difficult task to accomplish.

This would also make him feel extremely pressed.

Dean Tai Cang wanted to see the decisions that Mu Chen would make when he was forced into such a pressing situation. When Mu Chen had sought Ling Xi’s help, he and the other Elders were slightly astonished. However, the cultivation method that he had used afterwards had caused their hearts to sink down a little.

The path that led to one becoming a true expert was filled with too many thorns and torments. However, of the people that were able to finally walk out of this path, every single one of them were tenacious in spirit. Regardless of any situation they were in, they weren’t people that would give up so easily.

The the Dao of cultivation, practising by oneself was the righteous path. As for those that were similar to how Mu Chen was relying on Ling Xi’s Spiritual Energy to cultivate, they had diverged to the wrong fork in the road. Perhaps, it was able to allow for his strength to rapidly increase in a short period of time. However, in the distant future, this malpractice would become a heart demon in Mu Chen’s path towards becoming a true expert.

If he continued cultivating using such a method, it would have an extremely huge impact on his future accomplishments.

During the past few days, even Hall Master Mo You and the other Heavenly Seated Elders were unable to endure Mu Chen’s continuation with this cultivation method so much so that they thought of forcefully intervening. However, they were restrained by Dean Tai Cang. In such a matter, if Mu Chen was able to comprehend the consequences by himself, it would have a beneficial effect of greatly increasing his mental state. If others were to butt in and interfere, it would not lead to such a perfect ending.

However, even Dean Tai Cang was unsure if Mu Chen was capable of giving up on the lure of drastically increasing his strength that this way of cultivation provided.

As they quietly watched, time went on, continuing for half a month. However, during the half a month, as Mu Chen's strength rapidly increased, the disappointment within their eyes slowly piled up and up.

If Mu Chen was any other ordinary student, they might not have cared so much about him. However, the current Mu Chen could be considered to have exceeded Shen Cangsheng and become the most outstanding student in their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. There were only an extreme few in the earlier batches that were able to compare to him. In fact, he might have even walked much farther than them on the path towards becoming an expert.

Therefore, they had extremely high anticipation and expectations towards Mu Chen. Nevertheless, those expectations started to dissipate, little by little...

All of these feelings lasted till Mu Chen suddenly stopped that cultivation method two days ago...

"That's a hard decision to make. I've even assumed that he would sink deeper and deeper..." Hall Master Mo You exhaled a breath, before sighing in admiration as he spoke out. In accordance to the rate Mu Chen was progressing in that cultivation technique, he might've been able to break through to Heavenly Completion Stage in a few more days. However, who would have expected that Mu Chen would actually put it to a halt at the most critical moment.

"However, Ling Xi is really reckless...she had actually used such a method. Exactly what relationship does she have with Mu Chen?" Frowning, Elder Zhu Tian asked.

Ling Xi's method had eliminated some of the negative influences that might affect Mu Chen on his walk along the path of cultivation, and was completely on the level of hurting herself to benefit others. Such a thing was obviously exceedingly inconceivable to the Heavenly Seated Elders. Furthermore, with Ling Xi and her famous cold and detached personality, she had never once interfered with any matter of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Only when the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy needed to construct Spiritual Arrays and under the behest of Dean Tai Cang would she give a little bit of face and take action. However, now...

With regards to this, Dean Tai Cang could only shake his head. Ling Xi's history was already extremely mysterious. However, all in all, this was of no harm to their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Speaking out, he said, "Ling Xi's too young. Although she's extremely strong, she's lacking in experience, compared to you guys. She's not to blame for this matter. As of now, let's allow Mu Chen to continue cultivating at her place. I think that the previous matter should not happen again."

"Then, if Mu Chen really breaks through to Heavenly Completion Stage, would you still allow him to participate in the Divine Spiritual Mountain?" asked Hall Master Mo You.

"Compared to the most elite of the younger generation in the Northern Heavens Continent, a Heavenly Completion Stage Initial Phase still has quite a bit of disparity. Although Mu Chen cannot be judged by the book, this is still an extremely important and yet dangerous occasion to participate in," added Elder Zhu Tian in a deep voice.

"There's still half a year left before the start of the Great Academy Competition...If something happens to Mu Chen before that, it would be too great of a loss for us."

With a bitter laugh, Elder Zhu Tian continued speaking, "Furthermore, the elimination rate of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy in the past two Great Academy Competitions had exceeded 80%. According to the rules, this doesn't meet the standards. If this was to happen again in this upcoming one, there might be people that would take advantage of this to snatch away our title as one of the Five Great Academies. After all, the Saint Spirit Academy has always disliked us. Furthermore, there're quite a few strong and powerful academies that are eyeing us covetously..."

This caused a few Elders to turn quiet. Within the Five Great Academies, their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was ranked last, and had comparatively weaker backgrounds than the other four. The absolute majority of the reason why the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was able to become one of the Five Great Academies was due to the strength of Lord Northern Sea Dragon. However, if they weren't able to produce adequate results, their title would be stripped. Even Lord Northern Sea Dragon wasn't able to do anything about that. Furthermore, they didn't have the face to use that as a point to threaten others...

With a single statement of saying that their students were being deficient and that their academy was being incapable, it was already enough to stuff their mouths full.

"Hmph! For the sake of recruiting students with special and distinguished talent, the Saint Spiritual Academy had relied on some unscrupulous methods. They have even interfered with the Spiritual Road. At that time, when they had settled on Ji Xuan, they had secretly provided help, letting Luo Li face some life-threatening situations. They had also forced Mu Chen to turn into that Blood Calamity of the Spiritual Road, causing a massacre which resulted in him being kicked out there..." said Hall Master Mo You with a cold snort, appearing exceedingly discontent with the Saint Spiritual Academy.

"There's still...Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton and the rest of those on the Heavenly Rankings. They are good seedlings, and the matter with Mo Longzi this time had quite a big impact on them..."

Slightly narrowing his eyes, Dean Tai Cang gently dispelled that thought with his hands as he said, "The matter of the Divine Spiritual Mountain would have to see if Mu Chen is able to break through to Heavenly Completion Stage within the remaining time. As for Shen Cangsheng and the rest, I've my own plans for them. For those children, if we give them some time, what would the most elite in the younger generation of the Saint Spiritual Academy be compared to them?"

Upon hearing Dean Tai Cang's words, Mo You, Elder Zhu Tian and the other Elder didn't continue speaking and nodded their heads in approval.

...

The next day, Mu Chen appeared once again on the quiet and secluded mountain peak where Ling Xi lived. At that place, Ling Xi was already waiting for him. Upon seeing his figure, a smile surfaced on Ling Xi's beautiful face.

"I assumed that you'd not come."

Mu Chen tilted his head in slight displeasure.

"I'm sorry. I've not considered much for this matter." Looking at Mu Chen, Ling Xi spoke out in a soft voice. Although her experience and wisdom truly was not comparable the Heavenly Seated Elders of the

Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, whom have cultivated for many, many years, being a person on the same level as them, she had sensed the malpractice her method would bring to Mu Chen after calming down and thinking it over after the scene that happened yesterday.

“I’m the one who put forth the request, so I’m the one that needs to apologize,” said Mu Chen while shaking his head. Although this matter had narrowly caused a great deal of trouble for him, it was still a good matter, all in all. His cultivation since coming to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had increased too quickly, with his mental state of mind having some fluctuations after achieving victory. This time could be considered as a method to temper his mental state, and allowed him to control his true heart.

A faint smile appeared on Ling Xi’s face as she replied, “For the sake of compensation, I’ll do my best to help you. Naturally, I’ll not use that method again.”

Looking at Ling Xi’s beautiful smile, Mu Chen’s finally relaxed his heart. With a smile, he said, “As long as it’s not the fusion of Spiritual Energy, I quite like any other method similar to that.”

Ling Xi immediately gawked, before a faint shade of red appeared on her beautiful face. Gently pursing her lips, she replied him with a smile, “Are you trying to take liberties with your Elder Sister?”

“My mistake, my mistake. Let’s start.” Giving a dry cough, Mu Chen hastily changed the topic.

Ling Xi shot a displeased glare at Mu Chen, before walking towards the back of the mountain, with Mu Chen rapidly in tow. After nearly ten minutes, they stopped at a spacious clearing behind the mountain.

Upon arriving here, Mu Chen shot an astonished look at the sky, noticing the faint feelings of distortion happening there. Faintly, he was seemingly able to see the complicated intertwinement of countless glowing threads, as well as the presence of Spiritual Array fluctuations.

Furthermore, Mu Chen was able to feel that the Spiritual Aura of the world seemed to be exceedingly thick and dense in this place. In fact, there were condensations of Spiritual Energy found on the tree leaves in the vicinity, while a dense fog covered their surroundings.

“The Spiritual Aura here...” Mu Chen spoke out as he looked towards Ling Xi in astonishment.

“You should know that the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy has an 8th grade Congregation Spiritual Array, right?” replied Ling Xi with a faint smile.

Knowing about that, Mu Chen nodded his head. 8th grade Spirit Convergence Array. That was an extremely frightening thing. Within the entire Northern Heavens Continent, it might be the only one of its kind. However, since entering the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, Mu Chen had yet to see that Spiritual Array. It’s said that the 8th grade Spirit Convergence Array wasn’t open to students, and was hidden within the deepest part of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

Could it be that the 8th grade Spiritual Array was at this place?

“The Spiritual Aura of the world present in the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy is supplied by the 8th grade Spirit Convergence Array. Therefore, it can be said that it is the lifeblood of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, and can be considered as the academy’s most important thing. Other than special circumstances, it will absolutely not be opened up.” Ling Xi started her explanation.

Mu Chen got a flash of understand. That's why he had never heard of anyone truly being able to enter the rumoured 8th grade Spirit Convergence Array.

"This place is..." said Mu Chen as he looked doubtfully at Ling Xi. Since the 8th grade Spirit Convergence Array won't open up, why did Ling Xi explain all this to him?

"Indeed, the 8th grade Spirit Convergence Array cannot be opened. However...I'm able to use some methods to steal some of the Spiritual Aura from inside it," replied Ling Xi with a sweet smile.

"Steal some?" Now Mu Chen's eyes had sprung wide open. How was she able to do that?

"After staying in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy for so long, the only thing that has some interest to me is that 8th grade Spirit Convergence Array. After researching for some time, although I'm unable to completely control it, I can feel and tweak some of its principles and functions. Therefore, stealing some Spiritual Aura from it isn't considered too difficult for me."

Placing her hands behind her back, Ling Xi tilted her head as she looked at Mu Chen. As she did so, her black hair slipped off her shoulder like a waterfall, accentuating her beauty to soul-stirring levels. At this moment, while looking at Mu Chen with her beautiful eyes, a sweet smile appeared on her face.

"This way, can it be considered as genuine cultivation? You won't reject this, right?"

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 389: Pride of the Upperclassman

Looking towards the sky, he saw an extremely complicated glowing pattern made of the intertwinement of countless glowing threads. The degree of complication present caused even his eyes turn spirally, while a dizzy feeling erupted within his mind. In the next instant, he quickly turned his vision away as shock and amazement filled his heart. As of now, with his accomplishments in the area of Spiritual Arrays, he was still unable to completely see the rotation of this Spiritual Array! Exactly how strong and complicated was this Spiritual Array?!

Indeed, Ling Xi was undoubtedly a Spiritual Array Grandmaster. On the accomplishments of Spiritual Arrays, he had quite a big disparity when compared to her.

"I naturally have no qualms about this method," said Mu Chen while rubbing his temples and giving a smile. Regardless of the density and power of the Spiritual Energy, those were just external factors. However, if he was able to absorb and refine them, he would be completely relying on himself. This was completely different from the previous method, where he was able to obtain a rapidly increasing strength without doing any work.

"Let's begin today. You'll enter it and start cultivating, while I activate the Spiritual Array. After tearing a hole into the 8th grade Spiritual Array, I'll siphon some Spiritual Aura out from there."

Faintly nodding her head, Ling Xi turned her beautiful eyes towards Mu Chen while saying, "However, whether or not you can break through to Heavenly Completion Stage in the remaining time would have to depend on your hard work."

"Yes. I'll have to trouble you then, Elder Sister Ling Xi."

Nodding his head, Mu Chen's eyes were brimming with resolution and firmness. If he was unable to even force his way into the Heavenly Completion Stage, how could he say to Luo Li that he would be an unrivaled expert, overcoming all obstacles and protecting her with all his might?

"Let's begin."

Not continuing to delay with any words, Ling Xi extended her jade-like hands, clapping them together. Activating her hand seal, streaks of light shot from within, rushing towards the countless intertwined glowing threads in the sky.

Bang!

As a low and deep rumbling sound seemed to ring out across the horizon, dazzling rays of brilliance erupted from the countless glowing threads. In the next instant, the glowing threads converged, transforming into an approximately hundred foot wide glowing vortex in the sky.

The centre of the vortex headed straight towards nihility, connecting to an unknown place. Extremely vast and boundless Spiritual Energy seemed to be faintly discernable as it spewed out from within like an erupting volcano.

Taking a deep breath, Mu Chen shot straight towards the mountain peak situated below the vortex before taking a seat.

With a wave of her jade-like hand, the glowing vortex started to furiously revolve about. Amidst the howl resounding about, the worldly Spiritual Aura present within the boundaries of the mountain peak suddenly increased drastically as a spiritual mist rose into the air.

Bang!

Gorgeous-looking boundless Spiritual Energy appeared within the vortex, pouring down in torrents like a tsunami. Worldly Spiritual Aura fluctuations covered the entire mountain peak, completely shrouding Mu Chen's body within it.

Looking at this scene unfurl before her eyes, Ling Xi nodded her head in satisfaction. Turning her lovable face around, she shot a vigilant glance towards the distance. After sensing nothing present there, she gracefully turned around and headed away.

On a mountain peak in the far distance, Dean Tai Cang and the other Elders could only give a bitter laugh as they observed the commotion happening in their view.

"This Ling Xi is actually able to siphon some of the Spiritual Aura from within that 8th grade Spiritual Array..." said Hall Master Mo You in shock and astonishment as he smacked his lips. This 8th grade Spiritual Array was the lifeblood of their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. During the creation of the academy, their Lord Northern Sea Dragon had paid an enormous price to hire an extremely powerful and mysterious influence from the Great Thousand World to create it. However, he never imagined that a Spiritual Array of such a degree would have a slit ripped open by Ling Xi. She's truly formidable.

"It's alright."

Dean Tai Cang said with a hearty chuckle. Not caring that Ling Xi had her attention set on their most important 8th grade Spiritual Array of their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, he stared at the

glowing Spiritual Energy pillar pouring down like a waterfall with his hands crossed behind his back. "Next up, let me truly see, exactly, if Mu Chen's able to rely on himself to completely break through in the last half a month..." he muttered.

If Mu Chen was truly able to accomplish that, then their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had truly produced a rarely seen monstrous talent.

The commotion that Ling Xi caused wasn't small, since the boundless glowing Spiritual Energy pillar descending from the sky appeared was exceedingly eye-catching within the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Therefore, for the next few periods of time, there were quite a few students who paid attention to this strange phenomena, causing unavoidable shock and amazement within the student body.

However, their shock and astonishment didn't last long, since the reason behind this matter gradually surfaced. As that news was spread around, amazed and astonishment filled the eyes of many as they thought, *Mu Chen actually wanted to rely on this to rush to Heavenly Completion Stage?*

That fellow was truly abnormal!

Countless students exclaimed in astonishment as they heard the news. Mu Chen had arrived in their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy only a year ago. However, his progress was sufficient to cause those senior students to feel inferior and ashamed at their own progress. Nevertheless, after recapping that even a vicious person like Mo Longzi had suffered a beating in Mu Chen's hands, they knew that this fellow simply couldn't be seen through a normal perspective. Why would they need to compare with such an abnormal human? Thinking along this path, they felt much more relieved within their hearts.

In this world, there's always some people that were out of the ordinary.

At a mountain peak within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, Li Xuanton was staring at the gigantic glowing Spiritual Energy pillar in the far distance. After a long while, he turned his vision towards the Freshman region. At that area was a girl that he was completely unable to remove from his mind. Nevertheless, he knew that he might never, ever be able to see the lovable appearance that naturally came out of her heart that she revealed in front of Mu Chen, for his sake...

A sliver of complicated emotions flashed across Li Xuanton's handsome face. The youth that he had doubted and questioned at the beginning had progressed at such a rapid pace, even exceeding him now. All of this proved the keenness and accuracy of the girl's vision. No matter how extraordinary and outstanding she was, even after everyone had doubted and questioned her choice of liking that person, she still stuck to her beliefs.

Li Xuanton was undeniably arrogant and proud of himself. There was no need to question his talent. On a certain perspective, Mu Chen could be considered his love rival. However, this didn't stop Li Xuanton from denying the recognition Mu Chen had achieved from his accomplishments. Indeed, this youth possessed the potential to make Luo Li fall in love with him. Nevertheless, the feeling of being surpassed and overtaken was truly hard to stomach.

"Haha, looks like we, the two Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy brothers of the same boat, are about to be overtaken." A laughing voice suddenly rang out from behind him. Turning around, Li Xuanton

noticed Shen Cangsheng sitting on a large cliff behind his back. On the sole aspect of appearance, Shen Cangsheng might not be as dashing as Li Xuanton, and not as handsome as Mu Chen. However, he possessed a bearing that was solely his. That tall and straight posture appeared akin to a divine spear that could pierce through the confines of heavens, forever unable to be bent. The disdainful look present on his face wasn't brash or insolent, making people feel an enchanting and imposing aura radiating from him.

Shen Cangsheng possessed extremely strong prestige and popularity within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Even with Mu Chen's strong awe and fame rushing throughout the entire academy due him defeating Mo Longzi, it wasn't able to suppress the prestige of the Heavenly Rankings' Overlord. This wasn't due to the reason of people, but that Shen Cangsheng was an extremely charismatic person.

Heading towards the stone cliff and sitting down, Li Xuanton faintly spoke out, "What's the matter? Is the Overlord of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy's Heavenly Rankings feeling dispirited? That's not like you."

"Mu Chen truly is an extremely formidable fellow."

Looking at the glowing Spiritual Energy pillar in the far distance, Shen Cangsheng replied, "From the establishment of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy till now, people who were able to achieve such accomplishments within the first year of entering the academy would not exceed more than the number of our fingers. After thinking, the most recent person seemed to exist a hundred years ago. I still remember his name, Qin Zhantian. During the Great Spiritual Academy Competition that year, countless geniuses from various great spiritual academies were overshadowed under his feet. Even the Divine Sons of the Saint Spiritual Academy that year had suffered defeat in his hands. Under his spear, he swept away anyone in his path, being undefeatable and invincible!"

"That time can be considered as the most uplifting and proud moment within the past hundred years of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy's history!"

"Senior Brother Qin Zhantian, huh?" Li Xuanton said in a soft voice, "I've heard that he seems to be a regional Overlord in the Great Thousand Worlds, possessing heaven-transcending power."

Fanaticism was faintly present within Shen Cangsheng's eyes as he spoke out with a smile, "He's my goal. When I've entered the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, I've already said that I want to be the same as him!"

"Therefore," looking towards Li Xuanton, a grin cracked open from Shen Cangsheng's mouth, while a disdainful and haughty look erupted from his eyes once again.

"I'll send my application to the Dean to let me enter the Door of the Northern Depths to train and cultivate!"

Faint shock immediately shook through Li Xuanton's heart. Looking towards Shen Cangsheng, he spoke out, "The Door of the Northern Depths? Isn't that the place that turned students crazy due to being unable to handle the pressure from within?"

That place could be considered as a terrifying place that would cause the faces of the people in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy to change when mentioned. That year, there were outstanding

students who had entered it. However, in the end, due to being unable to handle the pressure within that place, they suffered mental damage, resulting in them turning crazy, leading to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy to shut it down. After that, it was rarely ever opened again. However, seemingly due to this reason, the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was hard pressed to achieve any good results in the following Great Spiritual Academy Competitions.

Now, Shen Cangsheng actually wanted to go in there to train and cultivate?

With a smile, Shen Cangsheng smiled and continued talking. "If I'm scared and afraid by just this, how can I even talk about something like surpassing Senior Brother Qin Zhantian? Li Xuanton, I really want to participate in the Great Spiritual Academy Competition, and compete with those geniuses and monstrous talents from the various great spiritual academies. What about you? Are you going to continue in this lukewarm state, and wait for Mu Chen to overtake you?"

Instantly, Li Xuanton turned quiet. After a while, placing his hand behind his head, he looked towards the glowing Spiritual Energy pillar in the far distance, while the gaze within his eyes slowly grew swift and fierce.

"Door of the Northern Depths? Very well! I also really want to see exactly how frightening that place is! Since you dare to enter that place, why can't I do the same? You still don't have the ability to force me to be your number two for eternity, Shen Cangsheng! What's more, how can I let Mu Chen show his might alone at the Great Spiritual Academy Competition?"

"Haha! Well said!"

Standing up, Shen Cangsheng gave a heroic and hearty laugh.

"When we leave the Door of the Northern Depths, let's dish a beating out to that little brat Mu Chen. Although he had saved us, we've to let him know that surpassing your Seniors isn't an easy task!"

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 390: The Realm of Heavenly Completion

Dazzlingly bright and resplendent Spiritual Energy appeared akin to a pillar that supported the heavens, piercing through the skies from the mountain depths. As it connected with the gigantic vortex, the dense boundless Spiritual Energy turned into thick clouds of mist, obscuring everyone's vision of the scene present over there.

The area had clearly become the place that attracted the most attention within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy during this period of time.

Every day, there would be countless students that would look towards that direction with curiosity and anticipation present within their eyes. Over these last ten days, the deal struck between Mu Chen and Dean Tai Cang had already propagated throughout the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

Everyone knew that once Mu Chen breaks through to Heavenly Completion Stage within this month, he might be permitted to participate in the opening of the Northern Heavens Continent's "Divine Spiritual Mountain". However, this event for the elites at the peak of the younger generation was something that the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was unable to participate in. There were even some rumors flying about in the outside world due to this, causing dissatisfaction and indignance to surface within the

hearts of the students. Why did they only accept those geniuses nurtured with unlimited resources from sects, or clans? If they truly wanted to compare, why didn't they compete with those outstanding leviathans that have gained fame and popularity after leaving the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy?

How many Sovereigns have walked out from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy? Of them, how many have dazzled and shone within the Great Thousand Worlds? Compared to that, how many did those powers and influences managed to nurture?

If those Sovereigns that have walked out from Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy were to be counted in, the entire Northern Heavens Continent would tremble in fear from their might.

Therefore, the absolute majority of the students had a supportive stance towards Mu Chen's wish to participate in this "Divine Spiritual Mountain". Naturally, there were a minority of intellectually-sound people that had some doubts about Mu Chen being overly reckless. After all, even if he was to break through to Heavenly Completion Stage, compared to elites at the peak of the younger generation in the Northern Heavens Continent, there was still quite a large disparity present.

Those elites were even more difficult to deal with than Mo Longzi.

Naturally, regardless of that, the attention of seemingly the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was focused on the mountains in the academy's depths. Everyone wanted to know exactly if this youth, which had pierced his way and rushed straight ahead within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy without a single stop, would actually be able to reach the heavens once again.

Under this anticipation, yet another three days past by.

Of the one month duration, already the last two days remained!

Freshman region

The vast public square present before the lake was the usual training grounds for the Goddess Luo Association members. However, at this moment, it was packed full of people, with the large majority not having any intent to train or cultivate. Instead, raising their heads, they gazed towards the direction where the gigantic glowing Spiritual Energy pillar had met with the heavens.

During the last two days of the given one month, there was still not a single movement detected from Mu Chen, with no signs of any breakthroughs present from him.

This made quite a few Goddess Luo Association members to secretly pespire in anxiousness. As of now, all the students within the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy were paying attention to this matter. Although Mu Chen being unable to break through to Heavenly Completion Stage within a month wouldn't cause his fame and prestige to suffer, it would still cause a slight bit of disappointment within some people. After all, they held too much anticipation towards his success.

"Luo Li, it's down to the last two days...can Mu Chen succeed?" In the middle of the public square, Ye Qingling looked towards the black-dressed young girl who always had a calm expression present on her face. Finally, unable to hold it in, her jade-like hands clenched uncontrollably as she asked out.

With a faint smile, Luo Li replied, "It's the same if he succeeds or not. Cultivation can't be forced or rushed."

Indeed, Luo Li had some dissatisfaction towards the criteria of one month that Dean Tai Cang put forth to Mu Chen. The wavering Mu Chen was experiencing previously was due to him being forced to the point of being slightly anxious and rushed. Added with his rapid progress in cultivation upon entering the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, it had caused his mental state to become unstable, which almost led to a disaster to his mental realm. Regardless of anything, from her point of view, Dean Tai Cang had to take some responsibility for this matter.

Although Luo Li knew that the realm of Mu Chen's mental state would be even more firm and stable from the experience of this matter, she was just a young girl in her teens. Furthermore, she was a girl that was worried for her loved one. As if she would maintain an absolutely neutral point of view to judge this entire situation. Therefore, her emotional state was still that of a girl trying to protect the person she loved.

"However, other people aren't thinking like that..." replied Ye Qingling in a helpless tone.

"Training and cultivation are personal matters. One doesn't need to care about the perceptions of others," said Luo Li with a faint smile. "Furthermore, isn't there still two more days? Before the final moment has past, one shouldn't make such a hasty verdict."

"That's the only thing we can do," replied Ye Qingling with a gentle sigh.

Under the attention of the masses within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, time elapsed slowly and quietly, as yet another day went by. Everyone felt as if the atmosphere within the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had turned somewhat pressing and stifling. Even when training and cultivating, people would turn their gazes towards the glowing Spiritual Energy pillar shooting out from the ground, appearing as if it was hoisting up the heavens.

As scheduled, the final day arrived under the anticipation of everyone.

As the scorching sun's rays illuminated the horizon, gentle sunlight irradiated every corner of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Today, the greater half of the students in the entire academy had seemingly stopped their training and cultivation. All of them wanted to see if a miracle would appear on the final day of the deal. On the quiet and secluded mountain peak, Ling Xi sat on the porch before her bamboo house. Her jade-like hands propping up her cheeks, while her black hair scattered about, her beautiful eyes focused on the gigantic glowing Spiritual Energy pillar in the far distance.

Sitting by Ling Xi's side was Su'er, whose ponytails were wagging about. A worried expression hung on her small face as she asked, "Will Big Brother Mu Chen succeed, Elder Sis Ling Xi?"

Gently rubbing her little face, Ling Xi gave a faint smile. Shaking her head, she replied, "I don't know."

Due to the overpowering amount of Spiritual Energy present there, it had completely masked any fluctuations that might have radiated from Mu Chen. At this moment, even she was unable to understand the slightest bit of the latter's current situation.

As Su'er's jet-black eyes opened wide as she stared at the scorching sun slowly descending from the horizon, her little hands came together, praying for the sun to slow down in its descent below the mountain.

However, such a naïve wish obviously wouldn't have any result. Without any change in speed, the sun traveled across the sky, quietly moving from noon to dusk. Under the twilight from the sunset, a faint red glow was casted across the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

Nevertheless, there still wasn't any movement beneath the gigantic glowing Spiritual Energy pillar.

As countless students looked towards the setting sun descending across the horizon, a gentle sigh rang through their hearts. Looks like their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was still unable to participate in the most important occasion for the elites at the peak of the Northern Heavens Continent's younger generation...

The setting sun was gradually concealed by the ends of the earth. As it completely disappeared below the earth, the entire sky turned dark and dim.

Sigh

Within the dark and dim world, sounds of people sighing rang out. Countless students shrugged their shoulders in slight disappointment, before preparing to scatter their ten days worth of attention.

Bang!

However, just at this instant, a low and deep sound suddenly resounded across the world. A gigantic Spiritual Energy wave seemed to surge and spread out across all directions in the sky akin to a tidal wave.

Whoosh!

Countless people furiously raised their heads, looking towards the depths of the mountains with shock present in their eyes. Violent and intense fluctuations were unexpectedly surfacing from the gigantic glowing Spiritual Energy pillar. As wave after wave of Spiritual Energy radiated out, it grew increasingly boundless and rampant.

"There's movement!"

Astonishing sounds of cheering erupted within the Freshman region as emotional expressions filled the faces of the Goddess Luo Association members.

Raising her clear and limpid eyes, Luo Li quietly looked at the glowing pillar, where strong and powerful Spiritual Energy fluctuations were currently surfacing from it. At this moment, her jade-like hands within her sleeves started to quietly tense up.

On the mountain peak, shock was present in the eyes of Shen Cangsheng and Li Xuantong as they took in the scene unfurling before them.

On the small island on the lake, the two sisters, Su Xuan and Su Ling'er, stood quietly, fluctuations present within their beautiful eyes as they looked at the glowing Spiritual Energy pillar fluctuating in the distance.

In other places around the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, those extremely famous and influential characters like He Yao, Xu Huang and Zhao Qingshan had also casted their gazes over as shock was similarly present within their eyes.

Bang! Bang!

The gigantic Spiritual Energy waves were getting increasingly rampant as each wave went by. At the end, they appeared akin to rumbling tsunamis, blanketing the sky. The dazzling brilliance radiating from them caused the dim and dark sky to regain its brightness once again.

As the rampaging Spiritual Energy waves were violent, a clear roar suddenly filled the sky. Akin to the howl of a tiger and the roar of a dragon, it resounded abruptly from the depths of the mountain!

As the howling sound radiated out, one could feel the extremely powerful Spiritual Energy contained within it.

Whoosh!

The glowing Spiritual Energy pillar suddenly started to intensely vibrate. In the next moment, eye-piercing brilliance erupted in front of everyone's eyes from the base of the glowing pillar, shooting straight towards the sky.

Boom!

The glowing Spiritual Energy pillar exploded apart, transforming into glowing dots that blotted the skies. Within the myriad of glowing dots, a foot long clump of brilliance surfaced, with a little person radiating with brilliance sitting within. The little person was vivid and lifelike, appearing identical to Mu Chen. Clearly, this was his Spirit.

However, at this moment, his Spirit appeared extremely corporeal, as if it was an exact copy of his actual body. A strong and powerful feeling could be felt pervading throughout its entire body.

At this moment, the sitting Spirit started to slowly open its eyes. An abstruse feeling akin to starry skies appeared within its pair of eyes. As rays of brilliance erupted from within, they looked like the sparkling dots of stars in the night sky, appearing abnormally mysterious.

Raising its little hands, it opened its mouth. At this moment, the glowing Spiritual Energy dots that blotted the sky started to flow together, before finally being sucked cleanly up by the little Spirit.

The rays of brilliance radiating around the Spirit grew increasingly corporeal, while bits of golden brilliance even started to surface around it. Undoubtedly, it had turned much, much more corporeal than before.

Whoosh!

As the Spirit rushed towards the sky, it transformed into a streak of light. Piercing straight through the top of the heavens, huge gales swept out from it. However, it was unable to cause much damage to it, as if it possessed the great ability to travel anywhere within the heavens.

At the sight of this, the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy burst out with cheers. They're clear that once a person's Spirit could leave his body and roam around the heavens and earth without being extinguished, it was the Heavenly Completion!

Clearly, Mu Chen had truly broken through to the last realm of the three Heavenly Stages, the Heavenly Completion Stage!