

## Great Ruler 591

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#### Chapter 591: Smashing his way through

The black Spiritual Energy appeared like a black screen in the sky as it flickered with a cold luster as it soared. Powerful Spiritual Energy pressure swept out as if it was trying to set off a tornado in this region.

Everyone was dumbstruck as they watched the scene before them since they could sense how powerful that black Spiritual Energy was. They found it too hard to believe that Mu Chen could still exhibit such strength even in his current state.

Fang Yun was also looking at the vast and mighty black Spiritual Energy with a little shock in his eyes.

“Damn it!”

Fang Yun heavily clenched his teeth. Originally, he had planned to take action while Mu Chen’s state wasn’t good and seize his Academy Plaque. However, who could have expected that even after so many battles, Mu Chen could still exhibit such strength?

However, there was no way he could retreat at this point in time.

Boom!

Fang Yun’s gaze grew cold as he changed his hand seals, causing the titanic bronze hand to ferociously slam down.

Mu Chen still wore an indifferent expression as he flicked his finger. The powerful Spiritual Energy swept out like several tidal waves as it clashed against the bronze hand.

Boom!

Terrifying Spiritual Energy shock waves were sent spreading out as if it was scraping a tornado on the horizon, trying to tear apart the heavens and earth along with a humming noise.

The bronze palm was rapidly falling apart from the black Spiritual Energy. In the end, it was reduced to nothing from the layers of Spiritual Energy impact.

Mu Chen’s expression was calm as he glanced at the spike forest. The trees in the forest had already withered as if it was drained of Spiritual Energy.

He had executed the Divine Wood Scripture earlier. Obviously, the might of this Divine Wood Scripture was more tyrannical compared to the one he used when he faced Ji Xuan.

This wasn’t because Mu Chen’s strength had grown in just a few days, it was because he was drawing power from ordinary trees before and, right now, he was drawing power from those spike trees...

It was a rare species of Spiritual Trees that had absorbed Spiritual Energy between this heaven and earth for a long time, allowing those spike trees to possess a certain level of destructive power. If those spikes on the spike trees were used as weapons, it was easy to penetrate through mountains and shatter stones by injecting Spiritual Energy into them.

The Spiritual Energy that was contained in those spike trees was more powerful compared to ordinary trees. Therefore, when Mu Chen displayed the Divine Wood Scripture, he could draw out such powerful Spiritual Energy.

Mu Chen's hand seals changed after destroying the bronze palm with these tidal waves of black Spiritual Energy. A faint voice rang out in his heart, "Divine Wheel of the Heavenly Wood!"

Buzzzzz!

Torrential waves of Spiritual Energy rapidly gathered as it turned into a colossal black light wheel the size of a few hundred meters under the countless gazes.

An Ice-cold luster was flickering at the corner of the light wheel. The sharpness of it looked as if it could shred the space apart.

Clearly, the power of this Divine Wheel of the Heavenly Wood was more powerful compared to the time he used it on Ji Xuan!

Fang Yun also realized the terrifying might contained within the black wheel as his face changed.

Whooooooooosh!

At the same time, Mu Chen pointed his finger down, causing the wheel to start frantically spinning. In the next instant, it turned into a black light that could not be perceived through the naked-eyes as it made its way towards Fang Yun.

Bang! Bang!

The blurred black light streaked across the horizon, causing faint tears in the space that the black light had passed through.

"Divine Cauldron Art - Divine Cauldron Wall!"

At the sight of it, Fang Yun's gaze turned a lot more heavy as he changed his hand seals, pressing down with his hand on the space before him.

Boom!

Powerful Spiritual Energy swept out as it instantly expanded before Fang Yun. It had turned into a cauldron light wall with the size of a few hundred meters. Bronze color filled the light wall, making it look indestructible.

Boom!

When the cauldron light wall took shape, the black light wheel had already flown over at lightning speed. In the instant, it clashed, ear-piercing metallic ringing rang out in this horizon.

Creak! Creak!

The black wheel was spinning at a rapid speed, exhibiting the astonishing sharpness of the Spiritual Energy. Cracks started to appear on the surface of the cauldron wall and began to spread out.

The black wheel was even sharper than when Mu Chen had used it earlier. Even experts like Fang Yun would have his scalp tingling from the sharpness of it.

Fang Yun's face turned ugly from the rapid spreading of the cracks.

"Break!"

Mu Chen's slender fingers pointed down once again along with a faint voice. The rotation speed of the black wheel rapidly increased at a terrifying speed and with an earth-shattering noise, the cauldron wall was penetrated.

Boom!

The cauldron wall shattered as it turned into fragments, raining down from the sky.

Despite penetrating through the cauldron wall, the power of the wheel wasn't lessened as it was still approaching its target, Fang Yun!

"Damn it!"

Fang Yun's expression paled as he never expected Mu Chen's attack to suddenly be so powerful. He had not seen Mu Chen use such a powerful wheel when he faced Ji Xuan. However, he was certain that this wheel was more powerful compared to the previous one!

The discovery made Fang Yun extremely depressed. *Mu Chen had gone easy when he faced off with Ji Xuan? Otherwise, why would the same attack with the same strength suddenly get so powerful?*

Rustle!

As thoughts circulated in Fang Yun's heart, his figure was already mysteriously retreating as he attempted to dodge the wheel's attack

However, he had clearly belittled the speed of the wheel. No matter how much he tried to dodge, the black wheel was like a shadow following his body, not allowing him to break away from it.

"Since you want to go at it, then pay the price for it." Mu Chen's gaze was cold as he watched Fang Yun, who was trying to constantly dodge. His hand seals changed as the speed of the wheel exploded, appearing before Fang Yun in a flash as it slashed down. The sharpness of it even tore the space apart.

"Bastard!" Shock filled Fang Yun's eyes as he gritted his teeth. Willing it in his heart, the Dragon-Tiger Cauldron that was suppressing the Black Tortoise Seal abruptly shot back to his direction.

Roar!

A dragon and tiger roar rang out as the Dragon-Tiger Cauldron dissolved into bronze liquid, flickering with spiritual light, as it engulfed Fang Yun's body.

Fang Yun turned into a bronze statue as the bronze liquid engulfed his entire body.

The black wheel ferociously slashed down as it hacked against Fang Yun's body.

Boom!

Ear-piercing clashes rang out across the horizon as Fang Yun's figure was sent flying back, heavily slamming against a mountain peak. The peak was unable to bear the impact as it exploded and Fang Yun's body was deeply embedded into the body of the mountain.

Hisssss!

Far away, those teams that were watching the battle involuntarily sucked a mouthful of chilled air as disbelief filled their eyes. It was beyond their expectations that Mu Chen was able to suppress Fang Yun with his current state.

*Just how frightening is that fellow!*

Mu Chen looked at Fang Yun, who was embedded in the mountain, before shifting his gaze to his teammates. When they saw his glance, they tacitly understood as they flew out, charging towards the direction of the spike tree forest.

The faces of Fang Yun's teammates slightly changed as they attempted to obstruct them.

Boom!

However, just when they were about to move, Mu Chen's figure mysteriously appeared before them. He had an indifferent expression, which made the four retreat in an instant with fear and respect filling their eyes.

Not even their Captain could obstruct Mu Chen. Although they weren't weak, they weren't so daring to attack Mu Chen.

When they hesitated, Shen Cangsheng and the other three had already entered the forest and disappeared into the shadows with a few flickers.

Mu Chen felt relief in his heart at the sight of that. Shen Cangsheng and the other three had the Array Plate that was made by him and thus, they were able to neglect the effect of the Sealing Spiritual Array. Inside the forest, they still retained their abilities to use their Spiritual Energy, whereas those that intrude in the forest would have their Spiritual Energy taken away from them. As long as they made it to the forest, all threats would disappear.

Boom!

Huge stones shattered in the mountain body as a sorry-looking figure soared into the sky. Fang Yun was covered in dirt as he reappeared. At this current moment, his face was ashen, but he still had bronze covering his body. However, there were fine cracks in his chest area.

Mu Chen's gaze involuntarily narrowed at the sight of it. The attack that he previous unleashed could even gravely wound a Third Grade Spirit Disaster expert and right now, aside from looking a little bad, Fang Yun did not suffer any injuries.

"What a formidable Dragon-Tiger Cauldron."

Mu Chen sighed inwardly as he knew that the reason why Fang Yun was able to appear uninjured was due to the protection of the Dragon-Tiger Cauldron. A Divine Artifact was indeed a Divine Spiritual

Artifact. It was tough for even Third Grade Spiritual Disaster experts to pose a huge threat to Fang Yun with the defensive capabilities of that treasure.

“Mu Chen!”

Fang Yun’s face was still pale as the bronze liquid wiggled on his body, before returning to the shape of the Dragon-Tiger Cauldron. He ferociously stared at Mu Chen. Clearly, he never thought that a task he had deemed so easy to be so problematic.

Mu Chen’s gaze was indifferent as he looked at Fang Yun. With a clench of his fist, the Black Tortoise Seal returned to his sleeve as his body moved. In a few flickers, his figure had mysteriously appeared outside the forest.

He arrived at the edge of the forest as he halted his steps. He turned his head as he smiled indifferently at Fang Yun, whose face remained ashen, “If you still haven’t had enough, then follow me. I will keep you company.”

Fang Yun tightly clenched his fist but he did not dare to follow as he knew that this region was a little strange. The moment he went in, his Spiritual Energy would disappear.

“Thanks for entertaining me. If there’s a chance, I will definitely return it back.”

A sneer rose from Mu Chen’s lips as he waved his hand towards Fang Yun with his back facing the latter and made his steps into the forest as shadows engulfed his figure.

“Bastard!”

Fang Yun heavily gritted his teeth and could only give up in disheartened. Those teams that were observing from far away were also sighing in regret.

Mu Chen was simply too powerful.

However, they were unaware that the instant Mu Chen stepped into the shadows, his face had instantly turned pale and even his hand was trembling. The Spiritual Energy in his body was violently surging at this instance.

Mu Chen’s black pupils seemed to be blazing with fire as he lightly pulled the corner of his lips. He knew the reason for this abnormality...

His Spirit Disaster was coming.

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### **Chapter 592: Spirit Disaster**

Within the dark forest, the ancient palace still remained as Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton and the other two quietly sat down with their legs crossed. Their faces were a little pale since the Spiritual Energy ripples around their bodies were exceptionally weak at this moment.

Clearly, they exhausted too much of their Spiritual Energy.

Mu Chen stood outside the Hidden Spiritual Courtyard as he took a glance at the tightly shut gate. The previous time he was here, the Courtyard Spirit had appeared. However, it did not make its appearance

this time as the entire Hidden Spiritual Courtyard looked ordinary at this moment and entry was no longer possible.

Mu Chen held his chest as a fiery blaze flared within his eyes. His entire body was in a high temperature to the point that even his Spiritual Energy showed signs of igniting.

This was a sign that the Spirit Disaster was coming.

“Mu Chen are you alright?” As a girl, Su Xuan was more attentive as she instantly noticed that Mu Chen’s body was slightly trembling and thus, she went up to support him. However, the instant she came in contact with Mu Chen’s skin, she was instantly startled by the temperature.

“Nothing much, my Spirit Disaster is coming.”

Mu Chen waved his hand as he sat down at the gate of the Hidden Spiritual Courtyard. He then shifted his glance towards Shen Cangsheng and the rest as he said, “It is impossible to use Spiritual Energy in this forest. However, with the Jade Plates that I have given to you guys, you will be able to neglect the effects of this region.”

“Although we are safe for the moment, we will split ourselves into groups of two to alternate our rest for insurance. To prevent any disturbances to us.”

Shen Cangsheng and the rest nodded in agreement to his words.

“Furthermore, here are four drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. When you guys recover your strength, try to refine them. Perhaps they will be beneficial.” Mu Chen flicked with his fingers as four drops of crystal liquid flew towards the direction of Shen Cangsheng and the other three.

The four of them hastily received them with a stretch of their hand. They stared at the crystal liquid that was hovering on their palms as joy surged from the depths of their eyes. Obviously, they had sensed the vast Spiritual Energy contained in that Sovereign Spiritual Liquid.

They had already reached a bottleneck in their cultivation. If they could refine this Sovereign Spiritual Liquid, they might be able to take another step forth.

Mu Chen looked at the four of them, who were filled with joy, as he lightly smiled and became thoroughly relieved in his heart. Heavy exhaustion surged from his heart as he slowly closed his eyes and his mind sank into his body.

He had to prepare for the Spirit Disaster.

When Mu Chen’s mind sank into his body and into the Aura Sea, he saw his Spirit quietly seated in his Aura Sea with an enormous spiritual light loop that looked like a planet ring. It was placed beneath his Spirit as it slowly circulated, the scene was magnificent.

In this instance, his Spirit was different from how it was before. The high temperature was spreading from this Spirit as it looked like it would burst into flames at any moment, combusting his Spirit into nothingness.

This was a sign of Spirit Flames gathering.

The Spirit Flames were flames that were born from within the Spirit. These sorts of flames were harmless to the physical body but were extremely fatal for Spirits. The moment he wasn't able to endure the fire, there was a high chance that his Spirit would be burnt to dust.

In the path of cultivation, the Spirit gathered the three energies of the human body. Thus, it was the most important part. If the Spirit was destroyed, not only would the person's cultivation path be ruined, his consciousness would also fade away, leaving behind a body with no consciousness, which was similar to a puppet.

In the Three Sovereign Disasters, the Spirit Disaster was undoubtedly the most dangerous trial amongst them all. The slightest error would cause the Spirit to be destroyed and there was no way of saving it.

Thus, even Mu Chen did not dare to be careless in this tribulation.

Huuuuuuu.

He sucked in a mouthful of air in his heart as he willed his mind, sinking into his Spirit bit-by-bit. In the instant when Mu Chen's mind sank into his Spirit, the scorching blaze that was wrapped around his Spirit made him involuntarily jolt.

The acute pain started to spread.

The tiny hands of Mu Chen's Spirit slowly formed into cultivation seals as it started to devour the Spiritual Energy between the heavens and earth. After the Spiritual Energy passed through his meridians and was refined, it was injected into his Aura Sea and, thereafter, was absorbed by the small mouth of his Spirit.

Sssssssi tssssssiii.

As more and more Spiritual Energy was devoured by his Spirit, the temperature around his Spirit increased, causing the scorching pain to become even more intense.

Tsssssssiiii!

As the scorching pain grew stronger, the surface of Mu Chen's Spirit suddenly turned sparkling. Thereafter, a tiny flame started to gather.

The tiny flame was sparkling and translucent, it was like a flame of glass. However, the tiny flame was the cause for his Spirit to violently tremble.

His tiny face on the Spirit was twisted from the pain, his hand that was used to form the cultivation seals was constantly trembling. An indescribable pain spread from the Spirit, the pain was similar to his soul burning.

Tsssssssiiii siiii.

More sparkling flames appeared on the surface of his Spirit as time passed. In just half an hour, Mu Chen's Spirit was already engulfed by the flames.

His Spirit was engulfed by the sparkling flames in his Aura Sea. Although looking from afar, those sparkling flames didn't appear to be dangerous, but Mu Chen knew that he was in an extremely dangerous position right now.

Compared to facing Ji Xuan and Fang Yun, the danger was way far higher. The slightest mistake at this moment would cause him to pay the price that he would not be able to bear.

However, despite the heart-piercing pain, Mu Chen still carried on with his teeth clenched, since there wasn't any other way for him. This was the tribulation that every cultivator had to experience in order to ascend the realm of Sovereigns.

Only through these stages of pain, can he break open the cocoon and evolve into a butterfly, taking the step to Sovereign Realm and become a genuine expert that everyone would respect in the Great Thousand World!

As time passed, the figure of Mu Chen's Spirit became blurred, bit-by-bit, as the pain was devouring his consciousness. However, regardless of how the acute pain impacted him, he still retains his last bit of consciousness. The tiny hands of the Spirit still maintained the cultivation seals without wavering.

Right now, he had to endure it, no matter what.

One day had passed under his bitter endurance from the pain.

After one day of rest, Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton and the other two had recovered their strength. Both their Spiritual Energy and mind were recovered to their peaks, no longer having any weak sensations from before.

When the four of them recovered to their peak conditions, they understood that Mu Chen was in his most crucial moments of breaking through to Spirit Disaster, from the pain shown on his face.

Thus, they set aside their own cultivation for the time being as they enhanced their senses, chased away those teams who were not giving up and snuck into the forest.

Based on the Jade Plate that Mu Chen had given them, they could casually use their Spiritual Energy in here. Whereas those teams that had entered this forest had their Spiritual Energy suppressed. Faced with Sheng Cangsheng's team of four, they weren't able to put up any resistance.

Two days passed under their protection.

Outside the Hidden Spiritual Courtyard, Mu Chen's figure quietly sat like a boulder, not moving a single jolt.

Shen Cangsheng and the other three were spread around him as they stood on those towering trees. Their gazes were sharp with alertness as they constantly looked around.

"Mu Chen has still not passed through his Spirit Disaster..." Other than being alert about their surroundings, Shen Cangsheng said helplessly as he took the time to take a glance at Mu Chen.

"Back then, when we were going through our Spirit Disaster, we only took four days. However, judging from Mu Chen's current state, his time might take longer compared to us." Li Xuanton lightly nodded



his head. Under ordinary circumstances, the Spirit Disaster took the shortest time amongst the Three Sovereign Disasters. However, the danger in it was the highest in comparison.

“This fellow is getting more and more powerful now.” Shen Cangsheng bitterly smiled. Ever since they entered the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, their strengths had also soared. Right now, he and Li Xuantong already had the capability to give Second Grade Spirit Disaster a go. Even amongst the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, their strengths were considered top. However, when comparing themselves to Mu Chen, they seemed a little lacking.

Li Xuantong softly sighed as his gaze became a little complicated. He never imagined that the Freshmen that once received three of his moves would surpass him at a speed that he could not catch up to in just two years.

“Luo Li’s eyesight is truly great.” Li Xuantong bitterly commented. Back then, he rejected Luo Li’s choice because Mu Chen didn’t possess the qualification to match her. But the truth made him understand that the ordinary youth whom he had considered back then had stepped out of the ordinary, sharpened on the grindstone as he displayed his brilliant character.

Seeing the bitter smile on Li Xuantong’s charming face, Shen Cangsheng patted the former’s shoulders to comfort him.

Whoooooosh.

Li Xuantong replied with a shake of his head and just when he was about to speak, his gaze suddenly changed and he shifted his sight forward. There were sounds of whistling wind coming from that direction. Furthermore, what made him even more startled was that there were Spiritual Energy ripples from that whistling wind sound.

*There was someone actually capable of using Spiritual Energy in this forest?*

Li Xuantong and Shen Cangsheng exchanged a glance as their gazes turned heavy. Thereafter, they made a hand sign, calling Su Xuan and Xu Huang over. Together, the four of them fixed their gazes towards the dark tree shadows.

The whistling wind became even more rushed and two figures appeared from the shadows, flashing at the speed of lightning.

When the two figures appeared, Shen Cangsheng’s group of four felt a heavy relief as unconcealable joy appeared on their faces.

The two figures were Luo Li and Wen Qingxuan.

They knew that the moment those two appeared, they would be absolutely safe. In the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, not even Ji Xuan could bring harm to Mu Chen under the protection of those two.

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### **Chapter 593: Queen Luo shows her Might**

When Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton and the rest saw the two girls, unconcealable joy surged on their faces. They had been on the edge guarding Mu Chen for the past few days, fearing that someone would come and disturb Mu Chen's cultivation.

The moment Luo Li came, her crystal-clear pupils were looking at Mu Chen, who was in his cultivating state. Her worrying expression that she had on her face gradually loosened.

"He's undergoing the Spirit Disaster?" Wen Qingxuan, however, looked at Mu Chen in astonishment as she felt the bizarre ripples.

Shen Cangsheng and the rest nodded their heads.

"Are you guys alright?" Luo Li enquired.

Shen Cangsheng and the rest nodded their heads as they bitterly smiled, "It's thanks to Mu Chen for finding this place. Otherwise, it would be hard for us to retreat. That Fang Yun isn't an easy opponent, the Divine Artifact in his possession was extremely strong. Mu Chen had paid a certain price and thus, we were able to retreat here. Precisely so, his Spirit Disaster is more dangerous."

Generally speaking, those undergoing their Spirit Disaster all had their conditions restored to their peak. However, Mu Chen had undergone a battle with Fang Yun and thus, he had to undergo his Spirit Disaster when his condition wasn't at his best.

"Fang Yun." A smear of chill appeared in Luo Li's pupils. Clearly, she was enraged.

"It was probably Ji Xuan's instructions for Fang Yun to attack Mu Chen. The scheme of that fellow runs too deep. He used all sorts of methods to obstruct us to give Fang Yun time to deal with Mu Chen." Wen Qingxuan spoke as well with a cold expression.

Shen Cangsheng and the rest nodded at their words, before taking a glance at Mu Chen and continued, "We have no idea how long Mu Chen will take. It seems like Ji Xuan will once again pull apart the difference in points that we did so much to pull closer in this period of time."

Right now, their points were Rank 3 with roughly 110,000 points. Ji Xuan still remained Numero Uno with nearly 140,000 points. If Mu Chen was going to take a few days, the gap between them would only grow bigger to the point that it could no longer be recovered.

Luo Li fell into her own thoughts. Right now, the battle between Mu Chen and Ji Xuan had the attention of everyone and she did not want others to look down on Mu Chen.

"Qingxuan, I would like you to stay here for a few days until Mu Chen passes through his Spirit Disaster." Luo Li softly said as she looked at Wen Qingxuan after a brief moment of pondering.

"What about you?" Wen Qingxuan was startled as she asked.

"I will leave with them for the time being. At the very least, I would like to maintain the gap." Luo Li lightly smiled as she continued, "But, naturally, I will give you half of the points I obtain to make up for your loss."

“Only guys like them would fight head-over-heels for the rank.” Wen Qingxuan cast her lips aside as she continued, “Rest assured. No matter what, Mu Chen has helped me before in the past. Thus, I will naturally help him as well.”

“Thank you for that.” Luo Li responded with a faint smile.

When Shen Cangsheng heard that Luo Li was intending to bring them out, they were a little dumbfounded. Although they knew that Luo Li wasn't as simple as she looked, they still thought of her as a girl in their hearts. And, at this timing, they felt a little ashamed that a girl like Luo Li had to hold up the barrier amongst them.

“Rest assured, the team leading under Luo Li won't be any weaker than Mu Chen.” Li Xuantong, however, smiled. Although Luo Li had never displayed her true strength from the start, he knew that this girl before him wasn't any weaker than Mu Chen.

“Alright then, we'll give Mu Chen a surprise when he wakes up.” Su Xuan smiled as she covered her mouth.

Shen Cangsheng could only nod his head with a bitter smile.

Wen Qingxuan approached Luo Li as she softly said, “From the looks of it, your target isn't a small one.”

Luo Li pulled her hair behind her ears with her slender fingers. Her action was extremely charming to the point that Wen Qingxuan's heart was a little stirred. Shortly after, a faint smile surfaced on her face as she said, “I want to snatch Ji Xuan's Numero Uno position back. Thus, my target is Fang Yun.”

Wen Qingxuan was startled by her words. She knew that her target wasn't small, but she never imagined that she would be so daring to actually plan to snatch Ji Xuan's ranking. Moreover, Fang Yun wasn't someone easy to deal with either, as he possessed the Low Rank Divine Artifact.

“Rest assured.”

Luo Li knew about Wen Qingxuan's worries as she smiled.

“Then, you be cautious.” Wen Qingxuan could only nod her head at Luo Li's words.

After their discussion, Luo Li stayed there for another half a day before leaving together with Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuantong and the other two without wasting more time.

Wen Qingxuan smiled as she looked at the leaving Luo Li. *Looks like there will be no more peace in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Perhaps it is time for everyone to know the strength of this girl that has always been standing behind Mu Chen.*

Wen Qingxuan idly stretched her slender arms as she walked to Mu Chen's side with her hand on her cheek as she slightly curled her lips and spoke in an envious tone, “This fella has it cheap for Luo Li to do so much for you.”

...

Three days quickly passed.

During these three days, Mu Chen still had not woken up. However, the surface of his body was turning more and more red as a high temperature was emitting from inside his body, even the space was slightly distorted from it. Under the intense pain, his face was a little hideous.

Clearly, his Spirit Disaster was still ongoing.

Under this situation, Wen Qingxuan, who was guarding him, was also helpless as the Spirit Disaster required one to go through it by themselves with their own ability. There was no room for others to help them.

However, Wen Qingxuan was slightly relieved. Despite Mu Chen's face slightly twisted, there weren't any signs of the Spiritual Energy in his body going berserk. Clearly, he did not allow his mind to be devoured and retained a hint of conscious.

Under this situation, as long as Mu Chen could endure it, it was just a matter of time for him to pass through the Spirit Disaster.

In the three days that Mu Chen was undergoing his Spirit Disaster, the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament shook, which was caused by Luo Li.

Luo Li wasn't like Mu Chen when she led the team. She did not sweep those after Rank 8 like Mu Chen had done. She had directly fixed her aim onto Rank 6, Fang Yun.

Her actions were undoubtedly audacious. After all, everyone was clear on the fact that those within the Top 8 were the most powerful teams in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Among those teams, there were several powerful experts, especially when it came to someone like Fang Yun, who possessed a genuine Divine Artifact.

Thus, when the news of Luo Li and Fang Yun's confrontation spread out, a shaking uproar was instantly unleashed in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Even when compared to Mu Chen and Ji Xuan's battle, the level of their confrontation wasn't any weaker in comparison.

The earth-shattering battle still took place in the end.

That battle was extremely intense as everyone could see a titanic cauldron rise up in the air, emitting divine light as the roars of a dragon and tiger resounded in the sky. Even the Spiritual Energy in the heavens and earth seemed to be boiling.

However, despite the cauldron being so powerful, everyone watched as the titanic cauldron was being suppressed the moment a crisp and resonant sword cry rang out...

Everyone that watched the battle could clearly witness that scene.

A grandiose sword intent gathered in the sky as it turned into an earth-shattering sea of swords. The sea of swords was like a storm as it whistled its way past. Anything standing before it was torn to shreds by the rampant storm of Sword Aura... even the Low Rank Divine Artifact, whom Mu Chen failed to break through despite using all his strength, the Dragon-Tiger Cauldron rapidly lost its luster in the sea of swords. Thereafter, a colossal sword light took form as it heavily slashed down from the sky.

The sea of swords dissipated as it turned into a longsword, whistling across the horizon as it returned to Luo Li's hands. The Spiritual Energy Sword Intent that even the heavens and earth could not withstand had also dissipated.

Puuuuf! poooff.

Everyone saw the scene of Fang Yun spewing a mouthful of blood as his face paled. Clearly, he was gravely injured.

It was a closure to the heart-shaking battle.

Fang Yun handed over his Academy Plaque with unwillingness in the end. A total of 40,000 points was bluntly seized by Luo Li, allowing an increase in points for the Academy Plaque of Mu Chen's team from 110,000 to 150,000 points, surpassing Ji Xuan, who only had 140,000 points, in one go.

Henceforth, the owner of the Numero Uno position changed.

The entire Great Spiritual Academy Tournament was shaken. After such a long time, the rank of Numero Uno finally welcomed its third owner...

It was precisely this battle that allowed Luo Li's name to resonate throughout the tournament. Her reputation even showed signs of surpassing Ji Xuan and Mu Chen. After all, in comparison to them, Luo Li had an advantage in terms of her looks and temperament.

But, naturally, the crucial point was her battle with Fang Yun. All in all, she was the only one that dared to attack a team that was within the Top 8 throughout this entire tournament.

After experiencing that battle, Fang Yun's team dropped out of the Top 8. However, with his ability, he had once again entered the Top 8 in just one day. However, he was clearly much more low-profile this time as he did not show any signs of jumping.

It was evident that his drive was thoroughly suppressed by Luo Li.

After the Numero Uno ranking had changed, everyone was curious as they waited for Ji Xuan's reaction. With the latter's character, he was definitely not someone that would give up the ranking of Numero Uno so easily.

Just when everyone was in anticipation of Ji Xuan moving, Mu Chen had finally slowly opened his eyes to the depths of the spike tree forest. His black pupils blazed as if there were crystal-clear flames surging within.

He had finally passed through his Spirit Disaster!

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#### **Chapter 594: Disaster Success**

The instant Mu Chen opened his eyes, crystal-clear flames seemed to be blazing within his pitch-black pupils, giving a pure and clear look from his pupils.

Haaaaaaa.

A lump of breath faintly containing a high temperature was slowly exiting Mu Chen's mouth. The high temperature even made the space around him show small signs of distortion as if a charred smell was released as well.

"I've finally succeeded!" The flames in Mu Chen's pupils quickly retreated as he returned to normal. His tightly tautened body loosened up as if he was relieved of a burden as he felt the intense burning pain from his Spirit also dissipating.

He had already succeeded his Spirit Disaster.

"Congratulations."

An idle voice rang out from his rear. Turning his head back, Mu Chen saw a charming face with a jade-like hand supporting it on the stone stairs staring at him with a full smile.

Mu Chen was slightly startled when he saw Wen Qingxuan. However, he quickly recovered from his shock as he understood the reason why she was there. "Thanks."

When he was submerged in his cultivation, Wen Qingxuan must have been by his side, guarding him.

Wen Qingxuan waved her jade-like hands as her phoenix-like eyes glanced at Mu Chen, "How's the feeling of Spirit Disaster?"

Mu Chen slowly clenched his fist as he smiled, "Very powerful."

He could feel the powerful surges of Spiritual Energy in his body. Compared to before he underwent the Spirit Disaster, it was definitely much more powerful. Earlier, when he was sweeping those powerful teams, it would have been so much easier if he had the cultivation of Spirit Disaster. After all, no matter how powerful his fighting power was, there was a limit to how powerful his Spiritual Energy could get. If he compared Spiritual Energy from when he was at Spiritual Energy Disaster, it was naturally way inferior to opponents like Ji Xuan and Fang Yun, who were powerful Spirit Disaster experts.

"My Spirit has grown stronger as well..."

Mu Chen willed in his mind, spiritual light surged around his head as a similar-looking Spirit appeared above his head. The current state of his Spirit had clearly undergone a huge transformation. Its small body became even more sparkling and translucent as if it was made from glass. The hands of his Spirit made a seal with a solemn expression, having a sacred appearance.

Mu Chen's Spirit opened his eyes as he waved his small arm. In an instant, the Spiritual Energy that existed between this heaven and earth rapidly gathered. The Spirit was extremely sensitive towards Spiritual Energy. Thus, the stronger the Spirit, the stronger control, and senses one would have towards Spiritual Energy.

Cultivating to this point, the Spirit was nearly an essence as it was no longer illusory in appearance and the cultivation of their Spirit could be considered as a small success. Even if their physical body was destroyed, as long as their Spirit managed to escape, they would have a chance of reforming their physical body and be reborn.

Naturally, the Spirit Disaster was the most important turning point in the path of cultivation, as it was a bedding a foundation for the Sovereign Realm. As long as the Spirit was sufficiently powerful, only then can one become a true Sovereign.

There were three grades of the Spirit Disaster, which implied the existence of three tribulations. However, they were all preparations for the Sovereign Realm.

Mu Chen's Spirit was flickering in the spiritual light as it returned to his body. He stretched his body. Hearing the crackling sound from his body, he involuntarily comfortably breathed out.

The sensation of going through levels upon levels of tribulations and becoming stronger was too bizarre.

Mu Chen stood up as he looked around. After a brief moment, he asked in doubt, "Where's Luo Li? Isn't she together with you?"

"Congratulations, the team lead by you is the Numero Uno in the point rankings." Wen Qingxuan flicked her fingers as an Academy Plaque flew towards Mu Chen.

Mu Chen received it in a little astonishment as he swept his glance over. He was stunned when he saw the Numero Uno on the point rankings.

Rank 1 - Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, Captain Mu Chen. [150,000 points]

Rank 2 - Saint Spiritual Academy, Captain Ji Xuan. [140,000 points]

"This is Luo Li's doing?" Mu Chen was stupefied.

"Yeah."

Wen Qingxuan made a lovely chuckle as her hand supported her chin, her charming gaze locked on Mu Chen. "She defeated Fang Yun and seized half of his points. Thus, she successfully surpassed Ji Xuan and replaced the Numero Uno. Right now, Luo Li is the most dazzling person in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Probably even you and Ji Xuan are incomparable to her in this factor."

As she spoke, she continued speaking with a teasing tone, "How is it? Luo Li achieved something that you never managed to accomplish. Are you feeling affected by it?"

Mu Chen looked at the Academy Plaque for a brief moment, before smiling. "At the very least, I'm not affected by it. With her talents, it was natural for her to be dazzling. I have never requested for her to restrain herself."

"Perhaps she was well-aware of how dazzling she was. Thus, ever since she entered the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, she has been trying her best to restrain herself and quietly stood beside me. However, I hope that she can reveal herself as she pleases at times."

Wen Qingxuan looked at Mu Chen, whose gaze was exceptionally gentle at the moment. She felt the deep affection Mu Chen had for Luo Li and on the spot, she went silent for a brief moment, before saying, "She restrained herself out of concern for your feelings. She did not want to bring any unnecessary troubles for you."

Mu Chen lightly nodded his head. He raised his head as he looked at the glimpse of the light ray shooting from the tiny crack in the forest, and extended his hand as it passed through the light. A heavy voice, along with unswerving determination and self-confidence, rang out.

“I know how dazzling is she. Perhaps in the future, there might be an even more powerful figure standing between us. But no matter what, I will never give up. I have promised her that one day, I will become an absolute expert. At that time, no one will be able to obstruct me from holding her hands!”

The heavy and faint voice spread out in this forest, making Wen Qingxuan stunned. She lifted her head up and looked at the slender figure. The handsome youth had sunlight shining on his body, covering him in a layer of light. There wasn't any fear or hesitation in his eyes. He was like a warrior that would blaze a new trail, pacing forth and would neither regret nor hesitate.

“Absolute expert...”

Wen Qingxuan's slender fingers were fiddling with her hair as she muttered to herself. Her gaze was a little complicated. There were too many talented people in this world, but how many of those were able to become an absolute expert, intimidating the entire Great Thousand World?

However, the unswerving gaze from the youth before her slightly shook her heart as she became a little stunned. After that, she felt Mu Chen's gaze looking over at her direction and stopped at her face.

Wen Qingxuan sobered up as a rarely seen smear of redness surfaced from her charming face. She immediately avoided Mu Chen's gaze as she cast her lips aside. “Talk about becoming an absolute expert after you defeat Ji Xuan, that fellow isn't that simple.”

Mu Chen smiled as he nodded, “Indeed, he isn't simple. However, it isn't a simple matter for him to defeat me as well.”

“Self-confidence, I like it.” Wen Qingxuan gracefully stood up as she chuckled, patting her hand on Mu Chen's shoulders.

“You like guys as well?” Mu Chen said in amazement. However, the instant he spoke those words, he had a bad feeling.

Just as expected, Wen Qingxuan that stood before him had her brows narrowed as she grabbed Mu Chen collar and stuck her ice-frost expression over as she gritted her teeth, “What did you say?!”

Mu Chen dryly laughed as he drifted his sight away.

“Your mother, I only dislike being close to guys. If I meet a guy I like, I will naturally follow him obediently. It's not as if I have a problem!”

Looking at the blushing Wen Qingxuan, Mu Chen awkwardly rubbed his nose. He had stepped onto Wen Qingxuan's Achilles heel. Otherwise, how would someone like her to use ‘your mother, I’ as a form of addressing herself?

“Okay, fine, I'm in the wrong.”



Mu Chen raised up his hand. He gave Wen Qingxuan a glance and was a little curious about her earlier words. He was very curious, how charming would such a prideful girl like Wen Qingxuan be if she was quiet and sweet when she fell for a guy?

“Hmph.”

Wen Qingxuan coldly snorted as she calmed down. However, when she realized that she was pulling onto Mu Chen’s collar and nearly stuck up to him, she hastily released her grip and pushed him away. However, the redness on her face was much denser and her heartbeat increased. She could only curse at this damnable fellow that broke her calmness.

“Let’s go as well.”

Mu Chen no longer dared to provoke Wen Qingxuan as he suggested with a dry laugh.

Wen Qingxuan snorted again as she no longer bothered about Mu Chen and flew out first.

Mu Chen wryly smiled as he moved as well, appearing in the sky over the forest. Thereafter, he formed seals with his hands and a colossal ring of light spread out from his palm and rapidly expanded.

Whoooooosh! Whooosh!

As the green ring of light expanded, the spike trees in the forest beneath him turned into black rays of light as they flew up into the light halo in his hand.

A few minutes later, more than half of this forest was emptied.

Seeing the scene, Mu Chen finally stopped as the dark-green halo disappeared. He breathed out a long breath as he shifted his gaze towards the northwest direction, a chill circulated in his black pupils.

He had a premonition that it will soon be the finals.

*Let us fight for real this time, Ji Xuan!*

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### **Chapter 595: Igniting the Academy Plaque**

The lush green mountains stood towering on the ground as the mountain range extended to the end of one’s sight.

In this region, the voices were a little noisy as all sorts of commotions gathered and soared into the sky. There were many teams gathered in this region to rest.

Although there wasn’t any designated safe region in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, there was naturally rules and regulations set up in places with people. Taking this resting region, for example, a majority of those that came here would lay down their weapons to rest, putting a pause to their battle to prevent enraging everyone.

Every corner in this mountain peak was gathered with people talking among themselves. Even the atmosphere in this area was harmonious.

At this instant, those teams who were chatting amongst themselves earlier directed their gazes towards a mountain peak not far away. On that peak, there was roughly a group of ten.

Amongst that group, there was a slim and elegant figure that attracted most of their eyeballs. It was a girl dressed in a navy blue dress, she possessed a nearly perfectly charming face. Her silvery hair was gorgeous as it looked like a silver river, there wasn't any dust in her crystal-clear pupils that looked fascinating.

The girl quietly sat down, even her expression was calm and tranquil, not affected in the slightest from the gazes that were directed at her from all different directions. She gave off an air of beauty and elegance.

Within the gazes that were directed at her, every one of them had a smear of charmed emotions in the depths of their eyes. No one wouldn't be charmed by such an outstanding girl.

However, despite being intoxicated by her temperament and beauty, it was unexpected that no one dared to approach her. They were all well aware that this girl before them was the Numero Uno of the point rankings. She was a frightening existence that had defeated Fang Yun and surpassed Ji Xuan in the lead.

Luo Li.

Such a fragile and charming name was already the most dazzling star in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament in just a few days.

Some of the teams here had encountered the team led by the girl before them during these few days. However, the outcome was evident, the points that they managed to obtain through their hard work became the spoils of war for her.

Out of the ordinary, despite the fact that they lost their points, they weren't too furious about it in their hearts. On the contrary, a breathtaking figure was left behind in their hearts.

They were a little ashamed by the thought of it and could only constantly remind themselves of femme fatale. A beauty that could devastate a country... they were well aware of the wide gap between them and that girl. Her beauty and ability was proof of her brilliance in the future...

Just as they were in the center of all that attention, Luo Li still kept her eyes closed on the mountain peak as a breath of wind lifted her long hair, dancing along with the wind, emitting a faint fragrance.

"Luo Li, Ji Xuan's team pulled closer to us by another 2,000 points." Shen Cangsheng suddenly said behind Luo Li as he looked at the Academy Plaque.

"That fella has been tightly chasing after us." Li Xuantong furrowed his brows together. Ever since they surpassed Ji Xuan, the latter had been clearly moving in the dark as he worked hard to seize points in an attempt to surpass their rankings.

This was precisely why they were so busy these few days. Under Luo Li's leadership, they went around seizing points. However, it was fortunate that after defeating Fang Yun, Luo Li no longer went after those powerful teams and chose to go after those teams that wouldn't exhaust too much of their strength. Although this method was slow in terms of obtaining points, it was clearly a safe method.

There wouldn't be another situation similar to Mu Chen, who had swept all the powerful teams beneath Rank 8 and experienced a huge exhaustion of his strength.

In this series of continuous battles, Shen Cangsheng and Li Xuanton's strengths grew. Using the one drop of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid that was given by Mu Chen, they managed to break through to Second Grade Spirit Disaster. As for Su Xuan and Xu Huang, the both of them were able to successfully break through their Spirit Disaster. Thus, their strength as a team grew to the pinnacle.

Right now, regardless of their Captain or members, all possessed strength comparable to those powerful pinnacle teams. The issue of having unequal strength in the team was gone.

Luo Li opened her eyes at this instant as she took a glance at the Academy Plaque. They still occupied the Numero Uno throne with points of 160,000. Ji Xuan stood at second with 153,000 points.

The difference between their points was extremely close.

"Then, let's keep moving." Luo Li stood up, her dress was perfectly outlining her slim waist. Her skin was similar to a jade as it reflected a lustrous light off when the sunlight shone onto her. It was hard for others to shift their gazes off her.

Hearing her words, Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton and the other two immediately stood up. After a brief moment of rest, the Spiritual Energy in their bodies had recovered.

In the past few days, they had personally witnessed Luo Li's strength and thoroughly understood how deep this girl that stood before them had hidden her strength.

The group stood up as they were prepared to move.

Whooooooooosh.

However, just when they were about to move, a screeching sound of wind came from the sky far away. Thereafter, two figures rapidly flew over at lightning speed.

Luo Li paused her step that she was about to take as she looked at the two figures flying over in the horizon. The whole time, her eyes were tranquil, without any ripples, but at this moment, there was joy surging in her eyes.

Everyone in this region saw the abruptly spirited, charming eyes of the girl as they couldn't control their eyes from lighting up. Shortly after, they shifted their gazes over to that direction with two figures approaching. *Who was it that could make such a tranquil girl reveal joy from the depths of her heart?*

Rustle.

Under the numerous gazes, two streaks of light rapidly appeared in the sky. When the lights dissipated, a male and female figure was revealed with a flash.

Mu Chen stood in the sky. His figure was slender with a handsome face. At this moment, he was smiling as he looked at the girl below him with a gentle gaze.

Beside him stood Wen Qingxuan. Her golden battle armor wrapped around her chest and her fine waist. Underneath her skirt, it was a patch of snow-white skin. Her appearance wasn't any inferior compared

to Luo Li, her prideful temperament was being emitted from deep within her bones. Regardless of when it was, that temperament of hers never weakened.

“It’s Mu Chen!”

Mu Chen’s appearance wasn’t unfamiliar to the majority of the teams in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. The moment those teams saw him, they exclaimed out with undisguisable jealousy in their tones. That jealousy was naturally directed at the smile revealed on Luo Li’s face after Mu Chen had appeared.

That bewitching smile.

Mu Chen fell from the sky as he landed beside Luo Li. He looked at the smile hung on the face of the girl as his gaze became even more gentle. He extended his hand out and swept the hair on the girl’s forehead as he said in a gentle tone, “You’ve worked hard.”

“I am also a member of the team, it’s my obligation.” Luo Li said with a slight smile.

“But, since the Captain has returned, then you can have the spot of the Captain back.”

Luo Li handed over the Academy Plaque to Mu Chen as she gave a rare charming blink to him. The scene made the hearts of all those that had their attention directed over to stop. In the past few days when they had encountered Luo Li, she did not have any expression on her face, even when she was facing off against an expert like Fang Yun. But, right now, she was looking so cute before a man which made them grieve and lament.

Mu Chen smiled when he heard her words as he extended his hand to grab onto the Academy Plaque. At the same time, he had grabbed onto Luo Li’s hand as well.

Having her hand grabbed by Mu Chen, a faint blush appeared on Luo Li’s face. She lightly struggled but it was ineffective. Thus, she could only stare at Mu Chen with a little anger.

Mu Chen looked around and noticed that there were many gazes that were staring at him. He was a little confused by the gazes. He wasn’t aware that he had attracted so much jealousy from his actions.

“Let’s go, you have worked hard for this rank. I won’t let anyone else seize it.” Mu Chen said as he looked at Luo Li.

Luo Li lightly smile as she nodded her head.

Buzzzzzz.

However, just when Mu Chen finished his speech, a buzzing noise came from the Academy Plaque in his hand as a brilliant light was unleashed from it. At the same time, all the Academy Plaques held by the Captains in this region also emitted a brilliant light.

Everyone was a little stunned as they lifted their Academy Plaques. However, when they looked at it, their faces drastically changed.

Ji Xuan who was Rank 2 in the point rankings soared at an astonishing speed. In an instant, they had surpassed Mu Chen with points soaring to a terrifying 200,000 from 150,000 points!

Their points increased by over 50,000!

“How is that possible?!” Someone exclaimed. They couldn’t understand the reason behind the sudden spike in Ji Xuan’s points because there wasn’t any from the Top 8 falling out of the point rankings. If there wasn’t any team dropping out, that implied that Ji Xuan did not defeat a team in the Top 8. But how did he get so many points?

An earth-shaking commotion covered the horizon as countless startled gazes were directed at Mu Chen.

The smile hung on Mu Chen’s face slowly disappeared as he narrowed his eyes. But before he spoke, his pupils shrunk again.

He saw Ji Xuan’s name suddenly ignite.

Even Luo Li and Wen Qingxuan’s faces drastically changed as well.

Because they knew the reason for his name to be burning, that meant that Ji Xuan and his team had ignited their Academy Plaque...

Ji Xuan was intending to start the final battle!

### [The Great Ruler](#)

#### **Chapter 596: Beginning of the Final Battle**

Ji Xuan had ignited his Academy Plaque!

An uproar exploded in this region, every team’s Captains were blankly staring at the Academy Plaques in their hands. Their eyes were fixed on the flaming Numero Uno ranking as there were all kinds of expressions written on their faces.

According to the rules, as long as half of the Top 16 ignited their Academy Plaques, the Finals would begin in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. At that time, those in the Top 8 would proceed to the next round.

But, generally speaking, only those teams that were confident in their points would ignite their Academy Plaques. The moment they ignited their Academy Plaques without the coordination of the other teams, their points would be fixed. That way, they might be easily surpassed by the other teams. If they were careless, they might even drop out of the Top 8.

Thus, unless they were confident, they would not ignite their Academy Plaques so easily. Now that Ji Xuan had taken the initiative, was he certain that his spot as Numero Uno was unshakable?

Many teams were looking amongst themselves. Although they were unaware of how Ji Xuan had a sudden surge of 50,000 points, that wasn’t sufficient as a guarantee, right?

“What is Ji Xuan doing?” The faces of Shen Cangsheng and the rest had heavy expressions as they voiced their questions when they saw the scene.

Mu Chen narrowed his eyes as he slowly said, “I’m afraid that there will be more follow up...”

When Luo Li and Wen Qingxuan heard his words, they narrowed their gorgeous eyes as well. They were staring at the Academy Plaques. Roughly ten minutes later, the Rank 6 Xue Tianhe, Liu Qingyun and Fang Yun's teams turned red as if they were burning on the plaques as well.

This region shook again.

Even Xue Tianhe, Liu Qingyun, and Fang Yun had ignited their Academy Plaques!

"Now that there are four Academy Plaques that have ignited, as long as there are four more amongst the Top 16, the Finals will begin!"

"That's some patience from Ji Xuan, he was probably waiting for this moment!"

Hearing the commotion that sounded throughout this wilderness, the faces of Shen Cangsheng and the rest turned ugly. It wasn't easy for them to climb up to Numero Uno and then, all of a sudden, the Numero Uno was taken away from them.

Furthermore, they were a little sullen as they had no idea about how Ji Xuan suddenly got the 50,000 points. There wasn't much change in the Top 16 so, evidently, the 50,000 points did not come from anyone amongst the Top 16.

The faces of Luo Li and Wen Qingxuan grew cold as Mu Chen slowly rubbed his Academy Plaque. No one knew what he was thinking from the unknown light flickering in his black pupils.

"Another two Academy Plaques ignited!" Another exclamation resounded. Amongst the Top 16, another two Academy Plaques lit up as well. Those two Academy Plaques belonged to Rank 16 and Rank 14. Generally speaking, those teams would not ignite their plaques so easily as it would deny their entry to the Finals. But, at this moment, such a scene was displayed before them.

Anyone with discerning eyes could tell what was going on. This was definitely the work of Ji Xuan. Otherwise, there wouldn't be so many teams igniting their Academy Plaques at the same time. Everyone could tell that Mu Chen was tricked by Ji Xuan at such a crucial time.

As long as there were two more Academy Plaques lighting up, the Finals would start.

Furthermore, the only way for Mu Chen and his team to obtain another 50,000 points was to defeat a team in the Top 8. However, amongst the Top 8, Ji Xuan, Xue Tianhe, Liu Qingyun and Fang Yun could no longer increase their points or have their points taken. Thus, his remaining targets could only be Wen Qingxuan, Wu Ling, and Wen Busheng. However, those three teams had a good relationship with Mu Chen. If Mu Chen placed his target on one of those three teams, his fame would be in a complete mess.

This move from Ji Xuan truly was vicious.

"That bastard!" Shen Cangsheng clenched his teeth as his voice became filled with anger. Clearly, they had uncovered Ji Xuan's vicious plans. He was trying to force Mu Chen into a corner.

"What should we do now?" Li Xuantong's face was dark as he spoke and shifted his sight to Mu Chen and Luo Li at the same time.

Luo Li was slightly clenching her fists, but she did not speak. She looked at Mu Chen with a hint of worry in her eyes.

However, Mu Chen looked as if he had not heard their words, because he was still staring at his Academy Plaque.

Wen Qingxuan lifted a strand of hair to her ears as she quietly looked at Mu Chen. Thereafter, she extended her hand with an Academy Plaque flickering with light in her palm.

“Take the points from our team. Even if we lose half of them, we will still be able to stay within the Top 8. Furthermore, these points don’t mean much to us as the genuine Champion will be born in the Finals.”

Shen Cangsheng and the rest blankly stared at Wen Qingxuan as they never expected the latter to willingly give half of her points.

“This...” They exchanged looks as the present was simply too expensive, which they did not dare to receive.

Luo Li bit on her rosy lips as well as she looked at Mu Chen. The latter was also in shock as he raised his head, looking at Wen Qingxuan.

“Hey, being indecisive at this time isn’t good, right?” Wen Qingxuan had her brows furrowed as she looked at Mu Chen, “Perhaps you might feel that these points aren’t too honorable. But isn’t it your capability as well for me to willingly give you half of my points?”

“Thus, if you are going to reject me for your so-called ‘pride’, I will feel that you are not mature. And I do not like having such friends.”

Hearing her words, Mu Chen rubbed his nose as he bitterly laughed as a trace of being touched was shown in his eyes.

Those around him did not speak as they looked at Mu Chen, waiting for his decision. As long as he nodded his head, he would be able to surpass Ji Xuan once again, giving a slap to Ji Xuan’s face as he reclaimed the Numero Uno.

However, a smear of a smile rose from the youth’s handsome face under all the gazes as he lightly shook his head.

“You!” Wen Qingxuan was enraged as she couldn’t help stomping her feet on the ground as she furiously looked at Mu Chen.

“Sorry, I’m not denying your points for my pride. I have still not fallen so low as to take that step yet.” Mu Chen said softly.

Wen Qingxuan crossed her arms as she tilted her head with a cold expression. *At this point in time, what method do you still have? Perhaps, are you going to sweep those powerful teams once again?*

If Mu Chen showed any slight intentions, those in the Top 16 would immediately ignite their Academy Plaques.

Seeing her reaction, Mu Chen helplessly smiled as he replied, “I believe I know where Ji Xuan got his points from.”

Luo Li and the rest looked over at his direction, even Wen Qingxuan as well.

“They used temptations and threatening means to keep a bunch in storage.” Mu Chen said lightly as he continued, “Those in storage could provide Ji Xuan with a large sum of points at the last minute. However, he had it deeply concealed this whole time and has never revealed them.”

The so-called “storage” was similar to raising livestock, butchering them the moment they were fattened. However, it wasn’t flesh that was butchered, but points.

“Storage?” The eyes of Luo Li and the rest changed a little. They never imagined that Ji Xuan would resort to such a dishonorable method. It wasn’t easy to have storages in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. There wasn’t any meaning to it if it was a small amount and it would easily lead to a rebound as well. The moment hundreds of teams began to fight back, no one could withstand it. The moment there was a large number of casualties, they would have their qualifications in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament stripped from them as well.

“How did you know about it?” Wen Qingxuan questioned in puzzlement. If Ji Xuan had resorted to such methods, he should have concealed himself deep enough that he wouldn’t reveal it.

“Because I know him too well. No matter what he does, he would leave a backup plan. Thus, I had someone secretly investigate and, fortunately, there were results of the investigation.” Mu Chen replied with a smile.

“Even if you know that he had resorted to such methods, right now...” Shen Cangsheng spoke with a helpless voice. With the current situation, it wasn’t an easy task to make a comeback.

“You have also made your preparations, right?” Luo Li’s crystal eyes were quietly looking at Mu Chen.

“Pretty much.”

Mu Chen smiled with a smear of charming confidence. Thereafter, he flicked his fingers as a pillar of Spiritual Energy soared up to the sky as it emitted an enormous radiance.

Everyone in this region was looking at him in astonishment.

The atmosphere was still tranquil, but after about ten minutes, the peace was smashed. Everyone raised their heads as they saw streaks of light in large amounts across the horizon.

Whoooooosh! Whooosh!

The streaks of light finally stopped in the sky as hundreds of teams were gathered.

Seeing those teams, those that were sharp seemed to have sensed something unusual as astonishment surged from their hearts. Overwhelmed with shock, they looked at Mu Chen.

Amongst the teams, a figure stepped out as he looked exceptionally familiar. He was the Captain of the Desolate Spiritual Academy that was once rescued by Mu Chen, Lin Zhou.

“Haha, Brother Mu, all the teams gathered here were saved by you in the past. We will return the favor we owed you back then.



Lin Zhou cupped his hands towards Mu Chen as his laughter roared in the sky, luring countless startled gazes onto him.

Who could have expected that when Ji Xuan had such a backup plan, Mu Chen had one of his own as well?!

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### **Chapter 597: The Finals**

More than a hundred teams majestically stood on the sky. Their formation had attracted the attention of everyone in this region, along with unconcealable astonishment in their eyes.

Even Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton and the rest of the team, with Luo Li and Wen Qingxuan included, were looking at the abrupt appearance of Lin Zhou's group with astonishment in their eyes. Clearly, this was out of their expectations as well.

"What is going on?" Wen Qingxuan involuntarily asked as she looked at Mu Chen.

"Ji Xuan had his method and so I made my own preparations as well." Mu Chen lightly smiled as he looked at Lin Zhou's group and continued, "And, they are the preparations I have made."

"You've created a storage as well?" Shen Cangsheng spoke out in astonishment.

"These teams owed me a favor. After that, I contacted Lin Zhou to contact the other teams with the hope that they could help me if there were any sudden changes."

Mu Chen continued with a soft voice, "But, naturally, if Ji Xuan did not resort to any dishonorable methods, they also would not show themselves."

Shen Cangsheng and the team exchanged looks amongst themselves and couldn't help smacking their lips. They were looking at Mu with odd gazes as these perfect preparations had thoroughly stunned them.

"Don't look at me with those gazes. I have fought with Ji Xuan too many times, so I have an understanding of his methods. In the Spiritual Road, I was tricked by him once. Although I was willing, I will not be tricked by him the second time." Mu Chen smiled.

"But, even if those teams do owe you a favor, it wouldn't be so simple for them to give their points to you, right?" Luo Li's clear pupils glanced at Mu Chen.

Although only those in the Top 8 would proceed to the next round, while the rest were eliminated, that didn't mean that those points had no use to those teams. If their points were too low in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, the academy that they represent would be excluded out for the next tournament.

Mu Chen nodded his head as he spoke, "So I promised them 5 drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid per team."

Luo Li and Wen Qingxuan understood what was going on from Mu Chen's words as they looked at him with peculiar gazes. It turns out that there was an important condition. After all, the Sovereign Spiritual Liquid wasn't an ordinary item at their current cultivation.

Thus, it wasn't too surprising that those teams were willing to help Mu Chen for the Sovereign Spiritual Liquid, including the favor they owed to him.

"How are you going to get so much Sovereign Spiritual Liquid?" Luo Li asked in doubt. They hadn't obtained so much Sovereign Spiritual Liquid back when they were at the Hidden Spiritual Courtyard.

"Could it be that you can unseal the Spiritual Condensing Bowl?"

Mu Chen nodded as he smiled. "Because of the fact that I have grown stronger, I tried using some methods. Although I wasn't able to completely unseal the Spiritual Condensing Bowl, I managed to open a tiny crack. Through that crack, I was able to obtain over eight hundred drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid."

Luo Li nodded her head from Mu Chen's answer. No wonder Mu Chen could be so generous, so it turns out that he had obtained a huge amount of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid.

"That's filthy rich." Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton and the rest smacked their lips. An ordinary person could definitely not give out something like five hundred drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid so easily. The Sovereign Spiritual Liquid was important to even Sovereign experts, not to mention those that were around their levels who had yet to come in contact with Sovereign Realm.

"I don't want to do this as well..."

Mu Chen sighed as he let out a mouthful of air. Five hundred drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid was not a small amount. Even if Mu Chen had the Spiritual Condensing Bowl, he was heart pained at this decision. But aside from this, he had no other way.

He knew that Ji Xuan was sly, thus to keep things in check, he had to resort to unusual methods as well.

"Indeed, you have already made your preparations, seems like I offered a favor for naught." Wen Qingxuan's slender eyes stared at Mu Chen as she said faintly after understanding what Mu Chen had said as she flung her lips aside.

She was still quite worried earlier, but who could have expected that in an instant, Mu Chen had already flipped the unfavorable situation around? Although the latter had always maintained a cautious mindset, she was also slightly startled or even admired him. However, her prideful character made her feel unhappy. After all, with her character, it was extremely rare for her to have said those words earlier. But who could have imagined that, in the end, she was the one overthinking the situation?

Mu Chen stared at Wen Qingxuan's charming face for a long time, before speaking with an earnest tone, "Although my methods were in place to keep Ji Xuan in check, it isn't too honorable as well. Thus, I have not spoken about it. Furthermore... thanks for that, Qingxuan."

Mu Chen's gaze stopped at Wen Qingxuan's face. Seeing that the former was using an earnest gaze as he looked at her, her face was a little red, but she continued to make a strong front as she replied, "I'm not that close to you, what are you calling me? You only need to explain these matters to Luo Li, it has nothing to do with me. If it wasn't for you traveling a long distance to rescue me back then, and in addition to my loathe for Ji Xuan, I wouldn't bother myself with your matters."

Luo Li pursed her lips as she smiled from the side.

Mu Chen also smiled as he knew how prideful Wen Qingxuan was, thus he did not speak any further and shifted his gaze to Lin Zhou's group. He cupped his hands as he said, "Captain Lin Zhou, I express my gratitude for this."

"Haha, what are you talking about, Brother Mu? We have all received favor from you and, naturally, we will return the favor you gave us." Lin Zhou roared with laughter as he waved his hand. Over a hundred other Captains from various teams took out their Academy Plaques as their plaques flickered with light, turning into streaks of light as they flew out.

Mu Chen raised the Academy Plaque in his hand as rays of light surged, absorbing all those lights directed at him.

As the lights were absorbed, the Academy Plaque in Mu Chen's hand glowed with radiance. Along with it, his points were soaring at a terrifying speed.

180,000... 200,000... 230,000... 260,000...

After reaching 260,000 points, it finally slowed down and the scarlet points instantly made every team in this region suck in a mouthful of chilled air.

The points of Mu Chen's team had flown by nearly 100,000.

When Mu Chen's points soared, the team led by Mu Chen went up as well, surpassing Ji Xuan and stood firmly at the Numero Uno.

In less than half an hour, the Numero Uno ranking had changed its owner again!

Mu Chen looked at the drastic increase of his points with a faint smile. Thereafter, he cupped his hands towards Lin Zhou's group and waved his hand, more than a hundred streaks of light flew out from his sleeve towards the direction of Lin Zhou's party.

Lin Zhou's party knew what Mu Chen's action meant as they grabbed a streak of light each with their hands. The streaks of light turned into sparkling and translucent jade bottles. Inside those jade bottles, there were five drops of sparkling Sovereign Spiritual Liquid roaming inside, emitting astonishing Spiritual Energy fluctuations at the same time.

Looking at the Sovereign Spiritual Liquids contained within the jade bottle, the eyes of Lin Zhou's group were surging with unconcealable excitement. Soon after, all of them deeply cupped their hands at Mu Chen to express their gratitude.

Numerous teams in this region were looking at Mu Chen with complicated glances. Who could have imagined that the hopeless situation had flipped around under the smile of that youth?

"How formidable." A soft sigh resounded. In this sort of situation, no one would criticise Mu Chen's methods. After all, they were well aware that the way Ji Xuan obtained his points wasn't honorable as well. All Mu Chen did was giving Ji Xuan a taste of his own medicine.

"Mu Chen and Ji Xuan are both monstrous characters. Who knows how intense their battle will be in the Finals when they face against each other..."

On the mountain peak, Mu Chen's gaze fell onto Shen Cangsheng and the rest of the party as he solemnly said, "The Finals will soon begin and I hope that the two teams of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy can be reorganized to participate the Finals with our strongest."

"We'll heed your instructions." Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton, Xu Huang, He Yao and the rest nodded their heads with heavy expressions.

"I plan to reorganize the two teams with Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton, and Su Xuan joining my team." Mu Chen looked at He Yao, Zhao Qingshan and the rest of the group. Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton, and Su Xuan were the strongest aside from him and Luo Li. Thus, if they could reorganize their team, it would naturally become a powerful formation.

"I have no opinions except for one request." He Yao, Zhao Qingshan, Mu Fengyang and the others exchanged a look as they smiled. They weren't bothered by this matter as they understood the importance of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy's victory.

"What is it?"

"Defeat Ji Xuan for us!" He Yao's group said with heavy voices.

"Leave it to me." Mu Chen smiled as he extended his hand out.

Luo Li also extended her slender hand out as she placed it on top of Mu Chen's. Su Xuan, Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuanton followed after as fighting intent blazed in their eyes.

"The Seniors and Juniors of our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy are waiting for us, we can't let them be disappointed."

Mu Chen placed his other hand on the Academy Plaque as he looked at Wen Qingxuan, "Qingxuan, are you ready?"

Wen Qingxuan was also holding onto her Academy Plaque as she raised her brows at Mu Chen with laughter. "If we are unlucky and meet each other in the Finals, don't blame me for not having any leniency. Our cooperation ends here."

"Likewise."

Mu Chen laughed as his black pupils surged with spirit.

Tsssssss!

The Academy Plaque in Mu Chen's hand turned red as a flame sprouted out, engulfing his Academy Plaque.

At the same time, Wen Qingxuan had also ignited hers.

Every single team in this region was looking at this scene with complicated expressions. Eight of the Top 16 had ignited their Academy Plaques, meaning this tournament that lasted nearly half a year had finally come to an end.

Coming up next would be the decisive battle that everyone would be focused on.

Whoooooosh!

When the Academy Plaques in Mu Chen and Wen Qingxuan's hand lit up, every single Academy Plaque in this tournament combusted as well, turning into radiant pillars of light as they engulfed the teams within them...

Countless pillars of light soared over the horizon.

At this instant, fighting intent filled the entire heavens and earth.

## [The Great Ruler](#)

### **Chapter 598: The Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy after half a year**

The Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

Compared to the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament filled with cruel battles, the atmosphere in the academy was rather calm. The Spiritual Energy in the heavens and earth were indolently moving about. The Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was emitting youthfulness from the breeze of wind.

They had already left the academy for half a year.

When Mu Chen's group joined the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, almost every single student was looking with expectation while raising their heads. However, there wasn't any news of the tournament as time passed. Thus, everyone could only unwillingly pacify their hearts and returned to their daily cultivations. But, occasionally, they would raise their heads and look at the antique huge bell at the center of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

If there was any news of the tournament, the ancient bell would ring.

But, regrettably, there wasn't any activity from the bell for half a year.

The Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy was filled with vitality and the academy wouldn't stop their progress for anyone. Not even Mu Chen and his group that was sent to participate in the tournament.

Thus, when they left, the colossal Spiritual Academy was still very interesting, since there were newcomers constantly appearing as they set off ripples in the academy.

No matter how outstanding those newcomers and black horses were, no one could surpass that name on the Heavenly Ranking that had disappeared for half a year.

That name was an indomitable great mountain to all the geniuses in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

That was precisely the reason why those geniuses in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had not given up. The pressure brought to them from the name was the motivation for them to keep pressing forth. Even if they failed, they would still stand crawl back up with excitement as they convinced themselves that they were a step closer to that name.

The outcome from that resulted in more and more people cultivating in the Lightning Territory and the Spirit Convergence Array. The teachers and Elders of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy were gratified as their dedication in cultivation grew stronger.

...

Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, Goddess Luo Association

The current headquarters of the Goddess Luo Association was located at the center of the academy. The Spiritual Energy gathered there was thicker compared to the outer sector. Furthermore, there weren't many cases of mistreatment of a student's association.

The headquarters of the Goddess Luo Association still had a vast cultivating field with a huge lake on both sides of the field. The spiritual fog that took form from thick Spiritual Energy floated on the lake, making it seem like an immortal's paradise.

On the cultivating field, there were thousands of people training as they sparred with each other and the screeches of wind that were caused by their actions constantly rang out.

In just half a year, the Goddess Luo Association had grown larger. The Freshmen from back then had shredded their freshness as they started to display their talents, blossoming their radiance in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

The Goddess Luo Association had already become the full deserving title of being the strongest student's association.

On the cultivating field, there were many figures moving about and, occasionally, those members of the Goddess Luo Association would direct their sights on the central region during their training. The main reasons for this were naturally the two beautiful silhouettes in the center.

One of those two beautiful silhouettes were extremely familiar, one was Su Xuan's younger sister, Su Ling'er. In half a year, this pampered girl had matured a lot, yet she still wore a scarlet-red dress, being exceptionally eye-catching. Her graceful figure had a marvelous curve to it, is extremely attractive.

Su Ling'er joined the Goddess Luo Association not long after Mu Chen's party went into the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Naturally, the association was extremely welcoming on her joining. After all, Su Ling'er pretty much had a decent amount of fame in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. There were many that admired her and her joining would make the Goddess Luo Association stronger as well.

As for the other figure, it was Yu Xi that came from the Northern Spiritual Academy before Mu Chen embarked for the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament.

Although she was young and her age was more or less similar to Sun'er, her fame was extremely resounding in the Goddess Luo Association. After joining the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, she had displayed astonishing talent as she had already leaped to the 2nd of the Spirit Ranking.

Whereas the first was a record left behind by the past Mu Chen...

Although her speed was a little inferior compared to Mu Chen's, she was still breathtaking. If Mu Chen was the representative from his batch, then Yu Xi was the representative for hers...

Who knows, she might replace Mu Chen's position after two years. But without a doubt, Mu Chen would have left the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy by that time.

Currently, Yu Xi was sitting on a huge rock located at the corner of the cultivating field as she lifted a rock with both of her arms. Her green long dress made her figure seem even more slender as her charming face attracted many gazes over.

In the Goddess Luo Association, there was a ranking of Three Fairies. Su Ling'er and she took the first and second, while Sun'er took the last.

However, Sun'er spent most of her time practicing Spiritual Arrays. Although her Spiritual Energy cultivation wasn't too outstanding, she displayed astonishing talent in terms of Spiritual Arrays. In half a year, there was already a huge improvement in her cultivation regarding Spiritual Arrays. Some time ago, she managed to accidentally defeat a Senior that was Ranked 10 on the Heavenly Rankings, causing quakes in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

Thus, the Seniors weren't the strongest in the Goddess Luo Association, but these three beautiful girls...

Yu Xi sat on the ice-cold rock as she had just finished her cultivation. She slowly bent her straightened legs as she placed her lovable chin on her knees. Her jet-black eyes were directed on the bell, a mountain in the center of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, and paid no attention towards the surrounding admiring gazes that were directed at her.

Beside Yu Xi, Su Ling'er had also raised her head, looking at the bell. Her usual lively expression was quiet as she looked as if she was submerged in her thoughts.

"Haha, you guys are thinking of Mu Chen again?" A gentle laughter came from the side. Yu Xi and Su Ling'er abruptly looked over as they saw Ye Qingling standing at the side as she was looking at them full of smiles.

"Who's thinking of that guy!" Su Ling'er pouted as she continued, "I was just thinking about my older sister and the rest..."

"No, no..."

Yu Xi, however, had her face flushed red as she quickly waved her hands in denial. However, it wasn't too convincing as her gaze had been evading. To be exact, she had only seen Mu Chen once, but she was already too familiar with the latter's name. Ever since she entered the Northern Spiritual Academy, she had been hearing stories about Mu Chen and now that she came to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, she was still hearing that dazzling youth. But still, she had to admit that when she first came to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, she saw the battle for the Heavenly Ranking's Overlord position between Mu Chen and Shen Cangsheng, and her heart was shaken.

At that time, the figure that was filled with fighting intent had left behind a shadow in her heart. That day, Mu Chen's appearance was too dignified, many girls had his figure branded in their hearts.

"Big Sister Ye, do you... think that Big Brother Mu Chen and the rest could get into the Finals?" Yu Xi hesitated for a moment but still couldn't hold herself back to ask the question.

Ye Qingling sat down beside them as she looked at the bell. She pondered for a moment before answering, "I heard that the competition for this tournament is the most intense in the past decades."

The face of Yu Xi and Su Ling'er changed a little as they bit on their lips. They were well aware of how powerful Mu Chen and his team were, but at the same time, they were also well-aware that their opponents were geniuses from various academies. Thus, it would definitely not be an easy task for them to rise above others under the cruel competition.

"Big Brother Mu Chen and the rest will definitely make it to the Finals!" Yu Xi clenched her fist as she firmly spoke. She refused to believe that the undefeated figure in her heart would be defeated by someone else.

"We hope so as well." Ye Qingling rubbed her head. A few days ago, she heard from Sun'er that a monstrous figure had appeared from the Saint Spiritual Academy. The name of that fella was called Ji Xuan and in addition, he was a sworn enemy of Mu Chen's. So much so that even the Elders of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had slightly heavy expressions when they mentioned his name. Thus, one could expect how monstrous he was. If this fellow targeted Mu Chen, it was definitely a worrisome matter.

Although Mu Chen was very powerful, was he able to maintain his foothold while dealing with that guy whom even the Elders of the academy would have their expressions changed just from mentioning his name?

Ye Qingling lightly sighed in her heart as she felt a little uneasy.

Yu Xi and Su Ling'er seemed to have sensed the uneasiness in Ye Qingling as they exchanged a glance and became silent as well.

Dong!

Suddenly, just when they went into silence, an ancient bell rang out as it resonated between these heavens and earth.

The bell's ringing spread throughout the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. The hustle and bustle that was filled with vitality suddenly went silent. Countless students were blankly staring at each other. It was after a brief moment later that they recovered and understood the meaning behind the bell.

Ye Qingling, Yu Xi, and Su Ling'er, who was seated on the mountain, were dazed for an instant, before abruptly raising their heads. Their eyes were looking at the ancient bell in surprise as excitement and nervousness rose up in their hearts.

Whoooooosh! Whooosh!

Up in the sky, there were screeches of wind that rang out from every single direction. In an instant, the entire academy went into an uproar.

Everyone knew what that bell meant...

The Great Spiritual Academy Tournament's Finals was coming!

[The Great Ruler](#)

**Chapter 599: Battle World**

Dong!



The Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy fell into silence as the ringing bell reverberated throughout the heavens and earth. However, that silence lasted for a brief moment, before it was ruined by the quaking cheers.

The Final Battle of the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament that they had been anticipating for half a year had arrived at last!

The entire academy was ignited by the fiery atmosphere as innumerable students were looking at the bell with excitement, expectations, and nervousness in their eyes.

They yearned to know the results of the two teams that represented their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy to participate in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament...

Whooooooosh!

Hasty and hurried whooshing sounds resounded in the sky as a sea of humans quickly gathered. Those that were intending to enter the Lightning Territory to cultivate turned around as they rushed for the direction of the bell in excitement.

The news had spread at lightning speed into the Lightning Territory and Spirit Convergence Array, waking those that were enclosed in their cultivation. When they heard that the Final Battle of the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament was approaching, they could no longer be bothered to cultivate as they quickly stood up and rushed for the academy.

In an instant, the atmosphere in the academy boiled.

As the boiling atmosphere started to spread, the usually closed door located on a certain secluded mountain faraway opened as an elegant silhouette strode forth.

That silhouette was dressed in a snow-white dress, with her hair draped down to her waist like a waterfall. She was holding onto a simple and unadorned scroll with complicated Spiritual Array runes on the surface of it. Her complexion was lucid and elegant. In the past, her face was filled with indifference, as if there was nothing in this world that could disturb her heart.

However, at this moment, the indifferent expression that she had been wearing in the past had now shown a rare tint of vividness as a smear of joy rushed forth in her gorgeous eyes.

She stood outside the house as her gaze was directed at the bell. Her rosy lips were slightly lifted as she revealed a charming smile, which had a distinctive feature that could not be reproduced by others.

“Big Sister Ling Xi, will Big Brother Mu Chen be able to enter the Finals?” At her rear, Sun’er asked as she blinked her big eyes. She still had her black ponytail. Excitement covered her face because she had finally heard news from Mu Chen and the rest after waiting for half a year.

“Certainly.” Ling Xi answered with no hesitation. *Mu Chen is the child of Aunt Jing, how hard is it for him to get into the Finals?*

Although Ling Xi understood how intense the competition in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament was, a small part of the reverence that she had for Aunt Jing was shifted onto Mu Chen. Thus, she did not think that Mu Chen would be weaker compared to anyone of his age.

Sun'er covered her mouth as she secretly laughed, "Looks like Big Sister Ling Xi is the most confident about Big Brother Mu Chen. Some time ago, even the Dean and the rest were very worried about it because the strength of Big Brother Mu Chen's enemy is a little too powerful."

"Furthermore, ever since Big Brother Mu Chen left, Big Sister Ling Xi has never smiled once. But you become so happy the moment you hear news with regards to him."

Ling Xi's face blushed for a moment as she narrowed her eyes and shooting a dangerous glance at Sun'er. "Looks like the time you spent in the Spiritual Array House was a little too short. I'll increase it next time."

"Ah? Nono, Big Sister Ling Xi, I'm in the wrong!" Sun'er spoke in a pitiful manner as her face paled from Ling Xi's words.

Ling Xi softly flicked Sun'er pearly forehead, letting her off. Her gaze was on the bell as a tint of graveness surfaced in her eyes. After regaining her calm, she also understood that Mu Chen must be having a difficult time.

All in all, that person called Ji Xuan truly was a troublesome opponent. With that fellow's current strength, he might even be comparable to some Elders in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

She wasn't skeptical if Mu Chen could make it to the Finals. However, if he truly encountered Ji Xuan in the Finals, it would definitely be a ferocious battle between colossal titans.

Even for those Clans with long and deep history, Ji Xuan's talent could be considered pretty good.

Whoooooosh.

Just as the atmosphere in the academy was boiling to new heights, several figures had also flown out of the Inner Palace of the academy as they stood on the sky, with Dean Tai Cang in front.

Right now, they were also looking at the bell with a little nervousness. Although the two teams that represented their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy weren't weak, they were aware that the intensity of the competition present in this tournament far surpassed those in the past decades, those participating were the strongest as well.

Thus, it wasn't an easy task to acquire achievements in this tournament.

However, no matter how challenging it was, they had no other choice but to compete, their title as one of the Five Great Academies was on the line in this round's tournament.

If they lost the title, it would definitely have a huge impact on the students of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. They couldn't bear to imagine how far the morale in the academy would fall if that happens.

If that happens, it would definitely have a fatal impact on the entire academy.

Dean Tai Cang looked towards his rear, exchanged looks with Hallmaster Mo Yu and the other Elders, and saw the hint of graveness in each other's eyes.

“Dean, let’s get prepared to open the Battle Domain.” Hallmaster Mo Yu spoke in a soft voice. Right now, worrying was useless and what they could do was to open the world and see if Mu Chen and the other representatives managed to achieve any results.

Dean Tai Cang unhurriedly nodded his head as his hand seals started to change. A ray of spiritual light that seemed like a meteor shot forward from his fingertips as it streaked across the horizon, before heavily striking against the bell.

Dooong!

A long-lasting bell ringing sound resounded as it resonated again.

Buzzz. Buzzzzz.

Along with the bell ringing, golden light poured out in waves from the bell as the entire area looked as if it was being filled with the golden light.

The golden light slowly came together in the sky, distorted the space as it formed a golden passage.

“This passage leads to the Battle Domain, a small space meant for the Final Battle of the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament. Aside from the Freshmen, all the remaining students are allowed to enter. You are not allowed to obstruct or act in a disorderly manner. Otherwise, you will be punished as per the academy rules!” Dean Tai Cang swept his gaze around the entire Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy as his thunderous voice rang out in everyone’s ears.

“Yes!”

Hearing his announcement, innumerable students were filled with excitement, leaving the Freshmen in grief. Although there was a Spiritual Projection Screen, how could it be compared to watching it on the spot?

However, Dean Tai Cang gave no regards to their grief, he moved as he turned into a streak of light and entered the golden passage with Hallmaster Mo Yu following closely behind him.

Whooooosh! Whooooosh!

Screeches of wind were heard from everywhere, the vast amounts of figures were like locusts as they soared towards the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, entering the golden passage.

On the mountain peak, Ling Xi hesitated as she looked at the golden passage.

“Big Sister Ling Xi, let’s go as well. I want to know the situation of Big Brother Mu Chen.” Sun’er blinked her wide eyes as she spoke while tugging on Ling Xi’s sleeves.

Hearing her plea, Ling Xi lifted her brows for an instant, before replying as if nothing had happened, “Okay then, since you want to watch, I’ll bring you to take a look at it.”

As she spoke, she saw Sun’er secretly laughing with her mouth covered. In an instant, her face flushed red as she shot a furious glance at the latter as the little lass actually dared to make fun of her.

Ling Xi extended her hand as she held onto Sun’er’s tiny hand. With a wave of her hand, they turned into a streak of light and flew away.

“Let’s go as well!”

Ye Qingling spoke with excitement in the Goddess Luo Association.

“But, I’m a Freshman.” Yu Xi pouted as she looked as if she would burst into tears at any moment.

“Don’t worry about it, we’ll sneak in. Although there are guards from the Punishment Hall, they have to give our Goddess Luo Association some face. Back then, Mu Chen defeated three Seniors of the Punishment Hall, so they wouldn’t dare do anything to us from the Goddess Luo Association.” Su Ling’er made a lovable smile as she incited.

“Okay!” Yu Xi hesitated for a brief moment and, eventually, her feelings overwhelmed her rationale as she nodded while biting her lips.

“Let’s go!” Ye Qingling waved her hand as she took the initiative to move first. Behind her, Yu Xi and Su Ling’er immediately followed as the three of them joined into the streaks of light, entering the golden passage.

When they entered the golden passage, Ye Qingling, Yu Xi, and Su Ling’er could sense the distinct unstable ripples in the space. Golden light flooded their sights as they felt dizziness.

Fortunately, the dizziness only lasted for a brief moment, before the radiant golden light gradually disappeared. Immediately, the scene before their eyes started to change as their mouths widened, bit by bit.

A vast golden world had appeared right before their eyes as it became filled with noise.

There was no end to the number of people.

In the sky a long distance away, there were similar golden vortex passages with people constantly exiting them. Judging from the clothes they wore, they were evidently students from the other Spiritual Academies.

Nearly all the large-scaled Spiritual Academies had opened the Battle World, allowing their students to enter and observe the battle.

Although the multitude filled the area, students of different Spiritual Academies were separated as they gathered amongst themselves as they stood in the sky. The grandiose scene was extremely spectacular.

The majestic formations made Ye Qingling’s group feel dumbfounded and they recovered from their shock a long time later. They looked up ahead, there was a vast floating golden-colored stone platform that engulfed the golden light, separating the stone platform with the outside area.

Whoooooosh! Whoosh!

Just as a multitude of people gathered in this region, countless golden lights fell onto the stone platform and as the golden light dissipated, countless teams wearing different clothing appeared.

These were all the teams that had participated in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament.

Countess gazes filled with respect were directed at those teams. It didn’t matter if they were from the same academy as them, the fact that they fought for their own Spiritual Academy deserved respect.

Dong!

The antique bell rang out once again.

This time, everyone's eyes were blazing as they looked at the central region of the golden-colored stone platform, which was radiating with golden light.

The uproars that filled every corner went into silence as everyone's eyes widened.

They knew that the top eight teams that would proceed to the Final Battle would soon make their appearance!

### **The Great Ruler**

#### **Chapter 600: Golden Battle Stairs**

A colossal Golden Battle Stage appeared, as if a god had descended on the world, and remained hovering in the sky. A golden ocean of radiant light covered the region, the sight of it was extremely grandiose.

The four sides around the vast Battle Stage was already occupied by students of various Spiritual Academies, there was no end to the sea of people.

The students from various Spiritual Academies staying in the region belonging to their own academy as screens of light shone down and dividing them based on their factions. After all, there were too many people here, preventing the possibility of fights between the various academies if those vigorous students were overwhelmed by their emotions when the tournament starts.

Since such an incident took place in the past, the Five Great Academies carried out such perfect measures to prevent such incidents from taking place again.

At this moment, everyone was looking at the central region of the Battle Stage. The golden light started to spread out as a golden platform of stairs took form under the countless gazes.

There were eight flights of steps and the highest level was roughly three hundred meters in size, a golden light shaped into a golden lotus that looked extremely gorgeous.

Only those in the Top 8, could have the qualifications to stand here on the golden stairs, commonly known as the Stairs of the Final Battle.

Whoooooosh!

Just when everyone's sight was gathered on the golden platform, the space above the platform started to distort as five figures appeared.

The moment those five figures appeared, golden light gathered behind them that formed a huge light throne as they overlooked the vast Golden Battle Stage.

Countless students from the various Spiritual Academies that were present in this region shifted their gazes onto the five figures as reverence reflected in their eyes. Those five people were the leaders of the current Five Great Academies.

The Deans of the Five Great Academies.

Dean Tai Cang sat at the last to the right with an indifferent expression. His eyes were as abstruse as the starry skies. Also, although he looked ordinary, an indescribable power was emitting from him, intimidating this entire region.

The one on the right of Dean Tai Cang was an elder wearing an azure robe. His brows and mustache were ash-grey, while his skin was as fair as an infant. An azure pine, which was similar to jade, seemed to be growing on his palm as it swayed and flickered in the azure light. Along with it, even the surrounding space seemed to be swaying as well.

He was the Dean of the Azure Sky Spiritual Academy, Dean Tian Song.

The first on the left was a dried-up old man with a small figure and a pair of drowsy eyes and was rubbing his mustache with his bony palm. However, despite how he looked, he had an overbearing name.

Dean of the Martial Spiritual Academy, Wu Tianwang.

Seated beside Dean Wu Tianwang was a gorgeous woman. She wore a beautiful long dress, along with a graceful and luxurious appearance, her hair was coiled together as it looked like a phoenix's tail and had glossy jade-like skin. Compared to the four other Deans, she appeared extremely young. However, everyone knew that aside from the Saint Spiritual Academy's Dean, no one could surpass her in terms of seniority.

She was the Dean of the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy, Dean Tang Qiu.

Amongst the five thrones, there was one that was exceptionally prominent, sat by an imposing figure and whose true age could not be identified. He had ash-grey hair, while his face looked as if it was carved, looking rather handsome. He sat indifferently on his throne, but he was like a colossal mountain that stood towering, instilling fear in others.

This person was the Dean of the Saint Spiritual Academy, Dean Tian Sheng. Amongst the Five Great Academies, his name was the most resounding with unfathomable strength.

The five great figures represented the pinnacle strength amongst the countless Spiritual Academies, is a tremendous figure in the field of academics.

As the Five Great Deans showed themselves, they greeted each other as they exchanged looks and nodded their heads with one another.

"Deans from the various Spiritual Academies, please take a seat." A smile surfaced on the sculpture-carved face of Dean Tian Sheng as his spring filled voice rang out to every corner of this space.

As he spoke, space distorted in the sky again as numerous figures appeared in a flash as they stepped on the space. All of them were emitting terrifying power, despite the fact that there weren't any powerful Spiritual Energy ripples around them. However, everyone knew that those people before their eyes were the pillars of the numerous Spiritual Academies with extraordinary strength.

When the Deans of various Spiritual Academies made their appearance, they cupped their hands in the direction of the Five Great Deans. They waved their hands, gathering light to form light thrones in the sky and sat on them, overlooking the earth.

Dean Tai Cang shot a glance Dean Tian Sheng, who was unconsciously occupying the lead as he slightly pulled the corner of his lips. *Does Tian Sheng really think of himself as the Head of the Five Great Academies?*

Although the three other Deans did not speak, there were glimpses of resent in their eyes.

Dean Tian Sheng acted as if he had not noticed their unhappiness as he shifted his gaze onto Dean Tai Cang and smiled, “Dean Tai Cang, the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament this round is rather crucial to your Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.”

Dean Tai Cang replied with a smile as well, “I do not need your reminder, Dean Tian Sheng. We, the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, will definitely do out best.”

“That is for certain.” Dean Tian Sheng smiled as he nodded his head. “I also hope that the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy will perform well this time. Otherwise, it would be a loss to our four Great Academies if you lose your placing as one of the Five Great Academies.”

Lights flashed in the eyes of the three other Deans. Naturally, they could make out the verbal confrontation between the two Deans. However, they weren’t surprised by it as the Saint Spiritual Academy and Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy didn’t have a good relationship, to begin with. Back then, Dean Tian Sheng tried to assist a powerful academy to ascend up to the position of the Five Great Spiritual Academies so that he would have more support and be closer to being the Head of the Academies. But, who could have expected that the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy would suddenly appear and seize a place of the Five Great Academies, wrecking the plans of the Saint Spiritual Academy?

“There’s no point talking, let’s begin the Golden Battle Stairs. I also yearn to know which academy will be in the Top 8.” Dean Tang Qiu of Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy displayed a mature elegant smile which was very charming.

“Haha, Dean Tang Qiu is right. It’s a waste of time wasting saliva if the students’ abilities aren’t up there. Dean Tian Sheng, although you have Ji Xuan in your Saint Spiritual Academy, don’t underestimate the brats from my academy.”

The small-figured Martial Spiritual Academy’s Dean spoke with an eye-narrowing smile. Among the five, he had the worst appearance. But when facing this old man, even Dean Tian Sheng didn’t dare to speak as he nodded with a faint smile on his face.

The Five Great Deans acted at the same time as they flicked their fingers, spreading five spiritual lights that shrouded the Golden Battle Stairs, which attracted the attention of everyone present.

Tssssshhh Sssssshhh

As the spiritual light spread out, everyone witnessed the distortion of the space above the Golden Battle Stairs.

The atmosphere in this region froze as all of the noise turned into silence with innumerable gazes fixed on the Golden Battle Stairs.

Under the innumerable gazes, the golden light on the eighth level started to dissipate as five silhouettes showed themselves, slowly being presented before the countless gazes.

Fang Yun and his four teammates showed themselves. They had already worn their academy badges and, thus, they were recognized the instant they appeared.

“Rank 8 - Nine Cauldron Spiritual Academy’s team!”

“Truly formidable, no wonder they were once in the Five Great Academies!”

When Fang Yun’s team appeared, an uproar instantly exploded in this region.

As the uproar exploded, the golden light in the remaining levels of the Golden Battle Stairs started to dissipate as one powerful team after another appeared in the eyes of the crowd.

“Which academy is in the 7th Rank?”

“Looks like the Undefeated Spiritual Academy, they should be an ordinary Spiritual Academy, right? They actually made it to the best 8? How is that possible?”

“Where did the Blood God Academy at Rank 6 come from? I’ve never heard of that name before!”

“Truly well-deserving of the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, truly hidden dragons, and crouching tigers! No matter what Spiritual Academy they came from, their strengths are well-proven by the fact that they are in the best 8.”

“Rank 5 is the team from the Azure Sky Spiritual Academy, led by Liu Qingyun, right? Haha, the teams from the Five Great Spiritual Academies are finally appearing!”

“Rank 4 is from the Martial Spiritual Academy? Heavens! That’s Wu Ling, the absolute genius of the Martial Spiritual Academy! Even someone like him was only Rank 4? Just how fearsome are the remaining three?!”

When the five powerful teams descended on the golden platform, an uproar exploded between the heavens and earth as countless voices soared into the skies. Many people had excited expressions on their faces as the quality of the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament had far surpassed their imaginations.

Seeing this scene, the Five Great Deans seated on their light thrones had different expressions flickering in their eyes. Dean Wu of the Martial Spiritual Academy snorted with his eyes widened. Clearly, he was unsatisfied with the fact that Wu Ling had only managed to achieve Rank 4.

Dean Tai Cang had a heavy expression with the light in his eyes constantly changing. Five out of the best 8 have already appeared, leaving the remaining three hidden and, until now, there wasn’t a single team from his Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

There were only two outcomes to this situation, either the team from their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had not made it to the best 8 or the results achieved by the team had surpassed his imagination.

Two outcomes, separated by hell and heaven.



The difference between the two outcomes raised billows even in the heart of Dean Tai Cang.

Even Dean Tai Cang couldn't maintain his calm, not to mention about the students of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

In the region gathered by the students of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, every single one of them could not sit or stand still as the intense atmosphere nearly choked them.

Standing at the front, Ye Qingling, Su Ling'er, and Yu Xi's faces were filled with nervousness. Even Elder Ling Xi was tightly pursing her lips as her hand, which was holding onto Sun'er's tiny hand, was gripping tighter, causing Sun'er to have a bitter expression, but she didn't dare to speak up.

Buzzzz.

The golden light started to, once again, spread out on the remaining three platforms as the silhouettes of the three teams started to reveal themselves.

Everyone had their eyes fixed on the remaining platforms.

Golden light gathered and dissipated in the end, revealing the three remaining teams, who represented the three strongest teams under the countless gazes.

However, when the three teams were revealed, the atmosphere between the heavens and earth froze in an instant.