

## Great Ruler 471

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#### Chapter 471: Rescue

Mu Chen and his team brushed through the Dark Origin Forest. They were already approaching the depths of the forest. Along the way, they had suffered the attacks of dozens of Demonic Trees. However, though it was hard to guard against the attacks of those Demonic Trees, the instant they had preparations against it, it was no longer frightening. As for the fearsome poison mist, it became the least threatening of all, with Mu Chen's existence.

Therefore, while they were hastening the journey, it appeared easy for them.

"Looks like we're going to break through this forest." As figures brushed through, Luo Li suddenly raised her eyes and looked up ahead. In the depths of the darkness, there seemed to be faint beams of sunlight.

Xu Huang and the rest instantly felt relieved. Danger lurked in this forest and the pressure made them unable to breathe. They were constantly afraid that the instant they loosened up, there would be a poisonous spike that would sneak up on them.

Mu Chen smacked his lips in regret. Along their way, he had sucked up dozens of poisonous mist. The poison in his fingers was more rampant compared to before. Naturally, their main objective right now was to look for the ruins to enhance the strength of his entire team. Although these side door methods could briefly enhance his strength, he couldn't genuinely rely on it. Thus, even though Mu Chen felt a little pity, he did not continue to remain specifically to suck the poisonous mist.

"Hmm?"

Just when Mu Chen felt pity, his expression abruptly changed. He shifted his gaze towards the depths of the forest, towards his right as he felt powerful Spiritual Energy ripples in that direction. From the looks of it, it should be another team that had run into trouble.

Luo Li also discovered that commotion and shifted her glance towards Mu Chen.

"Forget it, let's not bother ourselves with it." Mu Chen shook his head after a brief consideration. In the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, a majority of the teams were their competitors. Therefore, they did not have the leisure to help others.

Luo Li and the rest nodded their heads in agreement.

Dong!

However, just when Mu Chen was about to lead his team to leave, another set of powerful ripples of Spiritual Energy exploded. This Spiritual Energy left Mu Chen startled, "Xia Hou of the Saint Spiritual Academy? They are laying their hands on the other teams?"

"The ripples of Spiritual Energy earlier on were pretty powerful. It could be Tang Mei'er of the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy or Zhou Yuan of the Martial Spiritual Academy..." Luo Li considered and exclaimed, "Xia Hou actually chose them as his prey?"

Mu Chen frowned his brows. Although Tang Mei'er and Zhou Yuan's team were slightly weaker in comparable to Xia Hou, they weren't such easy targets. If a full-blown battle was to breakout amongst them, even if Xia Hou and his team could digest it, they would also pay a price. It was unwise to pay such a price at this timing. Unless... Xia Hou and his team could easily take down Tang Mei'er and the rest...

"Shall we take a look?" Luo Li shifted her gaze over to Mu Chen.

Mu Chen's eyes flickered and he nodded his head, "It's sooner or later that Xia Hou will set us as his target. An enemy's enemy is our friend. Furthermore, the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy and the Martial Spiritual Academy are not our enemies, or at least we have not reached that step. If we lend them a hand, they would owe us a favour. Not a bad thing for us."

Furthermore... if it was Tang Mei'er, with her relationship with Tang Qian'er, there's no way he could stand watch with folded arms. Except, he could only think about this thought in his heart...

Mu Chen sneaked a glance towards Luo Li. The latter smiled and looked at him and calmly nodded her head. "Since you have made your decision, then let's go."

Looking at her, who seemed to be unaware of Mu Chen's thoughts, Mu Chen felt a little guilty in his head. On the spot, he could only dryly smile and move. He shifted his direction and rapidly flew towards the direction of the Spiritual Energy ripples.

...

In that Forest of Darkness, violent Spiritual Energy ripples fluctuated to the point that the surrounding demonic trees were shaking from the energy. Cracks also started to appear on the tree bark.

Boom!

In the center of all that rampant Spiritual Energy, two figures were like lightning as they clashed. Following after was the wind from their palms as fearsome Spiritual Energy ripples spread out. In the ground below, cracks spreaded as a huge ravine spread towards the distance.

In that frightening bombardment, one of the figures trembled, while the other slender figure flew out along with a mouthful of blood spurting from her mouth.

"Captain!"

Behind her, four figures flew over and supported her as they yelled.

"Haha, Captain Tang Mei'er seems like your luck is not that good. As a matter of fact, I did not intend to clash with your team. However, who could have foreseen that you gave us such a good chance?" Up in front of her, a figure slowly descend with a faint smile. It was the Captain of Saint Spiritual Academy, Xia Hou.

Behind him, four of his teammates flew over and fixed their eyes on the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy's team.

Tang Mei'er wiped the blood off the corner of her mouth. That face of hers that had always been full of smiles were frost-cold at this moment. In her peach blossom-like slender eyes, there was no longer any of the sweetness and charm that she used to have. It was replaced with chill as she looked at Xia Hou,

“Captain Xia Hou, you’re truly born in the year of the dogs, your time of seizing an opportunity is really good.”

“It was just fluke.” Xia Hou wasn’t bothered by Tang Mei’er’s mockery as he lightly smiled. He looked at the five girls, all of them had a trace of a black aura from the center of their brows. That was caused by poison. Clearly, they had been poisoned.

If it was normal times, Xia Hou would naturally not move his thoughts to Tang Mei’er. However, who could have expected that when they found Tang Mei’er and her team, they were already poisoned... Except that he was not aware of the poison that infected Tang Mei’er and her team. Although the situation was dangerous here, it wasn’t sufficient to force them into such a state. However, suspicions still remained as suspicions. Such a great opportunity, Xia Hou would definitely not let it go.

Outside the forest, Xia Hou had originally thought that Tang Mei’er had formed an alliance with Mu Chen and Zhou Yuan, who suppressed their Saint Spiritual Academy. Back then, he was afraid that the three team would join hands and counter them and hence, he endured. Thus, when he saw that Tang Mei’er and her team was weakened, he naturally would not hesitate to target them.

“Captain Tang Mei’er, hand over your Academy Plaque to us.” Xia Hou lightly smiled as he extended his hand out, “Although it doesn’t seem too good to lay hands on girls, I believe you can understand our standpoint.”

Chill flickered in Tang Mei’er’s eyes as she tightly clenched her teeth and stared at Xia Hou with hatred. However, she was a decisive person and knew that they would not be his opponent. If they were to force their way through, it would only cause the poison in their body to breakout. If that happened, the consequences would be disastrous.

“Fine, I will remember this today, Xia Hou. I will settle it with you in the future!”

Tang Mei’er gave a grasp of her hand and the jade plaque appeared in her hand with a flicker and threw it towards Xia Hou.

Xia Hou smiled with his eyes narrowed and extended his hands out to receive the Academy Plaque. However, just when he extended his hands out, a suction burst out and the Academy Plaque flew past Xia Hou and his team.

Xia Hou’s expression changed as his eyes were filled with shock, “Who?!”

“Haha, I never expected that I could pick up an Academy Plaque with so many points.” A laughter rang out from the Dark Origin Forest behind him as dozens of figures flew out and landed on the empty space. It was Mu Chen and his team and in his hand, he was holding onto an Academy Plaque. Looking at the high points on the Academy Plaque with over two thousand points in it, he couldn’t help laughing.

“Mu Chen!”

When Xia Hou saw Mu Chen’s figure, his expression instantly turned cold, whereas the eyes of Tang Mei’er and her team lit up. Joy surfaced on their expression.

“Hand the Academy Plaque over!” Xia Hou extended his hand out towards Mu Chen and said coldly.

Mu Chen lightly smiled. He did not go on with any chatter, but with a grasp of his hand, a black spear appeared. Behind him, Luo Li, Xu Huang and the rest of his team fluctuated with Spiritual Energy in their surroundings as they made preparations to fight.

“Captain Xia Hou, if you wish to fight with us here, we’ll be more than glad to do so.” Mu Chen smiled.

“You’re seeking death!” Behind Xia Hou, his four other teammates barked with fury.

Mu Chen did not bother about them as his line-of-sight only remained on Xia Hou. The latter tightly clenched his fist as killing intent gathered in his eyes. However, after a brief thought, he inhaled a mouthful of air and eerily said, “What great courage Captain Mu Chen possesses. The Academy Plaque will belong to you, but believe me, next time, I will let you spit out everything along with interest.”

Although he wanted to kill Mu Chen with a palm of his, it was not a good time to fight at the moment. They had to save up their energy to search in the ruins, since there would eventually be a huge fight.

“I gladly welcome you.” Mu Chen nodded his head with a smile.

“Let’s go!”

Xia Hou’s expression was cold as he waved his hand, turned around and left. His four other teammates slightly hesitated, before following up with their teeth clenched.

As Xia Hou and his team decisively left, Xu Huang and the rest also felt relieved. Mu Chen grasped the Academy Plaque as his line-of-sight shifted towards Tang Mei’er. The latter coldly glanced at the figure of Xia Hou’s team as they left, before looking up and smiled towards Mu Chen, “Thanks, you can take half of the points on the Academy Plaque as our gratitude.”

Mu Chen fiddled with the plaque before shaking his head. He made a flick with his fingers and the Academy Plaque turned into a streak of light as it flew towards the Tang Mei’er’s startled team.

“If I require it, I will take it from you guys after you have all recovered.” Mu Chen smiled.

Tang Mei’er and her team exchanged glances. The four other charming girls looked at that charming, slender youth with a long spear in his hands as their eyes lit up.

“Hehe, then we’ll owe you guys a favor.”

Tang Mei’er was not an indecisive person. She only hesitated for a brief moment, before receiving her Academy Plaque with a smile. A charming look, once again, flickered in her eyes as she looked at Mu Chen. “Seems like the eyesight of my little sister is pretty good, to the point that even I, the big sister, am a little attracted by you as well.”

When Mu Chen heard her words, his smile stiffened as he could sense the girl beside him was lightly touching her Luo God Sword...

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### **Chapter 472: Collaborate**

Cough...

Sensing the glittering gazes shooting over from the young girl beside him, Mu Chen instantly gave a dry cough, not daring to continue replying those questions coming from the audacious and fiery Tang Mei'er that would lead to him burning himself. In the next instant, he gave a smile and said, "Captain Mei'er, are you all alright?"

Giving a helpless pucker of her lips, Tang Mei'er replied, "Due to us being poisoned, we've been targeted by Xia Hou."

"Poison?"

Hearing that, Mu Chen gawked, before starting to wrinkle his brows. Although those demonic trees in the dark forest were exceedingly thorny, they shouldn't be able to force Tang Mei'er and her group to such a point, right?

"We were ambushed by a mysterious group," replied Tang Mei'er while clenching her teeth. Shadows of seriousness surfaced within her beautiful eyes as she continued saying, "The methods that group employed were rather strange and weird, making it appear as if they are able to control the demonic trees in the forest. We had no time to deal with them, and were caught in their move. Although we managed to force them away at the end, we expended a lot by doing so."

Hearing her reply, Mu Chen was slightly shocked. Exchanging looks with Luo Li, he could also see the shock on her face. There is actually such a formidable group hiding in there? Furthermore, it should not be any group from the five Great Academies... Indeed, there were crouching tigers and hidden dragons in this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. From the looks of it, one could never be too relaxed and complacent in here.

Although the five Great Academies were considered to be at the pinnacle of the myriad of Spiritual Academies out there, in this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, there were some Spiritual Academies that had some hidden connections to a few powerful clans. They had sent a few of the geniuses of their clans into those Spiritual Academies to obtain special statuses and treatment, before letting those genius figures represent the Spiritual Academies in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Groups with them in it would be extremely strong and powerful, and might even be able to contend against the groups sent out by the Saint Spiritual Academy.

Furthermore, due to the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament this time being especially massive, there would be even more crouching tigers and hidden dragons as compared with the past few times, resulting in an even more thorny situation.

<em >Seeing as it is, this mysterious group that had ambushed Tang Mei'er's group would most likely be classified as one of them... From the looks of it, they had to be more cautious and vigilant; if not, they might be meet with unexpected disasters. At that time, it would truly be too late for regrets.

Mu Chen walked towards Tang Mei'er and her group. Indeed, there's a sliver of black aura present on their foreheads. That poisonous aura gave off familiar fluctuations, precisely being of the poisonous smoke they had encountered earlier while within the Dark Origin Forest. This poison had a corrosive effect towards Spiritual Energy, and upon contact with flesh, it would proceed to devour it like prey. Nevertheless, from the looks of it, it seemed that the poison within the bodies of Tang Mei'er and her group wasn't particularly serious. If not, it would already be hard for them to preserve on.

“Are you alright?” asked Mu Chen.

“Not too great. This poison’s very sinister, and is continuously corroding away at our Spiritual Energy; therefore, it requires us to constantly use our Spiritual Energy to suppress it. If not, once it erupts...” replied Tang Mei’er helplessly. The corrosive poison in her body was clearly an extreme headache for her. Due to them being unable to clear out this poison, they were unable to muster their complete strength in combat, something that wasn’t good news in this journey to the remnant.

After pondering deeply awhile, Mu Chen said, “Can I try helping you dispel the poison?”

Hearing his words, Tang Mei’er and the other four elegant and beautiful-looking girls of her group instantly gawked. All of them were very clear of how thorny this poison was. Normal methods were completely unable to dispel it...

Seeing their reactions, Mu Chen laughed out. Extending his hand towards them, he said, “Although I don’t know exactly if it is possible, is there be no harm in trying?”

A sweet smile appeared on Tang Mei’er’s face as she extended her slender, jade-like hand. Placing it within Mu Chen’s palm, she replied with an alluring smile. “Then I have to give great thanks to Captain Mu Chen. If you’re able to help us dispel this poison, we can’t thank you enough for this grace.”

Mu Chen felt awkward within his heart by the words said by Tang Mei’er. Nevertheless, not one bit of it was shown on his face. Clenching Tang Mei’er’s slender hand, his poison finger descended right into her palm.

After being grabbed by Mu Chen’s hand, Tang Mei’er still had a grinning look on her face. Nevertheless, as the warmth from his hand started to radiate from him, her heart beat started to increase. At this moment, a shade of pink started to unknowingly appear on her beautiful face, causing her to give off an exceedingly alluring appearance.

Mu Chen gave a gentle tap with his finger, as a suction force erupted out. In the next moment, the sliver of black aura present on Tang Mei’er’s forehead instantly fluctuated. Flowing through her meridians into her palm, it transformed into a ray of black light, drilling straight into the poison finger of Mu Chen.

“You?!”

Upon seeing this, Tang Mei’er’s beautiful face instantly changed furiously. Hastily grabbed onto Mu Chen’s hand, she urgently spoke out, “You stupid idiot, why are you sucking the poison aura into your body?!”

“Uh...”

Feeling slightly embarrassed, Mu Chen shot a sneaky glance at Luo Li beside him. At this moment, the young girl had her hands crossed before her chest, appearing to have not seen anything.

“It’s nothing. My body’s somewhat unique, and this poison isn’t able to do any harm to me,” explained Mu Chen in a beat.

Only after his explanation did Tang Mei’er breathe, while an extra shadow of gentleness and a smile was present in her gaze towards Mu Chen.

“So, which of you first?” said Mu Chen with a smile as he looked towards the other four pretty and beautiful girls.

“Me!”

Four slender, snow-white hands immediately stretched out towards him, before shades of pink instantly appeared on the faces of the four beautiful girls. Nevertheless, their beautiful eyes looked daringly towards Mu Chen, causing his heart to tremble. The girls from the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy appear to not be too good at being provoked...

The process of dispelling the poison in them continued on smoothly, with only jealous gazes shooting out from Xu Huang, Lin Zhou and the other fellows behind Mu Chen’s back, taking in Mu Chen touching the hands of each and every one of the beautiful girls. Furthermore, after having the poison in their bodies dispelled, those girls proceeded to stare at Mu Chen with their eyes wide open, with even watery ripples present in their eyes. Clearly, they had somewhat of a favorable impression of Mu Chen.

After the poison in their bodies was dispelled, Tang Mei’er and her group rapidly closed their eyes and adjusted their breathing to recover their Spiritual Energy.

Only upon seeing this did Mu Chen quietly take a breath of relief. Standing up, he gave a vicious glare towards Xu Huang and the others standing behind him.

“Looks like you’re very popular among the girls, huh?” said Luo Li as her finger rested and gently tapped on her Luo Shen sword, her glazed-like eyes staring straight towards Mu Chen.

With a cheeky grin, Mu Chen walked beside her and said with a happy smile, “Are you jealous?”

He was clearly extremely happy to see the usually quiet and reserved Luo Li show such an alluring little girl tantrum due to him.

Being clear about his carefulness, Luo Li could only roll her eyes towards him, turning her little face away to show her ignorance of him.

Shamelessly extending his hand out, Mu Chen held Luo Li’s hand within his, feeling the delicate and silky sensation on his skin. Only after doing so did he shake his head and speak out in a low voice. “My little Luo Li’s still the most beautiful.”

Luo Li’s beautiful face turned a slight shade of pink as she shot an embarrassed glare at him. Nevertheless, she didn’t pull her hand away in the end.

Having the poison dispelled from their bodies, Tang Mei’er and her group were able to recover very quickly, with rich and powerful Spiritual Energies radiating once more out from their bodies.

“Mu Chen, do you want to group up with us awhile?” With her strength having completely recovered, Tang Mei’er gave a sweet smile as she spoke out. At this moment, a chilling and vengeful shadow started to condense within her eyes.

“Hmm?” Mu Chen gawked.

“Let’s collaborate. If we bump into Xia Hou and his group while in the ruins, we’ll work together to deal with them. I’m alright with giving all of their points to you,” said Tang Mei’er, whose beautiful eyes were

now brimming with chilling intent. "There's also that mysterious group that had ambushed us. They should appear at the very end. Therefore, if we collaborate, we should be able to guard against them. I think that at that time, you should need a group with the strength like us as partners."

Mu Chen was somewhat shocked by her suggestion. He never imagined that Tang Mei'er would be so resentful over this matter to the point of actually wanting to collaborate with him. Furthermore, she didn't even want the points if they were to obtain them. This showed that she had wholeheartedly wanted to help deal with Xia Hou and his group. Indeed, her group would be of a great help. If they were to bump into Xia Hou and his group in their exploration of the ruins, he would truly be able to take action without any scruples.

Indeed, one could never take provoking women as something light. Once they get enraged, there would be no rationale in their retaliation.

"Okay!"

Mu Chen gave his response after a slight pause of pondering, not wanting to be wishy-washy about this. With the support of a strong group like Tang Mei'er's, there would be sufficient rise to his confidence. After all, in their group, they had to mainly rely on him and Luo Li to shoulder any offensive launched towards them. If they were to start a fight with Xia Hou's group, Xu Huang and the other two would not be able to provide much help, and would in fact somewhat drag the group down.

This was the greatest reason why he had not recklessly gone up and taken action towards Xia Hou and his group.

"Looks like Captain Tang Mei'er's sending us a big gift," said Mu Chen with a smile.

"Proper behavior is based on reciprocity," said Tang Mei'er with a smile. "If it's alright with you, you can just call me Elder Sister Mei'er."

"That's good, Elder Sister Mei'er. Let us collaborate from here," replied Mu Chen without any embarrassment. In the whole scale of things, being able to establish good relations with a group with such strength was, in all, a good thing. Although no one knew how long this collaboration would last, at the very least, they were able to collaborate for now.

"Since everyone has already rested, let us make our move. It seems that we're at the ends of this forest." Waving his hand, Mu Chen spoke out to the group before him.

"Yes."

Hearing that, everyone nodded their heads, with Xu Huang and the others feeling slightly pumped. With a few sudden additions of such formidable collaborators joining their team, this had undoubtedly caused their team's strength to drastically increase. If they were to bump into Xia Hou's group now, they would truly be able to take action...

"Let's go!"

With a smile, Mu Chen gave a tap of his feet, taking the lead and shot forward, with a dozen figures following closely from behind.



As the figures shot past the shadows, Mu Chen looked towards the radiance growing increasingly brighter from the distance. A smile akin to a hunter that had started his hunt started to curl up from the corner of his mouth. Saint Spiritual Academy... I won't be polite and take down the first of your groups!

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#### **Chapter 473: Divine Spiritual Tree**

As Mu Chen's group sped through the forest as quick as lightning, shadows and humongous trees alike flashed past them. Finally breaking away from the darkness, they were once again enveloped by the familiar sunlight.

The warm sunlight shone down, causing them to inadvertently relax from their state of constant tension. Nevertheless, not being inexperienced rookies, they quickly recovered and focused their attention, cautiously sweeping their gazes around and scanning their surroundings. Suddenly, their expressions froze as shock surfaced within their eyes.

In the deepest part of the forest was a stretch of mountainous woods filled with lush and verdant vegetation. At this instant, an enormous light pillar had shot into the sky from the land before them, appearing clearly visible from more than a hundred miles away. Evidently, this was the origin of the light pillar they had spotted earlier while in the depths of the forest.

Carefully looking over, they discovered that a large, glowing tree stood within the light pillar. Swaying gently, it radiated with rich and exuberant life force, along with a strange, sweet fragrance that hung in the air. Breathing in this fragrance caused them to feel the Spiritual Energy within their bodies to circulate more vigorously.

There seemed to be emerald-green fruits suspended from the large, glowing tree. The fruits had light halos floating around them, and a dense life force diffused from the fruits.

"That's..."

As Mu Chen's group stared at the huge tree in the light pillar, they could not suppress the shock and astonishment from surfacing within their eyes.

Tang Mei'er muttered in shock, "Could that be the Divine Spiritual Tree?"

The Divine Spiritual Tree was an extremely rare heavenly treasure, born from the endless life force of the heavens and the earth. It was said that the fruits from the Divine Spiritual Tree were greatly beneficial in the tempering of one's fleshly body, and were able to remove all impurities from the body. During the Ancient Antiquity, formidable clans and ancient sects had put in large amounts of effort and resources to grow a Divine Spiritual Tree, with the aim of nurturing their younger generations. Hence, their younger generation members would always be exceptionally powerful.

However, as of now, the Divine Spiritual Tree had become extremely rare. Only powerhouses armed with formidable strength could possess such a treasure. In fact, the amount of strength and resources required was so copious that even the five Great Academies lacked the ability to own one. Henceforth, they were shocked to find a Divine Spiritual Tree growing so vibrantly in this location, and even bearing so many fruits.

Xu Huang and the others were now breathing heavily. Currently, they were at the most pivotal moment in attempting to pass the Human Body Disaster. However, due to the extreme danger of attempting to pass it, they could possibly lose their lives if any accidents were to occur. Not daring to rashly attempt it, they could only approach it cautiously. However, if they were able to obtain the Divine Spiritual Fruit, this problem would be easily resolved. Even if it did not offer a perfect guarantee in passing the Human Body Disaster, on the off-chance to them failing, they would be able to keep their lives, at the very least. To them, this was the most important factor.

On the other hand, Mu Chen had quickly recovered from his state of shock. Having undergone the Divine Spiritual Baptism, he did not have to worry about the Human Body Disaster. Thus, the enticement of the fruits did not get to his head. Looking at the Divine Spiritual Tree swaying gently in the light pillar, he slightly scrunched his brows. Something felt slightly off, yet he was unable to put his finger on just what it was.

“Whew.”

Everyone’s breathing gradually turned heavier, while their eyes slowly turned red. Unable to restrain themselves any further, they shot forward, each one trying to snatch the treasure for himself.

“Humph!”

Watching the hunger in their eyes, Mu Chen’s thoughts wavered. Suddenly, he let out a low roar. Infused with Spiritual Energy, the roar was akin to a sudden clap of thunder, exploding beside the ears of the Xu Huang and the others.

Their bodies spasmed as a buzzing sound echoed in their ears. While the redness in their eyes slightly dissipated, they blankly stared at Mu Chen.

“Be careful, there’s something off about this Divine Spiritual Tree.” Mu Chen commented softly. The Xu Huang trio were not rash people; however, it felt like their earlier actions were being controlled by something. This was indeed a strange and weird place.

Xu Huang and the others had recovered at this moment, and were spontaneously drenched in cold sweat. Looking back at the Divine Spiritual Tree, their gazes were now filled with caution and wariness.

“Try your best to inhale as little of that fragrance as possible...” Luo Li suddenly voiced out. “Although it seems that the fragrance speeds up the circulation of Spiritual Energy and brings about a soothing feeling, if you lose yourself in that feeling, you will become entranced... this tree, might not actually be a Divine Spiritual Tree...”

Mu Chen, Tang Mei’er, and the rest were shocked. This tree in front of them looked exactly the same as the recorded appearance of the Divine Spiritual Tree. However, they had truly never heard of the Divine Spiritual Tree having the ability to entice people into a trance and cause them to lose conscious thought.

Swish! Swish!

Just as Mu Chen and the others cautiously glanced at the huge tree in the middle of the light pillar, many swooshing sounds suddenly flooded the surrounding area. The Dark Origin Forest behind them showed signs of fluctuations, while a multitude of silhouettes shot out like lightning, landing in the lush vegetation around them.

These were all groups that had charged through the Dark Origin Forest. However, many groups had suffered heavy injuries and appeared to be in a sorry state, suffering either heavy injuries or missing members. Evidently, they had paid a heavy price to arrive here.

Swish!

Yet another group of shadows shot out and landed on a small hill, with a familiar figure within the group, causing Mu Chen to slightly squint his eyes. Beside him, Tang Mei'er and the rest tightly clenched their teeth and stared at the group with icy gazes. That group was Xia Hou and his group from Saint Spiritual Academy.

Upon arriving, Xia Hou naturally noticed Mu Chen and the others' gazes. Upon realising that Mu Chen was with Tang Mei'er and the others, his gaze slightly froze.

A team member whispered beside Xia Hou, "Captain, it seems like Tang Mei'er has joined forces with Mu Chen. It is very likely that they will take action against us."

Xia Hou slightly nodded. Although he wasn't afraid of Tang Mei'er's group or Mu Chen's group, if they were joining forces, they would be able to cause some trouble to his group. It would seem that their earlier actions towards Tang Mei'er had given Mu Chen a convenient opportunity. Nevertheless, they were too naive to think that teaming up would allow them to topple him.

"It doesn't matter. When the time comes, we'll give them a good surprise..." Xia Hou said with a smirk. Glancing back at the Dark Origin Forest behind him, he commented, "I wonder what happened to the team from Martial Spiritual Academy..."

Swish!

Just as the words left his mouth, swooshing sounds rushed out from the Dark Origin Forest, and multiple figures violently shot out. Their appearance caused many to cry out in surprise.

Mu Chen and Tang Mei'er's gazes instantly swept over, and their expressions instantly changed.

The figures that had just charged out of the forest were familiar; it was the group from Martial Spiritual Academy. However, the group seemed to have suffered greatly. From their original five members, they currently had only four left, with many serious injuries present on the remaining four. Even Zhou Yuan, whose body was solid as a metal tower had an extremely pale complexion. Fresh blood continuously flowed from his hand in which he grasped his metal pole.

They seemed to have experienced a bitter fight.

At this moment, there were at least a hundred teams in this area. Upon witnessing the current state of Zhou Yuan's group, all of them broke out in cries of alarm. They never expected to see his group in such a miserable condition.

Some gazes started shifting around, while dark glints gushed forth from the eyes of some of the stronger teams. Although they would not normally dare to take action against the team from Martial Spiritual Academy, the present situation was an opportunity to take down a weakened titan. Taking this opportunity might net them some considerable benefits...

Clearly noticing those gazes filled with ill intent, Zhou Yuan did not say anything. Simply waving to his teammates, he allowed his team to rest while he stood guard with a dark expression and tightly gripped his metal pole. A ruthless expression, akin to that of a tiger, was present on his face, while his stance had a tinge of craziness present within, intimidating the other teams into not taking one bit of strange action.

As they witnessed this scene, a trace of a smile appeared within the eyes of Xia Hou and his team. Nevertheless, they did not take action, simply glancing at the Dark Origin Forest, before retracting their gaze.

“Zhou Yuan and his group were actually injured to this extent... exactly who did it?” Mu Chen wore a heavy expression as he spoke out. Zhou Yuan’s group possessed considerably frightening strength, and yet they had been so badly injured, and had even lost a teammate...

“Could this be the work of Xia Hou’s group?” Luo Li enquired, her brows knitted.

Tang Mei’er shook her head. “It shouldn’t be; otherwise, the two of them would already be at each other’s throats.” She knew of Zhou Yuan’s temper, and if this was really Xia Hou’s doing, the former would have already exploded in anger.

“So...”

Mu Chen’s expression froze. “Is it... that mysterious team that you crossed hands with?”

Tang Mei’er was startled for a moment. “I won’t rule out that possibility. That team was hiding in the shadows, and they had strange methods. To force Zhou Yuan and his team into such a situation isn’t entirely impossible... However, why would they specifically target the strongest?”

“Perhaps it’s because we pose the greatest threat to them...”

Mu Chen scrunched his brows. “Seems like we have to be more careful. They are definitely not simple characters, like poisonous snakes hiding in the shadows...”

Luo Li and the others nodded in agreement. Being able to poison Tang Mei’er’s group and injure Zhou Yuan’s team to this extent, that mysterious team truly did possess some ability.

Mu Chen withdrew his gaze and looked to his front. This was the deepest part of the Dark Origin Forest, but there was only a strange Divine Spiritual Tree here... As for the supposed ancient remnant, they had yet to find even a single sign of its existence.

“What’s going on?” Mu Chen muttered to himself.

“Is that the Divine Spiritual Tree?!”

Just as Mu Chen was pondering to himself, the other teams in the area had finally identified the Divine Spiritual Tree. The eyes of many lit up, filling with greed and desire. In the next instant, more than a hundred figures had simultaneously shot out towards the Divine Spiritual Tree, with the intent to snatch its fruits.

Watching the scene unfold before him, Mu Chen simply kept his cool and watched from the side.

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### Chapter 474: Palace

Swoosh!

More than a hundred silhouettes seemed to simultaneously burst forth in an instant. Just like the Xu Huang trio before them, all of them stared at the Divine Spiritual Tree with reddish eyes. As their breathing became heavier, unconcealable greed erupted from their eyes. The enticement of this Divine Spiritual Tree truly was too much for them to bear.

Witnessing the scene before them, Mu Chen's group did not take action at all. Instead, with an unsympathetic gaze, they simply watched the fellows whose rationality had been consumed by greed.

Their speed was exceptionally quick. In the span of merely ten breaths, they had already neared the Divine Spiritual Tree. However, there was something unusual happening. They did not face any resistance at all, and with a strong gust of wind, they had barbarically tore the Divine Spiritual Fruit right off the tree one after another into their hands.

"Haha, a Divine Spiritual Fruit! With this, I can survive the Human Body Disaster!"

Grasping onto the Divine Spiritual Fruit that radiated with boundless Spiritual Energy, they could not help heartily laughing in that moment. Eyes filled with ecstasy, they immediately stuffed the Divine Spiritual Fruit right into their mouths in a single bite.

Boundless Spiritual Energy rippled out from within their bodies. However, immediately after, shocked and inconsolable expressions appeared on their faces as they suddenly felt an indescribable heat gushing out from inside their bodies. As this happened, their skin turned crimson red, while black-coloured blood started oozing from all their pores. Unexpectedly, black flames were mixed within the trails of black blood flowing out from them.

"Ah!"

Mournful screeches spontaneously erupted and resonated, as a figure was suddenly drenched with black blood, and black flames rolled out from inside his body, enveloping him entirely. With a loud bang, he exploded into a bloody mist. The mist floated on the wind, eventually floating back to the Divine Spiritual Tree and condensing, forming another Divine Spiritual Fruit.

This strange scene caused those who had retained their senses and not acted rashly to feel ice-cold all over.

Bang! Bang!

Following the first person who had been engulfed by the black flames, the other unfortunate ones who had similarly consumed the Divine Spiritual Fruit soon met the same fate. Black flames erupted from their bodies, before they immediately turned into clumps of bloody mist. All the blood mists were eventually absorbed by the Divine Spiritual Tree, forming one Divine Spiritual Fruit after another, hanging plumply on the tree, swaying in the wind.

In a short span of only a few minutes, many of those unfortunate souls who had eaten the Divine Spiritual Fruits had exploded into bloody mists, and were turned into new Divine Spiritual Fruits in the process.

Gulp.

Xu Huang and the rest had watched the scene unfold with deathly-pale expressions on their faces, while being unable to help swallowing a mouthful of saliva. Fortunately, they had been obstructed by Mu Chen, if not, their current state would be exactly the same as those people.

Mu Chen also deeply exhaled. Staring solemnly at the Divine Spiritual Tree, he slowly said, "This thing's definitely not a Divine Spiritual Tree!"

In the surrounding region, all of the teams had quietened down with some of them having pale expressions on their faces. Even someone like Xia Hou was watching on with tightly knitted brows. These teams had exhausted all their methods in order to charge past the Dark Origin Forest

full of demonic trees and arrive here. Was it all for naught? What about the supposed ancient inheritance? Could it be that it was referring to this extremely strange demonic tree in front of them?

"Eh? The Divine Spiritual Tree seems to be changing!"

In this moment of silence, there was a sudden exclamation of shock. As the many gazes hurriedly shot over, everyone saw that within the light pillar, the Divine Spiritual Tree was actually changing gradually from its original emerald-green luster into a slightly black colour. In just half a minute, the Divine Spiritual Tree, originally abundant with a divine aura, had become covered in a demonic aura. The Divine Spiritual Fruits on the tree had also changed in appearance. They actually had sinister human faces on them, with black blood flowed continuously from the fruit.

"This is..."

Tang Mei'er stared at the demonic tree that had just drastically changed, taking in a sharp breath. "It seems like this is actually a Demonic Spiritual Tree. It's absolutely not a Divine Spiritual Tree!"

Mu Chen's group wore grave expressions as they nodded in agreement. Even though the Demonic Spiritual Tree only differed from the Divine Spiritual Tree by just a single word, they were two entirely different objects. It was said that these strange trees had the ability to confuse people's conscious thoughts, and could emit a scent akin to an otherworldly treasure from far away, attracting greedy treasure seekers, while changing its appearance into such treasures. However, once people consumed its fruits, they would be immolated by demonic flames and turned into a bloody mist, before being absorbed by the Demonic Spiritual Tree.

It was then that Mu Chen realised why he had felt that something was off earlier on. As it turned out, the tree in front of them was not a Divine Spiritual Tree, but rather, a strange and dreadful Demonic Spiritual Tree.

"We were enticed here by this damned thing?" Tang Mei'er clenched her teeth in reluctance. "Could it be that the supposed ancient inheritance is also a scam?"

Mu Chen wrinkled his brows.

“Mu Chen!” Suddenly, Lin Zhou whispered, before pulled out an emerald-green jade plaque. There were many tree patterns engraved on the jade plaque, and at this very moment, it was glowing with a lustrous green light. Passing the jade plaque to Mu Chen, he said, “Something seems to be happening to this thing!”

Being instantly startled, Mu Chen immediately received the jade plaque. This plaque should be the piece that Lin Zhou’s team had obtained.

As he grasped the medal, he could feel the warmth spreading from the medal. Looking over towards the Demonic Spiritual tree, he could see that at this moment, seemingly as a result of absorbing all the bloody mists, ray after ray of black lights were appearing on the Demonic Spiritual Tree. With every ray of black light that appeared, the jade plaque grew warmer and warmer.

Mu Chen’s gaze sparkled. With a flick of his finger, the jade medal transformed into a ray of green light and shot out.

Swish!

As it shot out, the jade plaque had actually charged straight into the Demonic Spiritual Tree. Immediately, mournful screeches seemed to sound out from the tree. In the next instant, rays of light exploded from within the tree and its trunk rapidly split open. Boundless Spiritual Energy undulated in the surrounding space, before distortions started to appear. In the next instant, an enormous wooden palace appeared from within.

The wooden palace hovered in mid-air, while the space surrounding it seemed to have formed its own realm, emanating an ancient air of vicissitudes from within.

This change in the situation caused everyone present to feel shocked, including Mu Chen, who had actually triggered this incident.

Countless gazes were tightly locked onto that ancient wooden palace. However, this time round, no one dared to act rashly again. Those unlucky fellows who had gone ahead of them had already taught them a rather bloody lesson.

Under those countless attentive gazes, the ancient wooden palace suddenly gave out a buzzing sound. The thick, heavy, wooden doors that were tightly closed started to slowly open, bit by bit. An ancient smell swept out, rippling out into this space.

“It seems like only after absorbing enough fresh blood will the Demonic Spiritual Tree trigger a response from the jade plaque.” Mu Chen softly commented. It seemed that those ancient experts who had left their inheritance were not kind people, actually requiring such a bloody method to open the wooden palace. Although most of them had lost their lives due to their avarice, normal people would not have thought of such a ruthless and brutal method.

“This should be the ancient inheritance hidden in this location.” Mu Chen glanced at Tang Mei’er’s team, laughing. “How about it? Interested?”

Hearing this, Tang Mei’er simply smiled charmingly and replied, “After facing so much difficulty in charging into this place, if we return empty-handed, it would not fit our style of doing things.”

“Great, let’s make a move then.”

Mu Chen sucked in a breath, and his expression turned sharp. Shooting a glance at Xia Hou’s team, his figure flashed and he shot out directly at that ancient wooden palace. Behind him, Luo Li, Tang Mei’er and the others tightly followed.

“Go!”

Upon witnessing this, Xia Hou chuckled indifferently. With a wave of his hand, five figures turned into rays of light and shot out, tightly following them towards that ancient wooden palace.

With them leading the way, the entire area immediately turned fiery, and team after team hurriedly rose into the air. After the heavy price they paid to summon this ancient inheritance, if they did not receive something worthwhile in return, they would not be able to bear it.

“Captain, are we still going in?”

The Martial Spiritual Academy team’s three remaining members stared at the ancient wooden palace in the distance, asking softly.

Zhou Yuan had a pale complexion, but his expression had a tinge of craziness. Tightly gripping his metal rod, he shouted out, “Go! The team that carried out that sneak attack on us must definitely be around here somewhere too, god damn it, this old man wants to tear them apart!”

Once he said that, he stepped forward without any hesitation and shot out.

Accompanying the continuous stream of teams charging towards the opened ancient palace, this area also became exceptionally lively. Those teams which wear missing members were looking for potential allies instead. After all, wanting to reap a bountiful reward in this place was impossible without sufficient strength.

At the edge of the Dark Origin Forest, shadows fluttered about. Soon after, multiple silhouettes slowly walked out from the shadows. Their leader lifted his pale face and stared at the ancient palace, giving a cold laugh. “It truly is the Divine Wood Palace, it seems that we were looking for the right thing.”

“It seems that the teams from four of the Great Academies have all entered.”

“What a waste, we had wanted to eliminate one or two in the forest, but we didn’t settle even one of them. These fellows truly are not weak, forcing us to use other methods in the end.”

The silhouette shook his head, and starting walking. A cold and indifferent laughter spread from the shadows.

“However, I won’t be giving you the chance to walk out of this Divine Wood Palace alive.”

## **[The Great Ruler](#)**

### **Chapter 475: Obtaining Treasure**

When Mu Chen’s group charged into that freshly opened ancient palace, they were clearly able to sense ripples around in the space around them. Subsequently, their surroundings started to undergo huge changes.



They were in a humongous, dark-green hallway. Both sides of the hallway linked to one hall after another, and an ancient smell permeated the deathly silence.

Mu Chen's group took in the scene in front of them, before looking at one another, seeing the heat in each other's eyes. It seemed like this truly was an inheritance from the Ancient Antiquity, with an ancient air that no one would doubt.

"Everybody, let's make good use of the time and search by ourselves."

Mu Chen waved his hand and ordered.

"Haha, see you all later!" Lin Zhou took the initiative, laughing out loud as he decisively led his four teammates and shot off. Having arrived at the location of the ancient inheritance, the rewards that one would be able to reap would depend on one's own strength.

"Then, we'll make a move, too. If anything happens, just send a signal." Tang Mei'er also didn't hesitate, chuckling towards Mu Chen, before leading her team into another ancient hall.

Although they had a working relationship, when it came to searching for treasure, it was best to split up. If not, if the treasures couldn't be split equally, it would actually cause problems.

"Let's go."

Seeing that the team was temporarily split up, Mu Chen immediately waved his hand, and his figure directly shot out.

Just as Mu Chen's group was travelling into the deeper regions of this seemingly maze-like hallway, more and more teams appeared within this area. Once they appeared, they spread out like a swarm of locusts, and this ancient palace hall, silent for innumerable years, spontaneously became lively again.

Dong!

On the thick and heavy doors of a grand hall, many cracks suddenly started to appear. With a final bang, the doors exploded open.

Waving his arms, Mu Chen swept the dust away, before stepping into this grand hall. This hall wasn't that spacious, with its area being slightly narrower than the halls from earlier on. However, it was evident that this hall, whether its appearance or arrangement, was more important than the other halls.

Earlier on, they had grasped the opportunity and charged ahead through several halls ahead of the other teams, but regretfully, they did not find anything worthwhile. This ancient inheritance had obviously been around for a very long time, and many treasures had been worn down and eroded by the passage of time, unable to last and only left ashes behind.

Luckily, this particular hall seemed somewhat different.

A dense smell of medicinal herbs emanated from this grand hall. It seemed that this was a place used to grow various medicines. On the ground, there were clear jade-like receptacles that had unknown mysterious plants growing in them. An intense Spiritual Energy was emitted from the plants, saturating the air around them.

Mu Chen was unable to identify any of the herbs, and from their appearances, these plants seemed to be in a state of slow growth, hence he simply glanced over them before dejectedly shaking his head. He did not have the desire to collect these herbs and spend large amounts of time and effort to grow them.

“Hmm?”

Mu Chen suddenly stopped in his tracks. Raising his head, he spotted a small tree several feet tall at the far end of the hall. The small tree was gently swaying, emitting a vigorous life force.

On that small tree, there seemed to be several emerald-green fruits, and there were strange light halos floating on the surface of these fruits.

Just as Mu Chen spotted the small, glowing tree, Xu Huang’s group had also discovered it. However, startled expressions immediately surfaced on their faces, and they even retreated a few steps. Wasn’t this thing what they had just seen earlier, the “Divine Spiritual Tree” that had almost taken their lives?

“No need to be so tense, it seems like this is the real deal.” Mu Chen’s gaze was tightly locked onto the tree, which seemed to have been sculpted from jade.

Upon hearing this, Xu Huang’s group breathed a sigh of relief, but their bodies remained tense.

Mu Chen slowly walked forward, and it was only when he neared the Divine Spiritual Tree that he was able to feel the boundless and pure Spiritual Energy emitted from the tree. Chuckling, he planned to snatch the five remaining Divine Spiritual Fruits on from the tree.

Boom!

However, just as his hand was about to touch the Divine Spiritual Tree, from the lingering fragrant mist in front of him, an extremely rampant gale suddenly swept forth, rumbling angrily towards Mu Chen like a mountain.

“Watch out!”

Luo Li was the first to detect it, and with a gentle exclamation, her delicate figure had already shot out. A palm stretched out, carrying an overflowing amount of Spiritual Energy, colliding violently with the withered palm extending from the mist.

Bang!

Violent gales swept forth, and Luo Li swiftly retreated. Within that fluctuating mist, there was actually a ten-foot tall wooden statue charging out. Its eyes glowed with a dark-green light, and its withered body was like a tree trunk, it was not wonder that even Mu Chen was unable to detect it hiding behind the Divine Spiritual Tree earlier on.

Glancing at the wooden statue, Mu Chen didn’t give it much thought. This must be some sort of puppet, and its strength was not bad, comparable to someone who survived the Human Body Disaster.

Roar!

However, the green glowing eyes of the wooden statue were locked onto Mu Chen, who was the closest to the Divine Spiritual Tree. A fist rumbled out, causing rampant gales to spread out.

Mu Chen gave an indifferent laugh, but did not show any intention of dodging. Suddenly clenching his fist, black arcs of lightning burst forth from the surface of his body, and lightning runes directly appeared on his chest. His fist rumbled out with an incomparably rampant force, colliding directly with the wooden statue.

Bang!

Rampant forces rippled out, forcing the Xu Huang trio to retreat more than a dozen steps. The withered wooden statue also trembled, sawdust sputtering out, before its huge body flew back.

Mu Chen's body also vibrated, and he couldn't help massaging his palm with a shocked gaze. The toughness of the wooden statue far exceeded his expectations, and most people who survived the Human Body Disaster would probably be unable to beat this wooden puppet.

Swish!

An incomparably sharp Sword Aura swept over as Luo Li's delicate figure shot past. A ray of white light broke off from her hands and shot directly into the head of the wooden statue, penetrating through and sending a cloud of sawdust bursting out.

Groan!

The longsword penetrated through the head of the statue, before flying around and returning to Luo Li's hands. The green light in the wooden statue's eyes rapidly receded, and it toppled over on the ground, causing the entire hall to tremble.

Witnessing Mu Chen and Luo Li's efficient coordination, the Xu Huang trio spontaneously grinned. What a frightening pair of lovers!

Mu Chen gently patted his hands, looking at the toppled wooden statue. This kind of puppet was difficult to deal with. Its defensive strength was extremely high, if not for Luo Li having the Luo Shen sword, even if the two of them were to join forces, they would have to spend much effort before being able to resolve this problem.

Mu Chen was stunned at the tyrannical strength of the wooden statue, before moving his attention back to the Divine Spiritual Tree. With a clench of his palm, he directly forced the five Divine Spiritual Fruits into his hand.

Like pieces of jade, the five Divine Spiritual fruits rested in his palm, emitting a boundless and pure Spiritual Energy.

"It seems that out luck isn't bad at all."

Chuckling, Mu Chen raised his head and looked at the Xu Huang trio, whose gazes were locked onto the Divine Spiritual Fruits in his hand. With a flick of his finger, three of the fruits landed in their hands.

"Store it well, first. After we get out of this place, find a place to absorb and refine it, before trying to attempt the Human Body Disaster, and see whether you can successfully survive it." Mu Chen laughed, if the Xu Huang trio was able to survive the Human Body Disaster, the overall ability of their team would no longer be inferior, and might actually exceed that of Xia Hou's team.

The Xu Huang trio could not hide the emotions swirling in their eyes, nodding seriously in response. Although this Divine Spiritual Fruit could not give a perfect guarantee of them surviving the Human Body Disaster, it would at least protect them from harm. Even if they were to fail, they would be able to keep their lives.

Mu Chen passed one of the other fruits to Luo Li. Although she had the Spiritual Crystal from the Spiritual Mountain, for something like this, naturally, the more the merrier.

Grasping the last Divine Spiritual Fruit, Mu Chen felt the boundless and pure Spiritual Energy and a grave expression flashed past his eyes. He was currently at the peak of the Heavenly Completion Stage. If he consumed the fruit, he would probably reach the level of the Human Body Disaster. However, now wasn't the right time to attempt it.

Mu Chen stored the Divine Spiritual Fruit, but his gaze couldn't help returning to the Divine Spiritual Tree in front of him, and he grinned to himself. Although five Divine Spiritual Fruits were already quite rare, if one was to consider it's worth, the entire Divine Spiritual tree was obviously worth more.

The Divine Spiritual Tree in front of him had yet to mature. However, to some of the powerhouses, it was a peerless treasure, as it could endlessly produce Divine Spiritual Fruits.

Mu Chen obviously had no good reason to forgo such a priceless treasure. He directly grabbed the Divine Spiritual Tree, and was ready to forcefully uproot the tree and store it.

Swish!

However, just as Mu Chen was about to take the tree, many sharp winds suddenly sounded out as multiple figures shot out towards Mu Chen at a speed faster than the eye could track.

Swish! Swish!

Sharp Sword Qi immediately swept out from Luo Li, who was beside Mu Chen. Sword shadows howled out and landed with absolute precision on those numerous light figures.

Hmph!

The sword shadows flashed past, and the multiple light figures stuck into the ground in front of Mu Chen. They were actually incomparably sharp black tree branches. The tree branches were coated in a black liquid and as the liquid dripped onto the ground, even the ground started to rot. Evidently, it was some sort of poison.

"Who?!" The Xu Huang trio's expression abruptly changed as they immediately shouted out.

Mu Chen raised his head, staring at the doors with a cold gaze. Over there, shadows shot past as five figures appeared like ghosts.

Those five figures were dressed in black robes. Pale young faces were half-hidden under those black robes.

"Hehe, someone has actually beat us to it." The leader of the black-robed group chuckled.

Look at this, Mu Chen's gaze slightly froze, before he softly commented, "You must be the group hiding in the shadows and ambushing the other teams, right? What's this? Have you finally focused your attention on us?"

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### **Chapter 476: Wood Spiritual Academy**

"Haha. Looks like you actually know about our existence, huh..."

At the door of the large hall, the black-robed leader raised his head up, revealing a pale, yet youthful, face. Looking towards Mu Chen's group, he subsequently turned his gaze to sweep across the interior of the large hall, before saying with a faint smile, "It should be the group from the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy that had told you about us, right?"

"So it's truly was you guys that were secretly taking action."

Mu Chen said with a faint wrinkle on his forehead. "Where exactly do you come from?"

"Oh, we're the group that hails from the Wood Spiritual Academy. Haha. Our Wood Spiritual Academy isn't as famous as your five Great Academies," replied the pale-faced youth with a smile.

"Wood Spiritual Academy?" Mu Chen frowned. True, he had not heard of such a Spiritual Academy before.

"What connection does it have to your Wood Spirit Clan? Tang Mei'er said that you're seemingly able to control the demonic trees. That's similar to what you might expect of the methods the Wood Spirit Clan would employ," said Luo Li as she walked towards Mu Chen's side, chilling intent surfacing within her beautiful eyes as she looked towards the mysterious group before her.

Upon hearing those words, the pale-faced youth shot a somewhat astonished look towards Luo Li, before saying with a smile. "I never imagined that there would still be such a knowledgeable person here that can even understand the ways of our Wood Spirit Clan. Look's like you're also not simple, huh."

With a smile, Mu Chen said, "I don't know why you've suddenly come knocking. Are you guys planning to change your targets to deal with us?"

Giving a faint smile, the eyes of the pale-faced youth faintly sparkled as he fluttered his gaze over towards the Divine Spiritual Tree. In the next moment, his gaze slightly drifted away as he shot a look at the greenish wood statue that Mu Chen and Luo Li had dealt with. With a grin, he said, "I don't wish to take action and go into a huge brawl with you guys. However, we're quite interested in that Divine Spiritual Tree. Since you guys have taken the Divine Spiritual Fruits, why not leave the Divine Spiritual Tree to us and let everyone have a peaceful conclusion? How about that?"

Focusing his black pupils on him, Mu Chen slowly shook his head, before saying with a faint smile, "I'm sorry, but I refuse."

This Divine Spiritual Tree was found by them. Therefore, he had no plan of handing it over.

"Oh really? That's truly a pity, then."

The pale-faced youth gave a soft sigh. In the next instant, a chillingly sinister shadow gushed from his eyes as he said, "Looks like we'll be forced to kill you guys first, then."

Swish!

Seemingly at the instant when his voice rang out, his figure had already shot forward as he thrust a palm out. Boundless green Spiritual Energy howled out, transforming into a palmprint seemingly made of withered wood that patted towards Mu Chen with extreme fierceness.

At the same moment, his four compatriots standing behind him had also instantly took action; tree spikes laced with poisonous toxins left remnant shadows in the air as they hurtled and enveloped Luo Li, Xu Huang and the others at lightning speed.

Upon taking action, this group of people had all unleashed exceedingly vicious moves, completely not showing one single shred of mercy.

Mu Chen had long held caution and vigilance against this group of people. Therefore, upon seeing that youth take action, a sneer flashed across his eyes as he tightly clenched his hand to form a fist. Instantly, his Lightning God's Physique was activated as black lightning gushed out, while his fist smashed head-on against the withered wood-like palmprint coming from the youth.

Bang!

Rampant Spiritual Energy shock waves swept out, causing cracks and fissures to appear on the ground within the large hall.

Palm winds swept out as the figure of the youth did a revolution, transforming into a gale. With a clench of his hand, a long black spear appeared from within. As a tremble shook through his arm, the long spear thrust out akin to a poisonous snake, bringing along remnant shadows that lunged towards the vital points on Mu Chen's body. Black liquid trembled at the tip of the spear, clearly showing that it was laced with poisonous toxins.

"Hmph!"

Mu Chen gave a cold snort, as the Devouring Dragon Spear appeared in a flash. As the ominous aura radiated out, it transformed into a multitude of spear shadows, hiding the skies and covering the earth as they swept out.

Ding! Ding!

Like bolts of lightning, the spear tips made contact with each other, causing exceedingly rampant Spiritual Energy fluctuations to sweep out with each confrontation, compressing and exploding apart the surrounding air. As layer after layer of compressed air exploded, they caused increasingly dense cracks and fissures to appear on the surface of the ground.

Whoosh!

Yet another collision between the spear tips caused a flash of brilliance to appear within the eyes of the youth. With a tremble of his sleeve, a black ray of light flashed out, transforming into a vine, instantly wrapping around the trunk of the Divine Spiritual Tree behind Mu Chen.

A chilling glint flashed within Mu Chen's eyes as his long spear brought along a bit of the same chilling glint as it wrapped around the vine. With a swishing gale, it broke the vine apart. At the same moment, the figure of the youth had followed along the gale as he shot towards the right. Nevertheless, at the instant when he shot out, a ridiculing smile surfaced at the corner of his mouth.

Bang!

Tapping the tip of his long spear on the group, his figure descended before the greenish wood statue as he fiercely sent a palm smashing down. Unexpectedly, he had shattered the head of the greenish wood statue with his palm.

Upon seeing this, Mu Chen instantly gawked slightly.

After smashing apart the head of the greenish wood statue, a greenish glow surfaced from within, which was grabbed by the youth. Looking over, Mu Chen spotted a greenish ancient-looking tree leaf, with obscure runes covering its surface, while mysterious fluctuations started to radiate from it.

"Haha. Although the Divine Spiritual Tree is worth a high price, I can temporarily leave it here. However, please feel at ease that you'll not be able to hold on to it, since it will land in my hands at the very end."

The youth grabbed the tree leaf-like talisman in his hand. However, just before he could extricate himself and retreat, the figure of Mu Chen had already shot over, heavily sending a palm smashing down on the former's chest.

The youth instantly sent a fist out in counter, blocking Mu Chen's palm winds. However, just as the palm winds were launched by the latter, the eyes of the former narrowed as he saw two fingers on Mu Chen's other hand appearing bent. With an extremely astonishing speed, it split apart the surrounding space, pointing right towards the tree leaf talisman in his hand.

Although Mu Chen didn't know exactly what it was, since he wasn't able to obtain it, it would be much safer for him to destroy it.

"Hmph!"

Giving a cold snort, the youth flipped his palm around, protecting the ancient tree leaf talisman within. Nevertheless, Mu Chen's finger had already descended on his palm. With a puff, a blood imprint surfaced as the gale pierced through his palm, striking the tree leaf talisman within.

After suffering such a strike, the tree leaf talisman sparkled for a bit, before seemingly turning much dimmer.

Rapidly retreating back, the youth hovered in the air, while his gaze towards Mu Chen appearing exceedingly cold and dark. Subsequently, he gave a cold roar, "Let's go!"

As his roar rang out, the other four figures of his group moved back. With a wave of their sleeves, countless black shadows hid the skies and covered the earth as they enveloped over Mu Chen and his group.

Thump! Thump!

Those long spears laced with poisonous toxins pierced the ground like a bout of rain, obstructing the paths of Mu Chen and his group. During this frame of time, those few figures had already disappeared, like ghosts.

Looking at the direction where the mysterious group had disappeared to, a faint wrinkle appeared on the forehead of Mu Chen.

Landing beside Mu Chen's side, Luo Li looked towards the greenish wood statue with its shattered head and said, "Their goal wasn't the Divine Spiritual Tree."

Mu Chen nodded his head, before grabbing the head of the greenish wood statue in his hand and pondered aloud, "Could that tree leaf talisman from before be the central control unit of this greenish wood statue? However, what's the use in them doing all of that to snatch that thing?"

Hearing his comments, Luo Li and the rest shook their heads, clearly showing their complete confusion and lack of understanding over this.

"They seem to be somewhat familiar with this place," said Xu Huang with a frown. The way the mysterious group had gone about doing their matters appeared rather goal-orientated. Furthermore, from the first words they had spoken, it seemed as if they knew what this large hall was...

"There's a good chance that this remnant has some connections to the trees and vegetation, something which is similar in the ways and methods of the Wood Spirit Clan. Perhaps, there's some kind of connection in between," said Mu Chen.

"What should we do now? Although I don't know exactly why they had snatched that tree leaf talisman, I have a feeling that it won't be a good thing for us," asked Zhao Qingshan.

"The tree leaf talisman was struck by me, and should have suffered some damage. Regardless of what they want to do with it, that should create some form of hindrance to them."

Looking towards the miserable state of the ground within the entirety of the large hall, Mu Chen's brows tightly bunched up as he thought, This mysterious group possesses rather tyrannical strength. If they truly wanted to go all-out, with their line up, other than me and Luo Li, Xu Huang and the other two might have to pay a huge price. However, they did not seem to have any intent to have a straight-up fight, rapidly retreating away after obtaining the item.

"Let's pack up and prepare to head towards the main hall and group up with Tang Mei'er and her group."

Mu Chen made a decisive choice, turned his body around and dug a large patch of the ground that had the Divine Spiritual Tree out, and tossed it into his Meru Bracelet. After doing so, he turned around and shot out of the large hall, with Luo Li and the rest arranging themselves, before rapidly following behind him.

Heading out of the side hall, Mu Chen didn't come to a stop, and shot across as he followed along the gigantic corridor. After close to approximately ten minutes later, he finally reached the end of the corridor, where an exceedingly vast and large hall was present. The large hall was constructed out of giant green-coloured wood, while it sparkled with a faint green glow. At this moment, the large doors of



the large hall were already broken, with figures faintly discernible as they surfaced from within. In fact, there were even extremely boundless Spiritual Energy fluctuations radiating from it.

Clearly, an astonishing battle had already erupted in this main hall.

Furthermore, roars from a familiar and lovely voice rang out from within. That was Tang Mei'er's voice.

They were already taking action against Xia Hou!

## **The Great Ruler**

### **Chapter 477: Main Hall**

This was an extremely majestic large hall, with hundreds of gigantic pillars that appeared to rise towards the cusps of the heavens. Green vines covered their surfaces as the entire giant hall appeared to be constructed with giant-sized wood pieces. Faint rays of brilliance sparkled from these giant wood pieces, causing the entire giant hall to appear incomparably strong and sturdy.

Due to the large hall being too overly majestic, everyone present within appeared akin to ants, giving all of them a small and weak feeling. Therefore, although there were already a dozen groups converged within this giant hall, it still appeared incomparably empty and spacious.

Bang!

In the empty space in the hall, two powerful groups were already engaging in an intense exchange.

The strength of these two groups could be considered to rank at the top level. Therefore, once they had started crossing hands, none of the other groups dared to have the slightest intent to head in.

Furthermore, such a confrontation between these two powers was something they were delighted to see. After all, this would allow for more opportunities for themselves, if one of them were to get eliminated.

Boom!

Exceedingly rampant Spiritual Energies swept out akin to tidal waves, with the source of the Spiritual Energy ripples being two figures intertwining with each other.

One of the figures was precisely Tang Mei'er. At this moment, her originally alluringly beautiful face appeared ice-cold, while boundless Spiritual Energy rippled around her. Sounds akin to those made by tidal waves resounded as her Spiritual Energy fluctuations caused even the air to be compressed to the point of creaking and groaning.

Before Tang Mei'er was Xia Hou, presently with a faint smile on his face and his hands behind his back. Even when faced with the swift and fierce attacks coming from Tang Mei'er, he still had a calm and unhurried expression on his face.

"Haha, Captain Tang Mei'er. There's no need to be that aggressive, right? If we're to just start fighting like that, it wouldn't be considered rational to you all, am I right?" said Xia Hou as he sent a faint smile towards Tang Mei'er.

Sending a chilling glare back with her beautiful eyes, Tang Mei'er gave a sneer and replied, "Weren't you acting very formidable just moments before, Xia Hou? Come and have a good fight with me now. Even if I'm unable to defeat you, I won't let you guys have the slightest bit of an easy time. At that time, I really want to see exactly how you are going to contend with the other groups for the treasure of this remnant."

Tang Mei'er knew that Xia Hou was stronger than her. If he was to really take action against her, she would definitely not be able to defeat him. Nevertheless, not one shred of intent of wanting to obtain victory was present in her thoughts, since what she wanted to do was to create an obstruction for Xia Hou. She was completely willing to return empty-handed from this journey of this remnant than to let Xia Hou and his group get any bit of harvest.

When a woman gets infuriated, she wouldn't start talking about gains and losses, as well as rationality, to you.

Hearing her words, Xia Hou's gaze turned somewhat darker. He never imagined that Tang Mei'er would be furious to the point of actually not doing any thinking at all and just wanting to obstruction himself... He could not help feeling slightly regretful about this. If he had know about her reaction, he would not recklessly take action against her. From the looks of it, this girl appeared alluring and soul-stirring. Yet, he never imagined that she would be infuriated to the point of turning back to thinking with her temper.

However, not being an indecisive or irresolute person himself, Xia Hou quickly quelled this little bit of regret within himself. Glaring coldly at Tang Mei'er, he said, "Captain Tang Mei'er. Although I've backed away numerous times, I still have to caution you about making the right choices. Don't force me to use brute force to destroy a flower."

"Haha! Let me see you really doing it," replied Tang Mei'er with a gurgling laugh. With a clench of her hand, a scarlet-red long whip appeared. Scorching-hot Spiritual Energy fluctuations radiated from its surface. Clearly, this was Spiritual Weapon that possessed outstanding might.

Pa!

With a tremble of her hand, the long whip transformed into a ray of red light. Splitting apart the air at lightning speed, it appeared just like a furious python, flinging heavily towards Xia Hou.

"Hmph!"

Seeing such an overbearing stance taken by Tang Mei'er, a shadow of fury flashed within Xia Hou's eyes. Gem-like rays of luster sparkled on the surface of his slender and jade-like palm as he made a grabbing action. Seemingly piercing through nihilism, he had unexpectedly made a grab for the scarlet-red ray of brilliance that was heading his way. In the next instant, taking a step out, Spiritual Energy vigorously rippled from behind him like a tidal wave as an astonishing Spiritual Energy pressure radiated from him, causing the faces of the numerous groups present in the large hall to slightly change.

The density of the Spiritual Energy possessed by the people that had passed their Spiritual Energy Tribulations far surpassed those who had only passed their Human Body Disaster!

Grabbing onto the scarlet-red long whip, Xia Hou gave a tap of his feet, causing his figure to appear before Tang Mei'er in the next instant, like a spectre, before sending a palm smashing out.

At this moment, chilling rays of light sparkled from his white jade-like palm as it radiated with killing intent.

Seeing this, a shadow of solemnness flashed within Tang Mei'er's beautiful eyes as Spiritual Energy erupted from her body without the slightest restraint. At this moment, a flower pattern seemed to surface on her jade-like palm as a massive flower with petals condensed from Spiritual Energy took form.

"Flower Destruction Palm!"

Bang!

As the two palms smashed against one another, rampant Spiritual Energies swept out akin to a storm. A shudder shook through Tang Mei'er's body as a smear of a bloodstain surfaced at the corner of her mouth, while she was sent shooting back. Although she had experienced the Spiritual Energy Tribulation before, she had failed to pass it in the end. Therefore, the density of her Spiritual Energy wasn't able to match up to what Xia Hou possessed.

As Tang Mei'er was sent flying back, a chilling glint flashed across Xia Hou's eyes. Clearly, he didn't plan to have the slightest intent of having any restraint against the opposite sex. Taking a step out, he pursued her flying figure, sending yet another palm straight towards Tang Mei'er's voluptuous chest.

Seeing this, Tang Mei'er could only clench her teeth, while attempting to engage in combat with that fellow. However, just as she was about to summon her Spiritual Energy, an overbearing whoosh suddenly rang out from behind her, before an incomparably swift and fierce shadow spear howled straight towards Xia Hou's throat.

A dark shadow instantly surfaced in Xia Hou's eyes as the direction of his palm winds changed. Patting towards the shadow spear, he smashed it apart before retreating back and darkly staring towards his front.

At this moment, a thin figure had shot forward, extending his arm to clutch onto Tang Mei'er's slender waist while aiding her in dispelling the force sending her flying back. Giving a faint smile, he said, "Captain Xia Hou. When faced with such a beautiful girl, it's still the best to be tender and show restraint."

"Mu Chen!"

As Xia Hou chillingly stared towards the person that interfered, killing intent flashed within his eyes.

"Are you alright, Elder Sister Mei'er?"

Lowering his head to look towards the alluring girl within his bosom, Mu Chen noticed the latter wiping away the bloodstain at the corner of her mouth. The bright colour of her scarlet-red blood caused the sexiness of her lips to slightly increase, while she gave a sweet smile and replied, "Mu Chen, compared to that fellow, you truly are more pleasing to your Elder Sis' eyes..."

Hearing her reply, Mu Chen had turned speechless. She still has the heart to harass me at this very moment...

Four beautiful girls of Tang Mei'er's group shot over, landing beside Mu Chen. Only upon seeing that Tang Mei'er didn't suffer an overly serious injury did they take a breath of relief.

Bracing herself while in Mu Chen's bosom, she pushed her voluptuous and exquisite figure slightly away from him, before clenching her teeth and saying in a somewhat unresigned manner, "truly, that fellow's formidable."

His strength at the realm of Spiritual Energy Tribulation truly made him extremely hard to be dealt with.

Mu Chen nodded his head, before retreating a step back and releasing her. At this moment, Luo Li, Xu Huang and the others rapidly shot over, before sending gazes filled with ill intent towards Xia Hou standing not far in the front.

Mu Chen shot a look at Xia Hou, before turning his gaze around to size up this giant hall. Giant wooden pillars that appeared to prop up the heavens were present within this giant hall, supporting it. Under those giant wooden pillars, Mu Chen and all of the people present here appeared exceedingly small and tiny.

At this moment, there were already a dozen groups that had converged within this giant hall, with the majority being not too weak in terms of strength. After all, being able to pass through the various areas that could have eliminated them from the competition should mean that they possessed some ability.

"This should be the main hall of the remnant..."

Tang Mei'er said in a soft voice, "Look to your front."

Hearing that, Mu Chen raised his head to look straight in front of him. Presently, at the end of his sight, was a rapidly approximately a hundred metres tall. Present in a green shadow, the appearance of the statue appeared to have the same look as the greenish wooden statue that they had bumped into earlier. However, the two were clearly not of the same level in terms of size. At this moment, a dark greenish armor seemed to be draped on the body of his giant wooden statue. Countless ancient patterns seemed to cover the entirety of its surface, while it sparkled with dim rays of brilliance.

This seemed to be an armor created out of wood.

Other than the armor, there seemed to be a wooden plaque held in the hand of this dark greenish wooden statue. Complicated inscriptions were carved on its surface, causing it to appear incomparably abstruse, with it giving people a strange and mysterious feeling upon seeing it.

"The armor draped on the statue should be a spiritual tool, with the possibility of reaching the realm of Peerless Rank Spiritual Artifacts..." said Tang Mei'er in a low voice.

"Oh?" Hearing that, Mu Chen's eyes jumped. He was extremely clear about the might possessed by a Peerless Rank Spiritual Artifact. Such might was sufficient in raising one's strength by a notch. Furthermore, this appeared to be a defensive-type. If one was able to get it into one's hands, one's ability to endure a beating would be even more tyrannical than people that have passed their Human Body Disaster.

"There's also that wooden plaque... there's an extremely high possibility that inscriptions carved on its surface are a type of Divine Technique..."

“Divine Technique?”

Hearing that, Mu Chen’s eyelids immediately twitched. Naturally, he knew what a Divine Technique was, as he possessed one which was known by the name of “Lightning Controlling Technique” that was taught to him by the Northern Sea Dragon, something that Mu Chen had not once used since his arrival in these competition grounds. However, with something like a Divine Technique being able to even move the hearts of Sovereign Realm experts, how could it not do so in them?

“Looks like this should be the central location of this remnant...”

Mu Chen muttered within his heart, before sweeping his sight around. Other than Xia Hou’s group, he discovered that the group from the Martial Spiritual Academy was also present here. However, at this moment, a crazed expression was present on the face of Zhou Yuan as he continued to size up the somewhat foreign groups present here in an attempt to find the mysterious group that had ambushed them earlier.

Of the groups present here, the only one that was a threat to them would be Xia Hou.

Licking his lips, Mu Chen exchanged a glance with Tang Mei’er, before gently nodding his head.

Giving a lovely smile, Tang Mei’er proceeded to send a knife-like glare towards Xia Hou.

Noticing her gaze, Xia Hou’s expression abruptly turned cold as he noticed Mu Chen lightly making a hand signal. In the next instant, the members of the two groups fanned out as they dispersed, while all of their gazes being locked onto the bodies of his group.

Clearly, Mu Chen and Tang Mei’er were currently collaborating.

Upon seeing this, vibrations shook through the hearts of the dozen of groups present in this giant hall. The group from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy has actually collaborated with the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy to deal with the Saint Spiritual Academy?

There... seemed to be a good show to watch. However, no one knew exactly if this collaboration would be able to deal with the exceedingly cutthroat group of Xia Hou.

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### **Chapter 478: Myriad Wood Realm**

An intense atmosphere filled the large hall as Mu Chen and Tang Mei’er locked their gazes onto Xia Hou’s figure. As chilling intent was gushing from their eyes, boundless Spiritual Energy started to undulate from their bodies, warping and distorting the space around them.

If the groups were to be compared to their own, Xia Hou’s group was undoubtedly the strongest. However, if Mu Chen’s group and Tang Mei’er’s group were to join forces, they would no longer be in a disadvantageous position against Xia Hou’s group. At that time, if an all-out brawl was to start, it would be difficult to tell exactly which side would come out on top.

The other groups that were scattered around the large hall watched on with heated gazes. They knew that these groups from three from the five Great Spiritual Academies would not hold back when fighting. Once it began, the intensity of their fight would definitely exceed their expectations.

As the other groups watched on, Xia Hou darkly stared at Mu Chen and Tang Mei'er. A moment later, he said in an indifferent tone, "It seems like you two intend to join forces against my Saint Spiritual Academy?"

Hearing his words, Tang Mei'er retorted with a charming laugh, "Heh, what about it? Could it be that Captain Xia Hou, who just loves to take advantage of others' misfortune, is finally feeling wronged?"

Simply giving a chilling grin in reply, an expression of ridicule flashed across Xia Hou's face as he replied, "You can't be thinking that by joining forces, you'll be a threat to us?"

"You aren't the only one here with back up."

Hearing this statement, Tang Mei'er's expression froze, before immediately turning around to face the group from the Martial Spiritual Academy. After all, among all the groups present, only the group from another one of the five Great Spiritual Academies could pose a threat.

Zhou Yuan, who had been carefully sizing up the other groups in his surroundings, was also startled by Xia Hou's reply. Furrowing his brows, he stared right back at Xia Hou. "The only thing on my mind, right now, is to find the group that killed my comrade. I can't be bothered to join in with you all."

Upon hearing this, Xia Hou simply gave a somewhat ambiguous smile in return.

"Haha, Captain Xia Hou should be referring to us, am I right...?"

A soft laughter abruptly rang out, echoing in the large hall. Everyone's expression changed as they quickly turned towards its source. Five shadowy figures had appeared at the humongous entrance of the large hall, and the leader of that group was exactly the black-robed youth with the pale-white face, laughing as he swept his gaze over the crowd in the hall.

Mu Chen glanced at this group, and his expression froze. This was the same mysterious group as the one they had crossed hands with earlier.

"Trash, you've finally shown up!"

Just as everyone noticed this group, Zhou Yuan had let out a roar and explosively shot forward with a crazed look in his eyes. His Broken Mountain Pole exploded through the air, carrying a frightening amount of force as he viciously swung it down on the black-robed youth.

"Hehe, Captain Zhou Yuan is really impulsive." The black-robed youth chuckled, swinging a palm out in response. Torrents of green Spiritual Power swept forth, forming a huge palm that was withered and solid, just like the bark of an ancient tree.

Boom!

The huge wooden palm heavily collided with the Broken Mountain Pole, and rampant Spiritual Energy waves spontaneously spread out.

Bang!

As the Spiritual Energy attacks collided, Zhou Yuan's body trembled, before fresh blood spurted from the hand grasping onto his weapon, and his figure miserably flew backwards. The ferocity that was present in his eyes earlier had been replaced by shock.

This black-robed youth had actually passed his Spiritual Energy Disaster!

Crash!

Shocked voices rang out throughout the large hall, as the other groups stared at the mysterious group. The young leader of the group had actually reached a level comparable to Xia Hou!

Mu Chen furrowed his brow as his expression froze. In the brief exchange he had earlier with the black-robed youth, the latter had no intention to have an all-out fight, and hence did not display his full strength. However, in this moment, he did not hold back, thoroughly demonstrating his full ability.

"These scoundrels!"

Zhou Yuan hastily retreated, with his groupmates supporting him. Even though his anger had not waned, the shock he experienced had pulled him out from his mindless rage. They had lost a groupmate after being attacked by this mysterious group, but with just a single move, he clearly understood that he stood no chance against them in a head-on clash.

A strange atmosphere had permeated the large hall ever since this mysterious group appeared.

"Haha, my name is Zhen Qing, from the Wood Spiritual Academy..."

The black-robed youth grinned at the other groups scattered around the large hall, before his gaze stopped on Mu Chen, and he cupped his hands in greeting.

"So, Xia Hou, it seems that you've already been in cahoots with them, huh? Planning to join forces and wipe out the rest of us?" Tang Mei'er gave a cold laugh. "However, even if you do so, there are still so many other groups here."

The situation had changed too quickly. While Tang Mei'er and Mu Chen's group had originally held an overwhelming advantage over Xia Hou's group, the appearance of the tyrannical group from the Wood Spiritual Academy completely reversed the situation.

With two experts who had passed their Spiritual Energy Disaster, they had an extremely frightening lineup!

Xia Hou stared at Tang Mei'er with a glint in his eye. While she appeared delicate and charming, her tone and words did nothing to hide her anger, nor her intentions. With a single statement, she had caused all the other groups to start taking precautions against Xia Hou's group. After all, if they joined forces with the group from the Wood Spiritual Academy, their strength would be off the charts...

"Haha, Captan Tang's words sure are vicious..."

Not bothering to wait for Xia Hou to respond, Zhen Qing replied with a cold smirk filled with ridicule and disdain. Sizing up the other groups present in the large hall, he murmured, "Indeed, I want to take down all of you... all the treasures in this ancient ruins belong to us, including those in your grubby hands."

Boom!

All the groups were shocked upon hearing this proclamation, before red-hot fury rose within their eyes. With such a large appetite, wasn't the Wood Spiritual Academy group afraid of biting off more than they could chew?

Even with their frightening strength after joining forces with Xia Hou, there was no way they could beat an alliance formed from every other group present!

Is this fellow dumb, or what?

Mu Chen furrowed his brows. Zhen Qing couldn't be this reckless, right?

He turned to meet Luo Li's gaze, only to see that they were both guarded against the situation. While they did not know much about Zhen Qing, it was impossible for a moron to become a captain of a group. Having made such a proclamation, he had to have some sort of backing; but, just what sort of backing would give him such confidence to look down on everyone with such disdain?

"Heh, such ambition, Captain Zhen Qing. But are you sure that you have the ability to take on every one of us?" Laughing, Tang Mei'er turned to face the rest of the groups. "Looks like you all are worth less than ants to him."

All the groups wore nasty expressions on their faces. Glaring directly at Zhen Qing, Spiritual Energy started to revolve in their bodies.

At this moment, Zhen Qing had undoubtedly become Public Enemy No. 1.

"Hmph, you want to take down all of us? Come! We'll see just how capable you are!" Finally unable to hold back, some groups shouted, while the rest echoed in agreement. The groups slowly spread out around the large hall. With the large number of groups, it truly was a powerful lineup.

However, Zhen Qing simply gave a smirk filled with ridicule, before lifting his palm. With a flash of green light, an ancient leaf-like talisman appeared in his palm, flickering with an emerald-green glow.

Mu Chen's eyes narrowed upon seeing that talisman. This was the item that Zhen Qing had snatched away earlier.

Swish!

Forming a seal with one hand, Zhen Qing snapped his fingers. A green light shot from his hand, darting across the large hall with a frightening speed, before landing on the enormous wooden statue at the other end of the large hall under the countless shocked gazes.

Swish!

The leaf-like talisman implanted itself in the forehead of the enormous statue, as rays of light spread out from the talisman, diffusing throughout the body of the statue.

As the light rays enveloped the statue, Tang Mei'er and the rest had an ugly expression on their faces. Before their very eyes, the enormous wooden statue slowly opened its eyes. A rich green glow shone from those two eyes.



“Ladies and gentlemen, now, I shall tell you just how I’m going to wipe the floor with you.”

Zhen Qing’s smirk became increasingly disdainful. Forming seals with his hands, a boundless Spiritual Energy started undulating out, as the wooden statue started to mirror his seals. An extremely astonishing Spiritual Energy ripple started to spread across the large hall.

“Stop him!”

Mu Chen wore a grave expression as he roared. Both Luo Li and him seemed to have simultaneously charged forward.

“Haha, it’s too late...”

Zhen Qing chuckled and shook his head, before his seals froze. His dark voice reverberated around the large hall.

“Myriad Wood Realm!”

As his voice rang out, the entire hall violently trembled. All of a sudden, green light erupted from the enormous pillars in the hall, before innumerable vines exploded forth, hiding the sky and covering the earth. Within the span of a few breaths, the entire hall had been thoroughly permeated with the vines.

Ugly expressions flashed across everyone’s faces. Attempting to escape, they discovered that there was nowhere to run, as the vines flooded over, submerging figure after figure.

Boom! Boom!

Within the mass of vines, some individuals frantically revolved their Spiritual Energy, attempting to slice through the vines. However, they immediately discovered that despite appearing to be fragile and weak, the vines could not be broken regardless of how hard they tried. Also, the Spiritual Energy in their bodies was apparently being devoured as the vines squirmed around them...

The originally noisy hall had now become silent. Apart from Zhen Qing’s and Xia Hou’s group, everyone else, including Mu Chen and Luo Li, had been entirely enveloped by the green light vines.

Within the vines, all that could be seen were pairs of eyes filled with dread and fear. With no way to escape, all they could do was watch as the vines simply devoured their Spiritual Energy.

“Whew.”

Witnessing this scene, Zhen Qing coldly laughed. “Once you’re trapped in the Myriad Wood Realm, there’s no way to break free, and your Spiritual Energy will be slowly consumed and used to awaken this Divine Wood Guard...”

“Captain Xia Hou, I will take all the treasures in these ruins; as for the points, an even split. What do you think?”

“We shall do as you suggest.”

Xia Hou chuckled as he nodded with a glint in his eye. Zhen Qing’s appetite truly was ravenous, with no intention to leave even a single treasure for his group. However, with the strength that the latter currently possessed, there was not much room for debate. For someone like Zhen Qing, it seemed like

the only thing preventing him from acting against Xia Hou's group was the fear of Saint Spiritual Academy's strength and ability.

Zhen Qing nodded, beaming in response, satisfied with Xia Hou's tactfulness.

"Next, we only need to wait for a hour, and this place will be entirely under our control. Hmph, three of the Great Academies... their teams will be eliminated."

Zhen Qing sat down with a smile. Suddenly, his expression turned ugly as he spun around, staring at two particular squirming vines. A frightening heat and a sharp Sword Aura were sweeping out from within the vines.

Bang!

A purple flame burst forth, and the clump of squirming vines simply turned into ashes with a poof.

Swish!

A resplendent sword light swept forth. Before its incomparably sharp edge, even these vines, made with such special materials, were sliced into fine dust.

Zhen Qing and Xia Hou looked up with grave expressions, as the many pairs of eyes trapped within the mass of vines also hurriedly looked over.

Under the countless gazes, a slender youth and a beautiful lady slowly walked out from the rays of light.

Zhen Qing's eyes narrowed, before he heartily laughed.

"Impressive, even the Myriad Wood Realm is unable to trap you..."

## **The Great Ruler**

### **Chapter 479: Shocked**

Within the vine encased giant hall, numerous gazes converged on the source of the brilliant rays of light while varying expressions appeared on the faces of the people looking over. Over there, two figures had sliced apart the vines and escaped the fetters binding them before appearing before the numerous gazes shooting over.

As the rays of brilliance dissipated away, the figures of Mu Chen and Luo Li finally appeared clearly from within.

"Clap clap."

Looking at the two who had extricated themselves, the eyes of Zhen Qing contracted slightly. However, giving a laugh, he gently clapped his hands and spoke out with a smile. "Never did I expect that even the Myriad Wood Realm is unable to hold you all in. You two truly are formidable..."

At this moment, those vines appeared rather strange and mysterious, being able to even constrain Human Body Disaster experts within them to the point of them being unable to decisively extricate themselves. Furthermore, the Spiritual Energies within their bodies would be gradually devoured as

food by the vines, with them becoming more ferocious the more one struggled while in them, while also causing one's Spiritual Energy dissipation to grow increasingly quick.

Mu Chen and Luo Li being able to extricate themselves was something that was clearly somewhat accidental for Zhen Qing. Looks like these two people should have some unique methods of their own. Nevertheless, it was merely just that. The situation before him was completely under his control. With their two groups holding ground over here, even if Mu Chen and Luo were able to extricate themselves, what could they do?

A chilling gaze shot out from Mu Chen as he glared at Zhen Qing, while black lightning arcs sparkled across his finger tips.

"Looks like you've yet to give up and admit your loss, huh."

Xia Hou gave a faint laugh as he shot a mocking look towards Mu Chen and Luo Li. In the next moment, he pointed towards the interior of the giant hall before speaking out with a smile, "However, what else can you two do? Mu Chen, why not I give you a chance. If you leave by yourself, I'll give you a means to survive. How about that?"

At this moment, his smile appeared somewhat execrable. If Mu Chen were to abandon his compatriots and flee by himself, he would be ostracized by the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy in the light of this. Such a result would be even more cruel and vicious than killing him, just like what had happened to Qiu Beihai in the past...

Sweeping his gaze to shoot a look at Xia Hou, Mu Chen gave a smile, shaking his head before replying, "Xia Hou, I'm afraid that you don't have the qualifications to use this method against me."

Hearing Mu Chen's reply, Xia Hou immediately gave a soft laugh. However, at this moment, the smile present on his face showed not one bit of warmth. Planning his head across slightly, he looked towards Zhen Qing and spoke out while massaging his head, "He truly is a irksome fellow. Looks like I have to show him exactly how strong is a person of Spiritual Energy Disaster is..."

"I'm alright with that."

An amused smile rose at the corner of Zhen Qing's mouth, as the situation before him was already completely under his control. At this moment, he only had to awaken the numerous Spiritual Energies within the Wooden Divine Guard. Therefore, he didn't mind spending this time to observe the good show playing out before him.

At this moment, he didn't care too much about Mu Chen. Although the latter was of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase and possessed such astonishing combat prowess, so what? Regardless of that, he was still of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase. Regardless of how many cards he was able to pull out from his sleeves, it would be extremely hard pressed for him to obtain victory against an expert of Spiritual Energy Disaster.

"This little beauty. When they take action, my eyes will be on you. I hope that you'll not stir up trouble. Although you're the most heart stirring girl I've seen in these past few years, for the sake of the entire situation, I'll not show too much mercy towards the other gender." said Zhen Qing as he shot a grin towards Luo Li.

Shooting a slightly cold look towards him with her beautiful eyes, Luo Li turned her head towards Mu Chen, who had sent a smile back while gently nodding his head.

Only upon seeing this did Luo Li take two steps back and took a seat down. Continuing to grasp the Luo Shen Sword in her hand, she inserted into the ground before her, causing a wave of a sword cry erupting out, before rays of sword glow perfused out. Such fierceness was present in this sword glow that the surrounding space was even being sliced up into tiny and minute fissures, with layer upon layer of vines in the surrounding being sliced apart. Under the sword glow, all of the vines within a few metre radius around Luo Li were completely sliced cleanly into bits.

Under the envelope of the sword glow, even the unique Myriad Wood Realm within his giant hall was unable to encroach over Luo Li.

“Since you guys want to play, we’ll accompany you guys to the end. However, similarly, I will send this back to you. This is a fight between the two of them. If anyone interferes, the sword within my hand might be completely unsheathed. At that time, even I wouldn’t be able to know the outcome that occurs. However, Zhen Qing, at the very least, you will die to my sword.” said Luo Li as she swept her glass like clear eyes towards Zhen Qing and his group, while her voice sounded soft and soft, yet bringing out some chilling intent.

Noticing the Luo Shen Sword before Luo Li, the faces of Zhen Qing and his group violently contorted as they could sense extremely dangerous fluctuations radiating from its surface.

“That’s actually a Divine Artifact?!”

Zhen Qing exchanged glances with Xia Hou as their pupils contracted slightly. Never did they imagine that the beautiful girl before their eyes would actually possess a genuine Divine Weapon. Although her cultivation seemed only be of Human Body Disaster, coupled with his divine sword, even people of Spiritual Energy Disaster would be feel extreme fear and dread in the light of her.

This young girl was even more dangerous as compared to Mu Chen!

With the Great Thousand Worlds, anything with the two words Divine Weapon attached to their name would absolutely possess extreme awe and intimidation. Although there were also Divine Weapons within the Wood Spirit Clan, such things would absolutely not find their way to Zhen Qing’s hands. Therefore, upon noticing that Luo Li actually possessed a Divine Weapon, Zhen Qing could not help but to quietly feel shocked and astonished.

“Looks like you truly have some confidence in Mu Chen.” his eyes flashing faintly, Zhen Qing suppressed the shock within his heart as he shot a deep look at Luo Li before speaking out.

With Luo Li sitting there and using the awe and intimidation caused by her divine sword, Luo Li had clearly indicated her motive in helping Mu Chen sweep of any interference. This was clearly due to her being exceedingly confident with Mu Chen. She believed that the latter would be able to defeat Xia Hou. However, did she truly believe that Xia Hou was an affable person?

One of the four great Holy Sons of the Saint Spiritual Academy and possessing a cultivation of Spiritual Energy Disaster. Placed within the entirety of the Great Spiritual Academy Competition, he would absolutely be ranked among the best. In a 1 on 1 duel with him, if not for having some special methods,

even Zhen Qing wouldn't have the confidence of defeating Xia Hou, what more Mu Chen, whose cultivation was only of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase. However, could it be that he still had a way?

In response, Luo Li only shot a look at him, not caring anymore than that as she held her Luo Shen Sword in her hand. As her jade like fingers gently touched the sword, clear cries rang out from it.

Upon seeing this, Zhen Qing gave a faint smile without speaking anymore, merely that killing intent started to erupt within his heart. There were some unexpected changes to the situation which was under his control. Nevertheless, it didn't matter. As long as Xia Hou dealt with Mu Chen, when they collaborate, even Luo Li would be absolutely hard pressed to turn the situation around even with the Divine Weapon in her hand.

Zhen Qing turned his sights towards Xia Hou, only to see a malevolent smile curling up at the corner of the latter's mouth. From the looks of it, she seems to be exceedingly confidence towards Mu Chen, huh? Nevertheless, would she still be able to maintain such confidence towards the latter after he stomps Mu Chen under his feet?

Within the giant hall, Tang Mei'er, Zhou Yuan and the various other groups were trapped within the vines. Regardless of their full efforts in their struggles, they were unable to obtain any results in attempt to freeing themselves. Therefore, they could only give up in their attempts, casting their gazes through the vines to observe the situation developing within the giant hall. At this moment, shades of worry and concern appeared within their eyes as in this very moment, they basically could only rely on Mu Chen and Luo Li to reverse the situation they were in. However, they were after all two people only...

Before their eyes, Mu Chen had clearly wanted to take genuine action against Xia Hou. Although they were clear that Mu Chen's combat prowess couldn't be estimated using conventional means, regardless of that, Xia Hou had genuinely passed his Spiritual Energy Disaster. Faced against him, even Tang Mei'er and Zhou Yuan didn't have the slightest confidence of winning. What could Mu Chen do?

Furthermore, by the off chance that Mu Chen lost to Xia Hou, the awe and intimidation that Luo Li had painfully created in this situation would be shattered apart. When that happens, even with the Divine Sword in her hand, it will be exceedingly hard pressed for her to deal with the two tyrannical groups by herself.

From the looks of it, everything now banked on the shoulders of Mu Chen.

As gazes converged over from within the giant hall, Mu Chen slowly exhaled a clump of white air. Looking towards Xia Hou, with the malevolent sneer at the corner of his mouth, he gave a faint smile and said, "To not disappoint her, it looks like I have to deal with you."

Hearing those words, Xia Hou laughed out, with his smile turning chilly. At this moment, crystalline rays of brilliance sparkled from his slender and pale hands, causing them to appear exceedingly gorgeous. Yet, under this facade of gorgeousness was a death like chill.

"Looks like that short exchange we had outside of the dark forest had given you too much false confidence..."

Slowly clenching his hands, the expression on Xia Hou's face grew increasingly cold. In the next instant, taking a furious step forwards, dense, boundless Spiritual Energy akin to a large sea swept out, hiding the skies and covering the earth. At the same time, an astonishing Spiritual Energy pressure instantly perfused across the entire giant hall.

At this moment, he had completely unleashed his Spiritual Energy Disaster realm Spiritual Energy without the slightest restraint at all.

That's because he already did not want to continue seeing Mu Chen be that indifferent and boastful in front of himself. He wanted to use his Spiritual Energy Disaster realm Spiritual Energy to violently crush the latter beneath his feet. He wanted to let him know in despair that when faced with the tyrannical power of a Spiritual Energy Disaster expert, he would become as pitiful as a rabbit locked on by a mighty lion, with him not being able to put up even an ounce of resistance!

"Now, I'll crush that so called self confidence into a pile of mess!"

The smile at the corner of Xia Hou's mouth turned incomparably malevolent.

Boundless Spiritual Energy howled out as wave of pressures gushed out, causing Mu Chen's robes to flap and flutter about. Taking a deep breath, Mu Chen clenched his fists tightly as the glow of black lightning sparkled from the surface of his body. At this moment, his skin started to turn jet black, while four lightning runes slowly surfaced on his chest.

Bang!

Black lightning glow crackled as they enveloped the entirety of Mu Chen's body. His Lightning God's Physique had been completely brought forth, with the Spiritual Energy within his body now gushing about within his meridians like a bubbling river. His body had entered into his greatest combat state!

"If you want to play, I'll accompany you. Let's see exactly who's the one that's incapable of playing!"

Fierce chilling rays of brilliance condensed within Mu Chen's black pupils like the sharp edge of a blade. With a chilling laugh, he took an abrupt stride out.

Bang!

Lightning glow seemed to exploded out from beneath his feet. As black lightning arcs sparkled, his figure exploded forward in an instant.

Boom!

With a sneer, Xia Hou had shot forwards in an instant. Like a sea, dense Spiritual Energy gushed and surged forth, causing even the surrounding air to be compressed to the point of exploding apart.

The tense and taut atmosphere within the giant hall was shattered at this instant.

Everyone's gaze converged over at this moment.

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### **Chapter 480: Battling Xia Hou**

Bang!

Exceedingly dense Spiritual Energy howled within the giant hall like tidal waves, before two figures shot across the horizon like meteors streaking across the skies. In the next instant, under the attention of anxious gazes coming from within the giant hall, the two heavily smashed into each other.

There wasn't anything fanciful of this collision, being totally a pure collision of strength.

However, one party had relied on his tyrannical fleshly body, while the other had carried along with him the might of his boundless Spiritual Energy.

The two energies colliding was more than sufficient to cause the earth to tremble and mountains to collapse.

Boom!

At the instant when the collision happened, gales swept up as a storm was whipped out, carving fissures across the surface of the giant hall. Under the impact of such shock waves, layer after layer of squirming vines were shattered apart.

Whoosh!

Two glowing figures shot out from the terrifying impact, while the specially constructed floor of the giant hall was continuously turned into dust under the feet of the two, leaving behind two pairs of deep footprints.

A shiver shook through Mu Chen's body as rays of lightning light sparkled, completely resisting against the boundless Spiritual Energy that had pervaded his body. At this moment, a shade of solemnness surfaced on his handsome face. Although Xia Hou's tyrannical Spiritual Energy was unable to cause any injuries on him, who had trained his Lightning God's Physique to a Quadra Rune Lightning Physique, the density of the latter's Spiritual Energy was much stronger than his own.

The Spiritual Energy Disaster was basically a transformative change to one's Spiritual Energy. If one had yet to pass through Spiritual Energy Disaster, the Spiritual Energy one's Divine Soul could contain would be akin to a lake, but it would truly rival a great sea when one passed through one's Spiritual Energy Disaster. Such a disparity was considered to be rather large. If not for Mu Chen managing to cultivate the completed version of the Great Pagoda Art, which had also led to a transformation change to the Spiritual Energy within his body, the current him might have been completely suppressed by the sea-like boundless Spiritual Energy of Xia Hou.

"Ha. Such a tough fleshly body. Looks like you've cultivated a rather formidable body tempering Divine Art. Your attainments are also not shallow in it. That's why you have the courage to challenge a Spiritual Energy Disaster with your cultivation at Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase." In the front, Xia Hou's long and slender hands sparkled with faint rays of jade-like light as he sneered while staring at Mu Chen.

However, underneath his sneer, there was some shock and astonishment present within Xia Hou's heart. Mu Chen's fleshly body was truly too powerful, it might be even more tyrannical than his own body that had undergone the changes after passing his Spiritual Energy Disaster. He truly didn't know exactly how this fellow was able to successfully cultivate such a body like that.

An indifferent look was present in Mu Chen's eyes as he swept a look towards Xia Hou. However, without even giving a reply, the ground beneath his feet collapsed as a dragon's shadow seemed to take form beneath. With a flash of light, his figure mysteriously disappeared from his original position.

"Such quick speed!"

Xia Hou's eyes slightly contracted, before abruptly clenching his hand to form a fist. Without the slightest bit of hesitation, he sent a fist violently rumbling towards the space on his right.

Bang!

Boundless Spiritual Energy swept out as Xia Hou's fist sparkled with rays of jade-like brilliance. This fist possessed more than sufficient awe and might.

Whoosh!

However, this fight-winning fist of Xia Hou wasn't able to obtain the slightest bit of results, shooting passed space and hitting air. Mu Chen's figure did not appear at the location where he had expected.

As his fist landed on air, Xia Hou's expression slightly changed in the next instant. He could feel frightening energy fluctuations furiously sweeping out from behind his back.

Mu Chen's speed was actually fast to the level of causing Xia Hou to make the wrong estimations of his position!

However, although Mu Chen's speed had caused him to make an accidental mistake, Xia Hou wasn't any average person. Giving a tap of his feet on the ground, his body rose half a metre into the air. Like a whip, his leg brought about surging Spiritual Energy, transforming into remnant shadows as they swept at lightning speed towards the the fist gales coming from behind him.

Bang! Bang!

As the leg shadows shot out, even the air was compressed to the point of exploding apart.

Boom!

Hiding the skies and covering the earth, the fist and leg shadows collided into one another, causing a frightening energy storm to take form between the two. In the next instant, it started to wreak havoc in the surrounding vicinity, causing gigantic fissures to appear in the ground.

At this moment, the two had brought forth their strength to their very limit, causing the destructive might of the fist and leg shadows to be exceedingly astonishing.

Bang!

The two figures intertwined in the air within the giant hall as frightening fluctuations shook the air to the point of forming distortions in the surrounding space. As this was happening, the air in their surroundings was forcibly compressed to the point of exploding apart.

Stabilising his body in the air, Mu Chen hastily formed some hand seals, causing boundless Spiritual Energy to transform into a stretch of starry skies behind his back. Four gigantic bestial shadows



condensed and took form from within, transforming into rays of starry lights as they explosively shot out.

“Four Gods Heavenly Sealing Imprint!”

The gigantic glowing imprint descended from the skies, completely enveloping Xia Hou’s body within it.

“Hmph.”

Looking towards the gigantic glowing imprint, a chilling shadow flashed within Xia Hou’s eyes as he coldly snorted. Bending his fingers forward, his fingertips appeared to sparkle with the light of stars. In the next instant, he pointed his fingers towards his front, causing the starry light to surge, before a gigantic beam of starry light howled out. Akin to a flood, it surged straight into the space before it.

“Star Shattering Divine Finger!”

As Xia Hou gave a low roar, the beam of starry light had already shot across the air, ferociously smashing against the gigantic glowing imprint descending from the top.

Bang!

At the instant of the collision, a huge thunderous sound resounded as the two gigantic forces smashed into each other, causing a massive shock wave to sweep out.

Looking towards the frightening shock wave sweeping out, Mu Chen’s body sparkled with lightning light as he brought forth the might of his Lightning God’s Physique to its limits. Rays of lightning wandered about his body, smoothing along his muscles while bringing forth powerful strength. Tightly clenching his fists, any shock wave impacting his body would cause explosions of lightning brilliance to erupt. While his body shook, he retreated a hundred-plus steps back in haste.

Before him, Xia Hou had waved his hands up, with boundless Spiritual Energy being transformed into a gigantic barrier before him. However, the hastily formed Spiritual Energy barrier was similarly unable to completely defend against the frightening shock wave that was sweeping out. Therefore, it was quickly destroyed, causing Xia Hou to stagger and stumble as he was shot backwards.

Even while unleashing their full might, none of the two were able to obtain an absolute advantage over the other.

Within the giant hall, Tang Mei’er, Zhou Xuan and the others stared at the exchange between the two without ever blinking once, since they could not help having waves of palpitations surface in their hearts. This was the first time that they had seen Mu Chen unleash his complete might. Such astonishing combat prowess coming from Mu Chen caused them to be hard-pressed to stay calm and quiet. Xia Hou had passed his Spiritual Energy Disaster! However, even though that was the case, he was actually unable to obstruct or suppress the Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase Mu Chen.

“This fellow truly possesses some ability.” Looking towards the two figures, a shade of darkness flashed within Zhen Qing’s eyes. Clearly, the situation before his eyes had slightly exceeded his expectations. In his original expectations, even if Mu Chen was able to fight with Xia Hou awhile, he would be at a disadvantage, at the very least. However, from the looks of the situation before his eyes, it was clear that it was not the same as his predicted outcome.

“Captain, that brat’s fleshly body is extremely tyrannical. I’m afraid that we’ve no one that can match up to him. It’s precisely because of this that he is able to fight against Xia Hou.” A person whispered from behind Zhen Qing’s back.

“Captain, shouldn’t we do something about this? In the off-chance that Xia Hou loses...” said the person quietly, his voice brimming within chilling intent.

A faint light flashed in Zhen Qing’s eyes as he shot a look at Luo Li, who was present not far from him. At this moment, the latter’s jade-like hands were still grasping that Divine Sword that caused incomparable dread within him. The incomparably swift and fierce sword intent from it was slightly radiating out. Although it wasn’t strong or intense, Zhen Qing was able to see dense and numerous pathways sliced up by those sword intent present in the space surrounding Luo Li’s body.

That Divine Sword was exceedingly formidable.

“Don’t be impatient. Let’s wait a while longer. Although that brat’s fleshly body is tyrannical, it will simply not be enough to just rely on it to win against Xia Hou.” Slightly shaking his head, a chilling smile curled up at the corner of Zhen Qing’s mouth as he replied, “Furthermore. At this moment, all we have to do is wait for a while longer, before I let them know what they mean by true despair.”

At this moment, all of the gazes in the giant hall had converged in the air as Mu Chen raised his head to look at Xia Hou before him. Now, some shades of darkness was present on the latter’s face. Thinking about the combat prowess he had displayed during this fight, the heart of the latter would not calm down and was disturbed.

“Looks like the Spiritual Energy Disaster isn’t as invincible as you think.”

Mu Chen said as he gave a faint smile. Faintly dropping his eyes down, he gave a clench of his hand, and the Devouring Demonic Dragon Spear appeared in his hand in a flash. Ominous aura that blotted the skies swept out, causing the air within the giant hall to turn much darker and cool. With a flick of his finger, the Devouring Demonic Dragon Spear howled out. As the ominous aura shot out, the spear transformed into an incomparably gigantic demonic dragon, hovering in the air while radiating with an astonishingly ominous aura.

The Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear was an Absolute Grade Spiritual Weapon. While it was in the hands of Mo Xingtian, the latter had relied on it to temporarily seal and obstruct the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. Therefore, the Devouring Demonic Dragon Spear similarly possessed exceedingly powerful might in combat.

“Go.”

Pointing with his finger, the Demonic Dragon gave a roar, before transforming into a ray of demonic light, and hurtled towards Xia Hou.

Giving a dark look at the demonic dragon explosively shooting towards him, suddenly, dazzling rays of brilliance erupted from his white jade-like hands. If one took a closer look, one would see what appeared to be a gauze made of starry light separating itself from his hands. Transforming into two stars like clumps of brilliance, rays of starry light fiercely radiating amongst it’s chilling appearance.

“Oh?”

Seeing this, Mu Chen's eyes instantly narrowed slightly as he said, "So the reason why your hands are that formidable is due to that thing..."

That gauze-like item that radiated with starry light was clearly a unique Spiritual Weapon. From the looks of the fluctuations radiating from it, they might have quite a high grade. That's the reason why Mu Chen was able to feel a dull ache coming from his palm from the previous head-on attack.

Bang!

The two stars shot out and collided with the demonic dragon, instantly causing astonishing Spiritual Energy fluctuations to erupt.

Xia Hou strode into the air, disregarding the frightening fluctuations radiating from the space above him as he stared towards Mu Chen with an exceedingly chilling gaze. Slowly clenching his fists tightly, a hoarse voice containing unconcealable killing intent gushed from him. "Next up, I'll let you see with your own eyes exactly how great the disparity you have compared to a Spiritual Energy Disaster expert!"

"In the face of absolute strength of Spiritual Energy, your puny fleshly body will be unable to put up any resistance at all!"

Xia Hou's eyes turned bloodshot as he took a step forward, causing waves of fluctuations to seemingly ripple in the empty space. In the next instant, his hands formed a strange hand seal, while frightening Spiritual Energy fluctuations that caused Mu Chen's face to slightly change erupted from the region akin to a volcano!

As the frightening Spiritual Energy erupted, Xia Hou's chilling voice rang out, one word at a time.

"Star Descent Art!"