

Great Ruler 481

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 481: Star Descent Art

“Star Descent Art!”

As Xia Hou’s chilling voice resounded across the giant hall, everyone was able to sense indescribable Spiritual Energy torrentially gushing out akin to an erupting volcano from his body. As this happened, the hurricane that resulted from the Spiritual Energy propagation crazily howled across the giant hall.

Striding across the air, Xia Hou’s hands moved about as he formed a strange hand seal, with his eyes brimming with chilling intent.

Humm!

Torrential amounts of Spiritual Energy crazily condensed behind his back as three gigantic whirlpools gradually took form, with a starry light seemingly radiating from within. As Spiritual Energy crazily poured in, within a short span of a dozen breaths, they had transformed into three gigantic dazzling stars approximately a hundred metres in length.

As those three stars sparkled with dazzling brilliance, boundless Spiritual Energy radiated from them. Akin to light spikes that covered the entirety of the stars, they gradually appeared somewhat malevolent.

When those three stars were completely condensed from Spiritual Energy, exceedingly rampant Spiritual Energy fluctuations radiated out, bringing along rumbling noise as the Spiritual Energy clashed against the surrounding air.

Within the giant hall, Tang Mei’er, Zhou Yuan and the rest were in shock as they took in the spectacle before them. The Spiritual Energy fluctuations radiating from the three stars caused them to feel a dangerous flavor of death. Clearly, Xia Hou had already started to use his genuine killing move, clearly wanting to end this fight here and now.

“Haha. Truly worthy of the Saint Spiritual Academy’s Holy Son.”

Looking at the three stars, Zhen Qing’s eyes slightly narrowed, before laughing out in a low voice. Looking at the move that Xia Hou had unleashed, a sliver of seriousness surfaced within his heart. If he was to genuinely cross hands against Xia Hou, he would very likely be forced back by this attack to the point of having to temporarily retreat. This Xia Hou was truly formidable. That’s why he could become one of the Four Holy Sons of the Saint Spiritual Academy.

“Looks like this brat is in a world of trouble. Now, he will understand exactly how frightening a Spiritual Energy Disaster expert can be when he is serious.”

Zhen Qing spoke out with an indifferent smile, while shooting a glare towards Luo Li. At this moment, the latter raised her beautiful eyes to look towards Xia Hou in the air as her brows slightly wrinkled. It seemed that she had felt some worry, due to the fierceness suddenly present in Xia Hou’s move.

Under the attentive gazes of everyone present in the giant hall, Mu Chen’s eyes looked solemn as he took in the spectacle before him. In the next moment, slowly clenching his hands, black lightning light

rapidly sparkled across his entire body as the four lightning runes on his chest grew increasingly radiant. At the same time, he had summoned forth the limits of his Lightning God's Physique. Clearly, he had also felt the danger present in Xia Hou's move.

"Now, even if you want to feel regretful, there's no chance left for you," said Xia Hou as he looked chillingly at Mu Chen, the smile present at the corner of his mouth becoming even more malevolent.

Slowly raising his hand, he pointed towards the space before Mu Chen, his eyes now brimming within incisive chilling intent.

"Star Descent Art, Triple Heaven Shattering Stars!"

As Xia Hou's murderous-filled voice rang out from his throat, the three gigantic stars behind his back instantly erupted with dazzling rays of brilliance. In the next instant, the three stars had already shot out in succession. Appearing like beams of light, they descended from the skies, instantly enveloping over Mu Chen's figure.

Bang! Bang!

The air within this region had been completely blasted apart at this instant, causing waves of pressure to surge in all directions.

Looking solemnly at the three stars streaking over towards him, Mu Chen took a deep breath. In the next instant, black lightning light sparkled within his palm, before he sent a palm patting out.

"Lightning God's Hand!"

Boundless Spiritual Energy swept out, with the black lightning light in accompaniment. As they crackled and sparkled, they transformed into a gigantic hand made of lightning. Covered with lightning patterns, the giant hand violently patted towards the three incoming stars.

Boom!

The two attacks furiously collided against each other, sending frightening fluctuations rippling out. In the next instant, even greater fissures split apart across the ground, showing the exceedingly astonishing destructive powers contained in the two attacks.

Crackle!

The two energies smashed into each other, crazily trying to corrode one another...

Taking in the spectacle before him, a sneer curled at the corner of Xia Hou's mouth as a change to his hand seal happened. "Star Explosion!"

Bang!

Suddenly, a star exploded apart, with the frightening Spiritual Energy shock wave resulting from it, pushing the giant lightning hand back, even causing the lightning patterns on the surface of the giant hand to appear somewhat dimmer.

Bang!

Yet another star exploded apart, with cracks starting to appear on the surface of the giant hand.

“You’re finished.” The sneer on Xia Hou’s face grew increasingly rich. With a chilling laugh, his hand seal changed, causing the third star to explode at this instant.

Bang!

As the Spiritual Energy shock waves swept out, the Lightning God’s Hand was finally unable to endure anymore impacts. As its Spiritual Energy dispersed, it started to completely collapse. Furthermore, while it collapsed, a remnant beam of light still pierced through, travelling at lightning speed and struck against Mu Chen’s body before he could engage in any evasion.

Bang!

Mu Chen’s body instantly shot backwards, heavily smashing against one of the gigantic pillars in the giant hall. Even with the special materials used in its construction, a gigantic indentation appeared on the giant pillar.

Upon seeing this, the faces of Tang Mei’er and the rest instantly changed.

Observing the plume of dust that had risen up, Xia Hou gave a sneer, before shaking his head and said, “Have you experienced what it means to be overestimate your abilities?”

Within the plume of dust, a figure extricated himself from the giant pillar. Flinging his head, he wiped off the bloodstain at the corner of his mouth. With a slight wrinkle appearing on his forehead, he looked towards Xia Hou and replied with a faint smile. “It’s indeed very painful. However, why are you making an expression as if you’ve already won?”

Looking chillingly towards Mu Chen, while the latter rubbed away the blood at the corner of his mouth, shock and astonishment appeared within Xia Hou’s heart. Originally, he had assumed that this move of his would be sufficient in settling Mu Chen. However, he never imagined that it would only result in an injury. That fellow’s fleshly body was actually that strong to such a degree.

“My Star Descent Art is a Superior Deity Tier Spiritual Art. Do you really think that it only possess such might?” said Xia Hou with mocking laughter. “Since you’re able to endure a round of attacks, I’ll let you see exactly how frightening a Superior Deity Tier Spiritual Art is!”

As his voice rang out, everyone noticed boundless Spiritual Energy rapidly condensing behind Xia Hou’s back once again. However, the Spiritual Energy whirlpools that formed had actually reached the number of nine!

Humm! Humm!

Nine Spiritual Energy whirlpools crazily spun around as hurricanes took form, appearing just like a tornado wreaking havoc within the giant hall.

Frightening Spiritual Energy pressure started to radiate within the giant hall.

This pressure caused even the face of Zhen Qing to slightly change. Tensing his body, Spiritual Energy flowed across the surface. Even he was forced to activate his Spiritual Energy to defend against the incoming pressure.

“This Xia Hou has actually concealed such a formidable card in his hand.”

Zhen Qing’s heart was filled with solemnity. It was fortunate that he had not tore at Xia Hou’s face while being immersed in joy. If not, had Xia Hou activated this killing move of his, without utilising some special cards of his, Zhen Qing would be extremely hard-pressed to have even a chance of victory.

As the frightening Spiritual Energy pressure rippled throughout the giant hall, Luo Li’s glass-like pupils focused on Mu Chen, with the grip of her jade-like hands grasping on the Luo Shen Sword slightly increasing. Clearly, she had also felt that this killing move from Xia Hou cannot be underestimate at all.

Slightly rotating her vision, she finally rested her gaze on the figure of the slender youth. At this moment, his robes were fluttering about, due to the pressure exerted from Xia Hou’s Spiritual Energy. Yet, his figure still appeared ramrod straight, just like a spear that pierced through the confines of heaven.

Humm!

Nine gigantic Spiritual Energy whirlpools rapidly took form, before transforming into nine stars that appeared behind Xia Hou. At this moment, a shade of paleness appeared on his face. Even with him passing his Spiritual Energy Disaster, such a move had a gargantuan consumption to his strength.

However, regardless of his face turning pale, Xia Hou’s gaze still appeared exceedingly excited and malevolent. A grin appeared as he looked towards Mu Chen, who was bitterly enduring the pressure coming from him. At this moment, he seemed to be able to see how miserable the latter was, which appeared just like a stray dog.

“This time, it’s truly the end.”

Xia Hou licked his lips with bloodlust, before furiously pointing towards the space before him. In the next instant, his voice, brimming with unconcealable frosty killing intent rang out, “Star Descent Art, Nine Sun Piercing Stars!”

Bang!

The entire giant hall seemed to shudder as the nine stars explosively shot out. Intertwining with each other, they pierced through the air, descending from the skies with an indescribably frightening might.

Such a barrage could only be describe with one word: Frightening.

Under this barrage, even the faces of experts who had attempted their Spiritual Energy Disaster like Tang Mei’er and Zhou Yuan were overwhelmed with shock. The strength of Xia Hou had seemingly exceeded both of their expectations. The strength of the Saint Spiritual Academy’s Holy Son’s was actually to such a degree?

Could Mu Chen really endure an attack of such a degree?

Everyone’s gazes converged on the figure of the youth in the air as they held their breath in silence.

“Hu.”

Under all of the gazes that had converged on him, suddenly, Mu Chen exhaled a long breath of white air. At this moment, he had unexpectedly slowly closed his eyes. While this happened, a rather ancient and strange hand seal started to form. As this seal appeared, black lightning light started to quietly dance and arc from his fingertips.

“Still gaslighting, huh!”

Seeing this action from Mu Chen, Xia Hou immediately sneered. As if he believed that Mu Chen could still have any cards left that could help him defend against such a terrifying attack.

Rumble!

However, just as Xia Hou gave that sneer, suddenly, low rumbling thunderous noises rang out within the giant hall. These thunderous rumbles contained a sliver of the might of the heavens. They appeared to have not only been created by the condensation of Spiritual Energy, but possessing the frightening energies born of the heavens and earth!

Suddenly, everyone within the giant hall sensed something, causing them to immediately raise their heads, which instantly caused their pupils to violently contract.

Xia Hou had similarly raised his head, which immediately caused the chilling sneer on his face to slowly freeze up.

That was due to the sudden appearance of heavy storm clouds that have surfaced out of the blue in the skies above his head. Those storm clouds weren't formed from Spiritual Energy, but born from the heavens and earth. What's more, black lightning light was crazily condensed within them, while radiating destructive fluctuations.

At this moment, Mu Chen's tightly shut eyes sprung wide open. At this moment, his slender fingers encased in lightning light started to slowly carve downwards, while a mumbling voice quietly resounded within the giant hall. Appearing to have brought along the might of the heavens and earth, they shook the hearts of everyone present.

“Lightning Controlling Technique!”

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 482: Lightnings Might

Bang!

As the low and deep sound brought the might of the heavens and earth, while resounding within the giant hall, the rumbling grew increasingly radiant as the black storm clouds condensed together within the skies of the giant hall at an astonishing pace. Black lightning light sparkled within it, appearing akin to a black lightning dragon coiling its gigantic body.

The spectacle before their eyes had undoubtedly caused everyone's expressions to violently contort.

At this moment, even Zhen Qing was overwhelmed in shock as he looked towards the black storm clouds in the air. The might of the heavens and earth radiating from them had caused the Spiritual Energies within everyone to show signs of shivering. This made them understand that the lightning

energies present within this storm cloud wasn't as simple as being composed from Spiritual Energy. Those were lightning energies genuinely born from the heavens and earth.

This brilliance coming from the might of the heavens and earth was something that people of their level would absolutely not be able to summon forth.

Mu Chen's handsome face was covered with a solemn expression as his slender fingers hastily trembled, while faint rays of lightning brilliance sparkled at his fingertips. This was the first time he had genuinely executed the "Lightning Controlling Technique" ever since he learned it from the Northern Sea Dragon. Generally speaking, Divine Techniques were exceedingly hard to cultivate. What's more, this Lightning Controlling Technique was considerably extraordinary. Even after multiple months of analysing and learning, Mu Chen had only grasped a few straws of comprehension in it. However, he fortunately possessed an advantage that ordinary people did not have, which was that he had cultivated his Lightning God's Physique. Having experienced the tempering from so many bolts of Divine Black Lightning, he was able to feel some familiar responses from the lightning energies of the heavens and earth.

It was actually because he was relying on this that he became able to display the "Lightning Controlling Technique" at this moment.

Rumble!

Black storm clouds surged and churned as the black lightning energies rapidly condensed, faintly revealing their extraordinary prestige.

Beneath them, nine beams of light formed by those nine stars subsequently arrived.

Bang!

Mu Chen's expression turned serious as his hand seal abruptly changed, before the black storm clouds started to contract. In the next instant, cracks of thunder that caused people's scalps to turn numb rumbled across the entire giant hall. Immediately, the giant hall started to shake akin to suffering an earthquake. In fact, the Spiritual Energy present in the world started to disperse apart in succession, appearing to be unable to withstand the might of the heavens and earth.

Everyone raised their heads.

Only to see the storm clouds being split apart as a gigantic bolt of black lightning approximately a hundred metres long accompanied the gigantic rumble. Akin to a lightning dragon baring its fangs and claws, it descended down, with thunderous rumbles howling out as it travelled. As it did so, a long fissure was even carved through space, leaving behind a singed smell in the air.

The black lightning bolt pierced through the world with seemingly nothing being able to obstruct it. This was a power that destroyed anything in its path.

Although this bolt of lightning wasn't as terrifying as the Divine Black Lightning that had appeared during Nine Nether's tribulation then, the destructive fluctuations radiating from it were sufficient to cause people to feel extremely terrified.

As the black bolt of lightning descended, lightning light illuminated the entire giant hall, lighting up Xia Hou's face at the same time. At this moment, the latter's face appeared chilly and malevolent, clearly appearing exceedingly terrified under the lightning light.

Travelling at an exceedingly fast speed, the black bolt of lightning seemingly took only a flash to pierce through space. In the end, under the attentive gazes coming from the surroundings, it violently smashed against the nine star-transformed beams of light before they could smash into Mu Chen.

Boom!

At the instant when the two attacks collided, eye-piercing lightning brilliance radiated out, causing everyone's eyes to narrow in pain. In the next moment, all of them felt an indescribably rampant shock wave spreading across the giant hall.

Bang! Bang!

Cracks and fissures continued to extend and spread across the surface of the giant hall. Regardless of the special materials used in its construction, the group was still unable to withstand the exceedingly rampant lightning shock waves. In fact, the giant pillars close to the epicentre of the impact had fissures all over their collapsed surfaces. At this moment, those vines that had pervaded the entire giant hall were turned into dust in the light of the lightning light.

Such frighteningly destructive power caused everyone present within in the giant hall to become completely dumbfounded.

Crackle!

At the epicentre of the shock wave, two frightening energies crazily corroded one another. However, as the black lightning light sparkled, it had clearly gotten the upper hand. The overbearingness of the Divine Black Lightning wasn't something that could be easily blocked. After all, even Nine Nether then had nearly failed to pass her Divine Tribulation twice due to the Divine Black Lightning.

Although the Divine Black Lightning Mu Chen had summoned was unable to be compared with the one faced by Nine Nether in her tribulation, the disparity between Xia Hou and Nine Nether was similarly too great.

Looking towards the lightning energies that had gained the upper hand, Xia Hou's face grew ashen. Staring malevolently towards Mu Chen, he immediately changed his hand seal and explosively roared, "Nine Stars Explosion!"

Bang! Bang!

Following his explosive roar, the Nine Stars seemed to explode apart at the same time, causing frightening energies to instantly sweep out.

However, just as this energy shock wave was radiating out, chilling rays of brilliance gushed from within Mu Chen's black pupils as he extended his slender finger and gave a gentle point towards the space before him.

"Break!"

Nothing fanciful, just a single word. Yet, it brimmed with incomparable overbearingness.

Whoosh!

With a single word, the Divine Black Lightning instantly flared as the black lightning light crazily sparkled, rushing like a furious dragon in the end. As the lightning light shot out, the frightening energies from the explosion of the nine stars were unexpectedly destroyed and annihilated

“Impossible?!” Xia Hou’s face instantly turned deathly pale as he howled in shock.

Clearly, the Divine Black Lightning had gained the upper hand and had suppressed its contender!

Bang!

As Xia Hou roared, an indifferent shadow appeared in Mu Chen’s eyes as he waved his hand. In the next instant, everyone present in the giant hall saw the Divine Black Lightning drown out the nine stars. Transforming into a beam of lightning, it shattered space apart before enveloping Xia Hou in an unavoidable stance.

Finally, emotions of fear and dread gushed from the latter’s eyes as he felt the flavor of death coming from the black bolt of lightning.

“I admit defeat!”

He shouted in shock and terror, with his voice becoming much more shrill and ear-piercing.

However, faced against his cry, a shade of indifference still hung on Mu Chen’s face. Clearly, he would not show any type of excessive clemency in such moments. He had summoned forth his strength to the fullest to display the Lightning Controlling Technique, which resulted in a gargantuan consumption of his strength. If he was to get nothing in return, he would be extremely hard-pressed to find another good opportunity like this to deal with Xia Hou; after all, the latter wasn’t a helpless kitten. With his cultivation at Spiritual Energy Disaster, he was more than sufficient to bring trouble to Mu Chen in the future, if he’s not dealt with now.

Bang!

Therefore, he didn’t have any intention to show any mercy and soft-heartedness. With a thought, the bolt of Divine Black Lightning struck Xia Hou’s body without the slightest bit of hesitation.

Boom!

At the instant when the Divine Black Lightning landed on Xia Hou’s body, everyone could hear a low and scalp-numbing sound ring out. In the next instant, the Spiritual Energy defenses around Xia Hou’s body completely collapsed, before being miserably shot backwards like a kite with broken strings. As blood spurted from him, his body drew a thousand metre long gulch within the giant hall, before slamming against a giant pillar.

Boom!

Cracks extended across the giant pillar as it started shaking, appearing as if it was about to collapse.

Blood flowed from Xia Hou's body as he slid off the giant pillar, with all the bones in his body appearing to have been completely smashed apart. As stone pieces pressed down on his body, suffocating him, his aura grew increasingly weaker. Clearly, he was sent to a point close to death by the severe injuries he had sustained...

The rumbling noises in the giant hall gradually came to a stop.

In the next moment, deathly silence hung over the giant hall.

Gazes filled with dense feelings of being overwhelmed with shock looked towards the bloody corpse-like figure. Who would have guessed that Xia Hou, who had gained the absolute superiority earlier would... actually become like that?

The eyes of Tang Mei'er, Zhou Yuan and the rest were wide open as they vacantly looked towards the scene before them. In the next moment, after slightly turning their gazes with bated breath, they looked towards the body of the youth who appeared slightly pale. He had actually... defeated Xia Hou...

That's an expert that had passed his Spiritual Energy Disaster!

While Mu Chen was only of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase!

"This freak..." In the end, Tang Mei'er and the rest could only softly sigh in their hearts. At this moment, they were finally able to completely understand why Mu Chen was able to become the Captain of this group from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, with even someone as strong as Luo Li not showing any dissent about this. It turned out that this youth, whose strength appeared to be nothing out of the ordinary, had actually possessed such frightening combat prowess that caused people to be filled with horror.

In this universe, there was no lacking of people that were able to fight above their cultivation realms. However, there were some that were undeniably freaks amongst those geniuses. After seeing the spectacle that had unfolded before them, this Mu Chen might be a member of that league.

As Tang Mei'er and the rest were sighing in incomparable admiration, all colour was drained from the faces of the group from the Saint Spiritual Academy as they inconceivably looked at Xia Hou, who had fainted due to his severe injuries. They were still somewhat unable to believe the brutal reality that had unfolded before their very eyes.

Shadows of darkness and uncertainty loomed within Zhen Qing's eyes as he looked towards the defeated Xia Hou. Looking towards Mu Chen's figure, there were thick feelings of dread, fear and caution surfacing within his eyes. At this moment, he finally started to treat Mu Chen as an opponent that was genuinely able to pose a threat to himself.

However, on the contrary, Mu Chen didn't give any care towards all of the gazes that had converged on him. Covering his mouth to give a cough, a shade of paleness surfaced on his handsome face. In the end, being a Divine Technique, although the Lightning Controlling Technique possessed extreme might and power, it also possessed extreme consumption of his energy. According to Mu Chen's estimates, he would be extremely hard-pressed to activate it one more time...

Such a move could only be properly displayed by Sovereign realm experts, yet it was executed by him today. Truly, the might it possessed didn't disappoint him.

Looking indifferent towards the unconscious Xia Hou, Mu Chen gave a pull of his hand, causing a suction force to erupt from it. As shattered rocks started to fly up, a ray of brilliance shot from Xia Hou's chest, before landing in Mu Chen's hand. This was the Academy Plaque of the Saint Spiritual Academy.

Shooting a glance at the Academy Plaque, Mu Chen's eyebrows instantly jumped as there was actually 4200 points on this Academy Plaque! Furthermore, they were ranked at 7th place on the rankings listed on it!

This amount seemed to be two to three times more than the points Mu Chen had.

Clutching the Academy Plaque, Mu Chen deeply pondered for a moment, before retrieving his own, and snatching away half of the points and transferring them to his plaque.

As rays of brilliance shone, the number present on Mu Chen's Academy Plaque instantly rose to 3007.

As this number drastically shot up, the Academy Plaque in Mu Chen's hands was enveloped in dazzling brilliance, while Xia Hou's group rapidly disappeared from the listed rankings. In the next moment, a new group bounded over one group after another at an astonishing speed, before finally coming to a stop at the ninth place!

Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Ninth Place: Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Captain: Mu Chen.

Looking towards the Academy Plaque in his hand that had lit up, Mu Chen gave a faint smile as his group had entered the Top 16. This way, news about himself would be discovered by all of the groups, with Ji Xuan being amongst them.

Slowly clenching the Academy Plaque in his hand, a chilling shadow condensed within Mu Chen's black pupils.

Ji Xuan, when you see this familiar name, how will you feel?

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 483: Grudges

On a barren mountain range, five figures stood upright on a towering peak, facing into the wind. Despite the erratic gales present around them, these five figures were like boulders, unmoving in the wind. Even their clothes remained still and unaffected by the wind.

Among the five, the leader of the group was leaning on a large boulder. He glanced lazily towards the distant mountain range, where rampant Spiritual Energy fluctuations were sporadically bursting out.

Dressed in white robes, this leader figure had a slender build. Appearing exceedingly handsome, a warm smile hung from the corner of his mouth, giving him a friendly and genial impression as his black hair gently blew in the wind. Although the other four behind him were not average people too, next to him, they definitely dimmed in comparison. His appearance and demeanour really stood out from the crowd.

He was Saint Spiritual Academy's Ji Xuan.

Behind Ji Xuan, a golden-haired youth chuckled as he stared at the distant mountain range. "Captain, that fight seems to be drawing to a close. The twelve remaining teams are of decent strength, and I count at least twelve who have crossed their Human Body Disaster."

Hearing this, Ji Xuan nodded with a laugh. "12 teams... yet another big meal, eh? I wonder if this will actually be too much for us."

"With Captain around, even experts who have passed their Spiritual Energy Disaster would avoid us. Any team that doesn't are asking to be crushed," replied another teammate, whose body was thick and sturdy, with a straightforward laugh. Many scars ran across his face, giving him a vicious and malevolent aura.

"Still waters run deep. There're many crouching tigers and hidden dragons in this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. If you're overly confident, you might suffer a defeat due to negligence." Ji Xuan slightly smiled, staring into the distance with an abstruse look in his eyes. "Apparently, there are many Spiritual Academies that have secretly enlisted the help of geniuses and prodigies from large and influential clans for the Great Spiritual Tournament this time. While many of them have yet to reveal themselves, as the Tournament progresses, these hidden experts will naturally reveal themselves. Only then will there be genuinely fearsome fights."

"Even if we disregard all those experts, there's still the teams from the other four Great Spiritual Academies. Those teams won't lose out to ours, and we've yet to meet them. Aren't we already being thoroughly suppressed by Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy's Wen Qingxuan?"

Upon hearing the name Wen Qingxuan, the four behind Ji Xuan wore sullen expressions on their faces. Right from the start of the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, Wen Qingxuan's team had snatched the top position in an overbearing manner. Despite the fact that the current leaderboard might not accurately reflect the final standings, their ability to hold onto the pole position was a testament to their ability.

"The rumours say that Wen Qingxuan's a heaven-sent beauty..." Laughing, one of the youths replied, "She participated in the Spiritual Road alongside you, right? With your charm and wit, were you unable to conquer this proud phoenix?"

Ji Xuan nonchalantly shrugged. "She is one of the most frightening ladies from the Spiritual Road... furthermore, beauty and dashing looks have no effect on her."

The golden-haired youth latched onto Ji Xuan's words, questioning, "Wait, there are other girls whom you fear? Who? There's actually someone comparable to Wen Qingxuan?"

Sinking into his thoughts, the smile on Ji Xuan's face faded. Staring into the distance, a dark look flashed past his eyes. "Another one... her name is Luo Li. She did not lose out to Wen Qingxuan in any way, it's just that her personality differs from Wen Qingxuan, and she cared less about contesting for a ranking..."

He could still clearly remember her. Dressed in a black skirt, carrying a longsword, hair like a silver river, and a pair of limpid eyes, clear as glass. She was so dazzling, so much that one would get intoxicated just by looking at her. If Wen Qingxuan was a proud and respectable phoenix who bowed down to no one, Luo Li was a lone black lotus in the bowels of a deep valley, her breathtaking beauty only blossoming before the person she fancied.

Her innate ability was in no way inferior to Wen Qingxuan's. If she so desired, she could even be as illuminated as Wen Qingxuan in the limelight. However... she simply stood quietly alongside that fellow. That still gaze she levelled at everyone would only show traces of warmth and gentleness when she looked at that fellow. That rare display of softness could spur countless men to move mountains.

Slowly clenching his fists, his finger gouged into the boulder beside him like it was just butter. His gaze turned chilly as his eyes drooped.

"Luo Li..."

Sucking in a deep breath of air, Ji Xuan closed his eyes.

Before he became Mu Chen's sworn enemy, he'd actually met Luo Li once. In that moment, Luo Li was being chased and attacked by ruthless opponents, yet all he did was watch the situation from afar. He knew that helping another on the Spiritual Road was a foolish act, and not being a benevolent person to begin with, he would not risk his safety to save another for no good reason.

Therefore, he simply stood aside and watched.

He watched as an arrow shot out from the forest and pierced into her shoulder with a spurt of fresh blood. As she staggered from the impact, she looked up, and discovered Ji Xuan watching from afar.

As their gazes met, and despite her precarious situation, her still and clear gaze never once wavered, nor did she send a plea for help. She simply turned around and rushed into the forest, disappearing like a shadow, leaving a startled Ji Xuan behind.

He never saw her again.

Upon the next time they met, half a year had passed. She had found a companion, a slender youth with dashing looks and eyes as deep as the night sky.

This time, he noticed that she had slightly changed. The girl who would maintain a calm expression in the face of death, was now gently smiling when she glanced at the youth beside her. That gentle smile was so breathtakingly beautiful, it caused his heart to tremble and shake.

He had to admit that a seed of jealousy was planted in his heart right there and then.

If he had previously taken action, he might have been the one standing beside her instead...

What he failed to realise was that after saving Luo Li's life, Mu Chen had been hunted down by her for a whole six months. In that six-month-long chase, they had been through hell and back. Day-after-day, the youth had taught her many valuable lessons, only to receive a barrage of attacks in return, leaving him with no choice but to continuously retreat.

And with every successful escape, those calm eyes started showing slivers of emotions from within her, and every so often, the corner of her mouth would arc into a gentle smile.

The chase lasted for half a year, before Luo Li saw through Mu Chen's various cunning methods and finally held her sword at his throat.

He bitterly laughed, only to receive a sweet smile in response.

Ji Xuan would never find out about this, and due to subsequent events, would start a feud with Mu Chen, and through the many attempts on each other's lives, become bitter rivals.

Many might believe that their rivalry would have started sooner or later. After all, both of them were outstanding, and with Ji Xuan's personality, he would not be able to accept another equally talented person occupying the same area as him, and thus their conflict was inevitable... Ji Xuan, himself, did not deny this reasoning, but bystanders wouldn't realise that deep within his heart, there was another reason...

He wanted to thrash Mu Chen, in order to let the girl who moved his heart see that he was leagues above Mu Chen.

However, as the conflicts between them escalated, Ji Xuan started to consider Mu Chen as a real threat. With his shocking growth, Ji Xuan no longer had a guarantee of preventing Mu Chen from becoming the most dazzling figure in the Spiritual Road.

Hence, he had to eliminate Mu Chen!

Resorting to using underhanded methods, he finally succeeded, resulting in Mu Chen being banished from the Spiritual Road...

Yet, on the day Mu Chen started the Blood Calamity and got banished from the Spiritual Road, Ji Xuan noticed the Luo Li had been watching him from a faraway peak. Those beautiful eyes that he had once lost himself in were now directing a chilly gaze right at him, giving off a strong killing intent.

After she turned and left, she disappeared, and their next meeting was the end of the Spiritual Road.

She had given up the opportunity to obtain the greatest reward from the Spiritual Road, crazily sending attack after attack in his direction. In that bitter fight, both sides had suffered grave injuries.

And despite the heavy injuries, her icy stare never once left him.

"The only reason for me to not kill you where you stand, is that Mu Chen will show you what defeat truly means. In my eyes, you will never reach his level."

This was their first actual conversation, yet she had uttered such words, causing the usually stoic Ji Xuan to rage within his heart.

Bang!

With a violent punch, the huge boulder beside him exploded into a dust cloud that covered the skies.

In that moment, a nasty expression was present on his handsome face as a frightening Spiritual Energy swept out, scattering the violent gales around him.

Behind him, his teammates stared in shock as Ji Xuan momentarily lost control over his emotions. This was the first time they had witnessed this side of Ji Xuan.

After punching the boulder, Ji Xuan took a deep breath, finally managing to compose himself. Clenching his fists, a malevolent aura rose in his eyes. "Luo Li, since you think so highly of him, I'll crush him right before your eyes, and I want him to die a terrible death!"

Seeing his current expression, his teammates were shocked. Just as they were about to speak, their Academy Plaques suddenly gave off a bright flash of light. They hurriedly looked over, before their expressions changed and they let out a cry of alarm.

“Eh? Xia Hou’s team has disappeared from the rankings?!”

“There’s actually a team from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy on the leaderboards...”

Upon hearing this, Ji Xuan squinted his eyes. With a wave of his palm, his Academy Plaque appeared, and his gaze fell on the name of the team who had just broken through into the leaderboards.

Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, Ninth Place: Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Captain: Mu Chen.

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 484: Targeted

The atmosphere on the mountain peak seemed to have froze up at this moment.

Ji Xuan shot a deathly glare towards the eye-piercing name present on the Academy Plaque, the amiable smile on his face being completely wiped off. Extending his finger, an emotionless expression appeared on his face as he rubbed against that name. Although he had yet to say a single word, every single one of the four people behind him could sense an astonishing wave of killing intent radiating from the body of the former.

Among them, the youth by the name of Mu Feng faintly knew about the grudge and grievances between Ji Xuan and Mu Chen. Shrugging his shoulders, he said with a smile, “Looks like your adversary has appeared.”

Hearing those words, Ji Xuan gave an indifferent reply, “You don’t know if the current him has enough qualifications to be my adversary.”

“Xia Hou’s group has disappeared from the Top 16,” said a golden-haired youth as he wrinkled his forehead. “And this group from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy has just so happened to rush in at the same time.”

Speaking till here, a clear expression of shock and amazement flashed across his eyes as he continued to speak. “Could it be that Xia Hou’s group had suffered defeat in the hands of this group from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy?”

“That’s impossible, right? Xia Hou’s group is extremely strong, with he, himself, being someone that had successfully passed his Spiritual Energy Tribulation. Although there are crouching tigers and hidden dragons in this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, there shouldn’t be that many people that could defeat them with ease...” said the burly bear-like-bodied youth with a frown.

Shaking his head, Ji Xuan said with an indifferent tone, “There’s no need to make any more guesses. Xia Hou and his group truly have been defeated by Mu Chen’s group. Can’t you see that there isn’t any indication of the direction of their location anymore? This means that they should have entered some remnant...”

Looking over, Mu Feng and the rest saw that it was true, Mu Chen and Xia Hou's group didn't have any indication of their direction at all...

"Hehe. That group of unlucky fellows. They really have lost all face this time to have actually suffered defeat in the hands of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy," said the golden-haired youth as he flung his mouth aside and gave a mocking laugh. Although all of them were from the Saint Spiritual Academy, they weren't considered to be amicable within the academy itself. On the contrary, there were loads of internal strife. Therefore, he was naturally reeling in happiness at Xia Hou's misfortune of bumping into such trouble.

Looking at the indifferent-looking Ji Xuan, Mu Feng gave a smile as he said, "Do we need to find them now? I believe that they won't hide in the remnant for the entirety of the tournament. As long as they come out, we should be able to find the direction they are at."

Rubbing the Academy Plaque in his hand, Ji Xuan callously eyed the name present on it. Shaking his head, he replied, "There's no need. If he truly possesses some ability, we will eventually bump into him. If he doesn't even possess the ability to last till then, he wouldn't have the qualifications for me to keep him in mind."

Hearing that, Mu Feng nodded his head. As of now, they really should not waste time worrying about Mu Chen's group.

"Time's about up. Get ready to move. Remember. Don't let a single one off."

Ji Xuan looked towards the depths of the mountain, where the rampant Spiritual Energy fluctuations that were radiating from had grown weaker by quite a bit. From the looks of it, a result was gradually forming in the battle taking place there. Therefore, he said that with an indifferent tone, while giving a wave of his hand.

Whoosh!

As his hand dropped down, the four figures behind him had already shot out at lightning speed. Bringing along dense and boundless Spiritual Energy, they appeared like a storm, sweeping across the mountain range akin to an incomparably rampant hurricane.

Looking at their backs, Ji Xuan slightly turned his head to look towards the far north, an incisive chill gushing from his eyes.

Mu Chen, you should work hard to move forward. Once you walk before me, I will let you understand exactly how big the disparity is between you and me. This time, I'll definitely let you be consigned to eternal damnation!

Abruptly clenching his hands, Ji Xuan took a heavy step forward. With a loud bang, he transformed into a ray of light, rushing towards the skies. In the next instant, he had shot ahead of the four figures, showing off his quick and lithe speed.

As he shot out, intense vibrations shook from the mountain peak as gigantic fissures rapidly extended from it. In the next instant, they had spread out and covered the entire peak. As rumbling noises rang out, giant stones rolled down, before suddenly, the entire mountain peak collapsed apart, sending dust plumes spreading out across the horizon.

As Ji Xuan and his group started moving, in a region extremely far away from them, there was what seemed like a gathering point. Within that mountain valley, there were hundreds of thousands of groups that had converged over there, having completed various sorts of exchanges and trades. There was an unspoken rule present here, which was that there could not be any fights in this place. If not, that would result in hostile response from everyone here.

Clearly, there was some noise present in this mountain valley. Yet, the gazes of many groups were indistinctly focused towards the higher region of the mountain valley. Present on the cliff, there was an exceedingly dazzling silhouette.

This silhouette appeared exceedingly slender, with a golden-coloured armor draped across her exquisite and voluptuous figure, vividly and thoroughly accentuating her soul-stirring curves. Underneath her battle shirt was a pair of long and slender legs that sparkled with a jade-like luster, causing the eyes of countless people to feel slightly unable to decide where to place their gazes on.

A torrent of black hair fell from her head, landing on her straight shoulders. Crossing her jade-like hands before her, it caused her impressively voluptuous chest to become even more eye-grabbing, with quite a few people quietly swallowing their saliva in response to the sight before them.

However, even though the beautiful figure had caused the hearts of countless people to pump and pound, there wasn't anyone that dared to be overly brazen in their gazes, with dread even being present in the eyes of some people. That because the young girl before their eyes was called Wen Qingxuan.

The Captain of the first ranking team in the point rankings in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament.

Although her beautiful figure appeared delicate and graceful, everyone knew how much frightening power was contained under that exquisite and alluring body!

However, at this moment, the young girl that had become the focal point completely ignored those gazes shooting over from the mountain valley as signs of deep thought surfaced in her beautiful eyes as she looked towards the Academy Plaque in her hand. More precisely, she was staring at the group that had just rushed into the Top 16.

"Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy's Mu Chen..."

Wen Qingxuan's beautiful eyes slowly narrowed, with this little movement of her's causing her to have an otherworldly charm and allure.

"That Blood Calamity of the Spiritual Road?"

Filled with interest, Wen Qingxuan gave a faint smile. Although she didn't bump into Mu Chen while they were in the Spiritual Road, she had heard stories of the Blood Calamity. Naturally, though, the most crucial thing was that this Mu Chen seemed to be together with Luo Li.

"Since he's the Captain of that group, Luo Li should also be in that group, right?" muttered Wen Qingxuan as she tapped her snow-white chin, her beautiful eyes sparkling while a shade of excitement surfaced on her beautiful face.

"Captain, our next target is that group from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy?" Lovable voices rang out from the two young girls present behind Wen Qingxuan.

These two young girls were dressed in dark greenish robes, with their sweet and soul-stirring appearances unexpectedly looking exactly similar to one another. Clearly, they were a pair of identical twins. Noticing the rarely seen shade of excitement present on Wen Qingxuan's beautiful face, they could not help asking in curiosity.

Giving a laugh, Wen Qingxuan nodded her head and replied, "Pin'er, Le'er. Stare at this group for me, will you? Once the direction for their location appears, we'll immediately head out to find them!"

Exchanging glances with one another, the two young girls asked in doubt, "Won't this delay our plan?"

Spending that many thoughts for one group didn't seem to fit in the plan that Wen Qingxuan had made earlier.

Panning her head over, Wen Qingxuan extended her slender jade-like fingers and raised the exquisite chins of the two young girls before replying within an alluring smile. "There isn't any plan that's more important as compared to her."

Hearing that, the young girls by the names of Pin'er and Le'er obediently nodded their heads.

Slightly raising her beautiful face to look at a place in the far distance, Wen Qingxuan extended her slender jade-like hand, before giving a clench. In the next moment, a sweet smile appeared on her face, that alluring smile seemingly stole away all of the splendor of the daytime within this mountain valley, with countless people emitting uncontrollable gulping sounds from their throats in response.

This noble and arrogant phoenix before their eyes truly had caused people's hearts to jump and pound. Although everyone knew that it would undoubtedly be even harder to surmount the heavens than to conquer this phoenix, this was what men were. The harder it was to obtain in one's hands, the more one's heart would itch.

Those countless scorching gazes shooting out from the mountain valley finally caught the attention of Wen Qingxuan. A faint shiver shook through her long and slender eyelashes as she swept her beautiful eyes over.

Noticing her gaze shooting over, shivers immediately shook through the hearts of some people in the mountain valley as they hastily evaded their gazes away. Regardless of how alluring and soul-stirring this young girl was, they were extremely clear about the frightening strength the latter possessed.

"This girl's truly flavorful."

However, it clearly seemed that not everyone had evaded her gaze, as the gazes from one group at the fringes of the mountain valley still appeared as scorching as ever. This group possessed considerable strength, and although their Captain had yet to successfully pass through his Spiritual Energy Disaster, he was of comparable strength to Tang Mei'er and Zhou Yuan. As for the other four members of the group, there were two experts of Fleshly Body Disaster. This lineup was in fact not any weaker than any group from the five Great Academies.

However, even though their lineup was considerably tyrannical, the few groups in the surroundings still casted pitiful gazes at them, before quietly retreating away.

On the top of the mountain peak, Wen Qingxuan's beautiful eyes were now locked onto them. In the next instant, an alluring smile immediately surfaced on her face. Giving a sweet laugh, a charming voice instantly rang out. "Oh really?"

The body of the Captain froze up, clearly not expecting his words to be heard by Wen Qingxuan as he had said them with an extremely soft level of voice. In the next instant, giving a dry laugh, his figure immediately retreated away explosively, with the other four members of his group following closely behind.

Upon seeing this, a rich smile was still present on Wen Qingxuan's face. In the next instant, striding out, boundless Spiritual Energy swept out, faintly transforming into what seemed like a pair of gorgeous and gigantic glowing phoenix wings.

Swish!

With a flap of the phoenix wings, her figure disappeared akin to a spectre.

Bang!

At the instant when her figure disappeared, frightening Spiritual Energy suddenly swept out in the far distance as the five figures that had shot over there earlier had unexpectedly spurted blood out while being sent flying back. Their faces overwhelmed with shock, they proceeded to stare at the space before them.

Whoosh!

Like a spectre, Wen Qingxuan had appeared wordlessly before that captain. Extending her jade-like hand, she immediately grabbed hold of the latter's neck. Looking at the shock and dread-filled face, an enchanting smile curled up from her seductive lips. In the next instant, she sent a pat towards the latter's chest, sending him smashing straight into the mountain valley below, before fluttering away.

"I'll give you all the points he has."

As she floated off into the distance, a sweet-sounding voice filled with laughter rang from the distance.

On the top of the mountain valley, four beautiful figures had also transformed into beams of light, shooting off into the distance as they chased after the soul-stirringly alluring figure.

Within the mountain valley, gazes filled with longing and unwillingness shot towards the beautiful figures in the distance. Everyone only returned to their senses after quite a while, before casting gazes of ill intent towards the unlucky Captain that had suffered serious injuries from a single pat by Wen Qingxuan.

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 485: Wooden Divine Guard

Due to the enormous battle that took place here, the interior of the giant hall had turned into a complete pile of mess.

Slowly descending from the sky, Mu Chen's face appeared slightly pale. Yet, those black pupils of his were still flooded within chilling intent as he swept his gaze around. Faced against his gaze, even Zhen Qing's expression slightly froze up, while a shadow of dread surfaced within the depths of his eyes.

Mu Chen's move earlier on had defeated Xia Hou and caused even his heart to palpitate in fear. He knew that if that move was headed towards him, his ending would not be any better than Xia Hou's in any way.

The remaining four members of the Saint Spiritual Academy group glared with endless shock and fury at Mu Chen. Taking a look at Xia Hou, who was unconscious due to his serious injuries, their gazes turned frosty as they looked once again at Mu Chen. Although they would very much like to take action at this very moment, all of them found out that they couldn't even move their legs a single inch forward, since thick feelings of fear and dread had already cemented themselves in their hearts.

The shock Mu Chen had caused to them due to the previous fight was too great.

Who would have imagined that Xia Hou, whose cultivation had reached the realm of having passed his Spiritual Energy Tribulation, would actually suffer such a miserable defeat in the hands of Mu Chen, who's cultivation was only at the realm of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase?

While still being trapped within the vines, Tang Mei'er, Zhou Yuan and the rest of the groups looked shell-shocked at the scene before them. Only after quite a while did they take a breath of cold air and regain their senses. Suppressing the shock and astonishment in their hearts, they looked with incomparable curiosity at Mu Chen. Such an outcome had clearly exceeded all of their expectations.

Although they never underestimated Mu Chen since the start, regardless of that, Xia Hou had successfully passed his Spiritual Energy Tribulation. Compared with the latter, there truly was a gigantic disparity.

Such a disparity couldn't be easily covered.

However, Mu Chen had let them experience a miracle-like scene.

Sweeping his gaze across the giant hall, Mu Chen's vision lined up with Luo Li's, with the exquisite and porcelain-like beautiful face revealing a faint smile. Mu Chen didn't let her bitter persistence go to waste. With Xia Hou being crippled and deposed of, the situation before their eyes should be flipped around now.

"Haha. You truly are formidable."

A dark laugh rang from Zhen Qing, slowly resounding within the giant hall.

Panning his head around, Mu Chen laid his gaze on Zhen Qing, before a few wrinkles started to appear on his forehead. That's because he was not able to find a single trace of shock or fluster present on the latter's face.

"That's why you're able to become the Captain of your group. Look's like I've truly underestimated you earlier," said Zhen Qing with a faint smile.

Grasping her longsword, Luo Li stood up, while a chilling glint appeared within her clear, beautiful eyes as she glared at Zhen Qing. Although the only people capable of taking action were her and Mu Chen, if it really came to a fight, Zhen Qing and his group might have quite a bit of an advantage.

“Do you think that you’re able to turn the situation around after defeating Xia Hou?” Sweeping his gaze towards Mu Chen and Luo Li, Zhen Qing gave an amused sneer, while a look of ridicule gushed from his eyes. “I admit that your Divine Sword is a mighty deterrence. However, don’t treat me as a retard. Did you think that I’d really sit here like a retard and quietly wait for you to deal with Xia Hou before dealing with me?”

“Oh? Otherwise?”

Hearing Zhen Qing’s words, Mu Chen gave a faint smile. Yet, the Spiritual Energy within his body had already started to circulate once again. The massive fight he had with Xia Hou had resulted in the consumption of quite a bit of his energy, which had led to him being temporarily unable to use a powerful move like the Lightning Controlling Technique. However, without Xia Hou, the combat prowess of Zhen Qing’s side had clearly been greatly decreased.

However, the smile brimming on Zhen Qing’s face appeared somewhat strange and weird.

Standing beside Mu Chen, Luo Li tightly grasped her Luo Shen Sword, while a chilling light surfaced within her eyes as she locked her gaze onto Zhen Qing.

With bated breaths, Tang Mei’er and the rest took in the scene before them. Clearly, they had also felt that something wasn’t right with Zhen Qing’s reaction to the change in the situation. Faced against the combination of Mu Chen and Luo Li, this Zhen Qing had unexpectedly shown not the slightest bit of fear or dread. What’s more, he appeared to be exceedingly confident in himself, appearing to possess an absolute assurance in suppressing both Mu Chen and Luo Li.

However, regardless of the fear and worry present in their hearts, being trapped by the vines, there was nothing they could do but hope that Mu Chen and Luo Li were truly about to deal with Zhen Qing. Then, they would be able to completely remove the vines that were restraining them.

Whoosh!

Upon focusing their gazes, Luo Li’s lovable figure had already shot forward in the next instant, while an incomparably fierce Sword Aura swept out. Slicing apart the air in its path, it slashed straight down towards Zhen Qing’s head.

With a pat of his palm on the ground, Zhen Qing’s body explosively shot forward. As a shiver shook through his sleeve, a black ray of light gushed out. Appearing just like a gigantic black withered wooden log, it smashed head-on against the fierce Sword Aura.

Boom!

An enormous sound rang out as the black withered wooden log shattered apart, sending splintered pieces of wood flying in all directions. However, black rays of brilliance gushed from within, defending against the Sword Aura.

Fluttering back in retreat, the four members behind Zhen Qing locked their frosty gazes on Mu Chen and Luo Li. Boundless Spiritual Energies radiated within the giant hall as they got ready to take action at a moment's notice.

"You all really are impetuous." With a shake of his sleeve, black rays of light radiated from within. Staring at Mu Chen and Luo Li, a chilling shadow gushed from his eyes as he sneered, "You're definitely wondering why I didn't make a single move when you guys dealt with Xia Hou, right? Now, I'll tell you that it's because I needed time. Now, time's up!"

The smile at the corner of his mouth turned abruptly malevolent. "Next up, it should be your time to struggle in despair!"

As his voice rang out, his hands suddenly came together to form a complicated hand seal. Behind him, his four group members had also formed similar hand seals. In the next instant, blackish-green Spiritual Energies swept out of their bodies akin to a flood. Shooting straight into the air within the giant hall, they shot at lightning speeds, before slamming straight against the gigantic greenish wood statue at the corner of the giant hall.

Bang!

As banging sounds rang out, dazzling rays of brilliance erupted from the gigantic greenish wood statue. In the next instant, complex patterns appeared on the surface of its gigantic surface.

At the same time, extremely terrifying fluctuations radiated from it.

Seeing this, the eyes of Mu Chen and Luo Li slightly narrowed. Clenching her sword, Sword Aura howled from it, hiding the skies and covering the earth as it chopped straight down towards Zhen Qing and his group.

Boom!

Seeing this, Zhen Qing gave a cold smile in response. Stomping his feet. Countless vines explosively shot out. Turning into a shield, it blocked the incoming slash from the Sword Aura, turning into wood splitters that filled the air as a result.

"Haha. The Divine Wood Guard has already been activated and controlled by me! Next up, regardless of what moves you all have, you all will undoubtedly die today!"

As the wood splitters were explosively sent across the skies, Zhen Qing fervently looked towards the greenish wood statue within the giant hall, which had started to slowly stand up. With a hearty chuckle, he said, "Mu Chen, did you all assume that dealing with Xia Hou would be able to turn the entire situation around just like that? Yet, you all didn't know that I was also waiting for time! Haha, it's still my win in the end!"

As the Divine Wood Guard stood up, its gigantic dozen metre tall figure radiated with an immense pressure, while glowing runes covered the entirety of its body. At the same time, extremely frightening energy fluctuations radiated from it as it took a giant step forward, causing the entire giant hall to shake and tremble in its wake.

Seeing this, the faces of Tang Mei'er and the rest turned pale. As the gigantic shadow came enveloping over, all of them felt the threat of death. Finally, all of them understood why Zhen Qing still remained unmoved like a rock even when faced with the defeat of Xia Hou. It turned out that he didn't have the intention to go into a head-on confrontation with Mu Chen and his group since the very beginning.

All along, he had been biding his time, using the Spiritual Energies sucked from the bodies of Tang Mei'er and the rest to awaken this frightening Divine Wood Guard!

From the looks of it, this Divine Wood Guard had been successfully controlled by them, with seemingly all aspects of the situation having landed in their hands. At this moment, there was simply not the slightest bit of a chance to flip the situation around!

Solemn expressions appeared on the faces of Mu Chen and Luo as they stared at the Divine Wood Guard. Both of them were able to sense that this Divine Wood Guard possessed extremely powerful energies within it. Although it wasn't to the level of a Sovereign realm expert, it definitely far surpassed that of anyone that was of Spiritual Energy Disaster!

"Although our strength isn't able to allow for this Divine Wood Guard to show all of its power, what happens next is more than sufficient to show you all what despair feels like!"

Facing the sky, Zhen Qing gave a hearty chuckle, his slightly pale face brimming with satisfaction. With a wave of his sleeve, his hand seal changed, only for a glowing tree leaf rune to surface from the forehead of the Divine Wood Guard. In the next instantly, with its massive stride, it dashed straight towards Mu Chen and Luo Li. As it waved its giant fist, boundless Spiritual Energy swept out akin to rampant horses, instantly enveloping over the two.

Swish!

Mu Chen and Luo Li instantly shot backwards in retreat. Clenching his hand, the Devouring Demonic Dragon Spear appeared in a flash, sending its ominous aura gushing out. In the next instant, a fierce spear shadow was already being thrust towards the body of the Divine Wood Guard at lightning speed. Yet, faced with such a fierce attack, it was only able to leave a faint scratch on its body.

Whoosh!

The longsword in Luo Li's hand started to dance, sending waves of Sword Aura gushing out. Smashing right onto the body of the Divine Wood Guard, where inch-deep slashes started to form. Clearly, the destructive power of her attacks was quite a bit stronger than Mu Chen's. However, when compared to the gigantic body of the Divine Wood Guard, they weren't considered to be anything formidable.

Clearly, this Divine Wood Guard possessed an extremely powerful defense.

"Haha. Your resistances are completely useless! As of now, unless there's anyone who has passed their Divine Soul Tribulation, this Divine Wood Guard is absolutely impossible to be destroyed by the likes of you!" roared Zhen Qing in laughter. As long as he deals with Mu Chen and Luo Li here, he would truly be able to obtain this Divine Wood Guard. At that time, not only would he be able to truly obtain a status in the real "Divine Wood Palace", he would also be able to obtain this Divine Wood Guard. With its strength, how many people would be able to obstruct him and his group's path in this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament?

The champion of this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament would definitely land in the hands of their Wood Spirit Academy!

Seeing the formidable might of the Divine Wood Guard, a shadow of helplessness and bitterness flashed through the eyes of Tang Mei'er, Zhou Yuan, Xu Huang and the rest. From the looks of it, they had truly ended up in a hopeless situation.

Possessing such strength, this Divine Wood Guard was more than sufficient to sweep away everyone present here. Even Mu Chen and Luo Li collaborating together might not be able to defeat it.

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 486: Join Hands

The gigantic Wooden Divine Guard towered over the interior of the giant hall, sending out waves of powerful pressure radiating out. This caused all the Spiritual Energy within the giant hall show signs of freezing and turning sluggish. This Wooden Divine Guard possessed an extremely powerful level of might.

“Hahaha, weren't you so strong just now, Mu Chen? Want to go for another round with my Wooden Divine Guard?”

Zhen Qing cackled as he watched on. With the Wooden Divine Guard on his side, he could finally relax. No matter how many more tricks Mu Chen had up his sleeves, there was absolutely no way he could turn the tables around.

Furrowing his eyebrows, Mu Chen stared at the Wooden Divine Guard. This latter's gigantic body appeared to be made of weathered wood, with rays of brilliance sparkling out of glowing patterns on the surface. The powerful energies radiating out from it caused prickling pain sensations to be felt on his skin. This was the response his body had in the face of danger. Clearly, this Wooden Divine Guard possessed a frightening level of power that even his Four Rune Lightning Physique wasn't able to endure.

The Wooden Divine Guard before him might possess strength that was comparable to someone that have passed their Spiritual Energy Disaster...Furthermore, according to what Zhen Qing had said, this still wasn't its full strength...

The situation now had indeed become even more nasty than before.

“Next up, all of you can go and die.” said Zhen Qing as he grinned towards Mu Chen and Luo Li, his face brimming with a sinister shade. In the next instant, with a change of his hand seal, the tree leaf rune on the forehead of the Wooden Divine Guard started to sparkled before the latter's gigantic body started to shoot forwards. Bringing forth a frightening level of power, its giant fist hurtled straight towards the two.

With a shift of his body, a dragon shade seemed to surface at Mu Chen's feet. In a flash, he retreated back, with Luo Li similarly retreating back at rapid speeds.

Bang!

The fist of the Wooden Divine Guard struck the ground, causing intense vibrations to rock through the entire giant hall. Gigantic fissures extended out across the ground akin to gigantic snakes, showing off its heart palpitating destructive power.

Whoosh!

With its fist striking air, the glowing rune on its forehead sparkled once more. Instantly, its gigantic frame shot out immediately, appearing right before Mu Chen in a flash. Clearly, not only did it possess astonishing might, it also possessed a rather quick speed.

Boom!

The Wooden Divine Guard sent yet another fist rumbling out, causing the air before it to completely explode apart.

Seeing this, Mu Chen's expression changed slightly. With a fierce shake of the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear in his hand, an ominous aura swept out as it transformed into a gigantic demonic dragon. Bringing forth surging ominous qi, it smashed head on against the Wooden Divine Guard.

Bang!

Energy shockwaves swept out like a hurricane, with the ground below Mu Chen's feet immediately collapsing apart. At this instant, Mu Chen's body was sent flying backwards. Transforming back into a long spear, the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear landed back into his hand, while his sleeves were torn into shreds. As he did so, a sliver of blood dripped down from the corner of his mouth. Clearly, he had suffered some damage from the head on collision with the Wooden Divine Guard.

The Wooden Divine Guard's gigantic figure rushed straight towards Mu Chen once again, its weathered wood fist enveloping over him like a shadow.

Swish!

However, before the Wooden Divine Guard could attack Mu Chen once again, a beautiful figure shot abruptly before him. In the next instant, an incomparably fierce Sword Aura current howled out, heading straight towards the head of the Wooden Divine Guard.

Sensing the incoming fierce Sword Aura current, the Wooden Divine Guard suddenly came to a halt. Extending its gigantic palm out, it blocked itself against the Sword Aura current sweeping over, which left a deep fissure on its wither wood palm. Although it indeed possessed an extremely strong defense, Luo Li's Luo Shen Sword clearly wasn't something that could be easily defended against.

If Luo Li's cultivation realm was higher, she would be able to activate the truly power of this Divine Weapon of the Luo God Clan. At that time, a single slash from it would be able to chop of the giant hand of this Wooden Divine Guard.

Mu Chen took this opportunity to retreat back. However, wrinkles started to form on his forehead, as the defense of this Wooden Divine Guard was exceedingly strong. When faced against his and Luo Li's earlier attacks, it had always met them head on with its own. However, this time, it had chose to defend against her attack. This might be due to the dread Zhen Qing had towards the Luo Shen Sword. However, this might not be the entire reason.

As his eyes sparkled, Mu Chen could not help but to rest his gaze on the tree leaf like rune present on the forehead of the Wooden Divine Guard. In the next instant, he shot a look from the corner of his eye towards Zhen Qing. It seemed that every single time the hand seal of that fellow changes, the tree leaf on its forehead would sparkle and light up...

That tree leaf rune was precisely the thing that Zhen Qing and his group had snatched away from them.

From the looks of it, it seems that this tree leaf rune just so happened to be able to allow for the control of this Wooden Divine guard. That's why Zhen Qing didn't attempt to snatch away the Immortal Divine Tree and rush straight towards that unassuming tree leaf rune...

Fluttering down, Luo Li descended by Mu Chen's side. Shooting a look at him, she spoke out, "Are you alright?"

Mu Chen replied a slight shake of his head. Fortunately, he had cultivated his Lightning God's Physique to a Four Rune Lightning Physique. If not, the fist sent out from the Wooden Divine Guard would cause serious injuries towards any ordinary person who had passed their Fleshly Body Tribulation.

"Haha. Looks like the two of you are unable to create any waves today." looking towards Mu Chen and Luo, who were forced to retreat in succession by the Wooden Divine Guard, Zhen Qing could not help but to laugh out.

Hearing those words, a chilling glow flashed faintly across Luo Li's eyes. Gripping her Luo Shen Sword tightly, she spoke out with a voice tinged with chilling intent. "Isn't it too early to be happy? Do you truly believe that I won't be able to chop of the head of this block of wood?"

A sliver of fury flashed across the exquisite face of the young girl. Having fought all out against Xia Hou earlier, Mu Chen's condition was naturally not good. The previous head on collision with the Wooden Divine Guard should have caused even more injuries for him. This caused her to feel her heart ache slightly, while also causing killing intent to gush out from within.

As her voice rang out, astonishing sword cries erupted out from her Luo Shen Sword while glowing lines seemed to extend all over the body of the sword. In the next instant, an incomparable feeling of sharpness radiated out quietly, causing even the surrounding space to tremble slightly.

Sensing the sharp and fierce sword intent radiating out, Zhen Qing's expression changed slightly, before giving a cold snort. Indeed, that Divine Sword's formidable. If Luo Li had passed her Spiritual Energy Tribulation then, she might truly be able to be a threat towards the Wooden Divine Guard. However, it's a pity that wasn't the case...

"You're truly looking to die."

With a sneer, Zhen Qing changed his hand seal, only for the Wooden Divine Guard to shoot out yet again, displaying its terrifying attack once more.

However, this time, as Zhen Qing was moving the Wooden Divine Guard, Mu Chen was able to clearly see that the tree leaf rune on its forehead had sparkled once again.

With a chilling expression on her beautiful face, Luo Li started to undo the seal on the Luo Shen Sword in an attempt to destroy this Wooden Divine Guard.

“Wait.” said Mu Chen as he extended his hand to grab onto her. Although Luo Li’s move was extremely powerful, it would lead to a gargantuan consumption of her strength upon displaying it. In this current situation, if they were to expend great effort to destroy this Wooden Divine Guard, that would allow for Zhen Qing and his group to have any easier time dealing with their exhausted selves. If that happens, the situation then would be even more dire.

“You just need to help reduce the impact of the Wooden Divine Guard’s attack. Leave the rest to me.” said Mu Chen in a soft voice.

Hearing that, Luo Li shot a doubtful look at Mu Chen, clearly not too sure what the latter was planning on doing. However, due to her trust in him, after a slight moment of hesitation, she nodded her head and replied, “Be careful. If you’re injured again, I’ll immediately take action.”

Her voice sounded resolute and decisive. Clearly, there wasn’t too much leeway for discussion.

Seeing that, Mu Chen laughed out. Being unable to stop himself, he extended his hand to touch the exquisite face of the young girl before him while saying with a smile. “I know. My Luo Li’s the Queen Luo of the Spiritual Road. Overbearing as ever...”

Seeing that Mu Chen still had the heart to tease her in such a situation, Luo Li could not help but to shoot an unhappy glare at him. Yet, her glare appeared as soft and gentle as the streams flowing in spring.

“You two still have the heart to flirt now, huh!” with a sinister smile, Zhen Qing changed his hand seal, sending the gigantic figure of the Wooden Divine Guard to cast its shadow over Mu Chen and Luo Li as it shot towards them. While that happened, frightening energies swept out from it like a storm.

Bang! Bang!

As a storm whipped up within the giant hall, akin to a god of destruction, the Wooden Divine Guard wreaked havoc everywhere it went. Compared to it, Mu Chen and Luo Li appeared like flies trapped in a corner, displaying various kinds of miraculous movement techniques to continuously evade its attacks. At the same time, attacks erupted out from them, leaving scar after scar on the body of the Wooden Divine Guard.

Tang Mei’er and the rest watched with bated breath at the intense battle taking place within the giant hall, their eyes brimming with worry.

Zhen Qing sneered as he observed the scene before him, not being impatient at all. On the contrary, he appeared exceedingly calm and leisurely. Regardless of what move Mu Chen and Luo Li employed, they were humans and would become tired and exhausted. Comparatively, the Wooden Divine Guard wouldn’t, and would be able to complete his orders perfectly, which was to completely destroy and kill Mu Chen and Luo Li...

Furthermore, Mu Chen and Luo Li clearly weren’t able to compete with the Wooden Divine Guard on the consumption of energy. Once they’ve completely depleted their Spiritual Energies, he would be able to easily get rid of them with a single finger of his.

Now, he only had to treat this as a game, with the ending being grasped in his hands.

Boom!

All of a sudden, the giant fist came enveloping over Mu Chen. However, before it could come into contact with him, a beautiful figure appeared right before him. Rays of Sword Aura currents gushed out, completely defending against the terrifying fist winds.

At the instant when Luo Li had defended against the incoming attack, Mu Chen's figure had abruptly shot out. As a dragon shade surfaced beneath his feet, it started to coil up. As it extended out, it appeared to pierce through space, with Mu Chen's figure rushing straight towards the head of the Wooden Divine Guard akin to a spectre.

"Bang!"

However, at the instant when Mu Chen's figure had shot out, it seemed as though the Wooden Divine Guard had also sensed it. Instantly open its giant mouth open akin to giving a roar, a frightening Spiritual Energy shockwave exploded out from within like a beam, instantly shrouding over Mu Chen.

Humm!

As the beam struck Mu Chen's body, a shiver shook through him as black rays of light blossomed out from his body. In the next instant, a gigantic black pagoda appeared in a flash, protecting his body within it.

Ding!

A metallic sound rang out within the giant hall akin to a bell.

As the black glowing pagoda dissipated away, Mu Chen's figure appeared right before the forehead of the Wooden Divine Guard. With a clench of his hand, a piece of black paper surfaced on his palm, while mysterious energies started to flow out from it.

Bang!

Seemingly discovering some kind of threat towards itself, the Wooden Divine Guard immediately ignored the attacks coming from Luo Li. Like the peak of a mountain, its giant fist howled out, bringing along frightening power as it exploded the air apart, causing even the surrounding space to wrap and distort slightly.

As the shadow of the fist came enveloping over, Mu Chen show not the slightest bit of wanting to retreat. On the contrary, under the shock cries of Tang Mei'er and the rest, he continued with his rush.

"You're looking to die!"

Zhen Qing sneered malevolently.

Boom!

Finally, the giant fist smashed heavily on Mu Chen's body. As the frightening energy shockwave blossomed out, the latter's body shot out like a cannonball. Finally, striking against a giant pillar, it caused giant fissures to appear on its surface.

Nevertheless, at the instant when the Wooden Divine Guard had struck Mu Chen, his palm had lightly patted on the rune sparkling with light on its forehead.

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 487: Lotus of the Luo God Sword

Bang!

Mu Chen was sent hurtling like a giant stone by the fist of the Divine Wood Guard. Heavily impacting the ground, the ground caved and collapsed, sending fissures extending in all directions. He created a hundred-plus metre long gorge in the ground, before finally being able to miserably stabilize himself.

Puff.

Blood spurted out from Mu Chen's mouth as his face turned paled. He had suffered quite a thorough blow from that punch. If not for him cultivating the Lightning God's Physique, he might not be able to keep his little life.

Luo Li's beautiful face changed due to the scene before her. With a shift of her body, she appeared beside Mu Chen. Noticing the injuries that he had suffered, which weren't light, she said in haste, "Are you alright? Why didn't you evade?!"

Although the Divine Wood Guard's attack was powerful, if Mu Chen wanted to evade, such an attack would clearly not be able to successfully land on him.

"Tsk, tsk. Looks like's your conditions getting worse and worse," said Zhen Qing in a mocking tone as he grinned towards the injured Mu Chen.

Wiping away the bloodstains at the corner of his mouth, Mu Chen raised his head, sending back a smile towards Zhen Qing. The smile he sent back also contained the presence of ridicule. With a laugh, he said, "Didn't I explain to you the meaning of losing oneself in joy? Now, would you please try to activate this Divine Wood Guard once more?"

Hearing those words, Zhen Qing's face instantly sunk as he rapidly changed his hand seal. However, his expression completely sunk down in the next moment, since he found out that he was unexpectedly unable to have any result in his activation of the Divine Wood Guard. It stood there, right in the middle of the giant hall, not having the slightest bit of response to his control.

"Bastard! What have you done to my Divine Wood Guard?!" roared Zhen Qing fiercely as his eyelids rapidly twitched.

Giving an indifferent laugh, Mu Chen replied, "Nothing much. I've simply just sealed the symbol you've used the control the Divine Wood Guard, that's all."

Hearing those words from Mu Chen, Zhen Qing hastily turned his gaze towards the Divine Wood Guard. Indeed, black rays of light had surfaced on the tree leaf rune present on the forehead of the Divine Wood Guard. As those black rays of light weaved and intertwined with each other, they appeared to have formed some kind of seal that was actually able to completely seal up the tree leaf rune. As such, it had also severed the control Zhen Qing had over the Divine Wood Guard.

At this moment, Zhen Qing's expression turned exceedingly ugly. He never imagined in his wildest dreams that Mu Chen's sight would be that astute and sharp, being able to spot and identify the tree leaf rune he was using to control the Divine Wood Guard. Furthermore, this fellow actually knew how to create a seal. Zhen Qing was able to sense that the sealing energies used by Mu Chen were exceedingly strange and mysterious, being able to completely sever his seal from the Divine Wood Guard and even his connection to his rune.

As of now, this Divine Wood Guard seemed to have completely no relationship with him.

His greatest trump card had actually been dealt with in such an obscure and unclear fashion!

Zhen Qing was so mad, he started to shake and shiver, while anger and fury rose from his heart. From the looks of it, he appeared to be unable to wait to tear Mu Chen into shreds.

Observing this scene, while being trapped in the vines, Tang Mei'er, Zhou Yuan, Xu Huang and the rest breathed a huge sigh of relief. The greatest card Zhen Qing and his group could rely on was that Divine Wood Guard. As of now, with it being dealt with by Mu Chen, the combat strength of Zhen Qing and his group had now drastically decreased.

At this moment, Luo Li finally understood why Mu Chen would risk so much to take a head-on blow by the Divine Wood Guard and not evade it. Nevertheless, she still shot an unhappy glare towards Mu Chen while saying, "You always know how to mess around."

With a smile, Mu Chen extended his hand and grabbed onto Luo Li's tender and white hands, his face still appeared slightly pale. True, he had suffered quite the serious injury from the great battle with Xia Hou earlier, along with the intense fight with the Divine Wood Guard. Therefore, his current state was clearly rather bad, something he felt slightly helpless about. Although he had quite a few other cards up his sleeves, his cultivation was only at the realm of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase. Regardless of him possessing a combat prowess that far exceeded the outer appearance of his strength, as this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament continued on, the opponents they would encounter would become increasingly powerful. Furthermore, as of now, they had already been placed within the Top 16 on the ranking list. Upon leaving this remnant, their location would be exposed. At that time, they would encounter quite a few people wanting to contest them for the points they held.

When that happened, there would be more intense fights than the ones they had just experienced.

Therefore, with his cultivation realm of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase, it had clearly started to become increasingly difficult for him. After all, he couldn't just expend all of his energy like now every single time he bumped into an expert of Spiritual Energy Disaster. If that happened, it would be sooner or later that such an opportunity would be grasped by those opponents covetously eyeing them.

"Looks like I have to make a breakthrough."

Mu Chen muttered, tightly clenching his fists. Not only Xu Huang, Zhao Qingshan and Mu Fengyang needed to make a breakthrough, even he needed to increase his strength. If not, would them saying that they would enter the final match be just an empty dream?

Luo Li lightly grasped Mu Chen's hand, before raising her lovable face, At this moment, however, raising her lovable head, a chill surfaced in her eyes as she looked towards the furious Zhen Qing, before saying in a soft voice, "There's no need for you to participate in the upcoming fight. I'll deal with them."

Hearing her words, Mu Chen immediately made a slight gasp. Although they had already dealt with the Divine Wood Guard, their opponents were of a greater number than them. Furthermore, Zhen Qing himself wasn't someone easy to deal with, being no weaker than Xia Hou. Added with his group members, many of which had passed their Human Body Disaster, their line-up wasn't weak. Yet, Luo Li wanted to deal with all of them by herself. "Its best that we do it together, Don't you know that it'll hurt me to see you get the slightest bit of injury?" replied Mu Chen with a bitter laugh.

"I just love you too dearly," replied Luo Li with a grin, a faint pinkish blush appearing on her exquisite and porcelain-like face. Clearly, with her gentle and quiet demeanor, it was still extremely rare for her to say such words to Mu Chen.

"Who's the one always causing trouble? This is your punishment."

Extending her hand, Luo Li gently rubbed Mu Chen's face. With a faint smile, she gave a lovely blink of her bright and clear eyes, before saying, "Be obedient. I'll protect you."

Faced against the current Luo Li, who had suddenly radiated with an aura of regality, Mu Chen couldn't help turning his nose. Feeling a wee bit of weakness, he could only shrug in helplessness while replying, " Be careful."

Gently nodding, Luo Li replied with a faint smile. "Relax. I'll be very quick."

Hearing her words, Mu Chen gave a grin. At this moment, although Luo Li had yet to become the Queen of the Luo God Clan, she seemed to have already started to reveal an aura of regality. It was merely that she didn't quite like to show herself in the limelight while she was beside him. However, in this current situation, where Mu Chen has gotten injured time-after-time, it seemed that the future Queen of the Luo God Clan had gotten somewhat angry, causing her to no longer conceal herself anymore.

Standing up, Luo Li grasped her Luo God Sword. At this moment, her exquisite face, which had just shown a smile towards Mu Chen, was now covered with frost as she shot a chilling gaze towards Zhen Qing.

"Haha. What's the matter? Do you want to deal with all of us by yourself?" In his moment of rage, Zhen Qing coldly snorted as he looked towards Luo Li.

Choosing not to reply, Luo Li continued grasping her Luo God Sword as she slowly raised it up.

Humm. Humm.

The Luo God Sword vibrated and hummed, while astonishingly fierce Sword Intent radiated from it. This Sword Intent that radiated from it appeared as if it wanted to pierce through the heavens and the earth.

Sensing this Sword Intent, Zhen Qing's expression turned slightly cold as he turned his gaze around. Looking towards the remaining four members of the group from the Saint Spiritual Academy, he spoke out in a deep voice. "Take action with us and defeat her. That way, you guys can also take your revenge. At that time, we'll split the points and the treasures of this place equally with you guys. How's that?"

Although Xia Hou was not seriously injured with his life or death unknown, the remaining four members of the Saint Spiritual Academy group we're still quite powerful. At this moment, being able to pull them over to his side would be beneficial to deal with Luo Li.

Hearing Zhen Qing's words, the eyes of the four instantly sparkled, before clenching their teeth. Although they were extremely shocked by the performance of Mu Chen, at this very moment, the latter's condition was extremely poor. As long as they could collaborate and deal with Luo Li, they could take whatever revenge they wanted.

Whoosh!

With a shift of their bodies, the four immediately appeared behind Luo Li, forming an encirclement with Zhen Qing's group. In the next instant, boundless Spiritual Energies gushed from them, creating an extremely powerful Spiritual Energy pressure on her.

"Hmph. Even if you have the aid of your Divine Artifact, I don't believe that you'll be able to defeat that many by yourself!"

Zhen Qing sneered. They had a total of nine people on their side, with at least half having passed their Human Body Disaster. Added with him, who had passed his Spiritual Energy Disaster, how would Luo Li be able to defeat all of them by herself?

Shooting an indifferent look back at him, Luo Li still did not give any reply. On the contrary, she started to slowly close her eyes. As this happened, bloodline patterns started to seep out from the hand in which she held the Luo God Sword. As those bloodlines flowed down onto her Luo God Sword, they formed a blood-red sword rune.

Bang!

Suddenly, a frightening wave of Sword Aura erupted from the Luo God Sword. As it did so, it gave off a feeling as if a frightening beast was starting to slowly wake up from its seal.

"Take action!"

Sensing the Sword Aura radiating out, Zhen Qing's face contorted as he decisively roared.

Bang!

As his roar rang out, the nine people took action seemingly at the same time. Attacks filled with boundless Spiritual Energies swept out, hiding the skies and covering the earth as they enveloped over Luo Li.

With her eyes still tightly shut, a shiver shook through the hand grasping onto the Luo God Sword. In the next instant, frightening Sword Aura swept out, enveloping around her body akin to a hurricane. Upon coming into contact with the Sword Aura hurricane, those incoming attacks were instantly shattered into nihility with overbearing force.

As the blood-red sword rune on her Luo God Sword grew increasingly radiant, a sliver of paleness appeared on the exquisite face of Luo Li.

Humm! Humm!

A low and rapid hum rang out from the Luo God Sword. Suddenly, in the next instant, Luo Li's eyes sprung open. With a wave of her hand, the Sword Aura shot out. Akin to a dragon leaving its den, it left radiant sword scars in the space around its path.

As the rays of sword scars intertwined with each other, Sword Aura instantly burst forth from them. As rays of brilliance sparkled out, a gigantic Sword Lotus, approximately a hundred metres wide, rapidly took form before Luo Li.

This Sword Lotus appeared exceedingly beautiful. Yet, under its beauty, it contained energies that seemed to be able to destroy anything in its path.

The Luo God Sword shook, before the Sword Lotus rose into the air. In the next instant, dazzling rays of brilliance radiated throughout every corner of the giant hall.

As the rays of brilliance radiated out, Luo Li's sweet-sounding voice rang indifferently around akin to a quiet spring gushing from the mountain top.

"The bright and clear heart of the Sword, Lotus of the Luo God Sword!"

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 488: Take Away

Humm Humm!

The radiant Sword Lotus rose from Luo Li's front before hovering in the air, its penetrating rays of brilliance lighting every single corner of the giant hall.

However, those rays of brilliance didn't give people a feeling of warmth. On the contrary, it caused thick feelings of chilling intent to fill the bodies of everyone. At this moment, everyone could sense an extremely frightening and fierce Sword Intent present within those rays of brilliance, appearing as they were able to shatter the skies and rend the earth.

Observing this spectacle unfolding before him, Mu Chen's expression also turned slightly cold. Even could feel his body turning cold in the presence of the Sword Intent present within the Sword Lotus.

At this moment, the faces of Zhen Qing and his groups appeared exceedingly solemn, with their gazes appearing to be overwhelmed with shock. That's because they could feel a thick flavor of death from the beautiful Sword Lotus hovering above them.

Without any plan to give them any chance to warm up, Luo Li had immediately unleashed her true killing move upon taking action!

Faced against their contorted expressions, Luo Li's beautiful face still appeared ice cold as she extended her slender finger out to give a light tap in the space before her.

Humm!

The Sword Lotus trembled once again, before started to slowly unfurl its petals. In the next instant, Sword Aura that blotted the skies swept out, only for ten Sword Lotus petals to abruptly shoot out explosively. Appearing exceedingly beautiful, irresistible sharpness brimmed under their beauty.

Swish Swish!

As the lotus petals shot through space, faint scars appeared as the surrounding space was sliced apart by them.

Dark and bottomless sword fissures were slashed on the ground below by the Sword Aura gushing out.

Akin to ten divine swords streaking out, the ten beautiful Sword Lotus petals rushed straight towards Zhen Qing and the other nine guys.

Seeing the incoming Sword Lotus Petals, the eyes of Zhen Qing and the nine guys instantly contracted. Before the attacks had arrived before them, their skin had already started to feeling piercing pain. It was hard to imagine exactly how frightening the Sword Intent contained with those petals was.

“Use all your strength!” roared Zhen Qing.

Bang!

With an explosive roar, boundless Spiritual Energy gushed out from his body like a tidal wave, with the other nine summoning forth all of their Spiritual Energies in fear, not hesitating one single bit to execute their strongest and most powerful moves. At this moment, if they were to hold back any single bit, they would undoubtedly be killed. That Sword Lotus was too frightening!

“Wooden Divine Spear!”

“Fist of the Holy Light!”

Fierce roars rang out in succession as surging Spiritual Energies rushed forth, followed by astonishingly mighty attacks.

With a solemn expression on his face, boundless Spiritual Energy swept out abruptly as he sent a pat out. As rays of brilliance sparkled out, it transformed into what seemed like a deep greenish pine like giant hand. Glowing patterns covered its entirety, with this Spiritual Energy surging around it like a sea, giving people an extremely intense feeling of pressure. Clearly, he had also used his genuine killing move too.

“Heavenly Pine Divine Palm!”

Bang!

Under everyone’s attentive gaze, mighty attacks swept out, smashing head on against the incoming lotus petals in an instant.

Faced against those incoming attacks, Luo Li’s clear and beautiful eyes still appeared cool and calm, with merely a sliver of a chilling glow surfacing within them. In the next instant, extending her slender finger out, she gave a gentle tap out, with space before her appearing to split apart.

Swish Swish!

As the attacks from both sides collided, contrary to people’s expectations, no astonishing eruptions took place. Although it appeared weak and frail, the beautiful lotus petals appeared akin to the edges of a

divine sword, being indescribably sharp. As the petals shot by, the boundless Spiritual Energy attacks hurtling towards them were instantly sliced apart!

Their attacks were simply unable to provide even the slightest obstruction against the Sword Lotus petals.

At this moment, the members of the two groups were completely overwhelmed with shock, while indescribable fear gushed out from their hearts. Never did they expect that this killing move from Luo Li would actually be that strong to the point that their full strength was still unable to allow for them to put up one bit of resistance.

Whoosh!

While they were overwhelmed with shock, the lotus petals had already shot through space, nearing their bodies with a whoosh.

As chilling air enveloped over them, their faces were blanketed with a deathly pale shade as they hastily attempted to escape. However, it was evidently too late, as the flower petals had shot over at lightning speeds, bringing along with its sword like incisive sharpness.

Instantly, blood spurted out in every direction.

Nine figures instantly turned stiff as blood gushed out from their arms. Nine arms shot towards the sky, their severed locations appearing as smooth as glass.

Ahhh!

Shrill shrieks of misery rang out as the nine figures landed down, crying out from the pain of their severed limbs, while their powerful Spiritual Energies rapidly dropped and declined. Blood continued to flow out from their severed stumps. Clearly, the fierce Sword Intent had penetrated through their bodies. Regardless of how they activated their Spiritual Energies, they were unable to get rid of it.

Hearing those miserable shrieks, not a single sign of waver was present on Luo Li's face. Looking before her, she noticed that the Sword Lotus Petal present there did not achieve her desired effect, as it was being temporarily obstructed by Zhen Qing's attack. All in all, Zhen Qing had passed through his Spiritual Energy Disaster. Therefore, he was indeed much stronger than the other nine people.

Nevertheless, although Zhen Qing was able to temporarily obstruct one Sword Lotus petal, he had clearly expended all of his strength doing so. At this moment, there were even droplets of sweat flowing out of his forehead. The frightening Sword Intent present in the lotus had pierced his body to the point of causing his Spiritual Energy to show signs of instability.

"Damn it!"

Zhen Qing growled between his clenched teeth. As those miserable shrieks entered his ears, a shiver shook through his heart and mind. Never did he imagine that Luo Li's attack would actually be that terrifying. Such an attack might even be no inferior than the attack Mu Chen used to strike down Xia Hou. Merely, Mu Chen's attack was a focused single target attack, whilst Luo Li's attack was able to deal with multiple opponents.

"Indeed, you're worthy of being one that had passed his Spiritual Energy Disaster."

Said Luo Li in an indifferent tone as she shot a look at Zhen Qing below with her beautiful eyes. In the next moment, the Luo God Sword grasped in her hand shook.

Humm Humm!

Sword cries rang out, before the Sword Lotus petals that had disabled those nine people shot back towards her. In the next instant, they shot back out at lightning speeds, shooting straight at Xia Hou in an encirclement formation.

Such a spectacle instantly caused Zhen Qing's soul to leave his body in fright. Just blocking a single petal from the Sword Lotus was already that demanding to him. Now, with there were nine more incoming! Although the energies within those nine incoming petals had been substantially consumed due to their attacks on the nine people, it was more than sufficient to slice him to death!

"Bastard!"

Clenching his teeth, Zhen Qing smashed his palm fiercely on the ground, sending blackish green Spiritual Energy to sweep out, before unexpectedly pouring into the giant hall.

Bang!

At this instant, the surrounding giant pillars started to shake and squirm, before vines hid the skies and covered the earth as they shot out from within. As they did so, they formed layer after layer around Zhen Qing's body like a protective shield.

Bang! Bang!

Shooting out ferociously, the Sword Lotus Petals smashed into the layers of vines, sending them collapsing apart while shooting wooden splinters in all directions.

"Since I'm unable to get them, you guys will to! I'll never leave the treasures here for you!" roared Zhen Qing with a contorted expression displayed on his face. From the looks of it, he had completely lost all of his methods to deal with Luo Li's powerful attack. Therefore, the treasures present in this remnant would never end up in his hands.

Bang!

A malevolent shade flashed within Zhen Qing's eyes. With a fierce change of his hand seal, numerous blackish green rays of brilliance shot out from him, shoot straight towards the towering giant pillars within the giant hall.

Humm.

All of a sudden, ancient tree like symbols appeared on the surface of the giant pillars. Appearing exceeding radiant, those tree like symbols seemed to be alive, as incomparably berserk Spiritual Energy fluctuations swept out from them. In the next instant, fissures started to appear on their surface, before rapidly extending out.

Bang!

The tree like symbols grew increasingly radiantly. In the next instant, those giant pillars that were propping up the giant hall finally exploded completely apart.

Frightening Spiritual Energy shockwaves wreaked havoc within the giant hall akin to a hurricane. At this moment, the vines that had trapped Tang Mei'er, Zhou Yuan and the rest were smashed into bits. However, upon them extricating themselves, all of them were sent spewing out mouthfuls of blood as their bodies were swept up by the berserk hurricane present.

As this went on, the giant hall appeared to have entered a state of collapse as the surrounding space warped and distorted, As spatial fissures were torn open by the shockwaves radiating out, they proceeded to devour the bodies of Tang Mei'er and the rest.

It seemed like Zhen Qing had activated the self destruct function of this giant hall.

“Haha! All of you are about to be banished from here! Remember this, this matter isn't over! Next time, I'll repay this debt back with your blood!” growled Zhen Qing malevolently. The situation which seemed to be fully in his control had turned out into this due to the interference of Mu Chen and Luo Li. How could he not be angry and furious?

With a fierce laugh, he waved his sleeve, sending vines shooting out. As they wrapped around his four other teammates, his figure shot backwards, retreating into a spatial fissure. As for Xia Hou and his group, Zhen Qing clearly didn't have any mood to take any care about them.

Being slightly shocked by the unexpected change of events that had happened before his eyes, Mu Chen shot forwards, moving by Luo Li's side. At this moment, Xu Huang, Zhao Qingshan and Mu Fengyang had extricated themselves from the hurricane, rushing over as soon as they did.

“What should we do? It seems like this place is about to collapse.” asked Xu Huang in an urgent manner.

Hearing that, wrinkles formed on Mu Chen's forehead as he turned his gaze towards the Wooden Divine Guard within the giant hall that had been sealed by him. Clearly, that Wooden Divine Guard was the true treasure of this giant hall.

Having spent quite a bit of effort in here, he absolutely would not come off this empty-handedly!

“Bring it away!”

Mu Chen made a decisive verdict as he roared out in reply. Shooting forwards, he appeared before the Wooden Divine Guard. Grabbing onto it, he attempted to keep it into his storage bracelet, but discovered he was unable to succeed.

“Dammit!”

Mu Chen cursed in response. Looking towards the rapidly expanding spatial fissures around him, he gave a stomp, immediately activating his Lightning God's Physique. In the next instant, he grabbed hold of the Wooden Divine Guard's giant arm. From the looks of it, it appeared as though he wanted to take it away!

Creak.

The weight of this Wooden Divine Guard rivaled a mountain peak. Even with him activating his Lightning God's Physique, Mu Chen was viciously pressed down by its weight, causing beads of sweat to surface on his forehead.

Swish!

Seeing this, Luo Li, Xu Huang and the rest rapidly shot over. Extending their hands to grab hold onto the Wooden Divine Guard, they revolved their Spiritual Energy and assisted Mu Chen in hoisting the gigantic Wooden Divine Guard up.

"Let's go! Be careful!"

As the five of them held onto the Wooden Divine Guard, Mu Chen sent a grin towards the other four before taking the lead to head towards a spatial fissure.

Whoosh!

The five rushed along with the Wooden Divine Guard in tow. Eyeing the berserk Spiritual Energy fluctuations wreaking havoc in the giant hall, they rushed into a spatial fissure, rapidly disappearing from everyone's sight.

Bang! Bang!

As Mu Chen and his group disappeared within a spatial fissure, the giant hall finally reached its limits, completely collapsing apart. As the Spiritual Energy hurricane wreaked havoc in all directions, the giant hall completely disappeared into thin air...

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 489: Spoils of War

This was the stretch of a desolated mountain range, showing few signs of human habitation, with everywhere giving off a flavor of the wilderness.

Crackle!

Suddenly, at this moment, the space above this desolated mountain range started to warp and distort, before transforming into a spatial fissure. As fluctuations rippled from it, numerous figures were being miserably thrown out from within, with one gigantic figure descending like a meteor to the ground, smashing a mountain peak apart as it landed.

Stabilising himself in the air, a shiver shook through Mu Chen as Spiritual Energy rapidly burst forth from within, while he started vigilantly looking around his surroundings. Only upon discovering no presence of danger did he take a breath of relief.

In his surroundings, Luo Li and the other three from his group had also stabilised their bodies while looking at the foreign stretch of land around them. Clearly, this wasn't the place which they had took to enter the remnant they were in before.

"It seems that we've been tossed to somewhere unfamiliar by that spatial fissure," said Xu Huang as he looked towards Mu Chen.

Nodding his head in agreement, Mu Chen retrieved his Academy Plaque to take a look. After confirming their location, he gave a smile and replied, "It's alright. We're still on the same piece of the shattered continent."

"Let's take a look at our spoils of battle."

Shooting down, he descended before the Divine Wood Guard sitting within the rumble of the collapsed mountain peak. At this moment, it quietly sat at the top of the mountain, its withering wooden body sparkling with a faint luster. Faintly, one could discern a heart-palpating feeling of power radiating from within. This Divine Wood Guard still possessed extremely strong energies within it.

"If we're able to activate this Divine Wood Guard, only experts who have passed their Spiritual Energy Disaster would be able to defend against it." A slightly solemn expression appeared on Luo Li's beautiful face as she looked towards the Divine Wood Guard. If not for Mu Chen unleashing his special move to seal it, even if she collaborated with him, they might have had to pay a rather high price just to deal with it via normal attacks.

"Spiritual Energy Disaster..." Hearing that, Xu Huang, Zhao Qingshan and Mu Fengyang all quietly smacked their lips. Even within the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, where crouching tigers and hidden dragons existed, people who possessed such strength would be an extreme rarity.

Mu Chen's gaze had similarly turned slightly scorching hot. If he was truly able to control this Divine Wood Guard, it would absolutely become a huge assistance for them.

"However, this Divine Wood Guard seems to only be able to be control using that special rune. With that rune already having been refined by Zhen Qing, it wouldn't be easy for us to gain control of it," said Luo Li while slightly knitting her eyebrows.

"Since that rune has been refined by him, it naturally means that it can also be refined by us," said Mu Chen with a smile. "However, the treasure of that remnant's not only limited to this Divine Wood Guard."

Hearing that, Luo Li and the rest nodded their heads in agreement. When they had set their eyes on the Divine Wood Guard for the first time, it was still wearing mysterious wooden armor that was sparkling with glowing patterns. However, it had vanished upon being controlled by Zhen Qing. Furthermore, it also seemed that the Divine Wood Guard was holding onto a wooden plaque in its hand.

With a shift, Mu Chen appeared right before the forehead of the Divine Wood Guard. Looking towards the tree leaf rune present there, he momentarily pondered, before making a sudden grab towards the rune.

Humm! Humm!

Seemingly sensing Mu Chen's action, Spiritual Energy fluctuations immediately erupted from the rune, appearing to prevent Mu Chen from nearing it. However, its actions were clearly futile. With Zhen Qing not being here, and not being able to control the Divine Wood Guard to launch a counterattack, Mu Chen's fingers smashed through each and every Spiritual Energy ripple coming from it. Grabbing onto the tree leaf rune, he pulled it straight out from the forehead of the Divine Wood Guard.

As the tree leaf rune radiating with an ancient aura appeared within Mu Chen's hand, he sunk into deep thought as he stared towards it. He could faintly discern a Spiritual Energy brand present within the core of this rune. The Spiritual Energy fluctuations coming from it appeared to be Zhen Qing's.

This was the brand that Zhen Qing had left within the rune. By precisely relying on this, he was able to control the Divine Wood Guard.

Upon sensing this Spiritual Energy brand, Mu Chen gave a faint smile. With a tap of his finger, a jet-black flame appeared on his finger tip, before drilling right into the tree leaf rune.

Crackle!

Crackling sounds instantly erupted from the tree leaf rune. The construct of the rune's interior was exceedingly complicated. Nevertheless, being a Spiritual Array Master, Mu Chen's ability for the detailed control of his power far exceeded that of any ordinary people. Therefore, as the black flame shot into the rune, it didn't damage any of the complicated construction present within the rune. Heading straight towards the Spiritual Energy brand within, the black flame started to burn it up, bit by bit.

Wanting to remove the brand Zhen Qing had left behind wasn't an easy task to accomplish. Even with Mu Chen's ability, carefully burning it away bit-by-bit took him approximately half an hour before he was able to completely dispel Zhen Qing's Spiritual Energy brand.

After dispelling Zhen Qing's Spiritual Energy brand, the jet-black flame rapidly condensed together to form a Spiritual Energy brand, sticking right where the previous brand was.

This brand was condensed from the Nine Nether Flame. If this rune was snatched away by other people in the future, once they try to wipe this brand away, this clump of Nine Nether Flame would explode and completely destroy the rune.

Clearly, Mu Chen's move was much more brilliant than Zhen Qing's execution.

Having branded the rune, Mu Chen played around with it in his hand. After being controlled by him, the rune started to radiate with faint rays of brilliance. In its entirety, this brilliance appeared slightly dim. Furthermore, he was also able to sense that there seemed to be some damage present within this tree leaf rune.

"It was damaged by me, huh."

Mu Chen muttered to himself. When Zhen Qing had snatched this tree leaf rune, it was attacked by Mu Chen himself. Clearly, the damage was dealt then. Due to that, this slightly damaged rune wasn't able to perfectly control the Divine Wood Guard. If not, sealing the Divine Wood Guard wouldn't be that easy as he had did before.

Feeling regretful, Mu Chen shook his head. From the looks of it, the only idea he could think of was to attempt to see if he could repair this rune. Furthermore, he had also discovered that this rune couldn't be used forever. Every single time this rune was activated, it seemed as if some of the energies within it would get consumed. When all of those energies were drained dry, this rune should completely lose its use.

At that time, Mu Chen would not be able to control this Divine Wood Guard anymore.

Mu Chen gave a helpless smile. From the looks of it, even though he had obtained this Divine Wood Guard, he wouldn't be able to use it brazenly without any fear.

After refining the rune, some changes once again appeared on the Divine Wood Guard before him. At this moment, rays of brilliance sparkled on its withering wooden body as a greenish-tinged wooden armor appeared. Exceedingly complicated glowing patterns appeared on the surface of the wooden armor as exceedingly powerful fluctuations could be faintly discerned as they started to radiate.

Clearly, this greenish wooden armor was a Peerless Rank Spiritual Artifact that possessed exceedingly tyrannical defensive capabilities.

Grasping her Luo God Sword, Luo Li sent a wave of Sword Aura shooting out that was thrust towards the wooden armor. However, this time, the incomparably fierce Sword Aura was only able to leave a faint scar on its surface. Furthermore, not long after its appearance, rays of brilliance blossomed from the greenish wooden armor, before the scar started to slowly get repaired.

Seeing this, astonishment and amazement appeared in the eyes of Mu Chen, Xu Huang and the rest. This greenish wooden armor actually possessed an auto-recovery capability...

"Truly worthy of a Peerless Rank Spiritual Artifact." Xu Huan and the other two sighed in admiration. If they were able to possess such a formidable defensive Spiritual Item, even people who had passed their Human Body Disaster would not be able to harm them.

"If Zhen Qing was able to summon this greenish wooden armor when he was in control of the Divine Wood Guard, things wouldn't have been as easy as before," said Luo Li in shock. She was all too clear about the sharpness of her Luo God Sword. Although she still wasn't able to truly activate her Luo God Sword, the defensive capability of this greenish wooden armor was truly exceedingly tyrannical.

Hearing that, Mu Chen nodded his head. From the looks of it, due to him having damaged the rune that controlled the Divine Wood Guard, Zhen Qing was unable to rely on it to unleash the greatest and strongest might of the Divine Wood Guard. In fact, he wasn't even able to summon this greenish wooden armor out.

With a flick of his finger, the rune in his hand shot out once again towards the forehead of the Divine Wood Guard. As the rune slowly sunk in, a mysterious feeling of connection gushed into Mu Chen's mind. At this moment, it appeared as if he was able to control the Divine Wood Guard with a single thought.

Staring at the greenish wooden armor present on the body of the Divine Wood Guard, a grin broke out from Mu Chen. With a thought, the greenish wooden armor transformed into a ray of light as it left the Divine Wood Guard, before finally landing on Mu Chen's palm.

Since the rune was already damaged, even if he could control the Divine Wood Guard, there was no way for him to allow the Divine Wood Guard to use the armor to increase its combat prowess. Since that was the case, why not take it off, right?

"Let Luo Li have this greenish wooden armor. With her Luo God Sword, her offensive capability is above me, and it just so happened that she lacks a defensive Spiritual Item. Now, with her defense on par with her offense, it would provide the greatest rise in combat capability for our group," explained Mu Chen

as he looked towards Xu Huang and the other two. This wasn't him being biased towards her. However, this greenish wooden armor was a defense Spiritual Artifact that reached the level of Peerless Rank, and indeed, Luo Li was the most suitable one to use it. As for himself, with his fleshly body being that tyrannical, and possessing astonishing defensive capabilities, this greenish wooden armor would only serve as a decorative ornament.

Hearing his explanation, Xu Huang and the other two smiled and nodded their heads, with all of them having no opinion towards that decision. That's because they were extremely clear that as of now, Mu Chen and Luo Li possessed the strongest combat capabilities within their group. As long as nothing happened to the two of them, their group would be safe.

Blinking as she opened her eyes wide open, Luo Li looked over to see Mu Chen handing the greenish armor over to her. With a soul-stirringly gentle smile, she didn't reject his offer, and extended her hand to accept it. As of now, she really needed a Spiritual Item with powerful defensive capabilities. Only with it would she be able to focus her attention on displaying the astonishingly powerful offensive capabilities of the Luo God Sword.

After handing the greenish wooden armor to Luo Li, Mu Chen's gaze turned towards the other item held in the hand of the Divine Wood Guard.

That was a greenish wooden plaque approximately a foot long, with exceedingly complicated inscriptions covering its surface. At this moment, mysterious and abstruse fluctuations could be faintly discerned as they radiated from it.

Staring at the greenish wooden plaque, a peculiar sensation started to appear within his heart. Somehow, he felt that between the Divine Wood Guard, the greenish wooden armor and this greenish wooden plaque, it seemed like the latter was the most important treasure of the trio...

[The Great Ruler](#)

Chapter 490: Harvest

The greenish wood plaque quietly hovered in the gigantic palm of the Divine Wood Guard. Giving off an ancient feeling, abstruse inscriptions covered its surface, sparkling with faint rays of brilliance, causing it to appear somewhat mysterious.

Mu Chen focused his gaze closer towards the greenish wood plaque. In the next instant, he slowly extended his palm to grab ahold of it.

Humm!

However, just as it was about to be grabbed by Mu Chen, dazzling greenish rays of brilliance erupted from the greenish wood plaque. As the rays of brilliance radiated out, soft grass started to grow from the barren ground in their surroundings. In the next instant, powerful energies started to radiate from the wooden plaque, preventing Mu Chen's hand from coming close to it.

Seeing this, wrinkles started to appear on Mu Chen's forehead, as he could sense the powerful obstruction posed by the energies coming from the wooden plaque. Even with him summoning forth all of the Spiritual Energy within his body, he was unexpectedly still unable to break through the layers of greenish halos around the wooden plaque.

“Hmph!”

As both parties continued the stalemate for a while, a cold snort rang out of Mu Chen’s mouth, before, suddenly, black rays of lightning light surfaced from his body. He had immediately activated his Lightning God’s Physique, causing black rays of lightning light to encase his palm, which he sent fiercely patting down once again.

Crackle!

As the lightning light made contact with the greenish rays of brilliance, the latter instantly shook violently. Appearing as if it had met with its nemesis, it retreated back. Due to the process of cultivating his Lightning God’s Physique, Mu Chen was tempered countless times by the Divine Black Lightning. This had lead to the light of the Divine Black Lightning to surface from his body every time he activated his Lightning God’s Physique. From the looks of it, the energies present on the surface of the wooden plaque appeared to be exceedingly pure and powerful. However, this energy just so happened to be restrained by the Divine Black Lightning.

As layer after layer of the greenish glowing halos were dissipated by the lightning light, Mu Chen’s palm broke through the remaining layers of energies around the greenish wood plaque, before quickly grasping onto it within his palm.

Humm!Humm!

At the instant when it landed in his hands, a ray of green light suddenly shot from it, shooting right towards Mu Chen’s forehead at lightning speed.

Naturally, Mu Chen had sensed this ray of green light. However, he was able to sense no attacking intent from this ray of green light, which resulted in him not obstructing its path.

As the ray of green light struck against Mu Chen’s forehead, it rapidly merged within. At the same time, ancient messages suddenly erupted from within his mind, appearing akin to ancient drawings. From them, Mu Chen could make out a stretch of ancient palaces. Those palaces were even more gigantic than the one present in the remnant they were just in. Furthermore, all of them were constructed from the same kind of special wood, which appeared to be weak and frail, but in reality was incomparably tough and resilient.

This was a stretch of a rather ancient gigantic remnant.

Within the interior of this remnant, even the sky appeared emerald green, with giant trees towering thousands and thousands of metres high into the skies, breaking through the layers of clouds. All of them were radiating with verdant vitality, with vast and boundless Spiritual Energies undulating within this stretch of the world, forming layers of emerald-greenish clouds within the skies.

As picture after picture quickly flashed within Mu Chen’s mind, he was able to sense how gigantic and extensive this remnant was, something that caused shock and astonishment to grow within him. An influence capable to leaving behind such an extensive and gigantic remnant definitely had to be an Overlord-level existence that ruled over a stretch of the world in ancient times.

This was the genuine and entirety of the ancient remnant.

There definitely had to be the existence of the ancient inheritance there!

Comparatively, the remnant they were in just earlier simply paled in comparison.

While Mu Chen was still reeling in shock, the pictures continued to flash by, now presently, a mountain peak was surrounded by clouds. Countless rays of beautiful brilliance radiated from it. If one was to take a closer look, one would discover that there were various kinds of heaven and earth treasures growing within each clump of brilliance. These heavenly treasures absorbed the Spiritual Aura from the world and radiated with incomparably pure Spiritual Energy fluctuations. Taking a cursory sweep with his gaze, Mu Chen discovered that there were quite a few rather precious heavenly treasures present there. These items were more than sufficient to cause the eyes of countless people to turn red.

This seemed to be a treasure mountain!

Turning his gaze towards the highest position of the mountain peak, Mu Chen discovered dazzling rays of brilliance radiating from there, appearing akin to the scorching sun. Raising his gaze, his vision grew increasing clear as he discovered a stretch of reddish-yellow approximately a thousand square metres in diameter present there, with no other heavenly treasures present there.

However, at the very top of the mountain peak was a plant gently swaying in the breeze.

This plant was very much shaped like a Lingzhi. Yet compared to an ordinary Lingzhi, which has only one petal, it had nine. Furthermore, its flower petals weren't of the shape of Lingzhi, but approximately a metre wide scorching and glowing clumps. Those clumps of light radiated with endless brightness, illuminating the heaven and earth akin to a group of nine scorching suns.

As the frightening rays of brilliance continued to radiate out, even more frightening Spiritual Energy fluctuations rippled from its centre, ones that would cause people's hearts to palpitate.

At this moment, Mu Chen's gaze was firmly locked-on this unique Lingzhi, while unconcealable ecstasy and joy gushed from his heart.

"That's actually the Nine Suns Divine Lingzhi..."

A low mutter rang out within his heart with ecstasy and happiness surging from within. Who would have guessed that he would actually be able to find one of the three unique treasures required to cultivate the "Great Solar Undying Body", the Nine Suns Divine Lingzhi.

Three unique treasures were required for the cultivation of the "Great Solar Undying Body" with all three of them being exceedingly rare and precious items. Even Sovereign realm existences would be moved by such treasures. Mu Chen wasn't even able to obtain the slightest bit of information about those three treasures from the Spiritual Treasures Hall of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, something which made him feel somewhat impatient. Although his cultivation was only at the realm of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase, he still needed to plan for the future. If not, on the day he would be promoted to the Sovereign Realm, due to the lack of those treasures, he would be unable to cultivate such a powerful Sovereign Celestial Body. How anxious would that make him?

However, Mu Chen also knew that those three treasures were too precious. Wanting to collect all three of them would not be an easy task to accomplish. Therefore, it had made him that emotional upon discovering a Nine Suns Divine Lingzhi.

As the huge volumes of ancient information rushed into his mind, they gradually disappeared away. At this moment, his faintly closed eyes started to open, though the remnants of joy was still present on his handsome face.

“How is it?” asked Luo Li with a slight presence of doubt in her voice. It was extremely rare for her to see such a joyous expression stay on Mu Chen’s face.

“This time, we’ve really picked up a treasure,” said Mu Chen after taking a deep breath. As a smile surfaced on his face, he waved the wooden plaque in his hands, before continuing to speak. “I believe that Zhen Qing’s true goal might not be that Divine Wood Guard, but this...”

Hearing that, Xu Huang and the rest proceeded to look over in doubt.

“The ancient remnant that we’ve entered earlier should be a remnant of an ancient sect by the name of the “Divine Wood Palace” from the Ancient Antiquity. However, that isn’t the true remnant of the Divine Wood Palace. In fact, it could only be said to be an extremely small portion of it. As for the genuine and entirety of the remnants of the Divine Wood Palace, they were right inside this wooden plaque.”

Hearing that, Xu Huang and the rest could not help opening their eyes wide. The remnant they were just inside of was actually only an extremely small part of the remnants left behind from the Divine Wood Palace?

Just a small portion of it was already that captivatingly huge. Exactly how many astonishing treasures were present in the genuine location of the remnants of the Divine Wood Palace?

“Where is the location of the Divine Wood Palace’s Remnants?” Xu Huang could not help asking.

“It will lead the way for us,” replied Mu Chen with a faint smile. Wrinkling his forehead, he proceeded to say, “However, it seems that the sub-remnant that we were in just now isn’t on the same piece of the shattered continent as the main location. Therefore, we can’t eliminate the possibility that there are other groups that have similarly obtained the same information as us. Furthermore, those groups would naturally be the elite amongst the elite. At that time, if we’re to rush into the remnants of the Divine Woodem Palace, the opponents we will have to face might be even stronger than Xia Hou or Zhen Qing.”

Hearing that, the faces of Xu Huang, Zhao Qingshan and Mu Fengyang instantly turned solemn. This time, their encounter with Xia Hou, Zhen Qing and their groups was already dangerous and life-threatening for them. If the groups they would meet with were even stronger, their contributions to their group’s overall combat prowess would lead to impending disaster. After all, the strongest people in their group were only Mu Chen and Luo Li. As for the three of them, they were indistinctly already holding the group back.

“For the next period of time, we will temporarily not have any other plans. With here being quite desolate, its suitable for us to train and cultivate. Therefore...” Looking towards Xu Huang and the other two, Mu Chen said in a slow manner, “We’ll close up here awhile. We have to increase our strength.”

The ones that needed to increase their strength weren’t only Xu Huang and the other two. In fact, Mu Chen himself had to make another breakthrough. As of now, the pace of Great Spiritual Academy Tournament was gradually ramping up. As they proceeded on, there would be no lack of various kinds of

formidable groups that would emerge. Coupled with the various ancient remnants present in this shattered continent, no one could be sure of which group that would obtain such a large opportunity. Such a chance would allow for them to drastically increase their strength and show disdain to the masses.

Faced with such a scenario, with his cultivation only at the realm of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase, it was not sufficient for him to feel absolutely confident for the challenges he would face in the future. Although he had obtained the final victory in his fight with Xia Hou, it had consumed much of his strength and energy in doing so. All in all, it was due to him only being at the realm of Heavenly Completion Stage Late Phase, which did not allow for him to perfectly control his abilities in a confrontation with an expert that had passed his Spiritual Energy Disaster.

Therefore, the current him needed to start making his breakthrough and pass through the first of the three Sovereign Disasters, the Human Body Disaster!

Hearing that, Xu Huang and the other two fiercely nodded their heads in agreement. The fight Mu Chen and Luo Li had with Xia Hou, Zhen Qing and their groups had caused them to feel guilty. With the "Divine Immortal Fruit" that they had obtained in the remnant and the protection it offered, they would be able to attempt their Human Body Disaster. If they were to succeed, it would result in a great increase of the combat capability of their group. At the very least, Mu Chen and Luo Li wouldn't need to divert too much attention to protect them anymore.

Looking at the solemn expressions on the faces of the trio, Mu Chen gave a laugh. Tightly grasping the ancient wooden plaque in his hand, his gaze turned peculiar, because when he had obtained all that information, he had also obtained something that made his heart move.

That was a Divine Art that was carved within the wooden plaque.

Lesser Divine Art, Heavenly Divine Wood Wheel.